



## **AGENDA**

**for the Quarterly Meeting of the Association  
to be held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023  
at 10.30am at the Civic Halls Connah's Quay**

### **1. Speaker – Smart Towns**

To receive a presentation from a speaker on the SMART TOWN'S initiative.

### **2. Minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting**

The meeting considered and approved the minutes of the last meeting held in April 2023.

### **3. Actions taken from the last meeting**

To note the actions from the last meeting.

No	Activity	Action by
1	Publish minutes on the website	Completed
2	Letter of thanks to Virginia Crosbie MP	Completed
3	Progress with new web site with new information format	Under way
4	Prepare and launch a Facebook page	In place
5	Publish in minutes the Morcombe wind farm site	Link issued to members
6	Arrange to meet Minister's Office regarding A55 traffic maybe on zoom at a future meeting.	
7	Arrange rail survey details	Arranged
8	Letter to Minister on health concerns	
9	Letter to each council on youth representatives	Completed
10	To take forward the youth forum	Awaiting results of no 9 before taken forward.

### **4. Financial and governance**

The meeting received a financial report.

### **5. Health**

To note the latest health information.

### **6. Transport Committee**

To note any points of relevance from the Transport Committee meetings.



**7. Holyhead**

To receive a report back from the Holyhead Free Port reception.

**8. Youth provision**

To receive an update on progress towards a youth forum.

**9. Date of next meeting**

To note the dates of future meetings as agreed at the AGM.

**16. Actions to be taken forward.**

To consider actions to be taken forward from the meeting.



## **MINUTES**

**of a meeting of the Quarterly of the Association  
held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023  
at 10.30am in Colwyn Bay  
at the Rhos on Sea Golf Club**

**Present were:**

Cllr Peter Morton	St Asaph City Council (Chair)
Cllr Joan Butterfield	Rhyl Town Council (President)
Robert Robinson	Llanfair Caereinion Town Council (Secretary)
Cllr Colin Matthews	Mayor of Bay of Colwyn Town Council
Cllr Linda Carter	Holywell Town Council
Cllr Michael Davies	Beaumaris Town Council
Cllr Norma Davies	Flint Town Council
Cllr Lynette Edwards	Caerwys Town Council
Cllr Carol Evans	Prestatyn Town Council
Cllr Ian Hodge	Holywell Town Council
Cllr Alan James	Rhyl Town Council
Cllr Shirley Jones-Roberts	Abergele Town Council
Cllr Bernise McLoughlin	Towyn and Kinmell Bay Town Council
Cllr Bob Mellor	Rhyl Town Council
Cllr Allan Manship	Connah's Quay Town Council
Cllr Bob Murray	Prestatyn Town Council
Cllr Allen Owen	Connah's Quay Town Council
G Nichols	Rhyl Town Council

**Apologies for absence were received from:**

Cllr Alyn Ashworth	Denbigh Town Council
Cllr Stephen Beach	Ruthin Town Council
Cllr Jeanette Chamberlain Jones	Rhyl Town Council
Cllr Bill Crease	Connah's Quay Town Council
Tina Early	Bay of Colwyn Town Council
Cllr Andrew Wood	Abergele Town Council

**1. Welcome by the Mayor of Bay of Colwyn Council**

The meeting received a welcome from the Mayor of Bay of Colwyn Town Council Cllr Colin Matthews



## **2. Minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting**

The meeting considered and approved the minutes of the last meeting held in January 2023.

## **3. Actions taken from the last meeting**

The meeting noted the actions from the last meeting.

## **4. Financial and governance**

The meeting received a financial report.

The end of year accounts shows a £179 deficit on the year to 31<sup>st</sup> Mach 2023.

The general costs will be reduced by £300 next due to the reduction in secretariat costs as set out in the budget attached to the agenda.

The meeting noted the current the bank balance as £5,682.39.

## **6. Health**

A discussion took place around the Betsi Cadwallader Trust as follows:

- i) Issues around all aspects of care and the health service.
- ii) There are toolkits available online – members will let the secretary know of the links so that they can be shared.
- iii) GP shortage was highlighted.
- iv) Allocation of funding needs a review.
- v) Members Council's sometimes have difficulty in getting meetings with health officials.
- vi) Parking issues – people parking on hospital sites and then going into town was highlighted.
- vii) Mobility issues in accessing services with poor public transport highlighted.

The meeting **AGREED** the following actions:

- i) A letter to Minister about member's concerns to be sent.

## **10. Transport Committee**

The following matters were considered regarding rail transport on the North Coast.

- I) Update on issues affecting the North Coast Lines.
- II) The meeting confirmed its support for the North Coast to Birmingham service to terminate at Shrewsbury with a change of trains onward to Birmingham.
- III) Details of the surveys.



Cllrs Ian Hodge, Normal Davies and Linda Carter agreed to help with the survey. The offer was gratefully received.

### **11. Holyhead**

The meeting received the good news about Holyhead becoming a 'Free Port'. The meeting agreed to send a letter to Virginia Crosbie thanking her regarding the efforts to help the Free Port bid. The meeting also thanked the secretary for his efforts in supporting the bid.

### **12. Roads (A55 in particular)**

The meeting considered the Welsh Government announcement that no further road building schemes will take place unless they had positive benefits to the environment.

The following points of note were discussed:

- i) The need for crawler lanes in areas where the hills are steeper (i.e. Northrop)
- ii) Red Route not now progressing.
- iii) A need to send a delegation to Cardiff to meet the Minister's office over the A55 and road transport from Holyhead.

### **13. Youth provision**

The meeting considered a paper on taking forward a youth section of the Association as set out at appendix B.

After discussion the following was **AGREED**:

- i) To progress with the plan as published using Zoom as a medium for meetings.
- ii) The secretary to contact each member council seeking how they wish their youth representatives to be chosen. A meeting of those will then be put in place during June so that views can be passed onto the AGM on subjects being discussed then.
- iii) DBS checks to be considered for those adults present on zoom with the young people.

### **14. Homeless**

The meeting noted a report on the BBC news for Northeast Wales as set out at appendix C.

The main points from the discussion were:



- i) The homeless issue around towns such as Rhyl.
- ii) The lack of rented accommodation and the regulations around it.
- iii) The issue of poor accommodation in some of the private and local authority areas.
- iv) The planning regulations – density of development sites and viability of sites.
- v) Issues around mental health, drug misuse etc.

The meeting **AGREED** that this subject should continue to be a regular agenda item.

### **15. Future of the association and its work**

The members spent some time looking at the future of the Association.

After some extensive discussion the following was **AGREED**:

- i) **The current remit to remain as:**
  - a) To discuss and take action on matters which affect the Member Councils.
  - b) To consider Welsh Government and Parliamentary Consultations where they affect the Member Councils.
  - c) To give a forum for member councils to discuss common issues.
  - d) To represent and promote members views wherever they are needed.
- ii) **Improving publicity**

The meeting wishes to see:

  - a) A new up to date website.
  - b) Members details (with password) with picture and contact so there can be better consultation between members.
  - c) A new Facebook page seeking public opinion and to publish the work of the Association.

The meeting **AGREED** the following:

- i) A new website is to be put in place asap as per the above. A budget of up to £500 allocated.
- ii) A new Facebook page to be put in place asap.
- iii) Use social media more – good admin needs to be in place.
- iv) Photos and contact details of each member to be added to the new website with a passcode needed to access that part of the site.





## 16. Smart Towns

The secretary introduced the SMART TOWN initiative. In Powys free wi-fi for 10 years has been put in place for towns that sign up to the Smart Town initiative. The free wi-fi also picks from mobile phones data on where people visiting have come from and what they visited in the area.

The meeting **AGREED** to invite someone from the SMART TOWN team to come and speak to the Association about the subject and what is on offer.

## 17. The Morcombe wind farm proposal

The secretary informed members of this proposal which might affect Flint/Shotton areas. A link to the wind farm website is set out here:

<https://morecambeoffshorewind.com/>

## 18. Annual meeting (July 2023)

The meeting **AGREED** that Connah's Quay should be the location for the Annual Meeting with a cold buffet lunch.

## 19. Date of next meeting

To note the date of the next meeting which is to be held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 at 10.30am in Connah's Quay with a cold buffet lunch.

## 20. Actions to be taken forward.

To take forward actions from the meeting.

No	Activity	Action by
1	Publish minutes on the website	Secretary
2	Letter of thanks to Virginia Crosbie MP	Secretary
3	Progress with new web site with new information format	Secretary
4	Prepare and launch a Facebook page	Secretary
5	Publish in minutes the Morcombe wind farm site	Done
6	Arrange to meet Minister's Office regarding A55 traffic maybe on zoom at a future meeting.	Secretary
7	Arrange rail survey details	Secretary
8	Letter to Minister on health concerns	Secretary