

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

A meeting of the Events Sub-Committee was held remotely at 6.45pm on Monday 14th March 2021.

535/21 **Cofrestr Presenoldeb - Attendance Register**

Cllrs: A. Hunter (the Mayor), A. Wood (Chairman), P. Heap-Williams, D. MacRae, N. Williams; Rev. Kate Johnson, Mrs. M. Evans (Clerk), R. Parker (Deputy Clerk)

536/21 **Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb - Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs: S. Jones-Roberts, B.C. Roberts

537/21 **Yn absennol heb ymddiheuriad - Absence without Apologies**

None

538/21 **Datganiad o Ddiddordeb - Disclosure of Interest**

Members were reminded that they must declare the existence and nature of any personal interests.

Cllr Wood declared a non-prejudicial interest for Minute No: 540/22(viii).

539/21 **Cofnodiaon - Minutes**

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN the Minutes of the last meeting of the Events Sub-Committee held 19th July 2021.

540/21 **Materion yn codi cofnodion hynny - Matters arising from the minutes**

a) Christmas 2021:

- i) The Chairman welcomed Mr Geraint Williams from GWP to the meeting who provided members with an overview of 2021 Christmas installation.
- ii) The report from GWP regarding the Christmas lights was RECEIVED
- iii) The Schedule of checks carried out during the 2021 period for motifs and trees was RECEIVED.

Geraint explained that GWP has an agreement with a local cherry picker company. Due to the unprecedented weather conditions causing damage to many towns, the demand for cherry pickers were high and he was unable to use this local company and therefore was forced to use a company further afield in Deeside which resulted in delays in repair times.

GWP highlighted the following RECOMMENDATIONS from his report:

- (1) Pensarn lamp column no.10: GWP suspects that the cable is shorting out internally and requires rewiring. Scottish Power need contacting.
 - ACTION: Cllr Heap-Williams agreed to contact Scottish Power to try and resolve this issue.
- (2) Pensarn roundabout ref. 3: Replacement required.

- (3) Replacement AC/DC converters for damaged motifs. If the AC/DC converter is not the issue then other repairs to existing motifs are not financially viable.
- (4) To use 8 packs of lights per Christmas tree to be most effective.
- (5) Have spare drivers to deliver speedy repairs
- (6) If ATC wish to use the 3D stars then 16 brackets for each motif will be required.

Members enquired about surge protection. GWP explained that currently there is no room in the box, although, there may be the option to install such protection inline.

- ACTION: GWP agreed to provide the council with a quote for the above recommendations.

Geraint Williams retired at this juncture.

- iv) The copy of the notes on the installation of the lighting scheme for 2021 The Clerk informed members that due to GWP not having a cherry picker that they were on occasions asking the Council to pay £500 for additional hire of the cherry picker and this was giving a false impression of the costs for the installation and an unfair advantage to the contractor when quoting for the install. Members should be aware when considering future contracts.
- v) A copy of the current motif specification was RECEIVED. The Clerk and Deputy Clerk informed members that Scottish Power had confirmed that the cost for unmetered supply is to increase by 400% for the next year.
- vi) An update on the insurance claim for the storm damaged motifs was RECEIVED.
The Clerk made a claim with Zurich for £1,500 damage incurred by storm Arwen. Zurich have failed to get in contact with the council.
➤ ACTION: Clerk to follow up with Zurich.
- vii) An update on the lamp column socket inspection test The Clerk informed members that there had been a delay on the testing and that it was due to be carried out in the next few weeks.
- viii) An email from Andrew Wood with regard to the future of the Mini trees. Cllr Wood outlined that many of the trees were now time expired and that the scheme had drawn to its natural end. The Clerk informed members that there was no storage space at in the store.

RECOMMENDATION to look at other options.

- ix) Remedial work required was DEFERRED to be considered once the quotes above are received.

b) Christmas 2022

A presentation from the Deputy Clerk for Christmas and/or a light festival was RECEIVED and CONSIDERED.

Rev. Kate Johnson retired at this juncture.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To check future tenders are HERS certificated.
2. Christmas/ light Festival

Members established the following:

- a. Objective:
 - To encourage visitors to the area (s. 144, LGA 1972)
 - Christmas light project to link in with the Placeplan and Abergele Vision (complementing the area and other ongoing projects)
 - To provide a unique interactive experience for visitors and the community to enjoy
 - To act as a foundation to future events.
 - To promote the culture of the town and Wales.
- b. Scope:
 - Duration of Festive lighting TBC (subject to budget and costs)
 - Focus Areas: Parks and Town Centre (subject to costs/budget and looking to expand in future).
- c. Major deliverables:
 - Feature lighting in identified areas
 - Simpler/low wattage lighting to complement features
 - Increased footfall
- d. Resource needs:
 - Implementation/updating infrastructure to support lighting
 - Lighting
 - Lighting contractors and/or Installers
 - Officers (administration tasks/project management)
 - Councillors (decision makers & information providers)
 - Budget of £22,500
- e. Project Schedule:
 - 1 December 2022

The Deputy Clerk stated that the kWh charge is going up from 12p per kWh to 47p which is an increase of around 400%. Members highlighted that Llanrwst's Christmas lights where they had a few feature pieces accompanied by simpler lights was very effective.

The Deputy Clerk further stated that the Placeplan had a number of projects that the Light festival could complement. For example, the Placeplan is creating green corridors and the festival could provide activities such as story, sculpture or treasure trails to compliment the walking routes in Abergele.

ACTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The members need to email the Deputy Clerk in the next 2 weeks a ranked/prioritised list identifying areas suitable for lighting (bearing in mind that there is possible scope to expand the Light festival but currently we have a limited budget).
- Members to email the Deputy Clerk in the next 2 weeks themes and

- any information that may help develop a theme for the Light festival.
- The members were happy for the Deputy Clerk to look into low wattage options where possible.
- Officers to walk the area with members to ensure that key sites are noted.
- Deputy Clerk to contact Manorafon Farm and other sites that may be interesting in participating in the Light Festival.
- Deputy Clerk to contact lighting companies for options for Festive Lighting/ Light Festival.

Financial/Legal/Other Obligations:

s. 144, Local Government Act 1972

s. 40, Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

541/21 **Future Events in Abergele**

a) Events/Festivals 2023

- i) Linking events and festivals to the Place Plan
- ii) Infrastructure building/ project management

RECOMMENDATION for Members to ensure that projects taking place in Placeplan and Events are interrelated and to revert with concepts for future events following the election. It was AGREED that the Light Festival and Jubilee projects in the Events Sub-Committee should take current priority and should work in conjunction with the Placeplan facilitator.

542/21 **Falklands War**

CONSIDERED marking the 40th anniversary of the Falklands war on 14th June 2021.

RECOMMENDATION that the Deputy Clerk liaises with Rev. Kate to request a Church service to mark the 40th anniversary of the Falklands war.

543/21 **Christmas Budget**

The Christmas Budget for 2021/22 as at 28/02/22 was RECEIVED and NOTED.

RECOMMENDATION that full Council consider that the surplus budget is rolled over to 2022/23 budget to assist with the cost of any new schemes.

Meeting closed at: 20:40

Signed:.....
(Chairman)