

**Minutes of a meeting of Denbigh Town Council held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at 6.30pm at the Town Hall, Denbigh.**

**Present:** Councillors Rob Parkes (chairman), Raymond Bartley, Margaret Bowe, Medwyn Williams, Geraint Williams, Colin L Hughes, Brian Davies, Roy Tickle, Gaynor Wood, Catherine Jones, Philip Stevens and Medwyn Jones (Town Clerk).

**Apologies:** Cllr Shereen Devine, Colin Hughes, Gaynor Morgan Rees and Mark Young.

The chairman welcomed all to the last meeting of the current municipal year.

**246. Meeting with North Wales Police.** The chairman welcomed Inspector Gareth Jones and invited Inspector Jones to address the meeting. Inspector Jones recapped on some issues from the last joint meeting: (1) Excessive speed / antisocial driving – this was more widespread than in Denbigh alone. Denbigh & Ruthin officers had been working together and achieved some success – 18 notices issued and one car had been seized in Ruthin. (2) Licensing issues – some disorder in the Lenten Pool area – possibly linked to the Devine premises. The premises remain open under an existing licence as opposed to a new licence. Antisocial behaviour and underage drinking taking place. The licensee was working with the police. There were no longer any issues with the Kings on Vale Street. Investigations into incidents at the former RAFA Club at the end of 2014 had been completed and a number of offenders processed and on their way through the courts. (3) Spate of non-dwelling break-ins. Two people had been arrested and search of their premises disclosed a number of stolen goods. Both had been bailed – one re-arrested for further offending whilst on bail – probably the two will reoffend until locked up. Three cars had been seized in the last week. (4) Staffing – The appointment of a CBM will not be forthcoming at the moment. 4 PCSOs at the moment and working well.

Inspector Jones responded to members' questions and observations on (1) drug enforcement, (2) a particular motor cycle offender in Upper Denbigh, (3) Devine licensed premises, (4) cars parking on the pavement down Vale Street, (5) deliberate small fires.

The chairman thanked Inspector Jones for his attendance and the comprehensive report.

**247. Urgent Matters:** There were none

**248. Declaration of Personal Interest:** The following declarations were received:

- (1) Cllr Brian Davies – agenda item 8(1)(5) – planning – Kilford Farm.
- (2) Cllr Geraint Williams – all matters relating to Denbighshire County Council.
- (3) Cllr Raymond Bartley – all matters relating to Denbighshire County Council.
- (4) Cllr Raymond Bartley – agenda item 9 – grant aid – Denbigh Aged and Disabled Fund
- (5) Cllr Raymond Bartley – agenda item 9 – grant aid – Denbigh Carnival
- (6) Cllr Margaret Bowe – agenda item 9 – grant aid – Denbigh Aged and Disabled Fund
- (7) Cllr Catherine Jones - agenda item 5 – matters arising – R Arthur Jones Crisis Fund
- (8) Cllr Catherine Jones – agenda item 9 – grant aid – Denbigh Carnival

**249. The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 and the Minutes of the Planning, Finance and General Purposes Committees held on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 were approved.**

**250. Matters arising: 23.3.15** (1) Minute 232 – Annual Meeting. The town clerk gave an update. As of the 27<sup>th</sup> - 168 attending. Catering had been arranged with the college, provisionally for 100 at £4.25 per head – it was agreed that catering for 100 was sufficient. It was agreed that soft drinks be made available. It was agreed that Cllr Roy Tickle second the nomination of Cllr Bartley as Mayor. Members were reminded of the rehearsal on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm and to be present in the council chamber on the evening of the AGM at 6.30pm

(2) Minute 227(4) – College Eisteddfod. Cllr Bartley reported on a very successful event and that comments were made as to the superb setting in the town hall. The town council had been thanked publicly for its financial contribution.

13.4.15: (3) Minute 237(3)(2) – Annual Audit. The town clerk reported that the internal audit would take place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am. The external auditor had now confirmed that the council would not face an intermediate audit. The town clerk referred to the council's asset list as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. The list was approved.

(4) Minute 238(2)(3) - Lower Park Bowling Club. The town clerk referred to the various e-mails exchanged following the council letter to the bowling club. During the ensuing discussion comments were made that the club did not appear to be helping itself. The club should be seeking sponsorship – other clubs did it. It was suggested that the club co-operated with other clubs with similar requirements and share resources. It was disappointing that the club did not feel that the town council was being helpful.

(5) Minute 240(4) - R Arthur Jones Crisis Fund. The town clerk referred to the response received from the council's insurers and sought guidance from the council – it was finally **Resolved** (unanimously) **that the town council took full responsibility for the bench.**

(6) Minute 241 – Denbigh High Street. Cllr Margaret Bowe have a short report on the site meeting between councillors and Peter Lea from DCC. The specific issue had been discussed. Peter Lea had stated that there had been no reports of accidents at this specific location. A survey by the town council had been suggested regarding the relocation of the bus stops to their previous locations. A discussion ensued with varying opinions being expressed. It was final **Resolved that the town council write to the Local Members Area Group requesting that the group consider the matter of relocating the bus stops back to their original locations and that the matter be contained in the Denbigh Town Plan.**

(7) Minute 245(5) – A 55 signage. The town clerk referred to the correspondence received from Ann Jones AM which was noted. It was agreed that the town council contact Cadw as suggested in the letter.

**251. Mayor's Report:** The Mayor's written report was considered and accepted. The Mayor thanked all who had supported the Mayor's Ball. Approximately £1,000 plus had been raised. The Mayor also referred to the incredible event at Howell School when 300 Christians attended – it was intended to stage another like event at Howell School in the summer.

**252. Letters, E-mails and Notices:** 1. It was agreed that one item of correspondence be noted.

2. It was further agreed that the following be noted and actioned accordingly:

(1) The letter from Roy Spilsbury addressed to Ann Jones AM re Denbigh cycle route planning was discussed and noted.

(2) The e-mail from DCC re the provision of a storage container containing sport and play equipment was discussed. The town clerk explained that the container and equipment would be provided by DCC free of charge to all town councils within the county. The town clerk had provisionally agreed to receive the container. The town council would need to make a decision on its location and who would be responsible for the equipment. It was agreed that the matter be an agenda item at the next meeting and councillors, in the meantime, to put forward suggestions to the town clerk.

(3) Ombudsman – revised guidance on the code of conduct. It was agreed that the letter be noted and left in abeyance for the town clerk to consider the guidance.

- (4) E-mail from Joseph Spiteri the EWT President enclosing a letter of resignation from one of the EWT vice presidents and the EWT treasurer and three town in the Netherlands. The town clerk stated that whilst some contents of the letter had some merit the decisions therein, the cancellation of the executive meeting in the Netherlands in June and the suggestion of a move to form another group were at the very least disturbing. Decisions would now be needed from the President and his secretariat as to the next step.

**253. Planning:** Following discussion, it was agreed that no objection be raised in respect of the following applications for planning permission:

- (1) Land adjacent to Llyn Bran, Bylchau (deferred from 13.4.15)  
(7 votes for with 4 abstentions)
- (2) 1, Smithfield Road (7 votes for, 1 against and 3 abstentions)
- (3) Pen y Cae, Bodeiliog Road
- (4) Land at Kilford Farm, Whitchurch Road
- (5) Beech House

With regard to the planning application received in respect of Former North Wales Hospital it was agreed that in view of the amount of paperwork involved with the application that a request for further time to consider the application be made.

2. Other planning matters: There were no other matters

*At this point the Chairman Cllr Rob Parkes, unfortunately, had to leave the meeting at 7.58am. From this point on the meeting was chaired by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Raymond Bartley.*

**254 Minutes / Reports of council sub committees:** (1) Grant Aid: The minutes of a recent meeting were considered. Each recommendation on applications received contained in the minutes was considered and approved as follows:

- (1) Cae Dai – Further deferred for further information.
- (2) Denbigh and Flint Show 2015 - £350 (S.137)(Cheque no. 005604)
- (3) Denbigh Aged and Disabled Fund - £1,350(S.137)(Cheque no. 005605)
- (4) Elite Martial Arts - £1,500(S.137)(Cheque no. 005606)
- (5) Denbigh Carnival - £3,000(S.137)(Cheque no. 005607)
- (6) Denbigh Midsummer Festival - £2,500(S.137)(Cheque no. 005608)  
(Cllrs Roy Tickle and Gaynor Wood declared an interest)
- (7) Love Lane Neighbourhood Watch - £200 (S.137)(Cheque no. 005609)  
(Cllr Geraint Williams declared an interest)
- (8) Denbigh Bowling Club - £3,000(S.137)(Cheque no. 005610)
- (9) Vale of Clwyd Denbigh Plum Association – deferred for further information.
- (10) Denbigh Business Group – deferred for further information.

The recommendation regarding a grant aid policy to ensure that there was sufficient funding to cover all grant aid applications during the current financial year was approved (unanimously) as follows:

- (1) Applications from national charities – continuation of £100 per application but to retain a prerogative if a specific local situation or emergency.
- (2) Applications from local charities – continuation that each application be dealt with on its merit.
- (3) A ceiling of **£1,500** be placed on each application. It was also agreed to recommend that each application be carefully scrutinised and if need be further details requested. Consideration for larger grants than £1,500 could be made if the application, following scrutiny justified the higher grant.

- (4) The recommendation that each application must be accompanied by a balance sheet or accounts or if not available an explanation as to why this was so was amended by adding the wording "with the exception of no.1 above".
- (5) The recommendation that all grants allowed which exceeded £1,000 applicants must submit a written report on how the grant was spent - the report to be submitted to the town council within 12 months of the date of the grant was amended by substituting "6 months" for 12 months and adding the wording "of the completion of the event / project".

**255. Reports:** (1) Town Hall Management. The town clerk's written brief summary on a recent meeting was considered and approved.

- (2) WW1 Commemoration Project. The town clerk's written report was considered and approved.
- (3) Theatr Twm o'r Nant. Cllr Medwyn Williams reported that someone had attempted to steal the lead off the roof of the theatre – fortunately no damage had been caused.
- (4) Cllr Roy Tickle reported that both he and Cllr Gaynor Wood had recently attended a School Governors course.
- (5) NW&MWATC. Cllr Raymond Bartley reported on a recent meeting of the association. The venue for the meeting had been a poor one for a meeting. The main part of the meeting had been the discussion on the recent Local Government White paper. The attendance at the meeting had been disappointing.

There were no other reports.

**256. Reports by County Councillors on Matters Appertaining only to Denbigh:**

- 1. Cllr Geraint Williams reported (1) Seven kissing gates on paths around Denbigh to be renewed – funded by DCC. (2) Arrangements now being made for the Guildhall Tavern to issue car parking tickets to residents for the long stay car parks. (3) Proposals being put forward for Love Lane parking permits for residents. (4) DCC sport awards nominations invited. (5) Digital information boards for town centres being looked at.
- 2. Cllr Raymond Bartley reported: (1) Kwik Save site – surveyors on site drawing up proposals. (2) Two fields in Brookhouse designated by the inspector for residential development – draft brief and draft planning guidance now completed – meeting with residents to take place in the next few weeks. A developer was interested in the site. (3) Cllr Bartley referred to the recent death of Hywyn Williams and paid tribute to his time as Corporate Director Learning and Communities. It was agreed that a letter of sympathy be sent to Mrs Williams.

Cllr Philip Stevens raised the issue of the consultation process re Dolwen and other residential homes in Denbighshire and asked that the town council write to DCC with a request that the consultation be put on hold until after the General Election as additional funding may be available to prevent the closures. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Denbighshire's Chief Executive with copies to the Director of Social Services and Phil Gilroy the Adult Care officer.

**257. Accounts** 1. The following accounts were approved for payment:

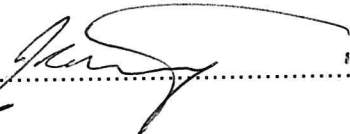
- |     |  |   |         |
|-----|--|---|---------|
| (1) | Blachere Illuminations – carriage return on end of hire agreement<br>(Cheque no. 005611) | - | £147.60 |
| (2) | Zen Internet Ltd – ADSL provision (May)<br>(Cheque no. 005612)                           | - | £18.37  |

- |     |   |   |        |
|-----|---|---|--------|
| (6) | Clwyd Nash – reimburse cost of purchase storage boxes for community archives<br>(Cheque no. 005613) | - | £14.99 |
| (7) | Ernest Martin – lock and open Dr E P garden gate<br>(Cheque no. 005614)                             | - | £60.00 |
| (8) | Cllr Raymond Bartley – travelling expenses (Rhyl)<br>(Cheque no. 005615)                            | - | £11.70 |

Total payments: £252.66

2 Any other Financial Matters: (1) The end of year balances profile was noted.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.38pm

Signed:..........(chairman)  
Date: 18/5/15.....