

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL, HELD REMOTELY (VIA ZOOM) AT 6.30 P.M. ON MONDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2020.

PRESENT: The Mayor, Cllr N Bastow
Cllrs: G Baker; Bob Barton; C Brockley; Gemma Campbell; H Fleet;
C Hughes; D Jones; M Jones; C Matthews; A Pearson; J Pearson; P Richards;
K Swindon; M Tasker and M Worth.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: County Cllr: C Carlisle
Mr Arthur Creber (Llandrillo Charities)

57/20 Welcome and Apologies for Absence:

- a) Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs: G Howcroft-Jones and D Howcroft.
- b) Members noted the resignation of Cllr D Bradley, due to work commitments. The Clerk informed the members that she will notify the Electoral Department of the vacancy and advised that, if an election is called, the vacancy may not be filled until Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.

58/20 Announcements:

The Mayor had no announcements, other than to confirm that the Pandemic Crises Response Team is still meeting on a regular basis.

59/20 Declarations of Interest:

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

60/20 Visitors to the Council:

a) **Ancient Llandrillo Charities:**

The Mayor welcomed Mr Arthur Creber to the meeting. Arthur is one of the Church Trustees of the Ancient Llandrillo Charities and thanked the Council for allowing him to address the meeting. He informed members that an information leaflet about the Charities is being produced and should be ready for distribution in the next month or so.

He then gave a brief background about the ancient charities, explaining that the main benefactor to the Trust had been Elisabeth Edwards, who left money in her will in 1727 for the education of local children and the relief of the poor. The funds were added to in 1837 from rental charges on Glan y Wern Cottages and money from the Tyn Terfyn Charity. The Charities cover the old parish of Llandrillo yn Rhos, which historically stretched from Dinerth to Old Colwyn. Parish boundaries have changed over time. In the late 19th Century, the local Council was asked to appoint three Trustees, to sit alongside the three appointed by the Church. This

arrangement continues to this day, with the three Town Council appointed Trustees being from the Rhos community wards.

Mr Creber informed members that more recently the Charities have helped with the costs of school uniform for children whose families cannot afford the total cost when their child moves to secondary school (in addition to the support available for some families from the Welsh Government). The head teachers of the local primary schools are contacted annually to make referrals. The Trust has also provided funds for the local Food Banks, which support those unable to buy basic requirements.

He then thanked the Town Council for its financial support over the years, the Town Clerk for managing the Trust on behalf of the Trustees, and those Town Councillors who have donated their ward allowances to the Trust.

The Mayor then invited any observations/questions from members:

A request was made that Councillors consider donating any unspent part of their ward allowance to the Trust. A Town Council donation is usually made annually from monies left over in the small grants budget, but some members felt this should be a guaranteed annual budgeted amount. It was stated that a lot of people struggle with buying school uniform in all the years, not just year 7, and the requirement that some schools will only allow expensive branded uniform is an issue. Some schools have second hand/swap uniform facilities. It was suggested that an email could be sent to local schools asking about their uniform policies and querying if they had a facilities for purchasing second hand uniform.

Resolved to request that the Clerk feeds back the comments from members to the next meeting of the charity Trustees.

The Mayor thanked Mr Creber for his presentation and he then left the meeting.

- b)** It was noted that the usual agenda item for verbal reports from County Councillors had been suspended, whilst meetings are continuing remotely, in an effort to reduce the screen time for both members and staff. County Councillors are asked to provide a written report instead, where possible. However, the Mayor asked County Cllr Carlisle if she had anything specific to report. Cllr Carlisle responded that she and Cllr Cossey would be sending in a report after the County Council's budget meeting in a couple of weeks.

61/20 Minutes:

- a) Resolved to receive, approve and sign, as a correct record**
- i) The Annual Meeting of the Council, held on 20th July 2020.**
 - ii) The minutes of the last Ordinary meeting of the Council, held on 20th July 2020.**
- b) Resolved to receive and note the minutes of the following meetings:**
- i) The General Purpose & Planning Committee held on 28th July and 25th August 2020 (draft).**
 - ii) The Policy & Finance Committee held on 19th August 2020 (draft).**
 - iii) The Christmas Lights Committee held on 18th June 2020.**
 - iv) Meeting of the Community/Place Plan Steering Group held on 27th July 2020.**

c) Pandemic Crisis Response Team:

- i) It was noted that the PCRT continues to meet fortnightly and the notes are forwarded to all members.

Resolved to formally receive the notes and to ratify the decisions of the team for the period from 23rd July to 3rd September 2020.

- ii) The Clerk submitted the risk assessments to facilitate a safe, phased return to work for staff and enable room bookings to be accepted for permitted activities only: e.g. the provision of essential services.

Resolved to receive and approve the risk assessments to enable a phased return to work and reopening of the Town Hall for a limited number of bookings..

- iii) The Clerk asked members to confirm delegated authority to the PCRT to submit an application to CCBC by 30/09 for capital funding of up to £10K, with 20% match funding required (to be provided from the CoVid-19 grants budget). The Clerk reported that the funding is intended for items which will help facilitate safer use of the town centre during the CoVid-19 pandemic and, subject to feedback from traders, could include the installation of outdoor electrical points on Station Road and the purchase of a number of gazebos. These could be made available for use on any of the streets in Central Colwyn Bay, subject to any permissions required from CCBC, to provide additional outdoor space and encourage footfall back into the town centre, whilst supporting social distancing.

Members were generally supportive of the suggestions, as both things had semi-permanence and could be used post pandemic. Cllr Hughes reported that he was seeking consultation with the Chamber of Trade and that he would put something together for a discussion via social media. Members were asked to contact the Clerk with any additional suggestions by next week in time for the PCRT to finalise submission to be prepared.

Resolved to confirm delegated powers to the PCRT to consider any further suggestions and any feedback from local traders and submit the application by 30th September.

62/20 Matters Arising from the Minutes:

a) Min 42/20 – Gutter Repairs:

Consideration was given to the recommendation of the Policy and Finance Committee that the Council waives the financial regulation that requires three quotations be obtained, on the grounds that the repairs are now considered urgent and there would be further delays/additional costs to obtain further surveys and quotations.

Resolved to accept the recommendation of the Policy and Finance Committee to

waive the Financial Regulations, for the reasons stated, and to authorise the contractor to proceed with the urgent repairs to the guttering and roof, in accordance with the details in the quotation supplied.

b) External Decorating: Members noted the recommendation of the Policy and Finance Committee that the Clerk strives to obtain three quotes for the external re-decoration and seeks further advice, from the SLCC on the potential VAT implications, due to the amount already spent this year on replacement boilers and the roof/gutter repairs.

c) Min 54/20 - BT Phone Removal (Abergele Road, Old Colwyn):

The Clerk submitted further information from Haf Jones (CCBC) and reminded members that the Town Council had previously declined the offer of adoption of the kiosk, due to its very poor condition and vandalism. The options are: (i) Accept its removal (ii) Object to its removal (iii) Apply to adopt it; this can only be done by the Town Council, who would then be responsible for its future inspection, maintenance and insurance along with any power used, if a power supply is retained.

It was noted that before Colwyn BID disbanded it was looking at converting an underused modern style BT payphone into a defibrillator station on Station Road, Colwyn Bay. Cllr Barton reported that OCRA (Old Colwyn Resident's Association) would have liked the Town Council to consider the same for Old Colwyn and therefore sought support from members for option 3 – to adopt the kiosk. Several members spoke about the importance of having publicly accessible defibrillators available in our communities.

Members were informed that the Welsh Ambulance have a map of every ward with Defibrillator locations listed and the Town Council could request a copy.

Resolved to support, in principle, the proposal to apply to adopt the kiosk, with the intention of using it as a defibrillator station, subject to further engagement with BT regarding the condition of the kiosk and retention of the power supply, and support from OCRA.

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

e) Min 44/20 (b) – Sculpture Trail Funding Application:

The Clerk submitted a draft of a funding application to the Gwynt y Mor Community Fund and sought the Council's approval for the match-funding of £2,500 (which it was noted has been included in the Colwyn in Bloom budget for 2020/21).

Resolved to approve submission of the funding application and the match-funding of £2,500, to be paid from the Colwyn in Bloom budget..

63/20 Conwy CBC:

The Clerk submitted correspondence about the appointment of a community / town

council representative from Conwy to the Conwy & Denbighshire Public Service Board and the Chair invited nominations. It was noted that candidates would be required to provide a brief overview to assist with voting, should there be more than one nomination received from town and community councils in the Conwy area, and that the deadline had been extended to 14th September. The Clerk also advised members that the appointed representative would need to be willing to report back to town and community councils across the county.

Cllr Bob Barton and Cllr Debra Jones expressed an interest in being nominated and both spoke about their links with both Conwy & Denbighshire. Both nominations were seconded and were therefore put to the vote.

Following a tied vote (8 votes each), the Mayor needed to use his casting vote.

Resolved that Cllr Debra Jones be nominated by the Town Council for the role of Conwy's Town & Community Council Representative to the Public Service Board.

64/20 Corporate Plan/Green Pledges Action List:

The Clerk submitted the Corporate Plan and Green Pledges Action List for review and updating, as required.

Resolved to update Item 3.2 to include reference to the Planning Aid Wales online training, which the GP&P Committee members can access until next summer.

65/20 One Voice Wales (OVW):

The Clerk submitted an email about on-line training available from OVW and informed members of her personal interest, as one of the part time trainers employed by One Voice Wales. It was noted that, due to CoVid-19, no courses had been held since March and courses would be restarting on-line later this month.

The Clerk agreed to forward emails with details of all the courses available and reminded members that there was a budget set aside each year for training for members. There were also free introductory courses available via the One Voice Wales website.

The meeting closed at 7.45 p.m.

..... Chairman