

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Full Council Meeting held on 17th January 2024 18:15 to 19:38

PRESENT

Councillors: Cllr B. Murray (Chair & Mayor), Cllr A. West (Deputy Mayor & Chair),
Cllr K. Clewett, Cllr C. Holliday, Cllr G. German, C I. Lifford, Cllr A. Tomlin, Cllr S. Frobisher,
Cllr C. Evans, Cllr T. Jones MBE, Cllr B. Williams, and Cllr A. Sampson
Remote Councillors: Cllr H. Irving, Cllr G. Sandilands, Cllr J. Matthews, and Cllr J. McLellan

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M. LeDoux-Deakin – Office Manager, Miss J. Owens – Administration Officer

WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

Mayor Cllr B. Murray welcomed all Councillors.

APOLOGIES

Cllr E. Heaton, Cllr J. Thompson-Hill, and Reverend D. Ash

PRAYERS

Deputy Mayor Cllr A. West said prayers.

201 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

NONE RECEIVED

202 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public not present, participation not received.

NONE RECEIVED

203 MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL 22nd NOVEMBER 2023

Minutes recorded as a true record of the meeting.

PROPOSED: Deputy Mayor Cllr A. West

SECONDED: Cllr C. Holliday

ALL (16) AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

RW

204 BUS SHELTERS AND SPEED INDICATOR DISPLAYS

Cllr T. Jones MBE stated that the bus shelter stationed on Meliden Road has recently been severely vandalised with graffiti and is not in good state. Cllr I. Lifford requested that Denbighshire County Council are to be chased with an update of the replacement speed indicator displays as finance for this was agreed in the 2024-2025 budget. Office Manager to follow up and update all Cllrs.

205 LETTER FROM SOPHIA DREW

Letter from Sophia Drew to be received.

RECEIVED

206 LETTER FROM WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON FAIRER COUNCIL TAX

Letter from Welsh Government Consultation on fairer Council tax to be received.

RECEIVED

207 SUPPORT FOR £5000 EXPENDITURE FOR FOUNDATION OF COMMUNITY PLAN

Cllr I. Lifford explained that Prestatyn Town Council have submitted a Pre Application/Project Enquiry Form for the Local Places For Nature project; the grant would help develop nature and aesthetics within Prestatyn. Cllr C. Evans suggested to decide whether £5000 is initially used to bid for the grant as the closing date commences end of March 2024. Cllr A. Tomlin expressed that she would not like to discuss financial matters in the absence of the Responsible Financial Officer, then requested to defer the item until the Responsible Financial Officer is present. Cllr J. Matthews questioned why no documents have been provided for further information, Mr M. LeDoux-Deakin explained he does not have access to them as of yet. Cllr C. Evans informed members that the Countryside Services have already participated in meetings with Prestatyn Town Council about the grant. Cllr G. Sandilands queried whether Levelling Up funding would affect the grant; Cllr J. McLellan confirmed that the Levelling Up funding would not affect the grant as it only applies to the Vale Of Clwyd within Denbighshire. Cllr C. Evans suggested that the Local Places For Nature is contacted to request a copy of Prestatyn Town Council's submission to scrutinise, to then be ratified at Full Council. Cllr G. Sandilands agreed and suggested email responses can also be reviewed at Finance and Management.

PROPOSED: Cllr G. Sandilands

SECONDED: Cllr C. Evans

ALL (16) AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

208 DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

Email from Denbighshire County Council on Code Of Conduct to be received. Cllr Williamson reiterated the importance of understanding the standards shared in the document.

RECEIVED

RW

209 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION POLICY 2024

Freedom of Information Policy to be ratified.

PROPOSED: Cllr C. Evans

SECONDED: Cllr I. Lifford

**ALL (16) AGREED UNANIMOUSLY
RATIFIED**

210 VOLUNTEERING POLICY 2024

Volunteering Policy to be ratified.

PROPOSED: Cllr C. Evans

SECONDED: Cllr I. Lifford

**ALL (16) AGREED UNANIMOUSLY
RATIFIED**

211 FINANCIAL EXPENDITURES: SODD02, SODD03, CC02, CC03, BACS P8, P9, 9, 10, AND M7

Financial expenditures SODD02, SODD03, CC02, CC03, BACS P8, P9, 9, 10, and M7 to be approved.

PROPOSED: Cllr C. Evans

SECONDED: Cllr I. Lifford

**14 FOR
2 AGAINST
APPROVED**

212 ACCOUNTS NOVEMBER 2023 M8 INC & EXP, BAL SHEET, TRIAL BAL AND ACCOUNTS DECEMBER 2023 M9 INC & EXP, BAL SHEET, TRIAL BAL

Accounts November 2023 M8 Inc & Exp, Bal Sheet, and Trial Bal, and December 2023 M9 Inc & Exp, Trial Bal, and Bal Sheet to be approved.

PROPOSED: Cllr C. Evans

SECONDED: Cllr I. Lifford

**14 FOR
2 AGAINST
APPROVED**

.213 BUDGET 2024-2025 APPROVAL

Budget 2024-2025 to be approved.

PROPOSED: Cllr C. Evans

SECONDED: Cllr I. Lifford

**14 FOR
2 AGAINST
APPROVED**

Rm

214 PRECEPT 2024-2025 APPROVAL

Mayor Cllr B. Murray presented the Precept 2024-2025 to be ratified. Cllr J. Matthews suggested to only agree the Precept cost of £531,712 in the absence of the Responsible Financial Officer. Cllr S. Frobisher queried how the Precept could be ratified without a Responsible Financial Officer. Members agreed to bring the decision of Interim Responsible Financial Officer to Full Council as the next item to discuss prior to ratifying the Precept 2024-2025 with an Interim Responsible Financial Officer.

PROPOSED: Cllr C. Evans

SECONDED: Cllr I. Lifford

14 FOR

2 AGAINST

APPROVED

Mr M. LeDoux-Deakin left the meeting at 19:04.

215 INTERIM RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER

Cllr C. Holliday explained to members that in the absence of the Responsible Financial Officer, a meeting was held of Finance and Management Committee on Wednesday 10th January 2024 to propose the appointment of Interim Responsible Financial Officer for verification in Full Council; in the Finance and Management meeting it was suggested that the Office Manager is chosen for this interim position. Cllr A. Tomlin queried why a decision is being made for the interim position as the subject is taken from the minutes of Finance and Management meeting and is not its own agenda item. Members agreed to make the decision of the Interim Responsible Financial Officer as Finance cannot proceed properly without one. Cllr A. Tomlin questioned what financial skills the Office Manager can provide and why an Interim Officer cannot be chosen through agency. Cllr C. Holliday stated that the position of Office Manager is already of deputy responsibility at Prestatyn Town Council, so naturally the position would be appointed. Cllr G. Sandilands commented on the extensive support that the Interim Responsible Financial Officer would receive. Deputy Mayor Cllr A. West proposed to appoint the Office Manager as Interim Responsible Financial Officer and prepare for recommendations.

PROPOSED: Deputy Mayor Cllr A. West

SECONDED: Cllr C. Holliday

14 FOR

2 AGAINST

AGREED

Mr M. LeDoux-Deakin returned to the meeting at 19:22.

Mayor Cllr B. Murray declared the Office Manager as the Interim Responsible Financial Officer. Mr M. LeDoux-Deakin accepted taking on the role, on an interim basis, with the support and advice from Council and others when needed.

RM

216 PRECEPT 2024-2025 APPROVAL

Precept 2024-2025 to be approved and signed by the Interim Responsible Financial Officer.

PROPOSED: Cllr C. Evans

SECONDED: Cllr I. Lifford

14 FOR

2 AGAINST

APPROVED

217 CAR PARKING

Mr M. LeDoux-Deakin informed members that he has emailed Denbighshire County Council for any updates regarding the Ty Nant Car Park and their plans to increase parking prices. Mr M. LeDoux-Deakin confirmed that he has not yet received any response from Denbighshire County Council, and agreed to chase them.

218 ENVIROMENTAL TENDERS 2024-2025

Cllr C. Evans informed members that Environmental Tenders were sent out to various contractors in December, and since then three Tenders have been returned. After receiving the Tenders, a meeting was held with Cllr C. Evans, Cllr I. Lifford, and Mr M. LeDoux-Deakin to discuss the received Tenders. Cllr C. Evans presented a report created by Mr M. LeDoux-Deakin to display the results of the received tenders. It was also suggested in the report that the Sherratt Group is awarded the contract to deliver subject to providing satisfactory references and financial checks from 1st April 2024, subject to Contract Management by the Office Manager for Prestatyn Town Council. Cllr G. Sandilands suggest the Contract is awarded to the Sherratt Group with close management to ensure that all work is followed through with correctly.

PROPOSED: Cllr C. Evans

SECONDED: Cllr C. Holliday

14 FOR

2 ABSTAINED

AGREED

Mayor/Chair_____

RM