

MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**26th MARCH 2018****TOWN CLERK'S REPORT****1. Letter of Thanks**

a) Eisteddfod yr Urdd

"Thank you for your letter & your donation of £50 towards the Urdd National Eisteddfod. As a charity we are dependent on the support of people & institutions all over Wales in order that we may provide those experiences to the children & youth of Wales, & your contribution is appreciated. Could you please convey our thanks to all Councillors. Once again, diolch yn fawr". Aled Siôn, Urdd Gobaith Cymru

b) Soroptimist International Rhyl & District

"On behalf of Soroptimist International Rhyl & District, we wish to thank you for your cheque which will be put to good use with Bringing Back the Bees into the Community. Kind regards, Yvonne Johns, Honorary Treasurer."

c) Action on Hearing Loss

"On behalf of myself & the Action on Hearing Loss Cymru team, I would like to say a big "thank you" for the kind donation of £50 from Conwy Town Council received & subsequently banked today. Such support is crucial to ensuring that we gain awareness of the charity to support our vital work with people who are deaf & hard of hearing. Hearing loss affects 1 in 6 people; this means over half a million people in Wales alone. Many of these people will at some point feel isolated & lonely. Through our services & projects Action on Hearing Loss Cymru works to improve the lives of people who are deaf or hard of hearing by providing advice, information & invaluable support to help make a positive change for the future. All this would not be possible without the generosity & support of people such as yourselves. With such help we can continue to support people who rely on our services. We can also reach & engage with individuals who could currently benefit from our services but have yet to seek help for their hearing loss. Thank you for your support. Kind regards, Colin Evans, Fundraising Executive, North Wales."

d) Conwy & District Royal British Legion

"On behalf of the Royal British Legion Conwy & District Branch please convey our grateful thanks to Members of the Town Council for approving the Branch's application. The funding will assist the Branch to organise an event to celebrate the centenary of the end of World War 1. We very much appreciate the continuing co-operation & support of the Mayor & Councillors of the Town Council. Yours sincerely, Gwynne Williams, Branch Secretary."

2. Conwy County Borough Council

Forward Work Programme

The latest Forward Work Programme has been published

<http://modgoveng.conwy.gov.uk/mgListPlanItems.aspx?PlanId=609&LLL=0>

3. Courses/Workshops/Training/Conferences

a) Innovative Practice Annual Awards Ceremony 2018

29/3/18 - Hafod a Hendre Building, Royal Welsh Showground, LD2 3SY

One Voice Wales is holding its first Innovative Practice & National Awards Conference 2018 following on from the successful launch of our National Awards Scheme in 2017. The day will provide an opportunity for Community & Town Councils, other public service & third sector organisation members & staff to learn about the excellent work being undertaken by Community & Town Councils across Wales – certainly something to whet everyone's appetite! Our guest speakers will be Cllr Debbie Wilcox – Leader of the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) & Came & Company Insurance who are the main event sponsors. There will be four workshops in the morning with presentations from councils showcasing their work. Following the afternoon workshops a prize giving ceremony will be held with winners announced in the categories as set out in the workshops above. A range of exhibitors will be there on the day providing details of services relevant to community & town councils, unitary authorities & the third sector. Simultaneous translation from Welsh into English will be provided and there is ample free parking. Please complete the conference registration

form & return by post or email. For further information, please contact either Tracy Gilmartin-Ward or Wendi Patience on 01269 595400 or email admin@onevoicewales.org.uk

b) Local Government Finance

Gresford Trust, Memorial Hall, Off High Street, Gresford, Wrexham. LL12 8PS on 29/3/18 6.30 - 9pm

A brief description of the session is as follows: •The Role of the Responsible Finance Officer

•Accounting and Strategy Guidance •Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment •Budgets & Precepts •Internal and External Audit •Insurance •Income & Expenditure Powers •Other Sources of Income.

During the presentation we will review all the important areas in overseeing local government finance. We will cover the role of the Responsible Finance Officer, some of the general principles of accounting, the main financial regulations &, most importantly how to assess the risks involved, setting budgets & precepts, putting robust internal & external audits in place, the insurance requirements of the Council, the income & expenditure powers of the Council, & finally other sources of income. This is a large agenda, & financial management can sometimes appear daunting, but the aim of the session is to provide you with an understanding of the financial framework of the Council, the core information you need to know & the sources of more detailed information that you should refer to when you need to.

c) Community Asset Transfer Conferences

The events will be a chance to reflect on good practice, procedures, & relationships that we would like to retain in Wales whilst identifying areas we need to create or strengthen further. We need the support of community groups, the public sector, third sector & funding providers if we are to create a successful approach tailored to our needs in Wales. The outline programme, timings & workshop synopses for the events can be viewed here. To book your place and to enable you to have your say & be part of this process please complete the simple online booking form by going to www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/RGTMR/. Proposed dates & venues. 26/3/18 Glasdir Conference Centre, Llanrwst LL26 0DF. Programme 9:30 Registration & refreshments, 10 Welcome & introduction /Setting the scene from the Third Sector, Local Government & Welsh Government perspective, 10:20 Inspirational Case Study of Asset Transfer working, Lessons learnt plus Q&A, 10:50 Refreshments, 11 1st Workshop Choice a. Making your assets sustainable b. Funding your journey c. Compliance support d. How agencies work together coherently 12:15 Lunch 13.15 2nd Workshop Choice a. Making your assets sustainable b. Funding your journey c. Compliance support d. How agencies work together coherently 14:30 Panel discussion & Q&A 15:00 Depart

4. Events

a) Modern Slavery Awareness

Free Event - Spotting the signs & making a difference! An introduction to the issues of Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking: to explain the facts & definitions of this very real crime affecting North Wales, to know how to look for the signs & indicators what you can do to make a difference. Dates confirmed: April 10th - 2pm to 4pm & 7.30pm to 9.30pm Venue: Conference Room, North Coast Church, 87 Gors Road, Towyn, LL22 9NR April 19th - 10.30am to 12.30 and 7.30pm to 9.30pm Venue: SPYCE building (next to the Town Hall) Rhiw Road, Colwyn Bay To book your free place, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/modern-slavery-human-traffickingawareness-tickets-43607088977>. Following these session, Haven of Light and partners will host other events to look at specific issues relating to the anti-slavery work, including national & international matters. For more information contact: Alison Ussery - ali@havenoflight or info@havenoflight 07929777347

5. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Child Burial Fees

Please find attached the recently agreed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Welsh Government, Welsh Local Government Authorities & One Voice Wales agreeing not to charge any fees for a standard burial or cremation to a person under the age of 18 years. To help facilitate this Welsh Government are providing some funding direct to Local Authorities to distribute to participating Town & Community Councils who undertake burial services. In order for you to receive a proportion of this grant funding you are requested to firstly, confirm your participation in the MoU & secondly, provide the details of any children, as defined in the MoU, that you undertake a standard burial or cremation for. You are requested to confirm your participation in writing by 31/3/18 to the Manager, Colwyn Bay Crematorium & provide, as part of your process, the details of any burials meeting the criteria to Colwyn Bay Crematorium. These details will then be collated for the end of the financial year when a proportion of the grant funding will be provided.

6. **Welsh Hearts Working with your Community**

I am writing on behalf of the charity Welsh Hearts. Since 2013, the charity has played a leading role in improving heart health in Wales – vitally important work, since a third of all deaths in the country are the result of cardiovascular disease. Welsh Hearts offer free CPR training to communities & organisations all over Wales. As a charity, we are dedicated to improving the health of communities in Wales & to date have supplied over 950 public access defibrillators in Wales, provided free CPR & Defibrillator training to over 39,000 people. In 2016 we set up our very own heart screening sessions & to date have screened over 1,900 young hearts to detect heart abnormalities. Most importantly, we have many saved lives. Welsh Hearts are working hard to ensure that all communities across Wales have a Defibrillator available to the public at all times. Whilst there has been a degree of success thus far, it is now time to ensure that every building, school, community has this all important lifesaving piece of equipment. Could you possibly let us know whether you have a defibrillator so that we can update our records so that we can pass onto our partners Welsh Ambulance Service? If you do not have a defibrillator & would like us to help you obtain one for your area please contact me directly kym.lloydowen@welshhearts.org or follow this link <http://welshhearts.org/online-defibrillator-application-form/> If you have a defibrillator and would like free CPR training at anytime then please do not hesitate to get in touch. Kimberley Lloyd-Owen

7. **Conwy & Denbighshire PSB update**

Local Well-being Plan – Update. The consultation for the Local Well-being Plan closed on the 22 January 2018. We received valuable feedback to the consultation - so thank you to those that took the time to share your views! The Conwy & Denbighshire Public Services Board (PSB) met in late January to analyse the responses received & consider where it could most usefully collaborate to have an impact on well-being in the area. As a result, the PSB rationalised the number of priorities according to where it thought it could add most value. The priorities the PSB has opted to take forward are: 1. People - Good Mental Well-being for All Ages 2. Community – Community Empowerment 3. Place - Environmental Resilience. The PSB have also committed to 4 additional principles which support the priorities - To address inequalities and treat everyone equally. To support and promote the Welsh Language. To support access to appropriate accommodation. To avoid duplication. The Local Well-being Plan is currently being presented for approval to the executive boards of the statutory PSB members, with final PSB sign off of the plan taking place in April 2018. Once the Local Well-being Plan and priorities have been formally approved, the PSB will work on developing actions to address these complex issues. You can view the revised Well-being Plan <http://modgoveng.conwy.gov.uk/documents/b17066/Conwy%20and%20Denbighshire%20Public%20Services%20Board%20-%20Wellbeing%20Plan%2020172023%20Monday%2012-Feb-2018%2010.00%20.pdf?T=9>

8. **Community Transport Association UK - Proposed UK Government guidelines**

Proposed UK Government guidelines threaten to increase isolation across Wales. With the recent heavy snow across the UK, many of us were temporarily confined to our homes, unable to do things we normally take for granted, such as getting to work, the shops or medical appointments. This experience provides just a small insight into what life could be like every day for people who rely on community transport to get out & about if those services were no longer available. This could soon become a reality in Wales if planned changes to how these services are regulated throughout Great Britain come into effect. The UK Government is planning to change how EU rules for regulating passenger transport services apply here & wants to start treating charities that run transport as if they are just like bus companies. Every day of the year, community transport providers are the lifeline for people in communities across Wales who would otherwise be stuck in their homes. They ensure that vulnerable people can access important services & facilities as well as providing social interaction for people who might otherwise be alone. These often small charities, for example, provide school transport for those with Additional Learning Needs, they ensure older people can access health & social care services & they mean that local groups such as carers' organisations can enjoy some respite through regular group trips. Last year, community transport providers also proudly supported disability sport by ensuring teams could move between venues & accommodation to compete for Wales in international para-athletic championships. Our community transport permit system & the vital services it enables were created to meet the needs that bus companies can't or won't meet, so there are big questions and a lot of concerns about this going ahead & whether anyone is actually going to benefit from these changes, when there are so many potential losers. Charities & community

groups running transport to support their main charitable purpose could also be affected. We're therefore calling on our friends across the voluntary sector to show their support for all of these small charities that provide a lifeline for so many people in so many communities. If you want to ensure that these services can continue, please find out what you can do by emailing: Christine@ctauk.org.

9. Newsletters

- a) Innogy - Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm Construction
A copy of the newsletter is on the Chamber table in the Guildhall

10. Welsh Government Consultations

	Closing Date
<u>Education & Skills</u>	
- Devolution of teachers' pay and conditions	03/05/2018
- Amendments to the Education Workforce Council (Membership and Appointment) (Wales) Regulations 2014	04/04/2018
<u>Health & Social Services</u>	
- Draft framework for nursing in special schools	05/06/2018
<u>Environment & Countryside</u>	
- Implementation of revised EU rules on equine identification in Wales	30/05/2018