

## **CAERNARFON ROYAL TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 4 OCTOBER 2016

### Present

Her Worship the Mayor – Cllr B Owen

### Councillors

I C Thomas, W L Davies, W T Owen, H W Roberts, A W Bohana,  
M W Thomas, G Thomas ©, A Hopcyn, E Lovgreen, T Thomas,  
C Williams, G Thomas (p), M Sarnacki

### **1. Apologies**

Cllr W R Owen, Cllr K Williams, Cllr E Hughes

### **2. Mayor's Announcements**

Walled Towns Bowling competition – thanks to Cllr I C Thomas for attending  
Mcmillan bake off at Feed my Lambs – thanks to Cllr I C Thomas for attending  
Walled Town Car Rally – successful day with 109 cars , thank you to the volunteers

### **3. Declaration of Personal Interest**

Cllr W T Owen – planning

### **4. Urgent Items (Chairman/Clerk).** For information or for action by the Clerk. Resolutions are not permissible

Email re Wylfa consultation

Audit

Financial request from the Council

Announcement re poppies in the Castle

The clerk noted that the standing orders would need to be put to one side  
in order to discuss 2 of the items as decisions were required

## 5. Minutes

To confirm the following minutes:-

### i. Council 20 September 2016

**Resolved**

Accept as a true record

## 6. Planning Applications

To approve planning applications

**Resolved**

1.C16/1139/14/LL

**Agree**

Extension and alterations

**13 Llys Y Garn, Caernarfon**

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2. C16/1142/14/LL

**Agree**

Extension to front and side of dwelling

**41 Cae Gwyn, Caernarfon**

## 7. Accounts

To approve the bills, donations and wages for payment

**Resolved**

Accept and pay ( unanimous)

## 8. Bank Reconciliation

**Resolved**

Accept for information only (unanimous)

## 9. E-mail from Sian Ellis Williams

In response to the Dragon Sculpture

**Resolved**

Accept for information only and grateful that it is staying in  
Caernarfon ( unanimous)

#### **10. Report form Cllr. A. Hopcyn re: twinning visit**

Noted that a hugely successful visit had taken place, and seeing as though it will be 25 years of twinning we will visit in 2 years time to celebrate

##### **Resolved**

Accept and grateful for the report

#### **11.Gwynedd Council**

Notice of Temporary Closure re: Aber Bridge

##### **Resolved**

Seeing as though dates has passed – not discussed

#### **12.Gwynedd Council**

Reply re: Castle Square parking restrictions

A discussion was held regarding the clearway and that Councillors were glad that this was disappearing

##### **Resolved**

That as the businesses were now happy with the new proposed timings to accept these and withdraw our rejection (unanimous)

#### **13.Gwynedd Council - Gwynedd Challenge**

Reply from Anwen Davies + previous response

Another lengthy discussion was held on the matter and a number of points raised for future discussions

##### **Resolved**

In order to keep the toilets open next year to contribute the £12,000 but to ensure that discussions on the following are held

Other ways of raising funds , working with the businesses, consider a social enterprise, TUPE ( unanimous)

Salt Bins - ask for a full list of locations in Caernarfon and find out which are under Gwynedd Councils obligations and which are Trunk Road agency, before continuing any discussions (unanimous)

#### **14.Electricity prices**

A comparison sheet was distributed by the clerk to ease the discussion

##### **Resolved**

To take up the 3 year contract with British Gas paying via Direct Debit (13 in favour, 1 abstained)

**15. E-mail re: Berwyn Prison**

**Resolved**

Accept for information only but encourage anyone who can attend to do so (unanimous)

**16. Verbal response re: CCTV meeting**

A positive meeting had taken place and very pleasant seeing as though everyone is now contributing. An update was received on the impact of Gwynedd Challenge cuts which has impacted on staffing levels .- two members on duty at busy times but sometimes only one.

Looking to secure cheaper prices from BT for equipment as further savings required next year. Cameras have helped in 967 cases last year

**Resolved**

Accept and grateful for the report (unanimous)

**17. Report from Walled Town Friendship Circle meeting**

Noted that Caernarfon won the Bowls competition

**Resolved**

Accept and grateful for the report (unanimous)

**18. Questions**

**None**

**Urgent items**

**19. Email re Wylfa consultation**

Resolved

Accept for information only ( unanimous)

Standing orders were suspended for the remaining items as actions were required on following items (unanimous)

## **20. Audit**

Clerk explained that arrangements under the new company had been very problematic especially on timescales. Numerous clerks have been complaining some even resigning over the matter. The council have received a qualified audit on the basis that the financial risk assessment was not passed annually by full council. Other suggested ways for improvement included that the asset list uses valuation rather than original costs and that a date was missing on the form. The clerk noted that they are easily resolved except the original prices as many items go back way before her time and that of most councillors.

### **Resolved**

Send a letter of dissatisfaction to the new company BDO and also to the Welsh Audit office who appoint them to note our disappointment at the way things have been handled this year, and also to note that the clerk has offered to work with both bodies to ease the situation for all involved in the sector to avoid repeats of this in the future (unanimous , whilst also thanking the clerk for her work on the audit and trying to resolve the issues)

## **21. Police Financial Request**

Received an answer from Police noting that they were grateful for the suggestion to contact other councils but having done so their timescales didn't work out for this year , and asked if we would reconsider the request for this year as the timescales would be too tight at our next meeting

### **Resolved**

Disappointed with the response but glad they have accepted our recommendation for future years- agreed to contribute £100 (unanimous)

## **22. Announcement re poppies**

Clerk noted that an invitation had been received for all councillors to attend the Castle on the Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October to see the poppy display ( day before opening to the public)

### **Resolved**

To accept for information and those that wish to attend to do so –  
The Castle have a list of names for this purpose

The standing orders were reinstated in order to close the meeting(unanimous)

Meeting ended at 7.08

Signed ..... Dated .....

