

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall, Mold on Wednesday 28th September 2011.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Ray Dodd (Mayor), Chris Bithell, Tony Cattermoul, Geoff Collett, Ken Corbett, Geoff Darkins, Bryan Grew, Robin Guest, Carol Heycocks, Joyce Jones, Brian Lloyd, Tim Maunders Andrea Mearns and Ken Williams with the Clerk and Finance Officer and Town Centre Manager.

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: Carolyn Cattermoul and Stephanie Hulley.

56. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

57. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor advised of his engagements during the period since the last meeting.

Reference was made to the presentation of cheques to the Darby and Joan Club and the Daniel Owen Festival Committee. The Mayor also referred to his attendance at garden parties held by the Llwynegrin Singers and Tony and Nanette Davies when funds were raised for Nightingale House Hospice.

The Mayor advised of his attendance at performances of the Gwyl Gobaith Festival of Hope and the National Youth Theatre of Wales' performance at Clwyd Theatr Cymru.

The Mayor referred to the street entertainment held in the Daniel Owen Square and the annual Mold Food and Drink Festival both of which had been spectacular.

The Mayor advised that he had attended the presentation of the 2011 Environmental Awards and collected the 'Joint Second Place' award for Mold. He also advised that he had attended the BBC Audience Council Wales event and the Chair of Flintshire County Council's charity evening.

58. FLOOD AWARENESS

The Mayor welcomed Katie Davies and Sabina Dunkling from the Environment Agency Wales to the meeting to advise on the production of a community flood plan.

Ms. Dunkling advised that a community flood plan would provide for better links between the Environment Agency Wales (EAW) and the community, giving residents more information about how to respond in the event of possible flooding. Ms. Davies indicated that community flood plans were nearing completion for both Bangor on Dee and Rhydymwyn. She also advised that EAW were looking to secure the help of volunteer flood wardens within local communities. The role of the flood warden

would be as the main point of contact to assist in the dissemination of information to others in the community.

It was stressed that the flood warning alerts, which are available to all residents, applied to the River Alyn only and not to the culverts around the Town which had been the cause of flooding in some areas.

Members highlighted the concerns of some residents who were having difficulty obtaining insurance for their homes even though their property had not been flooded. The need for the EAW to clear the river of blockages on an ongoing basis, rather than waiting for the time when it floods, was mentioned and the EAW officers agreed to raise this with colleagues.

Ms. Dunkling asked for the support of Members in passing on information about the flood warning scheme and if possible in the community flood plan. She agreed to send information for inclusion within the Council's next newsletter.

The Mayor thanked Ms. Davies and Ms. Dunkling for their presentation and answers.

59. MINUTES

Resolved: It was resolved that:

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20th July 2011 be received and approved;
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the special meeting of the Council held on 10th August 2011 be received and approved;
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 3rd August 2011 be received and noted;
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 24th August 2011 be received and noted;
- e) The minutes of the meeting of the Tourism Committee held on 7th September 2011 be received and noted; and
- f) The minutes of the meeting of the Audit Sub Committee held on 21st September 2011 be received and approved.

60. MATTERS ARISING

Mold Town Council 20th July 2011

60.1 Minute 42.3 Grant for Bailey Hill Surveys and Management Plan – Councillor Andrea Mearns advised the surveys had been completed and that the management plan was due shortly.

60.2 Minute 42.4 Pedestrian Crossing at Leadmills – Councillor Chris Bithell advised there had been no response from the owner of the land at the Job Centre regarding the possible relocation of the gantry and the County Council had therefore been

advised to proceed with its plans for the updating of the traffic lights / pedestrian crossing.

60.3 Minute 42.6 'Black Lion' / B&M Frontage – The Town Centre Manager advised there had been no response from B&M Bargains but that he would pursue the matter.

60.4 Minute 42.7 Bryn Gwalia Bowling Green – Councillor Andrea Mearns advised that Communities First officers had contacted both Flintshire County Council and the Trustees of the Bowling Club to express an interest in the land.

Tourism Committee 7th September 2011

60.5 Minute 6 Tourist Information Points (TIP's) – Councillor Andrea Mearns highlighted that the changes proposed to the TIP's would result in delays before they are provided. The Town Centre Manager advised that the funding for the TIP's was being pursued with the County Council.

61. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence, including four additional items, were considered:

61.1 The Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council seeking views on the four polling stations used for elections in Mold. Members agreed to advise the County Council that the current arrangements for polling stations within the Town are acceptable. Members again acknowledged that the polling station for the South Ward, the Daniel Owen Centre, was not within the ward itself, but with an absence of public buildings in the ward, they were happy to continue with this arrangement.

61.2 The Council considered the correspondence regarding the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Beacon Celebrations on 4th June 2012. It was agreed that a sub-group comprising Councillors Geoff Collett, Bryan Grew, Brian Lloyd and Tim Maunders should pursue this matter with the Town Centre Manager and Clerk.

61.3 The Council noted that an electronic version of the recent edition of North Wales Police's newsletter, "Y Bont", is available and can be viewed at the following link http://www.nwalespa.org/y_bont_hf_2011-183.aspx.

61.4 The Council noted with disappointment that the Driving Standards Agency had chosen the town of Barry for the pilot trial to explore a new approach to test delivery.

61.5 The Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council advising that it would not be undertaking the provision of additional salt bins within the Town. The Council also noted that a request had been made for the provision of a salt bin at Ffordd Dolgoed. It was agreed that the Council would consider a programme for the provision of three salt bins in the current and subsequent years. It was also agreed that consideration would be given to the location of these bins at the next meeting.

61.6 The Council noted receipt of the correspondence from Flintshire County Council advising of a halt to the current consultation on the 'Review of Secondary Schools' and indicating that further thought would be given to the matter in the near future.

61.7 The Council noted the information provided on the Flintshire Family Information Service leaflet.

61.8 The Council noted the invitation to attend the Age Concern North East Wales conference on 21st October 2011. It was noted that some Members were attending on an individual basis and it was agreed therefore, to take no action.

61.9 The Council considered the correspondence from One Voice Wales seeking its support for training and agreed to nominate Councillor Tim Maunders as its 'Training Champion'.

61.10 The Council considered the motions due to be considered at the Annual Meeting of One Voice Wales. The Council agreed that Councillors Bryan Grew and Brian Lloyd, who will be its representatives at the meeting, should support all motions except, for that relating to prescription charges which is deemed to be a retrograde step. In addition, the representatives should be given delegated authority to vote as they consider appropriate, having heard the arguments, in the motion dealing with rights of appeal against County Council decisions.

61.11 The Council noted the correspondence relating to the work of the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board Stakeholder Reference Group.

61.12 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council's Chief Executive advising of his aim to meet with all Town and Community Councils within the County to discuss priorities and hear thoughts for improving working relations.

61.13 The Council considered the correspondence advising of improvements due to be undertaken to the tennis courts and lighting within the Maes Bodlonfa recreation ground. The Council was pleased to note that the Mold Lawn Tennis Club is to receive grant funding from the Lawn Tennis Association for the work. The Council felt that it could not assist the Club with its planning application and believed that the proposals could work alongside the development of the wheeled play facility.

61.14 The Council noted a copy of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Panel's draft Annual Report has been received and that it includes proposals for the gathering of evidence on the matter of allowances for members of Community and Town Councils. The Council agreed that all community and town councils should have the right to pay allowances to members and that any planned consultation in the summer of 2012 should examine proposals for a national remuneration framework for community and town councils in Wales.

Resolved: It was resolved that the actions set out above be approved.

62. STANDARDS COMMITTEE – MEETING WITH TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Resolved: It was resolved to note the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 11th April 2011.

63. TOWN HALL – COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The Council noted that funding is available from Cadwyn Clwyd to help improve and develop local community facilities. The possibility of accessing funds for the improvement of the kitchen and the provision of additional communication facilities in the Jubilee Room was also noted.

Resolved: It was resolved to investigate the possibility of obtaining grant aid for improvements to the community facilities in the Town Hall.

64. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Council considered the previously circulated consultation document.

Councillor Tony Cattermoul circulated comments on specific matters of concern with some of the priorities listed within the plan. Members generally supported those comments relating to customer access points, parking, public conveniences, recycling of trade waste and schools. However, Members also felt that the overall plan should be welcomed as detailing the key priorities of the County Council to ensure an improvement in the services provided.

Resolved: It was resolved that the Clerk respond accordingly.

65. ANNUAL RETURN & INTERMEDIATE AUDIT 2010 / 11

The Council noted that the Auditor had substantially completed the external audit of the Town Council's accounts for the year 2010/11 and indicated that there are no issues to report. The Council agreed to formally approve the Annual Return for return to the Auditor and final completion of the audit.

Resolved: It was resolved that the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2011 be approved.

66. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

The Town Centre Manager reported verbally to the Council.

Reference was made to the recent events held in the Town and in particular to the street entertainment which had been well received with positive comments made. It was mentioned that a number of people had asked if the event could be repeated next year.

The Town Centre Manager advised that further talks had been held with officers of the County Council about the car parking strategy. Whilst there remained much work to be done, he indicated County officers had been advised that for any changes to the charging policy to be agreed, there needed to be positive benefits for the Town.

The Town Centre Manager advised that the Mayor, Robert Davies (Springy) and he would be attending the Association of Market Towns conference and presentation in

October when 'Mold Spring Clean' would be competing in the national judging for local initiatives.

Members were advised of a meeting to be held on 17th November (6.00pm) when a number of stakeholders would be invited to hear about the work of the Mold Town Partnership and the Mold Sense of Place and the Local to Mold studies.

Resolved: It was resolved to note the report.

67. NOTICES OF MOTION

67.1 The Council considered the proposal from Councillor Robin Guest regarding the electronic dispatch of agendas and it was agreed that the Clerk would ask Members if they would wish to receive the agendas in this way.

67.2 On the proposal of Councillor Stephanie Hulley it was agreed that Flintshire County Council be asked to inspect the condition of the Coach House at Ponterwyl.

68. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

Resolved: It was resolved to note the report.

69. MEETINGS ATTENDED

69.1 Councillor Geoff Collett, Deputy Mayor, advised of his meetings with local residents about the removal of a bench at Upper Bryn Coch. He also advised Members of his meetings with local contractors to determine the extent of works required at Bailey Hill Lodge. Councillor Collett also referred to his attendance at the recent BBC Audience Council Wales event.

69.2 Councillor Chris Bithell advised of his attendance at the meeting held to appoint the consultants for the multi-sports facility feasibility study.

69.3 Councillor Carol Heycocks advised of her attendance at the meeting of the Daniel Owen Community Association when the ongoing problems with the public toilets were discussed.

69.4 Councillor Andrea Mearns advised of her attendance at the meeting of the Mold Town Partnership Sub Group, held to discuss terms of reference and guidance and she stressed the need for the Council and the Partnership to work together.

Councillor Mearns advised the programme for the Daniel Owen Festival had now been finalised and that funding from Cadwyn Clwyd had been confirmed.

Reference was made to attendance with other Members at the recent BBC Audience Council Wales event.

Councillor Mearns also referred to a meeting of the Parkfields Management Committee when energy improvements to the Community Centre were highlighted. Reference was also made to the meeting of Bryn Gwalia Communities First project when changes to the structure of the group were discussed. Councillor Mearns

advised that the project may become a 'Mold-wide' scheme or even linked to the Holywell project.

69.5 Councillor Brian Lloyd advised of his attendance at the Club House meeting when energy costs were discussed.

70. ACCOUNTS / PAYMENTS

The Council considered the schedule previously circulated and noted that expenditure complied with the statutory powers available to local councils.

Resolved: It was resolved that the schedule of payments be approved.

71. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Resolved: It was resolved to exclude the public and press from the meeting in order to discuss a confidential matter.

72. BAILEY HILL LODGE

The Clerk circulated confidential notes detailing the current situation relating to Bailey Hill Lodge.

The Clerk and Deputy Mayor reported on the tenders received for the works to the building and the response of the County Council.

In noting the report, the Council agreed that contact should be made with the County Council's Chief Executive to discuss the matter further.

Resolved: It was resolved that the Clerk should contact the County Council's Chief Executive to discuss the matter further.

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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL	DATE: 28th September 2011
--------------------------	---

MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
	None	