



MINUTES

of the Quarterly Meeting of the Association held on
 Friday 18th January 2019 at
 Coleg Llandrillo Llandudno Road Rhos on Sea

Record of attendance

Council	Attending	Apologies received
Officers	Cllr H Chave (Chair) Cllr H Meredith R A Robinson	Cllr B Roberts Cllr J Butterfield
Abergele Town Council	Cllr S Jones-Roberts Cllr R Waters	
Argoed Community Council		
Bangor City Council	Cllr D Hainge Cllr Jones Cllr J Martin Ian Jones	
Bagillt Community Council	Cllr C Williams	
Bay of Colwyn Town Council	Cllr B Barton Cllr S Williams	Tina Early
Broughton and Bretton Town Council		
Buckley Town Council	Cllr V Blondek Cllr A Wooley	
Caerwys Town Council	Cllr L M Edwards	
Cia Park Community Council		
Connah's Quay Town Council	Cllr P Davies Cllr E Faulkner Cllr P Attridge S Goodrum	
Conwy Town Council	Cllr N Flint	
Denbigh Town Council	Cllr Berry Cllr Tickle	
Flint Town Council	Cllr S Lisense	
Hawarden Community Council		
Holywell Town Council		Cllr K Davies Cllr P York Cllr P Johnson Cllr J Baker



Llanfair Caereinion Town Council		V Griffiths
Llandudno Town Council		Cllr B Bertola Cllr M Lyon L Morris
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	R Acott Cllr R Murray	
Rhuddlan Town Council		Cllr M Komode
Rhyl Town Council	Cllr G Nickels Cllr B Mellor	Cllr Chamberlain Jones Cllr A James
Ruthin Town Council	Cllr P Robson Cllr S Beach	
Shotton Town Council		
St Asaph City Council	Cllr P Morton	
Towyn & Kinmell Bay Town Council		
Welshpool Town Council	Cllr J Ellis Cllr F Veenstra	

1. Record of attendance

The meeting noted that Brian Roberts was unwell. All wished him a speedy recovery and their best wishes.

2. Welcome by Leslie Tipping Assistant Principal of the College.

The meeting was welcomed to the College by the Assistant principal who gave a short resume of the College activities.

3. Welcome by the Mayor of Llandudno Town Council

The Mayor of Llandudno Town Council welcomed the delegates to the January 2019 North and Mid Wales Association meeting.

4. Meals bookings policy

The Secretary reported that this meeting had been very difficult with regards to booking meals. Members are reminded that the Policy of the Association is that meals must be booked by the date issued with each agenda.



There can be no additions after that date. It should also be noted that all meals should be booked via the Secretaries Office and not direct.

5. Transport for Wales

The meeting received a presentation from Elenud Harris from Transport for Wales with the following items were of note:

- (i) The future aspirations of Transport for Wales were presented.
- (ii) The level of investment was presented with substantial sums being made available for rolling stock, infrastructure and other improvements to the service.
- (iii) Transport for Wales wishes to work with the Association as each aspect progresses.
- (iv) The aim is to provide a 7 day a week timetable on all TfW lines.
- (v) There will be 600 new jobs.
- (vi) There will be 30 apprentices per annum.
- (vii) There is a station audit taking place to assess what is needed at each station location. Some stations are quite good but others are in need of improvement and this is recognised.
- (viii) There is £200m for station improvements and £15m for car parking improvements.
- (ix) There will WiFi on all stations.
- (x) Access for All is a priority when looking at station improvements.
- (xi) A new range of tickets are to be introduced, 3,000 saver tickets have been released recently.
- (xii) New ticket machines are to be installed.
- (xiii) The new trains and refurbished trains have a target programme of:

Aberystwyth – Shrewsbury

Hourly train service in December 2022.

New station at Bow Street due to open 2020.

New trains 2023.

Holyhead to Cardiff

‘Gerald’ will be joined by ‘Geraldine’ with a premier service to Cardiff. These trains will have upgraded rolling stock.

Wrexham to Bilston

First line to have new rolling stock.

A half hourly service from 2021.



Liverpool and Manchester

Further train services to be added with improved trains.

- (xiv) New maintenance depots to be added including a depot at Wrexham.
- (xv) Many new trains will be able to run on electric, diesel and battery.
- (xvi) Refurbished and new trains on all lines by 2023 with such services having all modern and up to date facilities.
- (xvii) On the North Coast line major improvements will be taken forward at Shotton, Wrexham, Chester and B Ffestiniog.
- (xviii) Bi-lingual signage and information is to be installed.
- (xix) High class intercity service to be introduced linking cities to Cardiff.
- (xx) There will be Community Rail Partnerships and an improved station adopters' scheme.
- (xxi) Final aim is to be the 'best railway in Britain' within 2 years.

The meeting then presented question to Ft W.

The questions covered:

Need for improved toilet facilities.

Longer trains need to support a better service.

Issues around trains being taken from North and Mid Wales to support Cardiff events.

Smart ticketing.

Disabled access.

Safety on stations, particularly later a night.

In all cases TfW will do its best to improve the situation in all cases.

There was an invitation by Prestatyn Town Council to visit.

The slides used for the presentation are to be sent to the secretary and posted on the Association Web Site.

6. Minutes of the last meeting

The meeting considered and approved the minutes of the last meeting. The secretary took on board the quality of some copies and this will be improved.

7. Actions taken since the last meeting

The Secretary informed the meeting of actions taken since the last meeting:



7.1 Welsh Language.

This subject will be taken forward on the agenda of the next Quarterly Meeting.

7.2 Letter to Tina Early regarding surveys.

A letter was sent to Tina Early from Bay of Colwyn Town Council regarding a survey about Asset Transfer.

7.3 Letters to Welsh Government on CAT guidance.

7.4 School dinner provision in High Schools.

The secretary updated the meeting on the school meals situation with regards payments. The evidence is there to show that in many Welsh Counties when there is not enough money on the payment card the meals are taken back and the youngster either goes hungry or is given a sandwich etc.

The meeting **AGREED** that a press release should be issued.

7.5 Homeless report.

The issue regarding a difference in approach by Welsh Government to the County Councils is noted. Work to find a better way forward continues. The issues around actions that can be taken by Town and community Councils to support the principal authorities are still being followed up.

7.6 Consultation on minimum pricing on alcohol sales.

The response to the consultation has been sent to the Welsh Government.

8. Financial Report

The members received a financial report.

The current bank balance is £6,637.70p.

9. Minutes of the Executive Meeting

The members received the minutes of the last Executive Meeting.

10. Future of Local Councils

The meeting noted the Minister's statement issued in December 2018.

A report was issued by the secretary for information.

The report is to be published on the web site with the minutes.

The meeting **AGREED** that:

- (i) Actions listed under 'Items which will come into effect' will now be left with individual councils to implement and take forward.
- (ii) Those items under 'for future consideration' will be brought forward for consultation over the coming months.



The meeting also noted that the secretary does know and speaks to Lyn Cadwallader of One Voice Wales. A further communication with him over working together (not membership) will be investigated.

11. Health care - (North Wales)

A short report was given by Ian Jones on the Betsi Cadwallader Hospital Trust and hospital news.

12. Health care – Mid Wales

A short report was given as an update on the decision following the consultation regarding the Shrewsbury/Telford Hospitals due in March 2019.

13. Councillor allowances

There is some confusion over the taxation situation with regards to Councillors Allowances/Expenses. The views expressed by some organisations is different to others. The meeting **AGREED** that the secretary is to investigate and publish a definitive statement.

14. Welsh Schools

The members noted Welsh Government Policy announced the day before regarding school policy which is to be a single curriculum with a single school (not Welsh and English separate). Bearing in mind the money that has and is still being spent on new Welsh Schools separate from English Schools this announcement was surprising.

15. Dates of future meetings

The meeting noted the meeting dates for the remainder of the Association year as follows:

Quarterly Meetings

Friday 26th April 2019 – Bay of Colwyn Town Council

Friday 10th July 2019 – Connah's Quay Town Council

All Quarterly Meetings start at 10.30am.

Executive Meetings

Friday 9th March 2019

Friday 8th June 2019

All Executive Meetings are held at 10.30am in the Offices of Rhyl Town Council.

**16. Actions being taken forward**

The following actions are to be taken forward:

No	Action	By
1	Investigate and publish the results regarding the tax situation with Councillors Allowances/Expenses.	
2	Post the 'Future of Councils' paper on the web site.	
3	Publish the press release on school meal provision.	
4	Investigate if there is any common ground with One Voice Wales over working together without and membership conditions.	
5	Note change of date for next meeting and liaise with Tina Early Bay of Colwyn Council over the venue availability.	