

MINUTES of a MEETING
of the
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
held in the
Council Chamber, BUCKLEY
on
Tuesday 27th February 2018

PRESENT

Councillor A Woolley - in the Chair

Cllr V E Bloudek	Cllr R B Jones	Cllr C M Preece
Cllr C A Ellis	Cllr W A Lewis	Cllr E L Preece
Cllr I D Howes	Cllr M J Peers	Cllr M P Teire
Cllr E J Hutchinson	Cllr S Peers	Cllr J F Thornton
Cllr H D Hutchinson	Cllr I Peters	Cllr A G Williams
Cllr J S Jones	Cllr N Phillips	

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M B Wright – Town Clerk & Financial Officer
Mrs L George – Office Administrator
Mrs T J Reece – Office Administrator
Mr A White – Town Centre Manager & Technical Officer

16996- APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence and reasons were received and approved from Councillors N A Cropper (family commitments) and D Ellis (work commitments).

16997- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were made in relation to this Agenda. It was –

Resolved – that no Declarations of Interest were noted.

16998- MINUTES

Resolved - that the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 23rd January 2018, as now submitted, be signed by the Committee Chair.

16999- TOWN CENTRE MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

The Committee received and considered the Town Centre Manager's monthly report for February 2018. It was -

Resolved – that the Town Centre Manager's report be received, noted and approved.

17000- POLICE STATISTICS - BUCKLEY PCSO UPDATE

The Committee received and considered the new format of the PCSO Update. The Committee was reminded that the format had been presented to it at the Police Liaison Committee held on 14th November 2017. The Committee was also reminded that the update had not been provided to the Press and public because of certain confidential content and therefore any discussion should be about the format more than the content of the update.

During the ensuing debate, thanks were expressed for the revised format, however, the wording in one section of the update gave the impression that Buckley Town Council supported drugs for young people. Another comment was made that it would be useful to have a copy of the PCSO plan as stated in the update, however, it was also stated that the PCSOs were doing an excellent job in the town. It was –

Resolved – that the update be received and noted and that an email of thanks be sent to North Wales Police, the email to highlight the above comments.

17001- INDEPENDENT REVIEW PANEL – ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

The Committee received and considered a report from the Clerk which enclosed a covering email from the Independent Review Panel inviting two representatives of the Council to an engagement event in Wrexham on 7th March 2018. The nature of the event was for Council representatives to share their views with the panel to help Town and Community Councils play the best role they could in their communities. It was –

Resolved – that the report be received and noted and that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee be nominated to attend the above event.

17002- THE FDF CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING – OLD TOWN HALL, MOLD

The Committee received and considered a report from the Clerk which enclosed an email from the Chief Officer of The FDF Centre for Independent Living, a Charity based in Mold. The Charity was founded in 1999 and supported disabled people to live independently in the community and enjoy the same opportunities as their able bodied peers in employment, education, training and leisure. The Charity requested whether or not the Committee would wish to hear more about its work by it making a presentation to the Committee. It was –

Resolved – that the report and enclosure be received and noted and that the Charity be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee to make a presentation.

17003- COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH MONTHLY FIGURES

The Committee received a statistical report on the activity of the Community Speed Watch Programme in Buckley. In addition to the figures provided for 2016 and all of 2017, Members were also asked to note that the number of letters generated by the Buckley Community Speed Watch represented 72% of all letters issued in North Wales.

The number of requests for the group to have a presence were outstripping its ability to attend. The Committee was also advised that the group had identified 136 repeat offenders, 24 third time offenders and one fourth time offender. The information provided to North Wales Police had now gone to GoSafe, which would be checking other roads as a result of the Community Speed Watch activity. It was –

Resolved – that the report, statistical information and additional information in respect of the Community Speed Watch activity 2016/17 be received and noted.

17004- NATWEST MOBILE BANK

The Committee received a report from the Clerk which advised that the Mobile Bank service provided by NatWest Bank each Tuesday on the Town Council car park would cease from 24th April 2018. The reason given for the cessation was the lack of take up of the service. The Clerk advised the Committee that the service had been operating for nearly three years, that it had been popular in the beginning, but had declined in popularity over the period. It was –

Resolved – that the report be received and noted.

17005- VISIT TO THE 101 CALL CENTRE – NORTH WALES POLICE

The Committee received a report from the Clerk which reminded it that at its meeting held on 28th November 2017 the Clerk had been instructed to arrange a visit to the above centre. The Clerk advised the Committee that an email had been forwarded on 15th December 2017 to all Members requesting which ones wanted to attend a visit. On 7th February 2018, the Clerk had advised North Wales Police that 12 Members had expressed an interest in attending the visit. The visit was therefore arranged for 22nd February 2018. However, due to other commitments a number of Members who had expressed an interest to attend advised the Clerk that they would no longer be able to attend the visit. The numbers, therefore, intending to go were so small that the Clerk cancelled the visit and notified the Members who had intended to go. The Clerk advised the Committee that he had not commenced trying to arrange an alternative date for a visit. It was –

Resolved – that the Clerk and Staff be thanked for their efforts in arranging the visit and any Members wishing to visit the centre should contact North Wales Police direct or take advantage of any Open Days held by North Wales Police.

17006- ITEMS TABLED FOR MEMBERS' PERUSAL

The following items were tabled for Members' perusal:-

1. The Magazine of The Buckley Society – No. 42 (2018).
2. The Cinnamon Trust Needs Volunteers in Buckley – The National Charity for elderly and terminally ill people and their pets.
3. Non-emergency Patient Transport – The Picture Across Wales, January 2018 – A Report published by the Board of Community Health Councils in Wales.

Resolved – that the above items tabled for Members' perusal be received and noted.

Prior to the Chair closing the meeting Councillor H D Hutchinson requested permission to speak, the Chair allowed him to do so. Councillor H D Hutchinson wished to thank Councillors I D Howes, W A Lewis and the Staff for their actions in respect of a pension book dated 1995, which belonged to his mother, that had appeared for sale on ebay. Councillor Hutchinson confirmed that the book had been withdrawn from sale. The matter had been taken up with a Government Minister, the MP and North Wales Police. North Wales Police, when contacted, advised Councillor I D Howes to take the matter up with ebay.

The Clerk then requested permission to advise the Council of a matter. The Chair approved the Clerk to speak and the Clerk advised the Committee of the death of Mr Howard Croft, who had been a great friend and supporter of Buckley Town Council over many years. The Committee expressed its sadness and condolences to Mr Croft's widow.

CHAIR