

Towyn & Kinmel Bay Town Council

Minutes of the Full Council – (Hybrid Meeting) held on Monday 23rd November, 2022
at 7:00pm

Present Cllrs: T Bibby, G Corry (Mayor), L Formston, L Gledhill, M Jones, L Knightly, A Macauley, B McLoughlin, D Mulvaney, M Smith & N Smith

Clerk: Dylan Thomas

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs B Griffiths, L Griffiths, D Johnson and K Redhead.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr N Smith declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 8 – Planning, as he is a member of the Planning Committee at Conwy CBC, and he withdrew from the meeting whilst this agenda item was being discussed.

3. Public Participation

There were no applications from the public to address the Council.

Two representatives from the North Wales Community Health Council attended the meeting, to undertake a representation/Q & A Session (Agenda item 6).

4. Minutes

Resolved that: -

The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 14/11/2022, be approved and signed.

5. Matters Arising

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

6. North Wales Community Health Council

The Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer of the North Wales Community Health Council undertook a short presentation regarding the work that the Health Council in North Wales undertakes to improve Health Services for people in North Wales.

The presentation was followed by a Q & A session, during which the following topics were discussed: -

- Issues with booking face to face appointments with Doctors & Dentists.(Councillors not happy with GP Services).
- Patients being sent home from hospital too early, with no after care provision. (Councillors concerned that aftercare seems to have declined, which NWCHC acknowledged/agreed).
- Rapid Treatment Centres are in the process of being set up (pre-arranged surgery).
- Diagnostic Centres are in the process of being set up.
- The Health Council believe that they do make a difference.
- The Welsh Government have made a decision to disband the Community Health Council's in Wales.
- Most issues with GP's is down to recruitment.
- Most schemes fail due to staffing issues.
- GP's are not NHS employees, they are independent medical practices, run as a business.

- Betsi Cadwaladr is one of the largest Health related employers in Europe.
- The Health Council is concerned that GP's are not operating to their National Medical Standards, but the Welsh Government will not accept that this is the case.
- If residents have any issues with their doctors and/or seeking medical treatment they should contact the Community Health Council to investigate.

7. Support for Families for Christmas 2022

Resolved that: - The Town Council would purchase toys/games and food up to the value of £1,300 (£900 toys/games and £400 fresh food hampers) for families whose children would otherwise not receive Christmas presents/nutritious food, which the Family Liaison Officers at the two local Primary Schools will distribute as they see fit.

Resolved that: - A budget of £1,300 would be set in the 2022-23 budget to cover this.

Noted that Cllr A Macauley will speak to the two School Liaison Officers, to ask them to contact the Clerk to take matters forward.

Cllr B McLoughlin left the meeting early at 19:50

8. Planning

0/50184

Change of use of existing gym/spa/shop to form extension to existing public house, together with minor alterations and small flat roof extension to provide improved kitchen, toilet and washroom facilities.

Resolved that: - No Objection

9. Grant Applications

**Resolved that: - The following grant application be approved: -
£300 – Thursday Coffee Club – to serve a Christmas celebration lunch for members, their friends and other invited local residents. (Entertainment, music, bingo and boccia, to be held at St Mary's Church.**

10. Community Support Expenditure

Noted the updated 2022-23 Community Support Expenditure Report, which presently stands at £2,458.92.

11. 2020-21 External Audit Report

The Clerk presented/explained in detail the following documents: -

- a) The Auditor General for Wales Audit Certificate, issues Arising Report and Completed Action Plan, which confirmed that there were no major findings to report.
- b) The Internal Auditors Reports for the 2020-21 Audits.
- c) Draft Statement/reports on Internal Control for the year ending 31st March, 2021.

Noted that the above mentioned documents were previously presented/explained to the members at the Full Council meeting held on 06/04/2022 (Agenda item 8 – External Audit 2020-21), and that the members approved the documents, however the Clerk has recently identified that the agreed resolutions/actions have been omitted from the meeting minutes.

Resolved that: - All the above mentioned documents be reapproved as presented/explained, without the need for any amendments, and that the Clerk and the Chairman both sign the Statement/Report on Internal Control, regarding the effectiveness for the 2020-21 Audit and also the completed Action Plan relating to the External Audit.

12. Civic Service 2022-23

Noted that a date had not been set by Mayor for the 2022-23 Civic Service, and that depending on various circumstances, may be held in February, 2023.

13. Proposed Projects for 2023-24

Noted that Councillors will need to consider proposed projects for 2023-24 ready for the Full Council meeting on Monday 5th December, 2022.

14. Reindeer Event

Noted that the event has been booked at the two local Primary Schools on Thursday 15th December, 2022.

Noted the 2023 event will be added to the agenda in early 2023-24.

15. Abergele Joint Burial Board

Noted: -

- a) The update dated 22/11/2022 from the Interim Clerk of the Joint Burial Board.
- b) All final cheques have been issued and paid.
- c) The Ombudsman investigation is ongoing, and that the Burial Board have provided the Ombudsman with all the requested documents.
- d) The Burial Boards bank accounts will be closed over the course of the next few weeks.
- e) The closing balance will be transferred to Conwy CBC.
- f) The draft meeting minutes of the Burial Boards meeting held on 22/07/2022.
- g) The Burial Board are still awaiting receipts of the Annual Return for 2021-22 back from the Wales Audit Officer.
- h) A basic 2022-23 Annual Return will be prepared by the Burial Board Interim Clerk once the bank accounts have been closed, and the balances have been transferred over to Conwy CBC.
- i) Both Town Council's (Abergele and Towyn & Kinmel Bay) will then need to formally disband the Joint Burial Board, once all the required actions have been completed.

16. Councillor Training

The Clerk presented and explained Councillor Learning and Development Plan and the Councillor Schedule of Competencies Document to the members.

The Clerk advised that the Councillors need to identify any training needs, and notify the clerk so that appropriate OVW/Planning Aid Wales training can be arranged.

Resolved that: - The Councillor Learning & Development Plan and Councillor Schedule of Competencies document, be approved, as presented and explained by the clerk, without the need for any amendments to be made.

Noted that it is the Councillors individual responsibility to complete the forms and to assess any training needs that they have.

Noted that the Clerk will forward both documents to the Councillors and that they need to be completed and returned by 31/12/2022.

17. Councillor Ipad

Resolved that: - Councillor Ipad will be replaced as and when issues arise with the existing Ipad, rather than replacement on mass, given that they are presently working with no reported issues.

Resolved that: - The Clerk will order one spare Councillor Ipad, so that it is available should one of the existing Councillor Ipad's become problematic.

18. Consent Forms for Filming/Photography

The Clerk presented and explained the revised consent forms for adults and children.

Resolved that: - The revised consent forms be approved, as explained and presented by the Clerk.

19. Policies

The Clerk presented and explained the updated/revised Environment (Wales) Act 2016 part 1 – section 6 – 2022 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report, which replaces the existing report which was prepared and adopted by the Council in a Full Council meeting on 27/01/2020.

Resolved that: - The 2022 revised/updated Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report, be approved as presented by the Clerk.

20. Playgrounds

Resolved that: - The quote for the sum of £29,667.50 from Conwy CBC for additional toddler related play equipment in the Owain Glyndwr Park be approved, as the members considered it to be excellent value for money, and the work will be completed by Conwy CBC preferred Playground Contractor.

Resolved that: - The scheme will be paid from; £10,000 – Ear Marked Reserve – Playgrounds, £10,000 2022-23 Playgrounds Budget, and the balance of £9,667.50 from the Solar Farm Expenditure Budget for 2022-23.

21. Photocopier

The Clerk presented and explained the proposed transfer of the existing photocopier contract, part way through the contract, from Arena to Greendocs.

The Clerk explained the benefits and disadvantages of the proposed transfer, and that Arena had bought out B2, and since then there had been issues with contacting the company and call out times.

Resolved that: -

- a) **The quote for £69.37 per month for 5 years, to transfer the photocopier contract from Arena to Greendocs be approved, whilst it was the only quote received, and the actual savings of £38.40 per year is a relatively small saving, the Councillors considered the quote to be excellent value for money (Arena previously B2 were the cheapest of the three quotes obtained in March 2019), and they also wished to support a locally based company (Abergele), also the Greendocs contract had improved service/call out terms.**
- b) **The Greendocs contract will be signed on the behalf of the Town Council by Cllrs G Corry (Chairman) and M Jones (Appointed Finance Councillor), and that their signatures will be witnessed by the Clerk**

Noted that Greendocs has confirmed in writing that they will fully cover all early cancellation costs incurred by the Council, and would also apply a £250 Service Credit.

22. Remembrance Bench

Resolved that: - The quote of £1,515 for a Lest We Forget Remembrance Bench be approved, as it was deemed to be excellent value for money, and it matched the two existing remembrance benches.

23. Conwy County Borough Councillor Updates/Reports

Cllr N Smith reminded the members that the proposed Sea Defence Improvements Drop in Event, which was part of the Conwy CBC Consultation, was being held at the TKBTC Community Resource Centre on 8th December, 2022 between 3pm – 7pm.

- An Interim Monitoring Officer has been appointed by Conwy CBC.
- The Returning Chief Executive finished on 22/11/2022.
- Cllr N Smith again stated that the Conwy CBC budgets are looking grim for 2023-24.
- Cllr N Smith again advised that he is concerned that the proposed Sea Defence Improvements Works may be delayed/not go ahead due to the budget constraints.
- A number of 2022-23 Conwy CBC projects have already been halted, to save funds for 2023-24.

Meeting Closed at 20:30

.....
Signed by the Chairman of the Full Council meeting held on 05/12/2022.