

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND TOURISM COMMITTEE

Llandudno Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of Llandudno Town Council – Community Services & Tourism Committee

Held on Tuesday 31st May 2016 at 7.00pm

Council Chamber, Town Hall, Lloyd Street, Llandudno

Those Present:

Cllr Billy Evans - Chairman

Cllr Mrs M Wigzell – Vice Chairman

Cllr Miss C Marubbi, The Mayor

Cllr Mrs D Good

Cllr Mrs J Audus-Williams

Cllr D J Hawkins

Cllr B B Bertola

Cllr Mrs J E Haworth, AM

Cllr F Bradfield

Cllr Mrs M Lyon

Cllr M Bullock, JP

Cllr Miss A O’Grady

Cllr G Burchett

Cllr J E Ridler

Cllr F Davies

Cllr G J T Robbins

Cllr T R Davies

Cllr Mrs A M Yates

Cllr T Dewar

In attendance:

Inspector K Isaacs

PC Gary Cooper

Members of the public

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2016/17

One nomination was received and

IT WAS RESOLVED unanimously that Cllr Billy Evans be elected Chairman for 2016/17.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN 2016/17

Three nominations were received and following a ballot in accordance with standing orders,

IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr Mrs Myra Wigzell be elected Vice Chairman for 2016/17.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs P Burchett

Cllr M A Pearce

Cllr G Davies

Cllr G O Roberts

Cllr GI Davies

Cllr D N Sutcliffe

Cllr Mrs J Jones

Cllr Mrs A M Yates

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

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The following declarations of interest were declared:

Name:	Item:	Personal or Prejudicial
Cllr D J Hawkins	13.2: Post Office consultation on Vaughan St	Prejudicial: Mrs Hawkins employed by the Post Office and affected by the proposals.

5. URGENT ITEMS

There were none.

6. MINUTES

The minutes of a meeting of the Community Services Committee held on Tuesday 23rd February 2016, were received.

7. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMUNITY SERVICES AND TOURISM SUB COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES 2016/17

Members had been previously circulated with a list of Community Services & Tourism sub committees. 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 Community Services & Tourism Committee would be members of every Sub Committee unless they signified to the contrary.

7.1 Miss Alice Sub Committee:

IT WAS RESOLVED that, in addition to the Mayor and Vice Chairman of Community Services, the following members be elected to the MISS ALICE SUB COMMITTEE 2016/17: Cllr M Bullock JP, Cllr Mrs D Good, Cllr Mrs IL Groom, Cllr Mrs J Jones, Cllr Miss A O'Grady, Cllr MA Pearce.

7.2 Christmas Parade: Sub Committee:

IT WAS RESOLVED that in addition to the Mayor, and Chairman and Vice Chairman of Community Services, the following members be elected to the CHRISTMAS PARADE SUB COMMITTEE 2016/17: Cllr Mrs J Audus-Williams, Cllr M Bullock JP, Cllr BB Bertola, Cllr F Bradfield, Cllr F Davies, Cllr Gl Davies, Cllr TR Davies, Cllr T Dewar, Cllr D J Hawkins, Cllr Mrs J Jones, Cllr Miss A O'Grady, Cllr MA Pearce, Cllr GJT Robbins, Cllr D N Sutcliffe.

7.3 Decorative Lighting Sub Committee:

IT WAS RESOLVED that in addition to the Mayor, and Chairman and Vice Chairman of Community Services, the following members be elected to the DECORATIVE LIGHTING SUB COMMITTEE 2016/17: Cllr BB Bertola, Cllr F Bradfield, Cllr M Bullock JP, Cllr F Davies, Cllr Gl Davies, Cllr T R Davies, Cllr T Dewar, Cllr Billy Evans, Cllr Mrs M Lyon, Cllr GJT Robbins, Cllr GO Roberts.

7.4 Llandudno in Bloom Sub Committee:

IT WAS RESOLVED that in addition to the Mayor, and Chairman and Vice Chairman of Community Services, the following members be elected to the LLANDUDNO IN BLOOM SUB COMMITTEE 2016/17: Cllr Mrs J Audus-

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Williams, Cllr F Bradfield, Cllr M Bullock JP, Cllr F Davies, Cllr G Davies, Cllr Gl Davies, Cllr TR Dewar, Cllr Mrs J Jones.

7.5 Town Twinning Committee:

IT WAS RESOLVED *that in addition to the Mayor, and Chairman and Vice Chairman of Community Services, the following members be elected to the TOWN TWINNING COMMITTEE 2016/17: Cllr F Bradfield, Cllr M Bullock JP, Cllr F Davies, Cllr T Dewar, Cllr D Hawkins, Cllr Mrs J Jones, Cllr MA Pearce, Cllr JE Ridler, Cllr GJT Robbins, Cllr Mrs AM Yates.*

7.6 Fireworks Sub Committee:

IT WAS RESOLVED *that in addition to the Mayor, and Chairman and Vice Chairman of Community Services, the following members be elected to the FIREWORKS SUB COMMITTEE 2016/17:*

F&GP Chairman, Cllr F Bradfield, Cllr M Bullock JP, Cllr F Davies, Cllr Mrs JE Haworth, Cllr Mrs J Jones, Cllr Mrs M Lyon, Cllr Miss A O'Grady, Cllr M A Pearce, Cllr GJT Robbins.

7.7 Town Centre Improvements Working Party:

IT WAS RESOLVED *that the following members would be re-elected to the TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS WORKING PARTY 2016/17:*

The Mayor, Cllr F Bradfield, Cllr M Bullock JP, Cllr F Davies, Cllr Gl Davies, Cllr TR Davies, Cllr Mrs D Good, Cllr Mrs JE Haworth, Cllr Miss A O'Grady, Cllr Mrs M Lyon, Cllr GJT Robbins, Cllr Mrs M Wigzell.

7.8 Beach Working Party:

IT WAS RESOLVED *that the following members would be re-elected to the BEACH WORKING PARTY 2016/17: The Mayor, CST Chairman, F&GP Chairman, P&T Chairman, Cllr F Bradfield, Cllr M Bullock JP, Cllr F Davies, Cllr Gl Davies, Cllr Mrs J E Haworth, Cllr Mrs M Lyon, Cllr M A Pearce, Cllr Mrs M Wigzell*

8. TO RECEIVE UPDATES FROM THE FOLLOWING:

8.1 Town Twinning. The Chairman reported on a very successful football exchange visit to Wormhout by local schools. The participants had also visited local memorial sites. Photographs of the visit would be submitted to the press following the football presentations.

8.2 Town Centre Improvements Working Party. The Chairman reported that the refurbishment of the benches near Lloyds Bank, Mostyn Street, had been completed by the working party, and that a walkabout had been held with Conwy CBC representatives to look at potential projects for 2016.

8.3 Alice Pool update. The Clerk reported that, following quotes received, and discussion with Conwy CBC, Dragon Civil Engineering had been confirmed to undertake the infilling of the pool.

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9. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY COMMUNITY SERVICES SUB COMMITTEES

- 9.1 Llandudno in Bloom Sub Committee, held 16th March 2016.
 9.2 Llandudno in Bloom Sub Committee, held 20th April 2016.
 9.3 Decorative Lighting Sub Committee, held 10th May 2016.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Llandudno in Bloom Sub Committee, held 16th March 2016, Llandudno in Bloom Sub Committee, held 20th April 2016, and Decorative Lighting Sub Committee, held 10th May 2016, be approved and accepted.

10. TO RECEIVE ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORTS FOR LLANDUDNO PLAY AREAS

In view of the Town Council's annual £10,000 contribution to Conwy CBC towards the maintenance of Llandudno play areas, members had been circulated with a list of the Conwy CBC 2015 Annual Inspection reports for Llandudno (reports available at the Office). Members had also been circulated with the report for Penrhyn Hill Play Area. Whilst there were a couple of minor issues arising, such as painting of the gates, these had been assessed as low risk. Any issues identified would be looked at in 2016. One member expressed concern about the age of the equipment, that the site was rarely used, and that the equipment would be best sited elsewhere. Members noted that the play equipment had been inspected as part of the report and that there were no issues arising.

11. GREAT ORME: ROUGH SLEEPING

(Item requested by Cllr Mrs J E Haworth)

The Chairman welcomed Inspector Kelly Isaacs and PC Gary Cooper, who had offered to attend the meeting to update members on this issue. Cllr Mrs JE Haworth reported that North Wales Police had previously attended to up to seventeen reports of rough sleepers on the Great Orme, and that this had instigated the grant funding from Cadw to secure and survey Kendrick's Cave. Whilst the cave's security was still intact, Cllr Mrs Haworth reported that there would always be rough sleepers on the Orme but that the key to the issue was how to respond to and handle it. Reference was made to the Housing Act duties on County Councils, the byelaws on the Great Orme, and that one area outside of the byelaws, a flat plateau between the Country Park and Happy Valley, had been used for camping and was prone to fires and littering. Fencing in this area needed attending to and camping discouraged. Cllr Haworth compared the levels of temporary accommodation provided by County Councils and that Wrexham had sixteen emergency beds, Denbighshire seven, but Conwy and Gwynedd none and concluded that what was needed was a greater provision of services.

PC Cooper updated members that the plateau area was now fully secured, and that whilst there was evidence of previous fires, use in front of Kendrick's Cave, and littering, it was not recent. The complex issues and needs of the homeless were discussed and that the transient nature of the two main issues: rough sleepers and anti social behaviour/crime, were difficult to police and byelaws difficult to enforce. Only two complaints had been received by the Police. Some individuals had received community protection notices but this required legislation to enforce. The Police could provide public reassurance and

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partnership patrols, and there had been a 30% increase in the pro-activity of police patrols, enforcement, and education. Conwy CBC had been contacted, and the Police partnership officer was working with the enforcement team. Moving people from the Orme, however, often resulted in the displacement of persons further onto the Great Orme. The Police were aware of charities seeking to assist the homeless and to avoid conflict, more engagement/partnership working was needed, including raising awareness of the byelaws. The Police had considered engaging a PCSO specifically to deal with homeless issues in the town, but Conwy CBC had been concerned that this might be seen as pursuing the vulnerable.

Members expressed sympathy for people finding themselves in a homeless situation and it was discussed that a key issue was a lack of provision of temporary accommodation and housing for homeless people, although it was recognised that as people often had complex issues, finding suitable housing could be challenging. It was also discussed that whilst Council's had duties under the Housing Act, they needed the resources to implement, that there were some mechanisms in Conwy such as Isallt, supported living project, and reference was made to the increase in homeless ex-servicemen. One member reported that Cytun were looking to discuss housing issues for the homeless and working with Conwy CBC. Members considered that it would be valuable to find out what services and facilities Conwy CBC provided, and commented on the often seasonal nature of the issues and impact on tourism.

One member reported on Councils in England working with retailers to withdraw cheap alcohol, often associated with anti social behaviour, and whether this could be explored in Conwy. There was further discussion on the need to work together in North Wales and raising the issue through the North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils.

IT WAS RESOLVED that Llandudno Town Council write to Conwy CBC regarding its responsibilities under the Housing Act and to find out what services are available and, in view of both the impact on tourism to the Town and making sure that people received help, to ask Conwy CBC to engage fully with stakeholders in the Town regarding the provision of suitable accommodation and services.

The Chairman thanked Inspector Isaacs and PC Cooper for attending and extended an invitation to the Inspector to attend a future meeting.

Cllr Mrs JE Haworth and Cllr Miss A O'Grady left the meeting.

12. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

12.1 A report *was received* from the Town Council's representative on a meeting of the North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils, held 22nd April 2016. Key issues under discussion included efforts to meet with the Minister and the Boundary Commission, service devolution from County Councils and the Welsh Language.

12.2 An email from Conwy CBC regarding that the next meeting of the Town & Community Council Forum, since January, would not be until September 2016 was discussed and

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IT WAS RESOLVED that Llandudno Town Council write to Conwy CBC to express its concerns that the next scheduled meeting of the Town & Community Council Forum was not until September 2016.

12.3 Notes of the Conwy Fairtrade Coalition meeting, held 19th April 2016, *were received*. The Council's representative reported that the Coalition was very active and that the Llandudno branch was the most dynamic in North Wales.

12.4 Llandudno Development Partnership: To receive any reports from the meeting held 15th April 2016. A report was received that the Partnership had undertaken a lot of good work in the past but seemed to be at a standstill and awaiting a new Chairman. The partnership was looking at traffic around the town, and the Christmas Fayre was doing well but was now of a sufficient size.

12.5 Llandudno Promenade Consultative Group: to receive any reports from the meeting held 9th May 2016. The lifeboat station was in progress and hoped to open Spring 2017. Blue flag status achieved for North Shore but not West Shore due to the outfall: more seasonal samples of water quality were to be taken in the future. Conwy CBC would not be naming the new slipway as traditionally slipways were not named.

12.6 A written report from Penrhyn Bay Community Library was received and

IT WAS RESOLVED that Llandudno Town Council write to Penrhyn Bay Community Library to congratulate them on their achievements and that the Town Council would continue to support them.

12.7 To receive any further reports from outside bodies: there were none.

13. TO CONSIDER ANY CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

13.1 Information on The Centenary Fields Programme and an invitation to submit appropriate sites was considered. A suggestion was received that the Penrhyn Hill Play area would be a suitable site due to the proximity of the War Memorial and the land being granted under a Church Act. A further suggestion was received for an area on the Great Orme, encompassing St Tudno's Church and the Boer War Memorial.

IT WAS RESOLVED that Llandudno Town Council submit to The Centenary Fields Programme the following two sites: Penrhyn Hill Recreation area, and the area around St Tudno's Church, Great Orme.

13.2 Letter and consultation received from the Post Office regarding a proposed move of the Crown Post Office branch at 14 Vaughan Street, Llandudno, to the WH Smith store, Mostyn Street.

Cllr DJ Hawkins declared a prejudicial interest and left the meeting.

The letter outlined that the move was part of ongoing modernisation of the network and that the branch would continue to be run by the Post Office Ltd, with the current team, but from within the WH Smith store. It would remain a Crown Post Office, with a new build dedicated open plan Post Office area on the ground floor, to the rear. The consultation date ran until 6th July 2016. Members expressed much concern and made the following

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observations: lack of parking provision; difficulties of dropping off parcels; only one disabled parking bay nearby; concerns whether Post Officer advisors would transfer from Vaughan Street and the importance of financial services advice, particularly to the elderly; the need for a Crown Post Office to have a clear identity and not be within a shop; the need for the provision of a wide range of services; no reason given for the necessity of the move; no detailed plans received; how queues, common at Post Offices, would be accommodated within WH Smith's; and ease of access through the store to the Post Office counter.

IT WAS RESOLVED that Llandudno Town Council strongly object in principle to the proposed relocation of the Crown Post Office branch at Vaughan Street to WH Smiths, Mostyn Street, and request that the PO remain where it is and carry on providing the current service to the Town.

IT WAS FURTHER RESOLVED that members be encouraged to respond individually to the Post Office consultation.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as **Tuesday 5th July 2016**.