

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 WEDNESDAY 1ST JULY 2026

PRESENT: Cllrs: Hannah Fleet (Vice-Chair), Chris Hughes, Jason Higgins, Cty Cllr Cheryl Carlisle
Co-opted Community/Business Representatives: Brian Cossey (Chair), David Masding, David Sewell, Tony Anderton

OFFICERS: Rachael Gill, Town Clerk and Place Plan Manager
Pam Everley, Deputy Clerk & RFO

GUESTS: Steve Swindon and Katherine from TAPE

ABSENT: Cllrs Philip Ashe, C Bell, Jeff Pearson

68/26 Welcome and Apologies for Absence:

Apologies were received from Tracey Toulmin and Shane Wetton, Place Plan Officer, Conwy CBC.

69/26 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair:

It was noted that the Chair and Vice-Chair ordinarily serve a two-year term, and that 2026/27 will be the second year for the current Chair and Vice-Chair.

Resolved to confirm Brian Cossey as the Chair for 2026/27.

Further resolved to confirm Cllr Hannah Fleet as the Vice-Chair for 2026/27.

The Chair paid respects to Rob Dix, expressing the huge loss Rob will be to the Place Plan and the greater community. This group will miss his experience and commitment.

70/26 Declarations of Interest:

None.

71/26 To receive and approve the minutes of the last meeting

a) *Resolved to approve and sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the last meeting, held on 13 March 2026.*

b) Members received the meeting notes from the working groups:

(i) Business, Skills, Retail & Culture, Heritage and Tourism joint meeting held on 4 June.

(ii) *Resolved to receive the Greener Colwyn & Colwyn in Bloom minutes from 3 June via email. (Schedule A)*

72/26 Matters Arising from that meeting:

It was noted that all matters arising from previous minutes are covered under other agenda items.

73/26 Creative Agency / Creative Bridge update:

The Committee received a presentation from the Place Plan Manager and Steve Swindon of TAPE on the proposed Creative Bridge pilot. Members were advised that, following unsuccessful funding applications for the original Creative Agency project, a revised six-month pilot had been developed. The project, running from September to April, will support TAPE in establishing a satellite provision at Coleg Llandrillo, creating creative skills, volunteering and employment pathways for learners aged 16+, while providing evidence to support future

Members were reminded that the Town Council had previously approved £20,000 in match funding for the original proposal, which remains available. It is now proposed that this funding be used in support of the pilot and that the Place Plan Manager had introduced TAPE to Libby Duo, CCBC Employment Hub Manager and as part of the Local Growth Fund a further £40,000 in support of TAPE's work was also being considered.

Steve outlined TAPE's successful work with learners at Ysgol y Gogarth and explained that the new partnership with Coleg Llandrillo would provide tailored mentoring and public-facing creative projects to help participants progress into further education, employment or other appropriate pathways. He also highlighted TAPE's wider work in tackling barriers to employment through creative media projects.

Members noted that the partnership aligns closely with the objectives of the Place Plan by supporting employment and skills development, promoting the Bay of Colwyn, strengthening community engagement, and providing the Town Council with access to high-quality creative marketing resources, including design, film and social media content.

Cllr Chris Hughes declared a personal (non-prejudicial) interest regarding TAPE.

Resolved to recommend that the Town Council redirect its existing £20,000 Creative Agency allocation to support delivery of the Creative Bridge pilot.

74/26 Local Area Forum:

Members received the minutes from the most recent Local Area Forum – Central meeting, and a verbal overview of the key items from Cllr Cheryl Carlisle, Chair of the LAF.

It was noted that having the Clerk attend the LAF meetings is beneficial for both the County and Town councils.

75/26 Colwyn Bay Regeneration Task Force:

- a) The Committee received the notes from the meeting held on 1 May 2026.
- b) Members noted the recent meeting with the Leader of Conwy County Borough Council and Councillor Mike Priestley, where Colwyn Bay had been reaffirmed as a regeneration priority. Members welcomed efforts to improve coordination across regeneration projects and discussed the benefit of establishing a single County Council point of contact.
- c) Members considered a proposal to commission David Rudlin to produce a single visual document illustrating how the major regeneration projects across Colwyn Bay fit together. Members considered that such a document would provide a valuable communication tool for residents, businesses, partners and funding bodies.

Resolved to support a contribution of £7,500 from the Town Council regeneration budget, subject to securing matched funding through the Transforming Towns programme and compliance with their procurement requirements.

76/26 Place Plan Manager Progress report: The Place Plan Manager gave a verbal progress report on key projects, including;

- a) Wild About Colwyn – The Clerk reported that the plans for the project and the funding proposals had been received very positively. However, the overall funding position remains uncertain, with the outcome of the Pride in Place Impact Fund application still awaited. The scale of the project will therefore be dependent on the level of funding secured. Members were advised that Network Rail had withdrawn its previously indicated contribution of £15,800. However, Transport for Wales may be able to provide alternative

funding and has confirmed approval for one of the animal sculptures to be temporarily located in the station forecourt.

b) Yni Cymru / Cleaner Edge Project – applications have now been submitted to both funds, to make energy efficiency improvements to the Town Hall buildings, and the outcome is expected to be advised in August / September.

c) It's Your Place project update - Members received an update on current funding opportunities.

Resolved to support an additional Section 106 request of £1,200 towards a water bowser for Incredible Edible, increasing the overall request to £4,700.

d) Place Plan Newsletter – members received and noted the latest newsletter.

77/26 CCBC Strategic Engagement and Place Plan Officer:

Resolved to defer this item as Shane Wetton had sent apologies for this meeting.

78/26 Grant Opportunities for Future Projects:

a) The committee considered an outline proposal for a Town Ranger role. Members recognised the potential benefits of a dedicated resource to improve the appearance of the town centre and support regeneration activity. Discussion covered the scope of the role, employment implications, ensuring County Council responsibilities were not duplicated, and examples of similar schemes elsewhere.

Resolved that the principle of the proposal be supported and that officers develop a detailed business case, draft job description and funding options for future consideration.

The meeting closed at 12:45pm

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