

## CONNAH'S QUAY TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of Meeting held Tuesday 24 November 2009

Present : (Attendance Register)

Councillor D. Barratt (Chair) presiding

Councillors J. B. Attridge, Mrs P. M. Attridge, D. M. Birch, J. B. Bone, A. I. Dunbar  
W. Hastings, R. V. Hill, K. Kelly, P. Kindlin, E.W. Owen, A. J. Roberts and  
P. J. Wainwright.

Mr. Gary Feather (Clerk & Financial Officer)

Mrs. E. M. Hyde (Senior Administrative Officer)

#### PRAYERS

Before commencement of the meeting the Chair's Minister, Rev. Canon Paul Varah led all present in prayers.

#### 049. URBAN RENEWAL PROGRAMME FOR DEESIDE

Mr. Gavin Griffiths, Housing Renewal Manager gave a ten minute presentation to Councillors with regard to the Urban Renewal Programme for Deeside informing them where they are up to, why they are doing certain things and how they can assist. They will tackle housing improvements, poor energy efficiency and other related social, economic and environmental issues.

They are in the second stage course for this area and have carried out 1000 surveys (representative of a cross section of 4,500 properties) as there was a need for an evidence base to prove why they need this money. There is also money available for an energy efficiency bid and they are in advance talks with the electricity suppliers. Mr. Griffiths also explained that they are looking for environmental type works (street scene etc.) and so any ideas that Councillors may have, which they feel could do with a facelift, he would like to know about them.

The timetable was for a declaration statement to be completed by February 2010 to ensure that the money will be place.

Consultation events are now ongoing and they feel that they have a reasonable evidence base but local knowledge is needed.

Councillor J. B. Attridge stated that it has been published in the local press that £10m was available but this has not been granted, there is a possibility that ten million may come into Flintshire.

Mr. Griffiths replied that they have £400k as set-up grant already, with a bid of £1.4m in the next financial year. He predicts that they should have £1m a year for 10 years.

It is envisaged that in the first year they would like to give the area an uplift environmentally.

Councillor R. V. Hill enquired if the back alleyways would come under this remit and Mr. Griffiths replied that it would be dependent upon whether or not they were adopted, it would need to be tackled through the right channels but will be taken into consideration.

Councillor A. I. Dunbar expressed concern that some residents had received letters and they were annoyed because of lack of information; he enquired who decides which houses receive letters. Mr. Griffiths informed him that they were picked randomly from the Electoral Register.

Councillor A. J. Roberts asked if these people will be prioritised and Mr. Griffiths replied that they would not.

At the commencement of the meeting Councillors were given a copy of a map, the area marked in red being the area to be tackled and Councillor A. J. Roberts enquired as to the criteria for the red line, Mr. Griffiths explained that it is not final and can be moved.

Councillor A. J. Roberts stated that if the criteria is the age of the property there are many other properties that would be applicable.

Councillor R. V. Hill asked if it would be means tested, Mr. Griffiths replied that there would be some people who could afford to pay a contribution and others who could not.

Councillor P. J. Wainwright drew Mr. Griffiths attention to the empty space by the side of the river, Mr. Griffiths replied that there was potential to do work for a cycle path etc. and money would need to be available.

The Chair thanked Mr. Gavin Griffiths for attending.

NB Councillor R. V. Hill left the meeting at this juncture.

050. NOTICE OF MEETING

The notice of meeting was taken as read.

051. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Mrs. E. M. Barratt, Mrs. Y. R. Birch, Carol Granger, R. P. MacFarlane, A. P. Shotton, I. R. Smith, and R. V. Williams.

052. MINUTES

The Minutes of Meetings held 27 October 2009 were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

053. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following Reports were submitted:-

- (a) Planning Committee – 27 October 2009
- (b) Declarations of Interest – 27 October 2009
- (c) Police Consultative Arrangements – 4 November 2009
- (d) Planning Committee – 4 November 2009
- (e) Finance and General Purposes – 4 November 2009
- (f) Recreation and Entertainment – 4 November 2009
- (g) Policy and Resources Committee – 13 November 2009

RESOLVED:

- (i) That Reports (a), (b), (c) (d), (e) and (f) be adopted.
- (ii) That Report (g), item 6 (a) be adopted – subject to the following alteration.  
“That the Clerk, Town Centre Manager, Chair and Vice Chair of Recreation and Entertainment Committee, Chair and Vice-Chair of Policy and Resources meets and report back to a future meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee.”

054. ACCOUNTS

The Accounts for the month of November 2009 were approved for payment and the Schedule thereof was signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

055. EMERGENCY BUSINESS – RESIDENT WARDENS

Councillor J. B. Attridge addressed the meeting, requesting that a letter be sent to Flintshire County Council Executive over their proposal to axe resident wardens and to use mobile wardens in their stead. He stated that he was strongly against the axing of the resident wardens because they provide a response in emergencies and our elderly will suffer. Councillor Attridge then requested this Town Council to call upon the leadership of Flintshire County Council to reconsider their position. Councillor A. J. Roberts felt that in saving money, lives could be put at risk. Councillors unanimously agreed with Councillor Attridge's request.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to Flintshire County Council.

056. STAFFING MATTERS

The Clerk brought to Councillors attention the fact that Mrs. Beverley Smith, Community Centre Caretaker, had handed in her resignation, she will finish on Thursday, 26 November 2009. The Clerk has spoken with the Chair of Recreation and Entertainment and has made arrangement for cover.

Councillor J. B. Attridge requested that a letter or card be sent to her, thanking her for her services to the Town Council and wishing her well for the future.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk send a letter and card to Mrs. Beverley Smith thanking her for her service with the Town Council and wishing her well for the future.