

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL, HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, RHIW ROAD, COLWYN BAY AT 6.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**

**PRESENT:** The Mayor, Cllr J Pearson  
Cllr, J Davies, Vice-Chairman  
Cllrs H Fleet, C Hughes, M Jones, A Kealey, A Khan, T Pearson, K Swindon

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Rachael Gill, Head of Marketing and Communications, Conwy CBC

**169/17 Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence were received from the Chairman, Cllr H Meredith, and from Cllrs A Mason and P Richards.

**170/17 Declarations of Interest:**

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

Cllr A Khan declared a personal and prejudicial interest in a small grant application by Upper Colwyn Bay Community Centre (as a Trustee of the Centre).

The Clerk, Mrs Earley, also declared a personal interest in the same application, as she is also a Trustee.

**171/17 Minutes:**

*Resolved to approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the last meeting, held on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2017.*

**172/17 Visitor:**

The Chairman welcomed Racheal Gill, Head of Marketing and Communications, CCBC, to the meeting to report back on the recent Parc Eirias Concerts and plans for future events in Colwyn Bay.

Rachael began her presentation by setting the scene and outlining the relationship between CCBC and the Town Council in the delivery of large scale events in Colwyn Bay, which commenced some years ago. These are considered to be a driver in the ongoing regeneration of Colwyn Bay and have included events such as the annual Access all Eirias concerts, BBC Proms in the Park, Prom Xtra, Wales GB Rally and recent Christmas Events. Where possible, large events such as these are spread across the County, based on the needs of the event itself, but support from the local town/community Council is also vital.

Rachael went on to give a more detailed report on the two major events this year: the

Bryan Adams and Little Mix concerts, which it was estimated had resulted in an economic benefit of £365,000 (a return of just under £4 for every £1 spent). A detailed event evaluation report was circulated to members. It was noted that social interaction had also been very good and confidence in the events had grown over the years. However, due to the limited capacity of the stadium, it is not possible for high calibre acts to be attracted without some continuing sponsorship, and the Promoter takes all of the risk if ticket sales do not meet break-even point. The events key sponsors are Conwy CBC, Principality and the Town Council and continued support is now being requested for the next three to five years. The current three year sponsorship commitment ended in 2017.

Rachael went on to outline a number of other major events which may be coming to the area in the next 12 months and confirmed that the CCBC Cabinet has instructed her to commence negotiations for the 2018 concert(s), whilst a decision is taken about longer term support.

A question and answer session followed, with questions/comments about: Wales GB Rally event at Tir Prince (only venue which could accommodate an off-road 'stage', as not able to close roads unless the Welsh Government adopts new legislation); the name change to Stadiwm Zip-World; the positive impact of events in Colwyn Bay on the wider area and an upturn in enquiries about commercial property in Colwyn Bay; a request for more Welsh cultural performers/events (lack of resources to develop new events); the positive impact of bringing new visitors to Colwyn Bay; the possibility of a Military Tattoo type event, possibly in conjunction with National Veterans' Day;

Rachael was then thanked for attending and she retired from the meeting.

#### **173/17 Matters Arising from Past Minutes:**

##### **a) Min. 97/17(b) – Litter & Dog Fouling Campaign:**

It was noted that Gwawr Cooper will be attending the next meeting (15<sup>th</sup> November), on behalf of Lianne, to respond to questions and provide more information about the scheme..

#### **174/17 Finance:**

a) ***Resolved to authorise payments made on behalf of the Council for the period 1/8/17 to 15/9/17, as detailed in Schedule 'A' attached.***

b) The Clerk submitted a copy of the bank reconciliations as at 31/8/2017.

***Resolved to authorise the Clerk and Chairman to check these to the bank statements and sign them.***

c) ***Resolved to note correspondence from CCLA regarding the Local Authority's Property Fund Prices and Dividends Yield.***

**175/17 Welsh Government / National Assembly:**

The Clerk submitted, for consideration, the following correspondence:

- a) Autism (Wales) Bill – Consultation document. It was noted that the consultation document contained 25 questions around meeting the needs of children and adults with autism spectrum conditions in Wales.

*Resolved to request that members submit individual responses, if they have particular views on any of the consultation questions..*

**176/17 Conwy County Borough Council:**

The Clerk submitted, for consideration, the following correspondence:

- a) HLF Great Places Scheme: copy of an expression of interest submitted by CCBC. It was noted that the expression of interest had been successful and that the Clerk had been asked to attend a meeting tomorrow to find out more about this. A report would be brought back to a future meeting.
- b) Bay Life Management Board: The VVP End of Stage report to the Board was received and noted. Cllr Hughes had attended the meeting and gave a brief verbal report, explaining that the new Welsh Government Regeneration Scheme would be providing targeted project based funding only, with the North Wales region likely to be allocated around £7m.
- c) Pwllcrochan Woods Local Nature Reserve Management Plan 2016-2021.

**177/17 Place Plans:**

Members were asked to consider a proposal by Cllr C Hughes that we look for joint funding with other local Town Councils to employ a support officer to assist with developing Place Plans.

*Resolved to request that the Clerk writes to James Harland, CCBC, to ask his assistance in gauging the views of potential partner Councils and making a funding bid to the Welsh Government to fund/part-fund the post, with any shortfall being made up by the councils involved in the project based on population size.*

**178/17 Business Continuity Plan:**

The Clerk circulated a draft plan, adapted from another council and members were asked to consider adopting a plan to mitigate any disruption to service delivery.

*Resolved to recommend the Plan to Council for approval.*

**179/17 IT Support:**

The Clerk submitted correspondence from Microshade advising that there has been an increase in monthly support costs, due to a decision by Microsoft to reduce discounts for government departments.

*Resolved to receive and note the correspondence.*

**180/17 Colwyn BID:**

- a) The Clerk submitted, for information, a copy of the first year summary and a gave a brief verbal report following a recent meeting with the BID Manager. It was noted that the local area groups are still forming and some businesses were more engaged than others. A number of projects were in the pipeline and the Clerk gave a brief summary of these.
- b) It was noted that the presentation on the ‘Shared Space’ proposal given at a meeting held at Porters on 14<sup>th</sup> September had been similar to the previous ‘Town Team’ proposals. Cllr Hughes advised that one of the biggest issues for making any changes to the road layout/use is a lack of funding. It has not been possible to use regeneration funding for this and new European funding would not be available in the coming years. The Committee was informed by the County Councillors present that the revised Masterplan is likely to be out for public consultation by the end of October.

**181/17 Gwynedd Pensions:**

The Clerk submitted, for information, notice of a recent meeting of the Pensions Committee and an extract from the Annual Report for 2016-17. It was noted that the Scheme was performing well, against both its own targets and against other Schemes across Wales.

**182/17 Grants:**

a) **Small Grants:**

Members were asked to consider the small grant applications received for quarter 2, 2017/18, as detailed in Schedule ‘B’ attached.

*Resolved to recommend that grants be awarded to applicants A, B, C & D, as detailed in that schedule.*

- b) It was noted that letters of thanks/reports have been received from the following event grant recipients:
  - (i) Min y Don Bowling Club (small grant)
  - (ii) Happy Faces Children’s Charity (small grant)
  - (iii) Upper Colwyn Bay Community Centre (large grant- interim report 2017/18)

The meeting closed at 7:45 p.m.

..... Chairman