

HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF TREFFYNNON

Minutes of the meeting of the **Development Committee** held in the Council Chamber, Bank Place Offices, Holywell on Wednesday 22nd November 2023 at 10.00am.

PRESENT: Councillors B. Scragg (Chair).

Councillors: P. Cooper, I. Hodge, M. Sprake, M. Lewis-Jones and D. Thomas.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors L.A. Carter, E.B. Palmer, P.A. Johnson. Councillor S. Rush was absent without apology.

IN ATTENDANCE: J. Baker (Clerk), M.G. Fearnley (Deputy Clerk), and C. Pickstock (Support Officer).

DC16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

DC17. GREENFIELD RAILWAY STATION PROJECT

Members received an update from the Chair on the recommendations made by the working group and from Cllr Matt Sprake that covered correspondence between Rob Roberts MP and the Department For Transport. Cllr I. Hodge stated he had sent a letter to Flintshire County Council that asked why the benefit cost ratio figures were not included in the final report published by the Transport Commission.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Deputy Clerk draft a letter to Transport for Wales and the Welsh Government to
 - i) highlight the importance of a joined-up approach on electrification between Wales and England; and
 - ii) query the latest situation on WELTAG Stage 2 funding.
- 2) That the Deputy Clerk draft a letter to Gwyn Lewis, Transport Commission querying where Greenfield Station fits into the National Transport Plan.
- 3) That Holywell Town Council continue to canvass local business and community support.

DC18. ACTIVE TRAVEL

Members received an update from the Chair on the recommendations made by the working group. The Chair reaffirmed the historical events and documentation. Members reiterated their commitment to link Greenfield Valley with the Wales Coastal Path.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Clerk draft a letter to Katie Wilby, Chief Officer Streetscene, Flintshire County Council to request a copy of the original approved bid document, an update on outstanding works from the original bid, and information on the plans for future works and funding applications.
- 2) Following receipt of a reply to 1) above that a meeting be then arranged with Glyn Evans (formerly Sustrans), Transport for Wales to confirm the future local active travel plans.

DC19. LLUESTY WOODLAND

The Deputy Clerk provided members with details and costs from Groundwork North Wales to manage the site.

The Clerk provided members with an update on the legal implications on the site that included the existing covenant. The budget and ongoing costs of the Council managing this site were discussed and confirmed.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Deputy Clerk contact other potential organisations e.g. Natural Resources Wales, RSPB and North Wales Wildlife Trust to explore potential management options for the site.
- 2) That the Clerk contact the Council's solicitors to confirm the legal process involved for potential disposal of the woodland.

DC20. WALES IN BLOOM

Members reviewed the Wales in Bloom Judges Report for the 2023 competition. Holywell had attained a Silver Gilt with a score of 79/100. This had been the pattern over recent years and members discussed ways to improve on this score. Members agreed with the Judge's comments that a greater focus on community and volunteers was required in 2024.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That local groups be approached regarding potential knitting displays for the 2024 competition.
- 2) That Wales in Bloom be added to a future agenda of the Holywell Business Group, to ask the businesses for ideas and support for the competition.
- 3) That the Clerk produces a draft programme for the day of the judges visit and circulates to members in the Spring of next year.

DC21. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chair closed the meeting at 11.50am.

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Chair