

Towyn & Kinmel Bay Town Council

Minutes of the Full Council – (Hybrid Meeting) held on Wednesday 14th August, 2024
at 7:00pm

Present Cllrs: G Corry, L Gledhill, L Griffiths, M Jones, A Macauley (Mayor), B McLoughlin, K Redhead, M Smith & N Smith

Clerk: Dylan Thomas

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs B Griffiths & D Johnson. Cllrs T Bibby, L Knightly and D Mulvaney were absent without apology.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr K Redhead declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 6 – Planning, as she is a member of the Planning Committee at Conwy CBC, and she withdrew from the meeting whilst this agenda item was being discussed.

3. Public Participation

Two representatives from the Kinmel Bay Church Foodbank, attended the meeting to provide an update to the members (Agenda item 7 – Kinmel Bay Church Foodbank).

A resident attended the meeting, to advise the members how the Kinmel Bay Church Foodbank have supported him.

4. Minutes

Resolved that: - The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 24/07/24 be approved and signed.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the above-mentioned meeting minutes.

6. Planning

0/51639

Demolition of existing detached bungalow and erection of pair detached bungalows.
Noted the application has been withdrawn.

Application by Mona Offshore Wind Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Mona Offshore Wind Farm Project.

Resolved that: - No Objection – Reference number MNOW-SP093

0/51870

Proposed double storey side extension, first floor extension over porch and re-roofing of rear flat roof.

Resolved that: - No Objection

0/51887

Certificate of lawfulness for the existing use as B2 in relation to the 3 workshop units shown on the submitted plan & B8 with regard the outside area.

Resolved that: - Whilst the Town Council has no objection regarding the use of the workshops and outside areas, the members have concerns regarding the access to the site (Large vehicles reversing in and out), the increased traffic, and the present condition of the access road, which forms part of the Flood Defence for Clwyd Bank.

7. Kinmel Bay Foodbank

Two representatives from the Kinmel Bay Church Foodbank attended the meeting to provide an update and answer members questions.

The update included: -

- Notable increase in foodbank usage in the last 12m, food poverty is a major issue.
- Now they are independent, 90/95% of all foodbank users are from the Towyn and Kinmel Bay area.
- Foodbank is officially open on Tuesdays and Fridays however they never turn anyone away, any day of the week.
- They receive referrals from various organisations, such as: - Cartrefi Conwy, Clwyd Alyn, CAB, Local Health Visitors and School Liaison Officers.
- Approximately 473 people have benefited from the foodbank since 01/01/2024 (Approx. 170 food parcels).
- A basic foodbank parcel costs approx. £40, and family packs cost approx. £55. (These packs last for 3 to 4 days).
- The foodbank costs approx. £17,000/£20,000 per year, and this is roughly made up of: -
- TKBTC approx. £5,000.
- Trolley in the Church filled each week by the congregation approx. £3,000.
- Contribution from the Church's café approx. £3,000.
- Grant funds from Asda £800, and various gifts from individuals and organisations approx. £9,000 per year.
- The Church also fund the admin costs, foodbank officer's salary, and utility bills.
- The users of the foodbank are very varied, and can include professional people, who might only use the foodbank once or twice when their circumstances change.

Noted the letter of support for the foodbank, from the Family Liaison Officer at Ysgol Y Foryd.

Noted that there may be some grant funding opportunities from Asda and Cartrefi Conwy.

Noted that the representative of the foodbank again extended an open invitation to all members to attend the foodbank, to see exactly what happens/how the foodbank support/benefits the residents of Towyn and Kinmel Bay.

The Chairman thanked the Kinmel Bay Church representative and the member of the public, for attending tonight's meeting, to provide an update/insight to the support that they provide to our community.

8. Payments & Receipts

Resolved that: - The payments and receipts for the period 01/07/2024 to 31/07/2024, which had been fully reviewed by the Clerk and Cllr M Jones (Appointed Finance Councillor) be approved as presented by the Clerk, and be signed by the Chairman.

9. Bank Reconciliation

Resolved that: - The balances as at 31/07/2024 which have been fully reviewed and signed by the Clerk, and Cllr M Jones (Appointed Finance Councillor) be approved as presented by the Clerk, and be signed by the Chairman.

10. 2024-25 Proposed Budget Changes

Resolved that: - The proposed budget changes for 2024-25 be approved, as presented and explained by the Clerk.

11. Budget Monitoring Reports

Resolved that: - The 3 x year to date budget monitoring reports as at 31/07/2024, including one with explanations re reportable/notable variances be approved as presented and explained by the Clerk.

12. Kinmel Bay Coastal Defence Scheme – Public Realm Opportunities

- Noted that the meeting arranged by Conwy CBC between Conwy CBC Officers/Cllrs and TKBTC Councillors on 30/07/2024, was rescheduled by Conwy CBC, and was held on Tuesday 06/08/2024 at 2pm at the Kinmel Bay Beach Car Park.

- Noted that Conwy CBC are holding a Public Drop-in Session at the TKBTC Community Resource Centre on Friday 13/09/2024, between 3pm and 7pm.

13. Conwy CBC Public Toilets

- Noted that Conwy CBC have confirmed that they will be permanently closing the Conwy CBC Public Toilets on Sandbank Road in Towyn on Wednesday 04/09/2024.

- Noted that Conwy CBC have requested the Town Councillors to promote the Conwy CBC Community Toilet Scheme.

14. Proposed CCTV in the Kinmel Bay Community Centre Hall

Noted that sound equipment in the main hall had been damaged, and had cost the Kinmel Bay Community Centre approx. £500 to repair.

Resolved that: The Town Council would approve the proposed installation on the Town Council's existing CCTV System, a CCTV Camera in the main hall of the KBCC, subject to the full cost of the camera and installation being covered by the Kinmel Bay Community Centre.

Noted that CCBC had confirmed that they had no issues with the proposed installation, subject to: -

- The TKBTC PIA being updated
- Appropriate CCTV signage in the main hall
- A Pre-Consultation being undertaken with the Kinmel Bay Community Centre users.

15. Conwy CBC Free Wi-Fi Scheme

- Noted that Conwy CBC have been successful in obtaining funding from the Welsh Government for the proposed scheme.
- Noted that Conwy CBC have identified better specification devices for a lower price, and are therefore able to offer TKBTC two options either of which will result in a reduced contribution from TKBTC (30% match funding).
- Noted that the five-year option would result in a £2,180.66 saving to the Town Council, and that the seven-year option would result in a £878.26 saving.

Resolved that: - The seven-year option be approved, as it represented the Cheapest and best value for money option for the Town Council (Total Cost of Scheme cost £42,819.44, Welsh Government 70% Funding £29,973.61 and TKBTC 30% match funding contribution £12,845.83).

Noted that Cllrs A Macauley, L Griffiths & B McLoughlin requested that it be recorded in the meeting minutes, that they abstained from voting on this agenda item, as they voted against the initial proposed Free Wi-Fi scheme and TKBTC match funding contribution.

16. Solar Farm Grant Monies Balances

Noted that the Solar Farm Grant balance presently stands at £30,393.63 of which £13,724.09 has been allocated to cover the Town Council's contribution towards the proposed Conwy CBC Free Wi-Fi Scheme in the Towyn and Kinmel Bay area.

Cllr M Jones left the meeting early at 19:45.

17. Proposed Solar LED Light Projects

Resolved that: - The proposed Tir Prince Park Scheme, will be the next scheme that the Town Council will look to complete.

Noted that the Deputy Clerk will explore various grant funding opportunities, to fund/part fund the proposed installations in Tir Prince Park.

18. Darren Millar – Member of the Welsh Parliament for Clwyd West

Resolved that: - Darren Millar's (Member of the Welsh Government for Clwyd West) offer to attend a Town Council meeting, to provide an update be approved.

Noted that the members felt that October onwards would be best (once the proposed Sea Defence works have commenced).

19. Councillor Vacancy

- Noted that the Conwy CBC Elections Team have advised that 10 electors or more have called for an election for the vacant Councillor seat in the Towyn Ward.

Noted that Conwy CBC have provisionally confirmed that: -

- The Nomination Period will be 12-20th September, 2024.
- The Election date will be Thursday 17/10/2024.

20. Community Support Expenditure

- Noted that the updated year to date Community Expenditure was £1,735.43, against an agreed 2024-25 budget of £6,000.
- Noted that a number of Councillors feel that the Kinmel Bay Church Foodbank needs to be more active in applying for grant funding, so that they can become self-funding.
- Noted that a Conwy CBC Officer works with all foodbanks within the Conwy CBC area (Conwy Food Partnership Scheme), and that funding is available from the Welsh Government to support foodbanks.
- Noted that Cllr L Griffiths has agreed to offer her support, with a view to assisting them identifying/applying for grant funding.

Resolved that: -

a) The Town Council will continue to support the foodbank at the existing figure of £420 per calendar month until 31/03/2025, to give the foodbank time to liaise/obtain financial support from the Conwy Food Partnership Scheme and/or other grant providers.

b) A further review/update will be undertaken before 31/03/2025, so that the Town Council can determine what progress/steps the foodbank have undertaken to become self-funding.

21. Proposed Installation of an additional Bus Shelter on Towyn Road

Resolved that: -

a) The provisional quote from Conwy CBC for the proposed installation of an additional bus shelter on Towyn Road (opposite side of the road to the existing shelter outside Palins Caravan Park) for the sum of approx. £6,715.00 be approved, as it was deemed to be good value for money, and the work will be undertaken by Conwy CBC main bus shelter installer/contractor.

b) The cost of the additional shelter will be part funded from the funds that Conwy CBC hold on the Town Council's behalf for bus shelter improvements/installations/maintenance, (Estimated balance approx. £6,600.00), and part from the TKBTC Bus Shelter Ear Marked Reserves (Balance £2,000).

Noted that the proposed bus shelter was a standard shelter (Non-living roof), as the living roof shelters were dearer, and it is too early to judge/gauge how successful the two living shelters which were installed in 2023, have been (Palins and Seagull).

Noted that the annual contributions from TKBTC toward Conwy CBC bus shelter maintenance, will need to increase from £1,250 to £1,500 (£250 per bus shelter), in 2025-26.

22. Conwy County Borough Councillor Updates/Reports

Cllr K Redhead advised that Conwy CBC have now installed the CCTV Camera on Chester Avenue.

Cllr K Redhead also advised that a Towyn & Kinmel Bay resident is representing the GB Team at the Para Olympics, and will be carrying the torch for Team GB on Thursday 15/08/2024.

Cllr N Smith, M Smith and B McLoughlin advised that they did not have anything further to add/report.

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Signed by the Chair of the next Full Council meeting 02/09/2024.