

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall, Mold on Wednesday 29th February 2012.

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: Tony Cattermoul, Ken Corbett, and Ken Williams.

117. WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Mayor welcomed Gordon Roberts, Regional Director, Keith Williams, Head of the Resilience Unit and Sally Bruce, Communications Manager, to the meeting to discuss the developing arrangements for the Ambulance Service.

Mr. Roberts outlined the challenges facing the service, including the increasingly aged population and the issues surrounding obesity and he advised that the vision for the service was to provide high quality care whenever and wherever it is needed. He highlighted that the service was split between unscheduled and planned care.

Mr. Williams advised that there was a substantial backlog of works needed to the buildings used by the service but he also stressed that buildings do not save lives. The high quality services provided by the staff do save lives. Mr. Williams went on to detail the arrangements being made to develop a 'Make Ready' depot at Dobshill where vehicles will be prepared by non-clinical staff to ensure that clinical staff can respond immediately when their shift starts.

Mr. Williams also advised that there will be ambulance deployment sites throughout the County; social deployment sites where there will be facilities for staff and deployment stations where ambulances will remain for one hour or less.

The proposals are designed to increase the clinical time for clinical staff, improve response times, improved levels of cleanliness for vehicles and less chance of cross-infection, better working environment and an increased ability to share with other services.

Mr. Williams advised that the current ambulance station in Mold, as well as other towns, would not be needed so they were looking for social deployment sites in the County. He advised that the Dobshill depot would be ready in the autumn of 2012 and that continuous updates would be provided to town and community councils.

In response to questions from Members, the representatives advised they were looking to provide 3-5 social deployments sites in Flintshire and hopefully in partnership with the other emergency services. The site of the ambulance station in Mold would be sold although the timescale for this was not known. They also advised that whilst a detailed triage system would be in operation to ensure the right

service was provided, the ambulance service would be able to admit patients to the stroke units directly, thus avoiding the A&E unit. Members expressed concern about the initial responses with time being of the essence and often when third parties, not the patient, were providing the information for the service to determine the response.

The Mayor thanked the representatives for their presentation and responses to questions raised and he stated that Members would look forward to further information in the coming months.

118. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The declarations of interest expressed are detailed in the schedule shown at the end of the minutes of the meeting.

119. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor advised of his many engagements during the period since the last meeting which included a reception at the House of Commons organised by Action for Market Towns.

The Mayor advised that he had presented cheques to the organisers of the Virgin Art Exhibition and the Little Fishes Parent and Toddlers Groups. The Mayor also referred to the launch of the Flintshire Play Strategy and to his attendance at the long awaited official opening of the skate park in Maes Bodlonfa recreation ground.

Reference was made to the Flintshire Charter signed on behalf of the Council by the Mayor and to its aims for partnership working between the County and Town and Community Councils.

The Mayor finally referred to the previous day's activities with the Pancake Day races. He thanked all those who had helped to make the event enjoyable.

120. MINUTES

Resolved: It was resolved that:

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25th January 2012 be received and approved;
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 1st February 2012 be received and noted;

121. MATTERS ARISING

Mold Town Council 25th January 2012

121.1 Minute 105.1 'Black Lion' / B&M Frontage – The Town Centre Manager advised that he had received assurances from B&M that the whole of the front of the store would be refurbished in the next financial year.

121.2 Minute 106.4 Recruitment of additional Police Community Support Officers – Councillor Chris Bithell advised that the funding for these officers was coming directly from the Welsh Government.

121.3 Minute 116 Bailey Hill Lodge – The Clerk advised that counsel's opinion was being sought to clarify the issue of the 'right to buy' in relation to the Lodge. Members expressed their concerns that the transfer of the building was not proceeding as quickly as had been hoped and agreed that the Clerk should contact the Chief Executive of the County Council advising that progress was unacceptable.

122. CORRESPONDENCE

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

122.1 The Council considered the correspondence from Connah's Quay Town Council seeking support to oppose the construction of an incinerator at Deeside (or anywhere else in Flintshire). Whilst there was a divergence of opinion, Members felt that they were unable to support the request.

122.2 The Council noted the information provided by Neville Howell following his first meeting with the Flintshire Local Access Forum.

122.3 The Council noted the correspondence advising of Chief Inspector Darren Wareing's move to an alternative position within North Wales Police and his replacement being Chief Inspector Dave Roome.

122.4 The Council noted the correspondence from the Countryside Council for Wales advising of the review of maps of open access to mountain, moor, heath, down land and registered common land in Wales.

122.5 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council regarding the Coach House, Ponterwyl and the comments of the Clerk who advised that works had been undertaken to the satisfaction of the Building Control Officers.

122.6 The Council noted the correspondence from the Welsh Government regarding nominations for the New Year 2013 Honours List.

122.7 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council responding to information circulated in relation to the housing transfer ballot.

122.8 The Council considered the correspondence seeking the continued endorsement of the Council to the Fairtrade status for Mold. Members acknowledged the benefits of the movement and agreed to give its continuing support and to nominate Councillor Mearns as its representative on the Mold group.

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

123. PROPOSED PARLIAMENTARY BOUNDARY CHANGES

The Council considered the previously circulated report from the Member group given the responsibility for preparing a response.

Resolved: It was resolved that:

a) The Council approves the suggested response for submission to the Boundary Commission; and

b) Councillor Bryan Grew be authorised to represent the Council at the public hearing due to be held on 1st March 2012.

124. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

The Town Centre Manager presented a verbal report to the Council.

The Town Centre Manager advised the Council of the new shops that had opening in the recent months including: Hawkeye, Flintshire Fitness Supplies and Cibo. He advised that the Peacocks Store was currently safe and whilst many Mold stores trade well, the overall situation is fragile.

The Town Centre Manager thanked Helen Perry for her help in organising the St. David's Day window display competition and the market due to be held the following day. Arrangements for 'Mold Celebrates', were continuing and confirmation had been received that the application for funding from 'Awards for All' had been successful. The Town Centre Manager also advised that a flower festival was being organised by the Mold Flower Club for the end of June.

Members were reminded of the Mold Spring Clean 2012 which will be taking place during the period 23rd-26th March and asked to identify any issues requiring attention.

The Town Centre Manager commented on a number of issues currently being worked on including: the shop local scheme, town action plan, Daniel Owen Square and the shop front scheme.

Resolved: It was resolved to note the report.

125. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

Resolved: It was resolved to note the report.

126. MEETINGS ATTENDED

126.1 Councillor Geoff Collett advised of meetings of the Cittaslow group regarding the planting of trees. He advised that advice was now being sought from Flintshire County Council on the sites where it is proposed to plant trees. Councillor Collett advised that as Deputy Mayor, he had helped to judge the 'Best Dressed Window' competition for St. David's Day.

126.2 Councillor Carol Heycocks advised of her attendance at meetings with the Air Cadets who now have a new Commanding Officer and a new committee.

126.3 Councillor Andrea Mearns advised of her attendance at a meeting of the Flintshire Fairtrade Coalition during Fairtrade fortnight.

Councillor Mearns also advised of attendance at meetings at the cemetery to discuss the extension and of the Town Partnership sub-committee to consider future arrangements.

Reference was made to many meetings at Parkfields to discuss energy reductions and to the launch event to be held on 3rd March for residents.

Councillor Mearns advised of her attendance at the Cittaslow UK Board meeting and to a meeting to be held with MEP's to obtain their support. Councillor Mearns thanked the Council, on behalf of the Daniel Owen Festival Committee, for the grant commitment for future years' festivals. She also advised of the success of the Pancake Day races and thanked those who had participated and helped to make the event such a success.

126.4 Councillor Joyce Jones advised of her attendance at meetings at Parkfields.

126.5 Councillor Brian Lloyd advised of his attendance at meetings held to discuss the insulation of the Club House and with Cadwyn Clwyd to discuss funding for the community gardens.

127. 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.

128. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

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

129. TOWN HALL

The Clerk reminded the Council of the discussions held at the informal meetings of Councillors and of the recommendation to appoint Ian Davies of Legat Owen to negotiate, on behalf of the Council, with Flintshire County Council in the purchase or lease of the Town Hall.

Resolved: It was resolved to appoint Legat Owen, on the terms set out in the original tender, to undertake negotiations on behalf of the Council in the purchase or lease of the Town Hall.

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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL	DATE: 29th February 2012
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MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
Councillor Chris Bithell	Town Hall	129
Councillor Carolyn Cattermoul	Town Hall	129
Councillor Robin Guest	Town Hall	129