

MINUTES OF A HYBRID MEETING OF THE BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL, HELD AT 6.30^{PM} ON MONDAY 9th MARCH 2026, IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL AND ONLINE, VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: The Deputy Mayor, Cllr G Wynne (Chair)
Cllrs: C Brockley, C Bell, J Clayton, T Davies, H Fleet, J Higgins, C Hughes, P Hughes, A Jones, A Khan, T Lee, S McAllister, R Owen, S Price, D Wilkins, and L Wilkins

OFFICERS: T Earley, Town Clerk and RFO
R Gill, Deputy Clerk & Place Plan Manager
P Everley, Assistant Clerk

COUNTY CLLRS: Cllr G Jones (attending in his capacity as Chief Executive of St David's Hospice).

ABSENT: Cllrs: P Ashe, D Carr, N Coverley, K Roberts

418/25 Welcome and Apologies for Absence:

The Deputy Mayor and acting Chair, G Wynne, welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from the Mayor, Cllr J Nuttall, and from Town Cllrs: D Jones and Tom Maclean.

A bouquet and small gift was presented to the retiring Clerk, Tina Earley, on behalf of the Mayor, as this was her last full Council meeting prior to her retirement.

419/25 Announcements:

(a) The Deputy Clerk gave a verbal update regarding the Conwy Arts Council plans for the Terry Jones Statue unveiling event, which will take place on Sunday 26 April, with activities planned on the beach and prom' between 1pm and 4pm and the unveiling taking place at 3pm. It was noted that local businesses are invited to participate with window displays and posters about the event.

420/25 Declarations of Interest:

Members were reminded that they must declare the existence and nature of any personal and/or prejudicial interests.

- Cllr D Wilkins advised he has been selected to lead the list in the upcoming Senedd elections as the Liberal Democrat candidate. As there were no items on the agenda in which Cllr DW could be deemed as having a prejudicial interest, he remained in the meeting for its entirety.
- Cllr C Hughes declared that, as a member of the County Planning Committee, he would leave the meeting during discussion relating to the Town Council's response to the RLDP, to avoid any perceived pre-determination, when considering the matter at County level.

421/25 Visitor(s) to the Council:

(a) Gareth Jones, Chief Executive of St Davids Hospice, gave an overview of the local hospice in Llandudno, from which most services are delivered, and of their other services in the region, which align with their mission of providing a specialist palliative care service. The hospice has 12 beds and 156 staff, including specialists, plus 10 retail shops staffed by 400

volunteers. Admissions are usually made within 48 hours of a referral and there have been 176 in the past 12 months, alongside 325 day patients. The hospice's biggest challenge is its finances, with deficits of £1.2m in 2023 and £670k in 2024, covered by reserves. Annual turnover is around £6m, with the bulk of that being staff costs. The Health Authority provides funding of £870k, an increase of 1.77% on the previous year. This leaves a big gap to plug, with fundraising, retail profits and grants helping.

A brief question and answer session followed the presentation, with comments about the value of the hospice to the local community, the poor funding and need for a re-think of how hospices are funded.

- (b) The Clerk submitted a proposal by Cllr J Higgins to invite Yuliia Bond, a displaced Ukrainian citizen and representative of Displaced People in Action and the Welsh Refugee Council, to attend the next Council meeting. Members noted the Clerk's advice to delay the invitation until after the Senedd pre-election period, due to potential political sensitivity. An amendment to the proposal was made, to extend the invite to the June meeting; however, this failed to achieve a majority and Members voted to proceed with an invitation for the next meeting..

Resolved to invite Yuliia Bond, a displaced Ukrainian citizen and representative of Displaced People in Action and the Welsh Refugee Council, to attend the next Council meeting, subject to the speaker being advised that her presentation must be non-political and to the Chair ensuring that no politically motivated statements are allowed to be made by anyone present at the meeting.

422/25 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 January 2026,***
 - (ii) ***The Extra-ordinary Meeting of the Council, held on 2nd March 2026.***
- (b) ***Resolved to receive and note the minutes of the following committee/sub-committee meetings:***
- (i) ***The General Purpose & Planning Committee meetings, held on 3rd February & 24th February 2026 (draft),***
 - (ii) ***The Policy & Finance Committee, held on 18th February 2026 (draft),***
 - (iii) ***The Audit Sub-Committee, held on 26th February 2026 (draft),***
 - (iv) ***The Christmas Lights Sub-Committee, held on 26th February 2026 (draft).***

423/25 Matters Arising from Those Minutes

- (a) Min. 168/25(d) – Mayor's Commendation: The Deputy Clerk tabled a draft policy and procedure for the introduction of a Mayor's Commendation scheme, following the request by the Council last year. Concern was expressed about delegation of decisions to any single councillor and it was noted that decisions can only be legally delegated to an officer (the Clerk), or a committee or sub-committee of the Council.

Resolved to approve the policy and procedure for commendations from the Mayor, subject to the removal of the line 'Mayor's decision is final' from the process section, and to a review after 12 months.

- (b) Min. 366/25(a) – Place Plan Update: Members received an update from the Place Plan

Manager regarding current projects, including;

- (i) Transforming Town Centres funded mapping project – progressing to funding timelines. Artwork has been shared with stakeholders and has now been signed off for production.
- (ii) Rhos lighting project including MUGA lights upgrade and solar bollards installation has been completed.
- (iii) 'Wild About Colwyn' trail is being developed with a mix of funding. An EOI has been submitted to the Pride in Place Impact Fund for £65k; Network Rail and the Colwyn Bay Business Forum are supportive and are looking to sponsor a sculpture. The total project cost is estimated at £120k, with 19 fibre glass animals created with input from community groups working with the production artists. An interactive trail 'app' will also be developed. Planning approval will need to be sought for the free-standing structures.
- (iv) Supporting TAPE with a funding bid submitted to Welsh Govt. for a creative bridge project with Coleg Llandrillo ongoing in the hopes of developing the 'Creative Agency'.
- (v) Planning Aid Wales (PAW) visiting on Monday 16 March for a Place Plan 'learning journey' with a contingency from Northern Ireland.
- (vi) Members noted that the new Colwyn Bay Regeneration Task Force held its inaugural meeting on 21 January. A key issue raised by landlord stakeholders was the rateable value of buildings on Station Road, and Darren Millar MS is arranging a meeting with the Valuation Office to discuss these concerns. The next Task Force meeting scheduled for 1 May.
- (vii) Members received and considered a project proposal for 'It's Our Place: A Greener Colwyn'.

Resolved to approve a request for £3,500 of Section106 funds be released to fund this initiative.

- (viii) Members received and considered a further proposal to request £27,000 from Section106 funds to support the 'Wild About Colwyn' project.

Resolved to approve the request for £27,000 of Section 106 funding for the Wild About Colwyn project and agreed that both requests be submitted to Conwy CBC.

- (ix) The Deputy Clerk submitted the three draft responses to the Conwy RLDP deposit stage consultation, following the amendments and additions agreed at the special meeting held on 2nd March.

- Cllr C Hughes left the meeting for the discussion regarding the response to the RLDP consultation.

Resolved to approve the updated draft responses to the RLDP and for the Clerk to submit the response forms, as detailed in the Schedules to the Minutes of the 2/3/2026 meeting and relating to:

(1) PL/19 – Peulwys Farm development – Objection

(2) PL/25 – Dinerth Road – Support with Safeguards

(3) General – Statement; the Town Council supports the strategic intent of the RLDP in principle but believes certain areas of the Plan could be strengthened to ensure they reflect locally evidenced priorities and deliver sustainable outcomes.

Cllr C Hughes was invited back into the meeting room at this point.

- (c) Min. 355/25(e) & 386/25(b) – Public Conveniences:

- (i) Members noted CCBC/ERF will only approve one standard sign, without any variations other than council name/logo. The message chosen by majority of sponsoring councils was unfortunately, the longest.

- (ii) ***Resolved to defer discussion regarding the Rhos (Combermere) pay facilities until further explanation from CCBC/ERF is received.***
- (d) Min. 366/25(g) & 385/25(g) – St David’s Day: The Clerk tabled details of the invoices for the Traffic Management support (£1,074) and first aid provision (£250) for the recent event, plus a small donation to the band/musicians that lead the parade. Members noted that the costs associated with holding the event have exceeded the original budget, due to increased charges from the support services required to ensure the event was delivered safely.
Resolved to support an increase the budget for this event to £1,500, to ensure the parade will be able to be held again in 2027.
- (e) Min. 366/25(i) – Waterfront Play Areas: An e-mail update from the Playground Inspector on repairs to the equipment, together with a general update on other play areas, was noted.
- (f) Min. 366/25(q) – Gardd Pawb: The Clerk gave a brief verbal report following the first birthday event for Gardd Pawb, held on Sunday 1st March. Members were asked to encourage any known groups to submit an entry to the RHS It’s your Neighbourhood scheme, as this will support our Colwyn in Bloom entry into the Wales in Bloom competition. Entry forms are available on request from the Town Hall, or can be completed online.
- (g) Min. 377/25 – Old Colwyn Digital Screen: It was noted that the replacement screen is expected be installed imminently and the Clerk will report via email once this has been completed.
- (h) Min. 393/25(b) – Rydal View Development: The Clerk reported that the consultation had ended on 26 February with no extension possible to enable wider consultation. Following a recommendation made by a County Councillor, the family had been consulted and approved the name of the street to be ‘Ffordd Wilf Wooller’ (a famous ex-Rydal pupil).
- (i) Min. 385/25(f) – Payments for Approval:
(i) ***Resolved to ratify payment of the invoice for Thomas Jones Ltd (£15,546.68)***
- (j) Min. 386.25(a) – Dealing with Persistent and Vexatious Customers:
Resolved to approve the updated policy, following amendments made by CCBC to reflect changes to terminology and legislation.
- (k) Min. 386/25(c) – Code of Conduct:
Resolved to accept and adopt the amendments made to the Model Code of Conduct, as detailed in schedule ‘A’ attached.
- (l) Min. 387/25 – Ward Allowances: Members noted that the last opportunity for submitting ward allowance proposals for 2025/26 will be the next Policy & Finance meeting and that any allowances remaining, of over £300, will be automatically transferred to the small grants budget, in line with Council policy.
- (m) Min. 388/25 – Grants:
(i) ***Small Grants – Resolved to ratify approval of the small grants, as detailed in Schedule B to those minutes.***
(ii) ***Large Grants – Resolved to ratify approval of the late application from BAS, as detailed in Schedule C to those minutes.***
(iii) Events Grants – Prom Xtra: A recorded vote was requested for the following decisions by Cllr H Fleet.
Several members queried the recommendation of the Committee to decline the application for a further £3,000 towards the free activities at the Prom Xtra event (which can no longer be funded from the core budget allocation), claiming these are an important part of the event for many local families. It was noted that the £3,000 being

requested equates to just 25 pence per Band D household and there are several budgets available that could cover this expense.

The Clerk tabled a letter of support for the grant application for the additional £3000, from the Head at Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos.

Resolved to overturn the recommendation from the Policy & Finance Committee, and to approve the application of £3,000.00 for Prom Xtra, to cover the costs of free family activities and the Eco Zone/ Wellbeing area.

Further resolved that the decision be referred back to the Policy & Finance Committee to determine which budget allocation(s) the funds should be drawn from (i.e. Wellbeing / Youth / Events).

Votes for: (13) Cllrs A Jones, A Khan, C Brockley, S Price, D Wilkins, P Hughes, L Wilkins, J Clayton, T Davies, J Higgins, H Fleet, C Hughes, G Wynne.

Votes against: (2) T Lee, S McAllister.

Abstentions: (2) Cllrs C Bell, R Owen

Several members queried the rationale behind the recommendation that the event budget line be removed and it be considered for funding alongside any other event grant applications received by the December deadline. It was noted that the Town Council has supported a Colwyn Bay 'Fun Day' since its inception in 1995 and that the new larger event, which is now held between the Pier and Porth Eirias, has been managed and partially funded by the CCBC Major Events team since 2013, with the budget request of the Town Council of £10,000 not having increased until the Beach of Dreams and new Eco Zone was introduced last year. It was noted that there was a risk of the event not taking place, if the core budget and support from the Town Council was removed

- Cllr A Khan retired from the meeting prior to the vote.

Resolved to overturn the recommendation from the Policy & Finance Committee, and to approve that Prom Xtra remain as a separate budget line in its own right for 2027/28.

Further resolved that the Events Officer from CCBC be asked to attend the September or October Council meeting to report back on this year's event and present any request for support for 2027, to inform budget setting for next year regarding Prom Xtra.

Votes for: (12) Cllrs A Jones, C Brockley, S Price, D Wilkins, P Hughes, L Wilkins, J Clayton, T Davies, J Higgins, H Fleet, C Hughes, T Lee.

Votes against: (3) Cllrs G Wynne, S McAllister, R Owen.

Abstentions: (1) Cllr C Bell

(n) Min. 403/25 to 406/25 – Audit Sub-Committee recommendations: Members considered the recommendations of the Sub-Committee and

Resolved to approve;

(i) ***Internal Controls, without amendment***

(ii) ***The annual review of Internal Audit, as detailed in Schedule A to those minutes.***

(iii) ***Reappointing JDH Business Services as Internal Auditor to the Council for the 2025/26 financial year and approve the Annual Audit Plan, as detailed in Schedule B to those minutes.***

- (iv) ***Financial Regulations – formally ratified the amendments made to the Financial Regulations, as requested by Council on 9th June 2025, in accordance with the recommendations of the Internal Auditor.***
- (v) ***The Annual Investment Strategy for 2026/27, as detailed in Schedule C to those minutes.***
- (vi) ***The updated Risk Assessment and Management Report for 2025/26, as detailed in Schedule D to those minutes.***
- (vii) Inventory/insurance updated– refer to Min.426/25(a) below.
- (o) ***Resolved to note the resolutions of the Christmas Lights Sub-Committee in preparation for 2026.***
- (p) ***Resolved to note the resolutions of the Committees, as detailed in the Minutes***

424/25 Welsh /UK Government:

- (a) Members received the Democracy & Boundary Commission Cymru's the Annual Remuneration Report and considered Determination 6/2026 – payments to community and town councillors.
- Resolved to approve the discretionary allowances:***
 - (i) ***Extra Costs Payment - mandatory £156 for all members***
 - (ii) ***Mayor's Allowance - £750***
 - (iii) ***Deputy Mayor - £500***
 - (iv) ***Senior Allowances - Chair of GP&P and P&F- £500 each***
 - (v) ***Travel and Subsistence - travel costs reimbursed at HMRC approved rate (currently 45p per mile)***
 - (vi) ***Financial Loss Allowance (optional)- not adopted***
 - (vii) ***Attendance Allowance (optional)- not adopted***
 - (viii) ***Cost of personal care or assistance – mandatory***
 - (ix) ***Office consumables - mandatory - £52 payment adopted for all Members***

425/25 Conwy CBC: Members received and noted the following correspondence:

- (a) Draft notes from the CCBC Place Plan Network meeting held in January.
- (b) A message of thanks to the Town Council for ongoing revenue support for Theatr Colwyn, and an introduction to the new manager.
- (c) Notice of the outcome of the community boundary review in Conwy.

426/25 Town Hall/Community Assets:

- (a) Members received the updated inventory of contents/asset register, sorted by insurance category.
- Resolved to approve the recommendations set out by the Clerk to amend the insurance cover to reflect the values in the updated inventory and asset register.***
- (b) Members noted an expression of interest has been submitted in respect of capital funding from the Clean Energy Fund towards energy saving and energy generation measures across the Rhiw Road site, on advice from Greener Edge (based on the outcome of the feasibility study undertaken). Works can take up to 36m to complete and grants can include project management fees. Match funding of 25% would need to be secured, but this can be explored if/when we are invited to submit a full application. The Clerk and Deputy Clerk will be attending an online information session on Tuesday 10 March, with Ynni, another

potential funding source, and will report back in due course.

427/25 Finance and Governance:

- (a) Members noted that, following approval from the Policy & Finance Committee, the Town Council bank mandates will be amended to include the incoming Clerk and Deputy Clerk.

428/25 Representatives on Outside Bodies: No reports were submitted by Members of outside bodies.

429/25 One Voice Wales / NALC / Society of Local Council Clerks/ N&MWALC: Members received and considered the following correspondence:

- (a) SLCC Clustering Councils in Wales: Together Stronger (SLCC report)
- (b) Clerks informal notes from the OVW Larger Councils Committee, held on Wednesday 11th February
- (c) Notice of the OVW Annual Awards Ceremony and nominations guide
- (d) OVW Membership renewal invitation for 2026/27 (at a cost of £6,007)
Resolved to approve membership renewal for One Voice Wales for 2026/27.
- (e) OVW Manifesto – notice of publication (shared via email)
- (f) Reminder of the joint event between Planning Aid Wales (PAW) and OVW – “Improving our local places – Welsh case studies and planning updates”, on Thursday 19 March 10:30am to 1:30pm (£53 pp), to be held via Teams.

430/25 Other Correspondence:

- (a) Members received notes from a recent meeting with Darren Millar, Sibani Roy (NWAMI) and DR Congo representatives about the future of the bookshop.
- (b) ***Resolved to decline a membership invitation for the North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils.***

The meeting closed at 9.07pm

..... Chair

Summary of Large Grant Applications for 2026/27

REF:	Applicant:	Amount Requested:	Purpose:	Grant Approved 2024/25	Grant Approved 2025/26	Grant Recommended 2026/27	Notes:
							Approved Budget = £0
A	Home Start Conwy	£ 5,000.00	Grant will be used towards continuing the service and supporting families in the Bay of Colwyn area, providing one-to-one support for families who are isolated and at risk of social exclusion.	£ 5,000.00	£ 5,000.00	£5,000.00	
B	Mochdre FC	£ 3,500.00	Install a concrete spectator pad - to be used later for a converted container with seating.	declined	£ 5,000.00	£3,500.00	
C	Upper Colwyn Bay Community Ceni	£ 5,000.00	Building roof repairs, quotes received in March 2025 suggest cost will be £37,000 (plus 5% for inflation once new quotes are received). Will also be applying to Gwynt y Mor for funding.	n/a	n/a	£5,000.00	
D	Colwyn Bay Heritage Association	£ 30,000.00	Develop and produce 3x short historical films focusing on notable local figures: Miss Ethel Hovey, Sir John Pender, and Lady Erskine or John Porter. Each film will cost £10,000. Films will be show in local schools and community venues/screenings.	n/a	n/a	£2,500.00	REC: ask applicant to seek match-funding for first film from other funders
E	Conwy Borough Heritage Associatic	£ 3,500.00	Funding for the purchase of an ultra-short throw projector, laptop, tablet stand with tablet, and card reader to support our ongoing educational and community initiatives.	n/a	n/a	DEFER	DEFER - REC: explore if TC laser projector could be loaned (would it be insured?) and/or if they could use equipment from CCBC, TAPE or College
F	Citizen's Advice Bureau	£ 24,964.94	Retail 4 day per week Generalist Advisor, delievering drop in sessions Tuesday to Friday 9.30am to 12.30pm at Coed Pella, with the other hours being used for follow up actions for clients and home visits.	£ 19,990.00	£ 24,596.00	£12,500.00	
G	CBCEF / Friends of Eirias Park	£ 5,000.00	Various projects (please refer to form) including: multiple person swing, installation of benches, address winter flooding area, planting new trees and bulbs, and maintenance of existing trees.	£ 5,000.00	n/a	£5,000.00	
late application - consider on 18.2.26							
H	Benefit Advice Shop	£ 6,638.00	To assist the residents of the area with all aspects of their Welfare Benefits and Social Security Law problems. We will provide an adviser to attend an outreach in Colwyn Bay which is well established and an invaluable part of the network supporting local residents. Any additional work from the outreach will be undertaken in our main office in Rhyl. In 2024/25 we saw 200 people in the outreach and assisted a further 178 by telephone or email. In addition, we assisted 58 people from the Old Colwyn and Llysfaen area and 42 people from the Rhos on Sea area.	£ 6,638.00	£ 6,638.00		