

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Llandudno Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Llandudno Town Council - Finance & General Purposes Committee

Held on Friday 8th June 2018

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lloyd Street, Llandudno

Those Present:

Cllr Frank Bradfield - Chairman

Cllr Mrs M Wigzell - Vice Chairman

Cllr D J Hawkins - The Mayor

Cllr M Hold JP

Cllr A W Bertola

Cllr Mrs J Jones

Cllr B B Bertola

Cllr M J Pavey

Cllr F Davies

Cllr M A Pearce

Cllr Mrs L G Emery

Cllr G J T Robbins

Cllr P C Evans, JP

Cllr I Turner

Cllr S Hillman

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Two nominations were received and following a show of hands

IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr F Bradfield be elected Chairman for 2018/19.

The Chairman paid tribute to former Mayor's Consort, Mr Neville Yates, who had recently passed away.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

One nomination was received and

IT WAS RESOLVED unanimously that Cllr Mrs M Wigzell be elected Vice Chairman for 2018/19.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs C Beard

Cllr Miss A O'Grady

Cllr Mrs M Lyon

Cllr H T M Saville

Cllr Miss C Marubbi

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

The following interests were declared:

Name:	Item:	Personal or Prejudicial
Cllr F Bradfield	5. Conwy CBC interim North Shore beach works and funding thereof. 14. Conwy CBC review of Town Hall Lease arrangements	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC Prejudicial: Member of Conwy CBC.

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Name:	Item:	Personal or Prejudicial
Cllr P C Evans, JP	5. Conwy CBC interim North Shore beach works and funding thereof. 14. Conwy CBC review of Town Hall Lease arrangements	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC Prejudicial: Member of Conwy CBC.
Cllr Mrs L Emery	5. Conwy CBC interim North Shore beach works and funding thereof. 14. Conwy CBC review of Town Hall Lease arrangements	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC Prejudicial: Member of Conwy CBC.
Cllr G J T Robbins	5. Conwy CBC interim North Shore beach works and funding thereof. 14. Conwy CBC review of Town Hall Lease arrangements	Personal. Member of Conwy CBC Prejudicial: Member of Conwy CBC.

5. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM CONWY CBC ON PROPOSED SUMMER MAINTENANCE WORK TO LOWER BEACH (CHILDREN'S CORNER), NORTH SHORE, AND TO CONSIDER FUNDING SUPPORT FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL'S ALLOCATED 2018/19 BUDGET FOR THIS WORK

The Chairman welcomed from Conwy CBC Mr G. Edwards, Head of Service ERF, Mr D. Rowlands, Flood Risk and Infrastructure Manager, and Mr O. Conry, Principal Engineer, and members received a presentation on Summer stone clearance at Children's Corner, North Shore. The problem of larger cobbles accumulating at this site reducing the sandy area was outlined, and that this made access to the jetties challenging and a barrier to business, decreased amenity and aesthetics and buried archaeological features. The solution was periodic removal of stones to provide a more open section of beach. It was outlined that works below MHWS were governed by Natural Resources Wales and that works must be in accordance with the required Marine licence and any conditions. A site plan was shown illustrating the removal and deposition areas. Conwy CBC also touched upon the process of consideration and approval of works by Conwy CBC, the project conditions and guidelines, the notifications prior to the start of works, the procedures under the Term Maintenance Contract for the seeking and awarding of the works, and the statutory paperwork required from contractors. Plant consisted of one excavator, 2 dumper trucks, and six operatives. The surf rake was also deployed and access to the site was via the slipway.

The works programme and riddling on site was run through. The riddling site was marked out, along with any archaeological features. Riddling was undertaken using a sieve bucket on the front of the excavator. Larger graded material was transported and deposited in a designated area to keep the natural stones on the beach and due to the costs to remove and dispose of (c. £1,250). In 2017, the works cleared up to 3,500m², with the volume of material deposited in an allocated area around 560m². Costs in 2017 for three days riddling Children's Corner was £6,500 and was made up of licence costs (£600-£1920 depending on licence period), Conwy CBC staff time costs in preparing, implementing, and supervising the works, delivery and hire of plant and workforce. In 2017, £4,500 was contributed by the Town Council and £2,000 by Conwy CBC Community Development Service. The work was undertaken for amenity value and there was no allocation in the coastal defence maintenance budget for this type of work. Photographs of the current situation were shown, and it was commented that there not been a massive accumulation of material since the 2017 work.

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Members asked questions about the relocation rather the removal of the rocks, that the rocks would return and that the Town Council was being asked for funding for a 'Groundhog-day' of rocks. Concern was also expressed that it was late in the season for funding to be sought, and that the work was merely a gesture to the public to give an amenity in a largely inaccessible beach. Conversely, other members expressed appreciation that a scheme was in place for this well used area. Questions were asked about whether this would be a recurring annual cost and whether Conwy CBC would contribute £2,000 again. Conwy CBC responded that the removal and deposition of rocks was not a new problem and that the rocks re-appearing at this location were not those that had been artificially placed. Also, that in Victorian times the tide would have caused flooding and that the promenade put in at the time requires maintenance. It was further outlined that the Town Council could apply to hold the licence in the future if it wished to undertake the work and that Conwy CBC had no provision for funding in 2018. If funding less than £6,500 was secured, Conwy CBC could scale down the work.

Conwy CBC Officers left the meeting, following which members considered whether to release the £4,500 funding allocated by the Town Council for 2018/19 work at Children's Corner. Members discussed that they appreciated that the work was controversial, their concerns that annual funding was sought from the Town Council and the need to be vigilant and weighed up the benefits to maintain the beach and see it used. A proposal to give Conwy CBC no funding for the 2018 work was lost on a vote but was asked to be recorded in the minutes by the proposer Cllr I Turner in view of his concerns about the beach.

IT WAS RESOLVED that Llandudno Town Council provide funding of £6,500 for Summer 2018 maintenance work at Children's Corner, North Shore, to be made up of £4,500 from the allocated 2018 budget and £2,000 from General Reserves, on the proviso that the works be undertaken before National Armed Forces Day 2018.

6. MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Friday 20th April 2018 were received and signed by the Chairman.

7. URGENT ITEMS RELATING TO FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES

The Clerk reported that a Chinese type lantern had landed on Penrhynside War Memorial and caused some blackening. A contractor had been approached to quote to remove the remains and clean the memorial.

8. TO RECONFIRM FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES SUB COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES AND APPOINT MEMBERS

Members had been previously circulated with a list of Finance and General Purposes Sub Committees and Working Parties. It was noted that under the Council's Standing Orders, the Mayor would be a voting member of every Sub Committee, and that the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee would be members of every Sub Committee, unless they signified to the contrary.

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8.1 Civic Sub Committee (restricted 7):

IT WAS RESOLVED that, in addition to the Mayor and Chairman and Vice Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee, the following members be elected to the **CIVIC SUB COMMITTEE 2018/19**: Cllr F Davies, Cllr P C Evans, JP, Cllr G J T Robbins, Cllr I Turner.

8.2 Staffing Sub Committee (restricted 7):

IT WAS RESOLVED that, in addition to the Mayor and Chairman and Vice Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee, the following members be elected to the **STAFFING SUB COMMITTEE 2018/19**: Cllr B Bertola, Cllr F Davies, Cllr Miss A O'Grady, Cllr Miss C Marubbi.

8.3 Grants Sub Committee (restricted 7):

IT WAS RESOLVED that, in addition to the Mayor and Chairman and Vice Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee, the following members be elected to the **GRANTS SUB COMMITTEE 2018/19**: Cllr Mrs C Beard, Cllr Davies, Cllr Miss A O'Grady, Cllr G J T Robbins.

8.4 Standing Orders Working Party:

IT WAS RESOLVED that the **STANDING ORDERS WORKING PARTY 2018/19** be left in abeyance as it did not need to meet at present, but that when re activated it would include one Councillor from each ward.

8.5 Tram Shelter Working Party:

IT WAS RESOLVED that the **TRAM SHELTER WORKING PARTY 2018/19** be left in abeyance as it did not need to meet at present.

8.6 Boundaries Sub Committee:

IT WAS RESOLVED that membership of the **BOUNDARIES SUB COMMITTEE 2018/19** would be: The Mayor, F&GP Chairman & Vice Chairman, and one Councillor from each ward (excluding Craig y Don which was already represented) (Gogarth: Cllr HTM Saville, Mostyn: Cllr Mrs J Jones; Penrhyn: Cllr Mrs M Wigzell, Tudno: Cllr Miss A O'Grady)

9. CLERKS FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR APRIL & MAY 2018

IT WAS RESOLVED that the financial reports for April and May 2018 be received.

10. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

Clarification had been sought from the Independent Remuneration Panel on new 2018 Determinations (52 and 53) relating to authorisations to make payments to Mayor's and Deputy Mayor's. The panel had responded to indicate that these were separate allowances to the existing civic allowances. Increasing the allowances for the Mayor and Deputy was of interest to members as the number of Llandudno civic engagements could incur quite an expense, however, there was still some uncertainty about the IRP response and their reference to principal authorities. **IT WAS RESOLVED** to approve an allowance of £1,000 for the Mayor and £250 for the Deputy under Determinations 52 & 53 subject to further confirmation from the IRP.

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11. TO CONSIDER REQUESTS RECEIVED REGARDING COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES

11.1 A consultation from Conwy CBC asking if the Town Council would support a commemorative plaque for Cannon Martha Hughes was considered. No funding was sought. **IT WAS RESOLVED** *that the plaque be supported and to suggest St Beuno's Road as a suitable location.*

11.2 Emails received from members of the public regarding the commemoration of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, Llandudno, were considered. The requests were for an historical plaque for The Cocoa House, where the first society for women's suffrage in Wales was formed in 1907. Plaque costs and information from the History Points project were noted. **IT WAS RESOLVED** *to support the provision of a plaque with £350 from the General Development Fund, subject to relevant permissions.*

12. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY FINANCE SUB COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES

12.1 Civic Sub Committee held 15th May 2018.

With reference to item 32: request to record missing names relating to the First World War on Llandudno War Memorial, a further letter had been received and had been circulated to members with the Minutes. The letter thanked the Sub Committee for its considerations and the proposed addition of a plaque to the war memorial garden to record two names and reference other memorials where other names were commemorated. The letter asked, however, for further consideration to be given by the Town Council to specified points and to review the names no longer under consideration for inclusion on the proposed plaque.

The Chairman of the Civic Sub Committee outlined extensive meetings and discussions that had taken place regarding this matter. The Civic Sub Committee considered that it had been meticulous and thorough in its considerations over all names submitted and had come to a reasonable, considered, and sensible decision. The reason for the majority of names not being considered further was due to either: listing on other war memorials; death subsequent to the war; or tenuous links to Llandudno. Guidance from the War Memorial Trust had also been referenced. Agreement had been reached with the Conservation Officer and the applicant to erect a plaque in the war memorial garden.

Committee members commended the research however, it was also discussed that there might be further names from World War II or other subsequent conflicts that might also be worthy of consideration and that a decision needed to be made or there would be no end to names being put forward. It was further discussed that the commemoration of the fallen at the time would have been gone into carefully for the war memorial. It was discussed that it was not known how many people had died as a result of injuries sustained in WW1 and that the sacrifice of all who been injured or affected (whether members of the forces, organisations or civilians) was worthy of noting. It was suggested that the plaque include reference to remember everyone from Llandudno that had been involved with all wars. Members discussed the merits of an appropriate memorial to reflect that, and that Llandudno Town Council made considerable effort to remember those affected by war, particularly through its organisation of Remembrance Sunday Services and parade, and that it acted in good faith over this issue.

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IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the recommendation of the Civic Sub Committee to commission a new plaque to record the two names, but with the addition of appropriate wording to encompass remembering all from Llandudno that were and had been involved with all wars.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED to thank the member of the public for their hard work and research into the fallen of World War One.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Civic Sub Committee held 15th May 2018 be approved and accepted.

13. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

13.1 Conwy County National Eisteddfod Proclamation Ceremony, 7th July 2018: To appoint two representatives from the Town Council to attend. It was noted that the Mayor and Immediate Past Mayor were in Wormhout, and that the Deputy Mayor was covering engagements. **IT WAS RESOLVED** to invite Cllr Miss C Marubbi and Cllr Mrs M Lyon to attend.

13.2 An email update from Conwy CBC on the CCTV digital/wireless upgrade, which the Town Council had supported in Llandudno, *was received*.

13.3 Letter received from the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales. The letter had responded that comments about the review of electoral arrangements on the County Borough Council would be considered, however, the Town Council's recommendation regarding the boundary between Mostyn and Tudno would need to be referred to the Community review conducted by the County Council. It was agreed that the letter would be resubmitted for the community review.

13.4 Letter from Ysgol Craig y Don seeking support to attend the National Eisteddfod. The letter had been received outside of the cycle of Finance meetings, however, **IT WAS RESOLVED** to send a letter of congratulations and that the School was welcome to apply for future funding.

13.5 A letter of thanks from the Friends of Princes Green *was received*

13.6 A letter of thanks from Llandudno & Colwyn Bay History Society *was received*

13.7 A letter seeking support for a Conwy Remembers WW1 2018 Parade *was received* and the request for £100 towards an evening concert for veterans *was approved*.

13.8 A Cais Newsletter Spring 2018 *was received*.

14. TOWN HALL LEASE ARRANGEMENTS

Exempt Information EX 7/2018

Reason for the exemption: the consideration of financial and contract information relating to the Town Council's lease of the Town Hall.

Cllr F Bradfield declared a prejudicial interest, vacated the Chair, and left the room for this item. The Chairman for this item only was the Finance Vice Chairman, Cllr Mrs M Wigzell.

Cllr Mrs L Emery, Cllr PC Evans, JP and Cllr GJT Robbins declared prejudicial interests and left the room for this item. Cllr Emery, Cllr Evans and Cllr Robbins also left the meeting and did not return.

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.

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Members considered information received from Conwy CBC regarding a review of the Town Council's lease arrangements for occupation of the Town Hall, including options and projected costs for additional office space within the building. Members discussed: the existing shortage of office and storage space, especially if the Town Council wished to provide more services or events; the 2019 review date of the current strategy; the importance of a long term vision and strategy; the Welsh Government review of the Town & Community Sector; income generation; the importance of the Town Hall as a community space for activities and events; the Well-being Act; and the importance of business cases when assessing needs and future plans. Interest was expressed in discussing further with Conwy CBC options for additional office space at the Town Hall.

IT WAS RESOLVED to establish a Town Hall working party to meet with Conwy CBC to ascertain in more detail options regarding the Town Council's future lease of the Town Hall and to report back. The working party to consist of members who were Town Councillors only.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED to elect Cllr A Bertola, Cllr F Davies, Cllr S Hillman, Cllr I Turner, Cllr M Pavey, and Cllr M A Pearce to the working party, but to also consider the inclusion of any other members who would be interested but who were not present at this Committee meeting.

The public were invited to return.

Cllr F Bradfield returned to the Chamber and to the Chair. Cllr Emery, Cllr Evans and Cllr Robbins had left the meeting and did not return.

15. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as **Friday 13th July 2018 at 7.00pm.**