

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

A meeting of the POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE was held at 7.30pm on Thursday 15th October 2015, in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

337/15 Attendance Register

Cllrs: M.D. Bird; M. Bond; D. Hancock; J Hudson; A. Hunter; S. Jones-Roberts; R.M. Medicott; G. Maddison; B. C. Roberts; T. Rowlands; R.G. Waters; A. Wood; Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)

338/15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

Cllrs: S Rowlands; J.A. MacLennan; C. MacRae; D.A. MacRae;

339/15 Disclosure of Interest

- Members were reminded that they must declare the **existence** and **nature** of any personal interests (using the form provided for this purpose).

Cllr B C Roberts Min No: 347/15

340/15 Minutes

- It was **RESOLVED** to **RECEIVE, APPROVE** and **SIGN** the Minutes of the following meetings:

(a) **Policy & Finance Committee, held on the 17th September 2015**

(b) **Confidential Policy & Finance Committee, held on the 17th September 2015**

341/15 Correspondence

(a) A letter from Wales Audit Office with regard to External Audit Arrangements: Annual Returns 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2018/19 and a copy of the recent consultation document of fee rates were RECEIVED.

(b) A letter from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales with regard to payments to members of community and town Councils and to confirm if members wish to adopt the permissive powers was RECEIVED and APPROVED as detailed below:

(1) The continued contribution of £100 to each member for 2016/17 (10.4) was APPROVED

(2) The payment of up to three senior salaries for specific roles, such as Chairman or Chairman of a Committee (10.5) was NOT APPROVED

(3) The continued allowance for the Mayor and to consider any such allowance for the Deputy Mayor (10.6). The status quo should continue.

(4) To receive an amendment to the payment of travel for members attending approved duties (10.7) The status quo should continue.

(5) Determination 50: To consider payment of an Attendance Allowance to members attending duties outside the area of the Council. The status quo should continue.

(6) Determination 51: Financial loss allowance for members attending approved duties outside the area of the Council was APPROVED

(7) Care Allowance – to consider the cost for the care of dependants (10.9) was APPROVED

(8) The Publicity requirement (10.10) was RECEIVED and NOTED

342/15 **Informal Meeting Notes from the Town Centre Working Group**

The meeting notes from the recent Town Centre Working Group meeting, with regard to defibrillators was RECEIVED. Members of the group informed the Council that that the group is still investigation into the matter as there are several groups in the Town who are looking to fund defibrillators and wish to ensure that there is no crossover and to ensure the maintenance packages are adequate.

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and with Standing Order no.68, it was RESOLVED that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

343/15 **Quotations for consideration**

- (a) An update with regard to the Hanging Basket columns in the Town Centre and a quotation from Sugg was RECEIVED. The Clerk provided members with an update with regard to the installation of the hanging basket columns and phase 2 of the scheme. Members of the Council approved for the columns with an angle bracket to be purchased and for Phase 2 of the scheme to commence. Members requested that the columns installed on Market Street be painted.
- (b) Due to outside Caretaking equipment being stored in an office creating a lack of office space, a request for an outside storage unit was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. Members suggested that the Clerk obtains costs for a shed to be installed in the car park.

344/15 Correspondence with regard to Japanese knotweed was RECEIVED. Members APPROVED the contents of the email.

345/15 **Grant funding**

- (a) A letter from Ysgol Glan Gele with regard to Grant funding for 2015/16 was RECEIVED. The matter was debated at length as members were unsure if the proposed project met the criteria of the Town Council's terms of issuing a grant. **It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the funding and request additional information from the school. It was FURTHER RESOLVED that the grant funding to schools for 2016/17 should be reviewed at the forthcoming Grant meeting and that a review of the whole grant system should be carried out before the 2017/18 grants are released.**
- (b) An update from the Clerk with regard to a grant issued to National Library for 2015/16 was RECEIVED. The Chairman informed members that the National Library is unable to comply with the criteria of the grant funding at this time. **It was RESOLVED to request that the cheque is returned to the Council.**

346/15 **The Financial Situation as at today was NOTED:-**

Current Account	30846.83
Monthly Interest Account	80435.25
General Reserve	51957.60
	<u>£163,239.68</u>

TOTAL:

Hall & Development Account	<u>£58338.41</u>
Regeneration Reserve	<u>£272.51</u>

347/15 **Payment of Accounts**

The payment of accounts falling due, as detailed on Schedule 'A' attached of £30,318.52, was AUTHORISED.

348/15 **Quarterly Budget Monitoring Report**

The Quarterly Report as at 30th September 2015 was RECEIVED.

349/15 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees were RECEIVED:

- (a) Local Government Sub Committee meeting held on the 22nd July 2015
- (b) Christmas Decoration Sub Committee meeting held on the 13th July 2015
- (c) Newsletter Sub Committee meeting held on the 22nd June 2015

350/15 **Documents for Information**

The following Documents for information were NOTED

- (a) Consultation on fee rates and fee scales 2016/17

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed
(Chairman)

Abergele Town Council

SCHEDULE 'A'

Payments to be authorised as at 15th October 2015

	Chq No:	Total £	Incl. VAT £	Notes / Statutory Powers (new or unusual payments)
1	Salaries	DD	£3,230.29	monthly salaries
2	CCBC	DD	£723.00	NNDR Charges
3	Scottish Power	DD	£49.00	monthly charge
4	Bank Charges	DD		
5	BT Phone	DD	£112.61	18.77 quartely payment
6	HMRC	DD	£927.76	monthly payment
7	PWLB	DD	£1,797.92	loan repayment
8	Gwynedd Pension	000258	£1,031.13	October payment
9	Clerical Medical	000259	£40.00	October payment
10	Abergele Neighbourhood Watch	000255	£300.00	Annual grant
11	Ysgol Glan Gele	000256	£4,473.53	Annual grant
12	Ysgol St Elfod	000257	£4,857.27	Annual grant
13	Cathedral Leasing	000260	£13.00	2.17 monthly payment
14	PC World	000261	£118.71	19.78 iPad covers & chargers
15	Northern Pottery	000262	£38.40	6.40 Crockery hire Civic Service
16	TT Drainage	000263	£102.00	17.00 Blocked drain + inspection
17	OVW x 2	000264	£175.00	Cllr Training
18	LITE	000265	£9,830.40	£1,638.40 Xmas tree and light installation 2016
19	Meirion Jones Landscaping	000266	£1,374.00	£229.00 Planter Maintenance
20	Gele Cleaners	000267	£33.40	Ancillary dry cleaning
21	Cllr B C Roberts	000268	£6.30	travel for Sept
22	CCBC	000269	£176.90	recycling
23	Mrs Buffet	000270	£485.00	Catering Civic Service
24	Best One	000271	£6.45	Newspapers
25	Computer World	000272	£186.00	£31.00 Phone software installation
26	Fields in Trust	000273	£50.00	Subscription
27	Mr R H Jones	000274	£25.20	travel for Sept
28	Petty Cash	000275	£129.09	£4.33 October claim
29	WNW	000276	£26.16	£4.36 2016 Diaries
30				
31				
32				
33				
34				
35				
36				
Total Payments	28	£30,318.52	1,971.21	

** Under the Local Government Act 1972, Sect. 137 & 139, the Council can incur expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interest of the area or it's inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.