

**CYNGOR TREF CONWY TOWN COUNCIL  
GUILDHALL, CONWY  
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2020**

**Present: Councillors – G Edwards (Mayor & Chair), E Leighton-Jones (Deputy Mayor & Vice-Chair), G Willetts, P Hart, T James, J Rooney, C Ryan, V Macdonald, H Roberts, S Barber-Bailey, B Chapman, M Craven, M Priestley, C Parry, J Vaughan, S Cotton.**

**In Attendance: Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer, Natasha Flint  
Deputy Town Clerk, Rachel Lees**

**Prayers: The Mayor’s Chaplain led the Prayers.**

**Apologies: Councillor - E Roberts**

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

Agenda 02/03/20 – Councillors P Hart and T James are married.

Agenda item 22, Questions to the Chair/Town Clerk – Glan Y Môr Road Businesses – Councillor H Roberts has a business and lives on the road.

**Minute Number**

**83. Minutes**

- Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020.  
RESOLVED that the minutes are ACCEPTED and APPROVED

**84. Questions on the Minutes**

Minute 199. CCTV

Councillor S Barber-Bailey informed Members that an incident had occurred in Conwy Town recently and was captured on CCTV.

Minute 209. Hanging Baskets

Councillor S Barber-Bailey asked if there was any mention of asking for the quotes to include environmentally friendly peat free compost and slug pellets.

The Town Clerk advised Councillors that the above had not been mentioned at the last meeting but could be included when asking for the quotes.

**85. Report Back**

**Walled Towns Friendship Circle**

Councillor H Roberts reminded Councillors of the change of date for the WTFC Annual Dinner which will now be held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 202, 7pm at Caernarfon Golf Club.

**86. Town Clerk’s Report**

Councillors received a report from the Deputy Town Clerk (Schedule A attached)

Item 6 – Important Message Green Growth Funding Opportunities for Town Councils - Councillor S Barber-Bailey requested the item be placed on the next Agenda.

**87. Planning**

**a) Planning Applications**

Councillors considered and commented on the attached Schedule B

**b) Planning Decisions Issued**

Members received a list of planning decisions issued by Conwy County Borough Council (Schedule C)  
The decisions were NOTED.

#### **88. Firework Tender for Christmas Eve 2020**

Councillors received 3 quotes for the fireworks display for Christmas Eve Event, the quotes were from The UK Firework and Events Company, Snowdoina Fireworks and Nemesis Pyrotechnics Ltd. Councillors discussed each quote and asked if the quotes included the use of quieter fireworks, as there was no mention of this in the quotes. The Town Clerk informed Councillors that one of the companies could provide more festive fireworks.

RESOLVED that the quote from The UK Firework Company is accepted for a 3-year contract at a cost of £2095.00 plus VAT per year and that the Town Clerk asks whether there would be further cost involved to have some quieter fireworks and more of a festive display.

#### **89. Standing Orders**

The Town Clerk clarified Standing Order number 3q. **The Chairman of a meeting may give an original vote on any matter put to the vote, and in the case of an equality of votes may exercise his casting vote whether or not he gave an original vote.**

Councillors NOTED the Standing Order.

#### **90. Guildhall Survey**

Councillors received quotes from G Holland on behalf of PM Surveys UK and Donald Insall Associates for a measured survey of the building. Councillors were informed that the plans of the existing layout need to be drawn up as the original drawings held by Conwy County Borough Council were lost in a fire many years ago.

RESOLVED that the quote from G Holland on behalf of PM Surveys UK is accepted at a cost of £730.00 plus VAT for floor plans and £890.00 plus VAT for external elevations.

Councillor S Barber-Bailey and S Cotton abstained from the vote.

#### **91. Road Closure Request – Conwy RNLI**

Councillors received correspondence from Mr Davies, Conwy RNLI, regarding the disappointment felt by the RNLI that the County Council is charging for the road closure for the events being held on 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

Councillor J Vaughan has contacted the portfolio holders and as yet has had no reply.

Councillors NOTED the correspondence.

#### **92. Wales in Bloom - Conwy in Bloom Working Party**

Councillor B Chapman gave a report on the working party which met on the 17<sup>th</sup> February. The working party looked through the report of the judge from last year and from this hope to achieve a gold award in 2020. The working party proposed to fund voluntary organisations with £50 towards plants to enhance the community areas. It was felt that Councillors could be in touch with such organisations to make them aware of the fund and that they could apply by contacting the Town Clerk, details could also be placed on the website and Facebook and should include the need to use environmentally friendly resources where possible, applicants must provide evidence of their purchases. It was also discussed that not only Conwy Town organisations can apply but this offer will be for Deganwy and Llandudno Junction.

RESOLVED that voluntary organisations are granted £50 to purchase plants up to a maximum budget of £500.

#### **93. Litter picking Equipment**

Councillors discussed purchasing litter pickers and rings for the future clean up events and the Christmas events where litter is picked up. The Town Clerk gave Councillors a price that the Events Co-ordinator had found of £8.59 including postage for 4 litter picking arms and £8.99 plus postage for 4 Hooped bag holders.

RESOLVED that 12 packs of 4 litter picking arms and 12 packs of 4 hooped bag holders are purchased at a total cost of £210.96

#### **94. Update on links with Japan**

Councillor B Chapman gave an update on the meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Discussions at the meeting included the plans for exchange students from Japan to come and stay with families in Conwy. Possible date for the exchange is 22<sup>nd</sup> July to 2<sup>nd</sup> August but will now be dependent on the outcome of the coronavirus situation. The Mayor will be asked to meet with the students possibly in the Guildhall and refreshments provided by the Town

Council. It was noted that a Councillor wished to look at celebrating VJ Day as well as VE Day, Councillors felt the visit from the exchange students should not clash with VJ Day which is the 15<sup>th</sup> August.

#### **95. Motion regarding nominations for Office of Deputy Mayor**

Councillors discussed the motion proposed by Councillor G Willetts and seconded by Councillor J Rooney. Some Councillors felt that the opportunity to become deputy Mayor should be open to short serving Councillors as there is no term set in the Standing Orders, and by agreeing to this motion this would give the short serving Councillors the first opportunity to be nominated ahead of previous serving Mayors. Some Councillors felt that it could prove beneficial to have a past Mayor as Deputy Mayor should they need to take the reins, as could happen in an election year. Also, there may be times in the future where there is no suitable Councillor to take on the role of Deputy Mayor and if this motion stops previous Mayors from being able to be nominated, then it could be the case that the Council is left with an unsuitable Deputy Mayor to lead the Council once they become Mayor.

An amendment to the motion was made by Councillor V Macdonald and seconded by Councillor S Cotton that the motion is not accepted.

It was requested by Councillor H Roberts that a recoded vote takes place as that of Standing Order 3r.

The amendment was voted on first and recorded as follows:

All those in favour of the amendment were - Cllrs H Roberts, V Macdonald, B Chapman, S Cotton, E Leighton-Jones

All those against the amendment were - Cllrs T James, C Ryan, M Craven, J Vaughan, M Priestley, C Parry, J Rooney, S Barber-Bailey, P Hart, G Willetts. The Mayor abstained from the vote.

The motion proposed by Councillor G Willetts and seconded by Councillor J Rooney was voted on and recorded as follows:

All those in favour of the proposal were - Cllrs T James, C Ryan, M Craven, J Vaughan, M Priestley, C Parry, J Rooney, P Hart, G Willetts.

All those against the proposal were - Cllrs H Roberts, V Macdonald, B Chapman, S Cotton, E Leighton-Jones

The Mayor and Councillor S Barber-Bailey abstained from the vote.

RESOLVED that no Member of Conwy Town Council who has held the office of Deputy Mayor prior the year 2020, shall be nominated to hold such office in the Council Year 2020/21 or subsequent years. In the alternative, If no nominations are received by the Town Council for persons who have not held the office of Deputy Mayor, then the Town Council can then receive nominations from those persons who have held the position in previous years.

#### **96. Nomination for Mayor 2020/21**

It was proposed by Councillor P Hart, seconded by Councillor B Chapman, and

RESOLVED that Councillor E Leighton-Jones is appointed as Town Mayor-Elect for the Municipal Year 2020/21.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor E Leighton-Jones who thanked Councillor P Hart for her nomination and thanked the Council for electing her as Mayor.

#### **97. Nomination for Deputy Mayor 2020/21**

It was proposed by Councillor J Rooney, seconded by Councillor T James, and

RESOLVED that Councillor C Ryan is appointed as Deputy Town Mayor-Elect for the Municipal Year 2020/21. The Mayor congratulated Councillor C Ryan who thanked the Council for electing her as Deputy Mayor. The Mayor Elect congratulated the Deputy Mayor Elect.

#### **98. Honorary Bailies 2020/21**

Councillors made nominations for Honorary Bailies 2020/21

RESOLVED to invite Ivor Williams and Denise Hughes to become Honorary Bailies.

#### **99. Approval of Payments**

RESOLVED that the following Payments and Donations are approved:

- a) Burns Crystal – Civic gifts, candle holders and paperweights - £445.75 plus VAT
- b) Xerox Finance UK Ltd – Printer lease 01/04/2020 to 30/06/2020 £79.14 plus VAT
- c) CCBC – CCTV contribution for 2020 - £8000.00
- d) Scottish Power – Additional electricity for Christmas 31/01/19 to 31/01/2020 £241.44 plus VAT
- e) British Telecommunications – Guildhall Telephone charges – 1/02/20 to 30/04/20

Along with the additional payment:

- f) Hops & Barley – Refreshments for Civic Events - £223.77 plus VAT

**100. List of Cheques**

RESOLVED that the list of Cheques Sheet 438 is approved as tabled (Schedule D).

*Councillor H Roberts left the meeting during the discussions on the next item.*

**101. Questions to Chair / Town Clerk**

- a) Glan Y Môr Road, Llandudno Junction Businesses and the effects of the traffic regulations in place for the construction of Lidl.

A Member of the public / Business owner who had previously attended the Special Meeting of the Council on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020, addressed the Council once again at this meeting regarding the response received from the Officer following the letter sent by the Town Clerk. The business owner described the response of the officer as being inadequate and clearly blames the public for poor and inconsiderate driving. The Business owners of the area are deeply concerned that nothing has been done to alleviate the problem and it states in the letter that it should be completed by the 14<sup>th</sup> March, however, the signs say May. No business owners have been contacted and the Lidl contractors seem uninterested by the problems being faced by the business owners. The Deputy Leader will chase the leading officer on this tomorrow. Councillors felt that something needed to be done urgently on behalf of the business owners, and that the Town Council should demand some action to be taken.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk writes to the Head of Services to get together on this and seek action immediately and is to copy the chief executive into the conversation.

*Councillor H Roberts returned to the meeting.*

- b) Coronavirus

Councillors discussed going forward with the news of the coronavirus and NOTED that the Town Council will follow the lead of the NHS Guidance and Advice in respect of the precautions and steps to follow during the coronavirus outbreak.

**102. Mayoral Announcements**

The Mayor will make announcements at the next Town Council Meeting.

**103. Twenty Minutes - Questions from the Residents**

There were no questions from residents.

**There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8:56pm**