



MINUTES

of a meeting of the **Association** held on
Friday 23rd April 2021 at 10.30am by Zoom

Record of attendance

Present were

Cllr Peter Morton (Chair – St Asaph)	Cllr Brian Bertola (Llandudno)
Cllr Brian Roberts (Abergele)	Cllr Peter York (Holywell)
Cllr Paul Cunningham (Flint)	Peter Davies (Connah's Quay)
Steve Goodrum (Connah's Quay)	Cllrs Cll E Faulkner (Connah's Quay)
Cllr G Faulkner (Connah's Quay)	Cllr Alan James (Rhyl)
Cllr Steve Beach (Ruthin).	Cllr Shirley Jones - Roberts (Abergele)
Gareth Nickels (Rhyl)	Robert Robinson Secretary

Apologies received

The meeting received apologies from:

Cllr Joan Butterfield (President)	Cllr H Roberts (Conwy)
Cllr Michael Davies (Menai Bridge)	Jill Ellison (St Asaph)
Cllr Bernise McLoughin (Towyn and Kinmell Bay)	

Zoom difficulties

There were a number of members who had difficulty logging into Zoom and they were:

Cllr A Woolley (Buckley)	Vivienne Blondak (Buckley)
Glenys Baker (Bay of Colwyn),	Alyn Ashworth ().

1. Welcome by the Chair of the Association

The meeting received a welcome to the meeting by Cllr Peter Morton Chair.

2. Minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting – January 2021

The meeting approved the minutes of the last meeting.

3. Actions from and since last meeting

The meeting noted that all the actions taken since the last meeting had been completed as noted in the agenda.

4. One Voice Wales

A short discussion took place around the role of One Voice Wales. It was agreed that One Voice Wales had a different role to that of the Association and that they complement the work of each other. A copy of the Association booklet is to be sent to One Voice Wales for information.

5. Financial Report

The meeting received a financial report (see attached at appendix A).



6. Minutes of the Executive Meeting

The meeting received the minutes of the March 2021 Executive Meeting.

7. Annual Meeting of the Association

The meeting considered the Annual Meeting and after a full discussion the meeting decided to progress towards the following:

To meet at Connah's Quay Civic Halls with a limit of 2 Councillors or 1 Councillor with their Clerk attending from each Council. The meeting will meet Covid 19 regulations with social distancing in place.

Full details including any lunch arrangements will be put in place nearer the time.

For those who wish to attend but are not within the numbers representing each Council there will be a Zoom feature so that you can still take part in the meeting.

If Covid 19 restrictions prevent the above taking place at the time the situation can be reviewed.

Votes were also taken into account from those who had passed them to the meeting but were not present.

8. North Coast Railways

The meeting was updated following the last meeting of the North Coast Transport Liaison Committee as follows:

Trains

There is still concern over the new train designs which have 22 less seats than the existing trains (per 2 car unit). There is also only 1 toilet in a 2 car unit which considering the long journeys on the lines is inadequate.

There is the possible issue around curved platforms with central doors and the gap created between the train and platform.

Platforms

The meeting noted that some platforms need extending where they cannot even accommodate a two car unit.



Through services to Manchester Airport

There is a consultation taking place regarding the withdrawal of the direct service from the North Coast to Manchester Airport. The Secretary did send an email out to consult members and following this has put forward an objection to any change to Transport for Wales seeking to retain the existing services.

Station and Dementia Audit (North Coast Rail Line)

The Secretary will issue with these minutes the draft Station Audits (generally and for Dementia). All comments welcome with the final report being finalised by the end of May for presentation to Transport for Wales. The final report will be bi-lingual.

9. Business Rates

The meeting was updated on a Bill in Parliament which has passed first reading and is awaiting second reading. The Bill seeks to abolish business rates with a 2% increase in VAT. The meeting agreed to write to the Prime Minister urging an early debate in Parliament and supporting the Bill.

10. Council Tax

The meeting was updated regarding Council Tax and it was confirmed that there is no current action to reform same by either Parliament or Welsh Government. The meeting agreed a review was needed and that the current system is unfair. The Secretary will raise the matter again with the appropriate government when the opportunity arises.

11. Health Matters

The meeting had a short discussion the Hospital facilities in North and Mid Wales. All those who had received the Covid 19 Vaccine were impressed with the organisation of it.

12. Homeless

The meeting had a short discussion and generally those present felt that things were a little better with more to do.

13. Representation for North Wales

The meeting was updated on the approach to Welsh Government for a specific Minister for North Wales.

It was agreed that the Secretary would contact North Wales candidates standing for Welsh Government seeking their support for this approach.



14. Holyhead Port

The meeting noted the issues surrounding the Port since Brexit. Things appear to have improved a little but the situation is to be monitored.

The Welsh Government had written to the Secretary confirming their commitment to supporting the Port at Holyhead.

15. Membership

The meeting noted and approved the membership application from Holyhead Town Council.

16. Dates for future meetings

The meeting noted the dates for future meetings as follows:

Quarterly Meetings

Friday 23rd July 2021 Annual Meeting at Connah's Quay

Friday 22nd October 2021

Friday 21st January 2022

Friday 22nd April 2022

Friday 22nd July 2022 Annual Meeting

Executive Meetings

Friday 11th June 2021

Friday 17th September 2021

Friday 17th December 2021 Friday 18th March 2022

Friday 17th June 2022

Meetings are held at 10.30am by Zoom.

17. Actions being taken forward

The following actions are to be taken forward:

Ref	Action	By
	Issue minutes and post on the website	Secretary
	Issue Station and Dementia Audit for comment	Secretary
	Write to candidates standing for Welsh Government Elections seeking support for a North Wales Minister	Secretary
	One Voice Wales – send copy of booklet	Secretary
	Annual Meeting – prepare and take forward decision on the Annual Meeting	Secretary
	Business Rates – letter of support for the Bill to be send to the Prime Minister at Parliament seeking that the Bill moves forward with all speed.	Secretary



APPENDIX A

NORTH & MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS		ANNUAL ACCOUNTS YEAR TO 31.3.2021												NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS ANNUAL ACCOUNTS	
		APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	OVERALL	2021
INCOME															
Membership		30.00			605.00	220.00			410.00		65.00			1330.00	1330.00
Meals income				50.00										50.00	50.00
Interest														0.00	0.00
Debtors														0.00	0.00
Preceding														0.00	0.00
Other														0.00	0.00
TOTAL		30.00	0.00	50.00	605.00	220.00	0.00	0.00	410.00	0.00	65.00	0.00	0.00	1440.00	1440.00
COSTS															
Meals														0.00	0.00
Expenses														0.00	0.00
Maintenance		100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	10.00	1110.00	1110.00
Bank charges														0.00	0.00
Gas							61.95							61.95	61.95
Waste														0.00	0.00
Website														0.00	0.00
Travel														0.00	0.00
Other							51.00				183.00			240.00	240.00
TOTAL		100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	212.95	100.00	100.00	100.00	283.00	140.00	142.00	1583.95	1583.95
Balance		-10.00	-100.00	-50.00	505.00	120.00	-212.95	-100.00	310.00	-100.00	-224.00	-140.00	-142.00	-143.95	-143.95
NOTE															
Start		6123.69	6119.69	6019.69	5963.69	6474.69	6534.69	6591.74	6361.74	6591.74	6491.74	6367.74	6127.74		BALANCE SHEET
End		6119.69	6019.69	5963.69	6474.69	6534.69	6591.74	6591.74	6591.74	6491.74	6367.74	6127.74	5995.74		Assets
Balance		10.00	100.00	50.00	-505.00	-120.00	212.95	100.00	-310.00	100.00	224.00	140.00	142.00		General Funds 6129.69
TRANSFER															Income/Expend Acct -143.95
															Total 5985.74
NOTE															
															Represented by
															Bank account 5985.74

** Note two meal accounts (one from last year).