

COUNCIL MEETING

Llandudno Town Council
 Minutes of a meeting of Llandudno Council
 Held on Friday 5th October 2018, 7.00pm
 Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lloyd Street, Llandudno

Those Present:

Cllr D J Hawkins –The Mayor

Cllr Miss A O’Grady – Deputy Mayor

Cllr Mrs C Beard

Cllr Miss C A Marubbi

Cllr A W Bertola

Cllr M J Pavey

Cllr F Bradfield

Cllr M A Pearce

Cllr F Davies

Cllr G J T Robbins

Cllr Mrs L G Emery

Cllr H T M Saville

Cllr P C Evans, JP

Cllr I Turner

Cllr S R Hillman

Cllr Mrs M Wigzell

Cllr Mrs M Lyon

The Mayor’s Chaplain, the Reverend Neil Kirkham, offered prayers prior to the meeting.

30. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the following:

Cllr B B Bertola

Cllr M Hold, JP

Cllr Mrs J Jones

31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The following interests were declared:

Name:	Item:	Personal or Prejudicial
Cllr Mrs C Beard	12.1 Conwy CBC Salt bag Partnership Scheme	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC
	12.2 Conwy CBC Sand bag Policy	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC
	14. Conwy CBC review of Town Hall Lease arrangements	Prejudicial: Member of Conwy CBC.
Cllr F Bradfield	12.1 Conwy CBC Salt bag Partnership Scheme	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC
	12.2 Conwy CBC Sand bag Policy	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC
	14. Conwy CBC review of Town Hall Lease arrangements	Prejudicial: Member of Conwy CBC.
Cllr Mrs L E Emery	12.1 Conwy CBC Salt bag Partnership Scheme	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC
	12.2 Conwy CBC Sand bag Policy	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC
	14. Conwy CBC review of Town Hall Lease arrangements	Prejudicial: Member of Conwy CBC.

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Cllr P C Evans, JP	12.1 Conwy CBC Salt bag Partnership Scheme 12.2 Conwy CBC Sand bag Policy 14. Conwy CBC review of Town Hall Lease arrangements	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC Personal. Member of Conwy CBC Prejudicial: Member of Conwy CBC.
Cllr G J T Robbins	12.1 Conwy CBC Salt bag Partnership Scheme 12.2 Conwy CBC Sand bag Policy 14. Conwy CBC review of Town Hall Lease arrangements	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC Personal. Member of Conwy CBC Prejudicial: Member of Conwy CBC.
Cllr H T M Saville	12.1 Conwy CBC Salt bag Partnership Scheme 12.2 Conwy CBC Sand bag Policy 14. Conwy CBC review of Town Hall Lease arrangements	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC Personal. Member of Conwy CBC Prejudicial: Member of Conwy CBC.

32. URGENT ITEMS

There were none.

33. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

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Held on Friday 27th July 2018..... 79 – 81

34. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor had attended a number of engagements since the last meeting of the Council. These included starting off the cars in the MG Owners Club Snowdonia Run, participating in the Honda Goldwings Parade, attending the RAF Valley Annual Reception, and the 150th Anniversary of The Conwy Valley Railway Line. The Mayor had also set off the Alzheimer's memory walk, opened the Llandudno Lions Club prostrate cancer screening clinic and made presentations to entrants in the Town Council's Llandudno in Bloom competition at the Awards Ceremony. This week, a group from Conwy Citizen's Advice Bureau on a four day sponsored walk had been welcomed by the Mayor on the completion of their walk, at the Town Hall. The Mayor further announced that member visits to Venue Cymru and the new RNLI lifeboat station were in progress.

35. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES AND SUB COMMITTEES

35.1 The minutes of the following committees were approved, subject to any addenda appearing thereunder:

Planning and Transportation Committee

Held on Wednesday 1st August 2018..... 82 – 83

Planning and Transportation Committee

Held on Wednesday 8th August 2018..... 84 – 86

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Planning and Transportation Committee

Held on Wednesday 5th September 2018..... 87 - 89

Includes:

- Transport & Prow Sub Committee held 23rd July 2018 (pages 90-93)

With reference to the Minutes of the Transport & Prow Sub Committee, a report was received on the successes of the Conwy Valley Rail Partnership at the Community Rail Awards 2018, held in Glasgow. The Partnership had achieved a First place award in the 'Involving Children and Young People' category for its Rail Safety Video. Additionally, a partnership of Community Rail Officers for Wales & The Borders and the Great Little Trains of Wales also received a Second place award in the 'Best Marketing or Communications Campaign' category for their Welsh Beach display in Birmingham New Street. Members commended the work of the Partnership and Chairman Cllr P C Evans, JP and **IT WAS RESOLVED** to send a letter of appreciation to the Conwy Valley Rail Partnership.

Community Services & Tourism Committee

Held on Tuesday 11th September 2018..... 94 - 105

Includes:

- Fireworks Sub Committee held 1st May 2018 (pages 97 - 98)
- Town Centre Improvements Sub Committee held 31st July 2018 (pages 99 - 101)
- Fireworks Sub Committee held 29th August 2018 (pages 102 - 105)

35.2 MINUTES OF SUB COMMITTEES:

Minutes of the following Sub Committees were approved and adopted:

Civic Sub Committee held 11th September 2018 (pages 106 - 109)

Decorative Lighting Sub Committee held 13th September 2018 (pages 110 - 113)

The Chairman of the Decorative Lighting reported on the proactive work of the sub-committee, especially in replacing lighting festoons in Mostyn Street and Llandudno Promenade, and in illuminating two trees at Trinity Church.

36. ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

36.1 To approve the Clerks financial reports for July and August 2018.

The reports included a budget report to 31 August 2018, petty cash expenditure, and reports on the Community and General Development Funds.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the financial reports for July and August 2018 be received and authorised.

36.2 To approve the External Audit Report for 2017/18.

Members had been circulated with the Annual Return completed by the External Auditors, BDO, and an issues arising report. The Clerk was pleased to report that an unqualified external audit had been received from BDO, with no real issues arising. The issues report from BDO was discussed and concern was expressed about the minor nature of issues raised by BDO and that, whilst some points were accepted, others were inaccurate or over-stated.

IT WAS RESOLVED to approve and accept the Annual Return and External Audit report for 2017/18.

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IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED *to record a Vote of Thanks to the Town Clerk and staff for another excellent external audit return.*

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED *to write to BDO and request that the external audit minor issues report be modified in light of some audit inaccuracies in the report.*

37. TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON LLANDUDNO'S BLOOM ACHIEVEMENTS

The Llandudno in Bloom Sub Committee Chairman reported on an excellent year and that Gold had been achieved in the RHS Wales in Bloom competition (coastal category) and five Blooms and Silver Gilt in the RHS Communities in Bloom competition. Judges for the latter competition had particularly commented upon the gardens and projects of Ysgol San Sior. Llandudno successes in the RHS 'It's Your Neighbourhood' Awards were also commended.

IT WAS RESOLVED *to record a Vote of Thanks to the Llandudno in Bloom Sub Committee and all involved for an excellent year.*

38. TO CONSIDER THE WELSH GOVERNMENT'S INDEPENDENT REVIEW PANEL REPORT

The Mayor introduced the Independent Review Panel's Outline Findings and Recommendations Report and the Summary Report, previously circulated to members. Whilst some recommendations were welcomed, such as training for Councillors, there was discussion regarding elections (elections were usually called in Llandudno), an approved list of Clerks (who would approve and would thus limit applications from outside of Wales), the 'qualification of office' for councillors, encouraging young people, the pros and cons of dual hatted members, that 'one size didn't fit all' and the importance of flexibility. Members noted that the report opened in a positive way in recognising the importance of the role of Town & Community Councils. There was discussion on whether to refer this item to another meeting or call a special meeting for further discussion, but this was not supported.

IT WAS RESOLVED *to respond that the Town Council thanked the Independent Review Panel for its recommendations but that, in line with recommendation 3.1, it wished to have choice and flexibility to operate.*

Cllr M A Pearce and Cllr S Hillman asked for their abstention on the vote to be recorded.

39. REFERRED FROM SUB-COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL

39.1 Decorative Lighting Sub-Committee, 13 September 2018: Maintenance and funding of part replacement of Promenade Lighting Catenaries (Venue Cymru to ATS).

With reference to the Minutes of the Decorative Lighting sub-committee, a comprehensive report was received from the Chairman regarding the annual condition survey of the decorative lighting. This year's condition report had identified a need to replace six of the cross street lighting stings in Madoc Street for the Winter season. It also recommended the replacement of deteriorating catenary wires on the section of the Promenade, Venue Cymru to ATS.

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The Sub Committee had sufficient budget to replace the Mostyn Street lighting festoons but not the promenade festoon and wires, Venue Cymru to ATS. Whilst replacement of the promenade wires could await the Spring season, it was difficult to say whether they would fail or not in Winter weather and this could be a risk. As the promenade lights were also nearing the end of their life, it was further recommended that it would be more economical to replace both wires and lights at the same time. Quotes had been considered previously by the sub-committee for this work, including from the contractor who had undertaken the 2017 replacement of the promenade lights from the war memorial to Venue Cymru.

IT WAS RESOLVED *that, due to insufficient budget remaining in the Decorative Lighting Sub Committee budget, the Council fund the replacement of the Promenade decorative lighting catenary wires and lights, Venue Cymru to ATS, with up to £19,000 from the General Development Fund.*

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED *to suspend Standing Orders and to accept the quote of £19,000 received from City Illuminations Ltd to replace the above wires and lights, in view of the urgency of the work and it being a continuation of their 2017 lights on the promenade which had been awarded as a result of tendering that year.*

40. TO APPROVE A COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE

To approve the design of the National Society of Women's Suffrage Societies Plaque and to consider a small event to mark its installation on The Cocoa House (*with reference to Finance 08.06.2018, item 11.2*). Members had been circulated with a draft circular 14" diameter plaque design from Leander Architectural. The plaque would be in green, being the Suffrage Societies colour and in keeping with The Cocoa House, and would incorporate the Town Council's crest. An amendment was made to the wording; that 'The Cocoa House' should be the same bilingually, and it was suggested that 'constitutionalist' be substituted for 'law-abiding', subject to discussion with the local historian who had supplied the text. A photoshoot with the Mayor and invited guests would be held to mark the installation of the plaque.

IT WAS RESOLVED *that the Town Council approve the design of the commemorative plaque for The Cocoa House, as amended.*

41. TO DISCUSS OR NOTE CONSULTATIONS OR ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

41.1 Conwy CBC Salt Bag Partnership Scheme 2018 (*response date 19th October 2018*). Whilst some members raised the potential benefits of the scheme, it was seen as a challenge in Llandudno to organise and operate in view of the large geographic area, number of public areas for gritting such as schools and bus stops, lack of Town Council storage for the grit, concerns about liabilities to the Town Council, and the need to continue gritting once started. It was noted that the grit was not intended for private driveways but for public areas.

IT WAS RESOLVED *not to participate in the 2018 Salt Bag Partnership Scheme due to the challenges of administering and operating the scheme.*

41.2 A copy of the Conwy County Borough Council Sandbag Policy was received.

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41.3 Boundary Commission for Wales 2018: Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales. It was noted that the Town Council had previously submitted the name 'North Wales Coast' for consideration in October 2016 but that the name currently recommended was 'Conwy a Cholwyn'. There was discussion that Colwyn Borough Council was only in existence for a short period before disbanding in the 1996 Local Government Reorganisation. Additionally, parts of the constituency were never in Colwyn Borough Council but Flintshire.

IT WAS RESOLVED to write again and to submit the name 'Conwy' as being more in keeping with the history and geography of the area.

41.4 A Llandudno Remembers commemoration at St. John's Church, 9-10 November 2018 *was received.*

42. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER No. 12 PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED TO THE CLERK.

There were none received.

43. TOWN HALL LEASE

To receive a report from the Town Hall Lease Working Party.

Exempt Information EX 13/2018

IT WAS RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded from this item under Standing Order 37, and they were instructed to withdraw. The reason for the exemption being the consideration of contract information relating to the Town Council's lease of the Town Hall.

Cllr Mrs C Beard, Cllr F Bradfield, Cllr Mrs L Emery, Cllr PC Evans, JP, Cllr GJT Robbins and Cllr HTM Saville declared prejudicial interests and left the room for this item.

Members considered a report from the Working Party and information received from Conwy County Borough Council regarding a review of the Town Council's occupation of the Town Hall, including new lease options and costs for existing or additional office space within the building, and history of the building. The working party was also looking at any option to negotiate an amendment to the existing user agreement.

IT WAS RESOLVED to refer the proposed draft leases received from Conwy County Borough Council and the Town Council's existing user agreement to the Town Council's Solicitor for legal advice.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED to allocate up to £5,000 from General Reserves for legal advice on the draft leases and existing agreement for the Town Council's occupation of the Town Hall.

The public were invited to return. Cllr P C Evans JP returned to the Chamber. Cllr Mrs C Beard, Cllr F Bradfield, Cllr Mrs L Emery, Cllr GJT Robbins and Cllr HTM Saville had left the meeting and did not return.

44. TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Council would be held on Friday 7th December 2018 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall.