

Abergele Town Council

MINUTES

Cynhelir cyfarfod y PWYLLGOR POLISI A CHYLLID am 6.45yh ar Dydd Iau 20 Ionawr 2022. A meeting of the POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE was held at 6.45pm on Thursday 20th January 2022 by remote attendance.

443./21 Cofrestr Presenoldeb - Attendance Register

Cllrs: A Wood (Chairman) Dr. M. Baker; T. Brennan; D Fetherstonhaugh, G. Frost; D. Green; P Heap-Williams, A Hunter, S. Jones-Roberts; C. McCoubrey, D A MacRae; B. Roberts; R Waters, N. Williams.
Mr. Nigel Acott (Acting Deputy Clerk)

444./21 Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb - Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:
Cllrs: N. Eden; S Rowlands,

445./21 Yn absennol heb ymddiheuriad - Absence without Apologies

None

446./21 Datganiad o Ddiddordeb - Disclosure of Interest

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).
None were declared

447./21 Cofnodion – Minutes

It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN as a correct record of the Minutes from the last meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee, held on Thursday 16th Rhagfyr/December 2021

448./21 Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were RECEIVED, CONSIDERED and NOTED:

- (a) Detailed breakdown of electoral charges for recent Pentre Mawr Ward election had been received from Conwy County Borough Council.
- (b) Information received from RWE Renewables Ltd (Awel y Mor Offshore Wind Farm - Cadno Public Affairs) inviting Conwy and Flintshire elected councillors to remote meeting for update and potential design options.

449./21 Exclusion of Public and Press

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 during following items AP Systems/DCK Payroll/BC Energy.

- a) AP Systems had notified of price increase for temporary ad hoc IT email hosting services. Committee was reminded this was a temporary short term arrangement pending completion of transfer of all IT services to Conwy County Borough Council. **It was RESOLVED that notification be received, considered and accepted**
Financial Implications: Funds contained in budget provisions 2022/23

- b) DCK Payroll Services had notified of price charges effective from 1st April 2022. Discussion ensued regarding the legal requirement made by Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IPRW) to provide a fixed payment of expenses sum of £150 per annum to all town and community Councillors. Consequently, there was ongoing debate with HMRC and national bodies representing sector regarding the employment status or otherwise of Town Councillors, and implications on payroll services. Cllr B Roberts reported he would be raising this matter item at forthcoming North and Mid Wales Association of Town Council as he was strongly opposed to payment status for his voluntary work as a local councillor.

Acting Deputy Clerk had noted that several grant bodies only funded voluntary organisations and payment of town and community councillors may affect their current voluntary status. There was also some legislative conflict at present as Town Councillors cannot hold paid positions within Council.

It was RESOLVED

- i) **That DCK Payroll Services notification of price charges be received, considered and accepted.**
Financial Implications: Funds contained within budget provisions 2022/23.
- ii) **That Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Councillor fixed payment of expenses situation be kept under review pending outcome of talks between IRPW/HMRC/NALC/One Voice Wales.**
- iii) **That DCK Payroll Services be requested to show and record Councillors as members not employees.**

- c) Bus Shelter, Pensarn – S.171 Licence Fee
BC Energy had submitted invoice in respect of Conwy County Borough Council Licence fee and permit for working on public highway during construction of above Bus shelter.

It was RESLOVED that BC Energy Ltd be paid sum of £293 for S.171 public Highway Licence

450./21 Financial Situation as at 20.01.22 be NOTED:-

	£
Current Account	22574.40
Monthly Interest Account	274000.00
General Reserve	<u>78669.75</u>
TOTAL:	<u><u>375361.15</u></u>
Hall & Development Account	<u>49,529.02</u>

451./21 Payment of Accounts – January 2021

It was RESOLVED:

- i) That payment of accounts falling due, as detailed on Schedule 'A' be APPROVED as £17,625.11 (payment 17 withheld)
- ii) That offer of discount by named company for payment 17 be declined and Town Clerk be authorised to seek further cost reduction.

452/22 Budget Monitoring Statements – November/December 2021

Details had been circulated with agenda papers. In response to member query regarding receipt of precept the Acting Deputy Town Clerk advised that all precept payments had been received for period 2021/22. The Budget Monitoring Statements were RECEIVED.

Meeting Closed at 7.45pm

Signed
(Chairman)