

**Minutes of a meeting of Denbigh Town Council held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 6.30pm at the Town Hall, Denbigh.**

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

**Apologies:** Cllr Shereen Devine.

The chairman welcomed all to the meeting. The chairman also welcomed County Councillor Jason McLellan from Prestatyn.

- 96. Meeting with North Wales Police.** The chairman welcomed Police Sergeant Neil Stringfellow and Inspector Glen Brumby. Before inviting the officers to address the meeting the chairman clarified one matter, namely that it had been reported around Denbigh and at meetings, where the police had been present, that the town's CCTV system was not working and up to date. All the cameras were working and police officers who had attended to view images had commented that they were happy with the images displayed. The chairman then invited both officers to address the meeting.
- PS Stringfellow referred to burglaries committed in the town since the beginning of the year and the recent spate of burglaries - there was a lot of positive news. Since January 2015 - 44 burglaries other than dwelling had been committed in Denbigh – this had been narrowed down to three trends: (1) mainly down to one individual responsible for a crime wave – this had entailed a great deal of manpower and time. End of September warrants executed and the individual was recalled to prison and re-arrested on release and charged with seven further offences – currently on remand. The individual's brother was also recalled until 2017. (2) Second spate by 12 -14 year olds - causing major problems – public disorder, burglaries, criminal damage – three arrested, bailed and on curfews and other conditions. (3) Third spate most recent burglaries which were highlighted in the media and on social media forums. One individual arrested for 12 offences (11 burglaries). A great deal of information gathering taken place and a large amount of effort on the part of the police. A lot of property had been recovered. It was a fact of life that crime will occur – as a town Denbigh has had individuals who cause these crimes and not a lot of offenders. Three crime waves during 2015 – offenders arrested – policing effective and professional. With regard to the media and press PS Stringfellow stated that he preferred to see the police approached and issues discussed and would expect this from councillors – open an honest communication with people who represented the community. The police had been demeanoured and criticised by social media – the press were not keen to know the full facts and be informed – comments made in the national press and on TV – officers felt demeanoured and criticised. Full information could not always be disclosed as it could compromise any investigation. The work of the police should not be undermined by false information.
- Both officers then responded to observations and questions from the members on:
- (1) CCTV system and private business systems,
  - (2) home break-ins,
  - (3) damage to cars in Love Lane,
  - (4) impact on victims and their response,
  - (5) media and social media,
  - (6) offending patterns and one group of offenders,
  - (7) Impact of cuts on North Wales Police as compared to other police authorities.

*At this point Cllr Colin Hughes and County Councillor Jason McLellan left the meeting at 7.09pm*

(8) forensics and arrests, (9) availability of tools and manpower and crime prevention in Denbigh, (10) communication and intelligence information.

All the members individually congratulated and thanked the police on their work.

The chairman thanked both officers for their attendance and congratulated the police on the results. Denbigh did not expect bad behaviour of any kind. It was important that if anyone had any suspicions / worries to ring the police on 101.

- 97. Urgent Matters:** There were none
- 98. Declaration of Personal Interest:** The following declarations were received:
- (1) Cllr Medwyn Williams - personal – Denbigh Museum.
  - (2) Cllr Gaynor Morgan Rees – personal – Denbigh Museum
  - (3) Cllr Geraint Lloyd Williams – personal - all matters relating to Denbighshire County Council.
  - (4) Cllr Raymond Bartley – personal - all matters relating to Denbighshire County Council.
- 99. The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2015 were received and approved.**
- 100. Matters arising:** There were none
- 101. Mayor’s Report:** The Mayor written report was received and noted. The Mayor referred to the NWWTFC car rally and thanked Cllr Colin L Hughes and his team for bringing the rally back in full swing. The Mayor also elaborated on a couple of other matters contained within the report.
- 102. Letters, E-mails and Notices:** 1. It was agreed that 15 items of correspondence be noted.
2. It was further agreed that the following be noted and actioned accordingly:
- (1) DCC – E-mail re public consultation on the future of in-house provider services. It was agreed to invite officers to a council meeting to discuss the consultation.
  - (2) DCC – Love Lane and Highgate Restrictions of Waiting and Residents Parking Order. Comments were made: (1) that it was hoped that what was proposed was the correct one as something needed to be done. (2) There were a number of problems on Love Lane – this proposal was a similar scheme to the one introduced on Vale Street. It was agreed to note the proposal.
  - (3) DCC – A543 proposed 30mph speed restriction & A525 proposed speed de-restriction. It was agreed that the proposals be accepted.
- 103. Planning:** 1 Planning applications. No applications for planning permission had been received.
2. Other planning matters: DCC Supplementary Planning Guidance. The town clerk reminded the meeting that this item had been deferred from the planning committee on the 20<sup>th</sup> October in order for members to have more time to consider the document. Comment was made that the document was 86 pages in length. There was reference in the document to dwellings that may wish to erect a small wind turbine. It was agreed to support the document.
- 104. Council Committee Minutes.** (1) The minutes of the Environment and Finance Committee held on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were noted.
- (2) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were noted.
- 105. Minutes / Reports of council sub committees:** Document Scrutiny sub-committee. Cllr Margaret Bowe referred to two documents: (1) The N&MWALC questionnaire re the report for the Minister’s Office for Public Services and (2) the consultation questionnaire on the Welsh Government’s Draft Directions to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission.

Both documents had been considered by the sub-committee. Cllr Bowe guided members through the responses prepared and it was agreed that the responses be submitted by the town clerk.

- 106. Reports:** (1) WW1 Commemoration Group. The town clerk's written report was considered and accepted.
- (2) N&MWALC. Cllr Raymond Bartley gave a verbal report on a recent meeting. The documents referred to by the documents scrutiny sub-committee had been discussed. There was a rumour that One Voice Wales would disappear after the next election. The association secretary Robert Robinson had given notice that he would be retiring in July 2017 and the association would need to look for a new secretary.
- (3) EWT Symposium. The town clerk referred to the letter from the President which gave details of the Symposium which was noted.
- (4) NWWTFC Car Rally. Cllr Colin L Hughes' written report was considered and accepted.
- (5) Cllr Mark Young reported on the Jobs Fair recently held in the Market Hall – very well Attended. Cllr Young thanked the Mayor for opening the event. 500 jobs available locally and 1,000 nationally. Cllr Young thanked Cllr Gaynor Wood for providing refreshments.
- (6) Cllr Philip Stevens reported on the Denbigh Youth Project - Russell Davies was up for an award.

There were no other reports.

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

1. Cllr Geraint Williams reported (1) 20mph restriction outside Ysgol Pendref – no information on other areas. (2) Glan Clwyd School proposals given the go ahead under 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools – St Brigid's School up for discussion in November / December 2015. (3) Town Trails launch at Denbigh on 5<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30am. (4) Budget Projects workshops underway.
2. Cllr Raymond Bartley reported (1) Brookhouse Fields consultation coming to an end on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015 – all views will be collated. Angela Loftus attending town council meeting on 23rd November to give an update. (2) Station Yard site coming along despite a couple of problems.

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

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|-----|--|---|-----------|
| (1) | United Kingdom Debt Management Office – 4 <sup>th</sup> repayment on loan -<br>(Cheque no. 005743) | - | £7,797.60 |
| (2) | Cllr Roy Tickle – member's allowance (2015/2016)<br>(Cheque no. 005744)                            | - | £100.00   |
| (3) | Zen Internet – ADSL provision (November)<br>(Cheque no. 005745)                                    | - | £18.37    |
| (4) | Ernest Martin – open and lock Dr E P garden gate (October)<br>(Cheque no. 005746)                  | - | £60.00    |
| (5) | NWATC – one delegate meal 23.10.15<br>(Cheque no. 005747)  | - | £15.00    |

(6)	Cllr Raymond Bartley – travelling expenses (Flint) (Cheque no. 005748)	-	£21.60
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Total payments: £8,012.57.

2. Other financial matters: (1) The town clerk referred to matter referred from the Environment and Finance Committee meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> October, namely the request from the Denbigh Museum for the council to fund a measured site survey and also a request for the council to pay Architect and Quantity Surveyor Fees in the sum of £700 and £800 respectively. The matter was discussed at length. Cllr Rob Parkes stated that he was taken aback and took offence to some of the responses provided by Cllr Gwyneth Kensler – as landlord the council should not be paying these requests. Cllr Geraint Williams referred to the sequence of events – the residue from the PWLB loan was to be used for structural repairs to the building. Cllr Medwyn Williams stated that it was a full repairing lease. There were plans and photographs available from when the building was adapted as a courthouse back in the 1980s and were not accurate enough and up to date. The purpose would be to use detailed plans as part of the submission to HLF. Further measurements would be needed in the future. Details were required for a HLF development grant. Cllr Gaynor Morgan Rees stated that the reason for the second choice was that the first would not visit the building. The architect knew the companies and had suggested the second quotation. A detailed examination was necessary and one had to be totally professional and to make sure that everything was in place when submitting a grant application to HLF. Cllr Mark Young asked the question was the council supportive of the museum. The discussion came to a conclusion with a proposal by Cllr Rob Parkes, seconded by Cllr Geraint Williams **that the council refuse the applications as they were not an essential cost.** Cllr Gaynor Wood seconded by Cllr Roy Tickle moved an amendment that **the funding as requested be provided.** A vote was taken on the amendment with seven voting for and five voting against. On this basis the amendment was carried.

(2) Christmas Lighting. The quotation received from DCC Street Lighting for repairs to the Half Crystal Tree was considered and approved in the sum of £47.00

**109. Recommendations of the Remuneration Panel for Wales 2016/2017.** The town clerk referred to draft report for 2016/2017 and in particular to the parts of the report that related to town and community councils. A response to the document was required by the end of December 2015. It was agreed to refer the document to the documents scrutiny sub committee to consider and report back to the council.

**110. DCC / Town & Community Council Charter.** The town clerk referred to the correspondence received and the proposed amendments to the charter. Comment was made that the proposals showed the changes as a result of the cuts etc. It was **Resolved** (unanimously) **to accept the amendments.**

**111. Lenten Pool Denbigh.** The town clerk referred to the exchange of e-mails with DCC and that the information promised was still not available. Comment was made that the council was not happy with the situation and that a request be made for the information to be provided ASAP.

**112. 2015 Fireworks Display.** The town clerk referred to the written update which was accepted. Cllr Geraint Williams confirmed that he and Cllr Colin Hughes would undertake the leaflet drop to the residents. The chairman thanked the town clerk for all his work in organising the event.

- 113. **Rural Community Skills Initiative.** The town clerk referred to the information received. It was agreed to invite Emily Reddy from DVSC to a council meeting to discuss the initiative.
- 114. **Making Denbigh Beautiful.** The town clerk referred to the various e-mails received. The chairman reported that at least three people were interested in work on the roundabouts. It was agreed (unanimously) that a working group be formed from the town council, Denbigh businesses and DCC to take this matter forward.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 8.44pm

Signed:.....(chairman)

Date:.....