



AGENDA

For the Quarterly Meeting held on Friday 20th July 2018
at 10.30am at The Civic Halls Connah's Quay

1. Record of attendance

To record attendance and any apologies for absence.

2. Police and Crime Commissioner (North Wales)

To receive the Police and Crime Commissioner,

3. Minutes of the last meeting

To approve the minutes of the last quarterly meeting. (see appendix A)

3. Actions taken since the last meeting

To consider a report on actions taken since the last meeting.

No	Activity	Action	By
1	Minister's Office meeting regarding: Hospital services Homelessness Tourism Tax Local bus service delivery	Arrange meeting with Welsh Government in Cardiff	Robert
2	Future of County Councils consultation (reducing to 10)	Post consultation draft on web site for comment	Robert
3	Connecting Communities in Wales Volunteer Driving Licensing	Post links to sites	Info to Robert from Bob Barton and Frances Buckingham
4	Homelessness in Wales	Gain official figures.	Robert
5	Facebook Page and Social Media	A full report to be issued at the Annual Meeting	Robert

4. Executive

To receive the minutes of the Executive Meeting. (see appendix B)

5. Future of Local Councils

To receive an update on this subject.



6. Facebook and Social Media

To consider if the Association should have a Facebook Page for announcements and potential debate. (deferred since last meeting for report – see appendix C)

7. Health Board Update

To consider an update on the following:

North Wales Health Care – Ian Jones

Mid Wales Health Care – Robert Robinson

8 Data Protection Act

To consider an update on this important piece of legislation coming into effect in May 2018. A list of those present to be issued with consent to receive emails from the Association.

9. Road Scheme for A55

To consider a report on the above and to consider the options as set out at appendix D.

10. Homeless Figures

To consider the information on the Homeless at appendix E.

11. Rail

To consider the rail improvements programme as announced by the new Franchisee who is Kelios Amey. See appendix F.

12. Budget Cuts by County Councils (if time permits)

To share experiences of asset or service transfer and the basis of them in each area:

Anglesey

Conwy

Denbighshire

Flintshire

Powys

Gynedd

Wrexham

13. To note Dates of future meetings

To note the dates of the next meetings as per those agreed at the Annual Meeting.


APPENDIX A

MINUTES

of the Quarterly Meeting of the Association held on
 Friday 20th April 2018 at 10.30am
 The Royal Oak The Cross Welshpool

Attendance Record:

Council	Present	Apologies
Officers	Cllr B C Roberts (Chair) Cllr Joan Butterfield (President) Robert Robinson (Secretary) Robert Williams Welsh Government	Cllr H Meredith (Vice Chair)
ABERGELE TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr S Jones-Roberts	Richard Waters
ARGOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL	Cllr R Hampton-Jones	
BANGOR CITY COUNCIL	I Jones Town Clerk	Cllr I James Cllr D Hainge
BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL	Cllr C R Williams	
BAY OF COLWYN TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr B Barton Cllr J Pearson Cllr P Richards	
BUCKLEY TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr A Woolley	Cllr V Blondek
CAERWYS TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr L Edwards Helen Roberts	
CAIA PARK COMMUNITY CONCIL		
CONNAH'S QUAY TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr P Attridge Cllr P Davies S Goodrum Town Clerk	Cllr E Faulkner
CONWY TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr H Roberts Cllr E L Roberts	
DENBIGH TOWN COUNCIL		Cllr R Tickle Cllr G Gardner
FLINT TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr S License	
HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL		
HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr K Davies Cllr J Johnson Cllr J Baker	



	Cllr P York	
LLANFAIR CAEREINION TOWN COUNCIL		Viki Griffiths Clerk
LLANDUDNO TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr B Bertola	Cllr M Lyon
LLANASA TOWN COUNCIL		
LLANFAIRFECHAN TOWN COUNCIL		
LLANDRINO & ARDLEEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL		C Davies (Clerk)
LLANDYSILIO COMMUNITY COUNCIL	Cllr Frances Buckingham	C Davies (Clerk)
LLANGOLLEN TOWN COUNCIL		
MENAI BRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr M Davies	
PENMAENMAWR TOWN COUNCIL		Cllr M Baines
PRESTATYN TOWN COUNCIL		
RHUDDLAN TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr M Kermode	
RHYL TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr B Mellor	Cllr J Chamberlain-Jones Cllr A James G Nickels Clerk
RUTHIN TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr S L Beach Cllr G Bryan	Cllr K Allsorp-Robson
SHOTTON TOWN COUNCIL		
ST ASAPH CITY COUNCIL	Cllr P G Morton	
TOWYN AND KINMELL BAY TOWN COUNCIL		Cllr B McLoughlin Cllr Morris
WELSHPOOL TOWN COUNCIL	Cllr H Evans Deputy Mayor Cllr H Chave Cllr F Veenstra	Cllr N Morris

2. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The meeting received the Chairman's opening remarks.

The meeting stood for a minutes silence in remembrance of the sad passing of Cllr Oscar Morris.

3. Welcome by the Deputy Mayor of Welshpool Town Council



The meeting was welcomed to Welshpool by Cllr Hazel Evans Deputy Mayor of Welshpool Town Council.

4. To receive the Notice of the meeting

The meeting received notice of the meeting.

4. Minutes of the last meeting

The meeting approved the minutes of the last quarterly meeting with members corrections on attendance listing.

5. The Nuclear Debate

The meeting received a presentation with questions from Robert Williams (Welsh Government) on Radio Active Waste.

The main points included the following:

- a) Communities may express an interest accommodating a radioactive waste facility
- b) No Community in Wales will find it has such a facility imposed upon it.
- c) There are substantial financial benefits from hosting such a facility.

The full presentation is attached at appendix A.

6. Actions taken since the last meeting

The meeting received a report on actions taken since the last meeting.

The actions included arranging the speaker for this meeting and also the Police and Crime Commissioner (North Wales) for the Annual Meeting.

7. Consultations

The meeting noted the two consultations posed on the web.

Copies of the two responses sent are posted on the web site with no comments received from members.

8. Financial Report

The meeting received the financial report issued with the agenda.

9. Executive

The meeting received the minutes of the Executive Meeting.

10. Future of Local Councils

To receive an update on this subject.

The Secretary is to prepare a consultation response to be posted on the web site for comment.

The meeting considered an overall view and **AGREED** that this should be in favour of no County Councils but just the Welsh Government but with local councils similar to the old 'Borough Councils' to deliver local services and regulation.



11. Facebook and Social Media

The meeting considered if the Association should have a Facebook Page for announcements and potential debate.

Here were mixed views including it not being appropriate to reaching out to a younger generation. There were many different approaches to be considered. The Secretary pointed out that any social media project would not replace the paper based and web based information points. The two would run alongside each other. A full report is to set out the options for consideration at the Annual Meeting.

12. Health Board Update

To consider an update on the following:

North Wales Health Care – Ian Jones

A report was given on current activity including a new health centre in Flint. However, delays in appointing doctors to vacancies and extensive waiting times were a real issue. There was also an issue around Alex Hospital in Rhyl which appears to have delays in delivery.

Mid Wales Health Care – Robert Robinson

Future Fit is ready to carry out the final consultation now that the £300m has been allocated to deliver the proposals to locate a Critical Care Unit in Shrewsbury and Planned Care Unit at Telford. There would be an urgent care centre at both sites.

The Secretary is to arrange a visit to the Health Ministers Office to discuss the issues and in particular the delay in appointing replacement doctors, excessive waiting times and

13. Transport

To consider the following:

Rail services

The meeting considered an update on the main line rail services in North and Mid Wales.

Buses in Wales

The meeting considered the subject of reduced bus services in North and Mid Wales. The loss of local buses is causing some real concern. There is an economic issue but also one of 'access for all'.

A meeting with the Minister's Office on the subject is to be arranged.



14. Independent Review Panel for Wales

To note the annual report:

- a) The Council **MUST** make available a payment to each of its members a sum of £150 to cover general costs incurred in their work as a Councillor.
- b) The Council **MUST** make available an annual payment of £500 to at least one and no more than 5 Councillors for the carrying out of extra duties.
- c) The Council is **authorised** to pay up to £34 (up to 4 hours) and £68 (for each period beyond 4 hours but not exceeding 24 hours) to Councillors to allow them to perform their duties.
- d) All Town and Community Council **MUST** make allowance for reimbursement of costs for care of dependent children or adults (provided by formal carers) to allow Councillors to perform their duties. Such sums **MUST** be made available up to a maximum of £403 per month.
- e) The Council is **authorised** to provide a Mayoral allowance up to £1,500pa for civic duties which is in addition to any sums noted above.
- f) The Council is **authorised** to provide a Deputy Mayoral allowance up to £500pa for civic duties which is in addition to any sums noted above.
- g)

There is a requirement to public expenses claimed by Councillor with such information being posted on the web site.

Members may each year waive their rights to any allowances by stating such to the Town Clerk in writing.

The meeting noted the information and that a further round of consultation is to take place seeking views on any proposals for the ensuing year. There was still concern expressed over the timing of decisions in relation to Council budget setting.

15. Data Protection Act

The meeting consider an update on this important piece of legislation coming into effect in May 2018. The FIO has indicated that it expects all organisations to make progress towards meeting the requirements of the act.

16. Poverty and Homelessness in North Wales

The meeting consider the subject of poverty and homelessness in North and Mid Wales.

The meeting noted the paper from Welshpool Town Council which has a Working Group on this subject and to aid discussion a copy the proposals for action locally was attached to the agenda.

A meeting with the Ministers Office is to be arranged to discuss the issues.

The Secretary is also to find out what official figures are available (possibly via Shelter)



17. Boundary Commission for Wales

The meeting noted the Boundary Commission for Wales report on electoral boundaries issued for each County.

There was some concern that few Town and Community Councils responded. This may, in some cases, be due to the timing of the consultations (ie Powys around Election time and North Wales around Christmas).

18. Tourism Tax

The meeting considered the latest situation with a Tourism Tax. Although the Welsh Government is not planning to take a proposal forward it appears that County Councils may be given the power to levy such a tax.

The effect of a Tourism Tax on the North Wales Coast in particular (but also Mid Wales) would be adversely affected in an already depleting market.

The meeting agreed that tourism in the current year is going to be a challenge. The Secretary is to arrange for a visit to the Ministers Office on the subject.

19. Volunteer drivers and licensing

Concern was expressed over the possible licensing of volunteer drivers in community transport schemes.

A link is to be added for information on the web site.

20. To note Dates of future meetings

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

Quarterly Meetings

Friday 20th July 2018 the Civic Halls of Connah's Quay.

All meetings start at 10.30am

Executive Meetings

Friday 8th June 2018

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

**21. Actions to be taken forward:**

The following actions are to be taken forward

No	Activity	Action	By
1	Minister's Office meeting regarding: Hospital services Homelessness Tourism Tax Local bus service delivery	Arrange meeting with Welsh Government in Cardiff	Robert
2	Future of County Councils consultation (reducing to 10)	Post consultation draft on web site for comment	Robert
3	Connecting Communities in Wales Volunteer Driving Licensing	Post links to sites	Info to Robert from Bob Barton and Frances Buckingham
4	Homelessness in Wales	Gain official figures.	Robert See appendix D
5	Facebook Page and Social Media	A full report to be issued at the Annual Meeting	Robert



APPENDIX B

MINUTES

for the Executive Meeting of the Association held on
Friday 8th June 2018 at 10.30am
at the offices of Rhyl Town Council

Present were:

Cllr B Roberts (Chair), Cllr H Meredith, Cllr J Butterfield, Cllr D Hainge,
Cllr B Bertola, Cllr M Davies, Cllr H Chave, Cllr B Barton, Cllr P Richards and
R A Robinson (Secretary).

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The meeting approved the minutes of the last meeting.

3. Actions taken since the last meeting

The Secretary reported on the actions taken since the last quarterly meeting.

4. Agenda for Annual Meeting

The meeting considered the agenda for the annual meeting and approved the published issue.

5. Financial

The annual figures were reported showing a loss for the year.

This is partly due some dinner costs being included which were paid out during the year but for last year. There was no accrual and the amount was not known.

The previous year showed a profit of just under £700. The end of year balances is £5,900.

6. Annual fees and charges

The meeting agreed to recommend that increase in member's fees and dinners as per the Annual Meeting Agenda.

7. Visitor to Annual Meeting

The Secretary reported that the Police and Crime Commission had been invited to stay for lunch. The meeting wished the Commissioners address to



be around 20 minutes with time for questions to follow at the Chairs discretion.

8. Elections

The Secretary reported that he has to date no nominations for Chair and one nomination for Vice Chair.

Nominations are due in advance of the meeting with a closing date of 30th June 2018.

9. Quarterly Meeting Agenda

The meeting considered the agenda for the quarterly meeting and approved the published issue.

10. Rail Franchise

The meeting requested the secretary to invite the new Franchisee for the Welsh Rail Network to the October 2018 quarterly meeting.



APPENDIX C

Alternative Facebook Pages

Open:

Anyone is able to leave a comment/ view content
Content can be seen by anyone on/ off Facebook
Anyone is able to contact you

Private:

People have to be accepted to leave any comments
You can monitor who is able to view your content
Other people are not able to view any content you share
You can approve what is posted onto your page – allows you to filter any unwanted content

Custom:

You can choose who is able to view your content – however it is possible other people are still able to see posts you have made if you share mutual friends.
'Friends' setting: keeps activity from others restricted

(Privacy Settings can be found as):

Privacy Settings and Tools

Your activity	Who can see your future posts?	Friends	Edit
	Review all your posts and things you're tagged in		Use Activity Log
	Limit the audience for posts you've shared with friends of friends or Public?		Limit Past Posts
How people can find and contact you	Who can send you friend requests?	Everyone	Edit
	Who can see your friends list?	Public	Edit
	Who can look you up using the email address you provided?	Everyone	Edit
	Who can look you up using the phone number you provided?	Everyone	Edit
	Do you want search engines outside of Facebook to link to your Profile?	Yes	Edit

**APPENDIX D****HOMELESS INFORMATION****Key points**

- During October to December 2017, a total of 2,049 households were assessed as threatened with homelessness within 56 days. Homelessness was successfully prevented for at least 6 months for 1,383 households (68 per cent). For a further 294 households (14 per cent) homelessness was unsuccessfully prevented. Other outcomes accounted for the remaining 18 per cent of households (including refused assistance, non co-operation, withdrawn application and loss of contact).
- A total of 2,724 households were assessed as being homeless and owed a duty to help secure accommodation during the quarter. Of these, 1,188 households (44 per cent) were helped to secure accommodation that was likely to last for 6 months. For 939 households (34 per cent) the local authority was unsuccessful in securing such accommodation. Other outcomes accounted for the remaining 22 per cent of households (including refused assistance, non co-operation, withdrawn application and loss of contact).
- During October to December 2017, 543 households were assessed to be unintentionally homeless and in priority need. These households qualified for the duty to have accommodation secured for them. For 79 per cent (429 households) an offer of permanent accommodation was accepted. Other outcomes accounted for the remaining 21 per cent of households (including refused assistance, non co-operation, withdrawn application and loss of contact).



Households in temporary accommodation

- At the end of December 2017 there were 2,034 households in temporary accommodation.
- Private sector accommodation was the main form of temporary accommodation used. This accounted for 38 per cent (771 households) of all households in temporary accommodation at the end of December 2017.
- At the end of December 2017 there were 198 households in temporary bed and breakfast (B&B) accommodation. Of these, 12 households (6 per cent) were families with children.

FROM BBC WEB SITE

The number of rough sleepers has risen in Wales according to new figures.

An overnight count from November 2017 showed there was 188 individuals on the streets - 47 more than in 2016.

Now homeless charities are calling on more to be done to help change the habits of rough sleepers.

Some rough sleepers say they choose to sleep in tents rather than seeking refuge at homeless shelters while others are asked to leave shelters for a variety of reasons.

Gary, who has slept rough for two years, said: "I'm just out of rehab, it wasn't for me, I couldn't handle it. Everything I know is here (Newport).

"Hostels are sometimes a hindrance, because of the drugs in there."

Kelissa, also in her forties, added: "I was in a hostel but it was right on the front line where all the drugs are, and I'm trying to stay off the drugs.

"It was just dragging me right down."



Craig, 47, said he has physical and mental health problems, and was sharing his tent with three other people.

"To be blunt with you, I've had a drug addiction for 28 years. I've been battling it," he added.

Craig said drug dealers used to wait for him - and others with addiction issues - outside the hostel where he used to stay.

"The hostel is great, but it's just where it is," he said.

"I know it's down to choice - it's my personal choice but it [the drugs] makes it so hard."

The Welsh Government figures showed that Cardiff had the most rough sleepers at 53, followed by Wrexham (44), Swansea (21), Newport (18) and Conwy (10).

A spokesman for the government said: "While these are snapshot estimates, the figures are clearly concerning."

Another count which took place during a two week period in October last year showed a smaller rise in the number of rough sleepers.

It showed there was 345 rough sleepers - an increase of 10% on the same period in 2016.

On the same night as the overnight count, local authorities across Wales said there were 233 emergency bed spaces, and of these 42 were unoccupied and available.

The Welsh Government is investing £20m to tackle homelessness over the next two years and First Minister Carwyn Jones has announced an extra £10m in 2019-20 to support work to end youth homelessness in Wales.

The spokesman said: "Our innovative housing legislation aims to reduce homelessness and people sleeping rough, with a stronger focus on prevention and a more inclusive approach to helping everyone at risk, not just those in priority need groups."

He added that homelessness has been prevented for almost 13,000 households since the legislation came into force.



APPENDIX E

OPTION A





OPTION B





OPTION C





OPTION D





OPTION E



**APPENDIX F****NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS****UPDATE ON RAIL SERVICES**

The new Wales rail franchise will be up and running (Keolis Amey) in October, promising a "ground breaking transformation of transport across the country".

Target timetable for change:

2018

- More capacity on the Valley lines and refurbished diesel trains
- **All stations will be deep-cleaned**
- New services between Liverpool and Chester and additional Sunday services between Wrexham and Bidston

2019

- First new ticket machines at stations, a new app and website and smartcard
- **Refurbished trains for the North Wales Metro, including extra seats and power sockets**
- Pacer trains completely phased out and 12 class 170 trains introduced
- New train assembly starts at factory in Newport
-

2020**Start of new fare initiatives, including half price for 12 to 18-year-olds**

Keolis UK moves UK headquarters to Wales, booking app for passengers who need assistance launched and 22 customer ambassadors will work across the network

New station will open at Bow Street in Aberystwyth in March

Pay-as-you-go scheme launched for South Wales Metro (rolling out further in 2021)

2021

- South Wales Metro's new service from Ebbw Vale to Newport
- **First of the 148 new trains start being rolled out**
- Free wi-fi for trains and stations, promising "seamless" internet



2022

- Introduction of Metro vehicles. By May, four an hour will serve Aberdare and Merthyr followed by Treherbert by December
- New station opens at Crwys Road in Cardiff
- **Seven extra services from Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth**, 16 more Cardiff to Cheltenham and two on the Heart of Wales line
- Passengers will be able to board on the same level as the train across Cardiff and the Valley lines
- A new Liverpool to Cardiff service via Wrexham General and Shrewsbury

2023

- **More Sunday services introduced**
- Metro services come to Cardiff City line. The Loudon Square and The Flourish stations open in Cardiff Bay, offering first on-street trams in Cardiff for 70 years
- New tri-mode (diesel/battery/electric) trains to operate from Coryton, Rhymney to Barry Island and Penarth to Bridgend via Cardiff

2024

- Treherbert, Aberdare, Merthyr and Rhymney services increase to two per hour on Sundays
 - First class introduced on Swansea to Manchester service
 - A target of 100% by 2025 for [secure station accreditation](#)
- All new trains by 2024.

R A Robinson
Secretary