

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of General Purposes Committee held in Ty Nant, Nant Hall Road, Prestatyn on Wednesday 3rd June 2009 at 6.15pm- 7.40pm.

PRESENT

Councillors: S. Frobisher (Chairman), G. Frobisher, M. Eckersley, G. Green, P. Duffy, M. German, I. German, A. Pennington, G. Jones, J. Morris, J. Davies, J. Thompson-Hill, A. Sampson, L. Muraca.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr N. Acott – Town Clerk/Financial Officer, Mrs L. Hewitt – Committee Support Assistant, Mr T. Brown – Internal Auditor, Wendy McGuin – Youth Worker, Denbighshire County Council , plus representatives of Prestatyn Youth Forum.

APOLOGIES

Councillors: A. Horobin, G. Percival, P. Curtis
Staff : Ms S. Edwards, Ms D. Hughes.

20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Councillors were reminded this was a discretionary fifteen minute open session allowing local residents to address them directly prior to commencement of meeting.

a) Scala Cinema and Arts Facility – local resident had obtained details of build costs and revenue support grant following a freedom of information request to Denbighshire County Council. An earlier verbal request to Prestatyn Town Council had not been answered satisfactorily and reference made to confidential information. The resident was informed Denbighshire County Council were the responsible body to deal with such requests and information provided by County was compiled following recent completion of construction works. **ACTION** Town Clerk/Financial Officer to send letter to resident detailing Council's contribution of twenty thousand pounds and later £1.08 million to Denbighshire County Council.

b) Prestatyn Youth Forum – Councillors welcomed Wendy McGuin together with four representatives of Youth Forum. Following previous visit to Council a trip had been arranged for youths to view CCTV control room and youngsters had indicated they found this both interesting and reassuring.

The Youth Forum were currently involved with environmental projects such as improvements to Coed Bell woodland and were willing to consider other sites such as Coronation Gardens Skatepark. They reported that several sites in town needed urgent attention to remove litter, weeds etc. such as Ffrith Festival Gardens and proposed Tesco site. Councillors explained the situation in respect of both sites and frustrations at delays involving third parties.

ACTIONS 1) Denbighshire County Council to be requested to progress improvements at Ffrith Festival Gardens and proposed Tesco site. 2) Sue Edwards, Prestatyn Town Council to enter regular dialogue with Youth Forum and to discuss future holiday activity programme, free swim programme and possible youth achievement awards scheme. 3) Town and County Councillors invited to attend Youth Club, Dawson Drive, Prestatyn on any Wednesday evening.

c) Councillors Questions – local resident circulated details of numerous written questions regarding Council activities mainly directed at Denbighshire County Councillors.

21 CHAIRMAN'S APPOINTMENT 2009/10

Nominations were invited for position of Chairman for ensuing Municipal Year. Cllr J. Thompson-Hill proposed and Cllr M. Eckersley seconded nomination of Cllr S. Frobisher. No other nominations were received.

RESOLVED That Cllr S. Frobisher be appointed Chairman of General Purposes Committee 2009/10.

22 VICE CHAIRMAN'S APPOINTMENT 2009/10

Nominations were invited for position of Vice Chairman of General Purposes Committee for ensuing Municipal Year. Cllr J. Thompson-Hill proposed and Cllr G. Green seconded nomination of Cllr G. Jones. No other nominations were received.

RESOLVED That Cllr G. Jones be appointed Vice Chairman of General Purposes Committee 2009/10.

23 PROVISION OF ALLOTMENTS PM 192/09

The Town Clerk/Financial Officer reminded Committee of previous correspondence with Denbighshire County Council and others and referred to the positive verbal response from Mostyn Estates Ltd. Several Councillors reported they had witnessed a surge of interest in people growing their own crops and receiving enquiries about allotments.

RESOLVED That Town Clerk/Financial Officer thank Mostyn Estates Ltd for verbal response and seek further information regarding potential allotment sites.

24 ENVIRONMENTAL/COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Committee considered a number of suggestions received from Members for possible suitable projects.

a) Prestatyn Castle Site – Cllr L. Muraca had put forward a proposal for improved interpretation and signage. Protected site known to Denbighshire County Council Archaeologist. Possible funding opportunities from CADW, Wales Tourist Board etc.

RESOLVED That a letter be sent to Fiona Gayle, County Archaeologist, Denbighshire County Council to seek advice and guidance on plans for interpretation of this site.

b) Green Gym Initiative – proposal for a green exercise gym at Y Morfa, Prestatyn and possibly Bastion Fields/Nova area. Potential for external funding and development links with Council's health initiatives. Cllr A Sampson circulated picture of green gym trail and Cllr P. Duffy indicated that this would compliment changing room facilities etc recently installed at Y Morfa by Prestatyn Athletic Junior Football Club. **RESOLVED** 1) Cllr P. Duffy to approach M. Hall, Principal Parks, Playgrounds and Playing Fields Officer, Denbighshire County Council regarding trim trails. 2) Town Clerk/Financial Officer to seek further information on potential funding sources.

c) Wild Bee Habitat – Cllr M. German informed Committee of a significant decline in wild bee population and enquired if anything can be done locally to help reverse this situation. Several Councillors referred to local bee keepers who could provide expert guidance, and reference was made to potential sites that could be used to encourage wildlife/bee populations. **RESOLVED** 1) That Cllr G. Jones provide contact details of local wild bee advocate. 2) That letter be sent to Kate Taylor, Biodiversity Officer, Denbighshire County Council seeking guidance on opportunities for local action.

d) Local Recycling – Town Clerk/Financial Officer referred to earlier Committee discussions about recycling small batteries and also of need to keep abreast of support available to small businesses. **RESOLVED** That Waste Recycling Officer, Denbighshire County Council and Prestatyn and District Business Association be requested to provide information on services available to assist local businesses recycling efforts.

e) Wales in Bloom – The Town Clerk/Financial Officer reported on discussions and email communication received yesterday that Denbighshire County Council would not be providing any floral hanging baskets or planting troughs in the town this summer and that winter bedding would not be provided. Councillors expressed anger at poor environmental condition of town, excessive weed growth, long grass in public areas and lack of colour. Increasingly it was necessary to rely on volunteers to promote Wales in Bloom competition and unfortunately lateness of notification from County presented a difficult task for entry this year. It was understood that some communities and businesses may enter national competition for their own category. **RESOLVED** 1) That letter be sent to Denbighshire County Council expressing severe disappointment at lack of floral displays, lateness of notification, and poor maintenance of local environment. 2) That Denbighshire County Councillors for Prestatyn/Meliden be requested to review County Public Realm Services available to town. 3) That Town Clerk/Financial Officer seek costs of providing floral troughs around Prestatyn Vicarage as part of annual flower show and report back. 4) That Mr Roly Schwarz, Community Safety Manager, Denbighshire County Council be requested to update Council on Tidy Towns Initiative.

25 TOWN EVENTS

Details of applications for financial assistance together with financial statements had been circulated with agenda.

a) Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Show. **RESOLVED** No Award.

b) Meliden Gala. **RESOLVED** 1) That grant of £250 be awarded. 2) That letter be sent to organisers expressing surprise at cost of school hire fee and also requesting consideration that any surplus sums raised from Gala should be put towards preparation of next year's event.

Financial Implications : Local Government Act 1972 Section 137. Funds contained within budget provision 2009/10.

(Cllrs S. Frobisher and G. Frobisher declared interest and retired from Chamber. Cllr G. Jones in Chair for this item).

26 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

a) North Hoyle Community Funds – Cllr S. Frobisher reported next round of community grants applications would take place in July 2009.

b) Society of Local Council Clerks – Town Clerk/Financial Officer reported upon recent meeting and highlighted proposed review of County Council electoral wards with target of 1750 voters per ward.

c) Ty Caradoc Community Association – Cllr A. Sampson reported upon recent meeting of Association and reported he was impressed by vitality of Association in managing centre.

Chairman _____

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of General Purposes Committee held in Ty Nant, Nant Hall Road, Prestatyn on Wednesday 2nd September 2009 at 6.15pm- 8.40pm.

PRESENT

Councillors: G. Jones (Vice Chairman) , G. Frobisher, P. Duffy, A. Horobin, S. Frobisher, M. German, I. German, A. Pennington, J. Morris, J. Thompson-Hill, A. Sampson, L. Muraca, G. Percival, P.Newell.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr N. Acott – Town Clerk/Financial Officer, Mrs L. Hewitt – Committee Support Assistant, Mr C. Ruane, MP

APOLOGIES

Councillors: P. Curtis, M. Eckersley, G. Green, J. Davies.
Staff : Ms S. Edwards, Ms D. Hughes.
Mr T. Brown – Internal Auditor.

70 WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed Mr C. Ruane MP to the meeting.

71 PUBLIC SESSION

a) Public Realm/Environmental Services – Mr G. Bourne - presented a 200 plus name petition about lack of flowers, planting and general deterioration of environmental services as a result of financial cuts by Denbighshire County Council. This item would be considered later in tonight's proceedings.

b) Questions for Councillors – local resident enquired about response to one hundred written questions presented at previous General Purposes Committee. The resident was informed individual Councillors had discretion to respond as they felt appropriate.

c) Friends of Prestatyn Railway Station – local resident raised concerns about the running of this group and newly formed Prestatyn Railway Environment and Social Society. Any concerns or questions about either independent group to be directed to relevant volunteer body.

(Cllrs S. Frobisher and G. Percival arrived).

d) Ffrith Festival Gardens – local resident who was Secretary to Ffrith Gardens Association enquired about removal of water pump, general disrepair, poor lighting and anti-social behaviour, and storage of caravans on this site. These issues had been raised before but little or no improvement in conditions. Denbighshire County Council owned property but leased site to private company.

Cllr A. Pennington, Denbighshire County Councillor reported that a new tenant had recently taken over lease and Denbighshire County Council were working to overcome many longstanding complaints about the site. Several maintenance issues e.g. repairs to water pump, litter/foliage clearance were being tackled and he personally felt new company would improve conditions on site.

The Vice Chairman advised that a local residents association meeting would take place on 15th September 2009 and he would circulate further details.

e) Tesco Stores Ltd – It was alleged that company had blamed local authority for delays in proposed development. Resident informed that a revised planning application for larger store was currently awaited from developer.

72 MR CHRIS RUANE MP

The Chairman welcomed Mr Chris Ruane MP to meeting and invited him to address Committee. Mr Ruane MP thanked Council for invitation and welcomed opportunity to hold a question/answer session.

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| Cllr I. German | Tesco/Somerfield debacle, closure of post office, Denbighshire's second largest town losing out on investment and services. |
| C. Ruane MP | Tesco/Somerfield and its successor in dispute for over 12 years but now close to agreement. Provision of free car park in Lower High Street and fencing around site has improved area. Many areas suffering from recession and town needs Tesco to stop drift of shoppers etc. Quality stores to be encouraged. Prestatyn/Rhyl have also lost out to South of County.

(Cllr J. Morris arrives 6.45pm) |
| Cllr A. Horobin | Traffic Wardens are paid more than a new soldier. They also suffer poor accommodation on return. |
| C. Ruane MP | Don't know details about pay rates but will look into this. Army accommodation notoriously poor, but a lot of quarters are being given a long overdue refurbishment. |
| Cllr P. Duffy | Return to work for 16-25 year olds – how does it work? |
| C. Ruane MP | Government provides 6 months training subsidy to employers at rate of £6,500 per person. Scheme will operate up to next election at minimum. Rhyl is also pilot for City Strategy and Prestatyn/Rhyl have been included in recently announced North Wales Coastal Regeneration Area. |
| Cllr M German | Many problems in town e.g. Tesco delay, anti-social behaviour, hospices need investment, people trafficking, army needs to be brought home from Afghanistan. Should army be used to support communities in tackling anti-social behaviour? |
| C. Ruane MP | UK crime reports show reduction of 39% and he does not believe there is a war on the streets of Prestatyn. Crime is emotional issue and national press can distort picture. Denbighshire Crime and Disorder Partnership is excellent partnership working and records show some very impressive results in tackling crime. North Wales Police figures also show 202+ officers since 1997 and 137 Police Community Support Officers. Police and Social Services working well together to help prevent people trafficking. |
| Cllr J. Thompson-Hill | Is Nations borrowing level sustainable? |

- C. Ruane MP Previous Government figure was 43% of GDP and this was reduced to 38% but has since grown back to 43%. Future Capital investment spending has been brought forward because of recession. France and Germany now officially out of recession and they followed UK spending plans.
Public service spending formula for determining local government spend known as Barnett formula is being considered for review and he would only support its review if it benefited Wales – highly political issue.
- Cllr G. Percival How do you repay national debt?
- C. Ruane MP Investment in education such as Rhyl College and Denbigh College. 1,500 people on Modern Apprentice Schemes. Engage with people, encourage employment, boost economy.
- Cllr J. Morris European Objective One – how much spent on administration?
Federation of Small Business statistics show manufacturing industry being lost, public sector employment 65%.
- C. Ruane MP EU money £70 million and £60 million from private sector for Denbighshire. Hopes similar amount will be available from Coastal Strategic Regeneration Area – Structural Fund over next 7-14 years.
C. Ruane persuaded Government to include Prestatyn in strategic area. Seaside towns in decline and need support. Manufacturing support and cutting edge research technology on doorstep e.g. optical glass products in St Asaph (3rd best site in world). Missed opportunity for local education establishments and hopes this can be rectified.
- (Cllr G. Frobisher retires from meeting).
- Cllr J. Morris Closure of Hotpoint and alleged relocation to Poland with EU grants.
- C. Ruane MP This is being pursued but no evidence to date.
- Public Services - People want cost savings in public service but outcry when local services are cut e.g. closure of local tax office and social security office from Rhyl.
- C. Ruane MP Clawdd Offa – new school was decided twelve years ago although demography has changed since then. Denbighshire County Council's record on education is poor and County failed to listen to Headteachers and local people. Over last two years some improvement in standards. There are no plans to close Blessed Edward Jones school in Rhyl.
- C. Ruane MP Wales In Bloom – offers support to any group in Prestatyn wishing to participate in this prestigious competition next year. Rhyl won a Silver Merit Award in 2009.

RESOLVED That Mr C. Ruane MP be thanked for his attendance.

73 PROVISION OF ALLOTMENTS

A letter had been received from Mostyn Estates Ltd indicating they would be willing to consider use of land in Meliden for part allotments and/or residential development. Other press articles advocating temporary use of vacant sites, and promoting principle of 'grow your own' had been circulated with agenda.

RESOLVED

- 1) That Mostyn Estates Ltd be thanked for their correspondence but informed of Council's moratorium on new building.
- 2) That all potential sites for town allotments be forwarded to Denbighshire County Council for consideration.

74 PRESTATYN CASTLE SITE PM 24(a)

Paper circulated with agenda following discussion with Fiona Gayle, County Archaeologist , Denbighshire County Council who had suggested non intrusive survey work and provision of interpretation panel for site.

RESOLVED

- 1) That Fiona Gayle, County Archaeologist be invited to attend future meeting.
- 2) That letter be sent to S4C/Time Team enquiring if they would be interested in this site and proposed works.

75 GREEN GYM INITIATIVE PM 24(b)

Committee was informed that Community Health Initiative Officer, Town Council would be meeting Countryside Warden, Denbighshire County Council (landowner) later this month. An expression of interest in seeking potential grant aid had also been submitted to Community Capital Grant fund.

76 WILD BEE HABITAT PM24(c)

Correspondence from Kate Taylor, Biodiversity Officer, Denbighshire County Council had been circulated with agenda.

RESOLVED

- 1) That correspondence be received and any proposed works extended to include wildlife habitat improvements.
- 2) That all Councillors be invited to identify potential sites for wildlife project.

77 LOCAL RECYCLING PM 24(d)

Letter had been received from Mr A. Roberts, Senior Waste Management Officer, Denbighshire County Council (copy circulated with agenda) detailing services available to local businesses. It was reported that Prestatyn and District Business Association had been invited to comment upon local recycling services.

Cllr P. Duffy referred to County Council plans to relocate civic amenity site from Prestatyn to Rhyl.

RESOLVED

- 1) That correspondence be received.
- 2) That Town Clerk/Financial Officer make further enquiries with Denbighshire County Council about relocation of civic amenity site.

78 WALES IN BLOOM PM 24 (e)

Committee was reminded that Denbighshire County Council had suddenly withdrawn from provision of floral displays due to budgetary constraints earlier this year but had since reinstated most services. A petition had been presented earlier in the evening following removal of floral displays and environmental services by Denbighshire County Council, and apparent lack of action by Town Council.

Cllr A. Horobin outlined the Wales in Bloom criteria and explained that the competition required close cooperation of public bodies, local businesses and community effort.

RESOLVED

- 1) That local companies be thanked for efforts in providing floral displays
- 2) That Wales in Bloom be considered as part of Public Realm Working Group to be discussed later by Town Development Committee.
- 3) That Committee acknowledge receipt of 'Where Have all the Flowers Gone' petition.

79 COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT – SOCIAL FORUM

A paper had been prepared by Sue Edwards, Community Health Improvement Officer suggesting a social club be established for lonely people and those individuals susceptible to depression and mental illness. The proposal was being made in response to a number of GP referrals to the Winners/Cardiac programme who did not meet the government's criteria for this health improvement programme.

RESOLVED

- 1) That a letter be sent to Head of Adult and Social Services, Denbighshire County Council seeking information about possible existing service provision.
- 2) That Sue Edwards be invited to prepare further details e.g. figures, costs and business plan proposal for new service.

80 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

- a) Bodnant Residents Association.
Details of application together with information about new club's constitution and finances circulated with agenda.

A recorded vote was requested.

RESOLVED That Bodnant Residents Association be awarded £150.00.

Financial/Legal Implications : Costs contained within budget provision 2009/10. S. 137 Local Government Act 1972.

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Cllrs P. Newell, M. German, I. German, P. Duffy, G. Jones, S. Frobisher, J. Thompson-Hill, A. Pennington, J. Morris, A. Horobin.	Cllrs L. Muraca, A. Samson, G. Percival	

(10)	(3)	(0)
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An earlier amendment to award £75.00 was declared LOST.

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Cllrs G. Percival, L. Muraca, A. Sampson, S. Frobisher. J. Thompson-Hill	Cllrs P.Newell, M. German. I. German, P. Duffy, J. Morris, A. Horobin, G. Jones, A. Pennington	
(5)	(8)	(0)

b) Denbighshire Citizens Advice Bureau

Details of application, services provided and accounts had been circulated with agenda. Committee expressed its desire to see additional service provided in Prestatyn/Meliden.

The Vice Chairman reported that within Town/Community Council framework Prestatyn gave highest level of grant per head of population in County.

RESOLVED That Denbighshire Citizens Advice Bureau be awarded £4250 and encouraged to improve advertising of local services.

Financial/Legal Implications : Costs as per budget provision 2009/10. S. 137 Local Government Act 1972.

(Cllr A. Pennington retired from meeting).

81 REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

The Vice Chairman reported that Prestatyn had lost two police officers but it was unclear if posts remained vacant.

82 FINANCIAL ESTIMATES

Committee was invited to identify potential changes in service and/or developments that may need to be considered during preparation of financial estimates during 2009/10.

Chairman_____

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Minutes of General Purposes Committee held in Council Chamber, Municipal Offices, Prestatyn on Wednesday 11th November 2009 at 6.15pm- 8.05pm.

PRESENT

Councillors: G. Jones (Vice Chairman), G. Green, M. German, A. Pennington, I. German J. Davies, J Thompson-Hill, M. Eckersley, L. Muraca, P. Curtis, J. Morris, G. Percival, A. Horobin.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr N. Acott – Town Clerk/Financial Officer, Mrs L. Hewitt – Committee Support Assistant, Mr T. Brown – Internal Auditor, Mr A. Roberts – Snr Waste Recycling Officer, Denbighshire County Council.

APOLOGIES

Councillors: P. Newell, G. Frobisher, S. Frobisher, A. Sampson.

124 PUBLIC SESSION

- a) Dial-A-Ride – petition style letter to local AM and MP circulated by Mr G. Bourne seeking retention of this service affected by Welsh Assembly Government new funding criteria. Councillors unaware of proposed changes and will make enquiries.
- b) Ty Pendre Memorial Gardens – Mr G. Bourne concerned about broken vodka bottle and general upkeep of gardens. Town Clerk/Financial Officer to pursue with contractors.
- c) Councillor Questions – letter presented by Mr G. Bourne seeking details of Denbighshire County Councillor spending and access to accounts.
- d) Land at Bodnant Avenue, Prestatyn – copy letter from Welsh Assembly Government to Mr G. Bourne circulated outlining plans to dispose of open land to Denbighshire County Council who presently maintain site.
- e) Local Development Plan, Candidate Site 3875-1, Land adjacent to Ffordd Penrhwylyfa, Prestatyn – Ms S. Drew referred to strong objections to inclusion of the proposed development site within Local Development Plan and to site inspection with her friend and local historian Fred Hobbs. The land consisted of a former clay pit, filled with landfill and was thought to be generating methane gas. The site was very wet and contained reed beds which provided a haven for wildlife. Topography of site means it acts as a natural soakaway for surrounding land and any future development would increase flood risk in areas already prone to flooding incidents.

Earlier objections made by Town Council had not been accepted by Denbighshire County Council Planning Officers and there was some disquiet regarding method of inclusion of site in Local Development Plan. **ACTION** 1) That Denbighshire County Council Planning and Public Protection Services be informed of concerns about possible methane gas generation from site. 2) That information be considered at Town Planning Committee LDP agendered item later this evening.

f) Ffrith Festival Gardens – Mr F. Bailey, Secretary to Friends of Ffrith referred to a current planning application, submitted to Denbighshire County Council, to provide touring caravans on this site. He referred to poor highway access, public footpaths traversing land, queried length of season for touring park, inadequate sewerage and services provision, overintensification, lack of hardstandings, potential loss of trees and hedges and disturbance to wildlife including badgers and foxes. All concerns had been submitted to Denbighshire County Council as part of the planning consultation process.

125 WASTE RECYCLING PM 104

Mr A. Roberts, Snr Waste Recycling Officer, Denbighshire County Council was welcomed and invited to address Committee on proposed changes to waste recycling facilities. Mr Roberts explained that Denbighshire County Council had identified benefits of combining Rhyl and Prestatyn amenity sites in 2006 in response to concerns raised by Environment Agency. The preferred location of a new, modern facility was Rhuddlan but unfortunately the identified site, by castle did not gain public support CADW or environment agency approval. In June 2009 planning provision was granted for a new facility at Marsh Road, Rhyl and construction is due for completion in spring 2010.

Mr Roberts then invited questions about proposals:-

Cllr J. Morris – Fly tipping, potential increase when site closes.

A.R. - Denbighshire County Council historical evidence shows that removal of facilities albeit with replacement of alternative site does not increase fly-tipping when combined with better education, good publicity and strong enforcement policy.

Future of Prestatyn Civic Amenity site

A.R. – Denbighshire County Council has no plans on future of site but Prestatyn and District Environmental Association have expressed interest in providing café/environmental interpretation centre. Further consultation with Prestatyn Town Council and others required.

Cllr G. Percival – Life Events. Occasionally people need assistance with recycling and/or disposal of large volumes e.g. Christmas period.

A.R. - Denbighshire County Council and private sector can assist with bulky waste collections although there may be a charge dependent upon circumstances.

Cllr M. German – Transport. Many residents do not have transport and new location will result in more car journeys for Prestatyn residents leading to increase in carbon footprint.

A.R. - Denbighshire County Council is aware of this situation but research has shown potential benefit of improved facility outweighs slight increase in carbon emissions footprint. Denbighshire County Council will also consider improving services for household toxic waste e.g. engine oil, florescent tubes. Reports of regular fly-tipping off bridge by school, Meliden Road will be investigated by County Enforcement Officers.

Cllr M. Eckersley – Green Waste Bins. Small size of bin issued by Denbighshire County Council causes problems for people with large gardens.

A.R. - Denbighshire County Council comply with European regulations in respect of bin sizes and there are no plans to change size.

Cllr A. Pennington – Civic Amenity Site. Road is prone to traffic congestion and increased traffic flow will cause further problems.

A.R. - Denbighshire County Council have approved both planning and highway access and are satisfied with arrangements.

Cllr G. Green – Future of Site. Denbighshire County Council need to consult Town Council about future plans for Prestatyn civic amenity site once new facilities come on stream.

Cllr J. Morris – Commercial waste. Local businesses cannot use County household waste recycling facility and this can be difficult for small businesses.

A.R. - Denbighshire County Council can offer some assistance on a chargeable basis and/or there is a highly competitive private sector operation for recycling materials.

RESOLVED That Mr A. Roberts be thanked for his attendance.

126 COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVES

a) SOCIAL FORUM PM 79

Details of a report prepared by Sue Edwards, Community Health Initiatives Officer had been circulated with agenda. It was reported that two thousand pound grant application to Denbighshire Well Being Activity Scheme 2009/10 had been unsuccessful.

Committee reviewed proposals and enquired about reasons for unsuccessful grant application and were informed fund had been heavily over subscribed with thirty-four applications and eight approvals. Discussion ensued upon services already being provided within town although research had shown a service gap for such an initiative. Further consideration was given to short term financial support, time commitments of Staff and potential impact upon other town services. A proposal to allocate start up money of one thousand pounds was not supported.

RESOLVED

1) That Committee seek further information from Head of Adult Services, Denbighshire County Council regarding current service provision for isolated individuals in community.

2) That Councillors liaise with Sue Edwards, Community Health Initiatives Officer regarding the proposed Social Forum prior to next meeting.

b) **COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVES** – progress paper circulated at meeting but unfortunately time constraints prevented detailed consideration at tonight's meeting.

RESOLVED That report be received for information.

127 PRESTATYN CASTLE SITE PM 74

Town Clerk/Financial Officer reported that a preliminary geographical survey brief had been received from Fiona Gayle, County Archaeologist but landowner had not yet been identified so no further action was necessary at this time.

RESOLVED That Geographical Survey Brief be received.

128 REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS – DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR COUNTY OF DENBIGHSHIRE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

An extracted copy of proposals had been circulated with agenda. The proposals would mean each of Denbighshire County Council electoral divisions comprised of target ratio of 1 Councillor per 1750 electorate. The proposed changes would result in overall reduction from 47 County Councillors to 40 covering eighteen County electoral divisions.

Proposals for Prestatyn representation included amalgamation of Prestatyn Wards Central (2), East (2) and Meliden (1) into one ward of four County Councillors and Prestatyn North (3) and South West (2) into one ward of four County Councillors.

There are no plans to change existing Town Council wards or Councillor representation.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- 1) That Committee object to proposals to change Prestatyn County Council representation as it would lead to increase in workload and discourage individuals from standing for election. The large size of proposed wards would cause difficulty for single Councillors.
- 2) Meliden Community would lose individuality and own voice.
- 3) Any proposal to improve representational parity should be accompanied by review of County electoral boundaries.

129 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

Details of financial assistance applications together with financial statements had been circulated with agenda. The Town Clerk/Financial Officer reminded Committee of its revised budget criteria focusing on new groups and non profit making voluntary bodies.

- a) Benefits Advice Shop – Committee was reminded of a large ‘one off’ Town Council grant made several years previously.

RESOLVED That a grant of £100 be awarded.

(Cllr G. Jones declared interest and retired from Council Chamber during this item. Cllr J. Thompson-Hill appointed Chairman for this item).

- b) Bodnant Infants School
RESOLVED No award for school application but applicant to be informed of alternative grant aid sources e.g. Awards for All Wales.

(Cllr A. Horobin declared interest and retired from Council Chamber during this item).
- c) Club Hwyl Hwyr
RESOLVED That grant of £105.45 be awarded to new club.
- d) Nant Hall Church Holiday Club - Committee was reminded Club complimented the Council's holiday activity programme.
RESOLVED That grant of £150 be awarded.
- e) Urdd Gobaith Cymru
RESOLVED That cultural grant of £100 be awarded.
- f) Eisteddfod
RESOLVED That cultural grant of £50 be awarded.
- g) Prestatyn Swimming Club – a letter had been received outlining financial difficulties arising from significant increases in Nova pool hire charges.
RESOLVED Council's financial assistance application form be forwarded to club.

Financial Implications : As detailed. Total grants awarded £505.45.

Legal Implications : Local Government Act 1972 Section 137.

Chairman _____

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

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PRESENT

Councillors: G. Jones (Vice Chairman), G. Green, M. German, A. Pennington, J. Morris, I. German J. Davies, M. Eckersley, L. Muraca, P. Curtis, A. Sampson, G. Percival, A. Horobin, P. Newell.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr N. Acott – Town Clerk/Financial Officer, Mrs L. Hewitt – Committee Support Assistant, Mr T. Brown – Internal Auditor, Mr J. White – Centre Manager, Pop In.

APOLOGIES

Councillors: G. Frobisher, S. Frobisher, J. Thompson-Hill.

186 MAYOR'S CONSORT

It was reported that Alice Frobisher, Mayor's Consort was currently poorly and had been in hospital.

RESOLVED That Council sends its best wishes for a speedy recovery.

187 PUBLIC SESSION

The Vice Chairman invited public to address Committee :-

- a) Liz Hughes/Sophia Drew – Prestatyn and District Environmental Association – (Q) disturbed at proposed cost of twenty thousand pounds to refurbish Aldi Garden site when many other similar areas require attention by County. (A) Denbighshire County Council owned site although until recently had been responsibility of Aldi Stores Ltd. The proposed refurbishment was to be funded by combination of monies from Tidy Towns, Denbighshire County Council, Prestatyn Town Council and in kind contributions. Denbighshire County Council was leading community project and had sought tenders for proposed works.
- b) Mr G. Bourne – Several letters presented to Vice Chairman.
 - letters for Cllrs J. Davies and J. Thompson-Hill regarding representation on Bodnant Residents Association.
 - letter regarding open land at Bodnant Estate for Cllr J. Thompson-Hill
 - letters regarding Scala Cinema and Arts Facility for Cllr A. Sampson
 - letter addressed to Council regarding plans for Wales in Bloom 2010. Item already on agenda for Town Development Committee later tonight.
 - letter addressed to Council about Local Authority Business Grant Incentive (LABGI) and its support of website.

- letter addressed to Council about Parish of Prestatyn and its history.

- c) Mr N. Jones – (Q) deeply concerned and annoyed at payment to former Councillor of travelling expenses of ninety-two pounds. (A) Travel expenses are paid at nationally approved rates set by Welsh Assembly Government and National Association of Councils.

188 POP IN CENTRE, PRESTATYN

Vice Chairman welcomed Mr J. White, Centre Manager to meeting. Jonathon reported that Pop In Centre was established twelve years ago and has been funded primarily by grant aid. Recent funding had come from many charitable sources although bulk of money raised was from lottery.

The centre normally opens Tuesday-Saturday and includes youth café, pool tables, washing facilities, outdoor activities (walking, cycling, running). Other community service organisations use facility including Citizen's Advice, Mencap and Career Wales. Several health initiatives are also being provided e.g. sexual health, confidence building, self esteem and street based youth work.

Cllr A. Horobin thanked Jonathon and Pop In Centre for their support throughout her Mayoral year and congratulated them on fund raising activities.

In response to Member's question Jonathon confirmed a number of young people were keen to develop their skills. There was also growing pride and interest shown by youngsters in participating in community/environmental projects such as Aldi Garden site. He also confirmed that he would welcome opportunity to talk with Community Health Initiative Officers about their plans for isolated adult friendship group.

RESOLVED

- 1) That Mr J. White be thanked for his attendance and magnificent work undertaken by Pop In Centre.
- 2) That Centre Manager and/or representatives of Pop In Centre be invited to attend Council each year.

189 COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVES

Detailed community health initiatives paper had been circulated with agenda. The paper included updates on Free Swimming, Y Morfa Trim Trail, Social Ballroom, Passion for Life Project, Choices Fit Club, Walking Initiatives, Cycling for Health, Cardiac Rehabilitation Services, WINNERS GP referral scheme and Prestatyn Integrated Health/Social Services Project.

The Town Clerk/Financial Officer sought Committee instruction on future plans for Council's holiday leisure activity programme, walking programme and support of Prestatyn Bookstart 2010/11.

RESOLVED

- 1) That Community Health Initiatives report be received.
- 2) That Committee supports holiday leisure activity programme 2010/11.

Financial Implications/Legal Implications : 2010/11 Budget provision £4,500.
Local Government Act 1972 Section 144/5.

- 3) That Committee supports Bookstart 2010/11

Financial/Legal Implications : 2010/11 Budget provision £824. Local Government Act 1972 S145.

190 COED Y MORFA PM 79/08

Committee reviewed its support of financial provision for maintenance and emptying of litter and dog bins provided at this site. Members were reminded the community woodland project was led by Prestatyn and District Environment Association but unfortunately no funds were made available for litter maintenance services and County had declined to provide such a service without recompense.

RESOLVED That Committee supports continuation of litter and dog fouling bin service at Coed y Morfa, Prestatyn.

Financial/Legal Implications : Denbighshire County Council £960p.a. Litter Act 1983.

(Cllr G. Jones declared interest in this item).

191 SCHOOL SWIMMING LESSONS 2009/10

Committee received information from local schools on numbers of children attending swimming lessons and were informed this activity had been made a compulsory lesson. Difficulty generally arose in meeting transport costs from school to pool.

RESOLVED That Committee supports local school swimming lessons 2009/10.

	£
Ysgol Penmorfa	834
Ysgol y Llys	457
Ysgol Melyd	242
Bodnant Infants	265
Bodnant Juniors	1042
Ysgol Clawdd Offa	<u>360</u>
Total	<u>3200</u>

Financial/Legal Implications : As per budget provision 2009/10 Local Government Act 1972 S. 137.

192 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS

- a) Llangollen International Music Eisteddfod 2010.

Committee considered financial assistance application (copy circulated with agenda) for this prestigious event.

RESOLVED That grant of £100 be awarded.

Financial/Legal Implications : To be contained within budget provision 2010/11. Local Government Act 1972 S. 137.

b) Prestatyn Swimming Club

Committee discussed merits of financial assistance application (copy circulated with agenda) and level of support for similar organisations who may find themselves in difficult financial circumstances.

RESOLVED That grant of £390 be awarded.

Financial/Legal Implications : To be contained within budget provision 2009//10.

c) Prestatyn and District Walking Festival 2010.

Committee considered financial assistance application (copy circulated with agenda) and were reminded of on-going support of Prestatyn's 'You'll Never Walk Alone' and Prestatyn 'Walkers Are Welcome' programme.

RESOLVED That grant of £750 be awarded.

Financial/Legal Implications : To be contained in budget provision 2010/11. Local Government Act 1972 S. 137.

d) Prestatyn Classic Car Show 2010.

Committee considered financial assistance application (copy circulated at meeting).

RESOLVED That grant of £650 be awarded.

Financial/Legal Implications : As per budget provisions 2010/11. Local Government Act 1972 S.137.

193 CYTUN – CHURCHES TOGETHER

Committee considered a letter from Prestatyn and Meliden Cytun seeking permission to use Top Central Car Park for fundraising day on Saturday 28th August 2010.

RESOLVED

- 1) That Cytun be granted permission to use Top Central Car Park subject to necessary public liability insurance cover, and that further support be considered if required.
- 2) That Cllr A. Horobin be nominated as Council representative for Cytun project.

194 CARBON FOOTPRINT

Committee discussed ways and means of reducing Council's carbon footprint and felt that every individual played a vital role in improving and safeguarding our future environment.

RESOLVED That Climate Change Officer, Denbighshire County Council be invited to attend future meeting.

195 BEE KEEPING PM 76

Committee received details of a 'Bee a Good Friend' event being organised at Llanasa Village Hall on Saturday 24th April 2010. Members were reminded of earlier Committee discussions and promotion of both wild and domestic bee habitat.

The Town Clerk/Financial Officer also reported upon various enquiries he had received about grants for setting up costs associated with bee keeping.

RESOLVED

- 1) That Council encourage local groups and organisations e.g community centres to provide wildlife/bee habitats wherever possible.
- 2) That Town Clerk/Financial Officer investigate potential sources of grant aid for assisting new beekeepers.

Chairman_____