



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 16th September 2026

PRESENT: Chair: Ingrid Lewis (IL)
Cllrs: Hannah Fleet (HF), Chris Hughes (CH), Ann Jones (AJ) and Abdul Khan (AK)
Community Reps: Des Mahony (DM)
Peter Barton-Price (PBP)
Business Rep: Maria Maclean (MM)

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 Matthew Day (MD) and David Sewell (DS)

ABSENT: Cllr T Maclean, David Birtwistle and Chris Hemmings

175/26 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

- a) The Chair, Ingrid Lewis welcomed Maria Maclean to her first meeting as the Business Representative, and then welcomed all members & Place Plan Promoting a Greener Colwyn Working Group Members to the meeting.
- b) Apologies for absence were received from:
CIB Committee: Cllrs Chris Brockley (CB) and Paul Richards
PGC Working Group: David Dudley
- c) IL informed the Committee that ex- committee member Malcolm Worth was very ill. Malcolm had been a very active CIB member during his time as a Town Councillor. Good wishes and a card will be sent from the Committee.

176/26 Terms of Reference:

The Terms of Reference for the Committee were submitted and members were asked to reconsider membership to ensure we meet the quorum for future meetings.

Resolved to remove ERF(as they are no longer allowed to participate) and to reduce the resident's associations and environment federations from 3 to 2 representatives as per Schedule A attached.

177/26 Minutes:

Resolved to approve, as a correct record, the notes of the last meeting, held on 3rd June 2026.

178/26 Matters arising from Minutes:

- a) **Min 26/26(b) Queen's Gardens:** Members noted a request from Conwy CBC to nominate a representative from CIB to sit on the working group and to note that there is a meeting next week.
Resolved that the Business representative Maria Maclean be nominated to represent the Colwyn in Bloom Committee and to report back to the Committee after attending the meetings.
- b) **Min 26/26(d): Jack the Fisherdog:** Photographs of the newly refurbished sculpture were received and noted by members.
- c) **Min 27/26(b) – Town Planting –** To discuss any issues with the planting this year and to make a decision about asking for quotations from other providers for 2027.
Resolved to convene a meeting with the nursery and to invite Cllr H Fleet as Conwy CBC portfolio holder.

179/26 Finance Report:

The updated Finance report will be submitted to the January meeting.

180/26 Wales in Bloom:

- a) The Chair of Wales in Bloom gave a brief report and congratulated the Committee on the judging day tour which he said had been original and the judge had enjoyed it immensely. Our large coastal entry had been submitted to be considered as a Britain in Bloom entry for 2027. We will find out if we have been successful in October. PBP emphasised the importance of the 'It's your neighbourhood' awards.
- b) The Chair (IL) also congratulated the Committee on all their hard work on the run up to judging day and said the results will be announced on 16th October at the Talgarth Awards Ceremony. A press release will then be issued.
- c) The positives/negatives of changing the class next year were discussed. We usually enter the Large Town class and have been very successful but this year we entered the Large Coastal Class.
Resolved to enter the Large Coastal Town in the Wales in Bloom competition for 2027. The groups that used to meet the judge during the Large town tour will appear in the portfolio and will be encouraged to enter/submit 'It's your neighbourhood' entries.

181/26 Colwyn in Bloom Competition:

- a) Members noted that the Presentation Evening is being held on Thursday 8th October (invites have been sent to the committee) and the results will be announced at that presentation and a press release issued after.
- b) Nominations were received from members for the 2026 winner of the Ruth Cavill Rose Bowl. This is awarded to individuals or groups for their contribution to the In-Bloom campaign. The winner will be announced at the October Presentation evening.
- c) ***Resolved to award certificates of appreciation to volunteer litter groups at the October presentation after their amazing contribution to judging day and also for all the year round community work that they do.***

- d) Members were asked 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. DM thought the form needed simplifying and offered to help with that.

Resolved to keep the scheme as it is subject to a small amendment in the form 'All baskets must be on public display at the front of the property or main public entrance'.

- e) HF & AJ (judges from this year) were asked if any changes were needed to the running of the main gardening competition. AJ asked if their judging criteria could be sent to all entrants or maybe a FAQ 'how to prepare for judging'.

182/26 Incredible Edibles and Gardd Pawb:

- a) **Gardd Pawb:** RD updated the Committee about the pond project. The pond liner had not yet been received.
- b) **It's Our Place project update:**
Members received a verbal update from the Clerk regarding the Station Steps 'It's Our Place' project. The first part of the project would involve emptying the containers of spent soil and re-oiling the planters. New soil and plants would then be added, and the benches would also be refurbished. A water bowser had been purchased. The Clerk was also exploring options for a mural linked to Wild About Colwyn, as the tiger sculpture would be located at Station Steps. The Clerk asked for volunteers, as the first day to transform the space was expected to take place middle to late October. The Chair requested that the Bloom Awards Wall be updated to reflect recent awards.

183/26 Presentations: To receive any reports from attendees:

- a) **Wild about Colwyn Project update:**
The Clerk updated members that the Wild About Colwyn project which had taken a significant step forward, with Bay of Colwyn Town Council securing £65,000 from the Pride in Place Impact Fund towards the £130,000 project. Making Trails had now been commissioned to work with the Town Council, the National Zoo of Wales, partners and the local community to develop a wildlife sculpture trail across Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay and Rhos on Sea. Members noted that the project would support wildlife and conservation messaging, strengthen links between the waterfront and town centre, encourage wider exploration of the Bay of Colwyn and create opportunities for schools, community groups and local creatives to be involved.
Resolved to have the Sea Eagle being the main sculpture for Colwyn in Bloom allocating reserved funds held for a sculpture in Rhos on sea.
- b) Members noted that the Secretary attended 3 sessions of the 5 Pillars of Nature Recovery workshops throughout June. Notes for the last 2 sessions have been requested but not yet received.

184/26 Planters:

Members noted correspondence and photographs about an old planter which had disintegrated on Groes Road and was looking unsightly. AK/CH offered their ward allowances if we could find someone to get rid of it.

Resolved to get quotes off Stewart Williamson, Glyn Jones and to ask if the TA's on Groes Road could help remove it.

185/26 Social Media:

Members were asked to submit any suggestions for any future topics. DM suggested a campaign promoting the positive aspects of the Bloom campaign both for civic pride and wellbeing and to recruit volunteers.

186/26 News:

- 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 throughout the year.
- b) PBP resigned from the Committee as he now has a conflict of interest with the RHS but will still give any advice/guidance he can.
- c) IL resigned from the Committee. She had intended to resign last year but stayed as Chair to support the new Clerk. AK asked them both would they stay on if we were accepted as a Britain in Bloom entry. They both agreed.

187/26 Calendar of dates of meetings in 2027:

Members noted dates of future meetings:

- a) Wednesday 20th January 2027 at 2pm
- b) Wednesday 24th March 2027 at 2pm
- c) Wednesday 9th June 2027 at 2pm
- d) Wednesday 22nd September at 2pm

The meeting closed at 15.50 p.m.

..... Chair