

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE GENERAL PURPOSE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT 6.30PM ON TUESDAY 20TH JUNE 2017, IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, RHIW ROAD, COLWYN BAY

PRESENT: The Mayor, Cllr J Pearson (& Tree Warden)
Cllr G Baker, Vice-Chairman
Cllrs: B Barton; Mrs M Jones; S Williams; M Worth

57/17 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from the Chairman, Cllr N Bastow, and from Cllrs: C Brockley; G Campbell; C Matthews; M Tasker and D Bradley, who was co-opted on 12th June to fill the vacancy in Colwyn Ward.

58/17 Declarations of Interest:

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

59/17 Minutes:

Resolved to approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting, held on 30th May 2017.

60/17 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

a. Min. 35/17 – Proposed Rhos Bandstand:

The Clerk submitted, for information, a response from Llandudno Town Council regarding maintenance of their band stand in the Happy Valley. It was noted that the actual costs of maintenance are not known and are presumed to be deducted from the payment made annually by the Town Council towards grounds maintenance.

Cllr Baker advised the Committee that she will give a further update on the proposal after meetings with the Harbour Master and County Councillor Roger Parry next week and then with Tape Music and Film (re: assistance in applying for grant funding).

Resolved to receive and note the correspondence and update.

b. Min 39/17 – Local Democracy and Boundary Commission:

- i. Cllr J Pearson gave a brief verbal report on the recent meeting arranged by the LDBC to explain the forthcoming electoral review in Conwy. It was noted that no changes were proposed to community council wards, as only the County was under review. Following the current initial consultation period (ending in August), initial proposals will be published in Spring 2018 and final proposals in Winter 2018, for implementation at the 2022 elections.

- ii. Members were asked to consider if they wished to submit any initial observations or recommendations to the LDBC on the review. As there were no changes proposed to Community Council boundaries, the Clerk advised members that they could await the initial draft proposals and respond at that stage.

Concern was expressed that the last such review (in Wrexham) did not take into account the rurality of some parts of Wales. The Clerk informed members that the LDBC had published two papers outlining how the review would be carried out, one of which looked at what percentage of the population lived outside of settlements of 10,000 or more people, in order to take rurality into consideration.

It was queried whether the Town Council should use this as an opportunity to rectify any anomalies in community council ward areas, such as Eirias Park not being in Eirias Ward. Some Members expressed concern that there were many anomalies and historic boundaries were used. It would be very difficult and disruptive to rectify all of these.

Resolved that the Clerk would circulate the papers issued by the LDBC explaining the procedures for the review and that any member wishing to propose changes should submit these in writing to the Clerk for consideration at a future meeting of this Committee.

c. Min. 397/16 - Community Resilience:

The Clerk submitted, for consideration, a follow-up e-mail and documentation received from Eilwen since her presentation to the Council on 12th June. Members were asked to consider if the Town Council should participate in this pilot project and lead on the development of a Community Emergency Plan for the Bay of Colwyn area. It was noted that the process would be supported by Eilwen and the NW Emergency Planning team, but that the Town Council would be required to be the lead body due to its local knowledge and the need to bring the relevant people/organisations together in the process of developing the plan.

Resolved to recommend that the Council agrees to act as the lead body on the development of a Community Emergency Plan and that an invitation is sent to relevant local bodies, including schools, churches, housing association, etc to an introductory steering group meeting, to be led by Eilwen.

Further resolved to recommend that the Town Council appoints one member from each ward to represent it on the steering group.

d. Min 41/17(a) – Planning Applications Considered on 30th May:

The Clerk submitted, for information, a copy of the revised Schedule ‘A’ for 30th May, following an objection to an application agreed by the Council at its meeting on 12th June.

61/17 Conwy CBC:

The Clerk submitted the following correspondence from CCBC:

a. Temporary Traffic regulation –Back Bay View Road:

Notification of a temporary traffic restriction from the junction of Sea View Road to Greenfield Road on 27/6/17.

b. The Clerk gave a brief verbal report from the Bay Life Officers Meeting held on 12th June 2017. It was noted that the main purpose of the meeting had been to prepare for the Strategic Management Board (SMB) meeting scheduled for the end of June (now postponed), where an ‘end of stage’ report on the VVP (Vibrant and Viable Places Welsh Government Regeneration) programme was required to be approved for submission to the Welsh Government. The meeting had been advised that all CCBC Project Boards were under review and any changes proposed to the Bay Life Board would be discussed at a future SMB meeting. Whereas Bay Life and VVP has focussed mainly on physical regeneration, it was noted that there was a need to align this more closely with the Tackling Poverty agenda and to involve the local community more going forward.

c. Waterfront Project – May update: The Clerk informed members that the Promenade is due to re-open by the end of July at latest, which is slightly later than scheduled, but that everything possible was being done to try to reduce impact during the school holidays.

d. It was noted that no report had been received to date from the two County Councillors, who had been invited to the Conservation Area Advisory Panel meeting held on 14th June to consider the application by CCBC to partially dismantle the Pier. The Clerk advised members that she had been unable to attend, due to late notice of the meeting after her return from leave. One member had contacted the Panel to ask if he could attend, but had been advised that this was not possible. The Clerk confirmed that she had been invited as an Officer of the Town Council.

Resolved to bring any report to a future meeting of this Committee.

62/17 RGC 1404:

The Clerk submitted a written proposal from Cllr Bob Barton requesting that a sub-committee or working group be appointed to consider how to recognise the recent achievements of the RGC 1404 Rugby Club. Cllr Barton addressed members about his proposal, which was to formally recognise the achievements of the team and thank the players and the WRU for all they have done to put Colwyn Bay on the map. This could possibly be by way of a pre-season event or tournament, but a small working group could look into this and other opportunities to form a long-term relationship with the Club and report back to a future meeting.

The Clerk advised members that, historically, achievements such as this had been recognised by the Council simply by way of a letter of congratulations from the Mayor on behalf of the Council and the community it represents.

It was further noted that one of the local County Councillors had expressed concern that this was a North Wales regional team (we also have a Colwyn Bay Rugby Club) and that formal recognition of its achievements in the manner suggested was therefore outside of the remit of the town council and is currently being considered by CCBC, as a partner to the WRU in setting up RGC 1404.

Members were asked to vote on the proposal to set up a working group to consider ways in which the achievements of RGC 1404 could be recognised. The motion was not carried.

Resolved to request that the Clerk sends a letter of congratulations to the team on behalf of the Mayor and Council.

Cllr Barton informed the Committee that he intends to speak to representative(s) from the WRU and will bring this matter back to the Council should an opportunity arise for developing a closer relationship between RGC 1404 and the town.

63/17 CVSC – Playing Out 2017:

The Clerk submitted an update on the summer holiday play provision for 2017, detailing the proposed dates, times and venues for the summer play provision funded by this Council.

Resolved to receive and note this information.

64/17 Princess Diana Garden, Rhos on Sea:

The Clerk submitted a letter of concern from a local resident about the lack of maintenance of the garden. It was noted that enquiries had subsequently revealed that the contractor had suffered bereavement and was no longer able to do any work on the gardens. The Clerk, with the assistance of the local resident, was in the process of seeking quotes to enable the committee to appoint a new contractor.

Resolved to:

- a. Ask CCBC Parks staff if they would be willing/able to do a one-off visit to prune and tidy up the garden as soon as possible.***
- b. Request that the Clerk brings quotes from local contractors for regular (monthly) maintenance visits to the next meeting of the Committee, unless CCBC is unable to assist with (a) above, in which case authority is delegated to the Clerk, Chair and Vice-Chair to appoint a contractor.***

65/17 Seafarers UK:

The Clerk submitted, for consideration, information and a request to fly the Red Ensign for Merchant Navy Day (Sunday 3rd September). It was noted that the Parks staff who assist with the flags in Queens Gardens do not work at weekends.

Resolved to forward information to the local British Legion and ask if they would be interested in organising a small scale event to recognise Merchant Navy Day.

66/17 Other Correspondence:

The Clerk had no other items of correspondence to report.

67/17 Planning:

- a. The Clerk submitted, for consideration, the planning applications received from CCBC.

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

- b. *Resolved to receive a copy of the Planning Decisions recently issued by CCBC*

- c. The Clerk and Cllr Merrill Jones gave a brief verbal report on the Appeal Hearing held on 14.6.17 in respect of application 0/43453 (Ardmore, Hesketh Rd). It was noted that the Planning Inspector would take several weeks to issue her report and decision.

- d. It was noted that application 0/43854 has been withdrawn.

- e. It was noted that appeals had been submitted in respect of application 0/43849 (Penrhos Manor) and 0/43711 (Llewelyn Road).

Members were informed that the Committee had not previously submitted any objections to 0/43711, which was to convert a single dwelling into a six bedroomed HMO.

Resolved to request that the Clerk submits comments to the Planning Inspector to confirm that the Town Council supports the decision of the Local Planning Authority in refusing this application for a new HMO, as this is contrary to the policy in the LDP restricting permission for any new HMOs, due to the damage they have caused historically to the residential amenity of the area.

68/17 Licensing:

The Clerk submitted, for information, notice of several recent licensing applications for the Bay of Colwyn area.

Resolved to receive and note details of the recent licensing applications.

The Meeting Closed at 7:50 p.m.

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