

Towyn & Kinmel Bay Town Council

Minutes of the Full Council held on Wednesday 29 March 2017 at the Community Resource Centre Kinmel Bay

Present Cllrs: E Bateman (Mayor), B Darwin, B Griffiths, D Johnson, L Knightly, S Anderson, M Roberts, B McLoughlin, M Smith and N Smith (Deputy Mayor)

Clerk: H Stewart BEM

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs: S Evans and G Corry.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Smith as Chairman of CCBC Planning Committee, declared an interest in Agenda Item: 10 Planning Applications and left the table whilst all applications were discussed.

3. Public Participation

There were no applications from the public to address the Council.

4. Urgent Matters

Two items were raised as matters of urgency:

- a) Update on the Recruitment of a New Clerk
- b) Derelict land adjacent to 35 Owain Glyndwr.

Resolved that: both items could be considered at the end of the agenda

5. Mayor's Report

Cllr Bateman reported that his Charity Event had been a success and thanked Cllr Knightly and those from the Community Library for their assistance and support.

There was nothing much more to report since Cllr Bateman was still having to contend with sickness in the family.

6. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2017 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Resolved that: the minutes as presented be approved.

7. Matters Arising

170222/14 – Summer Play Scheme – From the research it appeared that St Mary's Church Towyn was the only organisation planning a summer holiday work shop for local school children. It would be held from Monday 24 July to Friday 28 July 9am to 3pm. A request from the church for £500 to cover the cost of the musical director had been received.

Resolved that: £500 be paid from the Play Scheme budget to St Mary's Church to cover the cost of the musical director.

A letter, received from Millie Boswell, was brought to the attention of the Council. It explained that CVSC was administering a small grant scheme funded through the Welsh Government for the purpose of improving play opportunities.

Each Town/Community Council could apply for up to £600 and the suggestion was that this should be offset against the cost of funding the staffed play provision being offered through the "Playing Out" Scheme.

It was agreed that an application for £600 be submitted and upon receiving the outcome the Council would then consider the options available to it, such as the "Playing Out" Scheme and /or activities being organised by the Sports and Leisure Centre in Kinmel Bay.

8. Policy Finance & Resource Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2017 were presented for noting.

Cllr Griffiths should be listed as being absent having sent his apologies.

Cllr McLoughlin raised her concern about the decision made under Agenda Item 11 – Community Awards, to postpone the Ceremony until June. She was of the opinion that the ceremony should be held between the 4 May Local Elections and the making of the new Mayor on 17 May.

Other councillors questioned whether there was enough time and staff resources to enable this to happen particularly as the Clerk was leaving and the time was needed to recruit a new Clerk and prepare for the Council AGM on 17 May.

Cllr Smith said that organising an Awards Ceremony for the 15th May was a big ask. Cllr Anderson suggested that Cllr Bateman should discuss this with the Clerk and the decision left between them.

Resolved that: Cllr Bateman discuss with Clerk whether there was capacity within the work demands to organise Community Awards and a Ceremony for 15 May 2017.

The Clerk raised the question about whether the next meeting of the Committee, scheduled for 3 May 2017 should be re-arranged/cancelled in light of the elections on the 4 May. It was agreed that the meeting should be cancelled.

9. Environment Improvement Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2017 were noted.

170313/6 Grounds Maintenance – the cost options for 12,14,16 and 18 cuts at Parc Hyde, Towyn Way East and Llys Emlyn plus litter picking at each area had been received from Greenfingers. It was unanimously agreed that the 18 cuts for those areas and a litter pick at each visit should be undertaken within the Grounds Maintenance Contract recently awarded to Greenfingers.

Resolved that: the Grounds Maintenance contract with Greenfingers be confirmed as 18 cuts/year for the greens as above and a litter pick for each site at every visit be agreed.

10. Planning

Cllrs N Smith left the table and took no part in the discussions.

Recommend that: There be No Objections to applications 0/43756 and 0/43808.

11. Woodland – Chester Avenue

The proposal by Greenfingers for the maintenance of the Woodland was compared to the first quote received from N Perrin.

Discussion about whether to remove or repair the bridge went to a vote with the majority voting in favour of the existing bridge being removed for safety reasons and that if residents were strongly in favour of having a bridge then the costs be obtained for a new one to be installed.

Resolved that: a) the bridge be removed at a cost of £950

b) the maintenance contract for the Woodland area be included within the Grounds Maintenance contract with Greenfingers.

Cllr M Smith left the room at 7.45pm and returned at 7.48pm

12. Resource Centre

The cost for upgrading the lighting at the Resource Centre and for an automatic door to be included in the refurbishment work which had already been approved, was presented for consideration.

Resolved that: Both the lighting upgrade and the automatic door be including with the refurbishment work at a total cost of £12,881 for all of the work.

13. Annual Meeting

The arrangements for the AGM of the Council were discussed. Councillors requested that Sue Evans be invited to attend and that a list of invited guests be compiled to attend a small informal reception for the new Mayor after the AGM had concluded.

14. Independent Remuneration for Wales 2017-18

The 2017-18 report from the Remuneration Panel had been made available to Councillors. Chapter 13 – Payments to Members of Community and Town Councils was duly noted.

Urgent Matters

4a. Recruitment of a New Clerk

The time scale for recruiting a new Clerk was noted. If everything went according to the timetable a new Clerk should be in post by 8 May allowing for a week to handover before the existing Clerk's contract ends on 12 May 2017.

Cllrs: Bateman (Mayor), Darwin, Johnson, Roberts and N Smith (Deputy Mayor) would form the Interview Panel.

4b. Derelict Land Adjacent to 35 Owain Glyndwr

Conwy County Borough Council (CCBC) had contacted the Town Council to seek a response to potential options for the future of the above site. Some years ago play equipment had been removed from the site due to the effects on local residents of associated anti-social behaviour. The site had been unmanaged since and was surrounded by Herris fencing.

Councillors discussed the option of selling the land for a residential dwelling, making the site available for a biodiversity/woodland area and a possible site for allotments.

The last suggestion was fully supported and the Clerk was asked to discuss this with CCBC to see how many plots could be made available on the site, if this option was chosen.

The meeting closed at 8.22pm

Signed by the Chairman of the Full Council meeting held on 26 April 2017