

## FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

### Llandudno Town Council

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

Held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020, 7.00pm

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lloyd Street, Llandudno

#### Those Present:

Cllr Frank Bradfield – Chairman

Cllr Mrs C Beard

Cllr A W Bertola

Cllr F Davies

Cllr Mrs L G Emery

Cllr P C Evans, JP

Cllr M Hold, JP

Cllr Miss C Marubbi

Cllr M A Pearce

Cllr M J Pavey

Cllr H T M Saville

Cllr I Turner

#### 52. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Miss A O'Grady – The Mayor

Cllr D J Hawkins – Vice Chairman

Cllr B B Bertola

Cllr S R Hillman

Cllr Mrs J Jones

Cllr Mrs M Lyon

Cllr G J T Robbins

Cllr Mrs M Wigzell

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

There were no interests declared.

#### 54. MINUTES

It was resolved to approve and sign the minutes of a meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

#### 55. URGENT ITEMS RELATING TO FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES

There were none.

#### 56. CLERKS FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2020

The reports included updates on the Ad-hoc grants budget, Community Fund, General Development Fund, and budget report to 31 August 2020.

A concern was raised in respect of the Town Council's 2020 grant to support the Llandudno Coastal Forum website and that the website was not up to date. The Clerk would liaise with the Forum Chairman to address this.

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With reference to the budget report for 31 August 2020, questions were asked about the likely budget forecast for 2019/20 and underspends and unspent budgets arising as a result of Covid-19. The Clerk reported that it was too early to be accurate with forecasting until the Autumn, as some budgets were still pending to be spent or, as yet, unknown (such as Christmas Parade and some of the joint projects with Conwy CBC). It was on the agenda later to consider when best to discuss this in more detail.

**IT WAS RESOLVED that the financial statements for July and August 2020 be approved.**

### 57. TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION INVESTMENT FUNDING

*(with reference to Community Services & Tourism Committee 08.09.20)*

To identify and approve match funding for proposed projects, with a view to applying to the fund by the end of September 2020.

It had been resolved at Community Services & Tourism Committee, 08.09.20 item 75, that Llandudno Town Council apply to the Open Spaces Covid-19 Response Grant, administered by Conwy CBC, for the provision of two disabled access benches and tarmac surfacing at West Shore, along with a combine bench and planter, incorporating a 'rainbow' back and suitable inscribed plaque, for Madoc Street. These had been costed at £2,240 ex vat for the combined bench planter and £1,465 ex vat for the picnic benches. Under the fund, the Town Council was required to provide match funding of 20% of the afore mentioned costs. As installation of the benches and tarmac costs was still being ascertained it was recommended that up to £1,500 be identified. After discussion **IT WAS RESOLVED to allocate up to £1,500 in match funding for the project submission to the Open Spaces Covid-19 Response Grant from General Reserves, in view of underspends in 2020 due to coronavirus.**

### 58. REQUESTS RECEIVED FOR FUNDING

58.1 Relate Cymru: application for £200 for relationship support to people affected by the coronavirus in Conwy.

The role of Relate and its headquarters in the Town was noted. There was some discussion whether national bodies should be supported in principle and, that this could be considered a request for a donation rather than a grant. **IT WAS RESOLVED that the Town Council donate £200 to relate Cymru from the ad hoc grants budget.**

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

None to date.

### 60. LITTER BIN PROVISION AND REVIEW LLANDUDNO

An email had been received from Conwy CBC regarding a review of the litter bin infrastructure in Llandudno and a joint working project.

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There had previously been discussion at Community Services Committee, 14.07.20, item 66, in respect of undertaking a condition survey of Town Council litter bins with a view to refurbishing or replacing. The email from Conwy CBC outlined the increased use of bins in the Town due to the resurgence of staycations, as a result of Covid-19, and the impact of additional demand on cleansing practices. It had been identified that a review of bin infrastructure was needed to ensure optimum sized bins, best locations, cleaning and servicing of bins, and greater opportunities for recycling. Support was sought from the Town Council to develop joint working opportunities. A list of bins, types and projected costs for refurbishing/upgrading bins within the main town area had been included with the email.

Members concurred with the review of the bin infrastructure. The Clerk reported that bins had previously been provided by the Town Council, identifiable by the crest, but that the number and location of these bins was unknown. There was merit, therefore, in the Council undertaking a survey to identify and to then look at options for joint working. Members agreed that it would be useful to identify which of the Llandudno Town Council provided bins needed replacing.

After further discussion on how best to undertake a survey **IT WAS RESOLVED** *to request maps/lists from Conwy CBC of all litter bins in the Llandudno community area and that Ward members would undertake a condition survey of those within their wards. However, should some Wards not have the resources to undertake this then Cllr A Bertola, Cllr F Davies, Cllr Mrs C. Marrubbi, Cllr I Turner, and the Assistant Clerk would be able to assist, on request.*

### 61. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

61.1 Welsh Ambulance Service: email in respect of community defibrillators and a project in Llandudno to site an outdoor defibrillator in the Town centre area. **IT WAS RESOLVED** *to invite the Welsh Ambulance Service Representative to a meeting of the Community Services & Tourism Committee to find out more details about the proposed project and any implications/costs to the Town Council.*

61.2 Welsh Government: information on the Cultural Recovery Fund. There was some interest in this item and that the fund was available for a range of cultural bodies, which might be of benefit to the Town. Concern was expressed, however, in respect of the short deadline for applications. It was hoped that many relevant bodies would already be aware of the fund, but **IT WAS RESOLVED** *to circulate to relevant organisations known to the Town Council from the annual Grant applications.*

### 62. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

To consider when to discuss this year's budget and the impact of Covid-19 ahead of setting the 2021-22 budget in January.

It was discussed that the full position would not really be known until March 2021 but that there was merit in forecasting ahead of setting the 21-22 budget in January 21 and that November/December seemed the best time frame. It was noted, however, that annual grants were considered at the November meeting of the Committee and that it might be time consuming to consider both. There was discussion about whether to hold a separate meeting to review the impact of Covid-19 on the 2020 budget and to set a strategic approach for the 21 budget and whether to hold before or after annual grants were discussed. The Clerk had

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previously reported that there might be various options for underspent and unspent budgets such as carry over for ear marked reserves, topping up Community or capital project Funds, building a greater cushion of resilience, or offsetting the 2021 precept. It was raised by a member that many of the town Council's events and activities had been cancelled due to coronavirus and that a resumption to normal activities might not happen anytime soon, and that Councillors needed to set a strategy going forward.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** *to hold the Special meeting of the Committee on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to look at the impact of Covid-19 on the budget for 2021-22 and to consider a strategic way forward.*

**63. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as **Friday 20th November 2020 at 7.00pm.**