



St Asaph City Council Cyngor Dinas Llanellwyr

Minutes of the Meeting of St Asaph City Council held on 11th September 2019 at 7.00 pm in the Community and Council Meeting Rooms, Roe Plas Meadows.

Present:

Cllrs: Bill Cowie, J Ellison, M Gedd, G D Hodgkinson BEM, P G Morton, J O Roberts (Deputy Mayor), B J Rust, P Scott (Mayor) and R Williams.

1. Apologies for Absence

- Cllrs Hardie, Thomas and Winter.

2. Declarations of Interest

- Cllrs Roberts and Rust each declared a non-prejudicial interest in item 13.

3. Public Participation

- One member of the Public was present.

4. Urgent Matters

- Cllrs Ellison and Scott each had one urgent matter.

5. North Wales Police Service

Report provided by PCSO Dave Jones

- Anti-social behaviour was down considerably on last year.
- Theft of a rear tyre in Bishops Walk
- Theft of a caravan from land by Oriel House. Recovered, together with cutting tools.
- Anti-social behavior at a cottage behind Oriel House.
- A number of incidents of anti-social behavior at Llys Esgob Morgan.
- Theft of a box trailer behind Oriel House.
- Criminal damage to gate to car park behind the Library. Travellers attempting to gain access.

- Two number plates taken from Glascoed Road. Recovered in Chester.
- Dangerous dog at Spring Gardens.
- Damage to a tree at Llys Esgob Morgan.
- Road rage incident.
- Pedal cycle reported stolen from the riverbank. Found undamaged.
- Male attacked at a bus stop and also on a bus.
- Several making offs at the service station.
- Shop-lifting at the Co-op.

The Mayor invited questions from the room. He thanked the PCSO, who left the Chamber.

6. Mayor's Report

Report given by the Cllr Scott:

- The Civic Service was well attended.
- Together with the Mayoress, judged a floral competition at Eryl Mor.
- Attended two flag-raising events – Emergency Services and Merchant Navy.

The Mayor invited questions from the room.

7. County Councilors' Reports

CC & Cllr P Scott

- Attended Full Council where Rhyl's sea defences were discussed.

End of Cllr Scott's report.

CC & Cllr D A Thomas

Cllr Scott read out a report from Cllr Thomas:

- Denbighshire County Council have been very quick responding to requests to fill potholes.
- A large white van has been parked on Lower Street for a long time. Cllr Thomas is making enquiries.
- Regards the small wall in Lower Street car park – NRW have put the work out to tender.
- Cllr Williams confirmed that the white van is taxed and insured and is therefore not abandoned and cannot be removed.
- Cllr Cowie enquired what the timescales are for filling the potholes on the Bro Havard Estate.
- Cllr Hodgkinson also asked about the potholes on Glascoed Road.

End of Cllr Thomas' report.

8. Minutes

The previous minutes of the meeting 10th July 2019 were discussed regarding accuracy (previously circulated prior to the meeting).

Resolved to accept the minutes as accurate, with one minor amendment.

9. Matters Arising

Item 7 – Cllr Rust reported that a Redwood and a Sequoia have been planted at the Talardy Hotel.

Item 14 – The Fire Policy report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Cowie invited questions.

Cllr Cowie was thanked for all his work in undertaking the Fire Safety checks.

10. Financial Management

a. To approve the schedule of payments .

Resolved to approve the payments schedule total value £ 23740.91

Payment to Glascoed Timber includes £2172 for the Common Restoration work, to be paid from the funds from NRW held on a separate account. This does not form part of the budget.

Resolved that the balance of £350 of the Library payment (£12000) is to be paid from the contingency budget.

b. To approve the income and expenditure budget.

Resolved to approve the income and expenditure budget and finance report.

11. Planning Applications

a. 46/2019/0516

Change of use of part of showroom to hairdressers and erection of a garage block in connection with showroom

Location: Alexandra Buildings, The Roe, St Asaph

Applicant: Mr I Ellis

Consultation Closing Date: 20th September 2019

Resolved that the clerk should advise Planning Department that the Council would comment that there are concerns re parking which need to be resolved.

b. 46/2019/0748

Erection of a 1.75 m high hand woven hazel wood screening with concrete support post clad in timber with square timber cappings (partly retrospective)

Location: April Cottage, Glascoed Road, St Asaph

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Tony & Ann Young

Consultation Closing Date: 25th September 2019

Resolved that the clerk should advise Planning Department that the Council object due to proximity to listed building, loss of amenity to neighbouring property and loss of access. The Council would recommend that a site visit should be undertaken.

12. Local Development Plan

The Council discussed the proposed Local Development Plan. The proposals have been circulated to all councillors and some members have sent their comments to the Clerk. The Mayor and the Clerk will write to Denbighshire County Council and include all the concerns raised.

13. Football Club

Cllr Roberts gave an update to the Council. St Asaph Football Club now have:

- Two under 6 teams
- An under 7 team
- An under 9 team
- An under 10 team
- An under 12 team
- An adult team
- A Reserve Team, which plays in the Welsh Alliance Reserve League. So far this season, they have won 1 game, drawn 2 and lost 1.

The football Club have had planning permission granted for a small stand. Cllr Roberts thanked the Council for their support.

14. Environment & Assets Committee

The minutes of the Environment & Assets Committee meeting 5th September 2019 and the Assets Inspection report were circulated prior to the meeting.

- The Clerk gave an update from Mick Dodd Electrical advising that the MUGA lights would be replaced within ten days and the remaining electrical works would be completed by the end of the month.
- Considered repairs required to wetpour surfaces in the Play Areas.

Resolved that the Clerk should accept a quotation of £595 & VAT from Groundworks NW to repair the worn and damaged areas beneath two items of play equipment in the Lower Street Play Area.

- There was a discussion regarding the shrinkage gaps at the edge of the play areas. Quotations had been received which guaranteed the work for 12 months as it was difficult to predict whether it would shrink again. Cllr Rust suggested that these could be infilled with timber. It was agreed that this would be a practical solution.

Resolved that the Clerk instruct Glascoed Timber to infill the shrinkage gaps.

- The Council were advised that the existing lighting scheme has been delivered to Denbighshire County Council.
- Lighting proposals for Lower Denbigh Road have been considered previously. However the Lighting Engineers have advised that there timers cannot be fitted as there is insufficient space in the lighting columns. Any lighting would have to be on 24 hours a day, which may lead to complaints.

Resolved not to proceed with the proposed lighting scheme. The Clerk is to continue to investigate any other lighting options for this stretch of road.

- The Council were asked to consider the number of dog-walking signs to be ordered and also the potential locations.

Resolved that the Clerk should order 12 English signs and 12 Welsh signs at a cost of £27 & VAT each. Potential sites were discussed.

- The Council were advised that the Clerk is trying to establish the title and location of the documents of title relating to the Council's property holdings. Some title deeds are in the Clerk's possession. A sealed envelope is held at the Bank. The Clerk has requested the Council's authorisation for the sealed envelope to be withdrawn from the bank so that the contents can be established. Once all the documents have been located the Clerk will come back to Council for instructions as to where these documents should be stored.

Resolved that the Clerk is authorised, together with a second signatory to withdraw the sealed envelope from the Bank.

15. St Asaph Common

Cllr Scott read out a report from Cllr Thomas who has been investigating the title of The Common. Cllr Thomas made the following recommendations:

- The City Council is no longer legally responsible for maintaining the Common with byelaws, but it is not known who is. Suggest the Council continue with the maintenance.
- The interests and ownership of the Common are far from clear and it is doubtful that there will ever be clarity. Therefore, take no further action as no one is likely to be able to prove a claim. Wait to see if there is any response from the University Solicitors.
- Register an interest in the land on the Land Register. We may have to prove our interest is genuine.

Resolved that the Council continue to maintain the Common.

Resolved that the Clerk should instruct Messrs John Owens, Solicitors to register the Council's interest in the Common on the Land Register.

16. Correspondence

- a. e-mail from Catrin Hughes, Denbighshire County Council re: A/AS Level success – received
- b. letter from Samaritans re fundraising – received
- c. e-mail from Catrin Hughes, Denbighshire County Council re: news release Bryneglwys – received
- d. e-mail from David Holland, Marie Curie Nurses re fundraising – received
- e. quarterly report re St Asaph Library – received

- f. letter from Steffan Prys, Urdd Eisteddfod re Proclamation Event – received
- g. letter from Benefit Advice Shop re fundraising – received
- h. e-mail from Clerk at Penmaenmawr Town Council re World Clean up Day 2019 – received
- i. e-mail from Caroline Thomas NWIMF re Thank you for donation – received
- j. e-mail from Lisa Lovegrove, Denbighshire County Council re: Internal Audit Services – received
- k. e-mail from Tania Evans, Denbighshire County Council re: Public Rights of Way Query footpath from Lower Street to the Common is not a Public Right of Way footpath from Coed yr Esgob is Bridleway 3, which comes to a dead end – received
- l. email from Carolyn Brindle, Denbighshire County Council re Talk of the Town – received. Passed to Cllr Roberts to pass on to Ysgol Glan Clwyd, Sixth Form if appropriate.
- m. e-mail from Amy Selby, Denbighshire County Council re: North Wales Environment Networking Event invitation – received e-mail from Duncan Cameron re St Asaph City Times – the Council are delighted that the City Times is to be re-launched and will be very pleased to assist.
- n. e-mail from Scottish Power re: installation of Smart Meters.

Resolved not to install Smart Meters

Urgent Matters

Cllr Ellison gave a report following a meeting with NRW last week attended by Denbighshire County Council, Floodre and Loss Adjusters.

- a new NRW app is available from end of September, with the old app being removed at the end of December. The attendees reported that the new app was more complicated to navigate. NRW are reconsidering.
- TOW15 for people who have been flooded.
- 30 Days and 30 Ways to protect your home.
- in 2039 Floodre will disappear as all houses should be safe.

Cllr Scott gave a report to the Council about an incident at the Bowling Club in the summer. A bowler had tripped over and later put a claim in to the Bowling Club for an ankle injury which caused him to be off work for two weeks. The letter was passed to the Clerk to be submitted to the Council’s insurers. A response is awaited. Cllr Scott will also make enquiries with the Bowling Club’s insurers.

The meeting concluded at 8.35 pm.

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 9th October 2019 at 7 pm.

Signed

Chairman of the Full Council Meeting held on 9th October 2019

