

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL 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 TUESDAY 17TH MARCH 2020

PRESENT: The Mayor, Cllr N Bastow
Cllrs: C Brockley; H Fleet; D Howcroft; D Jones; Mrs M Jones; A Pearson;
M. Pickard; K Swindon and M Worth.

OFFICER: Mrs C Earley, Town Clerk
Mrs R Dudley, Assistant Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: Vic Turner, Conwy CBC

461/19 Apologies for Absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs: G Baker; B Barton; D Bradley; G Campbell; A Khan; C Matthews; J Pearson; P Richards and M Tasker.

It was noted that Anita Gaye Howcroft-Jones had been successful in the recent by-election for Rhiw Ward and that she would be calling in to sign her declaration of acceptance of office later this week.

462/19 Declarations of Interest:

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

463/19 Visitor to the Council:

The Mayor welcomed Vic Turner to the meeting. Mr Turner had been invited to give a presentation on the Town Centre Investment Plan proposals and wanted feedback from the Council. He informed the members that a formal consultation with all interested parties would take place in the next 9 months and that this was an initial consultation for key stakeholders only.

He gave some background to the project, which started as the Bay Life Regeneration Programme in 2008. Successes included Theatr Colwyn refurbishment, Porth Eirias, Colwyn Bay Waterfront, Parc Eirias and Coed Pella, the new CCBC office building. He then highlighted some of the key issues still to be addressed: the Town Centre has been neglected, looks tired and needs re-invigorating. Footfall is low. There is a lack of on-street parking. The aim of the TCIP project is to create an attractive, distinctive town centre with a balance of retail, leisure and commercial uses. The key objectives were to increase footfall and to re-define the Town Centre.

Providing a quality streetscape with improved street furniture and planting, reduced street clutter and more trees would help define/improve the town centre. The proposals include: wider pavements with cycle lanes; traffic will be dispersed around the town centre via a one-way system; additional on-street short stay parking (on Station Road, which is proposed to re-open to one-way traffic); an eco-

carpark on the Market Hall site at the bottom of Penrhyn Road; a public square at the front of St Paul's Church ground. Due to concerns expressed by some stakeholders, alternative options have been looked at if Station Road is not opened to traffic. This will not impact massively on the delivery of the overall project.

Members were then shown a video of the proposals showing Colwyn Bay in 3D.

Questions were then invited from members and these covered: how the Welsh Government felt about reopening pedestrianised areas; the open space at St Paul's Church; the location of the Andrew Fraser Clock; how the one-way system will cope with HGV's if they are diverted off the A55; what happened to the plans to knock through from Station road to Ivy Street; extending free parking limits and issues with over-zealous traffic warden enforcement; ownership of shop fronts on Station Road; number of parking spaces to be created.

The Chair thanked Vic Turner for his report and he retired from the meeting.

464/19 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19):

- a) The Clerk submitted recent advice from Public Health Wales (PHW) and the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) regarding COVID-19, which was noted by members.
- b) The Council's Business Continuity Plan was reviewed, in light of this information.

Resolved to update the Plan, to include reference to the newly identified risk posed by High Consequence Infectious Diseases (HCIDs), as detailed in Schedule 'A' attached.

Further resolved to adopt a Pandemic Contingency Plan / Procedure, based on the model document circulated by the SLCC, as detailed in Schedule 'B' attached.

The Council was then asked to consider the appointment of a Pandemic Crises Management Team, as detailed in the adopted Plan/Procedure.

Resolved to appoint the Town Mayor, Chairman of the General Purpose and Planning Committee, Chairman of the Policy & Finance Committee and the Town Clerk to form the Crises Management Team, with the Deputy Mayor, Vice-Chairmen of the two Committees and Assistant Clerk to act as substitutes, should any of the team members be unable to participate in meetings/discussions at any point during the period of operation of the plan/procedures.

- c) The Council was then asked to consider the adoption and activation of a High Consequence Infectious Disease Policy, to give delegated powers to the Town Clerk/Assistant Clerk to enable the Council to continue to function, once the policy is activated, e.g. during any period where the council may be unable to meet to make legal, quorate decisions due to a HCID restricting the ability of members to attend meetings. The Clerk tabled and updated version of the draft policy for consideration by Members, giving delegated powers to deal with planning

applications, making payments, year-end accounts, correspondence from third parties and any other urgent matters.

Resolved to adopt the HCID Policy, as detailed in Schedule 'C' attached, and to confirm its activation as at the close of the General Purpose and Planning Committee meeting later this evening.

- d) The Clerk tabled information about a number of upcoming events/activities. Members were asked to note those that had been cancelled or postponed and to consider the recommended actions to take, at this stage, regarding others.

Resolved to note and approve the recommended actions, as summarised in Schedule 'D' attached.

465/19 Town Hall Boilers

The Clerk submitted three quotations for the replacement of the Town Hall Boilers, which it was noted had recently failed and are no longer considered to be economically viable to repair.

Resolved to accept the quotation from JW Jones & Son, subject to confirming the warranty (12 years) is applicable to installations in non-residential/commercial buildings, and to delegate authority to the Clerk to make arrangements for the work to be completed as soon as possible.

The meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.

..... Chairman