

FULL COUNCIL

Minutes of Full Council held in Council Chambers, 7 Nant Hall Road, Prestatyn, on Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 6.15pm – 7.45pm.

Councillors: A. West (Mayor/Chairman), C. Holliday (Deputy Mayor), S. Frobisher, P. Duffy, I. Lifford, C. Evans, K. Clewett, G. Sandilands, B. Williams, T. Jones MBE, A. Tomlin, A. Sampson, J. McLellan (r), J. Matthews (r)

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr N. Acott – Locum Town Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer, Miss S. Rinaldo – Administration and Support Officer (Agency), Miss M. Sinclair – Community Liaison Officer (Agency)

APOLOGIES

Councillors: E. Heaton, H. Irving

161 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors were reminded of the need to declare personal and/or prejudicial interest in tonight's proceedings in accordance with code of conduct legislation.

None received.

162 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None received.

163 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Details of Mayoral diary of events and activities attended by Mayor and Deputy Mayor had been circulated with agenda papers.

164 LEVELLING UP FUNDS – Round 3; PRIDE OF PLACE AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RHYL, PRESTATYN AND DENBIGH

Prestatyn Council welcomed Kim Waller; Programme Manager, Denbighshire County Council, who is responsible for overall management of governments 'levelling up' fund (LUF) programme for Denbighshire. The local LUF for Prestatyn project is Cari Barker Project Officer

Levelling up fund round 1 and 2 have projects nearing completion or being delivered. LUF round 3 is just starting for Prestatyn, Pride and Peace (High Street) and promoting natural environment (y Morfa) are key components of this project.

AD

Essentially, capital funds are to be used to transform the local environment on approved works that must be sustainable. Funding is available until 2028 following extension of grant approval, projects must also comply with County Council/ UK Government accountability requirements.

Project delivery includes establishment of 'project terms' and local liaison groups. The team report to LUF board and DCC Cabinet. Partnership and Stakeholder group input also features in project service delivery.

A total of 19 million pounds has been awarded and this has been allocated to Project 1 Rhyl, Project 2 Denbigh, Project 3 Prestatyn. For Prestatyn High Street the Project Manager is Kim Mason and Project Executives are Paul Jackson and Andy Clark. In addition the Nature Walks (y Morfa) team consists of Project manager Gary Davies and Project Executive Huw Rees.

Communication is vital and a public/residents newsletter will soon be produced, public information and stakeholder events will be held, meet the project teams day organised, and a liaison group has recently been established with Town Council. Websites and social media posts will also feature as part of the communications programme.

Questions we invited:-

Cllr B. Williams: Why is the scheme late, as it was scheduled for completion by 2026.

Kim Waller: It was a difficult project to deliver within original timescales, political changes then disrupted process hence recognition of need and approval to extend programme until 2028.

Cllr R. Flynn: Is there any revenue funding for future sustainability?

Kim Waller: No, which is why it is so important to build in longevity of building materials for example. Discussions with County/ Partners organisations forms part of future sustainability as part of service delivery process.

Cllr P. Duffy: Does budget include professional fees?

Kim Waller: Yes.

Cllr P. Duffy: Do you know how much or what percentage of grant allocated for fees?

Kim Waller: There is a breakdown within programme, but exact details not known at present.

Cllr A. Tomlin: Thank you. Denbighshire county Council has been asking not to duplicate some work already completed by Town Council/others on 'local places for nature' project. Local people and local businesses are best placed to know what is needed for town.

Kim Waller: Will certainly be involving Town Council, Business Forum, and partners and listening to their requirements.

Cllr R. Flynn: Will project include a link between High Street and y Morfa?

Kim Waller: This will need to be looked at within consultation exercises but will also need to meet project requirements.

Cllr G. Sandilands: Extension of time for project should not affect service being delivered.

Cllr J. McLellan: UK Government has reconfirmed programme, changed goal posts and timelines hence extensions to 2028. It has been a long journey so far, but it is here now.

Cllr C. Evans: Local plans for nature walks already being done.

Kim Waller: Work to date will be recognised hence need for partnership approach and local consultations.

RESOLVED

That Kim Waller be thanked for presentation.

165 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That Minutes of Full Council 12.02.25 be approved.

Proposed: Cllr G. Sandilands Seconded: Cllr C. Evans

Pursuant to minute 153 Council Tax Precept 2025/2026; Cllr P. Duffy requested his vote against substantive motion be recorded.

166 MINUTES OF OTHER COMMITTEES

RESOLVED

That Minutes of Committees be approved as follows:

Town Planning 12.02.25

Community Development and Regeneration Committee 12.02.25

Finance and Management Committee 12.02.25

167 DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CAR PARK SUBSIDY 2025/2026 PM 43

Council was reminded that this item had been referred from committee following DCC decision to increase cost by 29%. Information was provided regarding number of spaces (Ty Nant – 106 (52 permits allocated to NHS and 13 spaces allocated to disabled bays). Fern Avenue has 59 places).

Details of costs incurred by DCC in managing car parks and level of income for both car parks remained unclear. Council was informed that the original Town Council car park subsidy scheme (4 hours free) had been introduced to assist with 'free parking' campaign following opening of retail park. At the time there were fears retail park would reduce number of High Street visitors.

It was also reported that whilst original car park subsidy initiative was aimed at shoppers/visitors the Ty Nant car park was now being used primarily by health care staff and workers on the High Street. From local observations it appeared this car park appeared to be very quiet at weekends.

ANJ

RESOLVED

- 1) That Town Council (PTC) approach DCC to enquire how a reduction to 2 hours free car park support would reduce level of PTC subsidy.
- 2) That further information on income and expenses relating to both Ty Nant and Fern Avenue be sought from Denbighshire County Council as the landowners and operators of the carpark.
- 3) That further details be sought from DCC regarding proposed installation of new ticketing machines.

168 INTERNAL AUDIT 2024/2025/26

Council was informed of need to appoint internal Auditor. Previously UHY Hacker Young had been appointed but the company was restructured and name changed to SJC Chartered Accountants. Services provided would not be affected.

RESOLVED

That SJC Chartered Accountants be appointed council; Internal Auditors 2024/2025.

Financial implications: Costs contained within budget provisions based upon normal annual audit work.

169 TY PENDRE PM 166

Council was reminded of previous discussions and a desire for Ty Pendre community building should be available to other groups rather than one individual organisation. There was also a requirement to minimise legal obligations arising from a long term lease to third party.

A paper had been circulated to Councillors with agenda papers providing basic outline of differences between lease, licence, and room hire agreements. For clarity it was explained that building and garden were gifted to town for prosperity and public ownership is currently Denbighshire County Council. The County charge an annual peppercorn rent to Prestatyn Town Council who manage the site on day-to-day basis. A community asset transfer request had previously been submitted by PTC to DCC.

RESOLVED

- 1) That DCC be requested to provide copy of any property survey reports held for Ty Pendre community building and gardens.
(Cllr A. Tomlin to enquire with DCC re: Community Asset transfer).
- 2) That 'Working Poor and Isolation Group' who use building be informed of Town Council's requirement to change style of occupation to 'room hire' agreement for one day per week.
- 3) That further discussions be held regarding Town Council's future plans for building and gardens.

170 NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (NAMWALC)

The Association was undertaking its own consultation of its member council's regarding 'Future Options of Town and Community Council's in Wales'. The provisional review was part of Welsh Government consultation proposals to reduce number of smaller community councils by introducing clustering arrangements.

RESOLVED

That information be received and any individual councillor feedback be copied to Locum Town Clerk's office.

(Cllr R. Flynn retired from meeting. Mayor Cllr A. West pronounced a five minute recess.)

171 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

That Public and Press be excluded in accordance with local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 during the following items: Full Council – Part Two Minutes 12.02.25/ Building Conditions Report – Council Office and Community Rooms/ Staffing.

Full Council – Part Two Minutes 12.02.25

RESOLVED

That Minutes of Full Council – Part Two 12.02.25 be approved.

172 BUILDING CONDITIONS REPORT - TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE/ COMMUNITY ROOM PM 120

Details of above survey report produced by GP Property Chartered Surveyors had been circulated. The building was constructed late 1800's/ early 1900s and had many uses and changes over the years.

RESOLVED

- 1) That GP Property Surveyors Building Conditions Survey report be received.
- 2) That extensive works list be reviewed and consideration be given to essential/ desirable work programme.

173 STAFFING

Cllr I. Lifford, Chair of Resources and Appeals Committee reported upon progress of ongoing staff grievances and also positions of Employment Tribunal process.

Mayor Adrian West

