

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLACE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT THE TOWN HALL AND REMOTELY (VIA ZOOM) AT 11AM ON FRIDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2025

PRESENT: Cllrs: Ricki Owen, Hannah Fleet, Cty Cllr Cheryl Carlisle
Co-opted Community/Business Representatives: Brian Cossey (Vice-Chair),
Rob Dix, David Sewell, Tracey Toulmin

OFFICERS: Tina Earley, Town Clerk
Rachael Gill, Place Plan Manager
Pam Everley, Assistant Clerk
Shane Wetton, Place Plan Officer, Conwy CBC
Natalie Hughes, Creu Conwy (CCBC) and Colwyn Bay Town Team

389/24 Welcome and Apologies for Absence:

Members were welcomed to the meeting and apologies for absence were received from David Masding (Chair) and Helen Jackson.

390/24 Minutes of the last meeting:

- a) ***Resolved to approve and sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the last meeting, held on 6th December 2024.***
- b) ***Resolved to receive the meeting notes from the Housing and Future Development and Business, Retail and Skills working groups.***

391/24 Matters Arising from previous meeting:

- a) Min. 300/24 - Terms of Reference
Resolved to receive and note the updated Terms of Reference of the Advisory Committee.
- b) Min. 302/24 – S106 Planning Obligations: ***Resolved to note the documents shared by Richard Clarke regarding Section 106 / Planning Obligations.***
- c) Min. 303/24 – Marketing Strategy: It was noted that the draft Strategy has been presented to the Town Council.
Members discussed the feedback received by RG from two Working Group members regarding the use of the name 'Colwyn' in the Strategy, noting that opinions were divided, with contrasting views expressed from both ends of the spectrum.
Resolved that the name 'Colwyn' should remain in the Strategy, as it was chosen as the brand for the IMAGINE project (CCBC-led), following extensive consultation and discussion, and one of the legacies of that project is that the brand is still used/widely available via the Town Council's website.
Additionally, it was agreed that this rationale would serve as supporting evidence should the issue arise again in the future. The branding information on the website will also include an explanation of the history and development of the term.
- d) Min. 304/24(b) – Match-funding for Place Plan Projects: The Clerk advised members that the Town Council's Regeneration/Place Plan Earmarked Reserve

(EMR) is currently £50,000 with an additional £25,000 to be added at year end. This is available for use for match-funding towards larger projects, to be delivered by the Town Council or other partners, i.e. to help attract grant/external funding.

Resolved to note the interpretive review document shared by Natalie Hughes, and to note that Town Council approved the allocation of the budget for Place Plan projects.

392/24 Feedback from Local Area Forum

Members received a verbal overview from the most recent Local Area Forum from TE and Cllr Hannah Fleet.

- CCBC ERF update regarding the Colwyn Waterfront:
 - Rhos on Sea end lighting issues have been traced back to a fault on an older portion of the waterfront which SP Energy will need to address.
 - Work is essentially complete at the Old Colwyn end, with the exception of handrails.
 - Tenders have been sought for building kiosks and are currently being evaluated.
- Colwyn Bay Recovery and Investment Project concept design phase is coming to an end with designs due imminently, for further consultation. The concept designs will be shared with local members and the business forum before being shared with the wider public, and a presentation will be included on the agenda for the 1st May event (see below).
- Commercial Property Development Grant - 9 applications from the Bay of Colwyn area, out of a total of 27 in Conwy County Council area, have been supported for Commercial Property Grants. Thanks were expressed to the business working group members for helping to promote the scheme.
- Rhos Paddling Pool – repairs had been successful and the paddling pool had a good season. The Town Council has been asked to fund a higher % of the revenue costs of operating the pool in 2025.
- Rural Issues: The Clerk reported that she had had to leave the meeting at this juncture.
HF advised that one of rural community council(s) had felt they were out-of-the-loop.

Resolved for the Town Clerk to liaise with Betws yn Rhos Community Council to discuss what support they needed from her.

393/24 Progress report:

Members received a verbal progress report from REG, Place Plan Manager.

- a) TE presented the draft strategy for securing funding to support the Place Plan Manager role for a further three-year period. An application will be submitted to Gwynt y Mor and Rhyl Flats for the maximum amount of £85,000, with a contribution of £73,832 required from the Town Council for the three-year period (40%). The remaining £25,700 will be sought from Section 106 funds. The bid document has been developed by REG, with valuable input from Tina and Rob Dix.

Resolved to recommend to Council that the bid document and match-funding for 3 years is supported.

- b)** REG has scheduled quarterly meetings for the 6 working groups (24 meetings). Of note, the feeling from the Business, Retail and Skills working group was frustration that not enough action is taking place.
- c)** The action plan continues to be updated; REG has been working through past actions and assessing priorities moving forward.
- d)** Ongoing support to Town Clerk with the preparation of content and design for the Annual Report.
- e)** The Communication and Engagement Strategy has now been adopted by Council (Min 360/24). Recently REG has been working to secure strategic relationships with stakeholders and will be looking to engage more with residents in the spring.
- f)** The Marketing Plan will be developed with TAPE once their project manager/marketeer is appointed/recruited.
- g)** REG outlined the delivery of a number of key projects in 2025, to include (subject to funding and approval by the Committee):
 - (i)** Beach of Dreams May 2025 event/launch of climate and nature forum – 10th May
 - (ii)** Town Centre Engagement Event – 1st May
 - (iii)** Creative Agency Pilot, with TAPE
 - (iv)** Interpretation Panels Project – the Brilliant Basics funding bid was unsuccessful but Natalie Hughes reported that an EOI has been submitted for the next round of SPF funding. CCBC is continuously looking for funding opportunities and if match funding can be achieved with BCTC more project may be possible.

The Committee gave mention to the excellent support previously given by Monty Slocombe who is currently unwell in St David's Hospice.

The Meeting closed at 12.13pm

..... Chairman