



## **AGENDA**

for the Quarterly Meeting of the Association to be held on  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2016 following the Annual Meeting  
at the Civic Hall Connah's Quay

1. **Notice of the meeting**  
To receive the notice of the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence**  
To receive any apologies for absence.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting**  
To approve the minutes of the last meeting. (see appendix A)
5. **Speaker for the meeting**  
To welcome our speaker for the event – [Katie Sargent](#) our assistant director of communications and engagement
6. **Actions taken since the last meeting**  
To consider actions taken since the last quarterly meeting.
7. **Financial Report**  
To note the financial report from the AGM.
8. **Executive**  
To receive the minutes of the last meeting. (see appendix B)
9. **Welsh Government**  
To note the new Ministers as follows:

**Ken Skates**

Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure

**Vaughan Gething**

Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport

**Mark Drakeford**

Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government

**Kirsty Williams**

Cabinet Secretary for Education

**Lesley Griffiths**

Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs

**Carl Sargeant**

Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children

**Jane Hutt**

Leader of the House and Chief Whip

**Julie James**

Minister for Skills and Science

**Alun Davies**

Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language

**Rebecca Evans**

Minister for Social Services and Public Health

**10. Local Government Re-organisation**

To consider an update on the above.

**11. Health**

To consider any updates on the following:

- i) Mid Wales Hospitals (see appendix C)
- ii) North Wales Hospitals

**12. Local Government Review**

To note the attached paper at appendix D for discussion at the next meeting to be held in October 2016.

**13. Any other relevant business**

To consider any other business notified to the Chair or Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.

**14. Dates of future meetings**

To notice the dates of future meetings as noted in the Annual Meeting Agenda.

## APPENDIX A

### NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS



CYMDEITHAS CYNGHORAU TREFI A CHYMDEITHASAU MWYAF GOGLEDD CYMRU



## MINUTES

of the Quarterly Meeting of the Association held on  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016 at 10.30am  
at the Royal Oak The Cross Welshpool

The record of attendance is:

Council	Present	Apologies
<b>Officers</b>	Cllr Eve Butler (Chair) Cllr B C Roberts (Vice Chair) Robert Robinson (Secretary & Treasurer)	Cllr Joan Butterfield (President)
<b>ABERGELE TOWN COUNCIL</b>		Cllr John A MacLennan Cllr R Waters
<b>ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL</b>	R Hampton Jones	Cllr J Holiday Cllr J Norwood Cllr J Taylor
<b>BANGOR CITY COUNCIL</b>	I Jones Town Clerk	Cllr Derek Hainge
<b>BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL</b>	Cllr C R Williams	
<b>BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL</b>	Cllr Mrs H Meredith Cllr Lindsay Griffiths	Tina Earley Clerk
<b>BUCKLEY TOWN COUNCIL</b>	Cllr A Woolley	Cllr J Woolley Cllr A Williams
<b>CAERWYS TOWN COUNCIL</b>		Cllr J Webb
<b>CAIA PARK COMMUNITY CONCIL</b>		
<b>CONNAH'S QUAY TOWN COUNCIL</b>	Cllr R Hill Cllr C Grainger S Goodrum (Clerk)	Cllr P Attridge
<b>CONWY TOWN COUNCIL</b>		
<b>DENBIGH TOWN COUNCIL</b>		

<b>FLINT TOWN COUNCIL</b>	Cllr Terry Renshaw	Cllr L Jones Cllr David Cox A Loveridge Town Clerk
<b>HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL</b>		
<b>HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL</b>		C Pierce Clerk Cllr Karin Davies Cllr P York Cllr P Curtis
<b>LANYSILIO COMMUNITY COUNCIL</b>	Cllr F Buckingham	
<b>LLANFAIR CAEREINION TOWN COUNCIL</b>		Viki Griffiths Clerk
<b>LLANDUDNO TOWN COUNCIL</b>	Cllr B Bertola	Cllr T Davies
<b>LLANASA TOWN COUNCIL</b>		
<b>LLANFAIRFECHAN TOWN COUNCIL</b>		Cllr C Gell
<b>LLANDRINO &amp; ARDLEEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL</b>		C Davies (Clerk)
<b>LLANGOLLEN TOWN COUNCIL</b>		
<b>MEINAI BRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL</b>		
<b>PENMAENMAWR TOWN COUNCIL</b>		
<b>PRESTATYN TOWN COUNCIL</b>		N Acott Clerk
<b>RHUDDLAN TOWN COUNCIL</b>	Cllr M Kermode	
<b>RHYL TOWN COUNCIL</b>		Cllr A Jones Cllr J Chamberlain-Jones G Nickels Clerk
<b>RUTHIN TOWN COUNCIL</b>	Cllr S Beach Cllr E Wynne	
<b>SHOTTON TOWN COUNCIL</b>		
<b>ST ASAPH CITY COUNCIL</b>		
<b>TOWYN AND KINMELL BAY TOWN COUNCIL</b>	Cllr B McLaughlin	Cllr M Roberts
<b>WELSHPOOL TOWN COUNCIL</b>	Cllr Ann Holloway Cllr Hazel Evans Cllr Estelle Bleivas	

## **1. Record of attendance**

The record of attendance and list of apologies is as above.

## **2. Welcome by the Mayor of Welshpool**

The meeting received a welcome from the Mayor of Welshpool Cllr Malcolm Douglass.

### **3. Notice of the meeting**

The meeting received the notice of the meeting.

### **4. Minutes of the last meeting**

The meeting approved the minutes of the last meeting.

### **15. Actions taken since the last meeting**

The meeting considered the actions taken since the last quarterly meeting as follows:

#### **5.1 Meeting with the Minister**

The meeting received a report on a letter to the Minister expressing grave concern that the Association's views which represented 36 councils, was not considered a high enough number of responses and to further request a meeting with the Minister. The Ministers Office may be willing to meet after the elections. The Secretary will follow this up.

#### **5.2 Speaker for Annual Meeting**

The meeting considered a speaker for the annual meeting and after discussion it was **AGREED** that Dr Fish of the Health Collaborative be invited to attend. Her remit covers both the Powys Teaching Health Board and part of the Betsw Cadwallader Trust.

#### **5.3 Consultations**

The meeting noted that the consultations were presented to the Welsh Government as follows:

Rail Franchise Consultation  
Local Government (Wales) Bill Consultation

The meeting also considered a request from Bay of Colwyn Bay Town Council to support their letter submitted to the Welsh Government on the Rail Consultation. As the letter (which the Secretary understood had been circulated by the Clerk to Bay of Colwyn Town Council) had not been received by those present it was agreed that the matter be deferred until the letter can be made available.

### **16. Financial Report**

The meeting considered the financial report from the secretary.

The annual accounts have now been prepared showing just over £1,000 excess of income over expenditure. The auditor will receive the papers in the next week or so. The meeting thanked the Secretary for his work on the finances.

### **17. Executive**

The meeting received the minutes of the last meeting.

### **18. Local Government Re-organisation**

The meeting received an update and in particular a report from the Welsh Government meeting held in Llandudno on the subject.

### **19. Boundary Commission for Wales (Local Government (Wales) Bill)**

The meeting considered a report on a meeting between the Boundary Commission, the Cllr E Butler, Cllr B Roberts and Robert Robinson Secretary.

The Boundary Commission is open to suggestions as to how the work on combining Councils should be completed.

After discussion around the likely methods to be used to assess new boundaries it was **AGREED** that the following actions would be taken forward:

- 1) The Secretary will prepare a paper setting out the issues which the Commission should take into account when looking at Town and Community Council boundaries.
- 2) Any members who wish to add comments should pass them to the Secretary.

### **20. Understanding the powers and duties of the County and Town Councils**

The meeting consider the Powers and Duties of both Principle and Local Councils. Consideration was also given to those services which the County Council do not have to continue supplying.

The meeting considered how this affects the decision making of Local Councils with regard to the protection of public services.

### **21. Understanding how the County Finances work**

To aid information on why budget cuts are taking such an effect the information on how the County Council finances work was presented.

### **22. Montgomeryshire Canal re-opening Plans**

The meeting received an update on the re-opening of the canal and proposals to take the project forward. This would link Llangollen with Welshpool.

The Welshpool Mayor has worked with local groups to take forward local projects on the canal.

### **23. Policing issues in Mid and North Wales**

The meeting shared knowledge on crime and antisocial behaviour in each area and how the police go about delivery of their services within both Mid and North Wales.

There are initiatives in Welshpool and Rhyl and an officer from the Rhyl Police is to be invited to the October meeting of the Association to see how their one is progressing.

There is a clear division between the way Policing is completed in North and Mid Wales.

The main differences revolve around the activities of PCSO's.

## **24. Health Studies**

The meeting received a report on progress with:

### **The North Wales Health Study**

Ian Jones reported on progress with the North Wales Study.

The main points made were:

- i) Ian Jones is in contact with Betsi Cadwaladr.
- ii) An engagement strategy and development plan is being prepared.
- iii) An involvement web site is being prepared.
- iv) Could be beneficial for someone from the Trust to meet the Association at one of its quarterly meetings.

### **The Mid Wales Health Study**

The secretary reported on progress with the North Wales Study.

The main points made were:

- i) A Mid Wales Collaborative has been set up.
- ii) To date no movement on delivery.
- iii) A public meeting was held with little response due to poor marketing.
- iv) There are issues around what departments of the hospitals are called. ie A and E may now be called an Emergency Care Centre.
- v) The Shrewsbury Telford Hospital Trust is now moving towards a consultation on the services delivered in Shropshire which may affect services to Mid Wales.

## **25. Wind Farms update**

The meeting received an update on the following:

- i) **The new regulations and approval process**  
The Welsh Government now approves all strategic projects including large wind farms with the County Councils being a statutory consultee. The Town and Community Councils will need to look out for any consultations on this subject.
- ii) **Subsidies and the future**  
The Secretary explained the current situation on subsidies for wind farms. The House of Lords had rejected any change and the current Government has not brought any alternative forward. However there is a proposal to replace the subsidy with another form of payment.
- iii) **Transportation and works taking place**  
The Secretary reported on the wind farm transport due to start in Mid-July coming from the A55 direction and down the A458 before going through either Welshpool or Newtown.

## **26. A consultation example**

The meeting received information on the Welshpool Public Services Consultation and their results. The question in the survey related to the cost of services if the Council took them over with regard to the Council Tax. The results were very clear, the electorate were prepared to pay more to keep services.

The booklets and results were made available to members to take away.

## **27. Service Delivery**

The meeting received a report to compare the various County Council approaches to funding of service delivery.

There were mixed approaches by County Councils to the transfer of services.

Some were offering financial support while others were offering no financial support at all.

## **28. Gwynedd Council and the Welsh Language**

The meeting consider the letter regarding the Welsh Language and Gwynedd County Council. The general view of the meeting is that communication should be the one that is appropriate to the situation. Also that if the Council is giving grant aid they should be able to ask for such translation services as part of that.

The meeting **AGREED** to receive the letter with no further action taken.

## **29. Welshpool Town Council**

Cllr B Bertola thanked Welshpool Town Council for its services to the Association and the administrative support given on behalf of the meeting.

## **30. Dates of future meetings**

The meeting noted the dates of the next meeting as follows:

### **Quarterly Meetings**

15th July 2016 (annual meeting) at Connah's Quay Civic Halls at 10.30am

### **Executive Meetings**

10th June 2016 at 10.30am at Rhyl Town Council Offices.

## **31. Actions taken forward**

The following actions are to be taken forward:

- i) Speaker for annual meeting – an approach to be made to Dr Fish
- ii) Meeting with Local Government Ministers office to be pursued.
- iii) A paper is to be prepared on issues with regard to boundary changes for comment.
- iv) Invitations to speakers from Police (Rhyl anti-social behaviour) and a representative from the Betsi Cadwaladr Trust.



**NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**



**CYMDEITHAS CYNGHORAU TREFI A CHYMDEITHASAU MWYAF GOGLEDD CYMRU**



## **MINUTES**

of the Executive Meeting of the Association held on  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at 10.30am  
at the offices of Rhyl Town Council

**3. Present were**

Cllr E Butler (Chair), Cllr B Bertola, Cllr D Hainge, Cllr T Renshaw,  
Cllr H Meredith and Robert Robinson (Secretary)

**4. Apologies for absence**

The meeting received apologies for absence from Cllr A Holloway,  
Cllr J Butterfield and Cllr B Roberts.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The meeting approved the minutes of the last meeting.

**3. Actions taken since the last meeting**

The meeting noted the actions taken since the last quarterly meeting. All were completed.

**4. Financial Report**

The meeting discussed the annual account which shows an excess of income over expenditure of £1,034 for the year.

The meeting considered its recommendation for the fees and meals for the ensuing year.

The Executive recommends the following:

	Current	Proposed
Larger Council	£75	£80
Medium Council	£55	£50
Smaller Council	£35	£40
Meals	£15	£16

**5. Annual Meeting Agenda**

The meeting considered and approved the annual meeting agenda as per that set out with the quarterly agenda..

**6. Quarterly Meeting Agenda**

To meeting considered and approved the quarterly meeting agenda with the addition of the Boundaries Commission and the paper to be presented with it.

**7. Secretary and Treasurer**

The meeting considered the future of this post for the association.

The current secretary is prepared to continue until at least July 2017.

Welshpool Town Council may consider appointing a new Clerk on the basis of the secretariat being part of that role. This can't be confirmed until the autumn when the Welshpool Town Council succession plan has been settled.

The Secretary was asked to prepare a note of how many hours he spends on the association along with details of what office back up is used.

**8. Local Authority Review**

The meeting considered the current position which is not likely to become clear until September this year.

**9. Dates of future meetings**

The following are the dates for future meetings:

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017

10.30am start in all cases. Meetings held at Rhyl Town Council Offices.

## APPENDIX C

### Mid Wales Shrewsbury Telford Hospital A & E Proposals

<i>Where will I be treated?</i>			
	Current A&E	Proposed new UCC	Proposed new ED
Simple fractures	✓	✓	✗
Cuts requiring stitches	✓	✓	✗
Moderate respiratory complaint	✓	✓	✗
Some abdominal and chest pain	✓	✓	✗
Many sporting injuries, e.g. sprains	✓	✓	✗
Simple eye complaints, e.g. grit in eye	✓	✓	✗
Minor injuries to legs and arms	✓	✓	✗
Minor illnesses, e.g. chest infections	✓	✓	✗
Acute stroke	✓	✗	✓
Most car crash injuries	✓	✗	✓
Acute stroke	✓	✗	✓
Most heart attacks	✗	✗	⊕

■ It is proposed that injuries requiring Emergency Care, such as those resulting from a car crash, will be treated at a single site Emergency Department (ED). Acute stroke is already treated at a single site and this will remain the same.

⊕ The Trust's aim is to bring Emergency Care for most heart attacks back into the county.

### **NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**



**CYMDEITHAS CYNGHORAU TREFI A CHYMDEITHASAU MWYAF GOGLEDD CYMRU**



## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOUNDARIES**

### **Introduction**

The Local Government (Wales) Bill contains a 'long overdue review of Town and Community Councils'.

The Boundary Commission is to be asked to consider the boundaries of the new Councils likely to be called 'Common Councils'.

The current timetable for such a review ends with elections in 2023 of any new Council arrangements. Between Mid 2017 and later 2020 such a review is likely to be completed.

### **Meeting with the Commission**

The Association met with the Commission the middle of the year and gained information on how matters are likely to proceed.

### **The current position**

The Welsh Government has not yet confirmed the final boundaries for County Councils but it is not expected that much change will be made from the Bill currently on the table.

It appears that the Welsh Government is seeking approx. 100 new Councils to replace the existing 735.

Bearing in mind that most areas around Cardiff, Swansea and Newport do not have Town or Community Councils there is approx. 1.25m persons covered by the existing Local Councils.

Based upon 100 new Councils this would give new 'Common Councils' a population of 12,500 (+or-5%).

If the Government guidelines are worked on purely a numerical basis there are a number of issues which affect both larger towns and rural areas.

The general parameters also include for amalgamation and not dividing up existing wards or Local Councils. (this applies to both the County and Local Council Boundaries).

## **Boundary Commission**

The Boundary Commission at present has no guidelines from Welsh Government on the new boundaries for Town and Community Councils forming Common Councils. However, they have confirmed that they expect:

- i) It to be done using electorate.
- ii) It to be done using existing boundaries.

The Commission is keen to receive any thoughts the Association has on how such new Councils may look. This exercise may influence the way the Welsh Government considers such guidelines when consulting with the Boundary Commission.

## **Issues**

Some of the issues could be:

- i) **Size**  
The present indications are that populations of around 12,500 per Council may be used. (taking 100 Councils serving 1.25m people).
- ii) **Larger Towns**  
If an electorate basis is used what happens to towns which now have populations well in excess of this?
- iii) **Land mass**  
The issue of the land area of a Council could be an issue if only electorate was used as the basis for calculation.
- iv) **Culture**  
The culture of each area could be an issue. (ie a very Welsh community may not fit side by side with a very English community)
- v) **Political colours**  
Mixing Councils of different political colours may need to be considered.
- vi) **Number of Councillors**  
The number of Councillors will reduce. (if 7 Councils combine with an average of 10 members at present then the new Common Council may consist of approx. 21 members. A drop from 70 to 21 – losing approx. 65%)
- vii) **Representation of more than one centre**  
The issue of a single Council and single Clerk managing more than one centre of a community.
- viii) **Roles and responsibilities**  
It is not clear at present if there are to be any new duties on the new Common Councils – no any indication of how these would be funded if imposed.
- ix) **Funding and Clerks**  
The matter of funding and costs of new Councils – particularly if a Clerk is required to manage a much larger portfolio than at present.
- x) **Clerks**  
What happens to the Clerks of Councils which are no longer in being.

**xi) Council Tax**

There may well be a levelling of Council Tax over the Council areas forming a Common Council. Ie some may find their Council Tax rise and others fall as they join up.

Members may well have many more concerns or suggestions.

**Members**

Members are requested to consider their own areas and the issues relating to them with regard to this subject so that a full discussion can take place at the October quarterly meeting.

Robert A Robinson FRICS FILCM  
Secretary