

CYNGOR TREF CONWY TOWN COUNCIL
GUILDHALL, CONWY
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, 4th JULY 2016

PRESENT : Councillors – P Hart (Town Mayor), B Chapman (Chair), E Leighton-Jones, R Parker, S Allardice, J Hughes, B James, T James, E Hughes, A James, C Rigal, H Roberts, V Macdonald, S Cotton

IN ATTENDANCE : Helen Barritt, Town Clerk
Rachel Lees, Assistant to the Town Clerk

APOLOGIES :

Declarations of Interest – Code of Local Government Conduct:

Agenda Item:

Agenda Item 7a – Planning Applications – Councillor Allardice is on the County Council Planning Committee

Agenda Item 7a – Planning Applications – Councillors Parker, Hughes & Roberts are committee members of Trakz who use the rooms of the showroom

Agenda Item 8 – Sychnant Pass Road, Conwy – Beech Developments Proposal for Residential Development – Councillors Roberts & Parker are committee members of Trakz who receive funding from Beech Homes

Agenda Item 18b – Guildhall Room Hire Rates – Councillors Parker & Macdonald run Conwy Ensemble

Minute Number

45. Development in the Conwy Town Council Area

The agenda item was not discussed as Officers from CCBC could not attend the meeting. An alternative date will be arranged.

46. Minutes

- Minutes of the Staff Committee held on 27th June 2016
RESOLVED that the minutes are ACCEPTED and APPROVED
- Minutes of the Christmas Committee held on 27th June 2016
RESOLVED that the minutes are ACCEPTED and APPROVED

47. Questions on the Minutes

Christmas Committee held on 27th June 2016, Minute 3 Christmas Lights

- a) Members decided the shooting star motifs in all communities should be facing down.
- b) The Reindeer motif has been referred to Bebbington & Wilson to see if it will be suitable for the locations in Deganwy
- c) The Town Clerk informed members that the price is the same as quoted on the minutes

48. Town Clerk's Report

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

The Town Clerk reported the following additional items:

- a) Parking Prohibition – Ronald Avenue from Junction Conway Road to property 12 and Queens Road from Junction Conway Road to the Hall – 10/7/16
- b) Road Closure – Conway Road Roundabout to Narrow Lane Roundabout, The Royal Welsh Way, Llandudno – 12/7/16 to 13/7/16, 8pm to 11pm

- c) Members were reminded to fill in their Register of Interests form as soon as possible, members who have not submitted their forms will be emailed by the Town Clerk

49. Planning

- a) Planning Applications

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 & The Planning Inspectorate

50. Sychnant Pass Road, Conwy – Beech Developments Proposal for Residential Development

The Open Spaces & Footpaths Working Party had met prior to this meeting to discuss the appeal regarding the refusal of the proposed development by Beech Developments (NW) Ltd.

The meeting was poorly attended & those who did attend felt that it was important that more members should get involved so they could work as a coherent group.

Members discussed the format of the appeal which will take the form of a Public Inquiry starting on 26th October 2016.

Conwy County Borough Council will be represented at the hearing & have engaged the services of a barrister.

Members felt that it was important that the Town Council was represented at the Inquiry

Councillor Allardice had written a Statement of Case document.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk circulates the Statement of Case to all Members along with a copy of the appeal document & the “Guide to taking part in planning appeals proceeding by inquiry – Wales”

51. Walled Towns Friendship Circle Vintage Car Rally

Members were informed that preparations for the rally were going well and that the entry forms would be sent out in the next few days. 2 Prizes are need for this year’s rally. Members were informed that the rally committee feel that the Walled Towns Friendship Circle should pay towards all costs of the Rally including refreshments. The Mayor will be in charge of Marshals on the day

RESOLVED that one print is purchased at around £60 and one paperweight to be given as prizes

52. Community Transport Strategy Consultation

Members received details of the Conwy Community Transport Strategy.

RESOLVED that:

- a) the consultation is brought back to future meeting
- b) the Town Clerk finds out when the Consultation Workshop is to be held

53. Car Parking & Parking Issues

- a) Members were informed that Mr Turner, Conwy County Borough Council would be attending the Town Council meeting on 15th August to discuss the Car Parking Asset Strategy Review.

Members were informed that a meeting of Conwy County Borough Council’s Joint Communities & Customers Overview & Scrutiny Committees would be held on 30th August at 10am to review the Task & Finish Group’s findings & that any decision would be considered by Cabinet as it was an executive decision.

Members discussed the impact on local car parks.

Local residents & County Councillors for the community will be made aware that Mr Turner will be attending the meeting on 15th August.

- b) Members received a complaint and photographic evidence regarding the increased incidences of parking on Lancaster Square.

Members were informed that Conwy County Borough Council's Legal Department is looking into the matter to see how this can be prohibited.

Members suggested that positioning planters on the Square could solve the problem. Concerns were expressed that damage is being caused to the slabs & pavement.

RESOLVED that:

- a) the Town Clerk writes to the County Council to let them know that a complaint has been received and that the Town Council is concerned about the increased incidences
- b) The Town Clerk writes to the Police discouraging them from parking on the Square

54. Centenary Fields

Members RECEIVED correspondence regarding Centenary Fields Commemorating World War I 2014-18. Nominations are requested for recreational spaces to be dedicated as Centenary Fields

RESOLVED that the following locations are nominated:

- Penmaen Road, Conwy – land used as a training ground by Conwy Borough Football Club (LL32 8HA)
- Penmaen Road, Conwy – recreational ground (LL32 8HA)
- Conwy Bowling Club, Benarth Road, Conwy (LL32 8RH)
- Tan y Fron Playing Field, Pentwyn Road, Deganwy
- Bryn Eglwys, Llandudno Junction – land behind Llandudno Junction Catholic Church (LL31 9NU)
- Twt Hill Farm, Bangor Road, Conwy (LL32 8DU)
- Bodlondeb, Bangor Road, Conwy (LL32 8DU)
- Llandudno Junction Community Club grounds, Victoria Drive, Llandudno Junction (LL31 9PG)
- Playing Fields, Llanrwst Road, Gyffin, Conwy (LL32 8FZ)

55. Llandudno Junction New School

Members discussed the decision by the County Council Cabinet to approve the temporary arrangement for foundation phase pupils to be educated at Ysgol Nant y Coed & Key Stage 2 pupils at Ysgol Maelgwn until the new school building is available. They were informed that this decision is exempt from call-in. Members queried whether the minutes of the Cabinet meeting on 28th June 2016 were legal and were a true & accurate record, as they had been published prior to the meeting.

Members felt that the decision did not reflect the consultation that had been held & that the 28 days' notice that had to be given by Cabinet would end during the school holidays.

Staff at the schools will need to move resources during the holidays.

RESOLVED that:

- a) the Town Council makes a Freedom of Information Act request to the County Council asking for the results of the consultation on the options for the temporary school
- b) a complaint is made to the County Council questioning the legality of the minutes, as they were published prior to the meeting

56. Proposed Closure of St. Michael & All Angels' Catholic Church, Conwy

Members RECEIVED a letter from a resident regarding the proposed closure of St. Michael & All Angels' Catholic Church, Conwy. The resident felt that the closure would be a great loss to the community and requested a letter of support to keep the Church open to be sent to the Bishop.

Members agreed that the closure would be a great loss to the town. A reduced public transport network would not help attendees to get to the Church in Llandudno Junction

RESOLVED that a letter of support is sent to The Right Reverend Peter M. Brignall, Bishop of Wrexham

57. North Wales Population Assessment

Members received the North Wales Population Assessment to be forwarded on to relevant organisations

58. Guildhall Working Party

Members received a report from the Working Party meeting held on 23rd June 2016. Mr Teale & Mr Williams of Conwy County Borough Council had attended the meeting.

Work on the kitchen roof is due to start soon.

A full condition survey of the building needs to be undertaken. Mr Teale suggested that a survey of the roof could be undertaken by a drone. He suggested that vegetation is removed from the building at the end of the Autumn.

Members agreed that a plan of work needed to be made to be spread over several years.

RESOLVED that Mr Teale and Mr Williams are thanked for coming to the meeting and that the drone survey is carried out

59. Insurance

a) Members RECEIVED a quote from Zurich Municipal for general insurance for 22/7/16 to 21/7/17. This is the third year of a three year agreement. The quote is £2,723.82 including IPT. The Town Clerk said that a few items needed to be added on to the asset schedule that may increase the quote slightly.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk accepts the revised quote

b) Members received correspondence from CCBC regarding the 2016/17 Guildhall buildings insurance charge. The County Council is to refund £ 2,328.61, 50% of the charge. This is due to the recognition that leaseholders are facing financial hardship.

60. Guildhall Room Hire Rates

a) Members considered the Guildhall hire rates for 2016/17

RESOLVED that the rates are held at the 2015/16 rates

Councillors Parker & Macdonald left the meeting at this juncture

b) Conwy Ensemble

RESOLVED that the Conwy Ensemble should continue to be able to use the Guildhall on a Thursday evening without charge

Councillors Parker & Macdonald returned to the meeting

61. Town Council Website

RESOLVED that the agenda item is deferred to a future meeting

62. Guildhall Computer Systems

RESOLVED that the agenda item is deferred to a future meeting

63. Society of Local Council Clerks – 2016 Conference for Wales

The Town Clerk informed Members that the conference will be held on 14th September 2016 in Llandudno. The cost is £69 plus vat.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk attends the event

64. Civic Sunday

Members RECEIVED details of the arrangements for Civic Sunday.

- a) The quote from Ekult Highways is £168.50 plus vat. This includes two Chapter 8 trained operatives in attendance

RESOLVED that the quote is accepted

- b) Members received the risk assessment for the event which is low

RESOLVED that the risk assessment is accepted

65. Town Council Embroidered Badges

RESOLVED that the agenda item is deferred to a future meeting

66. July 2016 Grants Meeting

RESOLVED that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council is set for Wednesday 27th July at 6:30pm

67. Approval of Payments

RESOLVED that the following invoices are approved for payment:

- a) Walker Fire (UK) Ltd. – Annual Service of Fire Fighting Equipment - £101.50 plus vat
- b) A Slater – Guildhall & Bus Shelter Windows for the 4 weeks to 1/7/16 & Clearing of Guildhall Gutters - £210.00
- c) Conwy County Borough Council – VAT on Bus Shelter Contribution 2013/14 - £1,100.00

68. Cash Payments

RESOLVED that the list of cash payments 100, as tabled, is approved (Schedule C)

69. List of Cheques

RESOLVED that the list of cheques 345, as tabled, is approved for payment (Schedule D)

The Chairman allowed the following item due to its urgency

70. “Conwy A to Z”

A member of the public had contacted the Town Clerk regarding a book he is writing. He is looking for help regarding any interesting history or stories about the Guildhall, particularly the “Jackdaw Chair”

RESOLVED that Councillor T James liaises with him

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8:48pm