

Towyn & Kinmel Bay Town Council

Minutes of the Full Council - (Hybrid Meeting) held on Monday 2nd December, 2024 at 7:00pm

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

Clerk: Dylan Thomas

Deputy Clerk: Katherine Evans

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs T Bibby and K Redhead.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Public Participation

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

4. Minutes

Resolved that: - The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 20/11/2024 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters Arising

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

6. Planning

0/52134

Variation of condition no.3 (Opening Hours) of planning approval 0/50677 (BJ's Café along with two of the adjoining businesses, previously a gift shop and a pet supplies store, are to be fully renovated and converted to a Café and smoke house style restaurant with new parking area to the rear. The existing café is to occupy the same area while the restaurant is to occupy the area of the former pet store and gift shop, the kitchen will be adapted to serve both establishments. A new refurbished seating area is to be created to the front of the business overhauling the currently rundown frontage, proposals include new hardstanding's and temporary furnishings) to allow the hours to be extended from 9am to 6pm to 9am to 11pm.

Resolved that: - No Objection

7. Budget Monitoring Reports

Resolved that: - The 3 x year to date Budget Monitoring Reports as at 30/11/2024, be approved as presented and explained by the Clerk.

8. Proposed Budget Changes

Resolved that: - The Proposed Budget Changes for 2024-25 be approved, as presented and explained by the Clerk.

9. Payments & Receipts

Resolved that: - The Payments and Receipts for the period 01/11/2024 to 30/11/2024, which have 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.

10. Bank Reconciliations

Resolved that: - The balances as at 30/11/2024, 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.

Cllr G Corry joined late at 19:05

11. 2025-26 Budgets

Resolved that: - The following provisional budgets would be included in the 2025-26 budgets/precept calculations: -

- Building Maintenance - £4,500
- Ground Maintenance - £16,500
- Solar Farm Grant Received - £13,000
- Grants - £10,000
- Solar Farm Grant Paid - £13,000
- Tree Lights Power - £11,000
- Chairman's Allowances - £0.00

12. Solar Farm Grant Monies

Noted that the current balance for the Solar Farm Grant is as follows: -

- Total Balance: £30,393.63 (Credit)

Allocated/Set Aside Funds

- £13,724.09 for the Town Council's contribution to the Conwy CBC Free Wi-Fi Scheme EMR.
- £7,000 for the Clwyd Park Path Project EMR.

Unallocated Funds

- Solar Farm EMR: £2,363.20.
- Unspent 2024-25 budget (funds received in 2024) £7,306.34.

Supports "A resilient Wales "as solar farms align with the goal of Resilient Wales by enhancing biodiversity, reducing environmental impact, and strengthening local and national capacity to adapt to environmental and economic challenges.

13. Ear Marked Reserves

The Clerk presented and explained the current Ear Marked Reserves balances (total EMR balances £65,394.55 as at 30/11/2024).

Resolved that: -

Approved Transfers into EMR

- **£8,184.60 into Solar Farm (compromising of £7,306.34 unspent 2024-25 Solar Farm Budget and £878.26 to the reduced Conwy CBC free Wi-Fi contribution).**

- £3,814.06 into Elections (allocating funds to the Elections Earmarked Reserves budget to ensure a total of £7,500 is available, Conwy CBC suggest an amount of £2,500 per Ward for potential election costs in case an election is called).

Approved Transfers Out of EMR

- £878.26 for the Conwy CBC Free Wi-Fi Scheme (reduced Match Funding Requirement).
- £800.00 (Conwy CBC will not install any additional bins, and requests to pay for replacement bins can be covered from the Ground Maintenance budget).
- £295.27 for Vehicle Activated Signs invoice paid (Invoice amount was less than Conwy CBC initial quote).

Outstanding Purchase Orders

- £1,237.00 payment to Conwy CBC (replacement basket swing, Kendal Road Park).

Noted that the revised overall EMR balance will be £78,148.68 once the above transfers/payments have been made.

14. Proposed Transfer of Assets/Services and Requests for Financial Support from Conwy CBC

Noted that a list of community assets for Towyn and Kinmel Bay has been received from Conwy CBC. However, the lists are basic and lack detailed information.

Resolved that: - The members will review the lists over the next twelve months with an aim to consider taking over any appropriate assets/SLA (Service Level Agreements) with effect from 1st April, 2026, following full consultation/costings and site meetings with Conwy CBC.

Noted that Cllr N Smith confirmed the Kinmel Bay Community Centre Charity have a lease in place from Conwy CBC.

Resolved that: - The following financial support be approved and paid to Conwy CBC for 2025-26.

Library Services

- The Town Council will contribute £3,000 towards the cost of running the Library, following confirmation of its opening hours for 2025-26.

Bus Shelter Maintenance

- Conwy CBC requested £1,250; however, there will be six bus shelters in 2025-26 at £250 each, therefore the correct contribution is £1,500.

CCTV

- The Town Council will contribute £1,632 to Conwy CBC for the maintenance and running costs of three CCTV cameras in the Towyn and Kinmel Bay area (£544 per camera).

Public Toilets

- There are no Conwy CBC public toilets in the Towyn and Kinmel Bay Area.

Festive Lights

- The charge for processing 178 applications (for attachment to or taking electrical supplies from highway equipment) for 2025/26 is £396.

15. 2025-26 Proposed Projects and Budgets

Resolved that: - The following projects and provisional budgets will be included in the 2025-26 budget/precept calculations: -

Community Place Plan - £1,000

Benches - £0

Mass Crocus Bulb Planting - £0

Playgrounds - £0

Solar LED Lights - £5,750

Defibrillators - £2,000

Community Support - £6,000

Planting Scheme - £0

Speed Sensing Signs - £0

Tir Prince Park/Pond Maintenance - £3,000

Family Support at Christmas - £1,000

Parcels for the Elderly (Santa Senior) - £5,000

Ffordd Y Berllan Fencing - £5,000

Dog Exercise Area Fencing at Kendal Road Park - £5,000

Tir Prince Park - Supports “A Resilient Wales” by enhancing biodiversity and “A Healthier Wales” by encouraging outdoor activity and mental well-being

Defibrillators - Supports “A Wales of Cohesive Communities” by supporting the goal of creating cohesive, supportive communities that can rely on each other in times of need.

16. Grants

Noted that Tranche 2 for grant applications closes on the 31st December, 2024.

17. Consultation Re Promoting a Resilient and High Performing Planning Service

Noted the Welsh Government has launched a Public Consultation regarding promoting a resilient and high-performing planning service. The associated publications outline a range of options aimed at improving the planning service’s efficiency and effectiveness (Consultation closes on 17/01/2025).

18. Consultation Re Preserving Trees and Woodlands – New Regulations

Noted the Welsh Government has launched a Public Consultation regarding the new regulations aimed at preserving trees and woodlands. The proposed regulations focus on enhancing conservation efforts, protection biodiversity, and supporting sustainable management practices (Consultation closes on 14/02/2025).

19. Digital Health Check

Resolved that: - The recently completed Digital Health Check Self-Assessment, designed by One Voice Wales be approved. This tool kit has enabled the Council to efficiently review its current Digital and Information Technology (IT) setup, the check list confirms that the Town

Council's present arrangements are up to date and meets One Voice Wales recommendations.

20. Conwy CBC Free Wi-Fi Scheme

Noted that the following documents were received from Conwy CBC in relation to the SMART Towns Free Wi-Fi Scheme.

Documents Received

- Emailed Update One from Conwy CBC (dated 20/11/2024) – later withdrawn.
- Explanation from Conwy CBC regarding the withdrawal of “Update One.”
- Emailed Update Two from Conwy CBC (dated 27/11/2024) – included a sample of the data provided by the Smart Town Wi-Fi initiative.
- Email from Cllr B Griffiths to Conwy CBC regarding the Smart Towns Wi-Fi initiative (dated 29/12/2024).
- Explanation from Conwy CBC (dated 29/11/2024) clarifying the differences between Update One and Two and the reason for withdrawing Update One.

Clarifications and Confirmations regarding Costs

- Data Collection and Reporting Costs – Conwy CBC will cover the ongoing collection and reporting of Smart Towns data.

Seven-Year Option Benefits

- As Towyn and Kinmel Bay Town Council opted into the seven-year plan, there will be no costs for the Council during this period.
- All costs have already been incorporated into the scheme for the first seven years.

Post-Seven-Year Plan

- Conwy CBC will engage with the Town Council in year 6 to discuss potential ongoing funding sources to sustain or enhance the Wi-Fi provision.

Resolved that: - The Clerk does not write to the Chief Executive of Conwy CBC to request written confirmation/clarification that Phase 2 (Kinmel Bay) fully meet the criteria of the SMART Towns Grant that Conwy CBC have applied for/secured for the CCBC Free Wi-Fi Scheme in the Towyn and Kinmel Bay area.

Supports “A resilient Wales “ as Free Wi-Fi it ensures access to information and resources during emergencies or disruptions. Strengthens community capacity to adapt to environmental and economic changes through improved communication.

21. Conwy County Borough Councillor Updates/Reports

Noted that none of the Conwy CBC Councillors had any updates or reports.

Meeting Closed: 20:03

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Signed by the Chair of the next Full Council meeting 08/01/2025.