

**CYNGOR TREF CONWY TOWN COUNCIL
GUILDHALL, CONWY.**

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY, 13TH APRIL 2015**

PRESENT : Councillors – R Parker (Town Mayor), V Macdonald, S Allardice, B Chapman, B James, S Cotton, P Heart, T James, G Edwards, L Hughes, J Fallon, C Rigal, H Roberts.

APOLOGIES: Councillors – E Leighton-Jones

**IN ATTENDANCE: Helen Armitage (Town Clerk)
Ms L Stenhouse
Councillor Mrs J Vaughan, Conwy County Borough Council
Councillor M Priestley, Conwy County Borough Council**

Opening Prayers – The Reverend Peter Walker led the prayers

Declaration of Interest – Code of Local Government Conduct :

Agenda Item 8a (3) – Planning Applications – Councillor Roberts knows the applicant

Agenda Item 20 – Deganwy Hub – Councillor Chapman’s wife is Secretary of the Hub Committee

- “ “ - Councillor Mrs James is on the Hub Committee
- “ “ - Councillor Cotton is Treasurer of the Hub Committee
- “ “ - Councillor Fallon is Chair of the Hub Committee

Agenda Item 23 – Cor Meibion Maelgwyn Male Voice Choir –

- Councillor Mrs James’ husband is a member of the choir
- Councillor Chapman is a member of the choir

Minute Number

139 Conwy Castle Poppy Exhibition Proposal

Ms Laura Stenhouse presented her idea for a poppy project.

The project is similar to the one at the Tower of London in 2014. The poppies are being made by local children and families out of plastic bottles. It is then hoped that they will be put on display in Conwy Castle around Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day. Money raised for the exhibition will be donated to the Royal Welch Fusiliers and the Royal British Legion. Children who have made poppies will be able to visit the Castle for free.

Ms Stenhouse said that she was already in talks with Cadw, who are keen for the exhibition to go ahead. The County Council has also been very supportive.

Various sites around the Castle have been identified for displays, including the embankment and the Rose Garden. The embankment display will be in a wooden frame of a Welsh Dragon to make it windproof. Ms Stenhouse has approached Coleg Llandrillo regarding the production of the frame. The exhibition has been fully risk assessed. Mini exhibitions will be held in the schools that have taken part.

Workshops will be set up during the Summer holidays for families to take part. The target is to make 3,000 poppies.

Currently, Cadw intend to hold the exhibition for 2 weeks in November 2015. Councillors felt that this should be extended up until Christmas.

Councillors congratulated Ms Stenhouse on her idea, which they felt was beautifully presented.

It was suggested that she had a stall at Deganwy Prom Day making poppies.
Councillors discussed holding the 2 minutes silence in the Castle on Armistice Day.
The Mayor thanked Ms Stenhouse for presenting her idea to the Town Council

RESOLVED that:

- a) A letter is written giving the Town Council's support of the project
- b) Conwy Castle are asked if the exhibition can be extended until Christmas
- c) The Town Clerk contacts the Royal British Legion regarding having the two minutes silence on Armistice Day around the exhibition in the Castle

Ms Stenhouse left the meeting at this juncture

The order of the agenda was changed by permission of the Mayor

140. Plas Isa, Conwy

Councillor Allardice, County Councillors Vaughan and Priestley addressed the Town Council on the possible sale of the piece of land known as Plas Isa, Conwy.

The land is situated at the back of the houses on the river side of Berry Street and the Town Wall/Liverpool Arms. It is currently owned by the County Council, who is looking to dispose of it. The land is used by the residents of Berry Street as a car park. They pay rent annually amounting to £2.1k for around 14 spaces.

The County Council could sell the land at public auction and it has been estimated that it could raise £30k to £40k. This could mean that the land is bought by someone from outside the area. The County Council is prepared to offer the land to the Town Council, to operate for the benefit of the community. This could be offered at a discounted price of £10k, but would require around another £10 of maintenance work to be carried out to bring it up to a decent standard for parking cars. As rents have not been raised for some time, there is the opportunity to increase them. This would be subject to Conwy County Borough Council Cabinet approval.

The Councillors are looking for an agreement in principle that the Town Council is willing to look into purchasing the land.

Town Councillors were concerned as to whether the land would be leasehold or freehold and the amount of maintenance required. They also felt that an independent valuation of the land would be needed and that this could also be the start of the County Council offering other pieces of land to the Town Council to purchase. The Town Council would need to consider other matters surrounding a possible purchase, including costs of running a car park and administration.

The Town Clerk said that she would need to seek advice as to whether the Town Council had the power to purchase the land and run it as a car park for residents.

The Mayor thanked Councillors Vaughan and Priestley for attending the meeting.

RESOLVED that an Extraordinary Meeting is called at 6:30pm on 29th April 2015 to discuss the proposal

Councillors Vaughan and Priestley left the meeting at this juncture

141. Minutes of the Council and Committees

- Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 2nd March 2015
- Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 30th March 2015

RESOLVED that the minutes are ACCEPTED and APPROVED

142. Questions on the Minutes

a) Town Council Meeting held on 2nd March 2015

Minute 130, New School, Llandudno Junction

It was reported that the funding for the new school would not be as much as anticipated. It is feared that this would mean that some aspects of the new school would not be going ahead.

RESOLVED that the matter is put on the next Special Meeting agenda

b) Special Meeting of the Council held on 30th March 2015

i) Minute 282, Conwy Speed Review

Councillors received a response from the Traffic Engineer, Conwy County Borough Council regarding the speed limits on the B5115 Llanrhos. The proposed increase of the limit to 40mph has been removed. The 40mph from Marl Lane to Robertson Research is within guidelines and will not be reduced.

ii) Minute 286, One Voice Wales

Councillors received a response from Mr Robinson regarding the reason as to why many Town Councils had not joined One Voice Wales. An email had also been received from Janet Finch-Saunders AM

iii) Minute 288, Conwy Borough Football Club

Councillors received an email from Mr Cartwright, Vice Chairman, Conwy Borough Football Club thanking them for considering their request for funding and his appreciation for the grant monies the Club had received.

143. Town Clerk's Report

The Assistant to the Town Clerk presented the Town Clerk's report (Schedule A) and presented the following additional item:

Llewelyn Statue, Lancaster Square – the floodlight has been installed and is working. A photo cell still needs to be installed, so the light will be on constantly until this happens.

144. Planning

a) Planning Applications

Councillors considered the applications on Schedule B attached hereto and made RECOMMENDATIONS and COMMENTS as detailed

b) Planning Decisions Issued

There were no decisions

145. Conwy Conservation Area Management Plan Supplementary Planning Guidance - Consultation

Councillors had no issues with the consultation

146. LDP09 – Design Supplementary Planning Guidance – Consultation

Councillors had no issues with the consultation

147. The Review of Designated Landscapes in Wales

Councillors had no issues with the consultation

148. Wild Flower Seeds from Kew

Eight packs of the Wild Flower Seeds had been received. The pack includes 5 packs of seeds and a bee hotel. The Town Clerk had given a pack to the local Conwy County Borough Council gardener to plant up in the community.

RESOLVED that the remaining packs are offered to the local primary schools

149. Conwy Seed Fair 2016

Councillors received a copy of correspondence regarding the date of the Conwy Seed Fair in 2016. As the 26th March falls on the Saturday of Easter week-end, Mr McFadden has suggested that it is held on the following Saturday. Mr Lavin of the Castle Hotel, does not believe that it would be beneficial to Conwy for the Fair to be held on Saturday. Mr McFadden has suggested other dates – Thursday 31st March or Friday 1st April.

Councillors discussed how important the tradition of the Seed and Honey Fairs are to Conwy and the effect of holding them on various days.

RESOLVED that the Town Council will fully support the decision made by Mr McFadden regarding the date of the Seed Fair in 2016.

150. European Heritage Days (Open Doors) in Conwy – September 2015

RESOLVED that the Open Doors Working Party meets on 29/4/15 at 5:45pm in the Guildhall to discuss the 2015 event

151. Deganwy Promenade

Councillors received a letter from Conwy County Borough Council regarding the Victorian style beach shelter on Deganwy Promenade.

The shelter was damaged in the storms of January 2014 and will cost £40,986 to repair. The shelter will be dismantled and stored until repair funding can be identified or raised by a local community group. Repairs could begin immediately if the Town Council is prepared to contribute the funding. Councillors discussed the request. The Deganwy Residents Association has applied for Heritage Lottery Funding to repair the shelter, lead by Councillor Mrs James.

Town Councillors thanked Councillor Mrs James for her work on the application process.

RESOLVED that the Town Council does not fund the repairs as the application for grant funding is in hand.

152. Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting Order, Various Roads, Llandudno Junction and Deganwy

Councillors RECEIVED and NOTED the Order.

153. Variation of Charges at Long and Short Stay Pay and Display Car Parks

Councillors received details of the price increases for local car parks commencing 2014/15.

Councillors were also informed that the Christmas “free after 3pm” had ceased.

Councillors were disappointed at the scale of the increase and felt that it would have a negative effect on tourism and business in the community. The pricing policy is not working for local people and there could be an increase in cars parked on roads in the community.

Councillors were also concerned that the pay machines in car parks do not give change. The Town Clerk said that she would bring up the issue of Town and Community Councils not being consulted on the increases at the Forum on 15/4/15

RESOLVED that:

- a) a letter is sent to Conwy County Borough Council conveying the Town Council's feelings on the increases
- b) a Freedom of Information Act request is made to Conwy County Borough Council requesting how much money is made on machines not giving change in car parks.

154. Llandudno Junction Regeneration Scheme

Councillors received an email from the Project Officer, Conwy County Borough Council stating that it was the policy for all Programme Boards of the County Council only to have one representative from Town Councils. Also, discussions that take place during meetings of the Scheme are confidential. Councillor Hart gave an update on the recent meeting of the Scheme. The application for funding Phase 2 of the regeneration of Broad Street has not been successful. The businesses and residents of Llandudno Junction are concerned about the development of the Brickworks. Councillor Hart will speak to the Senior Planning Officer, Conwy County Borough Council regarding the matter.

155. Deganwy Community Hub

Councillors were informed that the County Council had requested confirmation that the Town Council have committed to providing £3,200 per annum funding for the Hub for 10 years. Members of the Committee said that they believed the Hub for 10 years. Members of the Committee said that they believed the Hub would be self-financing by year 5 and they would not require the funding after that time. If the Hub was not proving successful in 5 years, they would probably cease running it.

Councillors Cotton, Fallon Chapman and Mrs James left the meeting at this juncture

Councillors discussed the request for the financial commitment over 10 years. Concern was voiced That this was a long term commitment, taking the Council into a new term of office.

The Town Council was informed that the County Council would only go ahead with the project if the Town Council committed to 10 years. The Town Council would not be committed to any further funding should the Hub close.

RESOLVED that the County Council is informed that the Town Council is willing to commit to funding the Hub £3,200 per annum over 10 years, but the funding would cease should the Hub close.

Councillors Cotton, Fallon, Chapman and Mrs James returned to the meeting at this juncture.

156. Adopt a Telephone Kiosk

The agenda item was deferred to a future meeting

Councillor Edwards left the meeting at this juncture

157. Protocol for Delegation or Devolution of Services

Councillors received a copy of the "Protocol for Delegation or Devolution of Services" paper that is to be discussed at the Town & Community Council Forum on 15/4/15.

The paper sets out a process for the County Council and Town & Community Councils to follow. This had been set out following discussions with Clerks and Officers at Conwy County Borough Council.

Councillors accepted the process and were pleased to see that there was no obligation to take on a service offered by the County Council.

RESOLVED that the paper is supported by the Town Council's representatives at the Town & Community Council Forum on 15/4/15.

Councillors Mrs James and Chapman left the meeting at this juncture

158. Cor Meibion Maelgwn Male Voice Choir

Councillors received a request to sponsor the Choir's new website at a cost of £50 per annum. The website would display the Town Council's logo and contact details.

RESOLVED that the Town Council takes up the offer to sponsor the website

Councillors Mrs James and Chapman returned to the meeting at this juncture.

159. Honorary Bailies

Councillors were informed that both Mrs M Chapman and Mr R Jones had accepted the offer to install them at the first Honorary Bailies. Both were delighted to be given such an honour.

160. CVSC

Councillors received details of the membership subscription for 2015/16 of £15.00

RESOLVED that the Town Council renews its membership for 2015/16

161. Approval of Payments

Councillors approved the following payments:

- a) Delwedd – Annual Hosting Charge and Website Annual Maintenance & Support - £559.40 plus vat
- b) Docucentric – Photocopies - £7.42 plus vat
Along with the additional payments:
- c) BT Payment Services Ltd. – Guildhall Alarm, Quarter to 31/3/15 - £53.81 plus vat
- d) AB Fire Protection Wales Ltd. – Annual Service of Fire Alarm & Emergency Lights & Repair of Emergency Light - £179.25 & £61.00 plus vat

162. Cash Payments

There were no Cash Payments

163. List of Cheques

RESOLVED that the list of cheques no.314 is approved for payment (Schedule C)

164. Mayoral Announcements

The Mayor had enjoyed the face painting at the Clef Lip & Palate Association she had attended at Easter.

Councillor Macdonald thanked the Mayor for all her work during her Mayoral year. She had a good knowledge of the workings of the Council and the community had enjoyed her attending the many functions.

The Mayor thanked her fellow Councillors for their support and help to make it a splendid year and had many happy memories of her Mayoral term in office.

165. Questions from the Residents

There were no questions from residents.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:58pm