



## AGENDA

of the Quarterly Meeting of the Association held on  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 10.30am  
at The Pavilion Theatre, Promenade, Rhyl.

**Record of attendance:**

The following is the recorded attendance list:

No	Representing	Present were	Apologies received
1	<b>Officers</b>	Cllr P Morton Chair Cllr J Butterfield President R A Robinson Secretary	
2	<b>Abergele Town Council</b>	Cllr B Roberts Cllr S Jones-Roberts Cllr R Waters	
3	<b>Argoed Town Council</b>	Cllr R Hampton Jones	
4	<b>Bangor City Council</b>	Cllr J Martin Cllr D Hainge	
5	<b>Bagillt Community Council</b>		
6	<b>Bay of Colwyn Town Council</b>	Cllr B Barton	Cllr H Meredith
7	<b>Broughton and Bretton Community Council</b>		
8	<b>Buckley Town Council</b>	Cllr A Woolley Cllr V Blondek	
9	<b>Caerswys Town Council</b>	Cllr L Edwards	
10	<b>Caia Park Community Council</b>		
11	<b>Connah's Quay Town Council</b>	S Goodrum Cllr E Faulkner Cllr P Davies Cllr G Faulkner	
12	<b>Conwy Town Council</b>	Cllr H Roberts	Cllr N Flint
13	<b>Denbigh Town Council</b>		
14	<b>Flint Town Council</b>	Cllr S License	
15	<b>Hawarden Community Council</b>		
16	<b>Holywell Town Council</b>	Cllr P York J Baker Cllr K Davies	



17	<b>Llanfair Caereinion Town Council</b>		Cllr V Griffiths
18	<b>Llandudno Town Council</b>	Cllr B Bertola	
19	<b>Llanasa Town Council</b>		
20	<b>Llanfairfechan Town Council</b>		
21	<b>Llandrinio and Arddleen Community Council</b>		Carol Davies Clerk
22	<b>Llandysilio Community Council</b>		Cllr F Buckingham
23	<b>Meinai Bridge Town Council</b>	Cllr M Davies	
24	<b>Penmaenmawr Town Council</b>	Cllr M Baines Cllr M Hanks	
25	<b>Prestatyn Town Council</b>	Cllr B Murray N Acott	
26	<b>Rhuddlan Town Council</b>		Apologies – no one available
27	<b>Rhyl Town Council</b>	Cllr E Chard Cllr B Mellor G Nickels Town Clerk	Cllr A James
28	<b>Ruthin Town Council</b>	Cllr S Beach Cllr H Williams	Cllr Alsop Robson
29	<b>Shotton Town Council</b>		
30	<b>St Asaph City Council</b>	See Chair	
31	<b>Towyn and Kinmell Bay Town Council</b>	Cllr B McLoughlin Cllr M Jones	

### 1. Welcome by the Mayor of Rhyl

The meeting received a welcome from Cllr Ellie Chard Mayor of Rhyl Town Council

### 2. Housekeeping

The meeting noted the fire exits, toilets and any tests for the day.

### 3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

### 4. Elections

The meeting **APPROVED** the following recommendation from the Executive as follows:

Cllr Peter Morton to take over as Chair of the Association until July 2021.

The Post of Vice Chair be left vacant until the Annual Meeting when the usual election is to be held.



## 5. Secretariat

The meeting received an update on the Administration Management of the Association.

Members were also invited to let the secretary have their email addresses (only if they wished to receive information via this method).

All information is posted on the web site at least 7 days before the meeting concerned.

All consultations are also posted on the agenda.

The meeting thanked the clerks from Holywell and Rhyl Town Councils for their help with the Secretarial matters between WTC Clerk resigning from the post and the reinstatement of the Secretary on an independent basis.

## 6. Minutes of the last Meeting

The meeting considered and **APPROVED** the minutes of the last quarterly meeting.

## 7. Actions from the last meeting

The meeting considered a report on actions to be taken forward from the last meeting:

Heading	Status
Archives to be placed in the Library of Wales	Ongoing
Contact to be made with NALC and IESE to seek association membership	All that is on offer is a reduction in fees as a group to each member council – no further action is being taken.
Seek a North & Mid Wales Minister dedicated to those areas via an approach to Welsh Government	A letter has been received but not what the Association is seeking. A further letter is to be sent seek regular visits to North Wales and for the Minister to meet the Association.
Executive to move forward, make the appointment of Secretary/Treasurer and change any policies accordingly	Completed
Business Rates and Council Tax to be a standard agenda item for the foreseeable future	A letter to be sent seeking both Parliament and Welsh Government timetables and ideas for review.



Report on wind and solar farms should be prepared for the next meeting.	This item was covered under the Wales Strategy on the agenda.
Letter to be sent from the Executive to Welshpool Town Council thanking them for their services to the Association	Completed.
The meeting requested a Transport for Wales representative attend a future meeting	A Rail plan is included on agenda and appears later in these minutes.

### 8. Financial Report

The meeting considered an update on the finances of the Association. (see Appendix 1)

The meeting noted the current bank balance of £6,327.14.

The meeting noted the payment of fees due July 2019-2020 – notices issued with agenda.

### 8. Insurances

The meeting considered and **APPROVED** the implementation of third party liability insurance for the meetings held. The approx. cost is £80pa.

### 10. Executive Meeting Minutes

The meeting received the minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

### 10. Homeless

The meeting considered and discussed at some length the issues.

The meeting also considered information from the Wales Sleeping Rough Audit including figures.

There was an extensive discussion around this subject again.

The areas of discussion included:

- i) The veterans and armed forces support.
- ii) Forms and support from the authorities
- iii) The problem is getting worse.
- iv) The statistics do not reflect what is happening locally.
- v) The relationship between homeless and mental health.
- vi) Broader issues around general care in the community.



It was **AGREED** to invite a representative from the Salvation Army to speak to the Association at a future meeting.

The meeting recognised the work of the Royal British Legion and SAFFA.

### **11. Council Tax**

The meeting considered the paper attached to the agenda.

It was **AGREED** that a letter should be sent to both Parliament and the Welsh Government seeking their proposals being considered and a timescale for review.

### **12. Business Rates**

The meeting considered the paper attached to the agenda.

It was **AGREED** that a letter should be sent to both Parliament and the Welsh Government seeking their proposals being considered and a timescale for review.

### **13. Public Conveniences**

The meeting shared views on the risks related to the management of public conveniences in particular with regards to fire risk.

The following items were highlighted:

- i) Keeping enough in reserves for repairs.
- ii) Signage for wet floors and contact details if there are issues.
- iii) Rates are not payable but should be kept under review.
- iv) CAT schemes vary in each County area.
- v) Costs of running toilets and double taxation.

### **14. Hospital updates**

To consider an update on the hospital services from:

#### **North Wales**

There was much discussion around NHS issues in North Wales hospitals. Subjects such as care, ambulance times etc. were included in the discussions. It was **AGREED** to invite a representative from Glan Clwyd Hospital to a future meeting.

#### **Mid Wales**

The meeting noted the issues with the Shrewsbury/Telford Hospital Trust which are being monitored.



### **15. Rail updates**

The meeting considered an update on Transport for Wales and rail services in North and Mid Wales.

The meeting then considered and **APPROVED** the following recommendation from the Executive:

To set up a Rail Liaison Committee for the North Coast Lines.  
Membership to be Welsh Government, Transport for Wales, Network Rail, British Transport Police, County Councils, Town and Community Councils, Rail Interest and Rail Passenger Association Groups.  
Meetings quarterly.

This Committee would be similar to the Shrewsbury Aberystwyth Rail Liaison Committee ([www.shrewsburyaberystwythrailway.org.uk](http://www.shrewsburyaberystwythrailway.org.uk))

Set up cost would be £275 and an annual budget of £160 would be required for hall hire and administration.

The Secretary is to seek approval from Welsh Government to setting up the Liaison Committee during his meeting in Cardiff on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

### **16. Business Improvement Districts**

The meeting considered the operation of Business Improvement Districts and the representation on them. It appears some schemes are working but many are not.

The meeting **AGREED** to invite a representative to speak to the meeting on such schemes.

There were some concerns over the County Council role in such schemes.

### **17. Consultations**

The meeting noted the consultations posted on the web site as follows:

Health and Safety Statement  
Constitution  
Standing Orders



### **18. Local Government Elections (Wales) Bill**

The meeting received an update on the visit by the Secretary to the Welsh Government Committee to consider evidence from the Association with the following points of note:

- i) 16/17 year olds are to receive the right to vote in local elections.
- ii) Overseas residents in Wales are to be included on the electoral rolls.
- iii) A central data base for electoral roles to be introduced by W.G.
- iv) The County Councils to be given the right to choose which voting system they wish to adopt and this can be reviewed every 10 years.
- v) The idea of the STV system is to be applied to Town and Community Councils.
- vi) A fixed term for local councils is to be introduced at 5 years.

It is understood that the County Councils are opposed to the STV system. They are being consulted shortly.

The secretary presented the case to Welsh Government based on the Associations views. One of these was the opposition to a STV system for any local council elections.

### **19.Clean Air Act (Wales)**

The Secretary outlined the Clean Air Act proposals.

Concern was expressed over how this might affect rural areas where there is a limited number of options available to them.

A letter is to be sent to Welsh Government expressing this concern.

### **18.The Strategy for North and Mid Wales**

The meeting received a short presentation at the meeting with the key points covered. The members will be asked if they wish to following up any particular part of the plan over the coming months. This presentation is to be posted on the web site. The meeting felt that Tourism should be given a high priority in any business plan.

### **19.Chairs announcement**

The Chair Cllr P Morton presented a cake to celebrate the Presidents special birthday on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020. All members had a piece of the cake during lunch.



**20.Dates for future meetings**

The meeting noted the dates for future meetings as follows:

**Quarterly Meetings**

17th January 2020	Rhyl Town Council
24 <sup>th</sup> April 2020	Llandudno Town Council
17 <sup>th</sup> July 2020	Connah’s Quay Town Council (Civic Halls)

**Executive Meetings**

13<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and 12<sup>th</sup> June 2020

All Executive Meetings are held at Rhyl Town Council Offices.

All meetings commence at 10.30am

**21.Actions to be taken forward**

The following actions to be taken forward from the meeting are:

No	Heading	Action
	<a href="#">Minutes and information</a>	<a href="#">The minutes and presentation to be posted on the web site.</a>
	Archives to be placed in the Library of Wales	On-going
	Seek a North & Mid Wales Minister dedicated to those areas via an approach to Welsh Government	A letter has been received but not what the Association is seeking. A further letter is to be sent seek regular visits to North Wales and for the Minister to meet the Association.
	Business Rates and Council Tax to be a standard agenda item for the foreseeable future.	A letter to be sent seeking both Parliament and Welsh Government timetables and ideas for review.
	<a href="#">North Wales Cost Rail Liaison Committee</a>	<a href="#">To clear the setting up of this Committee with Welsh Government.</a>
	<a href="#">Speakers</a>	<a href="#">To arrange speakers on the following subjects:</a> i) <a href="#">Hospitals</a> ii) <a href="#">Salvation Army (Homeless)</a> iii) <a href="#">B.I.D. schemes</a>
	Insurances	Arrange third party liability insurance for the meetings – approx. cost £80pa.
	<a href="#">Clean Air Act</a>	<a href="#">Letter to be sent expressing concern over rural areas affected.</a>





**APPENDIX 1**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

<b>NORTH &amp; MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS</b>								
<b>ANNUAL ACCOUNTS YEAR TO 31.3.2020</b>								
		APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
<b>INCOME</b>	Membership & Meals	256.00	16.00	0.00	96.00	194.00	96.00	100.00
	Interest							
	Debtors							
	Other							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>256.00</u>	<u>16.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>96.00</u>	<u>194.00</u>	<u>96.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>
<b>COSTS</b>	Meals	1030.16						
	Expenses							
	Administration							
	Bank charges							
	Gavel							
	Web hosting							
	Web site							
	Translation							
	Other							
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>1030.16</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<b>BALANCE</b>	<u>-774.16</u>	<u>16.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>96.00</u>	<u>194.00</u>	<u>96.00</u>	<u>100.00</u>
<b>BANK</b>	Start	6599.30	5825.14	5841.14	5841.14	5937.14	6131.14	6227.14
	End	5825.14	5841.14	5841.14	5937.14	6131.14	6227.14	6327.14
	Balance	774.16	-16.00	0.00	-96.00	-194.00	-96.00	-100.00