

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 2nd March 2017 at 6.45pm in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

603/16 **Attendance Register**

The Mayor, J.A. MacLennan;
Cllrs: M.D. Bird (arrived at 6:55pm); M. Bond (retired at 7:50pm);
A. Hunter (arrived at 7:15pm); S. Jones-Roberts; C. MacRae; D.A. MacRae;
R.M. Medlicott; G. Maddison; B. C. Roberts; S Rowlands; T. Rowlands;
R.G. Waters;
Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)

604/16 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from:
Cllrs: D. Meredith; A. Wood;

605/16 **Declaration of Interest: Code of Conduct**

Members were reminded that they must declare the **existence** and **nature** of any personal interests (using the form provided for this purpose).
None were declared

606/16 **Visitor to the Council**

Standing orders were suspended

The Chairman welcomed Victoria Kelly, Rural Housing Enabler and Catrin Roberts Affordable Homes Manager from Grwp Cynefin to the meeting, who provided members with an overview of the affordable housing scheme for local first time buyer residents.

There are currently two schemes which will be merging into one in the future. Applications are accepted through the website, where individuals can register and apply online, income and expenditure is required to assess the housing need.

Cllr Bird arrived at this juncture

There are 31 people currently in need of affordable housing in the Abergele area, this need is required for assistance to buy their own home. There are 70 people seeking social housing.

The schemes are as follows:

1. Intermediate rent – local housing approximately £450 per month, 20 registered
2. Home by Local Authority – the individual look for a property and 30% to 50% of the property can be subsidised (first charge resident/mortgage, second charge Grwp Cynefin
3. Developers supply a percentage of affordable housing. There is a percentage discount on the open market, with a 30% reduction for individuals with a 5% deposit.

4. Shared ownership with Housing Association. Part rent/part mortgage and purchase up to 95% of the property.

The group work closely with the 6 local authorities. Affordable homes are available through their Facebook page and attend CCBC events to promote their projects.

Cllr Hunter arrived at this juncture

If there are not many local residents on the list then the local authority cannot persuade the developer to provide affordable housing. Part of Vicky's role is to assess the need and to keep the rural areas rural.

The Chairman thanked the officers for attending and providing the information.

Standing orders were reinstated

607/16 **Announcements from the Mayor**

- (a) The Mayor informed members that there had been a tragic traffic accident in Market Street this afternoon, which resulted in the death of a local resident. The Mayor expressed condolences on behalf of the Town Council.
- (b) The Mayor informed members that he had seen Cllr. Meredith recently and he had been in good spirits and was recovering well.
- (b) An update following the recent Open Event was RECEIVED. Members noted that the March event would not take place as a period of purdah commences on the 17th March.

608/16 **Minutes**

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN as a correct record the Minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on the 2nd February 2017

609/16 **Matters arising on those minutes**

An update from CCBC with regard to the removal of the tree stump on St David's Road Abergele, deferred from last meeting was NOTED

610/16 **Correspondence**

- The following items of correspondence were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and NOTED:

- (a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for March 2017
- (b) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees
- (c) CVSC and OVW mail from 10th February to the 22nd February 2017
- (d) A request for the Clerk to attend the OVW/SLCC event in July 2017 was RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and APPROVED
- (e) The notice of the forthcoming AGM of the North Wales Play Association was NOTED
- (f) An email from OVW with regard to the 2018 Review was RECEIVED
- (g) A copy of the Minutes from the last meeting of the Conwy Voluntary Access group was RECEIVED
- (h) An email from a local business with regard to a graffiti session at Itaca
- (i) An email from Gwyrch Trust
- (j) An email from OVW with regard to a presentation at the recent OVW meeting (presentation added to dropbox) was DEFERRED to the Local Government

Sub Committee for review. Cllr Waters informed members that the structure of the Public Service Boards allowed for Town and Community Councils to be able to challenge decisions by the County Council if required.

- (k) An email from Wales Audit office via OVW with regard to Good Practice Exchange programme of Events was RECEIVED and APPROVED for the Clerk to attend the Seminars requested.
- (l) An email from the Regional Emergency Planning Officer of North Wales Councils with regard to a survey was DEFERRED to the Police Liaison Sub Committee
- (m) An email from CCBC with reference to a meeting on the 1st June 2017 regarding the Conwy Electoral Review 2017 was DEFERRED to after the forthcoming elections.
- (n) (i) An email from a local business with regard to the Water Street car park was RECEIVED.
(ii) An email from Darren Millar AM with regard to the request above was NOTED
It was RECOMMENDED to DEFER the item above to the Police Liaison Sub Committee for consideration following the elections.
- (o) A letter from CCBC with regard to an Enforcement Notice for Bryn Coed
- (p) An email from CCBC with regard to a request for an update on Pentre Mawr Park becoming a Field in Trust was DEFERRED until after the Election for consideration.
- (q) The Training programme from OVW for March was NOTED

611/16 **Nominations**

The nominations for the Office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2017/18, in preparation for the Annual Meeting, to be held on the 11th May 2017 was RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and NOTED as follows:

Mayor 2017/18 Cllr Delyth MacRae	Nominated by Cllr John MacLennan Seconded by Cllr M. Bird
Deputy Mayor 2017/18 Cllr Mike Bird	Nominated by Cllr B C Roberts Seconded by Cllr S Jones-Roberts

Cllr Bond retired at this juncture

612/16 **Mayoral Allowance**

The revised Policy on the procedure for issuing, monitoring and distribution of the Mayor's allowance for 2017/18 was RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and APPROVED for a trial period of one year.

613/16 **Housekeeping**

The following items were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and APPROVED:

- (a) E-mail - the only method for emailing as a member of the Town Council is using the Town Council email address, and County Councillor address if applicable as the secure address for Data Protection
- (b) Request for information to be added to an Agenda – if a member wishes to request that an item is added to an Agenda the correct procedure is to forward the request to the Clerk for including on the next appropriate Agenda, the Clerk can decline to add an item to an Agenda under the Local Government Act 1972
- (c) Deferring items – if a member wishes for items to be deferred, the request should be made in writing (or by email) to the Clerk and the Clerk will inform the Council. The decision is then for the Council/Committee

A notice of Motion for the above to be adopted in the Town Council's Standing Orders was PROPOSED by the Mayor Cllr John MacLennan and deferred to the next Ordinary Meeting for adopting.

614/16

Confidential item

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.

a) An email from a local business with regard to a planning application was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. Members stated that the wall was removed as a means of access and were unaware if this had been included in the Planning application. Unfortunately this is a civil matter; County Councillors agreed to investigate on behalf of the local business owner.

It was RESOLVED to contact CCBC for clarification on the point above and FURTHER RESOLVED to contact CCBC Legal for clarification on the ownership of the wall.

b) An update with regard to Min No: 493/16 was RECEIVED and NOTED.

615/16

Leave of absence

A report from the Clerk with regard to a Leave of absence for Cllr D. Meredith was RECEIVED. **It was RESOLVED with a vote of 8 in favour and 1 against NOT to approve the request for absence, as there are only a few weeks left until the elections and all members will be required to stand for election if they wish.**

616/16

Quotation

The quotations below deferred from the last Policy & Finance Committee Min No: 495/16 for approval were RECEIVED and CONSIDERED:

- (a) MWT Civil Engineering
- (b) CCBC

The quotation from CCBC was APPROVED as the lowest cost received.

617/16

Draft Minutes

The Draft Minutes from the following committees were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED as follows:

- (a) Marketing & Promotion Sub Committee held on the 15th February 2016
 - (i) Min No: 553/16 – it was NOTED that this is part of the Go Wales campaign and that distribution is available if required at an extra cost. **It was RESOLVED to request a copy of the Statistics for the locations delivered to. The RECOMMENDATION was APPROVED.**
 - (ii) Min No: 554/16 –RECOMMENDATION APPROVED
 - (iii) Min No: 556/16 –RECOMMENDATION NOT APPROVED

- (b) Confidential Minutes from the Staffing Sub Committee meeting held on the 6th February 2016 were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED as follows:
 - (i) Min No: 539/16 –RECOMMENDATION APPROVED
 - (ii) Min No: 540/16 (ii) –RECOMMENDATION APPROVED

618/16 **Update from County Councillors**

Verbal reports from County Councillor were RECEIVED as follows:

- (a) Council tax has been set at 4.6% for 17/18, the meeting was webcast.
- (b) Colwyn Bay Pier has been debated and confirmed that the murals have been removed with items into storage
- (c) Cllr Hunter is to join the Committee for the Abergele Dementia
- (d) Dr Lowri Brown has been appointed as the Head of Education Services for CCBC
- (e) There is a new Scrutiny structure, which will be more Department based.

619/16 **Minutes**

- The Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees were RECEIVED:

- (a) General Purpose & Planning Committee held on the 19th January 2017
- (b) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 19th January 2017
- (c) Confidential Staffing Committee meeting held on the 10th October 2016
- (d) Marketing & Promotion Sub Committee Meeting held on the 13th October 2016

Meeting closed at 8:35pm

Signed
(Chairman)