

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held virtually on-line over video conferencing 6pm Wednesday 27th October 2021.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Sarah Taylor (Mayor), Haydn Jones (Deputy Mayor), Haydn Bateman, Chris Bithell, Teresa Carberry, Geoff Collett, Bryan Grew, Robin Guest, Brian Lloyd, Andrea Mearns, Gareth Williams and Anthony Parry.

Officers: Ian Jones Town Clerk and Finance Officer, Jane Evans Events and Community Engagement Officer and Jo Douglass Business and Regeneration Officer.

Visitors: Katie Wilby Flintshire County Council Head of Streetscene and Cllr Glyn Banks Flintshire County Council Cabinet Member for Streetscene

74. APOLOGIES: Trevor Arnold, Tim Maunder and Karen Hodgkinson.

ABSENT: Councillor Geoff Matthias

The Town Clerk updated Members that Councillor Geoff Matthias was about to approach non-attendance at any meetings for six consecutive months from the date of his last attendance and reminded Members of the disqualification rule contained within the Local Government Act 1974.

Following discussion, Members noted that if the six-month deadline was reached without attendance and no prior dispensation given for absence the disqualification rule would be invoked.

75. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Haydn Jones declared an interest in Agenda item 10 - financial assistance.

76. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor provided an update to the engagements listed within the agenda and thanked the Volunteers and Officers who took part in the Tidy Mold Day, which was a tremendous success.

77. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That:

- a) The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 29th September 2021 be received and formally approved as a correct record;
- b) The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 27th September 2021 be received and noted.

78. STREETSCENE DISCUSSION ON CURRENT ISSUES WITHIN THE TOWN.

The Mayor welcomed Katie Wilby, Flintshire County Council Head of Streetscene, and Councillor Glyn Banks, Flintshire County Council Cabinet Member for Streetscene to the Meeting.

Members engaged in Q&A session with Katie Wilby, particular area of concerns highlighted; were the lack of coach drop off parking at the Bus Station, the lack of public toilet provision in the town, resurfacing of car parks and in particular New Street Car Park, enforcement, town cleansing, weed killing, ongoing maintenance, winter planting and the standards within the Service Level Agreement.

Katie responded to the comments and explained that to create a bus drop-off at the Bus Station, consultation with the bus operators was required and this was ongoing. Funding was not currently sufficient to fully resurface the car park and would require a funding bid. Short-term improvements could be made in terms of signage, e.g. to the nearest public conveniences and information on the website to notify users ahead of visiting the town.

Councillor Gareth Williams left the meeting at 7.06pm

Katie promised to work with the Town Council to create an action plan as to the work that was promised and expectations going forward.

The discussions of previous meetings would be reviewed and the Town Clerk and Mayor would meet with Katie to create an action plan.

Councillor Sarah Taylor left the meeting due to technical issues at 7.10pm

The Deputy Mayor thanked Katie Wilby and Councillor Glyn Banks for their attendance at the meeting and looked forward to enhanced communications and an action plan for the town.

Katie Wilby and Councillor Glyn Banks left the meeting at 7.15pm

79. JOINT REPORT OF THE BUSINESS & REGENERATION OFFICER AND EVENTS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

Members considered the previously circulated report from the Business and Regeneration Officer and Events and Community Engagement Officer.

With regard to the request for the re-location of CCTV cameras to hotspot areas as and when required by North Wales Police. Members agreed that the Town Clerk together with the Mayor could agree any re-location as required by North Wales Police.

Concerning the installation of the equipment required for SMART towns. The Business and Regeneration Officer informed Members that she had not been updated on the tender response from Flintshire County Council but informed the Council that as the devices would be located around the town, there was a need for Conservation consent as well and therefore these were unlikely to be in place prior to Christmas to ascertain the seasonal shopping trends.

Councillor Sarah Taylor re-joined the meeting at 7:30pm

RESOLVED: That:

(i) The Town Clerk together with the Mayor would approve any re-location of the CCTV as requested by North Wales Police; and

(ii) the report be received and noted.

80. DRAFT REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES.

Members considered the previously circulated draft report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. The Town Clerk reported that the classification of the Town and Community Councils had changed with the former groupings of A, B and C to Groups 1 – 5. As a result of this, Mold Town Council will move from Group A and Group 2. He also highlighted that the closing date for any consultation response was the 26th November 2021. Members agreed not to make any formal corporate response to the consultation but Members were free to make their own individual response if they saw fit to. It was noted that remuneration of Town Council Members had previously been agreed and any changes could be made at a future date once the report was finalised next Spring.

RESOLVED: That the Draft Report be received and noted.

81. ACCOUNTS HALF YEARLY REPORT 2021/22

Members considered the previously circulated report by the Town Clerk and Financial Officer which detailed the Accounts half yearly report 2021/22, that considered the financial position of the Town Council, including details of income and expenditure as at 30th September, 2021 within the current financial year.

RESOLVED: That the half yearly accounts be received and noted.

82. PREPARATIONS FOR THE COMING WINTER

Members considered the previously circulated letter from Flintshire County Council regarding preparations for the coming winter. Within the letter Members were asked if they wanted to nominate anyone to receive daily details of the proposed gritting actions together with accurate weather forecasts in their area. This would allow the nominated person to pass on the information if deemed necessary to the community. It was agreed that the Events and Community Engagement Officer would receive the reports and share on Town Council social media.

The Mayor also suggested that Members review the levels within the salt bins in their Wards and note if any other areas need a salt bin if they meet the required criteria.

RESOLVED: That:

(i) the Events and Community Engagement Officer be the nominated person to receive forecast and gritting reports from Flintshire County Council; and

(ii) Members review the levels within the salt bins within their Wards and note any other areas in need of a salt bin.

83. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Councillor Haydn Jones provided background to the longstanding issue of the broken bamboo fence at Ysgol Enfys which was also creating poor visibility for motorists at the Junction. It was explained that, permission from the new Head of Ysgol Enfys had been granted to replace the fence at a better line of sight making it safer for motorists and pedestrians alike. Members were asked to consider a financial contribution to the residents of Greenside Community Group to help fund the new fence, the total cost of which would be in the region of £600.

RESOLVED: That a financial contribution of £300 towards the cost of replacing the fence be granted.

84. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

Members considered the previously circulated information regarding Planning decisions.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

85. MEETINGS ATTENDED

Councillor Mearns provided an update to her previously circulated report on meetings attended.

- Flintshire County Council had confirmed that a tender was out to provide winter planting of trees across the County.
- there would be some in trees planted in Mold - a re-visiting the public consultation responses to assess priority locations for the new trees was suggested.
- Flintshire County Council were replacing dead and dying trees.
- Members agreed the trees by the Daniel Owen Statue should be a priority for replacement.

RESOLVED: That:

(i) Councillor Carberry with Councillor Means would review the responses from the public consultation and submit the priority areas for tree planting in Mold to Flintshire County Council;

(ii) the priority for the replacement of dead and dying trees in Mold to be those located by the Daniel Owen Statue; and

(ii) the report be noted.

86. ACCOUNTS / PAYMENTS

The Council considered the schedules previously circulated.

Month 6, Community Bank account CB1 £31,507.07

RESOLVED: That that the schedule of payments be approved.

69. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Meeting closed at 7:52pm

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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL		DATE: 27th October 2021
MEMBER Councillor Haydn Jones	ITEM 10: Request for Financial Assistance	MINUTE NO. REFERS 83

Mayor's signature: Date:

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