

Minutes of a meeting of Denbigh Town Council held on Monday 27th October 2014 at 6.30pm at the Town Hall, Denbigh.

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

Apologies: None

Observing: County Councillor Gwyneth Kensler

The chairman welcomed all to the meeting and in particular Cllr Philip Stevens on his return to the town council.

112. Meeting with North Wales Police. The chairman welcomed PS Neil Stringfellow and invited Sgt Stringfellow to address the meeting. Sgt Stringfellow gave some information as to his background and that his current role was to lead the policing team in Denbigh and St Asaph. Sgt Stringfellow went on to say that he did not have a report as such but a couple of matters which he wished to bring to the attention of the council. The first matter was police staffing – at the moment Denbigh and St Asaph only had one PCSO each. Three PCSOs had been lost due to changes. A new PCSO was due to start next week and a new police constable in the near future. Possibly a couple of additional PCSOs in the New Year. £18m had to be found by the police authority over the next two years. The second matter was Sgt Stringfellow's role in problem solving – this role relied a great deal on information received from the public etc. Sgt Stringfellow then responded to questions and comments from members on (1) The reduction in staffing levels and anti-social behaviour. (2) Police coverage in the town during evenings / nights especially when events were being held. (3) Denbigh drug problems and drug and alcohol related violence. (4) Recent incident of travellers setting up camp on the former Kwik Save site. (5) Recent serious incident in the town and late night policing in general. The chairman thanked Sgt Stringfellow for his attendance and presentation.

113. Urgent Matters: There were none.

114. Declaration of Personal Interest: The following declarations were received:

- (1) Cllr Raymond Bartley – all matters relating to Denbighshire County Council.
- (2) Cllr Colin Hughes - all matters relating to Denbighshire County Council.
- (3) Cllr Gaynor Wood – agenda item 14 – Denbigh Town Hall
- (4) Cllr Roy Tickle – agenda item 14 – Denbigh Town Hall

115. The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 22nd September 2014 and the Minutes of the Planning, Finance and General Purposes Committees Meeting held on the 13th October 2014 were received.

116. Matters Arising: 22.9.14: (1) Minute no.88 – ICT sub committee. In reply the town clerk reported that an attempt arrange a meeting of the sub committee had failed. Another attempt to be made.

(2) Minute 95(2)(4) – Howell School. The town clerk in reply reported that contact had been made with the agent regarding a site visit but no further response received.

(3) Minute 95(2)(5) – Former Wool Depot. Cllr Bartley reported that it was hoped that a decision by the Welsh Government Planning section would be made in January 2015.

13.10.14: (1) Minute 111(8) - Former Police Station, Vale Street. The town clerk referred to the e-mail responses received from Phil Ebbrell at DCC which were noted.

(2) Minute 107(2)(5) - Dr Evan Pierce Memorial Garden. The town clerk referred to the e-mail



received from DCC regarding the proposed litter bin at the garden. Following a discussion on the matter it was agreed that DCC be asked to source a bin that had bilingual lettering. The town clerk also referred to the e-mail received from Lidl re sponsorship of the litter bin. Then offer of sponsorship was accepted with thanks.

(3) Minute 111(2) - Rowlands Pharmacy, Vale Street. The town clerk referred to the e-mails received from Phil Ebbrell at DCC giving an update on the matter raised. The information was noted.

(4) Minute 107(2)(3) - Lower Park Bowling Club. The town clerk referred to the e-mail received from the chairman Steve Chalk which was noted.

(5) Minute 107(2)(4) - Denbigh Business Group. The town clerk referred to the two e-mails received which were noted and discussed. Cllr Colin Hughes elaborated on the e-mail he had sent. Comment was made that the council needed to take a balanced view and there was no need for the town council to be involved. The town council must be seen not to take sides. The town clerk reported that the business group was happy for the council to have sight of their accounts. The town clerk re-iterated what was said at the last council meeting, namely that the town council had no jurisdiction with regard to the business group and that funding was only provided for specific festivals and not for the business group. Mr Hobson had been informed of this

(6) Minute 107(2)(3) – A55 Signage. In reply the town clerk reported that it was understood that an attempt was being made to arrange another meeting on the 21st November.

117. Mayor's Report: The Mayor's written report was accepted.

118. Letters, E-mails and Notices: 1. It was agreed that three items of correspondence be noted.

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

- (1) Hwb Dinbych. It was agreed that Cllr Mark Young be the council's representative on the Hwb Management Group.
- (2) DVSC AGM 21.11.14 – Cllr Margaret Bowe attending.
- (3) The correspondence received from (a) Denbigh Rotary, (b) Cymdeithas Gymraeg Dinbych, (c) Denbighshire Care and Repair and (d) Eisteddfod Genedlaethol 2015 be referred to the grant aid sub committee.

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

- (1) Travis Perkins Trading Co. Ltd, Unit 10C Llwyn Goch, Colomendy Industrial Estate
- (2) 7, Love Lane
- (3) Coal Yard, Graig Road
- (4) Llwyn, Lawnt
- (5) Old Vaults, 40-42 High Street (2 applications)
- (6) 51, Mytton Park
- (7) 29, Ruthin Road

With regard to the planning application in respect of The Forum , 27 – 29 High Street (2 applications) no reply had been received to a previous request for a site visit. It was agreed to submit a further request for a site visit.

2. Other planning matters: (1) The one planning certificate received were noted.
- (2) The e-mail received from Michael Lavers re proposed cycle route was noted



120. Minutes / Reports of council sub committees: Audit and Personnel. The minutes of a recent meeting were received. The recommendations contained within the minutes were considered. Comments were made (1) that all the recommendations should be dealt with together and not in isolation. (2) The principle was important at this present time. (3) The job description should be a working and fluid / flexible document. It was agreed to consider the first three recommendations together, namely (1) to recommend in principle that it was essential that the council advertise for an administrative assistant, (2) to recommend and agree a job description for an administrative assistant and (3) to recommend the title as Assistant to the Town Clerk. It was **Resolved to accept the three recommendations.**

It was agreed that the fourth and fifth recommendations regarding (a) the funding on an administrative assistant and (b) adapting the current council office accommodation to accommodate two persons be left in abeyance pending discussions on the council budget in January 2015. It was further agreed that all the matters referred to be referred back to the audit and personnel sub committee in due course to fine tune the recommendations.

121. Reports: (1) Denbigh Museum. County Cllr Gwyneth Kensler gave a verbal report. Nearly 12 months had elapsed since the keys were handed over by the town council to the Museum Board. The original HLF grant application had been refused as HLF wanted the Denbighshire Heritage review to take place first. A new HLF application was recently submitted and hopefully discussions with HLF would now take place. A management committee had been set up. An open evening was held last May when 200 attended. The building was open during the Open Doors weekend. The Community Archives Group was hoping to relocate from then Library. Wi-Fi to be installed. The Clwyd Family History Group was showing an interest in relocating to Denbigh. The Gee Trust had agreed to move everything it owned to the museum. It was hoped that work both internally and externally could be started and a surveyor was to be appointed to assist. The removal of the false ceilings and restoring to the original ceiling height to be looked at. It had been decided to keep the courtroom as it is. It was hopeful that there would be a demand from the schools and also bookings from theatre groups. Discussion would take place in due course with the town council on the building plans. A lot of usage and interest shown. There was a possibility of the courtroom being used for such matters as planning appeal hearings.

At this stage Cllr Philip Stevens left the meeting at 7.45pm

(2) Cllr Catherine Jones reported that a fund had been set up in memory of the Late Arthur Jones to be used as a crisis fund. Seven trustees appointed and the first meeting to be held the following week - £10,000 was involved.

(3) Hwb Dinbych. Cllr Colin Hughes reported that six members of the council attended the visit to the Hwb the previous Monday. Cllr Mark Young added that the Hwb was a fantastic facility and beneficial to the people of Denbigh.

(4) Ysgol Frongoch. Cllr Gaynor Wood reported on a recent Governors meeting – the school was due for an inspection and a new deputy head teacher appointed. Everything was going well at the school.

(5) Visit Denbigh Website. Cllr Medwyn Williams reported that there were moves afoot and a number of interest shown in advertising on the website. Cllr Rob Parkes added that he was disappointed that there was no communication with the businesses and was critical of Cadwyn Clwyd. It was suggested that this be mentioned at the next meeting of the steering group and should there be no response to inform the town clerk who would take up the matter with Cadwyn Clwyd.

(6) Denbigh Show. Cllr Rob Parkes reported that there had been a sizeable drop at this year's show.

There were no other reports.

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



1. Cllr Colin Hughes: Nothing to report
2. Cllr Raymond Bartley reported that the cycle track proposal was a contentious issue and the latest news was that it would probably be February 2015 at the earliest that the planning application would be considered.

122. Accounts 1. The following accounts were approved for payment:

(1)	Town Clerk – reimburse cost of postage stamps (Cheque no. 005477)	-	£53.00
(2)	Zen Internet – ADSL provision (November) (Cheque no. 005478)	-	£18.37
(3)	E Martin – locking and opening Dr E P Garden gate (Cheque no. 005479)	-	£60.00

Total payments: £131.37

- 2 Any other Financial Matters: (1) The update received from Rogers Jones Co on the valuation list to incorporate the three paintings on the town hall stairwell was noted.
(3) The quotation received from Cambrian Woodlands Services re Christmas trees was accepted.
(4) The quotation received from DCC street lighting to re-route a power supply for one of the CCTV cameras which was causing difficulties and would also ensure a constant supply to one of the Christmas Lights features on the High Street, was considered and accepted in the sum of £142.07 plus VAT.

123. Denbigh Fireworks display. The town clerk gave an update: (1) Still awaiting a response from DCC on street closure and also a response from Cadw on whether permission to use the castle had been granted. (2) A site visit with a DCC officer re location of the crowd barriers had taken place and barriers ordered. (3) Assistance was sought with the distribution of posters. (4) Volunteers sought for the leaflet drop to the residents of the Castle and Love Lane areas. (5) Hog Roast and hot drinks arranged. (6) Rotary, Clwb Rygbi Dinbych and Round Table arranging stewards – assistance also sought from council members – all stewards to meet with the town clerk at St Hilary's Tower at 6pm. Some concern was expressed that DCC had not come back with a decision on the street closure.

24. Future of Denbigh Town Hall. The town clerk referred to the email received from Denbighshire Leisure. The matter was discussed and various opinions expressed. The town clerk advised the meeting that he was seeking advice from the Monitoring Officer with regard to declarations of interest when the matter was discussed by the members. Comment was made that the members needed to have information before hand in order to be in a position to discuss the issues with the county council officers. It was agreed that a special full council meeting be arranged for Monday 17th November at 6pm for the sole purpose of discussions with county officials on the future of Denbigh Town Hall and also that advance information be requested.

125. DCC Budget Proposals. The town clerk referred to the information received from DCC Chief Executive Dr Mohammed Mehmet. The town clerk also reported that all town clerks were due to meet with county officials to discuss the proposals. The county council was yet to make a final decision. It was agreed that all that could be done at the moment was to note the proposals

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed:..........(chairman)

Date:.....24/11/14.....

