

**MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL****1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015****TOWN CLERK'S REPORT****1. Conwy County Borough Council**

The meeting of Customers Overview & Scrutiny Committee scheduled for 15/9/15, 2pm has been cancelled.

**2. Letter of Thanks****a) Conwy Bowling Club**

"Thank you" P. Jones

**b) Conwy County Sea Cadet Corp**

"Would you please let your members know how greatly we value this support"

**c) Home Start**

"Many thanks for your letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> July advising us that our request for Grant funding from Conwy Town Council had been successful in the sum of £200. Please can you pass on our sincere thanks to the Council for their support" Sylvia Chadwick, Scheme Manager

**3. BBC Charter Review Consultation**

As I am sure you are aware, earlier this month the BBC Trust published an initial summary response to the Government's Green Paper & consultation on the BBC's next Charter. It sets out the Trust's thoughts in reaction to some of the proposals. You can find our response on the Trust's site. As part of our ongoing commitment to representing the views of licence fee payers, the Trust is undertaking a programme of evidence gathering activities to feed into the Charter Review. This includes the first phase of our consultative work which can be found online here. In addition, audiences can take part in the Trust's consultative programme, by visiting [www.bbc.co.uk/tomorrowsbbc](http://www.bbc.co.uk/tomorrowsbbc), emailing [tomorrow@bbc.co.uk](mailto:tomorrow@bbc.co.uk), tweeting @bbctrust with #tomorrowsbbc or by calling 0800 0680 116. Over the coming months, the Trust's evidence gathering programme will also involve audience research, testing of the government's proposals & – as outlined by the Secretary of State in both the Green Paper & in Parliament – a series of seminars & events, some of which will be held in partnership with external organisations, across the United Kingdom to give the public the opportunity to engage in the debate with the Trust. Further details will follow shortly. The Trust will present the results of this first phase of consultation to the Government when it responds in more detail to the Green Paper this autumn. A second phase of consultation, based on some specific future proposals & initiatives from the BBC Executive, will begin in September. Should you wish to engage in the Trust's programme of work in relation to Charter Review, please don't hesitate to contact us at: [tomorrow@bbc.co.uk](mailto:tomorrow@bbc.co.uk). Or, if you would like further information or would like to talk to me or my colleague Karl Davies, Chief Adviser Wales, please call on 029-20322004. Elan Closs Stevens, BBC National Trustee for Wales.

**4. Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) Update**

The Council's Adopted Local Development Plan contains policies and proposals which provide a basis for decision-making on planning applications and for framing conditions on consented applications. Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) sets out more detailed guidance on the way in which policies of the LDP will be applied in particular circumstances or areas. SPG does not form a part of the Council's LDP, but it is consistent with its provisions and is cross referenced to appropriate policies and / or proposals of the LDP. Only LDP policies and proposals have special status (primacy) in decision-making on planning applications. However, once adopted, SPG may be taken into account as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. At its meeting on 14 July the Council's Cabinet adopted the following SPG, LDP09 –Design SPG, LDP14 – Conservation Areas SPG, LDP16 – Conwy Conservation Area, Management Plan SPG, LDP27 – Coastal Flood Risk Protocol SPG. Community Development Service, Head of Service - Marianne Jackson, Strategic Planning Policy Service, Strategic Planning Policy Manager –James Harland MSc, BA (Hons), MRTPI, Muriau Building, Rosehill Street, Conwy, LL32 8LD Main Switchboard: 01492 574000 [www.conwy.gov.uk](http://www.conwy.gov.uk)

## **5. CHC urges public to have their say on proposed changes to women's & maternity services**

The health service watchdog for North Wales – the Community Health Council (CHC) - is determined to help as many people as possible to have their say about the Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board's proposals for temporary changes to women's & maternity services. The CHC will use its network of contacts, & its statutory powers, to make sure that local people can say what they think about the Health Board's plans. Mr Geoff Ryall-Harvey, the CHC's Chief Officer said: "We welcome the decision made by the Health Board to undertake a formal public consultation in respect of its plans. The CHC is ready to hear from people who would prefer to speak to us, as an independent organisation, about the effect of the proposals for them – wherever they live. We are using our network of contacts to help us get in touch with as many people as possible. We would actively encourage people to consider the proposals put forward by the Health Board, attend any forums where they are being discussed & let us have their views." He went on to say: "At the end of the consultation period, we will make a formal response to the Board's proposals, based on what people have told us about the effect they will have. We will say whether we believe that the proposed temporary changes are in the interests of local people & the health service. The Health Board has to consider what we have to say & respond to us.' 2 The Chair of the CHC, Jackie Allen, said: "The CHC's powers are set out in legislation & Welsh Government guidance. We can object to proposals for change if we think that the consultation process has been inadequate or if we believe that the Health Board plans do not address the key issues raised by the public. The CHC will need to carefully consider any issues raised during the consultation and if the changes proposed are in the best interests of the people who use services. We will check on the consultation every step of the way". We are keen to work with you and your constituents in order to make sure that the people of North Wales have their say about proposals for temporary changes to Women's & Maternity services. The proposals are being formally launched for public consultation by the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board on Monday 24/8/15, & will run for 6 weeks until the 5/10/15. The Community Health Council (CHC) is an organization that represents the interests of patients, their carers & relatives, as well as the interests of the public, in the National Health Service. We attach a summary of the CHC's role in this consultation. From the 24/8/15, people can find out more by: Getting a copy of the Health Board's booklet by calling 0800 1693142 or writing to FREEPOST RSZZ-SGXY-TSEZ, LL17 0JG Read or download the booklet at [www.wales.nhs.uk/NWMaternity](http://www.wales.nhs.uk/NWMaternity). We should be grateful if you could please encourage your constituents to tell us what they think by: Telephone: 01248 679284 (ext 3) E-mail: [yourvoice@waleschc.org.uk](mailto:yourvoice@waleschc.org.uk) Facebook: NHSwatchdognorthwales , Write: North Wales CHC, 11 Chestnut Court, Parc Menai, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 4FH, Twitter: @NWCHC , Fill in the questionnaire at <http://svy.at/wepo> and enter code or via the Survey –Me smart phone app. Thank you for your assistance in this regard. Carol Williams, Deputy Chief Officer , North Wales Community Health Council.

## **6. Letter from the Minister for Public Services**

I want to draw your attention to the consultation which will be launched today on the Welsh Government's Draft Directions to the Local Democracy & Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission). The Draft Directions are based on the Welsh Government's preferred configuration for the future of local authorities in Wales which I published in June & contain both options for North Wales. The consultation document which sits alongside the Draft Directions explains some of the background context & poses some questions on which I would welcome your thoughts. As you know, I propose to remove the cap on the maximum number of councillors per authority in recognition of the larger populations & geographical areas which the new councils will cover. I am, therefore, not proposing to specify a minimum or maximum number of councillors per local authority. Instead, the Draft Directions specify that the number of councillors should be no smaller than the number produced by a councillor to elector ratio of one councillor to every 4,000 electors. I also recognise that it is important to ensure effective & convenient local government & am interested to hear views on how this can be supported by warding arrangements, taking into account the particular characteristics of each area. Powys is not included in the Draft Directions because the proposals envisage it remaining as a

continuing authority. I intend to implement the recommendations contained in the Commission's report of 2011 which propose a reduction in numbers of elected members from the current 73 to 64. It is my intention to issue the Directions to the Commission as soon as possible following Royal Assent of the Local Government (Wales) Bill 2015, subject to the will of the National Assembly. This will allow the Commission as much time as possible to complete its reviews & for electoral arrangements to be made for the elections to Shadow Authorities in 2019. The consultation will remain open for 12 weeks, closing at midnight on 9/11/15. I am keen to hear views from across Wales & would welcome your comments in response to this consultation.

## **7. Grab a Grant**

Just to let you know that Grab a Grant voting fortnight starts today 20/8/15. Could you please let your contacts in the area know that ten projects from Anglesey, Conwy & north Gwynedd have now been shortlisted for the chance of receiving up to £5,000 each through the Grab a Grant competition in partnership with the North Wales Pioneer and North Wales Chronicle. Projects will be featured in the North Wales Pioneer on 19 & 26/8/15 & in the North Wales Chronicle on 20 & 27/8/15 Postal voting forms will also be printed in newspapers on these dates so once readers have decided which one of the community projects is their favourite they can put a tick next to the group's name and post it back using the Freepost address detailed on the form before the closing date on 1/9/15. Then the five projects receiving the most support will be awarded grants. Winners will be announced in September. More details about the shortlisted projects can be found the website in English & in Welsh. <https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/grabagrant>

## **8. Road Closures**

### **a) From Lancaster Sq to Berry St, High Street, Conwy**

9am – 4pm 14/09/2015- Conwy Honey Fair

### **b) Exit of Roundabout A470, Marl Lane, Llandudno Junction**

28/09/15 to 09/10/15- Maintenance Work

## **9. Courses/Workshops/Training/Conferences**

### **a) WCVA**

#### **Training skills**

23-24 February and 23 March, Rhyl (delivered in Welsh) Get the knowledge, skills & confidence to plan, prepare & deliver training sessions with this three day accredited course. One of our most popular courses, Training Skills gives you an overview of learning theory, provides practical planning tools for designing & evaluating training & helps prepare you for delivering your training. The course is ideal for those who are new to training &/or may have taken on a training role in their organisation for the first time. Our in-house trainers support you to get accreditation via written assessment & the design of a training course, part of which you will deliver during the third day.

#### **Bilingualism at work**

8/10/15, Rhyl. A free training session discussing the role of the Welsh Language in the third sector with practical advice on developing your Welsh Language provision.

### **b) You Train Workshops**

You Train Courses at Conwy Business Centre from September 2015. For all your training needs & requirements You Train are a quality, professional training provider based in North Wales. We have offices in Conwy & St Asaph & deliver a range of accredited training as well as workshops for companies to help improve their business. Courses include Fire Safety, First Aid at Work, Social Media for Beginners, Facebook for Business & many more.....To book your place go to [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk) contact Mark Hughes, Training and Development Manager on 08450 178222 or 07769 279343.

## **10. Events**

### **Conwy Honey Fair**

14/9/15 9am – 4pm. 700 year old Royal Charter Fair, Conwy High Street. Honey & Hive products, plants, crafts & local produce. [Conwybeekeepers.org.uk](http://Conwybeekeepers.org.uk) 01492 650851

## 11. Newsletters

### a) Mace Bearer

The latest edition is available on the Chamber table in the Guildhall

### b) CVSC news

The September 2015 issue is available on the Chamber table in the Guildhall

## 12. Welsh Government Consultations

	<u>Closing Date</u>
<u>Environment &amp; Countryside</u>	
- Consolidation of the Environmental Permitting Regulations	27/10/15
- Proposals to amend the Tuberculosis (Wales) Order 2010	6/11/15
<u>Local Government</u>	
- Non-Domestic Rating (Definition of a Domestic Property) (Wales) Order 2015 and Guidance for Ratepayers	14/9/15
- Setting the de capitalisation rate for the non-domestic rate revaluation 2017	25/9/15
- Draft Directions to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission Wales	9/11/15
<u>Planning</u>	
- Proposals relating to Strategic Planning Panels Regulations: Composition and Financial matters	2/11/15