



Connah's Quay Town Council

Minutes of Town Council Meeting Monday 26 September 2022

Present: (Attendance Register)

Councillor D. Owen (Chair of Council) presiding

Councillors D. Addaway, B. Crease, A. I. Dunbar, A. Dunbobbin,

E. S. Faulkner, G. A. Faulkner, R. Mansell, A. Manship, A. R. Owen, D. Richardson,
P. Shotton, I. R. Smith and A. S. Wren.

Mrs S. L. Phillips (Administrative Officer)

A minutes silence was held in respect of the passing to Her Majesty the Queen.

Councillor A. Dunbobbin asked whilst going through the agenda items could he make observations on matters arising.

The Chair agreed.

42. Notice of Meeting

The notice of meeting was received.

43. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors J. B. Attridge,
L. Attridge, W. Catterall, R. O'Gorman, A. Hughes, M. White and the Clerk Suzanne
Wilson.

44. Declarations of Interest

Councillor P. Shotton declared a Personal Interest in Item 5 (e) – Finance & General
Purposes Committee – 7 September – Minute No.65.Connah's Quay Nomads.

45. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30 August 2022 were received, approved and agreed as a correct record.

46. Committee Reports

a) Planning Meeting – 30 August 2022

Councillor A. Dunbobbin enquired if Councillor A. S. Wren is allowed to Chair the Planning Meeting when he has raised a personal and prejudicial interest in an item.

Councillor Wren advised he had received legal advice from Flintshire County Council regarding this matter and he can accept the minutes.

b) Declarations of Interest – 30 August 2022

c) Consultative Meeting – 7 September 2022

Councillor A. Dunbobbin advised that he fully supported comments made by Councillor J. B. Attridge regarding the delivering of agendas, he enquired if the agendas could be emailed to Councillors as previously.

The Chair asked Mrs S. L. Phillips to report to the Clerk for an update.

Councillor A. Dunbobbin asked for an amendment on Minute No. 51. Police Consultative Presentation. Councillor Dunbobbin asked to remove his name from the minutes to only include Police & Crime Commissioner.

d) Planning Meeting – 7 September 2022

e) Finance & General Purposes Committee – 7 September 2022

Councillor A. Dunbobbin made the following observations:

i) Minute No. 59. North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils. He thanked Councillor A. Manship for the report from the meeting. Councillor Dunbobbin asked why the Town Council were still attending the meetings as the Council were now members of One Voice Wales.

Councillor B. Crease advised Members that the membership for One Voice Wales was agreed for the first year by Council.

ii) Minute No. 60. Community Garden off Mill Lane/Wepre Drive, had the Town Council received any interest from any local Community Groups.

iii) Minute No. 61. One Voice Wales. What advice had the Town Council received since joining.

A Standing Orders model are available on the One Voice Wales website, should the Clerk require. Councillor Dunbobbin was led to believe one of the previous Clerk Mr. S. Goodrum had drafted a copy for Members.

Councillor B. Crease replied that the Clerk was working on updating the Town Councils Standing Orders and she was aware of the model via One Voice Wales, there was a lot of work to be done due to the scale of the task, but assured Councillor Dunbobbin that this was very much in hand.

iv) Minute No. 65. Connah's Quay Nomads FC. Councillor Dunbobbin had concerns about the offer from Connah's Quay Nomads for tickets for Councillors and what the public's perception of the matter would be.

Councillor E. S. Faulkner advised he had listened to both sides but thought Members couldn't accept gifts over £10.00.

Councillor A. Owen advised that if a Member accepted the gift it would have to be declared as agreed in minute number 66. Gifts and Hospitality Policy.

The Chair Councillor D. Owen requested for the following to be minuted. Councillor A. I. Dunbar had raised his voice as he felt he had been ignored when he had raised his hand numerous times on the indication to speak. The Chair apologised and advised she had not seen this. She then asked Councillor Dunbar if he would like to speak to which he replied no.

f) Recreation & Entertainments Committee – 7 September 2022

g) Declarations of Interest – 7 September 2022

RESOLVED:

That report c) the wording 'Councillor A. Dunbobbin in his role as' to be removed and be amended to read 'the'. Subject to this amendment that report c) be adopted.

That reports a), b), d), e) f) and g) be adopted.

47. Accounts

The Accounts for the month of September 2022 with expenditure total of £33,133.39 were approved for payment as per schedule.

48. Members Panel Recommendation – 6 September 2022

Councillor I. R. Smith enquired why the decision to close the café was made through Members Panel and not full Council.

Councillor B. Crease explained to Councillors that Members Panel are recommendations only and full Council makes the final decision to agree or disagree with the recommendations.

Councillor A. I. Dunbar stated that he would have voted against the closure of the café. He asked if any rates and energy discounts had been investigated for the café from the Government. He also stated that the café could become busier in the winter months with the expected increase in covid cases, more residents would be using the Medical Centre and this would attract more visitors to the café. Flintshire County Council are looking at opening warm hubs, this could be a possibility in the café.

Councillor Dunbar suggested that the café remain open for a further 6 months, due to the soaring energy costs with helping the residents somewhere to go.

Councillor P. Shotton agreed the Council should defer the closure for 6 months. The Council can then explore what is available to assist. With the cost of crisis, warm hubs for people in the community, he fully supported Councillor Dunbar.

Councillor A. Dunbobbin asked the Chair if he and his fellow Labour Members could leave the meeting to discuss this item. The Chair agreed.

Councillors A. I. Dunbar, A. Dunbobbin, E. S. Faulkner, G. A. Faulkner, P. Shotton and I. R. Smith left the meeting (7pm)

The meeting was adjourned.

Councillors A. I. Dunbar, A. Dunbobbin, E. S. Faulkner, G. A. Faulkner, P. Shotton and I. R. Smith returned to the meeting (7.05pm)

Councillor P. Shotton advised that after a short discussion that he and Labour Members wanted to discuss this fully with the Clerk and defer for 6 months. The help from Government can be fully put forward.

Councillor B. Crease put forward a vote to propose an amendment and to defer to next full council.

Councillors Voted

For – 6

Against – 8

Councillor B. Crease put forward a vote to sub stain the motion and go ahead and close the Quay Café.

Councillors Voted

For – 8

Against – 6

Councillor A. I. Dunbar advised that the decision made by the other side of the Council was disgraceful. They had no information provided and voted against the deferral.

Councillor B. Crease said he took this wholeheartly and that if a community group took over and ran the café they could have applied for rate discounts and grants.

Councillor I. R. Smith said this should have been discussed at Finance and General Purposes Committee not Members Panel.

Members discussed that Labour Members who were on the Members Panel sent their apologies and didn't attend.

Councillor A. I. Dunbar asked Mrs S. L. Phillips to find out from the Clerk on her return if she looked into the business rates being reduced as per the Government scheme. He also asked what would be the distribution of staff, more staff available looking to make up their hours with the work not being available. The Chair advised the staff would be relocating and keeping their hours and same pay, some staff have left so the hours would be available there, the Civic hall has re-opened and staff needed back there.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2022 were received, approved and agreed as a correct record.

Confirmed 31 October 2022

Presiding Chair

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and ended at 7.20pm.