St Asaph City Council
Cyngor Dinas Llanelwy

Minutes of the Meeting of St Asaph City Council held on Wednesday 8th MARCH 2017 at 7.00pm in the Community and Council Meeting Rooms, Roe Plas Meadows.

~~DRAFT~~

Present: Cllrs: C Hardie (City Mayor), R. Williams (Deputy Mayor), J.O. Roberts, P Scott, D.A. Thomas, G. D. Hodgkinson BEM, P.G. Morton, M Gedd and B J Rust.

Clerk: S Pierce

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies of absence were received from Cllr J Ellison (sickness)
Apologies from Cllr P Mitchell.
Apologies from Cllr D Owens

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations made.

3. Public Participation

There were no applications to address the Council.

4. Urgent Matters

None raised.

5. North Wales Police

Report provided by PCSO Dave Jones.

- Reported a busy month.
- Internet fraud, an elderly man had been targeted regarding credit card and bank card fraud, this incident had been passed to the action fraud team.
- Shoplifting incidents had occurred at the local Co-op which is currently being looked in to. One individual has been identified and another incident is work in progress.
- 20th February, illegal drugs had been found to be growing within a property on Mount Road.
- 22nd February, a dangerous dog was reported in Chester street, the dog had attacked another dog. The dog that had been attacked was reported to be OK following a Vet visit. The offending dog is being kept an eye on.
- 23rd February a man knocked on the door on someone's property, he was invited in. It turned out he was an illegal immigrant from Afghanistan.
- 28th February, a theft was reported of a compressor from the machinery depot at spring gardens.
- Theft of milk from someone's doorstep had been reported. There is a suspect, this is currently being looked in to.

No further incidents reported.

Cllr C Hardie invited the room to raise further questions or incidents.

- Cllr C Hardie raised, for awareness, an incident reported three weeks ago, regarding a window cleaner working in Trefnant that had suggested to the house owner that roofing work was necessary to their property, a sum of a few hundred pounds had crossed hands with a further amount of over two thousand required. This incident had

been reported to 101 and North Wales Police. Clerk SP had also alerted the Trefnant local council to the issue.

6. Mayor's Reports

- Cllr C Hardie reported the following:
- Cllr C Hardie had attended a couple of meetings with the NRW contractors regarding the flood work.
- A rotary dinner had been attended.
- A library stakeholder meeting had been done, there is an item to be discussed later in the meeting.
- Cllr C Hardie had been invited and had visited the new building at Glan Clwyd School
- A charity event at Rhuddlan had been attended.
- The St. Asaph Charity Ball had been held last Friday evening.

7. County Councilors Reports

Cllr B Cowie report.

Cllr B Cowie, on behalf of the city council, had been in contact with a tree surgeon regarding the fallen tree on Roe Plas. The tree surgeon can't personally handle this very large tree but does have someone who could. There are many options which could be progressed i.e. cut up and leave the logs for the members of the public to take away would be c£150, cut up and take away completely would be c£480 or the area could be tidied up and the trunk could be shaped into something and left for the public to enjoy.
Cllr B Cowie will provide Clerk SP with the contact details and further discussions/options could be explored.

BT: Cllr B Cowie had been chasing the legal department and had received an email this morning confirming the relevant agreement will shortly be finalized between DCC & BT therefore the previously requested supporting letter from the city council is not required, Cllr B Cowie requested we hold fire on producing this letter and will request it if it is required.

Re: Winifred's development, money that is due to the City Council. The solicitors are repeatedly being asked to settle this issue. It is believed this will also be sorted very shortly.

Cllr B Cowie reported for a long time we have received complaints about the parking close to Hoel Esgob. Cllr B Cowie has been involved with resolving this issue and the solution will be to implement yellow lines on the relevant roads. All residents have been informed by means of letter and the order has been placed. It is expected this order will take c12 months or more to implement.

End of Cllr B Cowie's report.

Cllr C Hardie invited the room to raise any further questions or incidents to report.

Cllr D A Thomas suggested making something of the tree that has fallen in Roe Plas, he felt this was a good idea.
Cllr B Cowie suggested it is the matter of the council to agree the way forward.
Cllr B Cowie did say it is the landowner's responsibility to manage the issue.
Everyone agreed in favour of leaving the fallen tree and the area tidied up.

Cllr C Hardie – requested do we need to do anything regarding 106? Cllr B Cowie is pressurizing them weekly regarding progress and the update is the solicitors is working on it. This will now be handed over to the Clerk SP.

Cllr B Rust asked about the Anwyl site, due to the number increasing are we due for something here too? Cllr B Cowie was expecting that we are entitled to something but this would be clarified.

Cllr D Owens report.

Cllr D Owens sent his apologies.

No further questions or comments were raised.

8. Minutes

The previous minutes were discussed regarding accuracy.

- No issues/changes reported.

9. Matters Arising

- Cllr D A Thomas wanted it noted the regeneration notes had been sent to Cllr C Hardie.
- No further matters were raised.

10. Events Committee

- Cllr P Morton raised he had not received an invitation to the "extraordinary" meeting however the date had been agreed and noted at the last meeting. Clerk SP noted the process on agreeing additional ad hoc meetings within the Full Meeting needs to be clear.
- Cllr C Hardie provided an overview of the "extraordinary meeting" held from the notes taken by Clerk SP.

11. Financial Management

Accounts/Budgets.
Clerk SP provided a brief overview of the financial situation. All relevant National Westminster paperwork had been completed and will be delivered to the bank this week. Once the NatWest had transferred the responsibility and provided online banking access, Clerk SP will commence the accounting work. Clerk SP will have this work done in readiness for the PRF Meeting rescheduled for March 27th.

Cllr C Hardie invited the room to raise any further questions.

It was noted that the lights on the outside of the Council Room, over the door were not working. Clerk SP to add this on to the list of actions.

12. Planning Applications

a) **Application Ref: 46/2017/0022**

Proposal: Display of new signage
Location: Talardy Park Hotel
Applicant: Mrs Deborah Pitt / Marston's
Consultation Closing Date: No date given / pending
Response:

b) **Application Ref: 46/2017/0024**

Proposal: Display of new signage
Location: Talardy Park Hotel
Applicant: Mrs Deborah Pitt / Marston's
Consultation Closing Date: No date given / pending
Response:

Regarding the above, Cllr B Cowie will review the plans detailed for the Talardy, No:22, 23 & 24 – all dates are pending. Cllr B Cowie will review and get back to Clerk SP & Cllr C Hardie to distribute to the wider group.

c) **Application Ref: 46/2017/0151**

Proposal: Height reduction of no:1 Yew tree within St. Asaph Conservation area.
Location: Bowling Green, High Street, St. Asaph
Applicant: Cllr P Scott
Consultation Closing Date: April 6th
Response: No objections were made

13. Community Hub

Cllr C Hardie reported there is little progress to report.
The work planned had slipped and had now been rescheduled to May. The refurbishment to the existing building is

going to happen.
Cllr J O Roberts said the windows at the back are going to be replaced.
Cllr D A Thomas asked if the Parish Church was applying for relevant grants? yes grants were being progressed.

14. The Purchase of BT Land

Cllr C Hardie had recently met with NWR who were proposing the following, in relation to the flood work:
NWR had negotiated a sale with BT for a piece of land behind the BT exchange. A wall will be removed and a new wall built at an angle resulting in the existing unused arch, being able to be utilized again. Water will then be able to flow through the third arch. They will also landscape this new area, possibly building a stone seat in the wall and some other features. NWR are concerned regarding the ongoing maintenance of this piece of land and are offering to sell it to the City Council enabling them to maintain it going forward. NRW will sell for a nominal sum of £1, BUT, if we agree then we must pay the legal expenses which are estimated at between £1k to £1.5k.
The question was raised by Cllr C Hardie, do we want to take on the responsibility of this land going forward?

- Cllr D Hodgkinson raised the concern of what will happened if we don't take it over? – the area will not be maintained as well if it is left to a third party.
- Cllr B Rust, could we write to our solicitor and ask for advice?
- Cllr D A Thomas, we should expect NRW to pay the legal fees and an ongoing maintenance fee.
- Cllr R Williams, we don't know what the ongoing maintenance might be, the size of the maintenance and therefore the costs. If there are floods, what sort of mess might be left behind for us to pick up and resolve? Maybe we should live with it for x amount of time before committing and taking the responsibility.
- Cllr D A Thomas proposed to leave it with NWR for a period of five years and reassess the situation after that.
- Cllr R Williams, can we ask NRW to put the offer/proposal in writing, incorporating their expectations. We can then review and make a more informed decision.
- Cllr C Hardie will go back to NRW, discuss and request their offer/proposal to be documented.
- It was asked that once it is in place, will it be the "owner of the banks" responsibility, or NWR's going forward? Cllr C Hardie will discuss with NRW and provide an update.

15. Correspondence

a) Welsh Government: Received.
b) One voice wales: Received
c) Re-Ordering of St. Asaph Parish Church, requested a letter of support from the city council. Agreed by all around the table. SP Clerk to do letter of support.
d) Yellow lines at Hoel Esgob: Discussed previously and received.
e) Old Palace changing hands: will now be governed by a Welsh company going forward: Received.
f) Raised by Cllr C Hardie: NRW have been discussing the replanting of the trees to replace the 90 plus trees which have been taken down. The orchard area was debated and NRW are happy to progress this, it would require a triangle support placed around the area to safeguard the trees and NRW agreed they would also maintain the area for a period of 5 years. Once the trees are of a good size, they would stop maintaining the area (5yrs plus). The question was raised were we happy for this sort of fencing? All agreed it was right to progress this.
g) During discussions at the extraordinary events meeting, the option of Military forces parading down the high street on a Saturday was tabled. This would result in road closures during the parade. It was agreed by all that road closures on this day would be in conflict of the other organized events. The general opinion is not to progress this activity.

Matters raised at the end of the meeting

- None raised – Meeting Closed.

16. Date of the next meeting:

Wednesday April12th 2017

The meeting concluded at 08:00pm

Signed .....
Chairman of the Full Council Meeting held on 8th March 2017

APPENDIX A

BILLS TO BE APPROVED - FULL MEETING MARCH 8th 2017

Date received:	Payee:	Services:	Invoice No:	Invoice Date:	Net:	Vat:	Gross	Cheque:	Comments:
09/02/17	Scottish Power	Electricity Charges for unmetered supply for Festive Lighting	104638113	02/02/17	£147.96	£7.40	£155.36	003630	
14/02/17	Rhyl Town Council	Charity Quiz Night Mayor & Cllr Hardie Attending			£0.00	£0.00	£24.00	003629	Seeking signature on 14/02/17 at Assets meeting - PAID
31/01/17	Co-Options Ltd	Litter picking in St. Asaph as a service	wp60/2626	31/01/17	£0.00	£0.00	£50.00	003631	**They sent the cheque back - cancel invoice.**
16/02/17	DCC	Pick up, fit and remove Christmas lighting and switch on ceremony	800436939	10/02/17	£2,368.00	£473.60	£2,841.60	003632	
15/02/17	P Morris	Pest Control: Mole clearance from all problem areas at Roe Plas and Bryn Gobaith Children's play area.	803	15/02/17	£0.00	£0.00	£490.00	003633	
23/02/17	Mick Dodd - Electrical	PAT Test Appliances - cut off pea lights to tree	235603	23/02/17	£75.00	£15.00	£90.00	003634	
02/03/17	DCC	Loan Repayment No:9	800451600	02/03/17	£0.00	£0.00	£3,308.00	003636	
08/03/17	S. Pierce	Salary and reimbursements	SP_cc002	08/03/17	£0.00	£0.00	£599.16	003637	
10/03/17	G Pendleton	Payment for Services (Mtg Room Management)	Feb-17	28/02/17	£0.00	£0.00	£92.00	003639	
		TOTALS:			£2,590.96	£496.00	£7,650.12		

