

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

A meeting of the Placeplan Committee was held by remote attendance on Thursday 25th March 2021 at 6:30pm.

296/20 Attendance Register

The Mayor, Cllr. A Hunter,
Cllrs: Dr. M. Baker (arrived at 7pm); M. Bond; T. Brennan; N. Eden; D Fetherstonhaugh;
G. Frost; S. Jones-Roberts; C. McCoubrey; D A MacRae; B. C. Roberts; S Rowlands;
R.G. Waters; N. Williams; A. Wood; Mrs. Linda Tavernor; Mr. Paul Roberts (arrived at
6:40pm)
Mr. Shane Wetton (CCBC)
Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)
Mrs. L. Whalley (Deputy Clerk)
Member of the public.

297/20 Apologies

Cllr. P Heap-Williams;

298/20 Absence with no apologies

None

299/20 Declaration of Interest

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

Cllr. C. McCoubrey	Min No: 302/20 (a)
Cllr. G. Frost	Min No: 302/20 (a)
Mrs. Linda Tavernor	Min No: 302/20 (a)

300/20 Visitor to the Council

The Mayor welcomed Sarah Ecob, CCBC Head of Economy & Culture to the meeting who provided members with an update on the future of the Place Plan. Ms Ecob informed members that she had been appointed to the role last November. A Project Board is to be created in the next couple of months with a view to overseeing all larger projects for the County and pull together a corporate mechanism; currently schools are led by Education etc. Currently in discussion with other Heads of Service. Comments were made by members regarding the lack of engagement by Officers and questioned how this could be rectified? Cllr. Rowlands informed members that he is the Chairman of the Conwy Opportunities Board, which oversees all projects in CCBC. There are currently three areas of regeneration Abergele, Llandudno and Llanrwst. By the end of April the Project Board should be formed and have clear proposals to proceed.

Major projects for Abergele include the Western Gateway, enabling work at the east of the Town, schools, and Highways.

The Mayor thanked Sarah for her attendance and she retired from the meeting.

301/20 Minutes

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN as a correct record the Minutes from the last meeting of the Placeplan Committee held on Thursday 28th January 2021.

302/20 Matters arising on those and previous minutes

- (a) An update from Shane Wetton regarding the Transport for Wales refurbishment work at Pensarn Train Station was RECEIVED. Mr. Wetton provided an overview of the project to date, including the work to Platform 1 and 2, and the booking office. A community hub has been developed at the site and leases are due to be signed in the near future. Members wished to commend Transport for Wales on how they have connected with the Community, Place plan, and are seeking funding for refurbishment of the shelters. Heritage of the buildings has been retained and will be an asset for the Town. The over-growth between the tracks is also to be cleared.
- (b) An update from Shane Wetton CCBC on the ENRAW grant (Green Gele) was RECEIVED. Mr. Wetton informed members that the project has reached phase 2, and the Council were given the offer last January, to commence at risk. WG have since asked for more detail for the project and meetings have taken place at the County Council.
- (c) An update with regard to the Welsh Language project with Menter Iaith was RECEIVED **It was RESOLVED to invite Menter Iaith to a future meeting of the Council.**
- (d) The Clerk provided members with an update on the post of Place Plan Facilitator, stating that following the recent interviews an offer has been made and the Staffing Committee are awaiting confirmation of acceptance. If declined then the post will be re-advertised.
- (e) An update from CCBC with regard to the installation of Tourism Signs in Abergele was RECEIVED. Cllr. Wood informed members that this has been a lengthy process, the signs were now on order, contributors have been agreed and the signs should be installed within the next 8 weeks.
- (f) An email from a resident with regard to a proposal for the Slaters site was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED. Members wished to thank the resident for raising this matter and County members confirmed that there is funding in the S106 budget for enhancing the area by improving open green space and will be pushing for Health and Wellbeing of the overall area. Other sites will be addressed as part of the open spaces and Green Gele project.

303/20 An update from Shane Wetton on CCBC funding was RECEIVED. Mr Wetton informed members that current spend on the S106 funding included, commitments to open space, regeneration, welsh language and the Place Plan co-ordinator totalling a commitment of £64,500. A total of £875,000 is available of which £532,000 must be allocated to Highway work, leaving £340,000 for other projects. This is an opportunity to utilise this fund for match funding against other grants funding pots.

304/20 An update from the Theme leads on progress to date was RECEIVED:

- a) Community Wellbeing and Culture
There is currently work progressing with Youth/Men Sheds for public open space following changes to community access with the relaxing of restrictions.
- b) Access & Infrastructure
A masterplan for Pensarn beach has been developed and David Jones MP's Levelling up fund is looking at supporting the project. Currently looking at different funding pots for this project.

- c) **Business Tourism & Jobs**
Most of the smaller projects have now come to fruition.

Meeting Closed at 7:25pm

Signed

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(Chairman)