

# Cyngor Tref Abergele

## MINUTES

Cynhelwyd Cyfarfod Cyffredinol y Cyngor i'w gynnal ar Dydd Iau, 5 Rhagfyr 2019 am 6.45yh yn Neuadd y Dref, Ffordd Llanddulas, Abergele.

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 6.45pm in the Town Hall, Llanddulas Road, Abergele.

### 471/19 Cofrestr Presenoldeb - Attendance Register

The Mayor, Cllr. S Jones-Roberts,

Cllrs: Dr. M. Baker; J M Bird; G. Frost; P Heap-Williams(18:55); A. Hunter; C. McCoubrey; D A MacRae; R.M. Medlicott; M. Richards; B. C. Roberts; S Rowlands; R.G. Waters;  
Mrs L Whalley (Deputy-Clerk)

### 472/19 Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb – Apologies for Absence

Cllrs: D M Armstrong; M. Bond; A. Wood;

### 473/19 Yn absennol heb ymddiheuriad- Absence without Apology

None

### 474/19 Datganiad o Ddiddordeb: Côt Ymddygiad - Declaration of Interest: Code of Conduct

Atgoffir aelodau eu bod yn rhaid iddynt ddatgan **bodolaeth a natur** unrhyw fantais bersonol (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*

### 475/19 Visitor to the Council

Mr Nathan Thomas, NWP Building Services Engineer and Anna Pretious NWP Environmental and Energy Manager were welcomed to the meeting. NT provided the details of the proposed new heating system for the premises including costs to the Council and the efficiencies to be had by allowing the work to be done at the same time. In depth discussion followed ranging from the procurement rules to whether solar power had been considered. It was acknowledged that the current arrangement between the Police and ATC regarding the apportionment of utilities was costing both sides more than necessary and did not have any 'green credentials.' It was further discussed that next summer was an ideal time to start the work which also presented an opportunity for the Town Council to replace the existing strip lighting in favour of LED versions. NT emphasised to Councilors that the work needed to correct the Chamber wall could also be resolved in the Summer but that the plaster would need removal as soon as possible to allow the wall to dry out completely.

Nathan and Anna were thanked for their time and they left the meeting.

*Standing Orders were reinstated.*

### 476/19 Announcements by the Mayor

- a) The Mayor has sent cards of congratulations to the following members of the community:
  - two young people from Abergele who recently received awards at the Conwy Sports Awards.
  - the Departure Lounge and the George & Dragon for their awards at the Raising the Bar event.
  - Congratulations were also offered to Cllr Medlicott who recently became a grandfather
  - A card has also been sent to a former Cllr who is unwell.

- Members were reminded that the Christmas Concert is on Friday

477/19 **Cofnodion - Minutes**

Derbyn, cymeradwyo ac arwyddo fel yn gywir gofnodion y cyfarfodydd canlynol. It was **RESOLVED** to receive and **APPROVE** as a correct record the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting, held on the 7 Tachwedd/November 2019.

478/19 **Gohebiaeth - Correspondence**

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

- (a) The information from NWP above was **RECEIVED** and **CONSIDERED**. Members supported the proposal and in recognition of the need to maintain the Town Hall and to make cost effective savings in the general management of the premises, **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the cost of £30-£35k in principle. It was **NOTED** that that the offices would need to be re-located for the duration of the work.
- (b) An e-mail from Cllr McCoubrey regarding the release of the Hall and Development Funds was **RECEIVED**. In respect of the information presented by NWP and the proposed upgrades to the premises Cllr McCoubrey **WITHDREW** his request at this time with a view to revisiting his proposal in 20/21 if appropriate.
- (c) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for Rhagfyr/December 2019 were **NOTED**.
- (d) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees were **NOTED**.
- (e) CVSC and OVW mail sent to members by email were **NOTED**
- (f) The draft IRPW report 2020 was **RECEIVED, CONSIDERED** and APPROVED as follows:
  - (ii) Determination 42 (Councillors allowance) 16x£150 = £2400 (as last year)
  - (iii) Determination 43 (Chairs' allowance) £500 min 1 max of 5 members. 1 Member **APPROVED** (as last year)
  - (iv) Determination 45 (mileage) **NOTED**
  - (v) Determination 46(Subsistence) **NOTED**
  - (vi) Determination 47 (Financial Loss Compensation) **NOTED**
  - (vii) Determination 48 (Costs of care) dependent care (mandatory). It was **RECOMMENDED** to include £500 as a contingency
  - (viii) Determination 49 (Mayor's allowance) £1500 **APPROVED**
  - (ix) Determination 50 (Deputy Mayor's Allowance)
  - (x) Determination 51 (Members working for Principal Council) **NOTED**
- (g) A letter from Welsh Government notifying the Appropriate Sum was **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**.
- (h) The following Planning Application was **CONSIDERED**. Members recorded '**No Objections**' to the proposal.

0/46832	Installation of 4no new digital freestanding signs and 1 no 15" digital booth screen	MacDonalds Restaurant Rhuddlan Road
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- (i) An update from the Deputy Clerk regarding the funding of CCBC services was **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**.
- (j) An e-mail from Cllr Wood to CCBC regarding Primrose Hill Bridge was **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**.
- (k) A request from Cllr Wood regarding membership of a committee was **RECEIVED**.

Councillor Wood requests that Mr Wil Arrowsmith is invited to be a Member of the Placeplan Committee on the grounds that he has an established business in the town and a keen interest in developments in Abergele. Members referred to the Terms of Reference of the membership of the Placeplan Committee and queried the need for an additional member when local business was already represented by the Abergele Association of Traders and that membership of the Placeplan committee was already substantial. It was further discussed that recent conduct at the Placeplan meetings was out of step with the Code of Conduct, that the protocols associated with the business of the meeting were being ignored and challenges on the protocols wasted valuable time. It was re-affirmed that the Placeplan Committee is held in the same regard as any other Committee of the Council. The Chair of the Placeplan Committee acknowledged that the Chair's role was key to ensuring business is conducted in accordance with the Code. It was further suggested that in going forward, lay members should receive a copy of the Code of Conduct and a housekeeping item inserted on the Placeplan Agenda to inform all attendees of the order and format of the business to be conducted. A decision on the request for the new member was **DEFERRED** to a future meeting.

- (l) An e-mail from CCBC regarding the BT telephone kiosk on Llanfair Road was **RECEIVED**. Members **RESOLVED** to submit an expression of interest to take ownership with a view to installing a defibrillator in the future.
- (m) A letter from a member of the public expressing concerns regarding the use of the free car parks was **CONSIDERED**. Members agreed with the correspondent's observations and discussed their local knowledge of similar schemes in other areas and the steps taken to alleviate problems. It was noted that in Abergele the removal of free parking will push parking issues back into the residential. The letter was **DEFERRED** to the next Parks & Street Scene meeting.

**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.**

#### 479/19 Draft Minutes

- a) The draft confidential minutes from the staffing committee held on November 6<sup>th</sup> were **RECEIVED** and the pack under Min No 404/19 **NOTED**. The 'Officer/Members' protocol within the pack was **RECEIVED** and **CONSIDERED** The protocol is effective on receipt of the pack and Members voted to **APPROVE** the 'Officer/Members Protocol' for adoption at the next Annual Meeting by a vote of ten 'for' and three 'abstentions.' One Member expressed dissatisfaction that the pack was tabled at the meeting.

#### 480/19 Y diweddaraf gan Gynghorwyr Sir – Update from County Councillors

- Derbynywyd adroddiadau ysgrifenedig a llafar gan Gynghorwyr Sir / Written and verbal reports from County Councillors were **RECEIVED**.

- The new Culture Centre will be open from 09/12/19 and will comprise a library, exhibition space and sensory garden. The County Archives are to be housed there in the near future and a digitized version of the Abergele Visitor will be available as a resource to the community.
- Kinmel Hall and its future is to feature on the Agenda of the monthly meeting with the Heritage Conservation officer.
- Drugs misuse and trading is still ongoing in the town. NWP continue to monitor.
- Dog fouling and fly-tipping continue to be a problem on Berth y Glyd.
- Flooding of shops on Chapel Street in adverse weather continues to be

an issue but the flooding events go unreported. The retailers are being encouraged to report a flood each time it happens.

- A report on flooding in Pensarn is due to be published. County Councillor and local AM will be involved in consultation upon publication.
- An issue with a homeless person in PM park has resolved itself.
- There was buildup of combustible rubbish in a Church in Berllan. Occupants co-operated with orders to clear.
- A recent fire in a café on the Pensarn Prom resulted in smoke damage. There were no injuries or fatalities
- Indicative LA budgets will be published by WG 16/12/19 with the final budget due in February. However, the result of the election may alter the outcomes significantly.
- The Local Govt Wales Bill may mandate Councils working together. There is some resistance to this as it is felt that collaboration should be Community led and not Govt led
- The tidal lagoon off the North Wales coast is firmly on the Agenda.
- North Wales Tourism is actively targeting the Japanese market.
- A homelessness audit has been undertaken locally. Distressing to see the dark and inhospitable corners where people seek shelter. Emergency shelters are available, and more effort is being made to create more shelters for the Christmas season
- Despite having a specific conservation zone Abergele Town does not have Status 4. Status 4 allows more say on how things should look in a conservation area. There is a cost involved in achieving Status 4.
- Conwy Sports Awards produced a sporting winner from Abergele.
- Gainsboro House is for sale.
- Hen Wrych has flooded four times this year due to heavy rainfall. CCBC investigating
- Flood relief for Eldon Drive failed its business case. The business case is to be re-submitted.

#### 481/19 **Cofnodion - Minutes**

- DERBYNWYD cofnodion y cyfarfodydd / pwyllgorau canlynol/ the Minutes of the following Meetings / Committees were **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**:

- a) General Purpose and Planning meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 2019
- b) Policy & Finance Committee meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 2019
- c) Staffing Sub Committee meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (Confidential)
- d) Placeplan Committee meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> Sept 2019

Meeting Closed at : 20:40

Signed

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(Chairman)