

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ABERAERON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 8th APRIL 2025 at 7:00pm
AT THE MEMORIAL HALL, ABERAERON

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

549. APOLOGIES

Councillors Agnieszka Kalinowska and Diana Mace apologised for their inability to attend the meeting.

550. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The following Members disclosed a personal and prejudicial interest in the matters referred to below and left the committee room during consideration thereof.

Councillor Rhys Davies	Minute 555 Planning Application A250194
Councillor Rhodri Jones	Minute 562a) Memorial Hall Centenary Celebrations

551. DYFED-POWYS POLICE

PCSO Charlotte Carter was welcomed to the meeting and she provided the following information.

The funding for the Ivydean initiative had been extended to June which meant additional resources were available for both day and night and in particular after 5:00pm. The Boots shop had been broken into and, following the arrest of an individual that evening, investigations were ongoing. Investigations were also ongoing following the break-in at the boatyard.

With regard to anti-social behaviour, Councillor Elizabeth Evans asked that young people congregating at the 'London House' corner of square Field be monitored.

Councillor Aled Davies stated that several people had indicated to him that they were aware of the increased Police presence and appreciated the reduction in anti-social behaviour.

552. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 11th MARCH 2025

It was **RESOLVED** to approve, as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 11th March 2025, subject to correcting the following.

Minute 538a) Bollards at Bryn Road

The Clerk stated that the minute as worded was incorrect and that the discussions referred to had been in respect of the location of windows on the Bryn Road side of the development, which had in turn led to adjustments to the proposed footway.

553. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Clerk reported two items of correspondence which had been received following the publication of the agenda, copies of which had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting, and which needed to be drawn to the attention of the Council.

a) Bollards at Bryn Road

Consideration was given to the response received from the County Council to this Council's request that it uses its powers under the Highways Act and takes action to safeguard pedestrian access. Members expressed their disappointment with the response and requested the Clerk to inform the County Council that its stance created a precedent for not dealing with future possible obstacles being placed in other areas of the town.

b) Library relocation

Consideration was given to the response of the County Council to the Older People's Commissioner request for information and it was agreed to ask the Commissioner's office whether they would be following up this response.

The Clerk reported again that no response had been received from the County Council in respect of the corporate complaint made by this Council.

554. FINANCE MATTERS

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments to accept the quotation submitted by Paul Hughes for the cutting of footpaths in 2025 in the sum of £971.

555. PLANNING MATTERS

Consideration was given to planning application A250194 - Studts Newsagents, Llannon House, 4 Alban Square, Aberaeron. Change of use to A1/A3 and associated works.

Decision: No objection

556. COUNCIL LAND MATTERS

It was **RESOLVED** as follows:

Square Field / Parc-y-fro:

- i) to agree to give licences for the use of the Field for the Ceredigion Costcutter League Cup Final on Easter Monday 21st April and the Annual Carnival on August Bank Holiday Monday
- ii) to agree to order the necessary parts to undertake repairs to play equipment;
- iii) to agree to arrange the painting of play equipment at both Square Field and Parc-y-fro.

557. SEA DEFENCE SCHEME / HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT

Councillor Elizabeth Evans provided an update on the current situation and timetable for the completion of the works.

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to make the following representations to the County Council:

a) Restoration of the surface of Quay Parade. The Town Council is dismayed that the whole length of Quay Parade is not being re-surfaced and believes that patching the existing surface will detract from the appearance of the newly developed area. It is requested that part of the additional monies being received from Welsh Government to improve the condition of highways should be used in this regard.

b) Pwllcam Inner Harbour. The Town Council requests that the Inner Harbour be dredged as it believes that, unless the current level of silt is reduced, it will negate the effectiveness of the new gate.

c) The North Pier walkway. The Town Council requests that railings be provided on both sides of the walkway in order to ensure the safety of users, in particular children, as falling onto the rocks below could have very serious consequences, which has indeed already occurred when a young boy fell between the rocks during an incoming tide.

558. CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL DEVOLVED SERVICES

Toilets

The Clerk reported that he had received standard Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with similar wording for the toilets at Quay Parade, Castle Lane and South Beach. With regard to the first two, he had reiterated the Council's decision that it would not take responsibility for them.

With regard to the South Beach toilets, he stated that the standard SLA document appeared to indicate that this Council would be responsible for repairs and maintenance and that he had queried this with the County Council and had yet to receive a reply. He stated that this Council had never been responsible for this aspect in the past and advised that the SLA should not be signed until this had been clarified.

It was **RESOLVED** to agree not to sign the SLA for the South Beach toilets until the matter of repairs and maintenance had been clarified.

559. DIGITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

The current position was noted.

560. ARRANGEMENTS FOR FILLING THE VACANCIES ON THE COUNCIL

The Clerk stated that one application had been received for co-option onto the Council, being that of Mr Stuart Evans, and consideration was given to the information supplied by the applicant in support of his application in the form.

Members also considered, in the context of the reduction in the number of Councillors from twelve to eight – as decided by the Local Democracy and

Boundary Commission – the appropriateness of filling two vacancies in the short time before the new arrangements came into force.

Following a detailed discussion it was decided that the information provided by the Applicant in the application form did not demonstrate that he had the experience of community involvement and leadership which would contribute to the work of the Council and it was **RESOLVED** as follows:

- i) not to co-opt the Applicant for the reasons outlined above; and
- ii) not to re-advertise the vacancies in view of the impending reduction in membership.

561. REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR ELIZABETH EVANS

Councillor Evans reported as follows:

- enquiries were being made in respect of the various signage placed at the Feathers Hotel
- work to provide the new MUGA at the Comprehensive School was scheduled to be undertaken over the summer holiday period
- enquiries were being made as to the felling of trees at the furthest end of Newfoundland Terrace
- it was apparent that the increase in harbour fees had led to a reduction in the number of boats being moored at the Harbour and it was agreed to make further representations to the County Council on this matter

562. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

- a) Reference was made to the excellent day organised by the Memorial Hall Committee for the unveiling the Centenary Plinth and the Service that followed it and it was agreed to write a letter congratulating them on the arrangements on the day.
- b) A letter received from the Aberaeron and District Swimming Pool thanking the Council for its contribution was noted.

The meeting ended at 8:35pm