

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of Community Development and Regeneration Committee held in King's Hall Community Centre, Kings Avenue, Prestatyn Wednesday 2nd September 2020 at 6.15pm – 7.40pm.

PRESENT

Councillors: A Sampson (Chairman), T. Flynn, P. Penlington, R. Flynn, K. Jones, T. Jones, G. Sandilands, G. Davies, L. Muraca, A. Tomlin, P. Duffy, B. Murray, G. Percival

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr N Acott – Town Clerk/Financial Officer, Mrs C. Evans – Deputy Town Clerk, Mrs L. Hewitt – Committee Support Assistant.

APOLOGIES

Councillors: J. Thompson-Hill, S. Frobisher, G. Frobisher, A. Frobisher, M. German.

26 COUNCILLOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED Apologies received from Councillor's arising from Covid 19 pandemic, lockdown restrictions, and lack of remote access IT facilities be accepted as approved reasons for non-attendance.

27 HOUSEKEEPING

Mrs C. Evans, Deputy Town Clerk explained housekeeping rules to ensure social distancing and use of personal protection equipment was made available to all present.

Due to ongoing Covid 19 Pandemic and social distancing requirements it was not possible to invite public to attend tonight's meeting.

28 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE

Cllr Graham Percival (North West Ward) was welcomed to meeting following his election on 27th February 2020.

Town Clerk/Financial Officer confirmed that Cllr G. Percival had signed and returned his declaration of acceptance.

28 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors were reminded of the need to declare personal and/or prejudicial interests in tonight's meeting. Cllr P. Penlington declared personal and prejudicial interest in grant application for WCD Young Carers.

29 MELIDEN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Committee was informed that Mr Ray Barnes, Chairman of Meliden Community Association and Trustee had decided to retire and had resigned from his position. Unfortunately Mr Barnes had been unable to find volunteers willing to assist with running of the centre and consequently all paperwork had now been returned to Town Council who own property.

Due to Covid 19 Pandemic restrictions the centre has been closed since March although the adjoining doctor's surgery remained open. It was suggested that Council seek to establish a new Management Association as centre appeared to be well used.

Town Clerk/Financial Officer reported that several groups have regular bookings and financially centre seemed to be in good order. Welsh Assembly Government had also recently announced easing of restrictions for community centres to enable them to restart activity.

RESOLVED

- 1) That Mr Ray Barnes be thanked for his incredible and tremendous service to Meliden Community Centre over many years. Mr Barnes to be invited to future Council meeting when Covid 19 restrictions lifted.
- 2) That Ward and Town Councillors be invited to consider establishing a volunteer replacement Management Association with local people and user group representatives.
- 3) That Council Officer actions in temporarily assisting handover to Town Council, assistance to establish interim Management Association, and recruitment of volunteers be approved. Position to be reviewed in six months' time.

30 PENDRE COMMUNITY BUILDING

Mrs C. Evans, Deputy Town Clerk reported that Phase Radio had recently moved from the building and removed all their equipment. It was also confirmed that all rental charges due had been paid in full.

Committee was reminded that Council leased property from Denbighshire County Council and this lease expired in July 2021. The County Council has subsequently enquired if Town Council would consider renewing lease for building and associated gardens.

Several Councillors expressed the view that property and gardens should be gifted back to Town Council. There were many ideas on future potential put forward e.g visitor centre, town museum, public toilets, storage unit. Mrs C. Evans expressed her surprise at volume of people visiting memorial gardens, especially since lockdown which had reinforced view that site was a town asset.

RESOLVED

- 1) That Committee support further investigation into possibilities for building, gardens and costs associated with future ownership and maintenance.
- 2) That Committee supports proposed tree works on partnership basis with County landlord following confirmation of costs and budget provisions.

31 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

Details of financial assistance applications together with financial information had been circulated with agenda. Committee discussed increasing demand for support of existing voluntary organisations, and cancellation of many town based events such as Wales in Bloom due to Covid 19 pandemic.

RESOLVED

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| 1) | That following grants be awarded:- | £ |
| | NSPCC (Prestatyn Branch) | 150 |
| | WCD Young Carers | 250 |
| | Financial / Legal Implications: As reported and to be contained within budget provisions. Local Government Act 1972 . S. 137 | |

(Cllr P. Penlington declared personal and prejudicial interest in WCD Young Carers and retired from Council Chamber during this item).

- 2) That Committee vire funds from Wales in Bloom B.13 (event cancelled) to Grants to Existing Organisations B4 in sum of £1,250.

32 CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

Mrs C. Evans, Deputy Town Clerk, had circulated her report detailing proposals for Christmas lighting with various costing and service options. A number of visual images had also been circulated of plans for increasing number of tree lights to be fitted that would result in all year round tree lighting. Committee was requested to determine scheme and also rental/purchase options.

Members discussed service and costs. Several members commented that there was a need to change some features to help freshen displays and this view was shared by Chair and Vice Chairman.

It was explained that due to difficulty in securing new tender due to Covid 19 pandemic and meeting restrictions earlier this year an extension to Council's existing tender was being sought.

RESOLVED That Committee approve option 2(c) from LITE Ltd for rental, installation and storage in sum of £27,916.

Financial / Legal Implications: 2020/21 PTC budget provision 27k, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1972 Section 144. That financial regulation 11(c) be waived due to Covid 19 restrictions and disruption of services.

33 PRESTATYN TOWN EVENTS

Mrs C. Evans, Deputy Town Clerk, circulated a detailed report with agenda outlining benefits of events in town, and outlining the devastating impact of Covid 19 upon such activities with all planned town events cancelled. However, as restrictions are being slowly lifted the it was considered important to start planning for the future. Committee was reminded that Town Council no longer employed a Town Events Officer and was informed of a recent approach from suitably qualified local person willing to assist Council and town (details circulated with agenda).

Several outline proposals had been put forward and several Councillors expressed their support for some form of trial event activity, subject to compliance with Covid 19 restrictions for physical and / or virtual events.

RESOLVED

That Committee progress small scale event activity for Halloween / Christmas 2020 subject to Covid restrictions with named contractor on agreed terms.

Financial / Legal Implications: All costs as per report to be contained within existing town events budget provision 2020/21. That financial regulations be waived in accordance with 11 specialist services and restricted timescales.

Chairman_____