

**CYNGOR TREF CONWY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**GUILDHALL, CONWY**  
**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2016**

**PRESENT :** Councillors – P Hart (Town Mayor), B Chapman (Chair), R Parker, S Allardice, J Hughes, B James, S Cotton, T James, G Edwards, E Hughes, A James, H Roberts,

**IN ATTENDANCE :** Helen Barritt (Town Clerk), Jane Hodgson (Assistant to Town Clerk)  
Ann Lloyd Williams (Conwy County Borough Council)

**APOLOGIES :** Councillors V Macdonald, E Leighton-Jones, C Rigal

**Declarations of Interest – Code of Local Government Conduct:**

Agenda Item:

Agenda Item 3 – Culture Centre – Councillors Allardice and Edwards are members of the Culture Centre Project Board

Agenda Item 5a – Planning Applications – Councillor Allardice is on the County Council Planning Committee

Agenda Item 8 – Ysgol Deganwy: 20mph Speed Limit – Councillors Chapman and Cotton are governors at Ysgol Deganwy

**Minute Number**

**152. Culture Centre**

Members received a presentation on the Conwy Culture Centre from Ann Lloyd Williams, Section Head, Culture and Information, Conwy County Borough Council. The project is in the Heritage Lottery Development Phase. Community Consultation has been underway, from which will come a three year Activity Plan, an Interpretation Plan & a Conservation Plan. The Culture Centre will be a hub pointing to other cultural sites and will host the archives currently in Llandudno.

The proposed new building will be transparent, lightweight, & shielded by trees in a parkland setting. A green roof will be visible from the town walls. Use of steel in the building will emphasis historical trade. The Culture Centre is currently at pre-planning stage. The planning and Heritage Lottery applications are expected to be submitted in December 2016. The project hopes to be granted permission in March 2017, to start building in summer 2017. It is a one year build programme with a forecast opening date of autumn 2018.

Members posed questions and made comments on the proposals. There was concern that the building would quickly look scruffy and the maintenance plan was queried. Members asked about the links to the history of the site. It would be good to have something about Albert Wood & history at the Centre. It will be disappointing for some to see the old school building demolished: will any material from it be reused? There is a possibility that material will be incorporated into the new landscaping. The idea is to have an exhibition about the old school & record oral histories. The use of trees on the site was commended. During construction of the Centre, the library will temporarily be moved – possibly to a mobile classroom at Bodlondeb, as it is likely that the Civic Hall will be sold before the Culture Centre opens. There will be more space in the new library than the existing and there is a good budget for book stock. A plea was made for a larger non-fiction section. The proposal for a café on site was discussed. Local people may be worried about it taking trade from the town. Ms Lloyd Williams said there needed to be some refreshment facility on site & perhaps it would be franchised to a town business. A member suggested that it only served drinks & visitors could bring their own lunch.

The Town Clerk read the pre-application notices included in a letter dated 1/11/16 from Conwy County Borough Council.

The Chair thanked Ms Lloyd Williams for her presentation & answering questions.

RESOLVED that

- a) the pre-application letter will be circulated to Councillors
- b) the Culture Centre will be included on next Special meeting agenda under planning

*Ms Lloyd Williams left the meeting at this juncture*

### **153. Town Clerk's Report**

Members RECEIVED and NOTED the Town Clerk's Report (Schedule A)

The Town Clerk reported the following additional items:

- North Wales Deaf Association – Invitations to new Resource Centre – 18/11/16 at 2-4pm & 21/11/16 at 10am – 3pm – Colwyn Bay
- Conwy Heritage Forum – First Meeting - 23/11/16 at 5.30pm, Glasdir, Llanrwst
- Day to Day Translation Training – 9/11/16 – Galeri, Caernarfon
- RCA Meet the Artist: Peter Welford – 11/11/16 at 7pm, RCA
- Council Tax premiums on long-term empty homes & second homes – recommendations have been received from Conwy County Borough Council.

RESOLVED that report be circulated to Councillors

- River Wall, Benarth – Conwy County Borough Council have resolved to identify funds to progress with repairs to the wall (Option 3) within the current year's Capital Programme

RESOLVED that the bowling club are advised of the decision

- Jane Hughes sent her thanks for the support from the Town Council this year and especially to Councillor Leighton-Jones who stepped in at the last minute to cover for a cancellation
- Dave Rowley sent his thanks for the Hon Baillee event

### **154. Planning**

#### **a) Planning Applications**

Members considered the applications on Schedule B attached hereto and made recommendations and comments as detailed.

#### **b) Planning Decisions Issued**

No planning decisions issued by Conwy County Borough Council were presented.

### **155. European Walled Towns**

The Town Clerk reported that no Member had attended the Symposium held in Hellevoetsluis, Netherlands, 29<sup>th</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016. The Town Clerk informed Members that the Symposium's report could be found on their website and a copy on the Chamber table in the Guildhall.

### **156. Hanging Baskets**

The Town Clerk informed Members that hanging baskets will need to be collected.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk will check what A Evans wants done and let Councillors know.

### **157. Ysgol Deganwy – 20mph Speed Limit**

Members very much welcomed this proposal and hope it will alleviate some of the traffic chaos outside Ysgol Deganwy.

RESOLVED that the Town Council supports the 20mph proposal

**158. Street lamp for Parc Benarth, Gyffin**

Members were informed of the situation at Parc Benarth where the residents would like a street lamp installed. An estimate of £2,500 to £3,500 has been received from CCBC. In discussion, Members commented that the police have contributed to previous similar requests. Several questions were raised including whether match funding be found & whether the upgrades to LED street lights was ongoing.

RESOLVED

- a) to write to the Police to ask if they could contribute financially
- b) to research costs (Councillor Hughes)
- c) to add to the agenda for the meeting when the 2017/18 budget is discussed

**159. Active Travel Routes**

Members were informed that Conwy County council are developing Active Travel Routes across the borough. They would like to hear from citizens and organisations as to where they would like to see future routes developed. The consultation is open until 31/3/17.

RESOLVED that

- a) the Town Clerk will circulate the information to Members
- b) the consultation is put on a future agenda

**160. Town Clock**

Members received a request from Rev D Parry of St Mary's Church, Conwy to contribute to the cost of silencing the town clock during the hours of 11.01pm and 7.59am. Members were sympathetic to the request, however, many residents of Conwy live their lives by the clock, it is part of the local history of the town, and stopping the bells would cause more complaints. Silencing the town clock was not thought to be best use of public money.

RESOLVED that

- a) permission would not be granted to silence the bells of the town clock and therefore no funding would be provided
- b) the Town Clerk would write to Rev Parry to advise him of the Town Council's decision.

**161. North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils**

Members received a report on the meeting of 21/10/16 from Councillor Roberts. Councillor Roberts has asked for a copy of the Denbighshire Police presentation on anti-social behaviour and new ways of dealing with it to be sent to Conwy Police.

**162. Affordable Fire & Rescue Services for North Wales**

Councillor A James informed Members that having read the consultation on line, he recommended that it was given proper consideration and a response be made.

RESOLVED that a working group will be formed by Councillors A James, Chapman & J Hughes to develop a response for 12/12/16 consultation deadline.

**163. Remembrance Sunday & Armistice Day**

- a) Members received details of the arrangements
- b) RESOLVED to approve the Risk Assessment
- c) RESOLVED to approve the quote for signage & marshalling the parade
- d) RESOLVED to approve the quote for the PA system

**164. Accounts & Budget 2017/18**

- a) Members received:
- Reports to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 (Schedules C to E)
  - Statement of Reserves as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 (Schedule F)
  - Bank Reconciliation & Financial Statement as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 (Schedules G & H)
  - Balance Sheet as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 (Schedule I)
- RESOLVED that all points are accepted and to thank the Town Clerk for all her work.
- b) Members received information on disposal of Deganwy Library. Councillor Allardice provided an update on the Deganwy Community Hub, who have agreed to put the building on the market as the money needed for Conwy Culture Centre.
- RESOLVED that £3,200 previously allocated to support Deganwy Community Hub be transferred into Community Development Fund.
- c) RESOLVED that Councillor Cotton will forward an email received about seats between RSPB and Conwy to the Town Clerk.
- d) RESOLVED to meet to discuss the draft Budget for 2017/18 on 12/12/16 at 6.30pm at the Guildhall.

**165. Guildhall Revaluation of Rateable Value**

Members received information on the new five yearly rateable value of the Guildhall from Conwy County Borough Council. The new rateable value of £13,250 comes into effect on 1/4/17. Members were informed that this is similar to values for comparable buildings locally and a slight reduction on the 2010 rateable value.

**166. Consultations**

- a) National Infrastructure Commission for Wales – Councillors Allardice and Roberts will make comments on the relationship between LDP and Well-being and Futures Act.
- RESOLVED that the agenda item is deferred to a future meeting
- b) Policing Priorities
- RESOLVED not to respond
- c) LDP40 – Trees & Development
- RESOLVED that
- i) Councillor Hughes would lead on a consultation response
  - ii) the Town Clerk to forward information to Councillor Hughes
  - iii) the agenda item is deferred to a future meeting

**167. Payments to Avensure**

Members were informed that Avensure may offer up to 20% discount for upfront payment of contracts.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk will approach Avensure for further information.

**168. Vadre Bowling Club**

Members received a request for additional financial support to further develop the bowling green.

RESOLVED to recommend that Vadre Bowling Club apply for a grant from the February 2017 grant allocation

**169. Radio Glan Clwyd Christmas Toy Appeal**

Members received a request for a donation of £10 towards Radio Glan Clwyd's toy appeal, for all the children who will be in that hospital over Christmas. Councillor Roberts will be visiting Glan Clwyd Hospital and is happy to take any donated toys from Councillors.

RESOLVED to donate £100 to Appeal.

**170. Presentations to Town Council**

Members received requests from the following organisations to make presentations to Town Council:

- a) All Wales Boat Show 2017 – RESOLVED to decline request
- b) Conwy Farmers’ Market – RESOLVED to invite
- c) Conwy Residents Action Party – RESOLVED to invite

**171. Hire of Guildhall**

Members received a request from CADW to hire the Mayor’s Parlour for half a day at reduced cost. RESOLVED to charge CADW £50 for half day hire of Mayor’s Parlour on 7/12/16, in recognition of their support.

**172. Approval of Payments**

RESOLVED that the following payments are approved:

- a) A.Slater – Guildhall & Bus Shelter Windows, 4 weeks to 21/10/16 - £170.00
- b) The Royal British Legion Conwy & District Branch Poppy Appeal – 3 Wreaths for Remembrance Sunday 2016 - £84.00
- c) AB Fire Prevention Wales Ltd. – Annual Service Contract for Guildhall Fire Alarm & Emergency Lights - £189.25 plus vat

Along with the additional payments:

- d) Business Systems (NW) Ltd – copies 1/10/16 – 28/10/16 - £10.72 plus vat
- e) North Wales Association of Town Councils – Annual Subscription 1/8/16 – 31/7/17 - £80.00

**173. Cash Payments**

There were no cash payments.

**174. List of Cheques**

RESOLVED that the list of cheques 354 as tabled, is approved for payment (Schedule J)

**175. Councillors’ Social Fund**

Members were informed that the Councillors’ Social Fund was low & there are likely to be calls on it. Members made contributions.

*The Chair allowed the following items due to their urgency*

**176. Painting in Mayor’s Parlour**

Members were informed that a large painting had fallen off the wall in the Mayor’s Parlour. CCTV showed that this occurred in the early hours of 5/11/16. Insurance forms have been received.

**177. Events Update from Mayor**

Members were informed about upcoming events:

- Trakz talk – The Somme Offensive by Councillor James – 16/11/16 at 7.30pm at Llandudno Junction Community Club
- RSPB talk at Llandudno Junction on 23/11/16
- Mayor’s Quiz Night – 17/11/16

Members were thanked for their efforts at the Honorary Bailiffs’ presentation on 24/10/16.

**178. Confidential Business**

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 & with Standing Order 65, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press & public be temporarily excluded & instructed to withdraw

**179. Staff Committee Meeting Report**

**There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8:38pm**