

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 28th February 2024 at 2.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors D. Thomas (Vice and Acting Chair).
Councillors L.A. Carter, I. Hodge, P.A. Johnson, and M. Sprake.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors E.B. Palmer and B. Scragg. Cllrs P. Cooper, M. Lewis-Jones and S. Rush were absent without apology.

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

DC22. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were declared.

DC23. **GREENFIELD RAILWAY STATION PROJECT**

Members received an update from the Clerk that covered the latest correspondence received from Welsh Government. No further work was being undertaken on the project due to funding constraints. Members were concerned that the latest report (WELTAG Stage 2) remained partially completed and unpublished. Members also discussed the planned electrification of the North Wales line.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Clerk write back to Welsh Government to request clarification of their intentions for the partially completed report.
- 2) That the Clerk write to Department of Transport UK Government to request an update on the electrification project.

DC24. **ACTIVE TRAVEL**

Members received an update from the Deputy Clerk that covered the latest correspondence received from Flintshire County Council. The Valley to Strand link path should be completed by the end of March 2024. An update had also

been provided on the Safe Routes to Schools projects. Members still wished to pursue the lighting on the active travel pathway in Greenfield Valley.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk contacts Brenda Harvey, Greenfield Valley Trust, to confirm the Valley's position on the provision of active travel lighting.

DC25. WALES IN BLOOM

Members considered this year's entry to the competition. Members also reviewed the planned route and itinerary for the judge's visit. Several ideas were discussed for additional locations, which included the Holway Levels, St. Winefrides Allotment, Fron Woods, and St James Grounds. Several local initiatives were discussed that included knitting groups (Plas Yr Ywen, Kings Head Museum, and Coffee Bean), cemetery development, Kim Inspire men's sheds, and the book repository.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That approval is given to enter this year's competition. Clerk to submit paperwork.
- 2) That the Clerk arranges a working group to consider further the judge's itinerary. Cllrs L.A. Carter, I. Hodge, and D. Thomas to attend.
- 3) That the Deputy Clerk makes contact with the local knitting groups to explore partnership working and how this can support Wales in Bloom.

DC26. LLUESTY WOODLAND

The Clerk provided the latest legal advice on the woodland, with regard to potential disposal. The Deputy Clerk provided an update on potential partnership arrangements with third party management companies, such as Ground Works, RSPB, and the Woodlands Trust. Ground Works would charge £5,000 for annual maintenance, but that would not cover any mayor tree works at a high level. No other enquiry has yielded any positive results so far.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Clerk consults further with the Council's solicitors, and arranges for a letter to the Welsh Ministers, to request the Council be released from the restrictive covenants.

- 2) That the Deputy Clerk follows up with Llaes y Goedwig (Community Woodlands In Wales), to explore a management arrangement for the woodland.

DC27. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chair closed the meeting at 3.30pm.

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Chair