Cyngor Dinas Llanelwy
St Asaph City Council

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of St Asaph City Council held on Wednesday 10th January 2024 at 7.00 pm at the Council & Community Meeting Room and also with remote attendance via Zoom.

Present:

In person: Cllrs M Gedd, L Groves, C A Hardie (Mayor), P G Morton, L Nelson, J O Roberts and P Scott.

Via Zoom: Cllr R S Williams

2024/001 Apologies for Absence

- Apologies were received from Cllrs Ellison and Hogg.

2024/002 Declarations of Interest

- None.

2024/003 Public Participation

- One member of the public was present.

2024/004 North Wales Police

- No report.

Resolved the Clerk is to make enquiries regarding the PCSO for St Asaph.

2024/005 Mayor's Report

The Mayor, Cllr Hardie, gave his report:

- Attended two charity carol services;
- Visited two nursing homes to deliver chocolates for the staff;
- Judged a talent competition at Bryn Derwen;
- With Cllr Roberts, judged the Christmas Window competition. Will present the trophy to Samco Pet Spa;
- Gave a reading at the Christmas Eve service in the Cathedral;
- With Cllr Nelson, has been involved with the Community fridge, which has been running for just over 12 months. The venture is very successful - 15 tonnes of food has been given out, attendance has doubled to 60 people and it is becoming a social event. Cllr Nelson read out a thank you card, given to the volunteers. From tomorrow the church is offering a frugal lunch on Thursdays.

2024/006 County Councillors' Reports

Cllr Scott

- There was not a lot to report due to the Christmas and New Year period when many officers take annual leave;
- Carried out the draw at the football club;
- Attended a Cabinet meeting where the library was discussed. An update will be given during the Library agenda item;
- Attended a Denbighshire budget workshop.

The Mayor advised that he and the Clerk are to attend a Denbighshire meeting re: recycling.

Cllr Hogg

Cllr Hogg had sent his apologies.

2024/007 Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting 13th December 2023 were discussed regarding accuracy (circulated prior to the meeting).

Resolved to approve the minutes of 13th December 2023 as an accurate record.

2024/008 Matters Arising

2023/220 – Streetlight – The Clerk has spoken to Mick Dodd Electrical. The lights are likely to be discharge lights. Replacement lamps are no longer manufactured and are likely to cost £250 to £300 each plus labour.

Resolved to approve replacement of two lamps at a cost of £300 & VAT each plus labour.

2023/221 – Land Behind the Library – The Clerk will liaise with Cllrs Scott and Roberts before ordering the signs.

2023/218 – Council Land Hire – The Clerk confirmed that, at present, dogs are only required to be on leads on Mill Race Meadow due to the proximity of livestock, and not on all Council land.

Resolved the Clerk is to add this to the next agenda for the Environment & Assets Committee.

Cllr Roberts advised that the fencing around the football pitch would be installed shortly.

2023/228 – Correspondence Football Pavilion – The Clerk is to contact Cllr Ellison for details of a supplier of flood shutters.

2024/009 Financial management

a) The payment schedule was reviewed:

- £336-00 Colwyn Bay Industrial Doors – repairs to the shutters on the football stand, which had been damaged in high winds. This was approved under Clerk's delegated authority to make the building secure.
- Clerk's pay includes backpay, as per the National pay award with effect from 1st April 2023. Hours worked are within the parameters agreed in December.
- Clerk's expenses includes £288 annual SLCC subscriptions.
- Ash waste £322-68 – the excess waste charges are minimal now the weight limits have been amended.

Resolved to approve the Payments Schedule, total value £6,275.01

b) The Finance report was discussed:

- VAT refund claim £1358 made for November and December.
- Open Spaces claim £1915 for cost of new noticeboard received.
- Final precept payment received. Next payment due end of April.
- Cashflow has been updated with actual figures to December.
- The finance report details a number of large payments to be made before the end of April.
- Final costs to the Council re: friendship benches reported.

Resolved to approve and accept the finance report.

2024/010 Planning Applications

- None received.

2024/011 Delegated Decisions

Resolved to approve and ratify the following delegated decisions made by the Clerk, following consultation with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor:

Number	Decision
DD2023/015	To approve repairs to shutters on the football stand following storm damage.

2024/012 Library

Cllr Scott gave an update to Council following his recent negotiations with Denbighshire regarding library opening hours in St Asaph. A more advantageous offer has been achieved and Cllr Scott is to press for further improvements to the proposals. His aim is to retain as many opening hours as possible.

Resolved that Cllr Scott is to continue to negotiate on the City Council's behalf.

2024/013 Casual Vacancy

The Clerk reported that Electoral Services confirmed the Council could fill the vacancy on West Ward by co-option. Councillors are to ask any interested parties to contact the Clerk.

2024/014 Council Property

a) Cllrs Roberts and Hogg have not yet met with the Bowling Club.

b) A report detailing structures on Council property was considered.

Resolved the Clerk is to make enquiries with the Council's insurers to establish whether the items listed can be insured.

The Clerk is to make enquiries with the Football and Bowling Clubs to ascertain the acquisition values for relevant items.

The Football and Bowling Club are to be advised that they are responsible for insuring any contents.

2024/015 Correspondence

a) E-mail from a resident re: Road and Car Park behind GP surgeries.
Denbighshire has been asked to adopt the road, although this process will take some time. In the meantime, the City Council has concerns for the safety of residents using the road to access the surgeries. It was noted that the pothole is in a different place to the last repair conducted in April 2021. The contractor who was approached initially has declined to do the work as a temporary repair would not suffice.
Resolved the Clerk is to obtain a quotation for a repair to the potholes from KM Construction for consideration by Council.
Although the City Council does not have legal responsibility for the road, it will consider the quotation as the work is for the benefit of the community.
Resolved the Clerk is to contact the Doctors' surgeries once the quotation is received to ask whether they would make a contribution to the cost, as much of the traffic and wear and tear is from vehicles accessing the surgeries.

b) E-mail from a resident re: St Asaph Library Funding
Resolved the Clerk is to reply, advising that negotiations are still ongoing and the City Council is still endeavouring to get the best offer it can for library services in St Asaph.

c) E-mail from Denbighshire re: decision on library opening hours – discussed under Library agenda item.

d) E-mail from Afon Elwy Environment Group re early Plans for 2024
Resolved the Clerk is to reply confirming that the Council gives permission for hedge layering and installation of bird boxes on its property.

e) E-mail from Denbighshire re: Consultation on Fairer Council Tax
Councillors are to write to the Clerk if they would like to respond to Denbighshire.

f) Letter from the Lord Provost of Glasgow re: Civic Greetings to St Asaph **– received.**
It was noted that a Mayor's visit to Glasgow could be considered for next year's festival.

g) E-mail from Animated technologies re: Digital Trail - received.

h) E-mail from Denbighshire Planning re: Change of Use
Resolved the Clerk is to forward this to the Football Club for information.
It was noted it is not relevant to other consultees.

i) Flier re: Kentigern Hall

The resident is to send a copy to the Clerk.
Resolved that once this is received, the Clerk is to forward the flier to Cllr Hogg.

The meeting concluded at 8.20 pm

Date of Next Meeting

Meeting in person and with remote attendance held 10th January 2024.

Signed ……
Chairman of the Full Council 14th February 2024