Minutes of a meeting of the Colwyn in Bloom Committee of the Bay of Colwyn Town Council, held in the Committee Room, Town Hall, Colwyn Bay at 2pm on Wednesday 2nd July 2025

PRESENT: Chair: Ingrid Lewis (IL)
Cllrs: Cllr H Fleet (CB), Chris Hughes (CH), Ann Jones (AJ)
Community Reps: Chris Hemmings (CHe), Paul Richards (PR)
Conwy CBC: Roy McElroy (RMc)

OFFICERS: R Dudley (RD), Assistant Clerk & Secretary

68/25 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

a) The Chair welcomed all Members and Cllr Ann Jones to her first meeting.
b) Apologies for absence were received from the Clerk Tina Earley, Cllrs Chris Brockley and Tom Maclean and Peter Barton-Price.

69/25 Election of Chair:

Resolved to re-elect Ingrid Lewis as Chair and Paul Richards as Vice Chair of the Committee for 2025-26.

70/25 Minutes:

Resolved to receive the notes of the last meeting of the Committee, held on 15th April 2025.

71/25 Matters arising from Last Meeting:

(a) **Min 370/24(b) Fountain in Queen's Gardens:**
Members noted email responses from Conwy CBC regarding the condition of the fountain and costs of repair. It was noted that the repair costs for the electrics/pump could be up to £20k, but that some Open Spaces S.106 funding could be available towards the cost.

(b) **Min 484/24(a) Porth Eirias Planting**:
Members noted an email from Amco-Giffen regarding a potential social benefit which, if the proposal was successful, could possibly be used for a clearing and re-planting project for Porth Eirias, however, the development would not now be until 2026.

(c) **Min 484/24(b): Beach of Dreams:**
The Chair gave a verbal report regarding the Beach of Dreams event, which took place on Saturday 10th May. The day had started early with the setting up of the Pennants. Weather had been glorious and the processions of the pennants along the promenade had been well received. There had been 12 pennants from the Colwyn area and CH said the pennants would be included in the T4CBay Christmas event/parade. The Colwyn in Bloom stand at the event had been well attended. It

was noted the event had come within budget.

(d) **Min 484/24(c): Train Station Volunteer Scheme:**
Members noted an email response from TfW regarding using Bryn Euryn nursery for plant purchases, which was disappointing. Committee members who use the station did comment on how good the planting was looking this year. RMc said that there are plants available in the nursery for any groups that require them.
Resolved that the Secretary contacts TfW again to ask the reasons for deciding not to use Bryn Euryn Nursery.

(e) **Min 484/24(d): 3 Tier Planter on Abergele Road:**
Members noted the email regarding the disposal of the planter.

(f) **Min 484/24(e): Plastic Recycling Sculpture:**
To receive and consider a suggestion from Cllr T Maclean. CH had made some enquiries regarding a Toy library and would bring any information to the next meeting.
Resolved to defer this item, as Cllr Maclean had tendered apologies.

(g) **Min 490/24 Beach Road, Old Colwyn:**
Members noted the responses from Cllr G Jones and the resident regarding Beach Road in Old Colwyn.

(h) **Min 491/24 Colwyn Bay Heritage Society:**
Members noted an email response from the Society regarding creating a flower bed in Queen's Gardens (owned by Conwy CBC).
Resolved the Committee would send a letter of support, if requested by the Conwy Borough Historical Association Branch.

72/25 Finance Report:

a) RD gave a verbal report on the financial statement for 2025/26 and reported that current/projected expenditure is within budget. There may be extra watering costs (due to dry spells) and there are also some savings as the Portfolio is being published 'in-house' this year. The recharge for the hanging baskets (see item (b) below) has been factored into the budget.

b) Members noted that the town planting was installed in May and were asked to ratify/approve payment of invoices for the planting in the town centre and the cost of the BOGOF business hanging baskets from Conwy CBC (noting that the cost of these has not been recharged for several years).
Resolved to ratify/approve payment of invoices for the planting in the town centre and the cost of the BOGOF business hanging baskets from Conwy CBC (noting that the cost of these has not been recharged for several years).

c) ***Resolved to ratify payment of the invoice for the watering in the Town Centre.***

73/25 Colwyn in Bloom Competition:

a) Members noted emails from Dave Birtwistle and the watering contractor regarding the holes/leaks in two of the repaired up-the-poles planters and noted that confirmation has been received that care will be taken not to damage the planters further on removal this year.

b) Colwyn in Bloom Judging
Resolved to nominate RMc, HF, CHe and AJ as judges for the main gardening competition and CHe and AJ as judges for the school's gardening competition.

c) **Schools:** Members noted that the judging for the art competition had taken place that morning and that the presentations will take place on Tuesday 8th July in the Town Hall.

<u>74/25</u> **<u>Wales in Bloom</u>*:***

a) It was noted that the Chair of Wales in Bloom, PBP, had given apologies for the meeting.

b) Members noted the date for judging of the Colwyn Bay entry has been confirmed as Friday 18th July 2025 and that the route is currently being finalised. PR kindly offered to put up the banners and take the pop-ups to Bryn Euryn.

c) ***Resolved to approve proposed changes to the route to finish the tour at Bryn Euryn this year and to delegate authority to the Clerk to order sufficient catering for the expected guest numbers.***

d) Members noted the 2025 portfolio is currently being collated and the Secretary requested all members submit any information/pictures regarding your organisation's activities throughout 2024/25 as soon as possible.

75/25 **<u>Climate and Nature Emergency</u>:**

a) Members noted the minutes from the meeting held on 7th May 2025.

b) Members received and noted a copy of the Climate Action Plan.

c) Members received and noted information from One Voice Wales about the Biodiversity & Resilience of Ecosystems Duty. The new action plan and report for 2023-25 would be reviewed by the Climate and Nature Sub-Committee and referred to the Committee for endorsement later this year.

76/25 **<u>Gardd Pawb</u>:**

a) Members received and considered a proposal for a pond project for Gardd Pawb.
Resolved to delegate authority to the Clerk to further pursue this project.

b) RD and CHe gave a verbal update on the watering situation (water-filling and harvesting).
Cllr HF left at this junction as she had an online Council meeting to attend

c) Members noted that a nomination has been submitted for the One Show's Community Gardening Awards and were asked to consider nominating Gardd Pawb for a Social Farms & Gardens Community Management Awards 2026.
Resolved to nominate Gardd Pawb for a Social Farms & Gardens Community Management Awards 2026.

77/25 **<u>FareShare Cymru:</u>** Members noted information about helping to map community food projects across Wales and were asked to consider if there are any local activities/areas that should be included. Members were asked to send any suggestions to the secretary.
Resolved to include Incredible Edible Colwyn sites to the list.

<u>78/25</u> **<u>Keep Wales Tidy</u>**

Members noted Local Places for Nature Funding packages are now available and that the Secretary will email to all local primary schools.

<u>79/25 RHS:</u>
Members noted the monthly ‘Wild about Gardens’ Newsletter.

80/25 <u>Social Media</u>:
Members were asked to submit any suggestions for any future topics.

81/25 <u>News</u>:
a) A reminder was given to Committee Members to submit any news items or to report on any activities which they have been involved in since the last meeting. Anything reported can also be included in the face-book page. A reminder was also given to let the Secretary know of any events, so the portfolio calendar of events can be updated.
b) AJ reported that she had been asked take part in a Welsh podcast about Gardd Pawb.

82/25 <u>Date of next meeting</u>:
It was noted that a ‘save the date’ will be sent once the meeting date has been agreed.

The meeting closed at 3.20p.m. ……………………………. Chairman