



Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

The Annual Meeting of the Council, was on Monday 2nd May 2024 at 6.45 pm by Hybrid attendance.

- 1/24 **Welcome & Opening Prayers**
The retiring Mayor Cllr. Charlie McCoubrey, welcomed Councillors, dignitaries and members to the meeting and an opening Prayer was conducted by the Canon John Nice.
- 2/24 **Attendance Register**
The Mayor, Cllr. C. McCoubrey;
Cllrs: T. Brennan; P. Fletcher; D. Fetherstonhaugh; D. Green;
P. Heap-Williams; A Hunter; J. Jones; T. Jones; S. Jones-Roberts;
P. Luckock; N. Williams; A. Williamson; A. Wood; K. Yarwood
Mrs M. J. Evans (Town Clerk)
Mr R. Grimward
- 3/24 **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were received from:
Cllr. M. Davies;
- 4/24 **Minutes**
The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting, held on the 15th May 2023 (which were approved and signed at the following Ordinary Meeting of the Council) were RECEIVED.
- 5/24 **Annual Report**
The 2023/24 APPROVED Annual Report Min No: 633/23 was REVIEWED and ADOPTED
- 6/24 **Policies**
The following Policies APPROVED by the Town Council during 2023/24 were ADOPTED
- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|--------|
| a) Code of Conduct | Min No: | 633/23 |
| b) Financial Regulations | Min No: | 633/23 |
| c) Standing Orders | Min No: | 633/23 |
| d) Risk Assessment | Min No: | 633/23 |
- 7/24 A copy of 2023/24 Inventory of Contents for Abergele Town Council Min No: 633/23 was ADOPTED



8/24 The eligibility criteria for the use of the general power of competence was REVIEWED as follows:

Abergele Town Council undertook an audit during the year to see how it fared against these tests. Here are our findings:

- 13 Councillors have been declared elected.
- 3 have been co-opted.
- The Clerk is working towards attaining her CiLCA qualification.
- The town's annual budget is over £200,000

The Town Council has sound management and financial systems. Its accounts are scrutinised in accordance with the Welsh Audit Office.

Agendas, minutes, accounts and contact details can be viewed at www.abergelepensarn.co.uk

A Charter is in place to govern our relationship with Conwy County Borough Council.

Currently, Abergele Town Council does not have the Powers of General Competency.

9/24 **Presentation by the Retiring Mayor**

The Retiring Mayor Cllr. Charlie McCoubrey presented the Annual Mayor's Award for outstanding achievement in the Community to Linda Tavernor from Abergele Action, as a Trustee of the Organisation, the Retiring Mayor has had the privilege of seeing the amount of work that Linda carries out, and provided an overview of why he chose her for the 2024 Award. Linda was thanked for all her hard work.

10/24 **Long Service Award**

The Retiring Mayor Cllr. Charlie McCoubrey presented an Outstanding Contribution Award to a long standing member of the Town Council with over 15 years of service to the Council. The Retiring Mayor provided a brief overview of the contribution provided by Cllr. Andrew Wood and invited him to receive his award.

11/24 **Address by the Retiring Mayor**

The Retiring Mayor thanked members for the trust placed in him and thanked them for their work in the Community. Cllr. McCoubrey stated how proud he was to be an Abergele resident and of the work carried out by Community groups including sports, culture, and the church. None of which would happen without the hard work of the Council staff and gave a special thanks to the Assistant Clerk for managing the Mayor's diary. Lastly, Cllr. McCoubrey gave thanks to his wife Gaynor for all her love and support in assisting him in his Mayoral year.

12/24 **Election of Town Mayor for the year 2024/25**

The Mayor called for nominations for the Office of Town Mayor for 2024/25. It was PROPOSED that Cllr. Diane Green is Town Mayor by Cllr. K. Yarwood and SECONDED by Cllr. Paul Luckock



There being no further nominations, Cllr. Diane Green indicated her willingness to accept the Office of Mayor and it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to elect her as Town Mayor for 2024/25.

13/24

Installation of the New Mayor and Signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr. Green was invested with the Mayor's Chain of Office by the Retiring Mayor Cllr. Charlie McCoubrey and read aloud and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was then countersigned by the Clerk, as Proper Officer of the Council.

Cllr. McCoubrey was then presented with the Past Mayors medallion by the new Mayor Cllr. Green and offered flowers to the retiring Mayoress Gaynor McCoubrey as a small token of appreciation on behalf of the Council

14/24

Address by the New Mayor

The new Mayor Cllr. Green, thanked members for electing a local Abergele girl to the role of Town Mayor. Cllr. Green has lived in Abergele her whole life and worked in the local secondary school for the last 27 years. Cllr. Green feels like Abergele is a good fit for her, and that there is always someone in the Community to help you if needed. That the Community is harmonious and as a Council everyone gets along.

15/24

Election of Deputy Mayor for the year 2024/25

The Mayor called for nominations for the Office of Deputy Mayor for 2024/25. It was PROPOSED that Cllr. Tracey Brennan is Deputy Mayor by Cllr Alan Hunter and this was SECONDED by Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh

There being no further nominations, it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to elect Cllr. Brennan as Deputy Mayor for 2024/25.

16/24

Installation of the Deputy Mayor and Signing of the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr. Brennan was invested with the Deputy Mayor's Chain of Office by the Mayor Cllr. Green. She then read aloud and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, countersigned by the Clerk, as Proper Officer of the Council.

Cllr. Brennan thanked the Mayor and her fellow Members for the confidence placed in her and indicated that her colleague Cllr. Ann Williamson had kindly agreed to act as her consort and the new Mayor invested her with the insignia of office.

17/24

Appointment of Representatives to Outside Bodies

It was RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next Ordinary meeting of the Council, to be held on 16th May 2024.



18/24 It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the continued delegated authority to the Clerk and other Officers as set out in the Delegation to Officers Policy

19/24 **Appointment of Committees**

(i) It was **RESOLVED** to confirm the continued delegation of full decision making powers to the two Standing Committees of the Council in accordance with the approved Terms of Reference

- (a) **General Purposes and Planning Committee**
- (b) **Place Plan Committee**

(ii) It was **RESOLVED** to elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the Committee as follows:

(a) **General Purpose and Planning Committee**

The Mayor called for nominations for the role of Chairman of the Committee for 2024/25.

Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh was PROPOSED, SECONDED and APPROVED as Chairman

PROPOSED by Cllr. P. Luckcock
SECONDED by Cllr. A. Williamson

The Mayor called for nominations for the role of Vice Chairman of the Committee for 2024/25.

Cllr. Luckcock was PROPOSED, SECONDED and APPROVED as Vice Chairman

PROPOSED by Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh
SECONDED by Cllr. K. Yarwood

20/24 The Terms of Reference for Committees was RECEIVED

21/24 It was **RESOLVED** that the appointment of members to the Committees is **DEFERRED** to the next Ordinary Meeting on the 16th May 2024

22/24 Confirmation that the Town Council holds the relevant insurance cover in respect of all insurable risks was RECEIVED.

23/24 The subscriptions to other bodies was RECEIVED

24/24 The Council's expenditure incurred under s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Power of Well-being was RECEIVED.

25/24 Conclusion of Meeting to be followed by photographs

Meeting Closed at 7:20pm

Signed
(Chairman)