

MINUTE 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 5TH DECEMBER 2016

PRESENT: The Mayor, Cllr J Davies (Chairman)
Cllrs: W Bagnall; Mrs G Baker; Mrs L Edwards; R Foreman;
Mrs L Griffiths; Mrs M Jones; A Khan; Mrs H Meredith; A Pearson;
J Pearson; Mrs V Perry; Dr S Roy; G Ward; C Wood MBE;
S Williams

OFFICER: Mrs C Earley, Town Clerk

IN ATTENANCE: Mrs Sarah Ecob, Mr Phil Batty, Mr Paul Sampson and
Mr Richard Jones, Theatr Colwyn

266/16 Apologies for Absence:

- a. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs: D Griffiths, A Mason, P Richards, Mrs V Smith and S Taylor.
- b. It was noted that Cllr C Perry has resigned from the Council, with effect from 9th November 2016, and that advice had been received from CCBC to confirm that it was not necessary to advertise to fill the vacancy, as it falls within 6 months of the next local elections. It was further noted that Cllr Perry had been a valued member of the Council since 1995, with only one break of service of four years during that time, and was disappointed to have to resign on the grounds of his ill health.

Resolved to send a letter of thanks to Cllr Perry for his commitment to the role of local Councillor and as Town Mayor (2013/14 and to wish him well for the future.

- c. Although present this evening, it was noted that Cllr Foreman may be unable to attend meetings for some time in the New Year, whilst he is undergoing treatment.

Resolved to authorise a leave of absence for Cllr Foreman for up to five months from today (up to the date of the next local elections).

267/16 Announcements:

The Mayor made a couple of brief announcements, reminding members to reply to the invitation to the Civic Panto night at Theatr Colwyn and congratulating Cllr G Baker and ROSTA for their work in putting on the Xmas Fayre in Rhos on Sea last Saturday, which had been very well received and supported by the local community.

Resolved to thank Cllr G Baker for her involvement and support of this event.

268/16 Declarations of Interest:

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

269/16 Visitors to the Council:

- a. The Chairman welcomed Sarah Ecob (Head of Service), Phil Batty (Theatre Manager), Richard Jones (Marketing Manager) and Paul Sampson (Curator, Oriel Colwyn) to the meeting to give an overview of the work carried out at Theatr Colwyn and Oriel Colwyn.

Sarah thanked councillors for the invitation to attend and stated that she was grateful for the ongoing financial support from the Council and welcomed the chance to update members on the improvements seen since the 2012 refurbishment. Phil Batty gave a brief presentation covering the increase in annual attendance to 41,668, community links with schools and local dance/performing arts groups etc, the variety of live performances (approx. 100 p.a.), screened live performance and cinema nights. Richard then gave some statistical information about visitor profile, confirming that more visitors were now being attracted from wider afield, many of whom would be staying in the local area and that there had been 7,323 repeat bookers last year. Marketing is done via social media, brochure (shared with Venue Cymru), e-shots, schools and distribution lists and the Theatre also has representation at summer shows such as the Anglesey Show.

Paul Sampson then gave a brief presentation specifically about Oriel Colwyn and its emphasis on photography exhibitions and education projects, working with students from Coleg Llandrillo and delivering free monthly junior lightbox workshops. This project has been running for approximately 4 years now, supported by the Arts Council for Wales. The award winning 'Focus on Photography' course engaged with older residents and they have held artist talks, workshops and live skype link-ups. Oriel Colwyn has enjoyed national coverage by the Guardian and BBC and helps to put Colwyn Bay on the map, with visitor reach across North Wales and the North West of England.

Sarah concluded the presentation with reference to the Inspire Days, funded by the Arts Council and others, which aim to engage people, particularly families and young people, in the Arts. Conwy Arts Trust has been set up to access funding and support arts throughout the county, with funding having been obtained for the dark room and other projects locally. Sarah thanked all the staff and volunteers who work very hard to support the Theatre and all it offers.

Questions and comments were then invited from members and these covered: whether Oriel Colwyn engages with local arts/photography groups; congratulations to the team involved in turning the theatre around into a popular and attractive venue once more; whether it will ever break even and not require financial support from both councils; the need to continue making improvements (e.g changing rooms).

Sarah and her colleagues were then thanked for attending and they retired from the meeting.

- b. It was noted that an offer had been made by Helen Jackson, CCBC Wellbeing Team, to give a presentation on Dementia Friendly Communities, a new initiative being considered. The Clerk advised that the next available Council meeting would be in March / April.

Resolved to send Helen an invitation to attend a future meeting.

270/16 Minutes:

- a. *Resolved to approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting of the Council, held on 17th October 2016.*
- b. Resolved to receive a copy of the minutes of the following meetings:
 - i. The General Purpose & Planning Committee held on 25th October 2016.
 - ii. The Policy & Finance Committee held on 16th November 2016 (Draft).
 - iii. The General Purposes & Planning Committee held on 22nd November 2016. (Draft)

271/16 Matters Arising from Those Minutes:

- a. **Min.214/16(a)– Congolese Embassy:**

The Mayor, Cllr L Griffiths and Cllr S Roy gave a brief verbal report on the recent events (symposium on Friday 18th and celebration event on Saturday 19th November) and members were asked to consider reimbursing out-of-pocket expenses relating to a meal and drink for ten visiting delegates on Friday 18th November (£127.37).

Resolved to authorise payment of the out-of-pocket expenses, up to £127.37 maximum.

- b. *Resolved to endorse the recommendations of the Committees, as detailed in the following Minutes:*

- i. **231/16 – Local Members Ward Allowances:** The Clerk tabled the remaining Project Proposals submitted by members either prior to or at the meeting.

Resolved to approve the final payment of Ward Allowances for 2016/17, as detailed in Schedule ‘A’ attached.

- ii. **245/16(c) – Promenade Parking Charges:** To write to CCBC to request that the proposed charges also apply to Porth Eirias car park, with the exception of permit holders, otherwise there will be no spaces left for watersports/slipway users or restaurant visitors.

- c. *Resolved to note the resolutions of the Committees, as detailed in the Minutes.*

272/16 Invitations to Events:

The Clerk submitted, for consideration, invitations to:

- a. Access all Eirias, 9th July 2017 (Bryan Adams)

Resolved to circulate details to all members after the elections in May 2017 and to hold a draw, if necessary,, to determine who should attend.

- b. Colwyn Bay FC – a future home game.

Resolve to request use of the box for the game against Glossop on 25th February 2017 and, once confirmed, to circulate details to all members to apply for tickets.

The Mayor then thanked the Mayoress, Deputy Mayor and staff at the Town Hall for their support and wished members a happy Christmas and New Year.

The Meeting Closed at 7.45 p.m.

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