

Minutes of a meeting of Denbigh Town Council held on Monday 23th May 2016 at 6.30pm at the Town Hall, Denbigh.

Present: Councillors Margaret Bowe (Chairman), Raymond Bartley, Colin Hughes, Robert Parkes, Medwyn Williams, Colin L Hughes, Roy Tickle, Mark Young, Gaynor Wood-Tickle, Catherine Jones, Marilyn Jones, Alyn Ashworth; Police Sergeant Neil Stringfellow (North Wales Police) and Jenny Barlow (Town Clerk).

Apologies: Cllrs Gaynor Morgan Rees, Brian Davies & Philip Stevens.

The chairman welcomed all to the first meeting of the new municipal year and thanked everyone for their support at the Civic Sunday the previous day.

1. Meeting with North Wales Police:

Police Sergeant Neil Stringfellow gave an overview of the current trends and issues relating specifically to Denbigh town since his last attendance at a full council back in November.

- a) Trends – Various issues relating to youths at the derelict North Wales Hospital site a great cause for concern. There will be a greater presence from the Police force at the site.
- b) Update relating to known offenders – There were a few known offenders presently in prison due for release. When released they will be managed by the probation service under licence with tight curfew conditions.
- c) Criminal damage – There has been a 25% increase recently however the overall figures are still low. There has been several successful arrests recently with 8 charges, this should have an impact on the next set of figures.
- d) Antisocial behaviour – there has been numerous incidents at one premises in the Henllan Street area, the residents are due to move out of the area.
- e) Burglary – 15 cases reported since August 15, they are isolated with no pattern or trend.
- f) Violent crime – 39 GBH cases since November 15 and 51 common assault. None of these are linked to licensed premises which is a credit to the licence trade.
- g) Main issue for concern is for the safety and wellbeing of mental health and vulnerable residents. There have been 140 cases since November 15 which is putting a strain on resources to attend other incidents. There have also been 89 domestic related incidents since November 15, it is difficult managing complex issues. (These are incidents only, there could be several visits to the same residents).
- h) The police are targeting drug warrants in the Denbigh area which is resulting in more incidents coming to light.
- i) Sergeant Neil Stringfellow's team is now known as the Safe Neighbourhood Team. The Town Council were also advised that there will be an additional 3 PCSO's available shortly to assist with the Denbigh and St Asaph area.
- j) Sergeant Neil Stringfellow is being ring-fenced to Neighbourhood Policing.
- k) Update relating to the Police Force – there is currently an efficiency review ongoing. Working on improvements.

The Police are keen that vulnerable adults should not be taken into Police custody. It is also important that victims are kept informed on any update received.

Sergeant Neil Stringfellow concluded part 1 at 6.55, the chair, Councillor Margaret Bowe, thanked Sergeant Neil Stringfellow for the in depth information, which was agreed by the Full Council.

2. Urgent Matters: There were none.

- 3. 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.
 - (2) Cllr Colin Hughes – all matters relating to Denbighshire County Council.
- 4. The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 25th April 2016 were received and approved.**
- 5. Matters arising: None**
- 6. Mayor's Report:** Cllr Margaret Bowe requested that this item be deferred until the next meeting.
- 7. Letters, E-mails and Notices:** 1. It was agreed that the following items of correspondence be noted and actioned accordingly:
- (1) Centenary Fields – Commemorating World War 1
 - (2) E-mail received from Clwyd Wynne advising that the Schools exhibition weekend (14th & 15th May) in the Community Archive and Museum was a great success with 400 visitors.
 - (3) Invitation to the North Wales Armed Forces Day to be held on 18/06/16 at Bodelyddan Castle.
 - (4) Llangollen Eisteddfod notification 5 – 10 July 2016.
 - (5) North Wales Local Authorities Family First – awareness a day at the Kinmel Hotel Abergele on 07/06/16.
 - (6) Information received – Listening to the voice of People Affected by Dementia Living in Rural Wales.
 - (7) Fit fields in trust – WWI Centenary.
 - (8) Talking Points Fact Sheet – important changes in adult social care.
 - (9) Age Cymru – re-launch of their National Advice Line Service.
 - (10) Eirianfa Association – AGM 22/06/16.
 - (11) Letter of thanks from DPCC for the grant aid payment of £3000.
- 8. Planning:** (1) Bryn Awelon, Castle Hill, Denbigh – erection of replacement gates. Cllr Robert Parkes advised the Full Council that he had an expression of interest on this matter. This application was discussed and passed, no objections raised.
- (2) Land at Cae Topyn, off Old Ruthin Road and Ffordd Eglwyswen Denbigh – Erection of 75 dwellings, together with associated roads, open space and related works development. This application referred to full council by the planning committee at its meeting on the 17th May 2016. Cllr Ray Bartley advised the Council that there had been a meeting with Paul Griffin but at present there was no new additional information available. A lot more work was required regarding biodiversity, environmental and highways. Denbighshire County Council Planning department are to contest the application. The priority is the highway issue, will need to wait for the updated report. Regarding Highways, there are several issues that need to be considered a) No Safe route to school. b) Supplementary Planning Guide not mentioned. c) Validity of Highways information – no transport assessment made. Require better proposals.
- It was **Resolved** (11 for with Cllr Bartley abstaining as he had declared an interest) **to object to the application on the grounds of lack of information and safety.**
- 9. Council Committee Minutes.** (1) The minutes of the Environment and Finance Committee held on the 16th May 2016 were noted.
- (2) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on the 17th May 2016 were noted.

10. Minutes / Reports of council sub committees. None

11. Reports:

- (1) WW1 Commemoration Group. The town clerk's written report was considered and accepted. The Town Council decided not to progress with the request to commemorate the Somme (item 5).
- (2) Twinning: Cllr Roy Tickle attended a meeting on the 09/05/16. This year we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the twinning. Denbigh Town Council are to be invited to celebrate the event in October. It was suggested that Denbigh Town take a plum tree and plaque to mark the occasion. There will be a strawberry tea held on 10th July at a cost of £5 each to include Pimms.
- (3) NWWTFC: There was a meeting at Conwy a week ago. The plan is to follow the same route as last year. The Town Council have authorised the purchase of 2 prizes for the event to the value of £20 each.
- (4) Christmas Lighting: The town clerk's written report was considered and accepted.
- (5) Fireworks: The town clerk's written report was considered and accepted.
- (6) Open Doors: Cllr Medwyn Williams requested that the Town Hall be open for the event (24th & 25th September), 29 building in the town will also be open for the event. Cllr Gaynor Wood-Tickle enquired about the possible cost implications, it was requested that the town clerk contact Sion Goldsmith for clarification. Cllr Roy Tickle did confirm that he was available to assist if required with staffing the event.
- (7) Volunteer week: There is an event to be held at the castle on 06/06/16 to celebrate all the hard work of the Denbigh volunteers (various groups). Cllr Medwyn Williams requested financial assistance for the event to cover the cost of purchasing cakes. It was agreed that a donation of £70 be made.
- (8) Midsummer: Cllr Roy Tickle confirmed that the arrangements were going smoothly.
- (9) Denbigh Carnival: Cllr Catherine Jones advised the council that the arrangements for the carnival were going well. One issue had been highlighted concerning children's licensing for the event. The town clerk was requested to contact Denbighshire County Council for clarification regarding the licensing of children attending the event.
- (10) St Bridgits: they are busy presently with an inspection.
- (11) Ysgol y Parc: There is currently a vacancy at the school.

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

- 1) Cllr Raymond Bartley: a) Car parking – There are recommendations which have been given to Graham Boase. Will be attending the MAGS group meeting soon with the Chief Executive of Denbighshire County Council and Mike Jones from Highways. Need to have

feedback from the Transport department regarding footfall figures in the car parks compared to previous years. Denbighshire need to consider the needs of Denbigh residents as they use both Eirianfa and the Town Hall for medical needs. The decision for changing the charges was made by an officer and not by the Cabinet. Cllr Raymond Bartley will come back with further information in due course. It was requested that the charges revert back to their original amount while the reports are being produced, this was declined. b) There is a meeting on the 24th to discuss the care of adults in Denbighshire care homes. c) Grass cutting in the Green, Denbigh – the park is not owned by Denbighshire County Council, it is privately owned. A grant is being looked for to maintain the park. d) Kwik Save site – work is starting at the site by Liberty at the end of June. e) Lenten Pool roundabout – ongoing issue.

- 2) Cllr Colin Hughes: a) There is currently speed monitoring taking place at Myddleton Avenue. b) LDP upper Denbigh at Tan Ysgubor & Lodge Farm – in possession of housing services with a view of affordable housing. c) Refurbishment work currently being done at Cae Howell with Bryn Stanley & Bryn Seion shortly.

Cllr Robert Parkes left the meeting at 8.20pm

13. Accounts:

(a) The following accounts were approved for payment:

1) Uproar – Deposit for the firework display (Cheque no 005909)	-	£3200.00
2) Paul Liversidge – Footpath clearing 01/04 – 31/04 (Cheque no 005910)	-	£165.00
3) Ernest Martin – Lock Dr E P Garden gate (May) (Cheque no 005911)	-	£60.00
4) Hywel Evans – Civic Service leaflets (Cheque no 005912)	-	£45.00
5) Welsh Water – Invoice 7060775756 19/11/15 – 17/05/16 (Cheque no 005913)	-	£519.68
6) Zen International Ltd – Monthly charge (Cheque no 005914)	-	£18.37

Total payments: **£4008.05**

(b) Any other financial matters: **None**

14. Appointment of two representatives from the town council as members of the NWWTFC Marketing group.

The request for representatives is to be taken back to the next meeting of the Walled Towns group for further clarification. The proposal was carried unanimously.

15. **Parking in Denbigh:** already discussed – 12.1.a

16. **DCC – Vibrant and Viable High Street:** This item was passed to the Scrutiny Committee.

17. **DCC and Town and Community Council Charter:** It was unanimously agreed to accept the Charter details.

18. **Code of Conduct:** It was unanimously agreed to accept the Code of Conduct details.

19. **Council Standing Orders:** A working group was created to update Denbigh Town Councils Standing Orders. Cllrs Margaret Bowe, Colin L Hughes, Catherine Jones, Roy Tickle, Marilyn Jones & Alyn Ashworth were nominated.

The chairman closed the meeting at 8.38 pm.

Signed:.....(chairman)

Date:.....