

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

A meeting of the Placeplan Committee was held by remote attendance on Thursday 28th January 2021 at 6:30pm.

174/20 Attendance Register

The Mayor, Cllr. A Hunter,
Cllrs: N.Eden; D Fetherstonhaugh; G. Frost; P Heap-Williams; S. Jones-Roberts;
C. McCoubrey; D A MacRae (arrived at 6:40pm); B. C. Roberts; S Rowlands
(arrived at 6:40pm); R.G. Waters; A. Wood;
Mrs. Linda Tavernor; Mr. Paul Robarts;
Mr. Shane Wetton (CCBC)
Mrs M. J. Evans (Clerk)

175/20 Apologies

Apologies were received from:
Cllrs: Dr. M. Baker; Mr. Will Arrowsmith

176/20 Absence with no apologies

Cllrs: M. Bond; T. Brennan;

177/20 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).
None were received

178/20 Visitor to the Council

Standing orders were suspended

The Mayor welcomed Melanie Lawton, Community Rail Manager (North) and James Timber, Social & Commercial Development Manager, from Transport for Wales to the meeting who provided members with a presentation on the work to date at Abergele Pensarn Train Station.

Melanie explained to members that her role is to transform train stations into hubs, which are fully integrated into the community, and bring disused spaces back into use. This involves linking with the community to see what can be achieved. The current project involves refurbishing Pensarn Station as a commercial opportunity and Platform 1 and 2 for social/community use.

Expressions of interest have been received for the main building but stress that they are not seeking this building to compete with any existing business in the town. A Visioning event will be planned in order to present ideas such as a foodbank or social enterprise for Platform 2. Expressions of interest have been received from Conwy Youth, Housing and Youth Homeless or as a drop in centre for Health & Wellbeing. They are seeking to regenerate the community and have a social

impact, with options for project work and will invite interested parties to come to site.

As a listed building, the project has Heritage funding and an offer has been extended to a creative enterprise. A video of the work will be created and they will forward to the Clerk for members and the website information. There is also an option for Artwork to be displayed.

The lease is currently 6 years, the rent is flexible and under review based on the percentage turnover of the business. Occupancy is at the forefront.

The Mayor thanked Melanie and James for their attendance.

Standing orders were reinstated

179/20 Minutes

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN as a correct record the Minutes from the last meeting of the Placeplan Committee meeting, held on 24th Medi/September 2020, with one amendment to the venue, as the meeting was by remote attendance and not at the Town Hall.

180/20 Matters arising on those and previous Minutes

- (a) A letter from the Head of Economy & Culture following a letter to the Chief Executive from the Place Plan Committee was RECEIVED. It was RECOMMENDED to invite Sarah Ecob to the next meeting of the Committee.
- (b) An update from Shane Wetton CCBC on the ENRAW grant (Green Gele) was RECEIVED. Mr Wetton confirmed that the grant had been submitted and await formal confirmation that the project has been approved.
- (c) An update with regard to the Welsh Language project offered agreed with Menter Iaith following Covid 19 lockdown was RECEIVED. Members stated that when the Place Plan Facilitator is in post that they would be expected to provide an update to the Council. Cllr. Eden confirmed that if a representative of the Council is required on the group, then he would be happy to volunteer.
- (d) An update from the Clerk regarding '2-minute beach clean boards' was RECEIVED. It was NOTED that the boards were ready to be distributed pending the paperwork been issued to the guardians.
- (e) An update from the Clerk with regard to the Place Plan Facilitator post was RECEIVED. The Clerk confirmed that the vacancy was currently out to advert and a meeting to short list had been arranged for February.
- (f) An update from CCBC with regard to an offer of S106 funding was DEFERRED and Cllr. McCoubrey agreed to liaise with CCBC.

181/20 A copy of an email from CCBC regarding the S106 approved funding for 'I'm a Celebrity' was RECEIVED.

182/20 Shane Wetton confirmed that all matters had been addressed in the Agenda items above.

183/20 An update from the Theme leads on any progress to date was RECEIVED as follows:

- a) Community Wellbeing and Culture – No update
- b) Access & Infrastructure – A CCBC Forward Planning group has been set up to review Tourism initiatives, Pensarn Promenade, Flats etc. and a project has been submitted for funding from the UK Government with an update expected tomorrow. Cllr. McCoubrey will keep members updated
- c) Business Tourism & Jobs - A55 and brown signs are to be installed.

Meeting Closed at 7:50pm

Signed
(Chairman)