



Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

Cyfarfod Cyffredinol y Cyngor i'w gynnal ar Dydd Iau, 2 Mawrth 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 2 March 2023 at 6.45pm via hybrid attendance.

541/22 Cofrestr Presenoldeb - Attendance Register

The Mayor, Cllr. A Hunter,

Cllrs: T. Brennan; M. Davies; D. Fetherstonhaugh; D. Green; P. Heap-Williams

(arrived 7:05pm); G. Hughes; J. Jones; S. Jones-Roberts; P. Luckock; C. McCoubrey;

A. Williamson; K. Yarwood

Mrs M. J. Evans (Town Clerk)

Ms. R. Parker (Deputy Clerk) (arrived at 7:15pm, retired at 8:20pm)

Mrs F. Taggart (Assistant Town Clerk)

542/22 Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb – Apologies for Absence

Cllrs: R. Griffiths-Williams; A. Wood;

543/22 Absennol heb ymddiheuriad- Absence without Apology

Cllr. N. Williams;

544/22 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 G. Hughes Min No: 546/22 Non prejudicial

545/22 Public participation

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

546/22 Guest Speaker

Standing orders were suspended

Deputy Clerk arrived at his juncture

The Mayor welcomed Sgt Peter Griffiths and PC William Jones to the meeting;

NWP Officers provided an overview of their roles, background and the current system in place, including the warning systems, community resolution, local resolution, and low level offences without going to court.

PC Jones explained the process for taking an individual into custody, which is different



from a juvenile in custody. It can take a long period of time for outcomes/court. Sgt Griffiths, informed members of the policy constraints are set in law, and the frustration for NWP. More serious behaviour, are victim led, always consult victim and feed back to team, will take time to get all youths for voluntary interviews and a cost estimate, for damage, separated into two levels under £5K and over £5K which could potentially go to Crown Court. Dealing with individuals robustly, stops issues being repeated.

Drugs, and school visits were also discussed.

An Officer will attend a meeting of the Council on a quarterly basis and informed members to feel free to contact the team if there are any issues.

The Mayor thanked both for attending and for the information.

Standing Orders were reinstated

547/22 Announcements by the Mayor

- a) The Mayor and Mayoress attended Prestatyn Mayors Charity fundraiser
- b) The Mayor attended St David's Day parade in Colwyn Bay, on 1st March

548/22 Cofnodion - Minutes

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, CONSIDER AND APPROVE as a correct record the minutes of the Ordinary meeting, held on Thursday 2 February 2023

Proposed by Cllr. S. Jones-Roberts
Seconded by Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh

549/22 Matters arising on those and previous Minutes

- a) A letter from Darren Millar AS with an update from Welsh Government on the A55 bridge and traffic issues. It was RECOMMENDED to write to Mr Millar to thank for raising the matter with WG and noting Council's disappointment that the matter is not considered a high enough priority which has created difficulties in St George for the last 6 years.
- b) An update from CCBC with regard to the Abergele Playing out 2023 and a suggestion for alternative activities was RECEIVED.

The Clerk informed members that CCBC were offering two free sessions for 2023 Playing out. It was RECOMMENDED to ACCEPT the offer and FURTHER RECOMMEND that they should both take place in Pentre Mawr Park.

It was FURTHER RECOMMENDED that the Officer attends a meeting to provide an overview of the sessions at a later date.

It was FURTHER RECOMMENDED to explore the option of Babiactive and revert to Council.

550/22 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 Mawrth/March 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 March
The Mayor reminded members of the importance of attending training and suggested that Members of the Staffing Committee attend the Staffing course, and anyone considering becoming a Chairman to attend Chairing skills.

551/22 **Other Matters**

- a) An update from the Clerk with regard to the Abergele Fireworks was RECEIVED.
The Report outlining the process required, including the budget costs was RECEIVED.

It was highlighted that there was a substantial cost to the Council to host the event not just financial but also officer time, an outside committee should run if valued, to ensure better use of resources.

It was FURTHER NOTED that it is difficult to get volunteer to become involved because of the demands placed on them. Primarily only retired people have time to volunteer.

A partnership agreement was also discussed and that organised displays prevent accidents.

The Clerk explained that it was not sustainable for the Round Table to continue to run the event. The proposal is that Events Conwy assist with the Event, which is included in the funding cost for this year, as it will be a learning curve for the Council.

The Event also raises funds for charities. Moving forward it would be an advantage if the community were consulted on what they would like the Council to support.

If APPROVED the budget of £12k would need to be increased to £17k, from the 2023/24 reserves, in order to facilitate.

It was PROPOSED that the Council do not take on the Event due to the capacity of staff and cost. There was NO SECONDER for this motion.

Item was DEFERRED to the Events Committee for moving forward.

It was NOTED that the Council should be mindful approving additional Events and projects moving forward.

It was RESOLVED to ACCEPT the report, host the event and increase the



budget for 2023/24 from £12k to £17k

Proposed Cllr. P. Luckock

Seconded Cllr. A. Hunter

Motion carried with 9 members in favour.

552/22 Nominations

Nominations for the Office of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2023/24, in preparation for the Annual Meeting, to be held on the 15 May 2023 was RECEIVED.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and APPROVED that the current Deputy Mayor Cllr. Charlie McCoubrey be elected as Mayor 2023/24.

PROPOSED Cllr S. Jones- Roberts

SECONDED Cllr. P. Luckock

There being no other nominations Cllr McCoubrey was PROPOSED for the role of Mayor with a unanimous vote.

Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh PROPOSED that Cllr T. Brennan is elected as Deputy Mayor for 2023/24, SECONDED by Cllr. P. Luckock.

Cllr K. Yarwood PROPOSED that Cllr. D. Green is elected as Deputy Mayor for 2023/24, SECONDED by Cllr. J. Jones

Both Councillors indicated that if nominated that they would be willing to accept the role.

Members then voted via a ballot, which resulted in 6 votes for Cllr. Brennan and 6 votes for Cllr. Green with one abstention.

The Mayor Cllr Alan Hunter had the casting vote; and following a difficult decision Cllr Green, was elected at Deputy Mayor for 2023/24.

553/22 Draft Minutes

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and with Standing Order no.68, it was RESOLVED that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw. (Item No: 553/22)

The Town Clerk and Assistant Clerk retired at this juncture

- a) A copy of the Draft Minutes from the recent meeting of the Staffing Committee held on the 20th February was RECEIVED and the recommendations under Minute number 530/22 (a) were CONSIDERED.

Details of this item are recorded on the Confidential Ordinary Meeting Minutes under Min



No: 556/22

It was RECOMMENDED to DEFER to the Staffing Committee to review the working culture of the staff.

It was RESOLVED to accept the RECOMMENDATIONS under MIN No: 530/22.

Proposed by Cllr. D. Fetherstonhaugh

Seconded by Cllr. A. Williamson

The Clerk and Assistant Clerk returned at this juncture

The Deputy Clerk retired at this juncture

554/22 **Y diweddaraŷ gan Gynghorwyr Sir – Update from County Councillors**

Derbyn adroddiadau llafar gan Gynghorwyr Sir / A verbal reports from County Councillors was RECEIVED as follows:

- a) The County Council Tax was set today, which was a difficult day and process with 36 in favour and 13 against for a 9.9% rise. The CCBC Reserves been used to balance previous budgets leaving no option with a pay offer for council staff of 6.6% pending and only 6% accounted for in the budget. Further pressure will be experienced next year which is very uncomfortable. 237 families since January have contacted homeless team, and require services, this has an impact on the council tax, and is difficult to balance. A board has been set up for homelessness and housing, with a cost of £4.6M for this service, looking at consolidating assets, closer work with schools is needed, and looking at the funding formula, the demographic is more elderly and less children.
- Anyone who wanted to be involved in budget setting process were able to be involved, long meetings looking at all options took place, but was a positive process, the reality was expected and had covered all the fine detail in great detail. It was difficult voting for this level of cuts and Council Tax, concern that the Council will face same difficulties next year.

555/22 **Minutes**

The following Minutes were RECEIVED:

- a) Marketing & Promotion Sub Committee meeting held on the 14th November 2022
- b) Confidential Staffing Committee meeting held on the 27th October 2022
- c) General Purpose and Planning Committee meeting held on the 12th January 2023
- d) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 19th January 2023
- e) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 21st July 2022
- f) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 20th October 2022
- g) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 17th November 2022
- h) Policy & Finance Committee held on the 17th December 2022
- i) General Purpose and Planning Committee meeting held on the 8th December 2022

- j) General Purpose and Planning Committee meeting held on the 10th November 2022
- k) General Purpose and Planning Committee meeting held on the 8th September 2022
- l) Place Plan Committee held on the 28th July 2022
- m) Place Plan Committee held on the 24th November 2022



Meeting Closed at 20:26

Signed
(Chairman)

DRAFT