MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ABERAERON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 9th JANUARY 2024 at 7:00pm AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, ABERAERON

PRESENT: Councillor Rhodri Jones (Chairman); Councillors Tim Archer, Aled Davies, Phill Davies, Elizabeth Evans, Lloyd Garvey, Agnieszka Kalinowska and Diana Mace. Denfer Morgan – Town Clerk

308. APOLOGIES

Councillors Rhys Davies, Darryl Evans and Huw Thomas apologised for their inability to attend the meeting.

309. DYFED-POWYS POLICE

The Chairman welcomed PCSOs Charlotte Carter to the meeting who introduced PCSO Georgia Boyle to Members and then reported the following incidents which had occurred during the previous period.

Two thefts including shoplifting and a failure to pay at local shops.

Two incidents of criminal damage namely graffiti and vandalism at the Quay Parade toilets and damage to the memorial bench at Square Field.

Two road traffic collisions where no serious injuries were involved.

One incident of assault at a licensed premises and the investigation was on-going.

PCSO Carter also stated that she had dealt with young people at the riverside shelter that evening.

She also stated that the chalybeate well had received another coat of paint and that a final coat would be undertaken soon.

It was agreed to note the information provided.

310. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Councillor Tim Archer disclosed a personal and prejudicial interest in planning application A230898 referred to in Minute 315 below and left the room during its consideration.

311. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 14th DECEMBER 2023

It was **RESOLVED** to approve, as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 14th December 2023.

312. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Minute 297 – it was agreed to receive a presentation at the next meeting from the West Wales Rivers Trust in respect of the river Aeron at the Town.

Minute 303 – Christmas arrangements. It was agreed to explore extending the Christmas lights provided in the town at Square Field and the possible provision of lights at Alban Square, Market Street and at Pwllcam, including the provision of power supplies and associated costs. It was agreed in particular to explore the possibility of providing a power supply at Pwllcam from Quay Parade as part of works associated with the harbour development.

313. FINANCE MATTERS

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:-

Invoice Details	Sum
Martin Williams Electrical (Installation of Square Field Lights)	£914.41 / £120
ICO (Annual Subscription)	£40
Aberaeron Memorial Hall (Hire of Room)	£150

314. 2024-25 BUDGET, PRECEPT AND COUNCIL TAX

The Clerk presented his report on the approval of a Budget and Precept and to set a Council Tax for the 2024-25 financial year and detailed consideration was given to its contents.

In particular, further consideration was given to the draft budget as presented and the adjustments included the following provisions:

- a sum of £5,000 for street cleaning
- an additional sum of £1,500 for grass cutting in other areas in the town

It was **RESOLVED** as follows:

- i) to approve a Budget of £47,674
- ii) to approve a Precept of £46,824
- iii) to set a Council Tax of £58.24.

315. PLANNING MATTERS

Consideration was given to planning application A30898 - Aberaeron Harbour & South Beach, Aberaeron. Variation of condition 2 of A211020 - Approved Plans and the undermentioned comments as shown forwarded to the Local Planning Authority for consideration:

Decision: To support the installation of swing gates but would request that the proposed gate fronting nos. 4 and 5 Quay Parade be amended by reducing its width to 2m and lining up the pillar on the western/seaward side with the pine-end of no.

- 4. This is suggested as it is believed that:-
- a) a 2m width is sufficient for this gate

- b) in order to increase the availability of parking spaces and
- c) to improve the visual appearance of the flood wall along Quay Parade.

316. SQUARE FIELD

It was **RESOLVED** to agree a licence to Ysgol Gynradd Aberaeron for the use of the Field for holding a Dydd Santes Dwynwen event on the 25th January 2024.

317. ALLT-Y-GRAIG

It was **RESOLVED** to investigate a possible defective drain near the entrance to the woodland.

318. BANC BACH

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to arrange for the contractor to undertake the work prior to the end of March;
 and
- ii) to note that the Primary School were happy to consider using this area for its nature pursuits.

319. DIGITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

It was **RESOLVED** as follows:

- i) to note that work was continuing on the app;
- ii) to note that firm locations for the four wifi access points had now been identified and the equipment would be installed shortly;
- iii) to proceed to prepare documents in preparation for submitting a planning application for the photopoint on the area of land on the north-east corner of the harbour.

320. REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR ELIZABETH EVANS

Councillor Evans reported as follows.

The hole which had appeared at the bottom of Bryn Road had been investigated and was being addressed.

The Council would need to take down its festoon lights on Quay Parade in preparation for the harbour works.

The County Council had indicated that it would be taking steps to stop the parking passes for boat owners at the south beach car park. Councillor archer stated that the Chief Executive had indicated that he would contact the Harbour Users Committee further on this matter.

The County Council had decided to introduce a Council Tax premium of 100% on empty homes and 150% on second homes and she was dealing with representations received from owners of such properties in the town.

With regard to the stalled discussions between the County Council and Dyfed-Powys Police in respect of the installation of CCTV cameras in the town, to seek confirmation from the Police that it was two cameras that were proposed for the town and to submit a question to the County Council for consideration at the upcoming Consultative Meeting as to its current position on its role in the matter in accordance with its agreement with the Police.

321. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

- a) Councillor Phill Davies requested a further report from the Clerk in respect of the official name of the Council, as required by Statute.
- b) Councillor Rhodri Jones referred to the visit to Min-y-môr at Christmas time as Town Mayor and to the installation of a new defibrillator at the Royal British Legion Building.

The meeting ended at 9:30 pm