

MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**Monday 28th April 2014****TOWN CLERK'S REPORT****1. Letters of Thanks****a) Conwy Classical Music Festival**

"Many thanks indeed for the cheque for £2,750... Please pass on my very sincere thanks to the Members of the Council for, once again, sponsoring the Music Festival so generously. The Town Council's support makes all the difference & means that a fuller & richer programme than would otherwise be, is possible...With all good wishes. Chris"

b) North Wales Bluegrass Festival

"I am writing on behalf of the North Wales Bluegrass Committee to thank Conwy Town Council for its grant of £1,500. We are very grateful for the continued support for this year's festival & appreciate all the Council's efforts to try & keep the Civic Hall open & available for hire. Due to the festival's popularity it will formally commence on 3/7, making it a 4 day event, thereby lengthening the amount of time that our visitors spend in Conwy...Kind regards. Yours sincerely, Gill Williams"

2. European Parliamentary Elections Across Wales on 22nd May 2014

On Thursday 22nd May electors will be going to the polls to vote in European Parliamentary elections in their area. The Electoral Commission, the independent elections watchdog, is keen to work with charities & other organisations ahead of the elections to ensure everyone who is eligible to vote knows how to do so. Making sure nobody misses out. We would really appreciate your help to make sure that everyone in areas where elections are taking place knows that they need to register in order to vote. The registration deadline is Tuesday 6 May. From April, we will be advertising on television, radio & online to raise awareness of the elections. We will also be making people aware that they can visit www.aboutmyvote.co.uk for more information or call our helpline on 0800 3280280 if they have any questions about voter registration or the elections. We have also produced resources for charities & other groups to use to help raise awareness of the elections & registration deadline, including downloadable posters & an image gallery. You can find our resources at www.electoralcommission.org.uk/participation-resources. If you would like us to provide some copy & free photographs for your website or newsletters on how people can participate in the elections, or if you would like a quote for any election-related news releases you may be issuing, please contact our press office on 020 7271 0704. As always, we are keen to hear whether you found our resources useful, so please contact us at info@electoralcommission.org.uk to let us know. The Electoral Commission

3. Conwy County Borough Council – Special Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

With the agreement of the Chair, a Special Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee has been organised on 19/6/14 at 10am to consider a number of Supplementary Planning Guidance reports

4. Betsi Cadwaladr Community Health Council

At the AGM held on 8/4/14 Mr Gordon Donaldson was elected Chair & Mrs Jackie Allen was elected as Vice-Chair for the year 2014/15. They can be contacted via Betsi Cadwaladr Community Health Council, Bangor Office, 11 Chestnut Court, Parc Menai, Bangor, LL57 4FH. Phone 01248 679284

The BCCHC holds meetings in public & welcomes members of the public to attend to observe proceedings. Members of the public may also speak at meetings by arrangement & agreement of the Chair. Please contact the office for an agenda (as above or email admin@bcchc.org.uk, www.communityhealthcouncils.org.uk)
The 2014/15 dates are: 15/7/14, 7/10/14, 27/1/15 & 14/4/15

5. Conwy Morfa Footpath

Following the submission of the Deputy Mayor's report on the storm damage to Conwy Morfa Footpath to the Countryside & Rights of Way Service, CCBC, the following reply has been received:

"Many thanks for the report, Helen. We are well aware of this. Between the Countryside Service & the Coast & Flood Risk team, we have submitted funding applications in respect of coast protection works & coast path restoration to the Welsh Government. The coast path application was unsuccessful, but we are in contact with the Coast & Flood Risk team to seek to ensure that proposed coast protection works also provide for long term use of the coast path. Kind regards, Tom Gravett, Countryside & Rights of Way Manager, CCBC"

6. Welsh Government Fuel Poverty Scheme – NEST

Nest is the Welsh Government's fuel poverty scheme. It aims to help reduce the number of households in fuel poverty & make Welsh homes warmer and more fuel-efficient places to live. Many people in Wales are estimated to spend 10% or more of their household income on fuel bills. The Welsh Government is committed to eradicating fuel poverty, as far as is reasonably practicable, in all households in Wales by 2018 & has developed Nest to ensure that everyone in Wales has access to some advice & support to help them reduce their fuel bills & reduce the risk of them living in fuel poverty. The scheme is fully funded by Welsh Government & they are insistent that NEST work hard to engage with local communities thus identifying those in most need of help. If you are worried about the cost of heating your home, you can call 0808 808 2244 free from a landline or a mobile phone. Our friendly advisors can offer advice on saving energy & money management. They can also signpost you to organisations who can ensure you're on the best fuel tariff & check whether you are entitled to any benefits to boost your income. You may also be eligible to receive home improvements at no cost to you, to help make your home warmer & reduce the cost of your energy bills. Nest support is available to everyone in Wales.

7. North Wales Police – Operation Darwin

An operation aimed at reducing motorcycle-related deaths & serious injuries on the roads of North Wales has begun. Operation Darwin is a force-wide campaign which runs from Easter through until early autumn which is aimed at motorcycle safety & reducing casualties on our roads. Historically high numbers of motorcyclists descend onto North Wales due to the challenging nature of the roads in areas of outstanding natural beauty such as Snowdonia. Motorcyclists are more at risk of being killed or seriously injured in a road traffic collision than any other road user, representing 1% of road traffic but accounting for 18% of all fatalities. Chief Inspector Darren Wareing from North Wales Police' Roads Policing Unit said there was an increase in fatalities & serious injuries on the roads in the area: "One of the most worrying emerging trends is motorcyclists who have been impaired by alcohol &/or drugs which is a concern for us. Motorcycle casualties are the only group which has shown a continuing increase from last year - overall KSI motorcycle casualties have experienced a 189% increase – from 9 to 26. Operation Darwin is one of many campaigns & initiatives that we run throughout the

year targeting high-risk road users. It is not about alienating the motorcycling community – it is about education & enforcement. Whilst the vast majority of motorcyclists ride appropriately, some riders choose to use the roads as a racetrack, committing serious breaches of road safety legislation, such as speeding & riding dangerously thereby putting themselves & other road users at risk of death or life changing injury. We are committed to keeping people safe on the roads of North Wales - we want them to enjoy the roads but most of all we want them to ride safely & responsibly. Responsible riders are welcome to visit the area & take in the stunning scenery & landscape, but even they face risk of death or serious injury by underestimating the risk posed by fatigue brought on by a combination of driving long distances & concentrating on navigating challenging & unfamiliar routes. I would also urge bikers to take the opportunity to enhance their skills through training & attend the free Bikesafe workshops. Bikesafe is an accredited scheme which is run nationally by police forces which aims to reduce motorcycling casualties. We will continue to target, with a view to prosecution, all those that ride or drive dangerously, at excess speed, overtake on solid white lines or commit any other road traffic offences. Please heed the warning.”

Throughout the campaign Bikesafe representatives will also be out & about speaking to riders & promoting the Bikesafe initiative which offer workshops in North Wales. A number of Bikesafe engagement days have been organised for the summer months including visits to the Ponderosa, Betws-y-Coed, Corwen & Llangollen. Police & partners – including the Fire and Rescue Service, Welsh Ambulance Service, Trunk Roads Agency, Gwynedd Council, Snowdonia National Park, Bikesafe & Go Safe recently launched the A494 Road Safety initiative, which aims to raise awareness of the dangers facing motorists, in particular motorcyclists who have made up nearly 60% of fatalities & serious injuries on the road which stretches from Hawarden in the north east through to Dolgellau in the north west. To book a space on the free Bikesafe workshops please visit <http://www.bikesafe.co.uk/locate-a-force/north-wales/north-wales-english/about-north-wales-bikesafe/>

8. Courses/Workshops/Training/Conferences

a) Start Your Own Business Workshops

Free, impartial service to help you develop your ideas. Held at Conwy Business Centre, Llandudno Junction. Topics:

- a) Introduction – Taking the Plunge (choose 1 date only)
15/5/14, 2/6/14, 1/7/14, 11/8/14 – all 9:15am to 1pm; 24/6/14, 28/7/14 – both 5:30pm to 9pm
- b) Sizing Up the Market
19/5/14, 11/6/14, 10/7/14, 18/8/14 – all 9:15am to 1pm
- c) Winning & Keeping Customers
19/5/14, 11/6/14, 10/7/14, 18/8/14 – all 1:30pm to 5:15pm
- d) Pricing for Profit
21/5/14, 17/6/14, 15/7/14, 19/8/14 – all 9:15am to 1pm
- e) Managing Your Finances
21/5/14, 17/6/14 – both 1:30pm to 5:15pm; 21/7/14, 28/8/14 – both 9:15am to 1pm
- f) Managing Your Business Effectively (includes tax information)
29/5/14, 24/6/14 – both 9:15am to 1pm; 21/7/14, 28/8/14 – both 1:30pm to 5:15pm

To book phone 01492 574555 or 03000 603000, email anturconwyenterprise@conwy.gov.uk, for more information visit www.business.wales.gov.uk

b) Safeguarding Training (formerly Child Protection Training)

22/5/14, 10a, to 3pm, Conwy Business Centre. Free for voluntary sector & community & sports groups.

This course will include:

- An introduction to the Safeguarding Self Audit Tool – can be used as a check list to see where you are up to within your organisation & identify what else you might need to do to put safeguards in place
- Policies & procedures – what does your organisation have in place to support safeguarding
- DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service) checks – who, what & why?
- Recruitment, employment & volunteering
- Information sharing, storage & confidentiality
- Use of risk assessments
- E-safety, financial abuse/scams & other abuse issues

To book call 01824 702441 or email Bronwen@dvsc.co.uk

9. Events

a) May Day Rhos

3/5/14, 3pm to 5pm, Rhos Methodist Church Hall, Rhos-on-Sea, Free entry

A special event for senior citizens of Conwy County Borough Council & their carers, friends & families. A programme of music & dance from different cultures & also an opportunity to socialise with fellow citizens. Refreshments.

For further information call 01492 530110 or email Doctorroy@btinternet.com or Donporter165@btinternet.com

b) Have Your Say on Equalities & Discuss the Future of Wales

WCVA Rhyl, 15 May 2014. £15 for WCVA members (excluding e-members) or £25 for e-members and non-members.

Progress on equalities 2010-14: Shared learning & reflection on the journey travelled & challenges for 2014 & beyond will give you the chance to influence the equalities work of key organisations in Wales. Run in conjunction with WACVC, the Welsh Government Fairer Futures Division, the NHS Centre for Equality & Human Rights, Public Health Wales & WLGA's Equalities Unit, we're looking to gather your experiences & feedback on how public sector authorities are meeting the equality duty in advance of the Equality 2014 Minister's Report due this December.

In the afternoon, you'll then be able to attend *A national conversation: the Wales We Want*, in which you can have your say on the long-term goals proposed for Wales ^ influence Welsh Government understanding of the long-term issues that future generations might face, from health to skills & climate change. It's your chance to have your voice heard. For more information call 0800 2888 329 or email help@wcva.org.uk

c) Conwy 2014-15 Wildlife Events – Discovering Conwy's Biodiversity

A copy of this year's events can be found on the hall table in the Guildhall or under "Biodiversity" on the Conwy County Borough Council website (www.conwy.gov.uk)

d) Afasic Cymru Family Day – "Art Speaks"

Bodelwyddan Castle & Park, 29/5/14, 10am to 4pm, adults & 6.95, children free, Afasic members free.

Open to all. Special art exhibitions, performances throughout the day, adventure play area with picnic area, 40 acres of grounds for you to explore including a deer

park, rare World War I practice trenches, 18 different art workshops, entrance to the National Portrait Gallery, woodland walks, bird hide, orchard & maze, aviary & formal gardens. For more information visit www.afasiccymru.org.uk
Afacic Cymru is the only charity in Wales representing children & young adults with speech language & communication impairments, working for their inclusion in society & supporting their parents & carers

e) Afasic Cymru Family Day – “Alice in Wonderland Tea Party”

Bodelwyddan Castle & Park, 29/5/14, 11am to 11:45am, 12:15pm to 1pm, 1:30pm to 2:15pm, £12 per head to include food. Book in advance via Yvonne@afasiccymru.org.uk

f) Volunteer Organisers’ Network

9/5/14, 9:30am to 12:30pm, Llandudno Junction Community Club
Do you...

- Have an interest in meeting other volunteer organisers
- Need support with recruiting, retaining & managing volunteers
- Want to find out about topical issues
- Want to learn more about how CVSC volunteering team can support you

If so, we look forward to seeing you

To register you please call 01492 871110 or email volunteercentre@cvsc.org.uk

g) Digital Art Open Exhibition 2014

28/6/14 to 19/7/14

For more information & to enter items in the exhibition contact the Royal Cambrian Academy on 01492 593413 or email admin@rcaconwy.org. The closing date for entries is 3/5/14 with notification of selected artworks on 19/5/14.

10. Newsletters

Community & Voluntary Support Conwy (CVSC)

The Spring 2014 issue of CVSC news is available on the Chamber table in the Guildhall

11. Welsh Government Consultations

Communities

Consultation on the regulations to introduce a new Firefighters’ Pension Scheme in Wales from April 2015

Closing Date 4/7/14

Education & Skills

Proposed regulations for the dissolution of further education corporations

Closing Date 9/6/14

Environment & Countryside

Onshore oil exploration activities: integrated pollution prevention & control

Closing Date 2/6/14

Water Strategy for Wales

Closing Date 4/7/14

Statistics

Proposals concerning the publication of Sustainable Development Indicators statistical outputs

Closing Date 4/7/14