

**Towyn and Kinmel Bay Town Council.**  
**Meeting of the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee.**  
**held at the Community Resource Centre.**  
**at 7.00p.m. on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015.**  
**All Meetings Are Recorded**

**MINUTES**

**89.15 Attendance.**

Cllr. McLoughlin, Cllr. Smith, Cllr. Johnson, Cllr. Richmond, Cllr. Laura Knightly, Cllr. Luke Knightly and Cllr. Darwin.

**90.15 Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr. Roberts, Cllr. Corry, Cllr. Stone and Cllr. Bateman.

No word received: Cllr. Sadler and Cllr. Anderson.

**91.15 Declaration of Interest.**

Members are reminded that they must declare the existence and nature of their declared interest. (Using the form provided for this purpose)

NONE DECLARED

**92.15 Urgent Matters.**

Notice of items which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

No urgent items.

**93.15 To receive the minutes of the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee held on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

It was proposed by Cllr. McLoughlin and seconded by Cllr. Johnson to accept the minutes of the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015 and this was agreed by all.

**94.15 Health and Safety**

Cllr. Smith raised the issue of the wooden posts again in the square. The clerk stated she had chased Peter Harris and Tom Gravett in relation to this but had not had a response to date. The clerk would chase again, and also confirmed that she would raise this issue at her meeting with Tom Gravett in a couple of weeks time.

## **95.15. Reports for consideration**

### **A) Tir Prince Park Pond Group**

Members of the Tir Prince Park Pond Group attended the meeting to address members in relation to the work they do and their aspirations for the pond area of the park. CCBC were assisting the group with a grant application for a pump and fountain for the park, however, due to unforeseen circumstances this had been put on hold until the New Year. After some discussion it was agreed that the clerk would liaise with CCBC in January and if they were still unable to help the group the clerk and Town Council would support them in getting their grant application submitted.

The group also confirmed they had plans to meet with Peter Harris and Tom Gravett on the 6<sup>th</sup> November to discuss getting an area of the pond cleared ready for the swans and wildlife to nest in the spring, and to also to inform CCBC of their aspirations for the park by working closely with CCBC. The council thanked the group for their hard work, time and dedication to the park and the pond.

### **B) Kimmel Dunes Local Nature Reserve Management Advisory Group**

The clerk informed members that the above required two more Councillors making up part of the membership, as at present only Cllr. Anderson and the clerk currently represented the Town Council, as a result of Cllr. Stone recently leaving the group due to his health. Cllr Darwin and Cllr. Smith believed that they had been appointed to this group by virtue of their role as County Councillors and would make an effort to attend future meetings. Cllr. Richmond and Cllr. Johnson also expressed an interest in joining the group. It was suggested that all councillors should be notified of the meetings in the hope that at least two would then be able to attend the meetings. The clerk stated she would notify Lesley Lawson, the dunes manager, of the above for her to consider how she wished to proceed.

### **C) iPads**

Cllr. Smith had asked for this item to be placed on the agenda to address members in relation to the Town Council purchasing iPads for all non-County Councillor Town Council members. He commented that he believed that they would make the Town Council more efficient and believed that it would save the Council money with regard to the printing and posting of agendas and all the related paperwork.

The clerk had prepared a basic report for member's consideration in relation to cost effectiveness against the benefit to the community and based on current spends on printing, stationery and other costs associated did not believe that the Council would save any money and due to potential hosting costs could end up spending more money year on year. There was also the added cost of the initial outlay for the purchase of the iPads. With the potential for the County Council to look to Town Councils to take on some of the services currently offered by them, the clerk did not feel this was the right time financially for the Council to look to spend such a large sum of money on something that was not essential or of benefit to the community.

Cllr. McLoughling commented on this further stating that this should be something for the Council after the next election (May 2017) to decide, as by this time the current uncertainty surrounding Local Government would be clearer.

After some discussion it was decided that as all members were not present and the budget meeting would take place in January, this matter should be adjourned until the budget meeting.

The clerk would prepare a formal report in relation to the cost/benefit to the community ratio and provide a written recommendation within that, however, the final decision was the Council's to make.

#### **96.15 County Councillor updates**

Cllr. Laura Knightly informed members that she had sent her response in to Betsi Cadwalder's recent consultation.

She also updated that she had attended a CCBC business forum meeting which focused on training and assisting local businesses which she planned to speak with Towyn businesses about to support them in any way that she could.

Cllr. Smith informed members that the Tir Llwyd industrial estate finally seemed to be on CCBC's radar for a cash injection to develop and regenerate it. Cllr. Darwin added to this stating that he and Cllr. Smith have spoken with NRW about the industrial estate highlighting to them that due to them allowing the Rhyl coastal development and the development of caravan sites on the coast, they should also be supporting development on the Tir Llwyd as this is much less of a flood risk.

Cllr. Smith also reported that the double yellow lines were now on St. Asaph Avenue and he was hopeful the remaining proposals from CCBC's Highway's department would soon follow.

#### **97.15 Financial requests**

- Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod – acknowledged.
- Urdd Gobaith Cymru – Conwy - acknowledged – it was proposed by Cllr. Smith and seconded by Cllr. Luke Knightly to give £120 in support and this was agreed by all.
- British Red Cross Wales – acknowledged.
- North Coast Church Christmas event- acknowledged – it was proposed by Cllr. Luke Knightly and seconded by Cllr. McLoughlin to donate £200 and this was agreed by all. Cllr. Luke Knightly also offered a free child's fairground ride to the event and asked that his details were passed on to the church.

#### **98.15 Correspondence received**

- Sandy Cove Resident's Association letter of thanks for grant money – noted.
- Dial a Ride letter of thanks for grant money – noted.

#### **99.15 Accounts for September for Approval including Bank Reconciliations.**

It was proposed by Cllr. Smith and seconded by Cllr. Johnson to accept the accounts and bank reconciliations (appendix a) and this was agreed by all.

Cllr. Smith raised the issue of why the Council gets its broadband from Plusnet and the phone costs from BT, rather than all from one provider. The clerk commented in the past it had been cheaper this way but that she would look at when contracts were up for renewal and make enquiries to see if there could be savings from having both from one provider.

Cllr Smith also raised the Health and Safety contract currently in place and whether this was a necessity. The clerk stated this had been in place a while as it placed the onus of responsibility with the H & S consultant rather than the Council should anything happen in the resource centre. The clerk was asked to speak with other Town Clerks to see how they deal with health and safety and report back to Council.

**Before the meeting closed Cllr. Richmond wished to remember ex Cllr. Dennis Huxley-Owen, who had recently passed away, for all his contributions while a member of the Town Council and wanted to pass on the Council's sympathies to the family at this difficult time.**