



Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

Cyfarfod Cyffredinol y Cyngor i'w gynnal ar Dydd Iau, 15 Mehefin 2023 am 6.45yh i'w gynnal yn rhannol yn y siambr, a phresenoldeb yn bosibl hefyd ar Zoom yn.

The Ordinary Meeting of the Council was held on Thursday 15 June 2023 at 6.45pm via hybrid attendance.

72/23 Cofrestr Presenoldeb - Attendance Register

The Mayor, Cllr. C. McCoubrey;

Cllrs: T. Brennan; P. Fletcher; D. Fetherstonhaugh; D. Green; A. Hunter;

S. Jones-Roberts; P. Luckcock; N. Williams; A. Wood; K. Yarwood

Mrs M. J. Evans (Town Clerk)

Mrs F. Taggart (Assistant Town Clerk)

Members of the public

73/23 Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb – Apologies for Absence

Cllrs: J. Jones; A. Williamson; P. Heap-Williams;

74/23 Absennol heb ymddiheuriad- Absence without Apology

Cllrs: M. Davies;

75/23 Datganiad o Ddiddordeb: Côt Ymddygiad - Declaration of Interest: Code of Conduct

Atgoffir aelodau ei bod yn rhaid iddynt ddatgan **bodolaeth** a **natur** unrhyw fantais personol (gan ddefnyddio'r ffurflen a ddarperir ar gyfer y pwrpas hwnnw).

Members were reminded that they must declare the **existence** and **nature** of any personal interests (using the form provided for this purpose).

Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh Min No: 83/23 (f)

Cllr. N. Williams Min No: 83/23 (f)

Cllr. A. Wood Min No: 83/23 (f)

Cllr. P. Luckcock Min No: 83/23 (f)

76/23 Guest Speaker

The Chairman welcomed Prof. Nathan Abrams from Bangor University, who provided members with an overview of a Jewish Heritage Trail project for the Abergele area. Prof. Abrams informed members that in 2006 he studied the history of North Wales, and provided walks and talks in Bangor, Llandudno and Colwyn bay, and is now seeking assistance for the Abergele area. Prof. Abrams informed members that he had followed the history of the Community back to when Edward I expelling the Jewish community from Wales in the 13th Century. This will be a walking Jewish History guided tour and also local people's history, carrying out research and make accessible to all. The aim is to create a voice map as well as normal maps, turning into exhibitions, an app and facilitate bilingual walks, similar to 'A Jewish history of Anglesey' that has already been created.

There are no synagogue records. Members were keen to be involved in the project and Prof Abrams will keep in contact with Clerk with regard to fundraising from local sources for help with walks and exhibition panels.



The Mayor thanked Professor Abrams for his engaging overview of the project.

77/23 Public participation

No requests with regard to Community matters, received by Members of the public wishing to address the Council were RECEIVED.

78/23 Announcements by the Mayor

The Mayor attended the Rhuddlan Town Council Civic Service, and the opening of the new Eye Hospital on the Business Park

79/23 Cofnodion - Minutes

It was **RESOLVED To RECEIVE, CONSIDER AND APPROVE** as a correct record the minutes of the following meetings:

- a) Ordinary meeting, held on Dydd Iau/Thursday 4 Mai/Mai 2023
- b) Confidential Ordinary meeting, held on Dydd Iau/Thursday 4 Mai/Mai 2023
- c) Annual Meeting of the Council held on the 15th May 2023

PROPOSED by Cllr. A. Hunter

SECONDED by Cllr. Dickon Fetherstonhaugh

80/23 Matters arising on those and previous Minutes

- a) An update from the Clerk with regard to the Pentre Mawr Election was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. The Clerk advised that the Council had received numerous complaints with regard to the decision to not issue Polling cards for the last election, that the public did not know who the candidates were, and not aware that the election was taking place.

It was NOTED that to host an election the cost to the Town Council is over £3.5k without the cost of poll cards. CCBC have made an offer to engage their staff as volunteers which at a cost of £602.70. Living in a high retirement area who do not use social media is also a factor. Clarification on who CCBC use as a courier was requested and the Clerk confirmed that the volunteers were CCBC staff who also volunteer for other roles, a core group of people. Candidates should also spread the word in the Community.

It was PROPOSED by Cllr. A. Hunter that the new offer of using volunteers at a much lower cost should be accepted and Poll cards should be issued. It would be interesting to note if there is a higher turnout, as a gauge for the future.

SECONDED by Cllr. S. Jones-Roberts.

All in favour

The Clerk confirmed that there would be a shortfall in the budget due to having two Elections and requested if the balance was to come from reserves,

All in favour.

81/23 Gohebiaeth - Correspondence

- DERBYN ac YSTYRIED yr eitemau gohebiaeth canlynol/The following items of



correspondence were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and NOTED:

- a) Mayor's Diary - details of the Mayor's engagements for Mehefin a Gorffenaf/June & July 2023
- b) Details of forthcoming meetings of the Council and its committees / sub-committees
- c) CVSC and OVW mail sent to members by email.
- d) OVW Training for June was RECEIVED. The Clerk informed members that a new Code of Conduct has been issued and will bring to members for adoption in due course. It was NOTED that the new Code includes that all members following Election should undertake Code of Conduct training within 6 months of their appointment.
- e) A letter from Mona Offshore Wind Project with regard to Section 42 PIL was RECEIVED. It was NOTED that Members could make responses individually.
- f) An email from CCBC with regard to a Consultation on Second and Empty Homes. It was NOTED that Members respond individually.
- g) The final draft for the signage for Pentre Mawr Park was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. It was RECOMMENDED to request if the Abergelle Branding (smile) could be included.

82/23 **Membership of Sub-Committees for 2023/24**

- (a) Any vacancies on the existing Sub Committees were REVIEWED.
- (b) The membership of each Committee was CONSIDERED.
Cllr. Hunter expressed an interest in joining the Staffing Committee, as he had previously been a member of the Committee in his capacity as Mayor.
Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh also expressed an interest in joining the Staffing Committee.
The Clerk informed members that Cllr. P. Heap-Williams had also expressed an interest in joining the Staffing Committee
The Mayor Cllr. C. McCoubrey agreed to vacate his seat as a member of the Staffing Committee, as he currently can attend in his capacity as Mayor. The Clerk explained that next year he would then not be a member of the Committee if there were no vacancies arising. This was AGREED by Cllr. McCoubrey.
Cllr. Alan Hunter was PROPOSED and SECONDED for the vacancy
Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh was PROPOSED and SECONDED for the vacancy
Cllr. P. Heap-Williams did not have a proposer
A vote for Cllr. Hunter was taken and carried with a majority of 7 in favour and 2 against.
Cllr. Hunter was appointed to the Staffing Committee.
- (c) Members wanting to vacate a seat
Cllr. N. Williams retired from the Events Sub Committee
Cllr. P. Heap Williams retired from the Marketing & Promotion Sub Committee
- (d) Members to fill vacancies
Cllr. A. Hunter was elected to the Events Sub Committee
Cllr. M. Davies was elected to the Marketing & Promotion Sub Committee
Cllr. P. Fletcher was elected to the Marketing & Promotion Sub Committee

83/23 **Representation on Outside Bodies**



- The Council's representatives on Outside Bodies for 2023/24 was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED.

The following amendments were NOTED:

- Abergelge Dementia Friends – Cllr. A. Williamson to join.
- Abergelge Fairtrade – Cllr. Brennan to vacate the post, as this group does not appear to be still running.
- Abergelge Regeneration Board – Cllr. Brennan vacated the post, Cllr. P. Heap-Williams to join
- North & Mid Wales Association of Town & Larger Community Councils – Cllr. P. Fletcher to join as the third member
- One Voice Wales – Cllr. T. Brennan to join
- Ysgol Glan Morfa – write to school to ascertain if they have anyone interested to stand
- St. George Village Hall - write to committee to clarify the representative.

The Mayor thanked Members for their work on the Outside Bodies.

84/23 **Lay Members**

The lay members on the following Committees were APPROVED.

- a) The continued lay-members on the Place Plan Committee representatives included, Mr. Neville Eden, Linda Tavernor, and County Councillor for Gele/Llanddulas Keith Eales and Ros Griffiths Williams.
- b) The continued appointment of Rev Kate Johnson and an RBL representative on the Events Sub Committee

85/23 **Bank Signatories**

The request for a new Bank Signatories following the elections was RECEIVED. Cllr T. Brennan AGREED to become a bank signatory.

86/23 **Internal Audit and Annual Return for 2022/23**

- a) A copy of the Statement of Accounts for 2022/23 was RECEIVED
- b) A report from the Internal Auditor with an overview of the Annual Accounts for 2022/23 was RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and APPROVED.
The Clerk will implement any necessary actions required.
- c) The Statement of Accounts for 2022/23, subject to External Audit was APPROVED for SIGNATURE.
- d) The Annual Return for 2022/23 was APPROVED for SIGNATURE

87/23 **Y diweddaraf gan Gynghorwyr Sir – Update from County Councillors**

- Derbyn adroddiadau llafar gan Gynghorwyr Sir / Verbal reports from County Councillors were RECEIVED as follows:

- a) Domination by budget group meetings for next year due to significant shortfall.
- b) Police and Crime Commissioner AGM is on the 26th June, Councillor will report back.
- c) Mona Wind Farm proposed off shore wind farm infrastructure; the use of Sea Road Bridge and Pensarn station have been discussed, concerns on how they propose moving heavy goods on a weak bridge, and any damage to the SSSI area. County Members are consultees. Members will request clarification on how this is to be considered.



- d) Challenging time with the 9.9% increase in Council tax and £11m service cuts, school transport, loss of £70m over last 9 years, challenging when viewing the detail.
- e) A Peer Review has been carried out by Welsh Government to view the democratic process over delivery which is a difficult balance to find. A Report and Action Plan will be produced to 2030-35 to deliver longer term planning
- f) North Wales growth deal £860m, 7 new projects going forward. The projects are worth £30m to the County. These are exciting projects and deliverable. Would be transformational for Conwy.

88/23 **Minutes**

The following Minutes were RECEIVED:

- a) General Purpose and Planning Committee meeting held on the 13th April 2023
- b) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 20th April 2023
- c) Place Plan Committee held on the 27th April 2023
- d) Confidential Staffing Committee held on the 20th February 2023
- e) Events Sub Committee meeting held on the 20th March 2023
- f) Marketing & Promotion Sub Committee meeting held on the 13th February 2023

Meeting Closed at 19:52

Signed

.....
(Chairman)