



Cyngor Tref Abergele Town Council

Minutes

A meeting of the Placeplan Committee was held on Thursday 23rd March 2023 at 6:45pm by hybrid attendance.

- 604/22 **Attendance Register**
The Mayor, Cllr. A Hunter,
Cllrs: T. Brennan; S. Jones-Roberts; A. Williamson; G. Hughes;
N. Williams; P. Luckcock; J. Jones; D. Fetherstonhaugh; P. Heap-Williams
Mrs M. Evans (Clerk)
Mr. J Lock (Place Plan Coordinator)
Members of the public
CCBC: Shane Wetton - Strategic Engagement and Place Plan Office;
James Harland - Strategic Planning Policy Manager;
Richard Clarke – Planning Officer;
John Davies - Project Manager, School Support, Education Property and Site
Management
- 605/22 **Apologies**
Cllrs: K. Yarwood; M. Davies; D. Green; C. McCoubrey
Mrs. Linda Tavernor
Mr Neville Eden
- 606/22 **Absence with no apologies**
Cllr A. Wood
- 607/22 **Declaration of Interest**
Members are reminded that they must declare the **existence** and **nature** of any personal and/or prejudicial interests (using the form provided for this purpose).
Cllr A Williamson – Non prejudicial Minute Number: 610/22 e
Cllr P Luckcock – Non prejudicial Minute Number: 610/22 i&j
- 608/22 **Minutes**
It was RESOLVED to RECEIVE, APPROVE and SIGN as a correct record the Minutes of the last Placeplan Committee meeting, held on 23th February 2023.
- 609/22 **Guest Speaker**
Richard Clarke (CCBC) gave a presentation on section 106 funds and the new process for allocation. Richard would be happy to deliver some training for Councillors on section 106. During the presentation there were a number of developments to note; a new webpage is being built to track section 106 collection, spend and projects. It was PROPOSED to go into committee for detailed figures of section 106 spend. 7 members voted in favour, 2 against.



Resolution:

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. (Min No: 609/22)

To clarify why the figures are not available through the Freedom of information act Richard Clarke explained that all information needs to be approved for release by the finance department of CCBC prior to release. As this was not the case it was appropriate to go into committee.

Richard shared two spreadsheets – one with broad figures for each section 106 area, the other with detailed figures of spend allocation and criteria for spend.

Councillors questioned spend deadlines, reallocation of funds and for more information of the funds available to be shared in advance. Although the figures have not been approved for sharing with the public as yet, Richard and James Harland agreed to follow up the process to release that information to committee members. It was agreed to move item 8b on the agenda forward as it was relevant to section 106 discussions.

John Davies sought clarification on a project discussed at a previous Place Plan meeting. There was a discussion about using section 106 funds to pay in part for 2 cabins that have already been installed at Ysgol Glan Gele. There was no resolution during the previous meeting and councillors noted that projects seeking section 106 funds should not be applying for those funds retrospectively without prior agreement. The total required was approximately £98,000 of a total section 106 fund of approximately £200,000. Councillors debated whether this was a suitable use of nearly half the funds. It was noted that at present the proposed new school is not going ahead. As such it would be more appropriate to look at how to distribute this fund amongst all of the schools to find appropriate solutions.

It was PROPOSED that the request is NOTED and REFUSED in order to investigate other options including all schools

PROPOSED by Cllr. Luckock

SECONDED by Cllr. G. Hughes

Unanimously APPROVED

610/22

Matters arising on those and previous minutes

- a) A report on section 106 training was received by members. It was PROPOSED to request in person training and to report back. PROPOSED by Mayor Cllr Hunter. SECONDED by Cllr Luckock. Unanimously APPROVED
- b) An update was RECEIVED from Shane Wetton with regards to the Green Gele project. A pre planting meeting is to be hosted at Abergele Town Hall to sign contracts between CCBC, TEP and Sherratt Group. Time critical planting is due to go in at Pentre Mawr Park and Park Gele week commencing 3rd April.
- c) An update was RECEIVED from the Place Plan Facilitator with regard to the CVSC Green Energy Project. Phase 1 is now complete, the Place Plan Facilitator is happy to provide advice to community groups and the Town Council on how to apply for phase 2 funding.



- d) An update was RECEIVED from the Place plan facilitator with regard to the Town Team Action Plan. Councillors had no amendments to suggest. The Town Team had requested that we waiver our room hire fee for a Town Team meeting.
It was PROPOSED to waiver the fee for one session.
PROPOSED by Mayor Cllr Hunter.
SECONDED by Cllr Fetherstonhaugh.
Unanimously APPROVED.
- e) An update was RECEIVED from the Place plan Facilitator with regard to Menter Iaith. It was noted that invoices for section 106 funded projects should go direct to CCBC to avoid confusion and financial bad practice.
- f) An update was RECEIVED from the Place plan Facilitator with regard to the Queens Jubilee project. All planting is completed. 30+ volunteers engaged from St Michael's Church, Incredible Edible and St George Primary School. We are just awaiting the 3 interpretation signs and the project will be complete.
The Place Plan Facilitator gave a brief project analysis with recommendations for how the Council can improve project management. To note; the funding bid was very close to deadline, so Officers had to give estimate figures and build in contingency. This resulted in some funds been returned. Officers were also unable to confirm landholder permission due to the short turn around of grant application. Once CCBC pulled away due to economic restraints project sites fell from 7 to 3. This is also resulted in a reduce in spend. Planning of Council projects in advance of applying for funding would address these issues and Officers hope to implement this process throughout all new projects. Councillors noted their thanks to the Place Plan Facilitator for the project.
It was PROPOSED that we return £4232 to National Lottery.
PROPOSED by Mayor Cllr Hunter.
SECONDED by Cllr Williams.
- g) To note that the cost of the daffodil bulbs to Town Council were refunded by Transport for Wales and that they are putting on a great display through town.
- h) An update was RECEIVED from Men's Shed on their successful application for funding for the She Shed. Councillors wished to note the great work they are doing around town and to wish the She Shed similar success.
- i) An update was RECEIVED from Cllr Luckock on the Pump Track. Councillors noted that removal of parking spaces could have a negative impact on businesses in the area. The Abergele Wheelers and project team are looking at alternatives.
- j) An update was RECEIVED from Cllr Luckock on the Abergele football pitch.
- 611/22 a) It was PROPOSED that the Place Plan Survey was DEFERRED until the next Place Plan meeting.
PROPOSED by Mayor Cllr Hunter
SECONDED by Cllr Fetherstonhaugh.
It was RECOMMENDED that no other business be scheduled for the April agenda if possible.

Meeting Closed at 8.40pm

Signed
(Chairman)