

Minutes of a meeting of Denbigh Town Council held on Monday 24th October 2016 at 6.30pm at the Town Hall, Denbigh.

Present: Councillors Margaret Bowe (Chairman), Roy Tickle (Deputy Chairman), Raymond Bartley, Medwyn Williams, Catherine Jones, Mark Young, Gaynor Wood-Tickle, Marilyn Jones, Alyn Ashworth, Gaynor Morgan Rees; Sgt Neil Stringfellow (North Wales Police) and Jenny Barlow (Town Clerk).

Apologies: Cllrs Colin Hughes, Robert Parkes, Philip Stevens & Brian Davies.

Cllr Alyn Ashworth advised the council that he would need to leave at 8pm.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the October full council meeting as well as thanked Sgt Neil Stringfellow from North Wales Police for attending.

91. Sgt Neil Stringfellow – North Wales Police.

Sgt Neil Stringfellow advised that there had been a problem last year with Nathan Hughes but that has reduced while Nathan was in prison. Nathan was released on strict bail conditions 3 weeks ago which was a cause for concern to Denbigh shop owners as he had been responsible for about 30 incidents in Denbigh. Nathan broke his licence and was arrested in Rhyl and will now serve the rest of his prison sentence.

Issues – Anti Social Behaviour:- A525 by the Brookhouse. Together with Cllrs Raymond Bartley and Mark Young the police agree that there needs to be an improvement to the road signage at the location. Overtaking/speeding there is an issue. Denbighshire County Council are currently working on Highway improvements. The hot spots, to include Brookhouse, The Green, Upper Denbigh Road and Whitchurch is being regularly monitored by the PCSO's. Several speeding warning letters have been issued.

Initiatives – Operation Palinode took place during June & July. This involved a group of drug dealers from Manchester. The Police received a lot of good intelligence from Denbigh residents. There was a marked connection between the drug dealers and reports of crime and violence in Denbigh. 3 warrants were issued at various Denbigh locations with positive outcomes. NWP hope to charge some individuals and get convictions. The police hope to keep reducing violent crime through this.

ASBO – These are being managed however there is still an issue involving the North Wales Hospital. People from far away are visiting fuelled by social media. North Wales Police do try and stop them going in but the social media is not helping. Some had been drinking which is not pleasant. With Halloween coming the area will be manned more frequently. People will be asked to leave. There is concern that parties will take place this weekend. Denbigh County Council should complete the compulsory purchase order on the site soon – this will be good and should improve things at the location. Currently the building is dangerous and is a risk to people who venture in.

Crime – figures between 31/5/16 and 22/10/16

- 21 x ABH assaults
- 14 x burglaries
- 32 x common assaults
- 10 x drugs offences
- 14 x harassment/malicious comms
- 3 x hate crime
- 80 x concern for safety
- 41 x criminal damage
- 49 x domestic related offences

8 x drink/drug driving
19 x missing from home enqs
9 x sexual offences
10 x shoplifting offences
30 x thefts (from person, vehicles)
5 x unauthorised taking of vehicles
2 x unlawful wounding

There is safety concerns for vulnerable adults and those with mental health issues. Their visits are very time consuming. More mental health professionals are now available giving control room assistance, but it is still not enough.

Domestics – this is proving to be an ongoing issue with having had 49 verbal, violent assaults and harassment issues.

Staffing – There is no change. 6 PCSO's and Sgt Neil Stringfellow cover the Denbigh area. Locally central division manage Sgts and PC's deal with low level incidents in the control room – telephone enquiries allow for more officers to be able to deal with other issues.

A meeting was held with the town clerk, ADT representative and town councillors Margaret Bowe and Marilyn Jones on 10th October to discuss CCTV requirements.

Cllr Margaret Bowe thanked Sergeant Neil Stringfellow for attending the meeting and giving a very good overview of issues in Denbigh. Cllr Margaret Bowe then asked the councillors if they had any questions they wish to ask.

Cllr Raymond Bartley gave thanks for the actions taken at Brookhouse. Need to work with North Wales Police regarding speeding, it did improve short term but the issues have since increased. Mental health is an issue that Betsi Cadwaladr have realised is happening. They are looking into community issues. Vulnerable people like the continuity of dealing with the same people.

Cllrs Medwyn Williams, Gaynor Morgan Rees, Gaynor Wood-Tickle and Alyn Ashworth also gave their thanks.

Cllr Mark Young advised that drug related issues are a pull on resources, Neil Stringfellow agreed with this. It is very labour intensive with warrants, dog handlers etc involved. There is an issue with residents on Vale Street which Neil is aware of. Cllr Mark Young asked, relating to Denbigh town size, are crime issues better or worse than in other places. Neil advised that it was difficult to quantify but added that Denbigh residents were happy to provide information.

Both Cllrs Mark Young and Catherine Jones thanks Neil.

Cllr Roy Tickle made an observation, when walking his dogs by the castle, youths are seen climbing the walls and staying in the castle grounds, this happens early evening. Neil will look into this.

Cllr Raymond Bartley advised that there will be a pedestrian crossing from Denbigh High School to the Leisure Centre (Clwyd Avenue).

Cllr Mark Young advised that there were issues with Llewelyn's Avenue. A know criminal was arrested on Friday.

Sergeant Neil Stringfellow advised that 2 pieces of evidence was needed before a raid/search warrant can be made. With regards to advising housing landlords about issues, the PCSO's will inform Denbighshire County Council or Group Cynefin when needed.

92. Urgent Matters: There were none

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

- (1) Cllr Raymond Bartley – all matters relating to Denbighshire County Council and any

Planning matters - personal. Brookhouse Development and Lleweni Parc.

(2) Cllr Mark Young – all matters relating to Denbighshire County Council. Planning – Brookhouse development.

(3) Cllr Catherine Jones – Christmas lights.

94. The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 26th September 2016 were received and approved.

Cllr Gaynor Morgan Rees raised concern that item 82.4 was not correct. County Councillor Gwyneth Kensler was not able to attend tonight's to make the amendments herself. Regarding the Car Park at the Museum, Cllr Brian Davies had advised that the car park was not suitable for buses. That is not the case. The car park was being used by magistrates and the car park had been improved to accept buses. County Councillor Gwyneth Kensler had previously advised that Denbighshire County Council had noticed that Denbigh Town Council were not being supportive.

Cllr Margaret Bowe advised that then Town Council were supportive of the museum, had purchased the premises and supported them financially.

95. Matters arising: Letter received from Cllr Brian Davies retiring from his post as Town Councillor from 07/11/16. The Town Councillors requested that the clerk write to Cllr Brian Davies thanking him for his services and wishing him well in the future.

96. Mayor's Report: Cllr Margaret Bowe advised that she had attended with Cllr Marilyn Jones the Towyn and Kinmel Bay Civic Service on the 16th October. It was a lovely service and had had enjoyed it. The 17th October was the official opening of the Crematorium. The setting for the Crematorium is very nice and nicely presented. The event was well attended. On Wednesday 2nd November Cllr Margaret Bowe will be attending a Denbigh Safety Group meeting.

97. Letters, E-mails and Notices: 1. It was agreed that the following items of correspondence be noted and actioned accordingly:

- a) An annual report from Denbighshire CAB was given to each Councillor.
- b) City, Town & Community Council Elections 2017 – Finance information.
- c) Talking points within Denbighshire – meeting dates.
- d) Y Bigwn, advertising for events. Councillors advised that there was no charge for these.
- e) Independent Remuneration Panel – Draft Annual report 2017/2018.
- f) October edition of Go Safe Speed Watch Newsletter.
- g) Consultation – supplementary planning guidance.
- h) Denbighshire Homestart AGM 04/11/16. Cllr Raymond Bartley will be in attendance.
- i) Have your say about Policing – event 30.11.16.
- j) Explore your archive event 18.11.16. Cllr Gaynor Morgan Rees to attend.
- k) Childcare provision within Denbighshire – survey.
- l) Christmas Celebration – Chairman Denbighshire County Council, 06.12.16. Cllrs Raymond Bartley, Mark Young, Gaynor Wood-Tickle and Roy Tickle will attend.
- m) Additional information requested by Denbighshire County Council regarding the Open Space Needs Assessment.
- n) Email update regarding the Lenten Pool roundabout from Ben Wilcox-Jones.

98. Planning:

01/2016/0374

Land at Cae Topyn off Old Ruthin Road, Ffordd Eglwyswen, Denbigh.

Erection of 75 no dwellings, together with associated roads, open spaces and related work.

Email also received from local residents Hywel and Eiddwen Watkin highlighting many issues relating to the planning application and requesting support in objecting to the permission by the Town Council.

This application had been deferred from the Planning meeting held on Tuesday 18th October. The councillors all agreed with the comments made by Mr & Mrs Watkins. Cllr Mark Young commented that Denbigh Town Council had already replied to this application rejecting it. No additional information had been received from Denbighshire about this application. Cllr Raymond Bartley advised that the Planning department are currently discussing with Pure about traffic issues. There are two fields that have requested planning, however this application is for one field. Talks regarding this matter will take a while to resolve. Cllr Mark Young advised that the email received from Mr & Mrs Watkin speaks for itself. Previous feedback had not been listened to. Cllr Roy Tickle said that there were going to be too many properties for the town. Cllr Raymond Bartley proposed that the town council support the residents views and for the town clerk to contact Paul Mead and Paul Griffin at Denbighshire County council planning department strongly objecting to the application. This was unanimously agreed.

99. Council Committee Minutes.

(1) The minutes of the Environment and Finance Committee held on the 19th September 2016 were noted.

(2) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on the 20th September 2016 were noted. Cllr Raymond Bartley noted that there were several planning applications being made by Lleweni and suggested a site visit by the planning committee to the location.

100. Minutes / Reports of council sub committees. The draft minutes of the wireless in Wales Managements Committee were noted.

101. Reports:

(1) Midsummer Festival AGM – Cllr Roy Tickle advised that everything is going well. Next year the event will be over 3 weeks in June with the carnival being at the end.

(2) Open Doors – Cllr Catherine Jones advised that the gates to the Abbey were being locked during the event making it difficult for visitors to gain access. The clerk was requested to contact CADW with a right to entry request.

(3) Denbigh Carnival – Cllr Catherine Jones confirmed that the committee is expanding and going very well. The motor show and carnival will be on the same day next year.

(4) Christmas Extravaganza – Cllr Catherine Jones confirmed that the event will be held on 10th December.

(5) Christmas Events – Cllr Alyn Ashworth confirmed that there will be market events during the month of December using the grant aid money received from Denbigh Town Council. There will be rides and live music at the events. The business group are looking into having a sub group looking after events such as these. Cllr Alyn Ashworth also confirmed that any profits made during these events will reduce the amount of grant aid required in future years.

(6) Middle Lane Project – Grwp Cynefin 12.10.16. Cllr Raymond Bartley wanted to congratulate the team on their wonderful work within Denbigh and also thank the team for a very good presentation on the 12th. The information provided was excellent and grwp Cynefin are working closely with other organisations to make sure that the needs of its future residents are met.

(7) Biebertal – Cllr Roy Tickle advised that the visit was fantastic. In addition to Biebertal the town of Eibenstock also attended the celebrations. The presentations were fantastic with over 300 people in attendance. The presentation was filmed. Denbigh town council have been presented with a hand stitched banner. Cllr Gaynor Wood-Tickle advised that two Denbigh plum trees were taken to Biebertal together with a commemorative slate plaque. One was given to each town. To enable pollination of the plum trees two trees are required. With this in mind Cllr Margaret Bowe and Cllr Gaynor Wood-Tickle have confirmed that they will purchase one each and give to the Biebertal dignitaries when they attend Denbigh town Christmas market during the Christmas lights switch on. The Mayor of Eibenstock would like to form a friendship with Denbigh. The twinning association noted that the Denbigh Town website had not been updated with the twinning event details as yet. The clerk has been requested to look into this.

(8) Car Rally – Cllr Roy Tickle confirmed that it was a very successful event with 120 cars taking part. There were more viewing the cars at Caledfryn than in previous years. The clerk received an email from one of the winners who received a prize from Denbigh town council thanking them for the lovely prize. It has been proposed that future events will continue to start in Denbigh and end at Caernarfon. Cllr Margaret Bowe thanked everyone involved with the event.

(9) N & Mid Wales Town Councils – Cllrs Margaret Bowe and Raymond Bartley attended a meeting on Friday 21st October. Feedback received – The anniversary of Aberfan. There was a Police presentation at the event. The opening of the new Rhyl High school was discussed. Town and community council review is ongoing and needs assessing. It was agreed in principle. Town councils asset register needs to be kept up to date. Next meeting 20.01.17. Cllr Raymond Bartley advised that attendance at these meetings were reducing, this was due to one voice Wales competing against them.

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

Cllr Mark Young – a) confirmed there was an issue with the graves grass cutting and pathway which has now been resolved by Denbighshire County Council. b) Denbigh Leisure swimming pool is now closed for refurbishment – due to reopen in January 2017. c) Denbigh High School team Tachion have successfully won awards yet again – a letter of congratulations to be sent to the school by the clerk on behalf of the mayor.

Cllr Raymond Bartley – a) Brookhouse speeding still an issue. b) Branches in the river by Brookhouse, this will be sorted by 24.10.16. c) Work at the former Kwik Save site has started which is wonderful news. d) Denbighshire County Council are to receive an additional 0.5% from Welsh Government which will be of great help.

103. Accounts:

(a) The following accounts were approved for payment:

1) Viking – ream coloured paper (Cheque no 006014)	-	£13.52
2) E Martin, opening & locking Dr EP garden 24/09/16 – 24/10/16 (Cheque no 006015)	-	£60.00
3) E Jones & Sons, rechargeable batteries (Cheque no 006016)	-	£9.99
4) Post Office, 100 2 nd class stamps (Cheque no 006017)	-	£55.00

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| 5) Zen Internet – Monthly fee 11/11/16 – 10/12/16
(Cheque no 006018) | - | £18.37 |
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Total payments: £156.88

(b) Any other financial matter: 1) Street Lighting – quotation for Christmas tree to be decorated in Crown Square £480.00, accepted by councillors. 2) Street Lighting – quotation for new Christmas tree lights, Pea lights at £120 per set (ex VAT), 8 sets required – accepted by councillors. 3) Quotation from ADT for the moving of the CCTV monitor and screen in the clerk's office £425.40 (ex VAT) making the wiring safe, accepted by councillors. 4) Letters of thanks received :- a) Denbigh Business Group for £1000 grant aid, b) Menter Iaith for £2032, grant aid, c) Cymdeithas Gymraeg for £250 grant aid, d) Urdd for £150 grant aid.

(c) Grant aid requests:-

- | | | |
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| 1) Denbigh Youth Project (SL 137)
(Cheque no 006019) | - | £710.00 |
| 5) Llangollen International Music Festival (SL 137)
(Cheque no 006020) | - | £100.00 |

104. Brown Sign A55 – Correspondence received from Dr James Davies MP with an update regarding the Brown A55 sign. Cllrs Mark Young and Raymond Bartley requested the clerk to contact both Dr James Davies and Ann Jones as a previous application for a brown sign had gone through to the selection stage of design. Both Cllrs wanted to know what had happened to the previous application. Chris Ruan MP, Ann Jones AM and Peter Lea from Denbighshire County Council had previously attended meeting to discuss this.

105. Christmas Lighting – The clerk advised that Cllr Mark Young had agreed to purchase and erect the tree in Crown Square as long as the town council were prepared to have it decorated and insured. This was agreed by the councillors. (see item 103/b/1 & 2). 5 sets of lights are required for the tree in Crown Square as well as an additional 3 sets to replace the damaged ones at the roundabout.

106. Fireworks – The clerk confirmed that the relevant arrangements were in place for this year's event and requested as many of the Councillors to attend as stewards.

107. NWWTFC – Email received from Medwyn Jones requesting the nomination of honorary membership be made as well as selecting a Chairman, Deputy, Secretary and Treasurer before the AGM to be held on 24.11.16. The councillors requested the clerk contact Medwyn Jones confirming no details available at present.

108. CCTV update – A meeting took place on 10.10.16 to discuss CCTV requirements. A report was given by the town clerk and noted. No decision made on this. Will revisit another time after the budget has been set for the next financial year.

The chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm.

Signed:.....(chairman)

Date:.....