

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT 6.30PM ON TUESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, RHIW ROAD, COLWYN BAY**

**PRESENT:** The Mayor, Cllr Mrs V Smith, JP  
Cllr D Porter, Chairman  
Cllrs: W Bagnall, N Bastow, Mrs L Edwards (see Min. 248/14(f)  
R Foreman, Mrs L Griffiths, Mrs M Jones, J Pearson (Tree Warden),  
Mrs S Roy (see Min. ), S Williams (see Min. 256/14), C Wood

**OFFICER:** Mrs C J Earley, Town Clerk

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Member of the Press

**244/14 Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Perry.

**245/14 Declarations of Interest:**

Members were reminded that they must declare the existence and nature of any personal and/or prejudicial interests. None were declared.

**246/14 Minutes:**

*Resolved to receive, approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting, held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2014.*

**247/14 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

**a. Min. 102/14(b) – Asset Based Community Development (ABCD):**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Shane Wetton (CCBC) and Mrs Libby Duo (Communities First) to the meeting to respond to concerns that the possible employment of a community development worker to implement a programme of ABCD work across the Bay of Colwyn area may duplicate work already being done by Communities First and others.

Libby addressed the meeting first, assuring members that additional community development work, via a programme such as ABCD, would fit very well with the work currently being done by Communities First (CF). The current CF programme covers an 18 mile stretch, from Kinmel Bay to Llandudno, with eleven staff in the team covering 10 lower super output areas (LSOAs). Additional community development worker support is provided by Housing Associations in areas which have a high proportion of social housing, however this is not the case in Glyn 2, which has predominantly private rented accommodation. There is therefore a need for additional community development workers in areas such as Glyn 2 (and in other LSOAs across the Bay of Colwyn area that do not fall under the remit of Communities First). Libby

summarised by saying that ABCD would work very closely with and add value to the work of the Communities First team and that a 'hot desk' could be provided within the Colwyn Bay office, should funding be identified for the proposed post of 'Community Builder'.

Following a question from a Member, Libby gave a quick overview of some of the projects currently being delivered by Communities First, which is a wholly Welsh Government funded programme with three outcomes: healthy, learning and prosperous communities.

Shane then addressed the Committee, outlining his previous role with Bay Life and his ongoing involvement with the Glyn Ward North Neighbourhood Group. He explained that the Neighbourhood Management approach, which he had introduced as part of his former role, was very similar to the ABCD approach and it would be beneficial if a way could be found to continue to develop the group in Glyn Ward North and expand the ideas and principles to other areas. He closed his address by confirming he would very much like to be a partner, if the Town Council were to take this project forward.

A brief question and answer session followed, with questions/comments about: the affect a transient population has on community spirit; a request that any new Housing Association properties give priority to local families; the benefit of ABCD in that it focuses on the existing strengths of people and communities; the role of the Town Council as the 'Citizens Voice' and the need to look for opportunities to improve engagement within communities.

Members were then asked to consider the report and previously submitted by the Clerk on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

***Resolved to recommend that the Town Council works in partnership with Shane Wetton and Libby Duo to develop a proposal and seek funding for the employment of a 'Community Builder/Neighbourhood Manager' to pilot the ABCD approach to community development initially in Glyn Ward North (due to groundwork which has already been done there) and then on a phased basis throughout the Bay of Colwyn area.***

**b. Min. 185/14(c) – Traffic Regulation Order:**

The Clerk submitted a copy of the proposed Order, which had previously been consulted upon.

***Resolved to receive the proposed Order.***

**c. Min. 188/14 – Princess Diana Memorial Garden:**

The Clerk gave a brief verbal update, informing members that the mystery gardener had been identified as a neighbour who had pruned the shrubs to try to get access to read her electricity meter.

***Resolved to note the update and pass the information on to the gardener, to***

*ensure the access is kept clear.*

**d. Min. 224/14 – ‘Bean’ Conwy Time Bank:**

The Clerk submitted information on the benefits of timebanking and a leaflet about the proposed bean Conwy Timebank and gave a verbal report on a recent workshop, which had been the first in a series of six. The first workshop had explained how the new ‘bean’ timebank will work and encouraged those present to think how their organisations may benefit from being involved. It was noted that the Town Council and Colwyn in Bloom Committee could potentially use the timebank to help them to recruit new volunteers for stewarding events and taking part in environmental clean-ups, maintenance of planters etc. The partners offering volunteering opportunities are known as ‘bean hosts’ and ‘bean partners’ are recruited to offer a ‘bean spend’ menu of activities/products. These are likely to include leisure and tourist attractions in the local and wider county area, along with some local offers.

*Resolved to receive and note the report and authorise the Clerk to attend the remaining workshop sessions to enable the Town Council to become one of the initial ‘Bean Hosts’.*

**248/14 Conwy CBC:**

- a. The Clerk submitted notice of a request for a temporary traffic regulation for a Christmas Land Train. It was noted that this formed part of the Christmas activities organised by the Chamber of Trade (funded by the Town Council).

*Resolved to receive and note the request.*

- b. The Clerk submitted the latest e-mail update on the Waterfront project and the Member of the Press confirmed that the next phase was not due to commence until December 2015, to give a full summer season with no works taking place.

**c. Bus Shelter maintenance:**

- i. It was noted that an update will be received shortly and members had been asked to consider if there were any current issues to follow up.
- ii. The Clerk submitted a report from Cllr Foreman about a possible new bench/shelter near Colwyn Bay Cricket Club.

*Resolved to support the proposal for a new bench by the Cricket Club bus stop, providing this can be funded through members’ allowances. If Town Council funding should be required, it was resolved to refer this to the Policy & Finance Committee for consideration.*

- iii. A verbal update was given regarding the proposed Church Road shelter, which it was noted will be part-funded from Rhos/Dinarth ward members allowances. A request was made for support for a bid by the Town Council for contributory funding of £1,000 from Cartrefi Conwy’s Community Fund.

*Resolved to support the submission of a bid to the Community Chest.*

**d. Summary Annual Report:**

The Clerk submitted a copy of the CCBC review for 2013-14.

*Resolved to receive and note the report.*

**e. Colwyn Bay Promenade Consultative Group:**

The Clerk submitted a written report from Cllr B Bagnall from the recent meeting. It was noted that two new waste bins were now in place on the promenade and that the request for a dog ban on the new sections of beach had been refused on the grounds of cost.

*Resolved to receive and note the report.*

**f. Christmas Parking:**

Members were asked to consider making a request to CCBC for free parking in four CCBC owned car parks from 10am on either two or three Saturdays prior to Christmas. It was noted that the cost of last year's provision on two Saturdays (to compensate CCBC for loss of average revenue and provide signage) had been under-budget and there was scope to increase this to cover the three Saturdays of the Chamber of Trade's Christmas activities.

The Clerk informed members that the Chamber of Trade supported the provision of free parking and the Town Team had also been contacted and felt that it could only be of benefit to local traders.

*Resolved to request free parking is made available from 10am in four previously used car parks (including one in Rhos on Sea) for the three Saturdays in December (6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>).*

- Cllr Liz Edwards retired from the meeting during consideration of this item.

**249/14 National Assembly for Wales / Welsh Government:**

The Clerk submitted the following documents:

- a. A letter from Aled Roberts AM requesting further consultation on the review of speed limits on Trunk Roads.
- b. A questionnaire in relation to the A55 Trunk Road.

*Resolved to respond that the Town Council is happy with the current reduced 50mph speed limit through the Colwyn Bay area (the remaining questions were not relevant to a dual carriageway).*

c. Positive Planning – Planning (Wales) Bill:

The Clerk submitted bulletin 4 (November 14) and advised Members that future weekly bulletins would be circulated by e-mail only, to save copying expense.

d. Members were then asked to consider the following consultation documents, deferred from the last meeting:

i. Frontloading the Development Management System

*Resolved to seek clarification regarding paragraph 3.19 as to whether 'householder development' includes single dwellings/extensions etc and, if so, respond to Q14 to agree that these should be exempt from the proposed fee for pre-application submissions.*

ii. Design in the Planning Process

*Resolved to receive and note the proposed removal of the mandatory requirement for Design and Access statements from primary legislation (but note that secondary legislation will still require these in the short term, whilst more effective ways are found to raise design standards through the planning process).*

**250/14 North and Mid Wales Association:**

Cllr L Griffiths gave a verbal report, outlining the key items from the special meeting held on Friday 26/09/14 and the quarterly meeting held on 24/10/14. A discussion had taken place about the Williams Report and Future of Local Government in Wales, involving county mergers and expected changes to the number and roles of town and community councils. Concern had been expressed at the meetings about inequality of council tax, double taxation, possible increased precepts, the cost of reorganisation, the need for clarity and consistency with regards to long-term service delivery and the differences between the proposals and the recommendations from the Williams report. The results from the N W health audit are also expected soon.

It was noted that the minutes of the meetings are available on the association's website at <http://northwalesassociation.org/> should any member wish to read these.

*Resolved to thank Cllr Mrs Griffiths for giving her report.*

**251/14 Colwyn Bay Town Team:**

The Clerk submitted a copy of the final Town Team Masterplan Review Proposals (for information) and it was noted that the meeting scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> November was cancelled.

**252/14 North Wales Police:**

The Clerk submitted details of the Your Community Your Choice campaign.

*Resolved to note the information.*

**253/14 North Wales Tidal Energy and Coastal Protection Co Ltd:**

Cllr C Wood gave a verbal report on a presentation given by the above company at a recent event in Colwyn Bay. It was noted that this company is putting together a similar project proposal (for a tidal lagoon to generate power) to the Swansea Bay company that presented recently at St Paul's, however, it is somewhat behind its rival in that it had no outline plans to present to the meeting and it could take 8-10 years before they would be ready to start construction.

The Board members were undoubtedly highly skilled and knowledgeable in their field, but during the question and answer session, it became clear that the company had not yet considered how much of the work could/would be kept within Wales and it was implied that they would consider finance for the project from outside the UK, which could result in foreign manufacturing too.

A brief discussion took place about the merits of keeping as much of the work as possible within Wales and the UK, noting that there was an opportunity to become world-leaders in this new technology.

- Cllr Mrs V Smith left during this discussion.

*Resolved to thank Cllr Wood for his report, support in principle the idea of tidal generation and to write to David Jones MP and Darren Millar AM , to highlight the differences between the two presentations and the desire to keep as many jobs as possible in Wales, should the project go ahead.*

**254/14 Town Council Website:**

Members were asked to consider a proposal that a new page be added to the town council's website with links to local hotels and B&Bs.

*Resolved to approve the addition of a new page and request that Cllr Foreman forwards the relevant information to the Clerk, once compiled.*

**255/14 Other Correspondence:**

It was noted that the following items of correspondence are available on request from the Clerk:

- a. Communities First Conwy Newsletter Autumn 2014.
- b. Minutes of Conwy Access Group meeting held on 21/10/2014.
- c. Minutes of OC(E)RA, held on 12/11/2014.
- d. An invitation to a conference with the NW Police & Crime Commissioner (circulated separately to all members by e-mail).

**256/14 Planning:**

- a. Members considered the planning applications received from CCBC.

***Resolved to submit observations on these applications, as detailed in Schedule 'A' attached.***

- Cllr S Williams retired from the meeting at this juncture.

- b. Resolved to receive a copy of the Planning Decisions recently issued by CCBC.***
- c. Resolved to receive notice of an appeal in respect of application 0/40789.***
- d.** The Clerk submitted a copy of the agenda for the Planning Committee meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November and it was noted that no report was available from members.

**257/14 Licensing Applications:**

- a.** The Clerk submitted notice of several licensing applications recently logged by CCBC.
- b.** The Clerk submitted copy correspondence from Cllr J Davies regarding residents' objections to a variation to the licence at Hickorys.

It was noted that the objections could not be acted upon as they hadn't been received by the deadline, but that the residents still have the opportunity to request a review of the license should the revocation of conditions cause them any nuisance.

The Meeting Closed at 8:25 pm

..... Chairman