Ammanford Town Council Cyngor Tref Rhydaman



Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Ammanford Town Council held on 27th January 2025 in Ammanford Town Hall and via MSTeams

Meeting commenced at 18:01

The Mayor, Cllr. Heulwen Howells presided over the meeting.

Minute no.115 - Members Present:

Cllr. Heulwen Howells (Mayor)

Cllr. Calum Higgins (Deputy Mayor)

Cllr. Anthony Jones

Cllr. Johnny Owen

Cllr. Deian Harries

Cllr. Clare Hope

Cllr. Emyr John

Cllr. Nigel Morgan

Cllr. Colin Evans

Cllr. Marie Griffiths

Cllr. Wayne Erasmus via MS Teams

Also Present:

Mrs Sara Murray (Interim Clerk)
Ms Jayne Grazette (RFO)

Minute no.116 - Apologies for absence

Cllr. Ll. Davies – Family commitment Cllr. L Brodrick – Family commitment

Minute no.117 - Declarations of Interest

No new declarations.

Minute no.118 - Matters arising from the Public

None

Minute no.119 - Mayor's Report

The Mayor's report had previously been circulated to all Councillors via email.

Minute no.120 - County Councillor's Report

Cllr. Harries updated the council on a number of issues in the community. A lighting column has been removed in the lane between Brynteg Terrace & Tirydail Lane – Western Power have advised that this is an issue for Ammanford Town Council to look into.

Cllr. Harries also informed councillors that the Headmaster of Bro Banw will be stepping down at the end of the Summer Term.

Minute no.121 - To receive the interim clerk's report

Report previously circulated to all councillors by email.

The interim Clerk also added that as Cllr. Terry Howells (Pantyffynnon Ward) has not attended any meetings with absence formally approved by the council, represented the council in any forum or requested approval of non-attendance from the Council for 6 months so is automatically disqualified as a councillor & Electoral Services have been advised.

No questions raised by the Council in relation to the interim clerk's report.

Minute no.122 - Confirmation of the accuracy of the minutes

Full Council Meeting held on 28th October 2024.

Proposed by Cllr. C Evans as a true record and seconded by Cllr. C Higgins.

Councillors present all in agreement.

Resolved that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 28th October 2024 are a true record.

Personnel Committee Meeting held on 6th December 2024.

Proposed by Cllr. A Jones as a true record and seconded by Cllr. M Griffiths. All in agreement.

Resolved that the minutes of the Personnel Committee Meeting held on 6th December 2024 are a true record.

Extra Ordinary Council Meeting held on 16th December 2024. Proposed by Cllr. D Harries as a true record and seconded by Cllr. A Jones. Councillors present all in agreement.

Resolved that the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Council Meeting held on 16th December 2024 are a true record.

Finance Committee Meeting held on 20th January 2025.

Proposed by Cllr. C Higgins as a true record and seconded by Cllr. H Howells.

Councillors present all in agreement.

Resolved that the minutes of the Finance Committee held on 20th January 2025 are a true record.

Minute 123 - Cashbooks

The interim Clerk had previously circulated the cashbooks for accounts ending 1307, 8573 & 4785 for Quarter 3 to all members by email.

Proposed by Cllr. C Hope that the above cashbooks for Quarter 3 be accepted by council, seconded by Cllr. D Harries. All in favour.

Resolved that the council accept the above cashbooks for Quarter 3.

Minute no.124 – Appointment of additional members to committees

The interim Clerk confirmed that there is currently one vacancy on the finance committee, two vacancies on the personnel committee, 2 vacancies on the appeals committee and 1 vacancy on the policy committee.

Finance Committee – Cllr. Clare Hope expressed an interest to join the finance committee.

Personnel Committee – Cllr. Clare Hope & Cllr. Calum Higgins expressed an interest to join the personnel committee.

Appeals Committee – Cllr. Colin Evans expressed an interest to join the appeals committee.

Policy Committee – Cllr. Colin Evans expressed an interest to join the policy committee.

Cllr. D Harries proposed that the above named councillors are appointed to the above committes. Seconded by Cllr. M Griffiths. All in favour.

Resolved that Cllr. Clare Hope is a member of the finance & personnel committee, Cllr. Calum Higgins is a member of the personnel committee and Cllr. Colin Evans is a member of the appeals & policy committees.

Finance Committee members: Cllr. H Howells, Cllr. C Higgins, Cllr. M Griffiths, Cllr. D Harries, Cllr. A Jones, Cllr. L Brodrick, Cllr. C Hope

Personnel Committee members: Cllr. H Howells, Cllr. C Higgins, Cllr. A Jones, Cllr. M Griffiths, Cllr. N Morgan, Cllr. L Brodrick, Cllr. C Hope

Appeals Committee members: Cllr. C Higgins, Cllr. D Harries, Cllr. E John, Cllr. J Owen, Cllr. W Erasmus, Cllr. C Evans, vacancy

Policy Committee members: Cllr. H Howells, Cllr. C Higgins, Cllr. Ll Davies, Cllr. E John, Cllr. N Morgan, Cllr. A Jones, Cllr. C Evans

Minute no. 125 -To receive and approve a quote for solar lighting in Ammanford Park

The interim Clerk had previously circulated all documents to all councillors by email. Ammanford Town Council were successful in their Mynydd y Betws application in July 2023. An amount of up to £15,000 was awarded and this award is part financed at an intervention rate of **79.7%** against total project costs.

4 companies were approached to provide quotes. 2 quotes were received & 2 companies declined to provide a quote. The councillors discussed the information provided to them and the interim Clerk advised the Council that Company A was a national company whilst Company B was based in Carmarthenshire.

Proposed by Cllr C Hope that the council accept the quote submitted by company B, seconded by Cllr C Evans. 7 councillors voted in favour, and there were 2 abstentions.

Resolved that Ammanford Town Council accept the quote supplied by Company B.

<u>Minute no. 126 – Replacement fencing for Ammanford Park</u>

The interim Clerk had circulated all relevant information to councillors by email. Quotes had been obtained for both a metal fence and a wood fence.

Councillors discussed the quotes and felt that the fencing to be replaced should be in keeping with the previous fence, which was galvanised fencing.

The interim Clerk advised councillors that she would request the Technical Officer obtain additional quotes for galvanised fencing and report back to council.

Minute no. 127 - Request from Ammanford AFC to site a storage container

The interim Clerk advised that she had circulated all information to councillors by email. She also advised councillors that CCC have given their support and that the AFC have submitted the required planning application.

Cllr. A Jones proposed that the council support this request, seconded by Cllr. C Hope. There were 2 abstentions and the remaining councillors were in favour.

Resolved that Ammanford Town Council support the request from Ammanford AFC to site a storage container within their leased area.

Minute no. 128 – Appointment of a consultant for the application of grants

The interim Clerk discussed the need for the Council to apply for grants to assist with the refurbishment of assets such as parks and skatepark. By using a grants consultant, this will give the council a higher possibility of a grant application being successful. The interim Clerk informed members that she had a meeting arranged with a consultant to discuss councils needs/requirements and the options available to them in terms of grant funding.

Cllr. C Evans proposed that the council agree the appointment of a consultant for the application of grants, seconded by Cllr. N Morgan. All in favour.

Resolved that the council appoint a consultant for the application of grants.

Minute no. 129 – Planning Applications

- PL/08676 Listed building consent 1 Quay Street, Ammanford, SA18 3DB Signage to ground floor exterior elevation
- PL/08718 Full planning permission 2 Church Street, Ammanford, SA18 2NR Application for change of use from C3 Residential to C4 HMO (3 bed)
- PL/08769 Lawful development: Proposed use Ammanford AFC Stadium, Ammanford Recreation Ground, Manor Road, Ammanford, SA18 3AP Lawful Development Certificate - storage container for a mower, ground equipment

Above planning applications noted. Councillors noted that there could be an issue with congestion in relation to planning application PL/08718 as there is limited parking in the area – interim Clerk unable to log formal decision as consultation period had closed.

Due to sensitive nature of the business to be discussed, it was resolved that the Members of the Public/Press be excluded from the meeting. There were no members of the public or press present.

Minute no. 130 - Future Premises of Ammanford Town Council

The members present held an in-depth discussion regarding the current and future premises of Ammanford Town Council. The interim Clerk informed councillors that a meeting was being arranged between the Mayor & deputy Mayor and officers of CCC to discuss the Town Hall but that the operations of the Town Council needed to continue. Officers have looked at alternative rental premises and a property that is currently for sale which could be used as a well-being centre for Ammanford. The Responsible Finance Officer advised members that the Town Council could take £25,000 from the Reserves and the remaining cost could come from a Public Works Loan Board which the council would need to apply for.

It was proposed by Cllr. C Hope that the council make an offer up to the amount of £300,000 to purchase the property in Ammanford. This was seconded by Cllr. C Evans. There were 2 abstentions and the remaining councillors voted in favour. Resolved that Ammanford Town Council make an official offer up to the amount of £300,000 to purchase the For Sale property.

Meeting closed at 19:52

C:l		/Cla = !
Signed	 	(Cnair