

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Mold Town Council Meeting held at Town Council Offices, Unit 10 Daniel Owen Precinct, Mold at 6pm on Wednesday 28th January 2026 (also, by Video conferencing).

PRESENT:

Councillors: Cllrs. Paul Beacher (Mayor and Chair), Brian Lloyd, Chris Bithell, Geoff Collett, Haydn Jones, Megan Lloyd-Hughes, Nanette Davies, Richard Clarke, Robin Guest and Sarah Taylor.

Via Zoom: Cllrs. Catherine Frances Claydon, Suzanne Thomas and Tina Claydon; Jane Evans, Events & Community Engagement Officer;

Officers: Jo Lane, Town Clerk & Finance Officer and Leila Jones, Support Officer.

PUBLIC PARTCIPATION: No members of the Public present.

125. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors: Joanne Edwards (Deputy Mayor), Pete Dando and Teresa Carberry.

Apologies were received in advance from Councillor Robin Guest advising he would be late to the meeting.

126. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Chris Bithell declared an interest in agenda item 12 – CLWYD PENSION FUND – MOLD TOWN COUNCIL.

127. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor's appointments since the last meeting were **noted**.

Councillor Paul Beacher (Mayor) thanked Emma Lyth, Support Officer for organising, Councillor Teresa Carberry for her participation and to all Mold Town Council Staff for their assistance with the success of the Mayor's Civic Ceremony held at St Mary's Parish, Mold on 11th January 2026.

NOTED: Meeting was paused due to low volume for Zoom attendees and the conference microphone was moved to the centre of meeting table.

128. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that;

- 128.1 The Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 26th November 2025 be received and **approved** as a correct record;
- 128.2 The Minutes of the Youth and Children's Council Committee Meeting held on 2nd December 2025 be received and **approved** as a correct record;
- 128.3 The Minutes of the Cemetery Committee Meeting held on 3rd December 2025 be received and **approved** as a correct record;
- 128.4 The Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 9th December 2025 be received and **approved** as a correct record;
- 128.5 The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 15th December 2025 be received and **approved** as a correct record;
- 128.6 The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 12th January 2026 be received and **approved** as a correct record;
- 128.7 The Minutes of the Youth and Children's Council Committee Meeting held on 14th January 2026 be received and **approved** as a correct record;
- 128.8 The Minutes of the Personnel Committee Meeting held on 19th January 2026 be received and **approved** as a correct record;
- 128.9 The Minutes of the Policy & Audit Committee Meeting held on 20th January 2026 be received and **approved** as a correct record;

129. ACTION LIST

The ongoing Action List was **noted**. Confirmed by Town Clerk that completed items will be removed from the Action List after each Town Council meeting.

Item 73(b) Public Conveniences Working Group – is still ongoing as the Working Group is awaiting further information from Ian Bushell, Operational Manager for FCC Streetscene before progressing.

Item 153 Salt Bin for Hafn Deg – Town Clerk has chased this. The bin is on order to be delivered. Councillor Geoff Collett will then be contacted by FCC for placement of the salt bin.

130. OFFICER REPORTS

- (i) Members **noted** the previously circulated Events and Community Engagement Officer report and verbal update was received.

18.11 Councillor Catherine Frances Claydon left the meeting.

Events and Community Engagement Officer informed Councillors that only one nomination for the Under 25s has been received and more than one is needed.

18.13 Councillor Catherine Frances Claydon re-joined the meeting.

Members were informed that two young men were spotted in town today attempting to sell perfume from bags to market shoppers and this was reported to Shop Watch and the Police.

(ii) Members **noted** the previously circulated Town Clerk report and verbal update from the Town Clerk was received.

Discussion was held regarding the Community Cohesion and Belong Network Meeting held on 19th December 2025. It was **noted** that only the Home Office has decision making responsibility for asylum seeker placements. Concerns, queries and complaints should be made through local MP's to the Home Office.

18.36 Councillor Robin Guest joined the meeting.

Councillor noted that he understood there may be a 500-meter exclusion zone around certain residences. After discussion, it was proposed and seconded that the Town Clerk write to the Neighbourhood Policing Team to clarify the rules regarding any exclusion zones for demonstrations near residential properties.

A vote was held with **8 for, 1 against, and 4 abstaining.**

RESOLVED:

Town Clerk to write to Neighbourhood Policing Team to clarify the rules regarding any exclusion zones for demonstrations near residential properties.

131. DRAFT EVENTS CALENDAR 2026

Members thanked Jane Evans and the volunteers for their work with the events.

It was **noted** that Mold Town Council put on a large number of Events throughout the year and new volunteers are needed.

RESOLVED:

Members **approved** the Draft Events Calendar for 2026.

18.45 Jane Evans, Events and Community Engagement Officer left the meeting.

132. PRECEPT / BUDGET SETTING 2026/27

It was **noted** that financial priorities were discussed during the Mold Town Council Planning Day held on 24th January 2026 and to be mindful of priorities going forward.

After discussion it was Proposed and Seconded for the recommendations from the Finance Committee be approved.

RESOLVED:

Members **approved** the Draft Budget as recommended by the Finance Committee:

1. Revenue budget of £467,697 for 2026/27

RESOLVED:

Members **agreed** the Precept as recommended by the Finance Committee:

2. 5% increase in the Precept, setting it at £360,614 for 2026/27

RESOLVED:

Members **approved** the use of General Reserves as recommended by the Finance Committee:

3. Use of £38,643 from General Reserves to balance the budget.

133. EAR MARKED RESERVES

RESOLVED:

Members **approved** the changes to the Ear Marked Reserves as recommended by the Finance Committee.

1. EMR 316 – MTC Future Purchase / Rent be reduced to £35,000
2. The sum of £32,130.74 be transferred from EMR 316 to General Reserves to support the 2026/2027 budget, in line with the Precept proposal.

134. FUTURE OF LOVE LANE CAR BOOT

RESOLVED:

Members **approved** to set up a small working group to discuss the possibility of Mold Town Council taking over the management of Love Lane Car Boot from Flintshire County Council. Then to meet with relevant FCC officers to obtain all information needed for Members to make an informed decision.

Councillors Richard Clarke, Nanette Davies, Hadyn Jones, Chris Bithell, and Brian Lloyd-Jones **agreed** to be on the working group.

Members **approved** the Working Group and organisation of a meeting with FCC representatives.

135. UK TOWN OF CULTURE COMPETITION

RESOLVED:

Members **approved** for Town Clerk to submit a registration of interest for Mold.

136. CLWYD PENSION FUND – MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Councillor Chris Bithell declared an interest and abstained from discussion.

RESOLVED:

Members **noted** the report.

137. RECOMMENDATION FROM PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

RESOLVED:

Members **approved** the annual pay increments for staff in accordance with the National Joint Council (NJC) pay structure and employee's contracts of employment.

138. RECOMMENDATION FROM POLICY & AUDIT COMMITTEE

Members **noted** the following Mold Town Council policies/documents have been reviewed as part of the Council's policy review procedures and no changes are required at this time:

- (a) Internal Financial Controls
- (b) Financial Risk Assessment 2026
- (c) Standing Orders

RESOLVED:

Members **approved** the recommendation from the Policy and Audit Committee to **adopt** the following new policies:

- (d) Communication Policy
- (e) Dignity at Work Policy
- (f) Equality and Diversity Policy
- (g) Recruitment, Selection and Retention Policy
- (h) Stress Management Policy
- (i) Stress Management Assessment Register

139. MOLD PLACEMAKING PLAN

RESOLVED:

Town Councillors to email Town Clerk with their views by Midnight Sunday 1st February 2026 for her to collate and send feedback form to FCC Regeneration Team by 10am on 2nd February 2026.

140. EXTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT 2024/25

Members **noted** the Auditor General's report and audit opinion.

141. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING

Members **noted** the previously circulated report.

142. ACCOUNTS / PAYMENTS

Members **considered** the schedules previously circulated.

Month 8 – Community Bank account CB1 £28,827.09 (excl. VAT)

Month 8 – Events Bank account £6,792.99

Month 8 – Prepaid Mastercard £1,228.98

Month 8 – Mayors Charity Account £0.00

Month 8 – Petty Cash £184.00

Month 8 – Business Money Manager Account £20,000 (internal transfers)

Month 9 – Community Bank account CB1 £49,112.69 (excl. VAT)

Month 9 – Events Bank account £1,972.56

Month 9 – Prepaid Mastercard £176.21

Month 9 – Mayors Charity Account £0.00

Month 9 – Business Money Manager Account £30,000 (internal transfers)

RESOLVED:

Members **approved** the schedules previously circulated showing all accounts – Months 8 and 9, noting that payments are made in accordance with the powers of local councils.

Meeting ended 19:15

Mayor's signature: Date:

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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL		DATE: 28.01.2026
MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
Councillor Chris Bithell	Clwyd Pension Fund – Mold Town Council	12.

WORD/MINUTES/MTC/MIN/ LGJ