

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT 6.30PM ON TUESDAY 24TH MAY, IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, RHIW ROAD, COLWYN BAY

PRESENT: Cllr N Bastow, Chairman
Cllrs: Mrs G Baker, Mrs L Edwards, R Foreman, Mrs L Griffiths,
Mrs M Jones, J Pearson, Mrs V Smith JP, C Wood

OFFICER: Mrs C Earley, Town Clerk

40/16 Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2016/17

Resolved to re-elect Cllr N Bastow as Chairman and Cllr S Williams as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for 2016/17.

41/16 Apologies for Absence:

It was noted that apologies for absence had been received from Cllr W Bagnall.

42/16 Declarations of Interest:

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

43/16 Minutes:

Resolved to approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting, held on 26th April 2016.

44/16 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

a. Min. 354/15 – Planning Aid Wales Training:

The Clerk submitted details of the Planning Aid Wales Introduction to Planning course taking place on Wednesday 29th June in Mold (Cllr G Baker attending) and members were asked to consider a request from Cllr S Roy to attend. It was noted that Cllr Roy had recently swapped to the Policy & Finance Committee and would therefore have less involvement now in planning matters.

Resolved to note details of the course and encourage all General Purpose and Planning Committee members who have not previously attended any Planning Aid Wales training to attend.

Further resolved to thank Cllr Roy for her kind offer to attend, but inform her that it is the view of this Committee that members of the General Purpose & planning Committee would benefit most from attending this course.

b. Min. 403/15(b)(ii) – E-mail hosting:

The Clerk submitted, for consideration, a response from Livetech to a query about the cost of providing each councillor with a dedicated town council e-mail address. It was noted that the cost for hosting any more than five .gov e-mail addresses would rise significantly to £120 p.a. per additional e-mail address. It was further noted that there was nothing to stop members from setting up their own separate councillor e-mail address, should they feel this necessary, with one of the many free e-mail providers available.

Resolved to note the information and recommend that any councillor wishing to set up a separate e-mail account for their council related e-mails looks to arrange this themselves through one of the many free providers.

c. Min. 425/15(b) – Theatre Colwyn Management Committee:

Cllr N Bastow gave a brief verbal report on the recent meeting. It was noted that the pantomime had been very popular and footfall to the Theatre continues to grow. However, Cllr Bastow stated his personal concern about a decision made by the Committee to adopt a new logo, which he felt could have been more visually appealing and should have been opened up to a wider design competition.

Resolved to thank Cllr Bastow for attending and to note his report.

d. Min. 425/15(f) – Parc Eirias 3G Pitch:

The Clerk submitted for consideration a holding response from R Dix to the query sent to John Hardy about the decision taken recently to relocate the proposed 3G football pitch to another location in the park (below the leisure centre main entrance).

It was noted that the original proposal to replace the Glan y Don pitch had been sensitive, due to issues around accessibility, fencing and lighting. This had prompted an options appraisal. The Town Council had not been formally consulted on the options, as it had been thought by Officers that representatives on the Bay Life group and Board and Eirias Project Board would have received information and fed this back to the Town Council. It was further noted that John Hardy has offered to attend a future meeting to speak about the project in more depth.

Resolved to write to John Hardy to request that he attends a future meeting of the Committee to explain the decision that has been taken.

e. Min. 404/15(d) – ERF issues:

The Clerk gave a brief verbal update on issues/concerns raised with Mr Gravett relating to the proposed disabled-friendly picnic benches for the playground opposite Rhos Point, problems in replacing the trees on Sea view Road (due to the unsuitability of the ground), litter removal by multi-disciplinary teams and communication problems

with a local Friends Group, following a conversation on 11th May.

Resolved to note the Clerk's report and to raise any further issues relating to any of these matters directly with Mr Gravett.

45/16 Conwy CBC:

The Clerk submitted, for consideration, the following correspondence from CCBC:

- a. An e-mail regarding the replacement of traditional litter bins with recycling bins, on a trial basis.
- b. An e-mail from Cllr D Cowans about a crackdown on inconsiderate parking.

Resolved to welcome this initiative.

- c. The draft minutes of the Conservation Area Panel meeting held on 9th May 2016, highlighting its concerns about the new CCBC Office Development.
- d. Information about the Porth Eirias Beach Sports Extravaganza, to be held on Saturday 28th May 2016.
- e. A copy of a report to the Customer Scrutiny Committee regarding the proposed closure of Pinewood Products.

Members expressed concern about the closure, which it was felt would have a negative impact on the independence of current and future service users.

Resolved to recommend that a letter be sent to CCBC stating concerns about the closure of Pinewood Products, which it is felt will remove opportunities for some valued work-place independence from both its current and potential future service users. Further resolved to query the lack of initiative which appears to have been shown in seeking alternative ways to keep the service operational, to include holding discussions with social enterprises or other voluntary based organisations.

46/16 Age Concern:

The Clerk submitted, for information, a letter regarding the re-launch of the national advice line service and Members were issued with cards detailing the advice line number.

47/16 Older People's Commissioner for Wales:

The Clerk submitted an update newsletter including an invitation to an event to launch the Impact and Reach Report 2015-16.

Resolved to receive and note the correspondence.

48/16 The Lifeguarding and Aquatic Rescue Agency:

The Clerk submitted a copy of an e-mail sent to some County and Town Councillors about the proposed location of the Charity's operating headquarters in Colwyn Bay and the creation of an emergency aquatic rescue service, lifeguarding and first responder provision.

Members generally welcomed the proposals, due to the increasing popularity of the beach and watersports generally, but expressed some concern about where future revenue funding would come from to maintain a permanent/seasonal lifeguarding or rescue service. It was queried whether the group had discussed its proposal with the Harbour Master and what his feedback had been.

Resolved to recommend that a response be sent to applaud the efforts to establish a base in Colwyn Bay and support these in principle, but state that the Town Council should not be relied upon as a source of ongoing revenue funding. Further resolved to encourage dialogue with the Harbour Master about the proposals, if this is not already happening.

49/16 Sub-Committees:

Resolved to re-appoint and approve the Terms of Reference for the Bonfire and Christmas Lights Sub-Committees, as detailed in Schedule 'A' attached.

It was noted that there may be a vacancy on the Christmas Lights Sub-Committee which will require filling at a future meeting.

50/16 Other Correspondence:

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

- a. Minutes from OCERA – meeting held on 11th May 2016.
- b. A letter from the NHS Primary Care Service confirming that permission is to be given to Cohens Chemist to relocate from Conway Road to the new West End Medical Centre.
- c. A verbal request from Judi Greenwood, Townscape Heritage Project Officer, for approval to encourage charity shops to use any current empty shop windows in the town centre for display purposes.

Resolved to recommend that the Town Council supports this project in principle.

- d. Brief details of an 'Inspire' take part day, being arranged by Venue Cymru and held in Station Road on Friday 8th August.

51/16 Planning:

- a. The Clerk submitted, for consideration, the planning applications received from CCBC during the past four weeks.

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

- b. It was noted that there was no report available on recent Planning Decisions issued by CCBC and that this would be submitted to the next meeting.
- c. The Clerk submitted details of the RTPI Wales Planning Conference 2016 and asked members to consider whether a representative should attend. Members considered the conference programme and plenary speakers and came to the conclusion that this was of more relevance to Local Planning Authorities than the Town and Community Council sector.

Resolved not to send a representative to the conference.

52/16 Licensing Applications:

Resolved to receive notice of several licensing applications (TENS) listed by CCBC for the Bay of Colwyn area during the period 18th April – 13th May 2016.

The Meeting Closed at 7.30 p.m.

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