

**CYNGOR TREF CONWY TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING (FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES)**  
**HELD ON MONDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> JULY 2015**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE : Helen Barritt (Town Clerk)**

**Ms S Davies, Strategic Director – Economy & Place, Conwy County Borough Council**  
**Mr G Peters, Principal Property Manager, Conwy County Borough Council**

**APOLOGIES : Councillor C Rigal**

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

**Agenda Item:**

**Agenda Item 8a – Planning Application 0/41840 Mercedes Benz**

The Deputy Mayor & Councillors Parker, Macdonald & Roberts are on the committee of Cyffordd Llandudno Junction Trakz that received sponsorship from Mercedes Benz

**Agenda Item 19b – Hire of Guildhall**

Councillors Parker & Macdonald run the Conwy Ensemble

*Councillors Roberts & Edwards joined the meeting during the following agenda item*

*Councillor Chapman left the meeting during the following agenda item*

**Minute Number**

**49. Conwy Civic Hall**

Members RECEIVED a presentation from Ms Davies and Mr Peters, Conwy County Borough Council regarding the proposed disposal of the Civic Hall, Conwy by Conwy County Borough Council.

The proposal is to sell the Civic Hall and part of the Quay and requires Cabinet approval. The Civic Hall requires Around £600k to renovate and any sale would also see a possible improvement to the public conveniences on the Quay through section 106 income.

The sale would be y leasehold giving the County Council control over aspects such as the retention of the right of way to the chip shop on Castle Street.

The Events Space will be retained and there will be no loss of space due to the Nobby boat due to vacate its space. The proposal includes any buyer being able to put tables and chairs on the Quay.

The next step is to obtain Cabinet approval for the sales. The Cabinet will then appoint a Project Board to oversee the process. The project will then go out to tender and it is hoped to market it in early 2016. The proposal has already been to the Scrutiny Committee who have asked that the area of the Quay in the proposal be reduced by 50% and that a County Council Member for Conwy is on the Project Board. Conwy Harbour Advisory Committee have asked that the Quay retains a “boat” theme, that there is minimum disruption to the Quay, that the public conveniences are retained and that there is a public consultation.

Members were informed that the change of use of the Civic Hall could be a restaurant, hotel or holiday accommodation.

Members were concerned about the idea of tables and chairs on the Quay, especially as the seagulls could cause a problem for diners.

Members asked if the Civic Hall could be marketed without the Quay space. They were informed that it was felt that the use of the Quay would be good for the Town as a whole.

Members were concerned about the loss of the Events Space. The area had held around 20 events last year of which 8 were free. The income was just over £4k. Members were informed that the part of the Events Space being offered for disposal would not be sold separately to the Civic Hall.

Members stated that they would like the Events Space to reflect the Boating culture and heritage of Conwy and that the Walls should be kept free of buildings.

Members were concerned that the area of the Events Space designated for disposal would “creep” as the business venture occupying the Civic Hall would require more space.

Members were informed that to market the Civic Hall part of the Quay is needed.

Members suggested that the space on top of the public conveniences could be used for outdoor dining instead of using the Quay. This would avoid the need for customers and staff to negotiate steps from the Civic Hall and be suitable for disabled people.

Members asked if there was any provision for a new community centre following the loss of the Civic Hall.

They were told that the proceeds from the sale would go towards the new Area Library to include a cultural hub.

There are currently problems finding external funding for this.

Members said that they hoped lessons had been learned from the lack of upkeep on the Civic Hall.

The Chairman thanked Ms Davies and Mr Peters for their presentation.

**RESOLVED** that:

- a) It is recommended to Conwy County Borough Councillors Allardice and Vaughan are on the Project Board along with a representative from the Town Council who is not a County Councillor
- b) A copy of the presentation is requested
- c) Members email their views on the proposed disposal to the Town Clerk by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July to be collated and forwarded to the County Council

## **50. Minutes**

Minutes of the Christmas Committee meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**RESOLVED** that the minutes are ACCEPTED and APPROVED

## **51. Questions on the Minutes**

There were no questions.

## **52. Casual Vacancy Deganwy Ward**

The Town Clerk informed Members of Councillor Fallon’s resignation.

The vacancy would now be advertised in the community with the chance for the electorate to request an election within 14 working days from 7<sup>th</sup> July 2015. Members were asked to put official notices in the community notice boards. The press would also be informed to include the vacancy in editorial.

## **53. Town Clerk’s Report**

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

The Town Clerk reported the following additional items:

- a) Y Morfa Venue, Conwy Borough Football Club Community & Volunteer Open Day  
15/7/15, 11am to 7pm, Drop In & Community Networking event  
The Town Clerk informed Members that she would be attending the event and encouraged Members to join her
- b) Rope Access Survey of Conwy Bridge  
The survey will take place from 3/7/15 to 17/7/15 to establish the Bridge’s structural condition. The information collated will be used to assess the future maintenance requirements
- c) The Language of Volunteering  
9/7/15 at Glasdir, Llanrwst: Further information is available from the Town Clerk

d) **The Wales Training Strategy 2015-19**

The Strategy has been put together by the SLCC & One Voice Wales outlining the training for Town & Community Councils. The document will be on the Chamber table in the Guildhall. Conwy County Borough Council also provides training and the latest list is on the Chamber table in the Guildhall.

e) **Hanging Baskets**

The owners of Gwynfryn B&B in Conwy had written to the Town Clerk to thank the Town Council for the hanging basket and that they wish to be included in the scheme next year.

**54. Planning**

a) Planning Applications

*The Deputy Mayor and Councillors Parker, Macdonald & Roberts left the meeting during discussion of application (4) 0/41840*

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

b) Planning Decisions Issued

Members RECEIVED and NOTED the planning decisions issued by Conwy County Borough Council

c) Notice of Appeal – Pencraig, Gannock Park, Deganwy

Members RECEIVED and NOTED the decision and reasons on the planning application and the Notice of Appeal

d) Planning Training Workshop

The Town Clerk informed Members that she had been informed by other Clerks that the 2 training sessions that had been arranged by Planning Aid Wales would cover different matters. Therefore, Councillor Roberts and the Assistant to the Town Clerk would attend the session in Colwyn Bay on 15/7/15 and Councillors Cotton and Chapman would attend the session in Venue Cymru on 21/7/15

**55. Proposal for Naming of a Street**

Lôn Carneddau had been suggested by Beech Developments as a name for a road in its development off Narrow Lane, Llandudno Junction.

County Councillor Meirion Hughes had already objected to this and County Councillor Phillip Evans had suggested that the developer should use the prefix “Lôn” with previous suggestions

**RESOLVED** that the name “Dros Mynach” meaning “Monks’ Crossing” is used to reflect the fact of the History of the area

**56. Conwy River Festival 15<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2015**

Members RECEIVED a request for funding of the 2015 festival

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £1,500 is awarded

**57. North Wales Link of the Walled Towns Friendship Circle – Annual Dinner**

Members were informed that Conwy is due to host the Annual Dinner in January 2016. Members discussed possible venues and dates.

**RESOLVED** that the Annual Dinner is held on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2016 and that Time Restaurant in Conwy are asked if the dinner can be held there.

**58. Boxing Day Dip**

Following the Christmas Committee meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015, Members discussed the Boxing Day Dip. Members felt that the event should be advertised more and it was suggested that the Deganwy Prom Day Facebook page could be used

**RESOLVED** that the 2016 event goes ahead

**59. Parking Prohibition – Castle Square, Conwy**

Members RECEIVED and NOTED that, following problems arising from coaches dropping and collecting passengers from the junction of Castle Square and Llanrwst Road, a parking prohibition was in place from 26/6/15 to 31/8/15. Conwy County Borough Council are looking for a permanent solution to the problems coaches are facing in the town.

Members were concerned as to how the prohibition will be policed and that it may give visitors on coaches to the town the wrong image. Also, the cones had been moved.

**60. Conwy Harbour Advisory Committee**

Members RECEIVED a report on the Annual Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

Topics discussed included the Civic Hall disposal, the Mussel Regulation order and loss of moorings.

The Committee is concerned about the reserves it had built up that have been absorbed into Conwy County Borough Council's reserves.

**61. Ward Meetings**

Members gave feedback on the Ward Meetings held before the start of the Special Meeting. Conwy Councillors were concerned that Llywelyn Fountain was not operating. The Town Clerk informed Members that she had contacted Conwy County Borough Council regarding the problem.

Conwy Councillors were pleased with the wooden planters in Wishing Well Gardens.

Deganwy Councillors updated Members on the situation with the Promenade shelter

Llandudno Junction Councillors were concerned about the increase in anti-social behaviour and the state of the Adshel bus shelter by the Weekly News

**RESOLVED** that Inspector Joyce, PC Cooper and PCSO's are invited to a meeting.

*The order of the agenda was changed with the permission of the Chairman*

**62. Civic Sunday**

a)Members RECEIVED the Risk Assessment for the parade. The overall rating is Low.

**RESOLVED** that the Risk Assessment is approved and accepted.

b)Members were informed of the arrangements for Civic Sunday on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2015

**63. Conwy County Borough Council's Registration Service**

**RESOLVED** that the agenda item is deferred to a future meeting.

**64. Information Governance Training**

The Town Clerk informed Members that she had attended a training session given by Conwy County Borough Council on information Governance which she found very useful.

**65. Banner Stand**

**RESOLVED** that the agenda item is deferred to a future meeting.

**66. Guildhall Room Hire Rates**

**RESOLVED** that the agenda item is deferred to a future meeting.

**67. Hire of Guildhall**

Members RECEIVED a request to hire the Guildhall from noon on 23/10/15 to 26/10/15 for an art exhibition. Members were concerned that, due to other commitments, the fact that it is the weekend of The Gwledd Conwy Feast and half term, that there would be insufficient Councillors to carry out the required stewarding. Also, events in the Guildhall over the Feast weekend had not been very successful **RESOLVED** that the request is turned down.

**68. Approval of Payments**

**RESOLVED** that the following payment is approved:

a) Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water – Guildhall Water Charges, 3/12/14 to 22/6/15 - £110.90

Along with the additional payment:

b) BT Payment Services Ltd – Guildhall Alarm, 1/4/15 – 30/6/15 - £54.03 plus vat

**69. Cash Payments**

There were no Cash Payments

**70. List of Cheques**

**RESOLVED** that the list of cheques 320, as tabled, is approved for payment (Schedule C)

**There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8:55pm**