

Towyn & Kinmel Bay Town Council

Minutes of the Environmental Committee held on Monday 12 June 2017 at the Community Resource Centre, Kinmel Bay.

Present Cllrs: S Anderson, G Corry, T Curran, D Dickin, M Jones, B McLoughlin,

L Knightly (Deputy Mayor)

Non Voting: Cllrs B Griffiths and M Smith

Clerk: D Thomas

1. Chairman

Cllr B McLoughlin was nominated and approved as Chair.

2. Deputy Chairman

Cllr M Jones was nominated and approved as Deputy Chair.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr N Smith (Mayor) and Cllr D Johnson

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Public Participation

Don Jones (Local Resident and Flood Warden) attended the meeting to hear the Natural Resource Wales Presentation.

6. Minutes

There was one amendment to note Cllr S Anderson should have been listed as being present.

Resolved that: the minutes of the meeting on 13 March 2017 subject of the above amendment be approved and signed.

7. Matters Arising

170313/5 (previous 170109/5) Bench in Clwyd Park

The bench has still not been moved despite numerous chases to Conwy. The Councillors felt that it was unacceptable that the bench has still not been moved by Conwy.

Resolved that: The Clerk would send a letter of complaint to Conwy and that we ask Conwy to move the bench as a PRIORITY.

170313/7 Christmas Lights

Draft Letter – Councillors felt that the Draft letter needed to be altered, to specify a set amount of £210.00 being the exact cost of the lamp post Motif Hire for one year, the businesses will then have the option of sponsoring one or as many lamp posts motifs as they want. A small plaque with the Business's name will be attached to the lamp post in recognition of the sponsorship.

Resolved that: The letter would be altered with input from Cllr Knightly.

Lights - It was noted that the quotes for the extra lights/tree have been requested and the quotes should be available for the next meeting.

170313/7 – Bridge

It was noted that the bridge was removed last week

Work Schedule 2017-18

It was resolved that the Clerk with review/tweak the work schedule by the next meeting, so that we can discuss and agree the required/proposed actions and priorities for 2017/2018.

Quarry Path

Cllr S Anderson expressed his concerns that the Quarry Path is presently overgrown.

Resolved that: The Clerk and available Environmental Committee Councillors would undertake a site visit on Tuesday 13 June 2017 with a view to reporting back to the Committee at the next scheduled meeting, with findings/observations/quotes for any required/proposed work.

Kingdom

A number of Councillors advised that they had recently been approached by Local Residents regarding Kingdom and in a number of the cases Conwy had withdrawn the fines/penalties due to lack of evidence/no evidence of the alleged offences. Councillors were also concerned that they had received reports that some of the Kingdom Enforcement Officers were aggressive and over powering towards residents and the concern is that fines/ penalties were being issued/paid without appropriate evidence.

Resolved that: A letter would be sent to Conwy expressing the Councils dissatisfaction and concerns at the reports of the aggressive nature/tactics of some of the Kingdom Enforcement Officers and the fact that fines/penalties were being issued without any actual evidence. We feel that evidence should always be available.

That a second letter would be sent to Councillors under the Freedom of Information Act, asking for actual figures relating to:-

- a) **How many fines/penalties have been issued in the last 12 months.**
- b) **How many of the fines/penalties have been issued without evidence.**
- c) **How many of the fines/penalties have been cancelled due to lack of evidence, following challenges from Residents.**

8. Towyn Community Flood Plan

Gwyn Moseley of Natural Resources Wales attended the meeting to make a presentation regarding the Towyn Community Flood Plan.

Gwyn advised that Towyn's Flood Plan had not been reviewed since 2010 and that there were presently only 5 wardens covering 511 properties in Towyn, when ideally there should be one warden per 50 properties.

Cllr B Griffiths advised that he writes a website for the Kinmel Bay Flood Plan and that Sandy Cove is a designated vulnerable area due to it being a high flood risk area. Cllr Griffiths advised that he has received approximately 300 flood packs which he is presently distributing to the Sandy Cove area. Cllrs Corry and Anderson agreed to assist Cllr Griffiths to distribute the remaining packs to the

residents of Sandy Cove and they expressed that they felt that it was important to discuss the packs with the residents, rather than just distributing them.

Cllr Griffiths said that given that the last flood within Towyn and Kinmel Bay was as recent as 2013, he felt that the Council should look at setting up an Action Plan. Councillors felt that the Council need to raise the awareness of flood risks/warnings and flood packs to the Residents/Businesses without scaremongering.

- a) **Resolved that: The Council would dedicate an area of the Council's website to flooding with links to the Kinmel Bay Flood Plan and the Natural Resource Wales Site, together with a specific link to the Natural Resource Wales Current Flood Warning Line levels/alerts.**
- b) **That the Council obtain a supply of Flood Packs available at the Resource Centre to hand out to residents.**
- c) **That the Council arrange an event in both Towyn and Kinmel Bay in October which we invite Local Residents to call in to obtain information regarding flooding, with tea and biscuits being served, with the Kinmel Bay Event being held at the Resource Centre and Cllr Knightly has kindly agreed that his premises could be used for the Towyn Event.**
- d) **If any Councillors are interested in becoming a flood warden they need to either speak to the Clerk or Gwyn Moseley at Natural Resources Wales.**
- e) **That Councillors would approach the subject of flood wardens with family friends, colleagues, neighbours and residents with a view to increasing warden numbers in both Towyn and Kinmel Bay.**

Cllr McLoughlin thanked Gwyn for his presentation and he left the meeting.

9. Grass on Pavements and Roads

This matter now seems to have been resolved, as Conwy have commenced spraying and scraping the pavements and roads, however Cllr Jones mentioned that he had noticed that in some instances the scrapings were not being removed for a number of days, which could cause issues if it rains and the scrapings wash into/block the drains.

Resolved that: Councillors would report any further issues/instances relating to grass/scraping to the Clerk.

10. Relocation of Bin – Clwyd Park

County have agreed to re-locating the bin and the work has been scheduled.

11. Willow Maze

A quote of £1150 plus VAT has been received for the hard reduction of the willow, this has been referred to Helen and Helen has confirmed that the £1150 is within the agreed grounds maintenance budget.

Meeting closed at 8:35pm

Signed by the Chair of Environmental Committee meeting held on 12 June, 2017