

CYNGOR TREF CONWY TOWN COUNCIL
GUILDHALL, CONWY
MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2016

PRESENT : Councillors – P Hart (Deputy Mayor, Chair), V Macdonald, R Parker, S Allardice, B Chapman, B James, S Cotton, T James, G Edwards, E Hughes, H Roberts

IN ATTENDANCE : Helen Barritt (Town Clerk)
Mrs S Davies, Strategic Director Economy & Place, Conwy County Borough Council
G Peters, Principal Property Manager, Conwy County Borough Council

APOLOGIES : Councillors – E Leighton-Jones (Town Mayor), J Hughes, C Rigal, A James.

Declarations of Interest – Code of Local Government Conduct:

Agenda Item 4 - Grant Applications:

Councillor Hart, Deputy Mayor – Vice Chair of Cyffordd Llandudno Junction Trakz & Committee Member of Llandudno Junction Memorial Hall

Councillor Macdonald – Member of Conwy Yacht Club, Conwy One Design & Honorary Member of the Royal Cambrian Academy

Councillor Parker – Chair of Cyffordd Llandudno Junction Trakz & Committee Member of Llandudno Junction Memorial Hall

Councillor E Hughes – Member of the Tenovus Cancer Care Choir

Councillor H Roberts – Secretary of Cyffordd Llandudno Junction Trakz

Minute Number

11. Civic Hall & Quay, Conwy

Mr Peters informed Members that this meeting would be the first of a few, updating the Town Council on the process & progress of disposing of the Civic Hall

The County Council are holding a “Developer Day” on 22/3/16 at the Conwy Business Centre, Llandudno Junction. Potential developers will be invited to register an interest & come along to meet officers of CCBC & members of the Cabinet, along with members of the Project Team & Board. The idea is to “sell” the “vision” for the Civic Hall & receive feedback from developers. The day will be advertised.

Conwy County Borough Council acknowledge that the site is “sensitive” & would like to see something that helps Conwy & enhances tourism, giving positive outcomes. The County Council wants to get the “right” tenant but needs to realise a capital receipt. Mr Peters said that he did not know the current state of repair of the building but it is being assessed. The Civic Hall is a difficult building to develop.

The process to find the “right” developer will be a lengthy one. 8 parties are interested.

Mr Peters said that Plas Isa is not included & that parking is not being offered. If the “right” developer said that parking was essential, finding a parking area may be a good idea.

Developers would need to make a robust business case for using areas of the Quay. Those developers needing the least amount of Quay space would be looked on most favourably. There will be no building on the Quay.

Conwy County Borough Council would be looking to offer the site on a 99 year to 125 year lease but would be open to offers from a proposer. Members felt that this was wrong and that Conwy County Borough Council should be stating the terms of the lease for such a valuable site.

Mr Peters said that a “scoring matrix” would be used to assess any proposals. The assessment would be open and transparent
 Cadw and the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust are both being consulted regarding the project.
 Members said that they would like to see a development that included the Arts & that any marketing of the site should include a reference to this.
 Members stated that they were nervous about the process and any damage to the fabric of the building.
 Mrs Davies said that Planning Policies would be adhered to and only the “right” proposals would be considered. She stated that there would be no building on the Quay, only chairs and tables for a food establishment would be sited there.
 Members said that the building had not fared well in public hands
 Members asked if Conwy County Borough Council were taking into account other businesses in the area, such as the Liverpool Arms and looking for a developer offering something different. Mrs Davies said that they couldn’t interfere with the market.
 Members thanked Mrs Davies & Mr Peters for attending the meeting & updating them on the project

*Mrs Davies & Mr Peters left the meeting at this juncture
 Councillor Chapman left the meeting during the following discussion*

Members discussed the information they had been given. They felt that Conwy County Borough Council did not have a vision for the site and had not taken care of the building. They were concerned that facilities in Conwy are being lost that relate to the community & that the residents were being forgotten. Members said that decisions on Conwy town were being taken by County Councillors & Conwy County Borough Council Officers not located in Conwy and not bothered about the community
RESOLVED that the matter is put on an agenda after the Development Day on 22/3/16

12. Grant Applications

*Councillors left the room during the discussions of the applications they had declared interests in.
 Councillor Cotton took the Chair during consideration of the Cyffordd Llandudno Junction Trakz & Llandudno Junction Memorial Hall applications*

RESOLVED that

a) the following grants are made:

	£	Statutory Provision
Cyffordd Llandudno Junction Trakz	500.00	s144 LGA 1972
Action on Hearing Loss Cymru	50.00	s137 LGA 1972
Benefit Advice Shop	500.00	s142 LGA 1972
British Red Cross	50.00	s137 LGA 1972
St.Michael’s RC Church, Conwy	750.00	s137 LGA 1972
Civic Hall Amateur Players Society	500.00	s145 LGA 1972
Conwy Beekeepers Limited	400.00	s144 LGA 1972
Conwy Borough Football Club	1,000.00	s137 LGA 1972
Conwy One Design Project	1,000.00	s137 LGA 1972
Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru	100.00	s145 LGA 1972
Hafan Cymru	300.00	s137 LGA 1972
Llandudno Junction Memorial Hall	3,000.00	s137 LGA 1972
Llangollen International Musical Festival	100.00	s145 LGA 1972
Marie Curie Cancer Care	50.00	s137 LGA 1972

Meithrinfa Gymraeg Derwen Deg	0.00	
River & Sea Sense Ltd.	0.00	
Royal Cambrian Academy	1,500.00	s145 LGA 1972
Shelter Cymru	50.00	s137 LGA 1972
Tenovus Cancer Care	685.00	s145 LGA 1972
Urdd Gobaith Cymru – Rhanbarth Conwy	250.00	s145 LGA 1972
Total	10,785.00	

- b) the excess of £785 over the £10,000 available for distribution is funded from General Reserves
- c) Meithrinfa Gymraeg Derwen Deg and River & Sea Sense Ltd. were not awarded funding as Members felt that they did not fit the criteria

Members asked that:

- a) Action on Hearing Loss Cymru are asked to invite the Mayor to the event
- b) The Roman Catholic Parish are encouraged to apply for grant funding annually
- c) Llandudno Junction Memorial Hall are invited to apply for a Community Development Fund grant in 2016/17
- d) Tenovus Cancer Care are asked to invite the Mayor to an event where the choir are singing

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.26pm