



Connah's Quay Town Council

Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday 7 December 2022

Present: (Attendance Register)

Councillor D. Owen (Chair) presiding

Councillors D. Addaway, J. B. Attridge, L. Attridge, A. Dunbobbin, E. S. Faulkner, G. A. Faulkner, A. Hughes, R. Mansell, A. Manship, A. R. Owen, D. Richardson, M. White & A. S. Wren.

Mrs S. Wilson (Clerk)

Mrs S. L. Phillips (Administrative Officer)

48. NOTICE OF MEETING

The notice of meeting was received.

49. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors W. Catterall, B. Crease, A. I. Dunbar, R. O'Gorman, P. Shotton & I. R Smith.

50. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor G. A. Faulkner declared a Personal Interest in Item 17 – Connah's Quay Sea Cadets.

Councillor E. S. Faulkner declared a Personal Interest in Item 17 – Connah's Quay Sea Cadets.

Councillor A. Dunbobbin declared a Personal Interest in Item 4 – Police Consultative Arrangements.

Councillor A. Dunbobbin declared a Personal Interest in Item 17 – Connah's Quay Sea Cadets.

Councillor J. B. Attridge declared a Personal Interest in Item 8 – Planning Applications.

51. POLICE CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

No Police were in attendance.

Councillor A. Dunbobbin advised that it was agreed that the Police would provide an update if they were unable to attend the meeting. He asked the Clerk if she had received an update from the Police, the Clerk advised she had not received any.

Councillor J. B. Attridge advised that the Town Council had previously requested for all Members to be added onto the mailing list to receive reports that concern incidents in Connah's Quay.



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RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes again to the District Inspector to request that all Town Councillors be added on to the mailing list to receive reports concerning incidents in Connah's Quay.

The Leader of the Council asked the Chair if he could raise an urgent motion to the Town Council. The Chair allowed the Leader of the Council Councillor Attridge to raise the motion.

Councillor Attridge requested that the Town Council agree to the withdrawal of all association with Connah's Quay and Shotton Interservices Committee until such time an official appears before the Town Council. He explained such drastic measure is required to protect Members of Connah's Quay Town Council.

Councillor Attridge stated that a member of Connah's Quay Town Council was refused by Interservices to attend as substitute at a recent Interservices meeting. The representative Councillor R Mansell was unwell and it was requested Councillor A. Owen attended instead. It was necessary for the Town Council to attend as an urgent matter needed bringing to the attention of Interservices Committee.

The matter for attention was concerning an alleged incident that had taken place at the Remembrance Service in the Civic Hall. Where a senior member of Interservices was requested to be quiet by a uniformed armed forces person. The Interservices Member allegedly made an inappropriate gesture to the uniformed person for this request.

Councillor Attridge stated this alleged behaviour is unacceptable and needs explaining by Interservices.



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Councillor M. White advised that it was a shame there were no representatives from the Interservices at the meeting as this matter does require addressing. This was the first services for Remembrance at the Civic Hall for 3 years. The names on the monument need to be honoured and respected.

Councillor A. Dunbobbin asked that before such drastic measures take place could a mediation session go ahead first. Councillor Dunbobbin withdrew this comment as he fully agreed an explanation is required from Interservices.

Councillor Attridge requested the Clerk write to the Interservices Committee to arrange for a representative from Interservices to meet with the Town Council.

Councillors voted on the proposal from the Leader to dissociate the Town Council from this Committee until the outcome from the meeting has been met.

Councillors voted on this proposal.

14 in favour
1 against

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk write to Interservices Committee inviting representatives to attend a meeting with the Town Council.

52. CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL UPDATE

The Chair advised Members that she had attended the Remembrance Service at the Civic Hall and how she was proud to have represented the Town Council. She had also opened the Christmas Fayre and turned on the Christmas tree light's alongside a little girl from Coral Leigh Dance Academy. Councillor Owen also advised Members that she was visiting schools to present the winners from the Christmas card competition.

Councillor M. White commented that visiting the school was a good way to get back into the community.

RECOMMENDED:



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That the verbal update be received.

Confirmed 19 December 2022

Presiding Chair

PLANNING COMMITTEE – 07/12/22

Councillor A. S. Wren (Chair) presiding

53. MINUTES

The Minutes of Meeting held 2 November 2022 (pages 38 & 39) were received and approved as correct records and signed by the Chair.

54. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

None received.

Councillor J. B. Attridge asked if the process for receiving these had changed. The Clerk advised she would investigate and report back to Council.

55. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

South Ward

FUL/000713/22 – 25 Wepre Lane, Connah's Quay.

Proposed detached garage.

RECOMMENDED:

The Town Council has no objections to the above planning applications providing they follow planning policy.

56. HYPNET NORTH WEST CARBON DIOXIDE PIPELINE DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER

The Clerk submitted a letter dated 26 November 2022 with notice given regarding the development, installation and operation of a new carbon dioxide transportation pipeline between Ince near Stanlow and Flint (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).



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RECOMMENDED:

That the letter be received.

Confirmed 19 December 2022

Presiding Chair

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 07/12/22

Councillor A. R. Owen (Vice-Chair) presiding

57. MINUTES

The Minutes of Meeting held 2 November 2022 (pages 39, 40, 41 42 & 43) were received and approved as correct records and signed by the Chair.

58. FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Clerk submitted the below reports for the Month of October 2022 (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda):-

- a) Summary of Income/Expenditure by Budget Heading.
- b) Cash & Investment Reconciliation.
- c) Statement of Imprest Account.

RECOMMENDED:

All were in favour that reports (a), (b) & (c) be agreed.

59. ELECTRICITY CONTRACT – CIVIC HALL & COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Clerk submitted a report for Council to agree a provider of the electricity supply in the Civic Hall and Community Centre (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).



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The Clerk informed Members that the contracts end on or around the 22nd December this year. The Town Council have previously used an independent consultant who specialise in dealing with Councils.

From the prices quoted on the report the Clerk requested to proceed in entering one year contracts as per below:

Civic Hall – British Gas Lite

Community Centre - Opus Business

All Members were in favour.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk to go ahead with the agreed electricity suppliers.

60. FINANCE & GOVERNANCE TOOLKIT WORKSHOP

The Clerk thanked everyone who attended the workshop on Wednesday 16th November 2022. She advised that at the workshop herself and Councillors went through the health check section of the toolkit answering yes or no to what policies and procedures the Town Council have in place. It was recommended at the workshop that a Policy and Resources meeting is arranged for January to agree outstanding policies and other financial management and governance procedures.

Councillor A. Dunbobbin advised he was unable to attend and asked the Clerk if the Policy and Resources meeting when arranged to be in the evening to enable Councillors working to attend.

Councillor J. B. Attridge thanked the clerk for all the work she had carried out and advised that there were over 20 policies not in place including the Standing Orders that should have been. He asked Members to remember that the Clerk is new to the role and currently spending 50% of her time dealing with Wales Audit Office. The Town Council have a duty of care to all staff. He proposed that if the Policies were ready could they be emailed to Members to read through ready for January's meeting.



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Councillor A. Dunbobbin recognised what a large task this had been for the Clerk and commented on his support for being part of One Voice Wales, to have access to this information. He expressed his support to Councillor Attridge's proposal to have any draft policies before Christmas.

All Members were in favour.

RECOMMENDED:

That the verbal update be received.

61. TRAINING PLAN

The Clerk submitted a draft Training Plan, the plan is to determine training priorities for Members and staff. The Clerk asked everyone to be honest when completing and it is confidential. Once the Training Plans have been completed the clerk can go through what training is required.

Councillor J. B. Attridge asked for the Clerk to look at what free courses One Voice Wales have available, also Flintshire online.

The Clerk advised that the adopted Training Plan will be displayed on the Town Councils website.

All Members were in favour.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Training Plan be received.

62. WREXHAM – BIDSTON RAIL USERS' ASSOCIATION

The Clerk submitted a membership renewal for 2022/23 for Wrexham – Bidston Rail Users Association (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

All Members were in favour.

RECOMMENDED:

That the membership be renewed.



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63. ENVIRONMENT (WALES) ACT 2016 PART 1 – SECTION 6 THE BIODIVERSITY & RESILIENCE OF ECOSYSTEMS DUTY

The Clerk requested the Council to defer this item until early 2023, as the deadline date had recently been confirmed as 31st December 2023.

All Members were in favour.

RECOMMENDED:

That this item be deferred until early 2023.

64. CONNAH'S QUAY SEA CADETS

The leader of the Council advised Members that he had been contacted from a Senior Officer at the Sea Cadets asking for the Town Council to support the proposed new building for the Sea Cadets. This was a Levelling Up Fund initiative. He advised that he is personally fully supportive of this, it was a great opportunity for the young people of not only Connah's Quay but surrounding areas. The new building would be an asset to the town and benefit generations to come. He advised Flintshire County Council had advised they are match-funding this proposal.

Councillor M. White fully endorsed the comments made by the Leader of the Council.

All Members were in favour.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk write a letter in support of the new Sea Cadets building.

65. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

The Clerk advised Members that in Septembers Members Panel Meeting which was agreed at Full Council in September of the new staff roles. Sarah from the Administration Team had become the Community Engagement Officer for the Town Council. She will be working closely with any events organised and ran by the Town Council, working more with the schools and local businesses. Sarah will attend all the schools to introduce herself and see how the Council can be more involved. In the near future on behalf of the Town Council she will be inter acting with local business to find out



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their needs in Connah's Quay. Sarah will also be liaising with the Chair to promote the Town Council and help the smaller local businesses.

Councillor D. Richardson congratulated Sarah in his role as Chair of Regeneration. In the New Year he wished to visit with Sarah to the local businesses to see how the Town Council can support them more. Possibly with using the Civic Hall and run a networking event.

Members discussed the Town Council required a new way of engaging with the local businesses.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerks verbal update be received.

Confirmed 19 December 2022

Presiding Chair

RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE – 05/12/2022

Councillor A. Manship (Chair) presiding

66. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held 2 November 2022 (pages 43, 44 & 45) were received and approved as correct records and signed by the Chair.

67. CIVIC HALL

The Clerk requested for delegated authority to obtain quotes for CCTV, ready for the costings for next years' budget. She advised that since the Civic Hall had the new cladding the cameras were never put back up.

Councillor A. Dunbobbin suggested to the Clerk to see if the Town Council can obtain funding through North Wales Police.



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Councillor J. B. Attridge advised contacting Park Adfer and put together a bid alongside Shotton Town Council for more CCTV around both towns.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk obtain quotes for the CCTV.

68. KICK FOR KIDS

The Clerk submitted an e-mailed dated 8 November 2022 from Steven Taylor, Kick for Kids. The e-mail detailed activity of the sessions from the month of October 2022 (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

Councillor A. Dunbobbin wanted to thanks Kick for Kids the information is well received and should be fully supported.

Councillor A. Hughes also wanted to personally thank Steven Taylor, it is great to see kids playing and fully supports the scheme.

RECOMMENDED:

That the e-mail was received.

69. CONNAH'S QUAY SPORTS CENTRE

The Leader of the Council requested Members agree to the Town Council submitting a letter to the Leader of Flintshire County Council and the Chief Executive regarding the use of the sports centre. He commented that the sports centre was closed once the school closed and was not being utilised as previously promised by Flintshire County Council. There are local clubs that desperately need places to train but unfortunately have to use outside with temporary lights. Due to winter weather conditions this can sometimes cancel training sessions for these clubs. Local residents are unable to use any of the facilities at the Sport Centre due to the centre not being open after school hours. He wants the County Council to fully honour their commitments and pass back the use of the sports centre to the residents of Connaah's Quay.

Councillor A. Dunbobbin stated he remembered a meeting in 2019 when the school, Flintshire County Council and Aura mutually agreed to work together in utilising the sports facilities and



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providing activities and sports for the community and the school. The sports facility would be the responsibility of the school but working for community.

Councillors voted and were all agreement to the Leader of the Council's proposition in writing to the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive for the reasons on why the sports centre is not accessible to the local community.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk write to the Leader and Chief Executive of Flintshire County Council and report back to Council.

70. NEW YEAR'S EVE UPDATE

The Clerk advised Members that tickets for New Year's Eve are still being sold through the Town Council office or online via Eventbrite. She informed Members that over 70 tickets had been sold and could Members continue to promote the event.

Councillor A. Dunbobbin offered his assistance for next years' event with the poster design, the Chair and Clerk welcomed this help.

RECOMMENDED:

That the verbal update be received.

71. WAIVER/REDUCTION OF HIRE CHARGES

Civic Hall – Financial Year 2022/23

- a) Blessed Sacrament Church
 - Christmas Fayre
 - Saturday 26 November 2022
 - WAIVER

RECOMMENDED:



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That the waiver be agreed.

Confirmed 19 December 2022

Presiding Chair

REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 07/12/2022

Councillor D. Richardson (Chair) presiding

72. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held 5 October 2022 (page 36) were received and approved as correct records and signed by the Chair.

73. CONNAH'S QUAY TOWN COUNCIL CHRISTMAS FAYRE UPDATE

The Clerk advised Members that the feedback received about the Christmas Fayre has all been really good. The café and bar in the Civic Hall was busy with takings. It was lovely to see the pupils from Cae'r Nant and the High School getting involved with their choirs singing. The dancers from Coral Leigh were extremely talented. Thanks were passed to Caer Nant, Connaht's Quay High School and Coral Leigh for providing the entertainment.

I was lovely to see everyone back in the Civic Hall. The Clerk personally thanked Councillors for their support in helping out on the day also Ian and June from Radio Deeside who kept the music going and a great light show. The Clerk also thanked all the staff for their help in setting up and on the night. Lots of children went to see Santa and we are in the process of booking Santa ready for next year.

Members agreed to have the light switch on at the end of the Christmas Fayre next year, as the feedback from stall holders was that everyone didn't come back into the Civic Hall after the lights were switched on.



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Councillor J. B. Attridge thanked Members who contributed to the raffle. Stall holders had advised great attendance from the public fully supporting the stalls.

Councillor J. B. Attridge advised of the comments he had received regarding the Christmas lights and how a resident was disgusted that the lights were on all the time. He knew that was a major issue and something had to be done. After having discussions with the Clerk and Flintshire County Council it was decided to have timers placed on the lights, the costs of having this done has been split over 2 financial years.

RECOMMENDED:

That the verbal update be received.

Confirmed 19 December 2022

Presiding Chair

Meeting commenced at 6.30pm and ended at 7.50pm