

## FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

### Llandudno Town Council

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

Held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019, 6.30pm

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 Mrs C Beard

Cllr Mrs M Lyon

Cllr A W Bertola

Cllr Miss C Marubbi

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 H T M Saville

#### 37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs J Jones

Cllr I Turner

Cllr Miss A O’Grady

Cllr S Hillman

#### 38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF CONDUCT.

The following interests were declared:

Name:	Item:	Personal or Prejudicial:
Cllr F. Bradfield	43.2 Conwy CBC: CCTV maintenance 43.3 Conwy CBC: Playground funding 43.4 Conwy CBC: Promenade lights 43.5 Conwy CBC: Children’s corner	Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC
Cllr Mrs C Beard	43.2 Conwy CBC: CCTV maintenance 43.3 Conwy CBC: Playground funding 43.4 Conwy CBC: Promenade lights 43.5 Conwy CBC: Children’s corner	Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC
Cllr Mrs L E Emery	43.2 Conwy CBC: CCTV maintenance 43.3 Conwy CBC: Playground funding 43.4 Conwy CBC: Promenade lights 43.5 Conwy CBC: Children’s corner	Personal: Member/Cabinet, Conwy CBC Personal: Member/Cabinet, Conwy CBC Personal: Member/Cabinet, Conwy CBC Personal: Member/Cabinet, Conwy CBC
Cllr P C Evans, JP	43.2 Conwy CBC: Playschemes 43.3 Conwy CBC: CCTV maintenance 43.3 Conwy CBC: Playground funding 43.4 Conwy CBC: Promenade lights 43.5 Conwy CBC: Children’s corner	Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC
Cllr M P Hold JP	39.5 Llandudno Community radio	Prejudicial. Director. Tudno FM

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Cllr G J T Robbins	43.2 Conwy CBC: CCTV maintenance 43.3 Conwy CBC: Playground funding 43.4 Conwy CBC: Promenade lights 43.5 Conwy CBC: Children's corner	Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC
Cllr H Saville	43.2 Conwy CBC: CCTV maintenance 43.3 Conwy CBC: Playground funding 43.4 Conwy CBC: Promenade lights 43.5 Conwy CBC: Children's corner	Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC Personal: Member of Conwy CBC

**39. PRESENTATIONS TO COMMITTEE FOR GRANT FUNDING 2019/20**

*(as requested by the Finance Committee)*

Members had been previously circulated with copies of funding applications and accounts for each request.

**39.1 Application for Grant Funding 2019/20: Cyfeillion y Ffolt, Glanwydden.**

The Chairman welcomed Mr C. Griffiths, Chairman, and Mrs H. Roberts, Secretary, from the Cyfeillion Y Ffolt Cemetery Charitable Trust. Mr Griffiths gave a verbal presentation on the restoration and maintenance of the cemetery and future plans. £5,382 was sought, as a one off, to provide suitable hard standing at the entrance apron and along the short length of track to accommodate a hearse and one car, or parking by visitors. The access road to the cemetery was very narrow and did not have any parking places. A wooden bench would also be provided. Mr Griffiths further reported on the history of the site, the number of graves, its service to local communities, and the extensive restoration work since 2017. This registered charity was affiliated to the Caernarfonshire Welsh Baptist Association and the Baptist Union of Wales and whilst the former funded maintenance and insurance of the cemetery, there were no other sources of funding. The Association had been approached but could only fund routine maintenance. Mr Griffiths ran through quotes submitted for the work. Pictures of the site were also shown, and members invited to a site visit.

Members asked questions about the support from the local community, maintenance of the site, and whether planning permission had been sought for the proposed work. Although the entrance was not being widened, it was considered that planning advice would still be needed. Mr Griffiths responded that there was strong local interest in the cemetery, including 75 people attending a Remembrance Sunday event, that the graves and site were being looked after, and that they would follow the advice regarding speaking to planners. Members expressed appreciation of the amount of restoration work, that the work helped conserve local heritage and culture, and appreciated the difficulties of stopping and accessing the site. The Chairman thanked Mr Griffiths and Mrs Roberts and they left the meeting.

**39.2 Application for Grant Funding 2019/20: Llandudno Community Radio Ltd.**

The Chairman welcomed Mr D Hanson, Treasurer, and Mr M Ramsden, Chairman, Llandudno Community Radio. The Council had previously provisionally allocated a grant of £1,200 for 2019/20 but wished to know more about the Station's operation and future plans. Mr Hanson outlined the background to the Radio Station, which had started in 2008. The station had been vibrant in its early days, but it was acknowledged that there had been difficulties in recent years due to lack of funding and too many staff, which had resulted in efforts to turn the station around. Another location had been sought due to concerns about security of the existing site,

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lone working of staff, and Ty Hapus' own developments. It was reported that 2018 had been a difficult year for the accounts as the station could not afford an accountant and these had been done by volunteers. However, an accountant had now been engaged and accounts were up to date and even ahead for next year. The Station Chairman added that the station had recognised that things were going wrong previously and that this had forced the station to look at what it does. Complaints from Offcom about lack of community development were being addressed and permissions had been received to move and relaunch the station to meet community and Welsh language needs. A proposed community programme included Welsh speaking in primary schools, involving primary schools in a 'what's going on in my area' bilingual project, and community news. Increasing the number of volunteer presenters to take forward a greater community involvement was also reported.

*Cllr M Pavey arrived during the presentation.*

Members asked questions about community coverage, any plans to do shows from other sites, number of listeners and advertising. Members noted the responses that the station did cover all Llandudno areas and further afield, that shows from other sites would be explored, that advertising was being looked at, that various policies and safe guarding had been put in place and that whilst it was hard to measure listeners, facebook feedback was indicating a wide range of listeners. The Chairman thanked Mr Hanson and Mr Ramsden and they left the meeting.

### **39.3 Application for funding 2019/20: Conwy National Eisteddfod, August 2019.**

The Chairman welcomed Mr H. Garmon, Llandudno Appeal Committee, who outlined the uniqueness of the Eisteddfod festival, its annual location change between North and South Wales, its promotion of Welsh language and culture, and the longer lasting positive effects and economic benefits to the catchment area and to Wales. The layout and activities for the eight-day event in Llanwrst, and partnership working with the WLGA, were also touched upon. Around 150,000 attended the Eisteddfod, with many staying locally, and around 70% visiting the wider area around the event site. The Eisteddfod cost around £4m with a local target of £350,000 and a target of £25,000 for the Llandudno Appeals Committee. Commitments to date included Conwy Town Council £7,000, Bay of Colwyn Town Council £3,500, and various other and private donations. Independent research estimated the benefits to the local economy at £6-8 million. Fundraising with schools and holding of community events were also reported on.

Members asked questions including about fundraising, and suggested that greater communications and awareness of community fundraising events was needed. Mr Garmon concurred with this. The promotion focus was primarily on the Welsh community, but broadening this would be looked at. Ticket costs were also discussed and noted that in 2018 tickets were £10 and under 16's free. The Chairman thanked Mr Garmon, who then left the meeting.

Following all presentations, members considered the requests:

### **39.4 Grant Funding 2019/20: Cyfeillion y Ffolt, Glanwydden**

Members discussed the presentation and application, including that it was a one off request, funding options available other than the budget (Ad hoc grants, community fund, reserves), and whether costs might increase due to any planning requirements.

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**IT WAS RESOLVED to fund the Cyfeillion y Ffolt as a one-off project for 2019/20 with £2,000 from the ad hoc grants budget and £3,382 from the community fund, but also to arrange a site visit and investigate any planning requirements.**

*There was one vote against.*

### **39.5 Application for Grant Funding 2019/20: Llandudno Community Radio.**

*Cllr M Hold JP declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting.*

Members discussed the presentation and application and

**IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the Town Council's recommendation of £1,200 to Llandudno Community Radio for 2019/20.**

*Cllr M Hold JP returned to the meeting.*

### **39.6 Application for funding 2019/20: Conwy National Eisteddfod August 2019.**

Members discussed the presentation and application. Some members questioned whether the Council could fund and its priorities for 2019, however, the benefits were also discussed. **IT WAS RESOLVED that the Town Council allocate £5,000 to the Conwy National Eisteddfod for 2019/20.**

*There were three votes against.*

## **40. MINUTES**

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018 were received and signed by the Chairman.

## **41. URGENT ITEMS RELATING TO FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES**

There were none.

## **42. CLERKS FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2018**

The reports included a budget update, petty cash report, and reports on the Ad-hoc grants budget, Community Fund, and General Development Fund to 31 December 2018.

**IT WAS RESOLVED that the financial statements for November and December 2018, and budget, petty cash and miscellaneous funds reports for 31 December 2018, be received.**

## **43. TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR FUNDING**

43.1 Annual request for funding 'Playing Out' Summer Holiday Provision 2019. Total cost £6,500 (at one session per week for five weeks) with a £500 grant available. Whilst Council had supported the scheme in previous years, there was discussion over its merits and benefits, whether it was good value, and whether there was sufficient equipment and interaction of children. Some members had attended sessions and been underwhelmed by the scheme. It was also discussed that as the sessions were held next to existing play areas, that this largely attracted those already there. Better advertising was also needed and the decline in attendees

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noted. Concern was expressed that children needed to be 'taught' to play. Some members raised whether, in view of playground funding needs, this scheme was a priority and whether to discuss this later when the budget was discussed. A proposal to continue to fund the scheme was not seconded. ***IT WAS RESOLVED not to fund the 'Playing Out' Summer Holiday playschemes for 2019/20.***

*There were three votes against and one abstention.*

43.2 Annual request for £7,587 funding towards CCTV maintenance, Llandudno. There was discussion on the merits, or not, of CCTV but that the resolution image of the new HD cameras was good. ***IT WAS RESOLVED to support the maintenance of 27 HD CCTV cameras in Llandudno with £7,587 for 2019/20.***

43.3 Request for funding from Conwy CBC for up to £40,000 for maintenance of Llandudno Play areas 2019. Information on the number and location of play areas in the Llandudno Community area had also been circulated, along with that annual inspection reports were available at the office.

There was considerable discussion on this item. Discussion included that play areas were the responsibility of Conwy CBC, the background to the request arising from increasing budget restraints at the County Council, that the 'direction of travel' was that Town & Community Councils would be increasingly approached for funding or service transfer of play areas or other services, the importance of play areas, and whether the public cared where the funding was coming from so long as there were usable play areas. It was noted that the Town Council already allocated £10,000 capital funding in its annual budget for playgrounds and that if this was re-allocated it would reduce the request to up to £30,000. There was further discussion on whether Conwy CBC wasted money, the expectation on Town & Community Councils to pick up the bill for Conwy CBC's lack of maintenance and budget for play areas, the Town Council's budget and the need for it to review its strategy and priorities as a whole. Further concern was expressed about the late submission of the request from Conwy CBC, especially as this had been raised at the October meeting of the Town & Community Council Forum.

There was discussion on whether to await the Conwy CBC Task and Finish Group, however, it was reported that the T&F Group had not yet commenced meetings and was likely to take some time. This did not aid playgrounds in the meantime and that the Town Council would be unlikely to be able to support this request after its budget had been set, until next year. There was despair expressed that playgrounds were in this position, but the realities were that they were needed. Rationalising of playgrounds was also touched upon. It was suggested that the Town Council could fund using the existing £10,000 budget and the £6,000 from the playschemes. One Councillor highlighted that many of the numerous playgrounds in Llandudno had historically arisen as constructions from housing estates or planning obligations and subsequently transferred to Conwy CBC, but without the revenue coming with them. The need to review the number of play areas was supported due to changing needs and demographics. The Clerk had spoken to Conwy CBC that if any funding was allocated for play provision, the Town Council would need to be consulted on proposed work prior to funding being released, as per previous years. A proposal to allocate £16,000 funding (£10k existing and £6k playschemes) was not supported and

***IT WAS RESOLVED to allocate £24,000 towards maintenance of Conwy CBC playgrounds in the Llandudno community area (approx. 30), made up of existing***

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*£10,000 capital funding, £6,000 playschemes funding and additional £8,000 from the 2019 budget, subject to the Town Council having control over how funds were spent.*

*There were two votes against.*

43.4 Request for funding from Conwy CBC towards an upgrade of the sodium North Shore Promenade Lighting columns to Led lights, from Carmen Sylva Road to the Imperial Hotel. Old lights were failing, and the new lights would improve efficiency and the visual look of the promenade. Total cost of the project was £8,400 and up to 50% was sought. A quote and specifications had been provided. **IT WAS RESOLVED** *to support the upgrade of North Shore lighting columns with £4,200 from the 2019/20 budget.*

43.5 Request for budget allocation for stone removal works, children's corner, 2019. **IT WAS RESOLVED** *to allocate £6,500 in the 2019/20 budget.*

### 44. TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2019/20

44.1 Information from Conwy CBC regarding Precept requirement 2019/20 and estimated election costs for budgetary purposes.

44.2 Draft budget estimates 2019/20 and consideration of reserves.

The following further amendments were approved: to reduce the budget for Llandudno in Bloom to £15,000 as £20,000 was not needed, to increase the Councillors training budget to £500, to release £14,000 set aside in EMR for a beach feasibility study (no longer needed). It was noted that the budget allocation for a 2019 RAF Valley Freedom Parade may not be needed, in which case this could be re-allocated within the existing budget, perhaps some to civic allowances. There had been discussion earlier in the meeting, and at this point again, about the Town Council reviewing its existing strategy and future priorities to inform budgets. Although this would take some time, the Strategy Working Party had met and was to report to Members in March. There was discussion on the Finance Committee holding separate annual budget meetings.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** *to recommend to Council the draft budget for 2019/20 as amended and attached to the minutes as Appendix 1 and to review the Town Council's strategy, areas of work, and priorities going forward, in 2019.*

### 45. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY FINANCE SUB COMMITTEES

There were none.

### 46. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

46.1 Public Safety at Events and Working with Safety Advisory Groups Training course, Eirias Park, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Cost £54 p.p. **IT WAS RESOLVED** *that the Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Mr G I Davies (event volunteer), Cllr GJT Robbins, and Cllr F Davies attend from the training budgets.*

46.2 Bara Caws Theatr, Caernarfon, funding request. **IT WAS RESOLVED** *not to fund as this was outside of area.*

**47. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as **Friday 1st March 2019 at 7.00pm.**