



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 3rd June 2026

PRESENT: Chair: Ingrid Lewis (IL)
Cllrs: Chris Brockley (CB), Chris Hughes (CH) and Ann Jones (AJ)
Community Reps: Chris Hemmings (CHe), and Paul Richards (PR)
Peter Barton-Price (PBP)

OFFICERS: Rachael Gill (RG), Town Clerk & Place Plan Officer
R Dudley (RD), Assistant Clerk & Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE: Place Plan Promoting a Greener Colwyn Working Group Members:
Cllr Jason Higgins (JH) and David Clearly (DC)

23/26 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

- a) The Chair, Ingrid Lewis, welcomed members & Place Plan Promoting a Greener Colwyn Working Group Members to the meeting.
- b) Apologies for absence were received from:
CIB Committee: Cllrs Hannah Fleet, Abdul Khan, Tom Maclean, David Birtwistle and Des Mahony
PGC Working Group: Matthew Day, David Dudley, David Sewell, Shane Wetton, and David & Lisa Wilkins.

24/26 Election of Chairman: Ingrid Lewis was re-elected as Chair and Paul Richards was re-elected as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for 2026-27.

25/26 Minutes:

Resolved to approve, as a correct record, the notes of the last meeting, held on 26th March 2026.

26/26 Matters arising from Minutes:

- a) **Min 466/25(c) Up the Poles:**
Members noted the work to shorten/straighten the 20 poles at Station Steps has been completed.
- b) **Min 471/25(a): Queen's Gardens:** The Clerk gave an update regarding the Fee Proposal Request for Masterplan and submitted the detailed design for biodiversity enhancement of Queens Gardens, Colwyn Bay and incorporating a statue from the 'Wild about Colwyn' project into the brief. The Committee were asked for their observations to submit to Conwy CBC:

Queens Gardens are considered the Jewel in Colwyn Bay's Crown and any change

should be in keeping with its heritage as a Victorian garden. The Committee asked if we would be committed to any plans that are submitted. CBCEF asked could they provide Cherry trees for the borders. Queen's Gardens has been designated Field in Trust status and it was queried how the changes would affect that status. The Committee requested that they meet with the consultants to stress the importance of Queen's Gardens. CH reported the dog signs (keep dogs on leads) had been installed in the gardens.

Resolved to send the committee's feedback to Conwy CBC.

- c) **Min 472/25:Sponsorship:** The Clerk gave a brief update about sponsorship after receiving advice from One Voice Wales. The Clerk said a sponsorship policy is currently being drafted which will be brought back to the Committee.
- d) **Min 475/25(d): Jack the Fisher-dog:** The Assistant Clerk gave an update on the current situation regarding Jack's repair and submitted a quotation from a company.

Resolved to approve the quotation of £220 (for repair) and £264.50 (for a perimeter with chippings) subject to permission from the land owner (Conwy CBC).

27/26 Finance Report:

- a) RD submitted the income/expenditure report for the year to date which had been prepared by the Deputy Clerk. There is money still available in the budget for community planting projects. A budget of £18,000 has been approved by Council for 2026/27, plus any underspend from this current year. It was agreed that this should be sufficient to cover the Committee's core costs for 2026/27.
- b) Members noted the town planting has been installed this week 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. Members had concerns about the quality of the planters/barrier planters which had already been installed. Meetings had taken place with the nursery after the negative comments received from the Wales in Bloom judge last year. RG/IL will go to the Nursery to put formal instructions in place and the Committee suggested we test the market for next year.

Resolved to approve payment of invoices for the planting in the town centre and the cost of the BOGOF business hanging baskets from Conwy CBC.

The next agenda item was brought forward on the agenda (with the agreement of the Chair) as the Chair of Wales in Bloom had to leave to attend another appointment.

28/26 Wales in Bloom:

- a) The Chair of Wales in Bloom, PBP reported that Wales were the 4th highest entrants in the It's Your Neighbourhood assessments. IYN champions local community and celebrate the unsung heroes. PBP asked us to encourage schools to enter the WIB competitions which seem to have lost momentum after covid. The awards ceremony will be in Talgarth this year.
- b) Members noted the date for judging of the Colwyn Bay entry has been confirmed as Friday 24th July 2026.

- c) The positives/negatives of changing the class this year and enter in the larger coastal town rather than large town were discussed by the Committee and Members noted a route is currently being finalised for the coastal entry, subject to the Committee's approval. The condition of the planting and weeds along the promenade was discussed. It would be beneficial to have biodiversity officer to speak to the judge on the tour.

Resolved to enter in the Larger Coastal Town for 2026.

- d) ***Resolved to approve that the tour after finishing on the promenade then arrives at Bryn Euryn for after tour refreshments and authority was delegated to the Clerk to order sufficient catering for the expected guest numbers.***
- e) Members noted the 2026 portfolio will be collated soon after a meeting between RD/IL to discuss the contents had taken place and the committee were asked to urgently submit any information/pictures regarding your organisation's activities throughout 2025/26 as soon as possible.
- f) The Assistant Clerk gave an update regarding volunteer litter pickers who have been asked to help to litter pick the route pre-judging and to think about the Committee organising a 'tidy up event' before 24th July 2026 involving community groups. The Committee agreed a tidy up event was a good idea and also requested that RD contact Conwy CBC to inform them about the judging date and route to see if they can help in any way.

29/26 Colwyn in Bloom Competition:

- a) Resolved to appoint CHE, HF and AJ as judges for the main gardening competition and the school's gardening competition. JH also offered to accompany the judges to learn what is involved.
- b) **Schools:** Members noted the judging for the art competition took place earlier today and the presentation will take place the week after next in the Town Hall.
- c) ***Resolved to send a photograph/copy of the winning entries c/o Sir David Attenborough, with the consent of the winning pupils/schools.***
- d) To review the Hanging Basket (BOGOF) scheme and entry criteria to make it more consistent and a fairer scheme for all entrants and also to assess how beneficial it is to the Bay of Colwyn area.

Resolved to defer this item to the next meeting.

30/26 Climate and Nature Emergency:

- a) Members noted the copy of the Climate Action Plan.
- b) Members noted the S6 Biodiversity & Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Action Plan for 2026-28. This will be presented at Full Council on 8th June 2026.

31/26 Incredible Edibles and Gardd Pawb:

- a) RD reported that the funding application for the pond project for Gardd Pawb had been successful and the design for the pond was displayed in the screen. RD was asked to check how shallow the pond would be from a safety aspect.
- b) CHE gave an update on the water bowser and watering situation at Station Steps and said that the bowser was broken. CH suggested taking it to the repair café to see if they could fix it as to replace it was beyond our budget.

- c) Members noted that Gardd Pawb judging for IYN will take place on Tuesday 14th July 2026. CHe and volunteers from the Kind Bay Initiative would be invited to meet the judge.

32/26 Presentations: To receive any reports from attendees:

- a) **Greener Colwyn Place Plan Working Group:** RG gave an update from the Place Plan Manager current actions/priorities – “Wild about Colwyn” Section 106 application. RG explained that the £5,576.30 in EMR’s would be used to produce a sculpture under the Wild About Colwyn Project.
- b) Members noted that the Secretary will be attending the 5 Pillars of Nature Recovery workshops throughout June (subject to workload) and will report back at the next CIB Meeting.

33/26 Yellow Legged Asian Hornet:

Members noted the information submitted and to note this information has been displayed on our face-book page.

34/26 Funding:

Members noted details about funding from Social Farms and Gardens.

35/26 Social Media:

Members were asked to submit any suggestions for any future topics.

36/26 News/AOB:

- 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.

37/26 Date of next meeting:

- a) It was noted that a ‘save the date’ will be sent, once the next committee meeting date has been agreed.

The meeting closed at 3.50 p.m.

..... Chair