

**MINUTES OF AN EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF THE BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL, HELD
ONLINE (VIA ZOOM) AT 6.00^{PM} ON MONDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2025**

PRESENT: The Mayor, Cllr J Nuttall (Chair)
Cllrs: P Ashe, C Bell, C Brockley, D Carr, J Clayton, T Davies, H Fleet, C Hughes,
A Jones, A Khan, T Lee, T Maclean, R Owen, D Wilkins, L Wilkins

OFFICERS: C Earley, Town Clerk and RFO
R Gill, Place Plan Officer and Deputy Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: Sarah Ecob and Amanda XXXX, Conwy County Borough Council

ABSENT: Cllrs: P Hughes, K Roberts and S Price

218/25 Welcome and Apologies for Absence:

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs N Coverley, D Jones, J Higgins, S McAllister and G Wynne.

219/25 Declarations of Interest:

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

220/25 Porth Eirias: The Chair welcome Sarah Ecob, CCBC, to give an update on proposals for Brilliant Basics grant-funded improvements at Porth Eirias, to include a request for ongoing revenue funding support from the Town Council for The Dingle Public Conveniences.
It was noted that SE had requested that her update be treated as a confidential item, as it relates to a grant application that has not yet been submitted. The Council was therefore requested to resolve to exclude any members of the public or press.

Resolved, in accordance with Standing Orders, to agree to the request to exclude members of the public and press to facilitate a confidential discussion regarding the proposed grant application (none were present).

Sarah Ecob gave a verbal report explaining the revised proposals and sought support from the Town Council. Further details of the discussions are contained in a separate, confidential report.

Resolved to support, in principle, the re-submission of an application to the Welsh Government's Brilliant Basics fund for a full refurbishment of The Dingle Public Conveniences (subject to approval of final designs).

Further resolved to support, in principle, continued revenue funding support (sponsorship) from the Town Council, subject to the refurbishment offering both cost saving and income generation capability, to ensure it is more affordable for the long term.

SCHEDULE A – Confidential Report

Sarah Ecob gave a brief verbal update, outlining feedback received following the approval of an expression of interest for Brilliant Basics (BB) funding from the Welsh Government to provide publicly accessible (external) toilets/changing facilities at the Porth Eirias site. This feedback had indicated support for retaining and improving the nearby Dingle facility, in addition to providing a single externally accessed toilet at the Porth Eirias site. A revised BB funding bid would give the opportunity to make significant improvements to the Dingle facilities, such as including energy/cost saving measures and providing an additional family changing space. However, for the bid to be acceptable, revenue funding from the Town Council would need to be secured beyond the 2025/26 financial year. It was estimated that around £1,200 p.a. could be saved by the proposed energy saving measures and there would also be an opportunity to consider pay-to-use charging facilities to help off-set the revenue costs.

Members were then invited to comment or ask any questions about the proposals and the following is a brief summary of the points raised and any responses given:

- (i) The Dingle facility is in a very poor condition and would benefit from a full refurbishment
- (ii) Could there be space for a disabled changing space too? – a dedicated changing space could cost an additional £4,000 p.a. to operate, which may make it unaffordable
- (iii) Concern about the facility being across a busy road from the beach/promenade
- (iv) Whether time-locks and environmentally friendly showers could be considered
- (v) What are the estimated project costs? – max £185k grant fund provisionally available, with match fund from CCBC of £30k. However, the whole project would need to be designed and re-costed if the changed approach is supported by the Town Council.
- (vi) Is there another location on the Prom/beach side where newbuild facilities could be provided? – they would struggle to find a suitable location on the Prom
- (vii) The estimated current running costs for the Dingle are £19k p.a. – this would need to reduce significantly if the Town Council is to continue to fund beyond March 2026.
- (viii) What is the project timeline? – proposal would be to resubmit application by early 2026, then seek to appoint contractor to commence work from September 2026, after busier summer season has ended. Works must be complete by March 2027.
- (ix) Concerns that there are no public toilets to serve the Old Colwyn retail area and that Mochdre and Llysfaen should also be contributing to Colwyn Bay's facilities, if Old Colwyn residents have to.
- (x) Comments that Old Colwyn residents do use the promenade and beach and will benefit from improved provision.
- (xi) Whether issues of taps being left on can be addressed as part of the improvements
- (xii) Who is paying to run the facilities at Porth Eirias, which are no longer available to the public to use?
- (xiii) Whether a Town Councillor (JC) can be included in the project team, to put forward suggestions for improvements he has seen at other public conveniences.
- (xiv) Whether a water bottle refill station could be included and facilities could be gender neutral. – will consider this and yes.
- (xv) Whether changing facilities could remain at Porth Eirias too, for watersport users etc. – are looking at a slightly smaller changing room/shower facility, but not confirmed.
- (xvi) The need for summer data from the pay facilities already on the Prom, to give an idea

of the capacity to off-set some of the running costs – will bring back data when available.

The meeting closed at 7.25 pm

..... Chair