MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ABERAERON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2024 at 7:00pm AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, ABERAERON

PRESENT: Councillor Rhodri Jones (Chairman); Councillors Tim Archer, Aled Davies, Phill Davies, Rhys Davies, Darryl Evans, Elizabeth Evans (via Teams), Lloyd Garvey, Agnieszka Kalinowska, Diana Mace and Huw Thomas.

Denfer Morgan – Town Clerk

322. <u>DYFED-POWYS POLICE</u>

The Chairman welcomed PCSOs Charlotte Carter to the meeting who proceeded to report the following incidents which had occurred during the previous period.

There had been five reported incidents of criminal damage including the Castle Lane toilets, the Secondary School playing field changing rooms / toilets.

The riverside shelter was still being used by young people for anti-social purposes.

The breaking of the front window of the Paradise Pizza was also being investigated.

PCSO Carter stated that it had now been arranged that 80% of her time would be spent on foot patrol.

323. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The following Councillors disclosed a personal and prejudicial interest in the matters referred to in the undermentioned Minutes below and left the room during their consideration.

Councillors Darryl Evans and Elizabeth Evans	Minute 327iii) (Aberaeron Swimming Pool)
Councillors Rhys Davies and Agnieszka Kalinowska	Minute 328b) (Planning Application A240075)
Councillor Phill Davies	Minute 328c) (Planning Application A240081)

324. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 9th JANUARY 2024

It was **RESOLVED** to approve, as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 9th January 2024.

325. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Minute 316 – the Chairman referred to the successful fund-raising event held by the Friends of the Primary School at Square Field on 25th January – Diwrnod Santes Dwynwen.

326. FINANCE MATTERS

It was **RESOLVED**

i) to approve the following payments:-

Invoice Details	Sum
{Martin Williams Electrical (Taking Down Quay Parade	
{Festoon Lights)	£180
{Refreshments	£24
Telemat (Wifi Provision Oct-Nov-Dec-Jan)	£160.80
AaBbCc (Translations Sept-Oct-Nov-Dec)	£268.13
Aviva (Insurance Claim Excess)	£250
Vision ICT:	
- cymru domain name fee	£156
- email hosting fee	£43.20
Funki Faces (Face painter – Community Christmas)	£150
L&G Forestry Ltd:	
- Large Christmas Tree	£264
- 15 smaller shopfront trees*	£180
Rob's Windows - hanging and removing the 15 shopfront	
Christmas trees	£140
J&C Plant - repairing the noticeboard and the Square Field	
roundabout	£300.90
Ceredigion County Council - South Beach Toilets SLA 2023	£5,400

ii) to note the following receipts:

*Contribution in respect of the 15 Christmas trees - £150 Face painting contributions (Community Christmas) - £56.10

to agree to contribute £500 to the Aberaeron and District Swimming Pool following consideration of its annual appeal.

327. PLANNING MATTERS

Consideration was given to the following two planning applications and the decisions as noted were taken:

a) A230894 - Tyhana, Beach Parade, Aberaeron. Replacement dwelling.

Decision: To refrain from commenting as it had not been made clear that the application included the demolition of the existing dwelling.

b) A240075(Householder)/0076 (LBC) - Fairview, 3 Cadwgan Place, Aberaeron. Demolition of existing outbuildings and construction of new extension

Decision: No objection.

c) A240081 Harbourmaster Hotel, 1-2 Quay Parade, Aberaeron Proposed integrated solar panel PV panels to existing roof and associated works

Decision: No objection.

328. SQUARE FIELD

It was noted that the contractor had been informed of the requirements for the first and last cuts and the hand cut.

329. <u>PARC-Y-FRO</u>

It was noted that the work of installing the new playground equipment was scheduled to start on 8th April 2024.

330. ALLT-Y-GRAIG

It was **RESOLVED** to note the information received from Natural Resources Wales in respect of the National Forest for Wales Status Scheme

331. BANC BACH

It was **RESOLVED** to note that the contractor was arranging to undertake the clearing work during February.

332. CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET 2024-25

The Chairman reported the receipt of two letters from the County Council concerning the provision of toilets and street cleaning and ground maintenance services which were projected to be cut as part of its budget package together with a report on subsequent discussions held with senior representatives of that Council. The two letters contained the current costs of providing the three services by the County Council.

It was noted that the Council had included £5,000 for street cleaning and £1,500 for additional grass cutting in its budget but that no provision had been made for taking responsibility for providing the four toilets in the town as no costs were available at the time. Discussion ensued on the possibility of taking over the budgets within the context of their annual costs and their unpredictability due to vandalism.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** to inform the County Council that the Council was prepared to take responsibility for the provision of street cleaning and ground maintenance services but that it could not agree to take over responsibility for the four toilets in the town as the costs provided in its letter of 1st February were too prohibitive and would inevitably entail a substantial increase in both the Precept and Council Tax.

It was further **RESOLVED** to await the final decision of the County Council on its Budget prior to agreeing the most suitable way of providing information on the Council's decision to the public.

333. ABERAERON TOWN BROCHURE 2024

It was **RESOLVED** to agree to place a full page insert in the 2024 Brochure, costing £230.

334. NAME OF THE COUNCIL

Consideration was given to the Report of the Clerk on the legal name of the Council, including the provisions of the Local Government 1972 - as revised by Section 8 of the Local Government Act 1994 - and the Welsh Language Act 1993.

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to note the requirement for town and community councils to have a bilingual name.

335. CYNNAL Y CARDI PROJECTS

Consideration was given to the opportunity to submit an application for funding as part of the latest round of Cynnal y Cardi Projects.

It was **RESOLVED** to re-submit an application for a Town Ranger service.

336. 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 installed shortly, with a fifth having been identified and under consideration; and
- iii) with regard to the siting of the proposed photopoint, to seek clarification from the County Council liaison officer in respect of the proposals for the development of the area of land to the south-east of the Harbour as part of the current scheme.

337. MATERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

- a) to take steps to review the current Business Plan ending in 2024 for producing the next Plan;
- b) to present a report on the Bryn Road bollards to the next meeting; and
- c) to present a report on the Cwmins to the next meeting.

338. CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER

Consideration was given to the one application received for co-option to the vacancy on the Council.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED**, following the consideration of the information submitted in the application form, and a show of hands by the Members, to co-opt Sian Stewart as a Member of Aberaeron Town Council.

339. REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR ELIZABETH EVANS

Councillor Evans reported as follows.

The County Council Budget discussions were continuing and the percentage increase in Council Tax now being considered was 11.6% which included the 1% Fire Authority levy.

A meeting had been held recently with the Bam Nuttall liaison officer with regard to the harbour defence scheme. She was also in regular communication with Alan Haird, the County Council Project Manager for the Scheme. She had requested information boards along the harbour providing information about the scheme. The drone which had been the subject of concern recently was not being operated by Bam Nuttall and had no connection with the scheme.

She had raised the possibility of the Chalybeate Well being taken over by this Council.

Pot-holes were being reported as and when discovered.

She was keeping an eye on the any proposal for the future use of the County Hall, including the Library.

A recent drop-in session had been held with businesses by Cynnal y Cardi in respect of the new funding round.

Discussions were underway with interested parties with regard to the development of new changing rooms and a pavilion at the Secondary School playing fields.

340. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

To agree to submit a letter of support for the application being made by the Ceredigion Football League for a grant for the purchase of a referee communications kit.

The meeting ended at 9:00 pm