

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL, HELD REMOTELY (VIA ZOOM)
AT 6.30PM ON MONDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2021**

PRESENT: The Mayor, Cllr Mrs M Jones (Chairman)
Cllrs: N Bastow, C Brockley, G Campbell, H Fleet, D Howcroft, M Jones, A Khan,
C Matthews, R Owen, J Pearson, T Pearson (Dep Mayor), S Price, S Ryder,
M Tasker and L Wilkins.

OFFICERS: Mrs C Earley, Town Clerk and RFO
R Dudley, Assistant Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: County Cllrs: C Carlisle and B Cossey
A Member of the Public

149/21 Welcome and Apologies for Absence:

The Chairman welcomed all members and visitors to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Town Cllrs: G Baker, C Hughes, D Jones, A Mason, H Meredith, P Richards, K Swindon and M Worth.

150/21 Announcements:

- (a) The Mayor updated the Council and informed them that Civic Sunday would now be held in the Old Colwyn Methodist Church, Wynn Avenue, Old Colwyn at 2pm on Sunday 26th September 2021, preceded by the annual photograph at 1.50pm and followed by afternoon tea in the Church Hall.
- (b) Members noted the arrangements for the presentation of the Volunteer of the Year Awards. Two separate awards events are being held on Monday 20th (2020 award recipients) and Monday 27th (2021 award recipients). Numbers have had to be restricted, in accordance with the Covid Risk Assessment for the Town Hall, therefore, only the Mayor, Committee Members and award recipients have been invited to attend.

151/21 Declarations of Interest:

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

152/21 Visitors to the Council:

- (a) The Chair invited the County Councillors present to give a brief report. Cllr Brian Cossey informed the members that he had been appointed Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Benefits. Conwy CBC has lost a lot of income due to the pandemic, but has been kept afloat by the generosity of the Welsh Government. Social Services are also experiencing difficulties, due to recruitment problems. Cllr Carlisle confirmed that some Conwy CBC staff are being used to support the workload. Staff are exhausted but doing their best to deliver safe care. It is hoped increased funding will be announced for Social Care and Cllr Carlisle offered to bring a further update to the next meeting.

The Chair thanked the County Councillors for attending and they left the meeting.

- (b) The Chair asked members to consider inviting the Area Inspector, NW Police to the next meeting to give a report on local policing matters. It was agreed that any questions should be submitted in advance of the meeting.

Resolved to request that the Clerk invites the Area Inspector to attend the next Council Meeting and that members submit any questions about local policing matters in advance, via the Clerk.

153/21 Minutes:

- (a) ***Resolved to receive, approve and sign, as a correct record, the minutes of:***
- (i) ***The last ordinary meeting of the Council, held on 19th July 2021.***

 - (b) ***Resolved to receive and note the minutes of the following meetings:***
 - (i) ***The General Purpose & Planning Committee meetings, held on 27th July and 24th August 2021.***
 - (ii) ***The Policy & Finance Committee meeting held on 18th August 2021.***
 - (iii) ***Notes from a Community Plan Steering Group Meeting, held on 19th August 2021.***
 - (iv) ***Draft Minutes of the Christmas Lights Sub-Committee, held on 26th August 2021.***

154/21 Matters Arising from Those Minutes:

- (a) **Min. 88/21 (a) – Roof and Gutter Repairs:**
- (i) The Clerk gave a brief verbal update to the members. The structural engineer's report had been sent to all members, along with a brief written progress update from the builder. Members noted a site meeting had been arranged with the Clerk on Friday to discuss the report and other roof/tiling issues with the builder, conservation architect and structural engineer. The Clerk would report back after this meeting.
Resolved to delegate authority to the Policy & Finance Committee to give approval for any additional urgent works required in connection with the tower and roof/tile issues (to be paid for from reserves, if necessary).

 - (ii) **Replacement windows:** The Clerk submitted an updated quote for hardwood replacement windows and Accoya windows (a more sustainable treated soft wood, with a life expectancy similar to hardwood, which had been recommended by the Conservations Architect).
Resolved to accept the quote of £3,021.60 for Accoya windows to replace the two ground floor Town Hall windows, which need renewing.
- (b) **Min 44/21(d) – Equipment to facilitate hybrid meetings:**
The Clerk submitted a briefing note from the Welsh Government and quotes from companies specialising in the supply/set up of meeting room solutions for local Councils. It was noted that a further quote from a local company had been requested, but not yet received, due to illness. It was further noted that no funding is expected to be made

available by the Welsh Government towards the cost of any additional equipment, despite appeals for support from One Voice Wales, due to other more pressing funding requirements.

Resolved to defer this item until the third quotation has been received.

(c) Min 89/21 & 124/21(d) Flexible/Homeworking policy:

The Clerk submitted a draft policy, based on a model policy prepared by One Voice Wales.

Resolved to approve and adopt the draft policy.

(d) Min 91/21 & 122/21(b) – Council’s Insurance Policy:

- (i) Members noted that the renewal quotation initially received from Zurich had increased substantially, after a postcode issue was brought to the attention of the Underwriter (the insurance had previously been based on the postcode used solely for the police station).
- (ii) Members were asked to consider the revised quotation from Zurich (£7,498.75) and an alternative quotation from BHIB, a specialist local Council insurance provider (£7,219.39). It was noted that a local broker had also been approached, but could not supply a competitive quotation. Although the quote from BHIB was slightly cheaper, it was subject to a condition that flat roof inspections must take place every 2 years, which would be an unknown additional cost. It was further noted that Zurich required an updated buildings valuation, for insurance purposes, to be obtained from a qualified valuer /surveyor, as the previous valuation report is now more than five years old.

Resolved to accept the quotation from Zurich to continue the existing policy for this year, at the higher cost, and to explore other options more fully for a new longer term agreement next summer.

(e) Min 137/21(e) – Bonfire Sub-Committee:

- (i) ***Resolved to approve the waiving of the financial regulation requiring three quotes, to enable the long-standing partnership between the Town Council, Conwy CBC and the Fire Service to continue and ‘Get Set Go Events’ to be re-appointed to supply and manage the fireworks and bonfire at the event.***
- (ii) Members noted the feedback received from the recent presentation of the event safety plan to the Conwy Safety Advisory Group (SAG), which will be reported to the Bonfire Sub-Committee later this month.
- (iii) Members noted the event will take place on Friday 5th November and the Clerk reminded members that a minimum of ten councillors/volunteers will be needed to assist with traffic management and parking, as in previous years.
- (iv) Members noted a claim had been received last week in respect of injuries sustained in a trip/fall accident at the 2018 bonfire event. The claim has been forwarded to our insurer, Zurich and the Clerk is making enquiries with Conwy CBC regarding any previous correspondence that might have been obtained/submitted in defence of the claim.

(f) Min 124/21(d) – Covid Risk Assessment:

Resolved to approve the updated Covid Risk Assessment submitted by the Clerk, following updated guidance issued by the Welsh Government after the move to Covid alert level 0 on 5th August.

(g) **Min 125/21(d) – Payment Authorisation:**

Resolved to ratify the payment of £11,088 for the CCTV contribution to Conwy CBC for 2021/22.

(h) **Min 147/21(c) – Christmas Lights:**

Resolved to approve the order with Festive Lighting for the supply of new lights for Colwyn Bay on a three-year hire purchase agreement, at a maximum cost of £9,297 p.a. (revised order awaited).

(i) **Community Plan Team:**

Members noted that a consultancy brief has been prepared and the Clerk asked members to approve delegated authority to the Community Plan Team to appoint consultant(s) to support them through the process of developing a Community/Place Plan for the Bay of Colwyn, using the budget of £20,000 set aside for 2021/22.

Resolved to delegate authority to the Community Plan Team to appoint consultant(s) to support them through the process of developing a Community/Place Plan for the Bay of Colwyn.

(j) ***Resolved to note the resolutions of the Committees, as detailed in the Minutes.***

155/21 Welsh Government: Members noted the following correspondence, submitted for consideration by the Clerk:

- (a) Consultation on the Draft Local Elections (Principal Areas) (Wales) Rules 2021 and Draft Local Elections (Communities)(Wales) Rules 2021.
- (b) The formal publication of the Welsh Public Sector Route-map to achieve Carbon zero by 2030.

156/21 Conwy CBC: Members noted the following reports/correspondence:

- (a) Draft Culture Strategy: Members are encouraged to read this online and respond to the consultation questions.
- (b) Town Team - Members noted:
 - (i) The appointment of a Consultant to support the development of the Town Team to champion and work towards the aspirations of the Culture Strategy
 - (ii) The Clerk has been invited to attend a meeting, to be held on 7/9/21, with the Consultant and members of the 'Town Team' and will report back to the Council in due course.
- (c) Gateway Signs:
Resolved to defer this item, as an update on the cost of the proposed gateway signs is still awaited from Conwy CBC.
- (d) IMAGINE Colwyn Bay:
 - (i) Members noted information about the Ffiws – M-Sparc on tour project.
 - (ii) ***Resolved to approve a request for a budget of up to £600 to enable a new section to be created by Livetech on the Town Council's website to make information on use of the new Colwyn Logo freely/easily available for local businesses, events etc to use, as part of the legacy of the IMAGINE project.***
- (e) Paddling Pool: Members noted the update from Conwy CBC.

(f) Disabled Beach Access: Members noted the correspondence from Cllr Carlisle, who had confirmed that work was ongoing and that disabled access provision would be available on Colwyn Bay beach by summer 2022.

157/21 Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm:

Cllr R Owen gave a verbal report, following a recent public consultation event, held on 7th July (the slides had previously been shared to the members). Cllr Owen reported that the onshore impact of the development will mainly be in Denbighshire, where the power will come onshore and be connected to the national grid. The size of the development has been reduced slightly following earlier consultation feedback. The coastal view will be affected, as turbines will be taller than the existing ones. Maps and further information are all available on the online exhibition. Members noted the wider public consultation, via the online exhibition, is now live. The Chair thanked Cllr Owen for his report.

158/21 Betsi Cadwallader UHB:

Members noted the minutes taken by the One Voice Wales representative, Cllr Mike Parry.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.

..... Chairman