

MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**Monday 18th August 2014****TOWN CLERK'S REPORT****1. Letters of Thanks****a) Conwy River Festival**

"I write on behalf of the Festival Committee to thank Conwy Town Council for their generosity in once again sponsoring our annual River Festival. The Council's assistance in supporting the event is greatly appreciated, not just by us, the Committee, but also by all who either sail in the Regatta or enjoy the onshore activities so much during the week. Thank you once again. Yours in sailing. Matthew Forbes, Treasurer."

b) Conwy Camera Club

"On behalf of Conwy Camera Club, please accept our grateful thanks for the cheque for £30 for the club's support at various events through the last 12 months. The Mayor's appreciation will be passed on to our members. With thanks, Tony Temple, General Secretary, Conwy Camera Club"

c) Llandudno Junction Football Club

"With grateful thanks"

d) Clwb Yr Efail

I write this letter to the body of the Conwy Town Council in my capacity as chairman of Clwb Yr Efail. Our members have asked that I send this letter in order to express their sincere gratitude for the generosity of the Conwy Town Council for the kindness & support shown. We are presently up to 55 members coming in now weekly to enjoy the club's facilities, this number is too increasing steadily so the future is looking very promising thanks to your support & goodwill. Please extend to the members of the Town Council an open invitation to drop in at the club to enjoy a cup of tea, chat with our people & see how the club functions on a daily basis. Once again our warm thank you. Kind regards. Terence James. (Chairman).

e) Conwy Beekeepers' Association

With grateful thanks. Peter McFadden

f) The Escape Artists (North Wales) CIC

Thank you very much for this generous donation the "The Word: Conwy: Y Gair". It has made a significant difference to the festival, in that we are now able to make entry to most of the programme a "pay what you can" basis. This means that people on limited incomes will be able to see some of Wales' leading writers & enjoy the varied workshops, which was one of the main ambitions of the festival from the outset. With sincere thanks. Jill Tunstall

g) Llandudno Junction Youth Club

I received the cheque this morning £500 to fund the intergeneration project we will now be running this December in Llandudno Junction. Thank you to all who have said yes for this to happen again. The young people will be pleased when I tell them that the event is to go ahead again this year. We have had so many people in the local community asking when it is happening & now I can tell them it is in December. Once again thank you for all your support & I will be in touch for dates for the Mayor & Councillors to attend. Many thanks. Tommy Lyness, Professional Youth Worker

h) SSAFA Forces Help

Many thanks for your continuous support.

i) Conwy Army Cadet Force

Many thanks

j) NSPCC

Thank you for your kind & generous donation of £50 towards the ChildLine Schools Service. In Wales, our ChildLine schools service has already reached 20,422 children aged 9-11. With your support we are going to protect a generation of children, 1 primary school at a time. We will help them to understand abuse, giving them the confidence to talk about it, the knowledge to prevent it & the courage to find help if they ever need it – so thank you. Your donation will help us to deliver the ChildLine assemblies & workshops to even more children. The ChildLine volunteers will visit primary schools in your community & deliver the vital information to years 5 & 6 with the expertise & sensitivity ChildLine has developed over 26 years of being a trusted place for millions of children. One of our ChildLine volunteers recently said: “Today really hit home just how important the schools service really is. Thanks to one of our sessions, 4 children came forward who might have stayed silent otherwise. And that’s just in 1 classroom. Imagine the impact of speaking to every primary school classroom in the UK”

So, thank you one again & we hope you will consider helping the ChildLine Schools Service again in the future. Tracey Hepburn, Fundraising Co-ordinator

2. Conwy County Borough Council

a) Forward Work Programme

The Forward Work Programme for 3/8/14 to 30/11/14 can be found at

<http://modgoveng.conwy.gov.uk/mgListPlanItems.aspx?PlanId=543&RP=550>

b) Meetings

A meeting of the Standards Committee will be held on 21/8/14 at 10am. The Standards Committee will be requested to consider whether to hold a Standards Hearing, following a report from the Ombudsman relating to the investigation of a complaint against a Community Councillor. A provisional date of 4/9/14 at 10am has been agreed to hold the Standards Hearing.

3. In Memoriam 2014

By way of introduction, I am the Community Safety Inspector for North Wales Police. I write to make you aware of a project currently being undertaken by SmartWater should you feel you may like to be involved. The War Memorials Trust & the SmartWater Foundation are working in partnership to locate, log & protect thousands of war memorials across the United Kingdom using cutting edge forensic technology. In Memoriam 2014 is supported by the Royal British Legion & the Cadet Forces. In Memoriam 2014 will protect memorials at risk of theft or damage by marking them with SmartWater. The crime prevention fluid, which is being made available at no charge, will not only make memorials uniquely identifiable, it also offers robust traceability should a theft occur. It is a high temperature solution that will withstand burning & melting making it harder for criminals to dispose of stolen metals. Academic research carried out by Perpetuity Research Group on over 100 criminals demonstrated that 91% were aware of SmartWater whilst 74% said that it would deter them from carrying out criminal activity if they knew SmartWater were being used. This demonstrates that SmartWater will act as a significant deterrent to those considering desecrating our war memorials & will substantially increase the chances of their detection & subsequent arrest. There is thought to be approximately 100,000 war memorials in the British Isles ranging from the 7th century to the present day. Memorials range from crosses, to bridges, to buildings, to fabric & fittings within churches to name just a few of the many memorial types. The concept of In Memoriam 2014 is to encourage local communities & youth groups to identify & get involved with

war memorials. The information obtained from those that apply will be used by War Memorials Trust to help its work protecting & conserving war memorials. The increased awareness of war memorial issues that this campaign will create will enable the charity to promote the importance of best conservation practice through its advisory & grant-making activities. Further detail on how to become involved can be found at <http://www.inmemoriam2014.org/> The project is scheduled to end on 11/11/14 for information. Kind regards, Julie Sheard, Community Safety Inspector, 01492 804979 julie.sheard@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

4. Is it Just a Feeling? Or is it a Hate Crime

Hate Crime is defined as any incident constituting a criminal offence, which is perceived by the victim or any other person as being made motivated by prejudice or hate. Hatred is a strong term that goes beyond simply causing offence or hostility. A hate crime is any criminal offence committed against a person or property that is motivated by an offender's hatred of someone because of their age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage & civil partnership, pregnancy & maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, language. Hate Crime can take many forms including:

- Physical attacks – such as physical assault, damage to property, offensive graffiti, neighbour disputes & arsons
- Threat of attack – including offensive letters, abusive or obscene telephone calls, groups gathering to intimidate you & your family, & unfounded malicious complaints
- Verbal Abuse or Insults – offensive leaflets & posters, abusive gestures, dumping of rubbish outside homes or through letterboxes, bullying at School or in the workplace.

A hate crime can occur at home or close to home. It can take place in public, such as on the street, in public toilets, on a bus or in a library. It can even occur while at school, college, university or in the workplace. Don't suffer in silence, don't live in fear. Come & speak to us at NWREN our Outreach Officers are here to support you. Call us in confidence on 01492 622233.

The North Wales Regional Equality Network (NWREN) works across all areas of equality with a range of partners. As a charity we are committed to:

- working towards the elimination of discrimination & disadvantage in all its forms
- promoting equality of opportunity & good relations between all through understanding & addressing issues of discrimination & equality
- working towards upholding the human rights of all people.

NWREN mainly operates across Anglesey, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd & Wrexham. Currently our projects include:

- BIG Lottery Funding; People & Places Project which has 3 main strands; Anti Hate Crime Project which supports victims of harassment, discrimination & hate crime by means of Outreach Support Officers & direct referral to a specialist advisor. Currently there are Drop-ins in Wrexham, Denbighshire, Conwy & Gwynedd; Equality Centre Project redeveloping the current NWREN headquarters building in Penmaenmawr to give multi-purpose premises that will facilitate, sustain & enhance cross & multi- strand equality working across the 6 localities in North Wales. Development of a North Wales Voluntary Sector Equality & Human Rights Forum across North Wales to share information, encourage good practice & strengthen the contribution of the third sector in public policy by sharing expertise & advancing shared views. For further details contact Susan Jones Tel: 01492 621 468 or mobile: 0782 544 0781; e-mail: susan@nwren.org.
- BIG Lottery Funding; The Minority Ethnic Elders Advocacy Project which enables ethnic minority elders to say what they want, secure their rights, represent their

views &/or obtain services; for additional information, contact Belinda Gammon mobile: 0780 892 9086; Tel: 01492 622 233; e-mail: belinda@nwren.org.

- BIG Lottery Funding; Community Voice Project will help you to get your voice heard! The project is aimed at the “seldom heard” individuals in society. The 2 Development Officers Jenny Porter for Anglesey & Fatima Grzesiak for Conwy can be contacted on 01492 622 233 or by email jenny@nwren.org or fatima@nwren.org
- European Social Fund Project; ‘Minorities are Wales’ Resources’ which aims to improve the employment situation of BME & migrant workers (already in employment) in the UK, by a number of means such as: conversion of overseas qualifications; improving skills & abilities required in the local workforce; enhancing English language skills & challenging traditional familial career expectations. This project provides direct support: coaching; mentoring; confidence building; pre-employment & self-employment training; language support; signposting; Drop-ins in Porthmadog, Llandudno & Rhyl. For further information, contact: Helga 0778 823 0373 e-mail: helga@nwren.org; Simona 0750 040 4642, e-mail: simona@nwren.org; Seb 0778 823 0309 e-mail: sebastian@nwren.org; or alternative tel: 01492 621468.

NWREN’s website is currently undergoing a re-design; we can be contacted by telephone on 01492 622 233 or at The Equality Centre, Bangor Road, Penmaenmawr, LL34 6LF.

5. Re-Investing in Sports, Communities & Individuals

A consortium of organisations (Street Football Wales, Vi-Ability Educational Programme, Communities First Conwy Cluster, Rhyl City Strategy & Hockey Wales) are working in partnership to launch an exciting & innovative “Re investing in Sports, Communities & Individuals’ project. The scheme will aim to reduce the difficulties & hardship that people within the communities’ first areas of Conwy borough face when trying to afford: equipment; clothing; travel & membership fees; so they can engage in a variety of sports/exercise based activities on a regular basis & make a positive difference to their lives. The project will be launched in the coming weeks and a Project Officer, John Anderson, has been appointed thanks to funding through the WCVA’s Intermediate Labour Market Scheme. This position has seen John return to employment for the first time in 3 years, to implement a project that will see;

1. The creation of a bursary pot of equipment, clothing, travel tickets & membership fees that residents can access.
2. Supported employment & volunteering opportunities being created for individuals to get involved with the project, to combine & coordinate all efforts in the community.
3. Further investment is being leveraged through fund raising & the launch of a sports equipment recycling service.

As part of the project, volunteers are being sought to take part in fund raising & also to sit on the funding panel to help make decisions on how the bursary pot should be distributed. For further information call John, or other staff members at Vi-Ability on 01492 583555 or follow us on Twitter @sportsrecycling, or like our Facebook page to keep updated with all developments.

6. Response Statement prepared by Conwy County Borough Council regarding Arriva number 19 Service, Conwy Valley, 1st August, 2014.

Up until January 2014 CCBC were paying Arriva a de-minimis payment of £65,795.52 for 1 of the 3 vehicles working on the 19 service to cover services to Rowen, Rhuddlan Avenue & the Great Orme. Arriva approached CCBC prior to January 2014 saying they had to make changes to the 19 as it wasn’t operating reliably. They had a number of options they could have pursued in order to address that reliability problem. Those

included withdrawing the service between Llanrwst & Betws-y-Coed which CCBC doesn't contribute towards due to there already being a commercial service & a rail service between Llanrwst & Betws-y-Coed. Instead of withdrawing the service between Llanrwst & Betws-y-Coed, Arriva decided to withdraw the Great Orme section. On that basis CCBC had to review the 19 service as we couldn't be seen to be paying Arriva to compete with other operators between Llanrwst & Betws-y-Coed & the value for money offered was significantly reduced as the only services then offered were diversions to Rowen & serving Rhuddlan Avenue in Llandudno. As a result of the above serving the Great Orme & Rhuddlan Avenue were moved to other Arriva contract routes. To cover the Llandudno local service (Great Orme & Rhuddlan Avenue) Conwy now pay Arriva an additional £8,235.38 to cover the additional elements which were previously operated by the 19 service. All these changes left Conwy paying Arriva just to serve Rowen off the 19 service which didn't offer good value for money & costs were going towards a service which was competing with other services between Llanrwst & Betws-y-Coed. On that basis we offered Arriva a number of options to consider which would have enabled them to maintain an hourly service down the Western side of the Valley commercially. These included -

Combining the 19 service with service 14 which operates between Llandudno & Llysfaen. This would have reduced their Peak Vehicle Requirements by 2 vehicles over the 2 services & provided an hourly service between Llanrwst & Llysfaen via Conwy & Llandudno. This option would have released 2 vehicles for Arriva to do what they wished with commercially including serving Betws-y-Coed. Other options included operating the service with 2 vehicles about every 80 minutes or operating hourly between Betws-y-Coed & Conwy with passengers changing there for Llandudno.

Had Arriva withdrawn the 19 completely we would have looked at tendering for 1 of the last 2 options as far as Llanrwst only. Arriva chose not to engage any further on the above options other than to give us the timetable pattern for their proposed service. However we didn't see the final timetable until it was registered. When we were notified of Arriva's proposal to operate the current service we did comment on the possibility of maintaining an hourly service at either end of the day with their 2 vehicles on the 19 service & they did take those comments on board. Arriva's proposal did not include serving Rowen & therefore on that basis we've had to cover the service to Rowen by introducing tacsibus links from Rowen to the Groes Hotel to allow connections to the 19 service & we've also introduced some Llew Jones services to & from Rowen. This is at a combined cost of around £14,500. It should be noted that the decision to operate additional service along the eastern side of the valley (Services 19A & X19) is a purely commercial decision & receives no financial support from CCBC. To summarise, the reason for removing the funding for the 19 was to ensure that we were not subsidising competition between Llanrwst & Betws-y-Coed & ensuring good value for money where bus services are concerned. It is also important to note that the reason for the changes implemented for the Summer timetable was not to save money but rather to address the fact we were subsidising Arriva to compete with another operator to serve Betws-y-Coed & that the payment being made was no longer good value for money for CCBC due to the reduced service offered on the 19 service. In the event, we have saved some money but we have had to pay other operators to serve Rowen & cover the local sections in Llandudno with another Arriva contracted service. In our opinion, the way forward would be for Arriva to look again at the option we suggested for combining the 19 with services 14 and 15. This would provide an hourly commercial service between Llanrwst, Llandudno & Llysfaen. There would be 1 less bus per hour between Llandudno & Conwy but there are already 8 services an hour between Llandudno & Conwy some of which are timed very closely together. This not only retains

an hourly service between Llanrwst & Llandudno but introduces new through links to & from the Conwy Valley. If feasible, we would be willing to discuss options to divert this service via Rowen for a de-minimis payment.

7. Road Closures

Past Bridge to Roundabout, Conwy Road, Conwy

8/9/14 to 12/9/14, 8am to 4pm for carriageway resurfacing

8. Funding

Heritage Lottery Fund – “Funding Surgery”

At the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) we know that some community & voluntary groups are nervous of filling in grant application forms. This is why we offer a one-to-one advice service where you can meet officers & talk through your project & the process of applying for a grant. We have a clear heritage focus but that doesn't just mean old buildings. It can also include history & heritage reflected through communities, people's memories & stories, & working with young people to explore ideas of identity & place. Sally Roberts, Development Officer at HLF, will be available between 9.30am & 4.30pm at the CVSC Offices, 8 Riviere's Avenue, Colwyn Bay, LL29 7DP on 24/9/2014. If you would like to book a slot, please contact Emmelia Booth on 029 2034 3413 or emmelia.booth@hlf.org.uk. Conwy is a Priority Development Area for the HLF. This means that we are keen to receive more grant applications from the area & help create opportunities for new heritage projects. You will need to provide us with some basic information before the meeting itself & ask that is done via our website www.hlf.org.uk/english/howtoapply by 17/9/14.

9. Courses/Workshops/Training/Conferences

Financial Inclusion Together – Building Prosperity Not Poverty

Financial Inclusion Together is a Local Service Board project supported by the European Social Fund through the Welsh Government. The project aims to tackle poverty by developing, coordinating & promoting financial inclusion across Conwy & Denbighshire. This informative 3 hour session will equip frontline workers with the basic knowledge, skills & resources to address issues around financial inclusion & poverty confidently. This awareness session is for frontline workers who have regular contact with members of the public. It is suitable for workers who are in a position to offer support, provide signposting information & make referrals to specialist advice agencies. It will cover:

- What financial inclusion means & the impact it has on people
- Your role in addressing financial inclusion
- Identifying when somebody needs support with financial inclusion
- Equip you with a toolkit to offer basic support, signpost & refer effectively

4/9/14, 9:30am to 1:30pm, Taste Academy, Rhyl. Includes networking lunch

4/9/14, 12:30pm to 4:30pm, Taste Academy, Rhyl. Includes networking lunch

17/9/14, 1pm to 4pm, Caledfryn, Denbigh. Welsh

22/9/14, 9:30am to 1:30pm, Conwy Business Centre. Includes networking lunch

22/9/14, 12:30pm to 4:30pm, Conwy Business Centre. Includes networking lunch

30/9/14, 6pm to 8:30pm, Taste Academy, Rhyl. Includes buffet

1/10/14, 6pm to 8:30pm, Porters Café, Station Road, Colwyn Bay. Includes buffet

7/10/14, 9:30am to 1:30pm, Taste Academy, Rhyl. Includes networking lunch

7/10/14, 12:30pm to 4:30pm, Taste Academy, Rhyl. Includes networking lunch

20/10/14, 9:30am to 1:30pm, Conwy Business Centre. Includes networking lunch

20/10/14, 12:30pm to 4:30pm, Conwy Business Centre. Includes networking lunch

5/11/14, 1pm to 4pm, Touchstones 12, Colwyn Bay. Welsh

To book call 01824 712273. These are the last Financial Inclusion Together sessions that will be delivered by the project.

10. Events

a) North Wales Service User Forum – North Wales Celebration Event

10/9/14, 10:30am to 4pm, The Pavilion Theatre, East Parade, Rhyl, LL18 3AQ. Admission free – refreshments. Hosted by Denbighshire. Come & join us to celebrate the achievements & successes of people in recovery. The event will include the award of certificates recognising service user achievements. If you wish to nominate someone for an award please contact the Town Clerk

b) Renting Homes – Illustrative Model Contract Consultation – Events Reminder

The Welsh Government is consulting on what the contracts under the Renting Homes proposals could look like, together with examples of the sort of supporting guidance that will need to be provided. We are keen to hear the views of as many tenants, landlords and organisations that work in the field of housing as possible. We have therefore arranged a consultation event in Llandudno Junction 18th August 2014. Each event will be run in the morning, from 10:30 to 12:00. If you haven't booked your place already, please complete and return the booking form available at <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/housing-and-regeneration/renting-homes-illustrative-contract/> I would be grateful if you could publicise this event to tenants and landlords in your area. Thanks in anticipation, for your help in raising awareness of the Renting Homes illustrative model contract consultation and events.

11. Newsletters

Historic Towns Forum

The August newsletter is available on the Chamber table in the Guildhall

12. Welsh Government Consultations

Children & Young People

Review of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Duty on Local Authorities

Closing Date 30/10/14

Education & Skills

Child performance regulations: when children can take part in performances & the breaks they must have

Closing Date 31/10/14

Environment & Countryside

Consultation on the Closure of the Conwy Bay & Estuary Mussel Fishery

Closing Date 17/8/14

Strategic Environmental Assessment Environment Report, Ireland Wales cooperation programme 2014-20

Closing Date 3/9/14

Consultation on the changes to the EU Pet Travel Scheme

Closing Date 14/9/14

Amending the Environmental Damage (Prevention & Remediation) Regulations 2009 to transpose Article 38 of the Offshore Safety Directive

Closing Date 21/9/14

Agricultural Sector (Wales) Act 2014: Consultation on the Agricultural Panel for Wales

Closing Date 30/10/14

Health & Social Care

Food Hygiene Rating (Promotion of Food Hygiene Ratings)(Wales)Regulations

Closing Date 24/10/14

Extending access to intermediate services for descendants & relatives of adopted people

Closing Date 27/10/14

Travelling to better health

Closing Date 30/10/14

Transport

Consultation on Amending The Use of Invalid Carriages on Highways Regulations 1988

Closing Date 31/10/14