

# **MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Mold Town Council Cemetery Committee held at the Town Hall on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2013

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Chris Bithell, Geoff Collett, Bob Gaffey, Brian Lloyd, and Robin Guest together with members of the Budget Committee, Councillors Bryan Grew and Ray Dodd with the Clerk and Finance Officer and Cemetery Superintendent.

## **1. APOLOGIES**

Carol Heycocks, Geoff Matthias and Andrea Mearns

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **3. CEMETERY EXTENSION**

The Committee received a verbal report from the Cemetery Superintendent:

3.1 The Clerk explained the purpose of the documents provided, which would assist the committee in determining and agreeing a term for the loan to extend the Cemetery. In addition the Clerk provided a copy of the Welsh Government's (WG) application for borrowing approval, advising that the Town Council must agree a loan period before the application can be submitted to the Welsh Government.

3.2 The Clerk advised that to take a loan out of £32,000 for a five year period would cost £6,666 per annum, with a 1.50% interest rate, which would result in a total cost of £33,334. If the loan were to be paid over a ten year period it would cost £3580 per annum, with a 2.19% interest rate, which would result in a total cost of £35,806. The Clerk advised that as the precept had not taken into account the loan repayments for 2013/14 it would be possible to pay the first year, whether it was a five year loan or ten year loan from capital funds currently held which stood at £13,210. The Council would need to be mindful of how much would remain in the capital funds once the first years payments had been made.

3.3 The Committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of each of the loan periods. Councillor Brian Grew suggested that it would be better to endeavor to repay the loan over the shortest period possible, which Councillor Chris Bithell supported. Councillor Geoff Collett suggested that the loan should be taken over a ten year period, which would then allow the Council greater choice when determining when and if to progress stage 2 of the Cemetery extension. The Clerk advised that the total estimated cost for completing all stages of the Cemetery extension would be in the region of £91,000 at today's prices. Councillor Robin Guest supporting this idea, adding that the Council should to be mindful of the cost of repayments each year. If the Council were to agree a five year loan period for the first stage of the extension then this may limit the ability to commence stage two of the cemetery until

after the five year loan is complete, by which time the old section of the cemetery may no longer have spaces for cremated remains. The Clerk advised Committee that the Cemetery Superintendent believed that there could be approximately three years remaining for the burial of cremated remains. Councillor Guest continued, and suggested that should the Council agreed a loan period of ten years, this would allow the Council to consider a further loan after two or three years to complete the next stage(s) of the extension, which would then allow for cremated remains through the use of columbarium. Councillor Chris Bithell asked if it would be possible to make use of a section of the cemetery, currently identified as burial plots, and use it for cremated remains instead. The Clerk advised this would take up valuable land for burials, whereas the columbarium would reduce the amount of land taken up.

Councillor Geoff Collett made a recommendation that the Committee suggest to the Council the loan should be over a ten year period which was seconded. Councillor Bryan Grew recommended an amendment to this and suggested the loan should be over a five year period.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to recommend to Council that the loan should be taken out over a five year period.

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

<b>CEMETERY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>DATE:</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
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<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MINUTE NO. REFERS</b>
None		