



MINUTES

of the Quarterly Meeting of the Association held on
 Friday 26th October 2018 at
 The Royal Oak Hotel Welshpool Powys

Record of attendance

Council	Attending	Apologies received
Officers	Cllr B Roberts Cllr H Chave Cllr J Butterfield R A Robinson	Cllr H Meredith
Abergele Town Council	Cllr S Jones-Roberts	Cllr R Waters
Argoed Community Council	Cllr R Hampton-Jones	
Bangor City Council	Cllr D Hainge Cllr J Martin	Ian Jones
Bagillt Community Council	Cllr C Williams	
Bay of Colwyn Town Council	Cllr B Barton	Cllr S Williams
Broughton and Bretton Town Council		
Buckley Town Council	Cllr V Blondak Cllr A Wooley	
Caersws Town Council		
Cia Park Community Council		
Connah's Quay Town Council	Cllr P Davies Cllr E Faulkner Cllr G Faulkner S Goodrum	
Conwy Town Council		
Denbigh Town Council		
Flint Town Council	Cllr S Lisenise	
Hawarden Community Council		
Holywell Town Council	Cllr P Johnson Cllr J Baker	Cllr K Davies Cllr P York
Llanfair Caereinion Town Council		V Griffiths
Llandudno Town Council		Cllr B Bertola Cllr M Lyon
Llanasa Town Council		
Llanfairfechan Community Council		



Llandrinio & Ardleen Com Council		Cllr C Davies
Llandysillio Community Council	Cllr F Buckingham	Cllr C Davies
Llangollen Town Council		
Meinai Bridge Town Council	Cllr M Davies	
Penmaenmawr Town Council		
Prestatyn Town Council		
Rhuddlan Town Council	Cllr M Komode	
Rhyl Town Council	Cllr A James Cllr B Mellor	Cllr Chamberlain Jones Cllr G Nickels
Ruthin Town Council	Cllr K Allsop Cllr P Robson Cllr S Beach	
Shotton Town Council		
St Asaph City Council		
Towyn & Kinmell Bay Town Council		Cllr B McLoughlin
Welshpool Town Council	Cllr J Ellis Cllr F Veenstra	

1. Record of attendance

The meeting noted that Cllr H Meredith was in hospital and that Cllr B Bertola was also not well at this time.

2. Welcome by the Deputy Mayor of Welshpool Town Council

The meeting was welcomed to Welshpool by the Deputy Mayor Cllr H Chave.

2. Betsi Cadwallader Hospital Trust

The meeting received a presentation from J Truman and S O'Donnell. Following this there was a question and answer session.

The following items were of note:

Bed blocking in hospitals

It was not accepted that there was bed blocking but it was accepted that beds were empty due to lack of staffing.

Ambulance standing time in Hospitals

It was accepted that ambulances were waiting outside hospitals and that this was unacceptable.



A and E waiting times

The A and E waiting times was not covered in the presentation other than reference to the efforts made to reduce them.

New Chair and Board Members

A booklet was issued listing the current board.

Start date for the upgrade of the Royal Alexandra in Rhyl

A programme for completion of the works to the hospital was given as follows:

- i) January 2019-March 2020 – Preparation of business case etc.
- ii) Project completed by December 2022.

Will the new arrangements increase the number of available beds?

The answer is yes, the estimate is by 28.

The main focus is to be:

- a) Demand – Managing demand for all health services.
- b) Flow - Getting people through the system more efficiently.
- c) Discharge – better planning both in discharging patients but also the care for when they get home.

The strategy is to be:

The strategy put forward was:

- a) The whole service needs to be a partnership between everyone.
- b) Units working together – not happening at present.
- c) Financial deficit needs to be tackled.

Other points of note:

- i) More nurses are needed, there are changes in recruiting policy to help with this.
- ii) The Trust is seeking to reduce agency nursing when it can.
- iii) Obesity is a real issue in affecting health care with 1 in 4 in this category in children alone.
- iv) Emphasis on prevention to aid the overload in health care.
- v) Looking to move care closer to home.



- vi) The way forward with details of what was being done was presented and accepted as good news, assuming that it all happens as planned.
- vii) The members where of the view that there needed to be less 'boards, meetings and discussion' and more actual delivery of results. The Trust said that they would take this back to their managers.

3. The Notice of the meeting.

The meeting received the notice.

4. Minutes of the last meeting

The meeting approved the minutes of the last quarterly meeting.

5. Actions taken since the last meeting

The meeting noted the actions taken since the last meeting.

No	Activity	By
1	Place the Welsh Language on the next agenda	Completed
2	Write a letter of support to Llanfairfechan Town Council as per minute no 8 of the last meeting	Completed
3	Follow up letters to the Ministers Office	Reported on during the meeting

6. Financial Report

The meeting received a financial report.

7. Executive

The meeting received the minutes of the Executive Meeting.

8. Welsh Language

Due to the Member raising the subject not being in attendance this item is to be held over to the next meeting in January 2019.

9. Request for provision of a service delivery survey

To consider a request to provide a survey of delivery of services by Town and Community Council taking them over from the Principal Authority.

The meeting **RESOLVED** that each Member Council should respond directly to Tina Early if they wished to.



10. Community Asset Transfer

There was some discussion around CAT. There were very different approaches to this from County to County Council.

The meeting **RESOLVED** that the Secretary should write to Welsh Government seeking clearer guidance.

11. Rail Services into the future

The meeting considered an update on train services planned under the new arrangements for rail services from 14th October 2018.

The meeting noted the investment proposed and the new train information.

For full information members can see details at <http://tfw.gov.uk>

12. Health

The meeting received a short update on the following:

a) North Wales Hospital Services

Ian Jones was not present but an update was given under the heading of visiting speaker.

b) Mid Wales Hospital Services

A short update was given on the Mid Wales situation. The consultation has been completed with an announcement on the future plans being due in March 2019.

13. Homeless provision in Wales

The meeting considered a report from the Secretary on his visit to Welsh Government.

There appears to be a difference in approach between the Welsh Government and County Councils.

The position as it is understood is that even if someone makes themselves homeless the authority has a responsibility. There were examples given where this is not the case.

The question of 'what can Town and Community Councils do to help' was asked. It appears that at local level volunteers could be used to identify homeless, visit them and advise them what to do and help them make contact with the County Council.

The secretary will report further at the next meeting.



14. Children and school meals

To consider the following issues and what might the Association do about them:

- a) The new payment by card system in schools where a child does not have enough money on the card and therefore do not get fed.
- b) The lack of out of school help with children and food.
- c) The effect of being hungry whilst learning.
- d) Lack of free milk in schools due to change in system.

The meeting discussed this subject at some length.

There were clear examples where things were going very wrong.

Two examples given were:

Example one

Children queue up a meal, if they have no money when they arrive at the till their meal is put in the bin and they were given a cheese sandwich with some water in front of everyone else in the room.

Example two

A meal card had money put on it, however the authority had taken the money in the bank account but not put it on the card, when the child went for dinner it was binned and the child offered nothing at all.

There were similar examples in other areas including Bangor.

The meeting **RESOLVED** to follow these issues up and to make representations to Welsh Government and the County Council on this subject.

The item to be on the next agenda for an update.

15. Future of Town and Community Councils

The meeting considered the panel report on the future of Town and Community Councils. The report said very little that we did not know. The report did include recommendations with regards to a review of boundaries and the Town Clerk being appointed from an approved list.

The Committee also noted the lack of balance in the makeup of the panel with only one Clerk.

Reference to training was made. One Voice Wales offers training, in some areas this often does not take place due to lack of support. Some members were also not impressed with the quality of some training sessions.



16. Anglesey – Pylon Lines

The meeting considered an email regarding the objection to a new pylon line in Anglesey seeking Association support. The meeting **AGREED** that responses should be completed by individual Councils.

17. Consultation on Alcohol minimum pricing

The members considered the Welsh Government Consultation on the introduction of minimum pricing of alcohol.

After some discussion the meeting **AGREED** to respond objecting to the proposals on the grounds as set out below:

- a) The introduction of a minimum pricing would not have any effect.
- b) The introduction of minimum pricing would be difficult to police.
- c) The introduction of minimum pricing could lead to increased crime rates.

18. To note Dates of future meetings

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

Quarterly Meetings

Friday 18 th January 2019	Llandudno Town Council
Friday 12 th April 2019	Bay of Colwyn Town Council
Friday 19 th July 2019	The Civic Halls of Connah's Quay.

All meetings start at 10.30am

Executive Meetings

Friday 7th December 2018
Friday 8th March 2019
Friday 7th June 2019

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

**19. Actions taken forward:**

The following actions are to be taken forward:

No	Action	By
1	Welsh Language to be added to next agenda being deferred from this meeting.	Secretary
2	Letter to Tina Ealey on service delivery.	Secretary
3	Letter to Welsh Government on CAT guidance.	Secretary
4	Contact Welsh Government and County Councils over school meals situation	Secretary
5	Follow up on homeless report	Secretary
6	Consultation on minimum pricing for alcohol	Secretary
7	Issue of press release on meeting news.	Secretary