

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, RHIW ROAD, COLWYN BAY, AT 6.30 P.M. ON MONDAY 21ST JANUARY 2019

PRESENT: The Mayor, Cllr S Williams (Chairman)
Cllrs: Mrs G Baker; B Barton; N Bastow; C Brockley; Mrs H Fleet; D Howcroft; C Hughes; M A Jones; Mrs M Jones; A Kealey; A Khan; C Matthews; Mrs H Meredith; A Pearson; J Pearson; P Richards; Mrs K Swindon; M Tasker; M Worth.

OFFICER: Mrs C Earley, Town Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: Rachael Gill, Head of Communications & Marketing, Conwy CBC
Deborah Job, Conwy CBC
Member of the Public

324/18 Welcome and Apologies for Absence:

The Mayor welcomed members and visitors to the meeting and apologies for absence were received from Cllrs: D Bradley; G Campbell and County Cllrs: B Cossey and C Carlisle.

325/18 Announcements:

The Mayor gave a brief announcement, informing Members that he will be hosting a Charity film night on Tuesday 19th February 2019 at 7.30pm at Theatr Colwyn. Tickets will be £5 and will be on sale from tomorrow.

The Mayor also informed members about his intention to host a Masquerade Ball on 27th April 2019. Details will be circulated to members once the event has been confirmed (see later agenda item).

326/18 Declarations of Interest:

Members were reminded that they must declare the existence and nature of any personal and/or prejudicial interests. Cllrs Chris Hughes and Paul Richards both declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 6 (iii) Large Grants, as members of the Colwyn Bay Environment Federation.

327/18 Visitors to the Council:

a. The Mayor welcomed Rachael Gill, Head of Communications and Marketing, Conwy CBC to the meeting to update the Council on plans for major events in Colwyn Bay in 2019.

Rachael thanked member for the opportunity to update them and thanked them for their previous support for the Conwy Major Events programme, without which the events could not take place. She reflected back on 2018, which had been a challenging and busy year, with a lot of time and effort having been spent on the

Armed Forces Day event. We had two successful music events in Eirias: Paloma Faith and then the BBC Proms in the Park, both supported (sponsored) by the Town Council. These events had brought a significant economic benefit (Paloma Faith calculated at £184,000 and BBC Proms in the Park expected to be similar). The Women's Tour of Britain in June had good TV coverage, but there had been some disappointment in the turn-out. Thought there has been a lot of focus on events in Colwyn Bay, the decision about where the events go is very much down to the organiser(s), who are shown potential sites across the County.

Looking forward to 2019/20, one Eirias Concert has been announced (Jess Glynne) and there have been discussions about a new European cycling event, which it is hoped may come to the area in 2020, plus possibly another Tour of Britain Event. However, the challenge of ongoing financial austerity and efficiencies cannot be overlooked and the budget of £1.2m to support the event strategy is likely to be reduced this year. Members of CCBC will therefore have to review which events can continue to be supported. A motorsport organisation is also looking at the potential of involving the Bay of Colwyn area in an event this year.

A brief question and answer session followed the presentation, with a question about whether a second Eirias Concert was likely (the Promoter would like a second night, as this makes the whole event more viable, but has tremendous challenges getting artists).

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

b. The Mayor welcomed Deborah Job, Conwy CBC to the meeting to update the Council on proposals for a new Family Centre in Colwyn Bay.

Deborah thanked the Council for the invitation to attend and gave a brief slideshow covering: the background to the project, the core teams established in each area, access to support in the wider community, links to local services, a whole family approach, flexible support and building resilience by empowering families. She also commented on an Action Research project in Abergele, where a Family Centre had opened in September 2018 (slides to be forwarded after the meeting).

The Central team is currently located in Eirias park and they have use of the Flying Start pod. However, this is an interim measure and a town centre location would be preferred, with outreach activities across the area. Douglas Road Youth Centre is currently the preferred location for the new Family Centre, but they need to work closely with the Community Development Service as the site is currently the base for the Communities for Work projects.

A brief question and answer session followed the presentation and members re-affirmed their support for the development of a Family Centre at the Douglas Road site. It was queried whether any of the literature/engagement activities were conducted in Welsh and if there were any cooking projects, to develop cookery skills. Deborah confirmed that both of these were in existence and would be further developed as the project proceeds.

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

- c. It was noted that District Insp. Julie Sheard has asked if she can attend the Council meeting on 10th June 2019.

Resolved to approve the request and invite District Inspector Julie Sheard to attend the June meeting.

d. County Council Liaison:

In the absence of our invited County Councillors, the Mayor invited our dual-hatted County Councillors Abdul Khan and Chris Hughes to give a brief report on any matters relating to the Bay of Colwyn area. Cllr Hughes briefly reported that CCBC is still debating the council tax increase required to balance the budget for 2019/20.

Resolved to receive and note the report.

328/18 Minutes:

- a. *Resolved to approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting of the Council, held on 3rd December 2018.*

- b. *Resolved to receive a copy of the minutes of the following meetings:*

(i) *The General Purpose & Planning Committee held on 18th December 2018.*

(ii) *The Policy & Finance Committee held on 9th January 2019 (Draft).*

(iii) *The General Purposes & Planning Committee held on 15th January 2019. (Draft)*

(iv) *A Special Meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee held on 14th January 2019 (Draft)*

329/18 Matters Arising from Those Minutes:

- a. **Min. 280/18(b) – Assets and Services Working Group:**

Appointments to the group were considered and approved as follows:

Glyn – Cllr P Richards

Rhiw – Cllr M Worth

Rhos – Cllr C Brockley

Dinarth – Cllr D Howcroft

Colwyn – Cllr K Swindon

Eirias – Cllr A Pearson

It was noted that this was purely a ‘Working Group’ with no delegated powers. Its terms of reference are to consider the documentation and advice received from Conwy CBC, Welsh Government and others and report back in due course to the Policy & Finance Committee.

b. Min 238/18 – Representative on Outside Bodies:

It was resolved that Cllr N Bastow would replace Cllr A Kealey as the Town Council appointed Governor for Ysgol Sant Joseff.

c. Resolved to endorse the recommendations of the Committees, as detailed in the following Minutes:

(i) **Min 309/18 – Small Grants:** *Payment of Small Grants were approved, as detailed in Schedule B to those Minutes.*

(ii) **Min. 309/18(b) – Event Grants:** *Payment of Grants for 2019/2020 events were approved, as detailed in Schedule C to those Minutes.*

(iii) **Min. 312/18 – Large Grants:**

Members were asked to consider application E, which had been deferred by the Committee as there would not have been a quorum present after those members who had declared a prejudicial interest retired from the meeting.

Having declared a personal and prejudicial interest, Cllrs C Hughes and P Richards retired from the meeting during consideration of the application from the Colwyn Bay Environment Federation.

Resolved to approve the payment of Large Grants for 2019/2020, as detailed in Schedule A to the Minutes of the Special Policy & Finance Committee meeting.

(iv) **Min 313/18 – Youth Grants:**

To endorse the recommendation that applications are now invited for youth grants for 2018/19, with a maximum amount of £1,000 per application (total remaining budget is £7,000).

d. Resolved to note the resolutions of the Committees, as detailed in the Minutes.

330/18 Annual Estimates:

a. The Clerk submitted, for consideration, the draft Annual Estimates for income and expenditure for 2019/20, together with a report summarising any significant increases in budgets and the recommendation of the Policy and Finance Committee to apply a 3.99% increase in the precept request for 2019/20.

It was noted that a minimum increase of 3.76% is necessary to achieve a balanced budget and retain sufficient general reserves to meet cash flow requirements (in accordance with the policy on general reserves previously agreed by the Council).

It was proposed and seconded that the increase in precept should be kept to the absolute minimum, i.e. 3.76%.

This was rejected by the Council with a vote of 2 in favour, 16 against and 2

abstentions.

It was then proposed and seconded that the Council supports the proposal of the Policy & Finance Committee for a (3.99%) increase in the precept.

The vote was delayed to allow Cllr C Hughes to give a brief update first on the ongoing deliberations of Conwy CBC in respect of the Council Tax increase which is likely to be imposed by them for 2019/20.

Cllr Hughes confirmed that two options were currently being considered (11.6% and 9.6%), but that both had recently been rejected by a Scrutiny Committee.

The vote on the proposed precept increase then took place.

Resolved, by a majority of 16 in favour to 3 against (with one abstention) to support an increase of 3.99% in the precept request for 2019/20, equivalent to a precept of £456,000, or £40.16 for a typical Band 'D' property (an increase of £1.54 per annum).

b. Resolved to authorise the Clerk to complete and submit the precept request form to Conwy CBC.

331/18 Room Hire Charges:

The Clerk submitted, for consideration, the current schedule of room hire charges.

Resolved that the Room Hire Charges would remain unchanged for 2019/20.

332/18 Community/Place Plan:

The Clerk submitted a copy of her notes following a recent meeting with Shane Wetton, CCBC, and gave a brief verbal report from the first meeting of the Steering Group, held on 17th January. Following consideration of the explanation of the difference between a broader 'Community Plan' and a 'Place Plan', which would only cover land-use issues, the group had recommended that the broader approach be used initially. It was noted that it may then be possible to separate out land-use issues into a Place Plan type document at a later stage.

It was further noted that the group had recommended splitting into the three distinct community areas for the first stage of the process (i.e. getting an initial understanding of what the main types of issues there are in each area, that the plan may need to cover). The local members would seek to involve representative(s) from local businesses and the voluntary sector at this very initial stage, with the intention of recruiting some/all of these to form an overall Community-led Steering Group for the future stages of the project.

Resolved to support the initial approach of the Steering Group, as outlined above, and to await a report back in due course.

333/18 Communities for Work Plus:

The Clerk submitted information about the new service, launched in October 2018, and gave a brief verbal report, encouraging Members to share information about the service with people in their communities who may find it helpful. It was noted that contact details are available on request from the Clerk.

334/18 North Wales PSBs - Well-Being of Future Generations Act:

The Clerk and the Mayor gave a brief verbal report following a recent event run by the North Wales PSBs for representatives from Town and Community Councils subject to the Act. It was noted that this had been the first formal engagement event between the PSBs and the larger Councils in North Wales and that it was long overdue. After several introductory presentations, representatives worked in groups to discuss how far they had got with developing their wellbeing plans and what the challenges had been. A second round table discussion focussed on the three PSB groups. A presentation was also given by a company on projects it is working on with Wrexham BC and with Llysfaen Community Council around gathering data on local clubs/organisations and with facilitating improved information/document sharing, via a community based app.

The main outcome of the day had been a call for a closer working relationships and greater and more timely sharing of information, advice and guidance. Town and Community Councils across North Wales wish to be seen as partner organisations with a distinct and valuable role to play in the wellbeing of our communities.

Resolved to receive and note the report.

335/18 The Mayor's Musical Masquerade Ball:

The Clerk submitted, for consideration, information about the proposed Mayor's charity event, to include the draft budget. It was noted that the break-even point for the event would be around 95 ticket sales, with a total capacity of 200+. The contract included a clause for partial payment if the booking is cancelled within 2-4 weeks of the event date. Some concern was expressed regarding the price of tickets (£50 per head), but it was noted that this would include a three course meal, entertainment and welcome/table drinks. Any shortfall in ticket sales would result in the deficit being funded from the Mayor's allowance, with proceeds to the charities coming solely from raffle and auction proceeds.

Resolved to authorise the Clerk to proceed with the venue booking and to request that an update on ticket sales be brought to the Policy & Finance Committee on 27th March (one month prior to the event date).

336/18 Imagine Colwyn Bay Project:

The Clerk submitted the agenda for the forthcoming steering group meeting, together with an overview of the project activities and a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding, which all partner organisations (including the Town Council) are asked to sign.

Resolved to receive the information and to authorise the Clerk to sign the Memorandum of Understanding, on behalf of the Town Council.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

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