

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of Community Development and Town Regeneration Committee (remote meeting)
held on Wednesday 21st July 2021 at 6.15pm – 7.45pm

PRESENT

Councillors: - A. Sampson (Chairman), G. Frobisher, G. Davies, T. Jones, S. Frobisher, B. Murray, A. Tomlin, G. Sandilands, L. Muraca, P. Penlington, K. Jones, T. Flynn

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr N. Acott – Town Clerk/Financial Officer, Mrs L. Fearn – Deputy Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer, Ms S. Edwards – Community Health Development Manager, Mrs L. Hewitt – Committee Support Assistant.

APOLOGIES

Councillors: M German, J Thompson-Hill, R Flynn.
Officer: K Thew

47 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors were reminded of need to declare personal and/or prejudicial interests in tonight's proceedings.

48 MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th February 2021 had been submitted to Full Council on 7th April 2021.

49 PROJECTS

Town Clerk/Financial Officer had circulated a report with agenda detailing a number of ongoing community projects and activities. The document was a form of handover paper outlining current projects and progress to date. It was agreed that the newly appointed management team would need to review plans, set priority, determine costs, timelines and leads.

In response to member query it was reported that the voluntary Prestatyn Railway Signal Box group had been established to stop demolition. Denbighshire Countryside Services and Rail Companies are in talks about future integration of building into the Y Morfa Wetlands Nature Reserve project.

SB

53 DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL- EVENTS GRANT

Details of new Denbighshire County Council funding stream to assist with local events had been circulated with agenda. The project was designed to help improve infrastructure needed to host local events e.g. sound systems, stages, barriers. The project had been discussed by County Area Member Groups but little information had been provided to Town and Community Councils.

Cllr S. Frobisher, Mayor, felt that Town Council should be represented at Prestatyn and Meliden County Member Area Group (MAGs). Several other County and Town Councillors present cited situations where flow of information between County Councillors and Town Councillors on important local and strategic matters for town must be improved.

RESOLVED

- 1) That County Events Grant information be received.
- 2) That Chairman of County Member Area Group (Prestatyn and Meliden) be invited to address future meeting.

54 EVENTS CONTRACTOR

Committee was informed that Ms Elin Hughes Jones, Events Contractor, would be leaving position at end of July 2021. Her final report had been circulated via email and included updates on website revamp, review of events 2021, Halloween Competition, Virtual Christmas Lights Switch On, Father Christmas Zoom calls and High Street Christmas "Shop Local, Shop Prestatyn" campaign.

It was widely recognised events draw visitors and create a positive image for the town. It also helps to organise and promote local businesses, encourages joint working, drives footfall, and helps town and business 'on line' presence.

RESOLVED

- 1) That Elin be thanked for her professionalism and outstanding events work, including online events during Covid pandemic
- 2) That Mr N. Highfield (Town Clerk) and Mrs L. Fearn (Deputy Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer) discuss events situation and report back with recommendations.

55 JUBILEE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Town Clerk/Financial Officer had previously reported on a successful 22.3k Gwynt y Mor grant towards provision of new toilet, work and improvements to centre. Unfortunately contractors had reported a significant increase in materials cost since tender exercise some time ago resulting in request for revision of contract price. The project was being financially supported by Gwynt y Mor, Town Council and Jubilee Community Centre.

RESOLVED That Town Clerk be authorised to discuss matter with DCC agents who are overseeing tender exercise, and project partners and reports back.



Her current work activities included regular liaison with Prestatyn Business Forum and attending their meetings, visiting High Street businesses and monitoring vacancy rates, assisting Kick Start Scheme (funding for job placement of 16-24 year olds), updating changes to business directory on At Prestatyn website, attending DVSC meeting re: establishing bank of volunteers, working with Plastic Free Prestatyn, developing a marketing plan to promote businesses and events.

RESOLVED That Kate be thanked for her report.

59 BEST HIGH STREET – PRESTATYN

Committee was informed that Prestatyn had achieved this national status following a "vitality indexing" exercise by Harper Dennis Hobbs which is published every two years.

"The seaside resort has successfully blended a new retail park with its High Street - meaning both national retailers and local independents are performing well"

Other factors used for indexing survey include shop vacancy rates, number of discount stores, and number of essential shops.

Mr Nigel Acott, Town Clerk/Financial Officer (retiring) reported that he firmly believed Council's holistic town approach involving community, environment, business and building partnerships were all essential ingredients for continuing towns success. On this note he offered his personal thanks to councillors/staff, residents, community groups, businesses and town for their support.

Chairman

