

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Mold Town Council Community, Development & Regeneration Committee held on Tuesday 17th January 2017 at Mold Town Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors: Andrea Mearns (Chair), Phil Thomas, Chris Bithell, Geoff Collett, Karen Hodgkinson, Anthony Parry (Mayor), Town Manager and Support Officer.

Also Present: Andrew Lightfoot Streetscene Supervisor Flintshire County Council.

11. APOLOGIES: Councillors Richard Brookes, Bob Gaffey (Deputy Mayor)

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

13. MINUTES

To receive and approve the minutes of the last Community, Development & Regeneration Committee meeting held on 11th October 2016.

Resolved: It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Community, Development & Regeneration Committee held on 11th October be approved as a correct record.

14. INFORMATION ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4. Update from Andrew Lightfoot on issues relating to Streetscene responsibilities as mentioned in previous minutes.

Andrew confirmed to members his understanding the guarantee on the slurry seal was 7-10 years and he would contact the contractor for a written confirmation of the actual guarantee period.

Andrew confirmed fencing required along the Glanrafon medical centre on New Street car park was in the process of being costed and once this had happened, he would speak to management at Flintshire County Council for approval to proceed.

Andrew confirmed Darrel Jones (Flintshire County Council Streetscene Lighting Manager) had received approval to carry out a proposal for costing the lighting in New Street car park. Councillor Bithell asked Andrew if there were any plans to improve the lighting in Griffiths Square car park as some residents whose homes back onto or face the car park have complained the light glares into their homes, it can also be dark in some areas of the car park. Councillor Collett said that the problem with the lighting in both car parks is that the lamp standards are too low and they need to be higher. Following further discussion, it was agreed an evening on site meeting would take place

between members of the CDR Committee, the Town Manager and Streetscene Supervisor and a report would follow.

Andrew updated members on three proposals to alleviate the flooding on Love Lane car park:-

Option 1 – prove abandoned line on Love lane. If it proves correct, block off line onto car park and create an independent system. This will mean that all water from the High St and King Street will run down Love Lane and tap into the positive system on Denbigh Road. Love Lane car park will then have it's own soakaway system independent of the highway. This would be Andrew's preferred option.

Option 2 – extend the existing system under the Denbigh Road to main culvert between Lidl and Petrol Station.

Option 3 – take the system from Love Lane car park to run behind Aldi to the mini roundabout at Tesco petrol station. This has a limited flow fall over a large distance, therefore would not be the best option.

Andrew confirmed Streetscene were in the process of exploring option 1 and proving any abandoned systems, but it must be noted that ultimately, funds will need to be raised before any work is undertaken. Councillor Mearns requested the Council is kept updated on the progress.

The Town Manager confirmed following discussion with the Town Clerk and Caretaker, the maintenance of the town's notice boards had now been included within the Caretakers duties.

5. On going projects – Andrew informed members Streetscene were putting a timber frame around the bottom of the gateway signs which would be filled with slate and stone, these should be finished by Tuesday 24th January. The timber frame would stop the sign being damaged when carrying out grass cutting. Councillor Mearns raised concern that the clean linear effect of the gateway signs would be lost if a box was put around them. Councillor Collett said that members had not agreed for a box, they had requested something low maintenance and in keeping with the signs. It was suggested that a 4-6inch protective surface is placed around the signs to allow strimming to take place without damaging the signs. Councillor Mearns confirmed members preference would be no box, just slate chippings.

The Town Manager would carry out a visual visit with Andrew and agree an appropriate solution.

Andrew confirmed Flintshire County Council would plant the flower boxes on the 6 Gateway signs, but would not carry out the maintenance and watering during the growing season.

The Town Manager asked for it to be noted, that Town Council is required to meet any additional cost of watering and maintenance of the 6 Gateway signs and this would need to be built into the hanging basket watering contract.

The Town Manager had spoken with Menter Iaithe regarding the town map project and their only comment was that it would need to say, on the English version of map, that the map was also available in Welsh and vice versa on the Welsh map if single language maps were produced.

The Town Manager asked Andrew for Streetscene to remove the old map which was in the bed opposite the Bethesda Chapel in New Street car park, as it was now outdated and had been replaced by the visitor information point on the footway by the Chapel and outside of the public conveniences.

Councillor Bithell asked the Town Manager if there was any progress regarding the town WiFi. The Town Manager confirmed there had been a change in Project Managers at Flintshire County Council, but he was progressing the project with the new manager but it was still early days.

6. Christmas Lights – the Town Manager confirmed a maintenance schedule was now in place with the contractor and the Budget Committee had proposed an increase in the Christmas light budget from £10,000 to £20,000 to cover the maintenance programme, storage and staged replacement of lamp column lights. The budget was to be discussed at January's meeting of full council.

The car parking revenue amount due was still awaiting confirmation and the Town Manager had asked Steve Jones Head of Streetscene at Flintshire County Council for confirmation on the amount. Councillor Bithell confirmed he would take forward at the next Flintshire County Council meeting regarding parking revenue which was taking place on the 24th January.

8. Pigeons - It was pointed out that whilst the pigeon problem that existed in the town was of concern to Town Council members, any solution to the issue must remain with FCC as it is their land and primarily their responsibility to address.

Andrew Lightfoot had made enquiries within FCC and he does not believe Flintshire have a policy on how to deal with pigeons, however there was correspondence relating to issues with seagulls and there was an approved service supplier to deal with them in a humane way. Andrew confirmed he would contact the approved supplier to discuss the issues within the town relating to pigeons.

The Support Officer confirmed she had spoken with a member of the Mold Invitation Homing Society and they would be happy to meet with members of the CDR Committee to discuss their suggestions on how to resolve current situation. The Support Officer was asked by members to arrange a special meeting of the CDR Committee and invite the Mold Invitation Homing Society and Andrew Lightfoot - Streetscene Supervisor, together with any expert that may be available.

Resolved: It was resolved that the Support Officer would arrange a special meeting with the CDR Committee, Mold Invitation Homing Society and Andrew Lightfoot - Streetscene Supervisor. The Town Manager and Streetscene Supervisor would follow up on the actions as discussed.

15. STREETSCENE UPDATE

Andrew Lightfoot Streetscene Supervisor had provided members with an updated during discussions on matters arising from the minutes. The Town Manager informed members he was meeting with Andrew Lightfoot and Iain Williams from Flintshire County Council Streetscene to discuss the floral nature of the town in general following the comments made by judges about the town centre during the Best Kept Community Awards 2016.

Councillor Mearns said she would like to receive constructive feedback from the judges about last year's competition and what in particular it was about the town that could be improved. Councillor Bithell confirmed he would take this forward with the Chairman's Assistant at Flintshire County Council.

Councillor Hodgkinson left the meeting at 7.00pm

Councillor Mearns informed Andrew that there was a build-up of rubbish on the verge coming into town, including the Blackbrook and Factory Pool areas. Councillor Parry commented on the walkway between the Co-op, Iceland and New Street which had a build-up of rubbish. Andrew confirmed the town centre was cleansed daily and the outer town weekly on a rota so there should not be a build-up of rubbish happening. Councillor Mearns also commented on the build-up of litter under the towns benches, mostly by the HSBC. Andrew confirmed he would take issues raised by members forward with Flintshire County Council Streetscene Resource Manager.

Andrew Lightfoot Streetscene Supervisor Flintshire County Council left the meeting at 7.05pm

Resolved: It was resolved that Andrew Lightfoot would address issues raised by members with Flintshire County Council Streetscene Resource Manager. It was resolved that Councillor Bithell would contact the Chairman's Assistant at Flintshire County Council regarding feedback from Mold's entry in the Best Kept Community Awards 2016.

16. FLINTSHIRE AGAINST BUSINESS CRIME

The Town Manager updated members on the progress of Flintshire Against Business Crime (FABC) which was progressing well and the uptake from retailers was very positive and 24 new radios had been taken by stores. The FABC website was live with up to date information, photos and alerts.

Flintshire County Council CCTV service had extended an invitation to all members of Mold Town Council to visit the CCTV Suite at County Hall to meet with the CCTV Operators and view CCTV coverage of the town. The Town Manager would liaise with members regarding date and time.

Resolved: It was resolved that the Town Manager would arrange for members to visit the CCTV Suite.

17. SPRING CLEAN

The Town Manager confirmed the date for this year's Spring Clean would be 31st March – 3rd April. The Environmental Sustainable Grant from Tidy Towns which had been received in previous years no longer existed, however the Town Manager had discussed with Tom Woodall from Flintshire County Council Countryside Services and Alan Roberts from Flintshire County Council Leisure Services and agreed they would contribute £800 towards this year's Spring Clean.

Resolved: It was resolved to note the information.

18. BAILEY HILL HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND (HLF) AND WILD ABOUT MOLD (WAM)

Councillor Mearns provided an update on the Wild About Mold (WAM) project and confirmed the Big Lottery application had now gone in. The application was detailed and around 80 pages, this information could however now be used for other funding applications if the Big Lottery application is not successful. There are three projects in Flintshire, one in Connahs Quay, one in Hope and the application from Mold.

Councillor Mearns provided members with an update on the Bailey Hill Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The steering group met with Ian Bancroft and Sophie Fish from Flintshire County Council on the 11th and 17th October 2016 and Harrison Design Development were appointed as lead consultants for four of the five lots in the project.

Following delays and lack of communication by Flintshire County Council, Harrison Design have not been issued with the necessary confirmation to start the work. Members of the steering committee have not been kept informed on the issues regarding this.

Councillor Chris Bithell agreed to take this forward with Ian Bancroft Chief Officer at Flintshire County Council.

19. ANNUAL EVENT CALENDAR

Members considered the previously circulated list of events for the coming year, with new additions to the calendar including Live on the Square a music event featuring local bands on the 30th April and the Diversity Festival which is taking place over 3 days at the end of May at Mold Rugby Club, organised by Rainbow Biz a Social Enterprise Group.

The Town Manager confirmed he had received £2,000 grant from the Lottery Celebrates fund for the Live on the Square event and that he and Councillor Hodgkinson are part of the organising committee.

Resolved: It was resolved to note the information.

20. TOWN MARKETING

The Town Manager gave members an update on the Festive marketing initiative which was produced by NWN, cost of the publication was £450.00 of which £225.00 was paid by Flintshire Markets and circulated across Flintshire, Wrexham and Chester and also on the Leader social media, with facebook reach of 7,000 (the amount of people who have seen the post). Feedback from traders was that the festive trade picked up towards the end and overall traders were satisfied.

Last year the Town Manager in conjunction with NWN produced a town events flyer, this year the Town Manager has been in discussions with Connection Magazine regarding producing a joint publication of a (pocket sized) Mold Town Guide. The Town Manager presented members with information regarding the costs and circulation figures for Connection Magazine and LDS (a leaflet distributor placing leaflets / information in supermarkets, tourist attractions, pubs etc). The proposal would be to produce a 24 page / 48 side booklet which would include 15 pages of editorial and town map, with 33 sides used for advertisements. The income from the advertising, which would be managed by Connection Magazine, would cover the majority of the cost to produce and distribute. Flintshire County Council had confirmed a contribution of £1000 towards the town guide and the remaining £600 would need to be funded by Mold Town Council's budget.

There then followed discussion and several questions from members which the Town Manager would need to follow up.

The Support Officer provided members with information regarding the Daily Post feature 'Grapevine' which is a feature in the paper running for five consecutive days focusing on a local business or organisation who provide their answers to a different question each day. The organisation can propose their own questions (and answers) with approval from the

Daily Post and the organisation is responsible for providing their own photographs to accompany the feature.

Following discussion, it was agreed in principal for the Support Officer to propose questions and discuss further at the next meeting of the CDR Committee.

Members discussed a proposal by the Support Officer for members of the Council to hold regular open surgeries for constituencies and members of the public with the aim of raising awareness of the work carried out by the Town Council. It was proposed a member from each ward attend the open surgeries which could be carried out in various formats such as open drop in / informal session at a local café, an information stall on the market and via Town Council general meeting. It was agreed to discuss further at the next meeting of the CDR Committee and for the Support Officer to provide a proposal regarding format including rotation of ward members, locations and Youth Council.

Resolved: It was resolved that the Support Officer should provide a proposal regarding open surgeries of the Town Council at the April meeting of the CDR Committee.

Councillor Karen Hodgkinson arrived back at the meeting at 8.40pm

The meeting was closed at 8.45pm

SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MOLD TOWN COUNCIL'S
CODE OF CONDUCT

Community, Development & Regeneration Committee	DATE: 17 th January 2017
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MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
	None	

JE/MINUTES/MTC/CDRMIN 170117

Andree Mann