

Cyngor Tref Abergele

MINUTES

Cynhelwyd Cyfarfod Cyffredinol y Cyngor ar Dydd Iau, 5 Medi 2019 am 6.45yh yn Neuadd y Dref, Ffordd Llanddulas, Abergele.

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 5 September 2019 at 6.45pm in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

254/19 Cofrestr Presenoldeb - Attendance Register

The Mayor, Cllr. S Jones-Roberts,

Cllrs: D M Armstrong; J M Bird; M. Bond; G. Frost; P Heap-Williams (19:00); C. McCoubrey; D A MacRae; R.M. Medicott; M. Richards; B. C. Roberts; S Rowlands; R.G. Waters; A. Wood; Mrs L Whalley (Deputy Clerk)

Members of the public.

255/19 Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb – Apologies for Absence

Cllr: A. Hunter;

256/19 Yn absennol heb ymddiheuriad- Absence without Apology

Cllr: Dr. M. Baker;

257/19 Datganiad o Ddiddordeb: Côt Ymddygiad - Declaration of Interest: Code of

Conduct Atgoffir aelodau eu bod yn rhaid iddynt ddatgan **bodolaeth** a **natur** unrhyw fantais personol (gan ddefnyddio'r ffurflen a ddarperir ar gyfer y pwrpas hwnnw).

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

Standing Orders were suspended

258/19 Visitor to the Council

Mr. Trebor Roberts from the Gideons Society was welcomed to the meeting to address the Council and present the Mayor, Cllr Shirley Jones-Roberts with the Gideon's bible. Mr Roberts was thanked for his time and left the meeting.

Standing Orders were reinstated

259/19 Confidential Encryption

A YouTube video on encrypted emails was **DEFERRED** to a future meeting due to time constraints.

260/19 Announcements by the Mayor

- (a) The Annual Meeting photographs and order forms were **RECEIVED** and orders invited
- (b) The Mayor read out a note of thanks from a member of the public who complimented the Town Council on the quality of the Newsletter.

261/19 Cofnodion - Minutes

Derbyn, cymeradwyo ac arwyddo fel yn gywir gofnodion y cyfarfodydd canlynol.

A correct record the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting, held on the 4 Gorffennaf/July 2019 was **RECEIVED and APPROVED**.

262/19 Matters arising on those and previous Minutes

- a) An update from Natural Resources Wales with regard to the Flood Wardens scheme was **RECEIVED**. Two of the three remaining Flood Wardens announced that they

would be resigning as Flood Wardens forthwith. A vote of thanks was made to the Flood Wardens for their participation in the scheme to date. It was **RESOLVED** to write to NRW and OVW in the strongest terms to express Members' disappointment that volunteer Flood Wardens are not covered by insurance under NRW for volunteer work during extreme weather conditions.

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 for item 9b.

Members also heard Confidential Item 13a at this juncture

- b) An email from Cllr. Wood with a request for an update regarding the Abergele Joint Burial Committee was **RECEIVED**. Cllr Wood expanded on his reasons for making this request but was informed that the AJBC has not received any precept for four years and was therefore not accountable to the Town Council. The WAO interest in the Committee is as a legal entity and this enquiry is ongoing. The Burial Committee Clerk is in regular contact with the WAO. The Town Clerk will keep Members informed as and when new information is known. The item was **NOTED**, and Members were reminded that anyone could make an application to see the Burial Accounts during the annual audit in June of each year.
- c) **Quotes**
 - a. Three quotations for the purchase of 5 iPads as part of the phased upgrade (current budget £1750) were **RECEIVED**. It was **RESOLVED** to delegate the task to the Clerk who is to purchase iPads with the most favourable warranty terms.

The public were invited back into the room.

- d) A welcome letter from OVW and to confirm the nominated Councillor who will represent the Council at the quarterly meetings (Deferred from last Ordinary meeting) was **RECEIVED**. Cllr MacRae volunteered to be the main representative and Cllr Waters the second.
- e) An email from a local business with regard to the Abergele Traders Association (update following item on last Ordinary meeting) was **RECEIVED and CONSIDERED**. Initial confusion regarding the Town Council's involvement in this matter was dispelled.

Standing Orders were suspended

Gill Jones, Committee member of the Abergele Association of Traders, updated members on the current status of the Association and stated that once it is established to whom the monies belong, that the monies be returned to them. Mrs. Jones did not feel that intervention by the Town Council was appropriate.

Standing Orders were reinstated

It was agreed that the matter should remain between the executors and the Association.

- f) A report from Chris Jones Regeneration with regard to the funding of the brown tourism signs on the A55 (deferred from the last Place Plan Committee Min no: 242/19 (a)) was **RECEIVED**. The report confirmed that the signs would be funded from S106 monies, contributions from local attractions, an application for match funding from Conwy CBC plus a recommendation of £8k from ATC. It was suggested that the ringfenced amount of £15k be retained as originally planned and to **DEFER**

the decision to the Placeplan Committee with final funding amounts, business contributions and costs.

263/19 **Gohebiaeth - Correspondence**

- DERBYN ac YSTYRIED yr eitemau gohebiaeth canlynol/ the following items of correspondence were **RECEIVED and CONSIDERED**.

- (a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for Medi/September 2019 **NOTED**
- (b) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees **NOTED**
- (c) CVSC and OVW mail sent to members by email. **NOTED**
- (d) To receive an email from OVW with regard to the forthcoming training sessions from September to December 2019 **NOTED**
- (e) A request from Cllr McCoubrey with regard to the provision of swings in the playground near Maes Canol was **RECEIVED**. It was **NOTED** that the swings have now been repaired and returned. Cllr McCoubrey observed that the provision of play swings and parks in general should be brought to a future agenda.
- (f) An email from a local resident with regard to the reduction of plastic by local businesses was **RECEIVED**. Members expressed their support for initiatives of this kind. It was **RECOMMENDED** to refer the contributor to the Association of Traders. It was further **RECOMMENDED** that the Town Council write to Welsh Government to introduce a policy that aims to reduce over a period of time, the amount of plastic that manufactured overall.
- (g) An email from Keep Wales Tidy via OVW encouraging the download of an app to help survey Wales hedgerows and biodiversity was **RECEIVED**. It was **NOTED** that many road signs have become obscured by overgrowth and that CCBC needs to be made aware.
- (h) An email from Welsh Government with regard to a consultation on the National Development Framework was **NOTED**.
- (i) An email from CCBC Streetworks with regard to a convoy working system planned for Market Street from the 16th September for 18 months was **RECEIVED**. It was **NOTED** that the 18-month period was an open order during which the streetworks will take place at some point.
- (j) An email from CCBC Streetworks with regard to a convoy working Rhuddlan Road from the 16th to the 20th August **NOTED**
- (k) An email from the Welsh Audit office via OVW with regard to the Good Practice Exchange Programme was **NOTED**.
- (l) An email from Cllr. Bond with regard to parking on Derrie Avenue was **RECEIVED**. Parking on Derrie Avenue is an ongoing issue and Cllr Bond disagrees with observations made by CCBC. Residents regularly have to mount the kerb when turning into Derrie Avenue from Sea Road. Residents are to be encouraged to continue reporting issues to CCBC.
- (m) An email letter from CCBC with regard to the Replacement LDP inviting comments and observations was **RECEIVED** and considered in conjunction with comments already submitted by Cllr Wood. Cllr Wood emphasized the importance of a response to ensure consideration in the review. All members were encouraged to respond individually to the consultation by 20th September.
- (n) An email from CVSC with regard to a consultation on Sexual Harassment in the Workplace was **RECEIVED and NOTED**
- (o) An email from WG via OVW with regard to a consultation on Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales was **RECEIVED and NOTED**.
- (p) A copy of the meeting notes from the last meeting of the Conwy Access group **NOTED**
- (q) An invitation to the OVW Conference and AGM on the 5th October 2019 **NOTED**
- (r) A letter and flyer from Rhyl Music Club **NOTED**

- (s) An email from the Mayor Cllr. Jones-Roberts with regard to the Green Charter was **RECEIVED**. The charter, being developed by Conwy & Denbighshire Public Service Board is designed to encourage public and private bodies to pledge green changes in their environment/communities. It is in its early stages, but the Mayor is keen to ensure that the green pledges by ATC are considered on a future agenda.
- (t) To receive a letter from Dwr Cymru with regard to work in the area **NOTED**
- (u) Cllr. Medicott updated Members on a recent meeting of the Fairtrade Committee. The Fairtrade Committee are gearing up to renew their accreditation. Their latest initiative to raise awareness is to donate Fairtrade footballs to local schools.
- (v) An e-mail from CCBC regarding a request to receive information on services currently provided by Abergele Town Council was **RECEIVED**. The list had been partially completed by the Clerk. A few amendments were made but immediate observations referred to the cost of providing more services and the impact they would have on the precept. Members agreed that the full list should be considered when there was more time for debate. It was **RESOLVED** to **DEFER** to the next Ordinary meeting.
- (w) To receive an e-mail from CCBC regarding the Keep Wales Tidy campaign to promote parks with Green Flag status. **NOTED**
- (x) An e-mail from a member of the public regarding litter at the rear of the Slaters Garage site in Market Street was **RECEIVED**. Councillors are aware of the situation but acknowledged that the bar is set quite high before any intervention can be triggered. Cllr McCoubrey offered to monitor the situation.
- (y) An email from CCBC Streetworks with regard to a temporary road closure on Lon Garnedd 28th August to 16th September. **NOTED**
- (z) An e-mail from Parry Davies Architects regarding the electricity supply box on Sea Road adjacent to their development. Members expressed their concern that the box is needed for the supply to the Christmas tree and recommended that Len Jackson be contacted for advice.

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- (a) The recommendations from the last meeting of the Marketing & Promotion Sub Committee under Min No: 193/19 (c) and (d) were **RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and APPROVED**.
- (b) The recommendations from the last meeting of the Events Sub Committee under Min No: 201/19 and to confirm the budget for this item were **RECEIVED**. Members considered that Chapter 8 training was more beneficial to the Town Council if staff were trained first ahead of Councillors. Members **APPROVED** half day refresher training for Cllr Wood and a full day's training for the Clerk.

265/19 **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.**

267/19 Other Correspondence

- (a) An email from Councillor Wood with regard to the setting up of an additional Committee was **RECEIVED and CONSIDERED**. Members queried the need for another committee for County Councillors when they already have a direct line of communication with Conwy CBC by default. County Members felt that group representation would have more influence on driving projects forward. Members disagreed stating that a system within a system does not work and that County Councillors should be working together as a matter of course.

There were no objections to the County Councillors meeting informally to discuss current matters, but this should not be allowed to form part of the structure of the Town Council neither could it constitute a mandate for the County Councillors to speak or act on behalf of the Town Council independently of the Town Council. An observation was made that the number of Town Council sub-committees should be reviewed with a view to streamlining for the next Annual Meeting.

268/19 Y diweddaraŵ gan Gyngorwyr Sir – Update from County Councillors

- Derbyn adroddiadau ysgrifenedig a llafar gan Gyngorwyr Sir / Written and verbal Reports from County Councillors were **RECEIVED as follows:**

- a) The budget report for Conwy CBC is now available and had been shared with Members. An offer was made to meet with interested Councillors for an overview of the report.
- b) There have been problems with a motorcyclist persistently parking a motorcycle on the pavement in Chapel Street. At the time of this meeting the problem was believed to be resolved.
- c) Drug dealing activity on Chapel street continues to be a problem. Abergele Pubwatch has been resurrected in response to the drug dealing activity. It is believed that taxis are being used as couriers.
- d) The local homeless person is still homeless and struggling to find a house. He is receiving assistance.

269/19 Cofnodion - Minutes

- DERBYN cofnodion y cyfarfodydd / pwyllgorau canlynol/ The Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees were **RECEIVED:**

- a) General Purpose and Planning meeting held on the 20th June 2019
- b) Policy & Finance Committee meeting held on the 20th June 2019
- c) Marketing & Promotion Sub Committee meeting held on the 13th May 2019
- d) Events Sub Committee meeting held on the 20th May 2019

270/19 Letters of Thanks

- a) Abergele Carnival Association NOTED

Meeting Closed at 21:10

Signed

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(Chairman)