

CAERNARFON ROYAL TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING, 6th JULY 2021 - VIRTUAL MEETING

Present: Her Worship the Mayor - Councillor M. Sarnacki (Chair)

Councillors W.L.Davies, A.Hopcyn, D.L.Jones, C.Larsen, E.Lovgreen,
W.Tudor Owen, J.W.Parry, K.Richards, S.Sage, I.C.Thomas, C.Williams

1. Apologies

Councillors E.R.Hughes, K.Jones, B.Owen, W.R.Owen, R.Thomas

2. Mayor's Announcements

None

3. Declaration of Personal Interest

None

4. Urgent Items (Chair / Clerk)

(1) Cleaning the Institute Building

It was noted that Geraint Williams had submitted his resignation and was due to finish cleaning the Institute Building on the 31st July. The Clerk will make the necessary arrangements to fill the contract as soon as practicable.

(2) A broken Notice Board on Castle Square

It was noted that the door had been ripped off the notice board on Castle Square. The cost of repair is likely to be quite similar to the cost of a new notice board. He will discuss the best solution with the company.

5. Minutes

To confirm the following minutes:

i. Full Council, 1st June 2021

Resolved to accept as a true record (unanimous).

It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following items as it is likely that exempt

information as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 will be disclosed (unanimous).

ii. Personnel Committee, 17th June 2021

Resolved to accept as a true record (unanimous).

iii. Finance Committee, 22nd June 2021 (items 8 and 9 exempt)

Resolved (unanimous):

- (1) To accept as a true record.**
- (2) To invite the Press and public back into the meeting.**

6. Accounts

Resolved to receive and pay them (unanimous).

7. Bank Reconciliation

Resolved to accept for information (unanimous).

8. Youth Service

A presentation was given by Sion Bryn Roberts, from the Youth Service, on the latest situation regarding Caernarfon Youth Club, and what had happened in recent months.

The following were noted:

- (1) That the numbers had fallen.
- (2) Because of Covid, the Club was as important now as it ever was, and that young people needed a safe space to share experiences and promote social skills.
- (3) A member of staff had left, and arrangements are being made to recruit.
- (4) That there was a need for the club to open socially as soon as practicable in September.
- (5) In the first few weeks, Town Councillors were invited to come in and talk to staff and young people.
- (6) As the current building was unavailable for a while in September, a different location was discussed for example Feed my Lambs, the Institute Building or the Noddfa Centre.
- (7) That Walk and Talk be considered for the period.

Resolved (unanimous):

- (1) To state the need for the club to open socially as soon as practicable in September.**
- (2) In the first few weeks, to invite Town Councillors to come in and talk to staff and young people and ask the Clerk to send Bryn the relevant contact details.**

- (3) As the current building was unavailable for a period in September, Bryn was asked to make inquiries regarding the short-term use of buildings such as Feed my Lambs, the Institute Building or the Noddfa Centre.**
- (4) That Walk and Talk be considered for the period.**

9. Race for Life

It was noted that a request had been received from Gwynedd Council's Events Manager asking whether the Town Council was happy for the above event to take place on the 19th of September.

It was noted that the Council had decided at a previous meeting that it wanted events to take place if they were in accordance with the latest Welsh Government guidelines and regulations. No event should take place if it did not comply with the latest guidelines.

Resolved to ask the Clerk to contact Gwynedd Council's Events Manager to state that the Council is happy for Race for Life to take place if it complies with Welsh Government guidelines (unanimous).

10. Procedure for Local Dispute Resolution

The Procedure for Local Dispute Resolution, which had been adopted by the Personnel Committee, was submitted. The procedure provided a framework for resolving any dispute before it got out of control.

It was resolved to accept the Procedure for Local Dispute Resolution, which had been adopted by the Personnel Committee (unanimous).

11. Correspondence from Community Councils

(a) Nefyn Town Council - Creating a memorandum of understanding regarding Language Policy

To note that an e-mail had been received from the Clerk of Nefyn Town Council stating that Nefyn Town Council members were eager to hold a meeting to create a memorandum of understanding regarding the Language Policy of Community and Town Councils in Gwynedd so that the Welsh language is protected in accordance with The Well-being of Future Generations Act, clause 6, Wales and a vibrant culture where the Welsh language thrives.

It was asked if the Council was interested in attending such a meeting.

Resolved to ask the Clerk to write to the Clerk of Nefyn Town Council stating that the Town Council would be interested in attending a meeting to create a memorandum of understanding regarding the Language Policy of Community and Town Councils in Gwynedd (unanimous).

(b) Pistyll Community Council - Overnight parking problems

An email was submitted by the Clerk of Pistyll Community Council seeking support for their application regarding overnight parking problems.

Resolved to support the application of Pistyll Community Council and to draw the matter to the attention of the Chief Executive and Leader of Gwynedd Council so that they could introduce measures that would make a difference and enable Community Councils to deal more quickly with the problem (unanimous).

12. Jetskis

Detailed correspondence was submitted by "Above the Brine" in response to the recent discussion at the Town Council regarding jetskis.

It was resolved to invite the owners of "Above the Brine" to a meeting of the Town Council in due course to discuss the issues and concerns surrounding jetskis (unanimous).

13. Health and Safety Audit

It was noted that correspondence had been received from Ennerdale Consulting Ltd offering to carry out a Health and Safety Review of the Council's activities.

The Clerk outlined what the company was offering, and the price they were charging for undertaking a health and safety review.

Resolved (unanimous):

- (1) Not to take up Ennerdale Consulting Ltd's proposal to undertake a health and safety review of the Town Council's activities.**
- (2) To ask the Clerk to speak to Gwynedd Council's Health and Safety Department regarding any gaps that exist, seeking their advice and how they could assist the Town Council.**
- (3) Following this, a start and finish group should be created to discuss what was needed, and a report presented to the next Full Council meeting.**

14. Contract for the lift at the Institute Building

It was noted that correspondence had been received regarding the renewal of the contract for the maintenance of the lift in the Institute Building.

It was resolved that whilst the Clerk had some concerns about the efficiency of KONE, the Council should enter into the maintenance contract for a further year. This would give the Clerk time to look at other options regarding the lift (unanimous).

Councillors C.Larsen and J.W.Parry left the meeting at 7.00 p.m.

15. 2020/21 Annual Report

Submitted the draft Annual Report for 2020/21.

It was resolved to accept the draft Annual Report for 2020/21, subject to the minor amendments referred to at the meeting (unanimous).

16. Regeneration of Towns and Communities in Wales after Covid-19

Councillor Ann Hopcyn presented the report following her attendance at the One Voice Wales and Planning Aid Wales event on the subject on the 23rd of June.

It was noted that the Town Council should specifically consider the following points:

- (1) To encourage councils to produce a Place Plan. [Perhaps consider two specific local projects, Coed Helen and in the future, Parc y Dre.
- (2) Example: Street market but generators produce noise and smells. Encourage the local authorities to replace them with electricity points.
- (3) Empty properties: Welsh Government will compensate councils taking action against owners of eyesore buildings.
- (4) We need ambitious councillors.

It was further noted that the above should be considered in the context of vacant buildings in the town which were in poor condition, for example the old KFC building and Poundstretchers.

It was resolved to invite a member of a progressive community council, for example Cardigan Town Council, to a meeting of Full Council in the near future (unanimously).

17. Consultation on Qualifications of Clerks in Wales Regulations

An email was received from the Welsh Government on the above.

The Clerk noted:

- (1) The Welsh Government had set out, in regulations, the qualifications or description of qualifications that a community council clerk must hold, for the community council to meet the second of the three eligibility conditions to exercise power of competence. Having the power of competence status would make it easier for the Council to do things like start a commercial project.
- (2) That the consultation is open until the 24th of September 2021.

Resolved to ask the Clerk to seek members' comments by the 31st of July so that he can pass them on to the Welsh Government (unanimous).

18. Institute Building - Room Hire

Maria Lamburn (Cadnant Wednesday evening Art Class) sent an e-mail regarding the cost of hiring a room in the Institute Building, and to say that she was not prepared to pay a higher price than two years ago.

It was resolved to allow long-term users of the Institute to pay the terms of 2019/20 for this financial year, and to review this in a year (unanimous).

19. Notices of Motion

The following notices of motion had been received.

(1) Councillor Kenny Richards

I respectfully request that the town council consider the merit of contacting Gwynedd Council with a view to imposing workable parking restrictions within the historic walls of the town from 11am to 6pm.

I draw particular attention to Hole in The Wall and Palace Street where there have been ongoing disputes between residents and random members of the public and business proprietors. Serious consideration must be given to the matter which is causing a significant risk to health and safety to all concerned by illegal, obstructive and or inconsiderate parking.

May I suggest that the relevant ward town councillors carry out an information gathering exercise by visiting business premises and residents to collate views to provide an even balanced report to furnish the relevant officer at Gwynedd Council with an update of the current problems.

It was resolved to contact Gwynedd Council to review the health and safety situation, to ask them to write a report on the subject and that the Town Council receive a copy of that report (unanimous).

(2) Councillor Dawn L.Jones

I and many other Caernarfon residents were terribly disappointed when arriving at Llanbelig cemetery over the weekend of 19/20 June to pay tribute to our loved ones on Father's Day... The grass had grown tall, it was difficult for the those with mobility problems to reach the graves. The cemetery looked terrible...

It is quite difficult to visit the cemetery any day but I feel that to be greeted with this view made the process heartbreaking. Can we as Councillors of Caernarfon Town Council write a letter to the relevant department at Gwynedd Council to express our disappointment and to ask if it is possible for the annual timetable to consider important dates such as Mother's Day,

Fathers, Palm Sunday etc to ensure the cemetery looks neat on these significant dates?

It was resolved to write a letter to the relevant department at Gwynedd Council to express the disappointment of the Town Council, and to ask whether the annual grass cutting schedule at Llanbeblig Cemetery could take into account important dates such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, Palm Sunday so on to make the cemetery look neat on these significant dates (unanimous).

18. Questions

Councillor Ann Hopcyn asked what the latest position was regarding the flyover in Caernarfon, and the Clerk noted that he would liaise with the relevant Department at Gwynedd Council, with a view to placing an item on the agenda for the next meeting of the Full Council in September.

19. Exclusion of Press and Public

It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following item as it is likely that exempt information as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 will be disclosed (unanimous).

20. CaerAilGyfle Grant

[REDACTED]

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21. Arm's Length Company

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Group:

[REDACTED]

22. Tenders

The Clerk submitted a verbal report in respect of the following:

[REDACTED]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

Meeting concluded at 8.00 p.m.

Signed

Date