



MOLD TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2021 TO APRIL 2022



CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
• Introduction	3 - 5
• About this report	6 - 8
• About Mold Town Council	9 - 10
• Mold Town Councils' Contribution to Well-being	
Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priorities:	
Community Safety	101
Economy and Skills	12 - 17
Environment	18 - 20
Health and Independent Living	21
Resilient Communities	22 – 26
• Bailey Hill Project	27-30
• Our objectives	31
• Statement of Well-being: Mold Town Council	32 - 33
• Contact details	34
• Appendix 1 Mold Town Councillors 2021/22	35
• Appendix 2 Council and Committee meetings 2022/23	36 – 38

Introduction

Welcome to this 2021/22 Annual Report.

It is my sincere hope that you will take the time to read this report. It illustrates how Mold Town Council supports and works for the community it serves.

I would like to thank my fellow elected members for all they do and officers (Joanna Douglass, Joanne Lane, Ian Jones, Peter Jones and Jane Evans), of the Town Council, also down at the Cemetery (Arfon Williams-Cooke and Mike Gallagher) for their hard work this year. They all do a remarkable job, putting their skills, interest, knowledge, and enthusiasm to purposeful use for our town, businesses, voluntary groups, and community at large. All of us have been touched in some way by this pandemic, but as a Town Council, I am proud to say that we quickly and effectively adapted to working in a different way to undertake our roles and responsibilities.

I am profoundly grateful and in awe of the many individuals and organisations who have worked with us, to ensure the well-being of our community, during what has been an unquestionably difficult time. My year as Mayor of Mold has allowed me to witness many acts of kindness, generosity, compassion, and selflessness, shown not only to me, but to so many within the community.

I extend my best wishes to the new Mayor of Mold, Cllr Haydn Jones. I know that he will do an excellent job and will benefit from the full support of his fellow Councillors.

Finally, I want to thank everybody who donated towards my nominated charities Flintshire Foodbank and Parkfields Community Fridge under the broader banner of 'Save a life, make a difference'. There can be no question that both charities serve our community well, and their services continue to be very much in demand - your generous donations will enable this.

It has been my greatest privilege and honour to have served the town in this past year. Mold is truly a wonderful place in which to live and work.

I commend this report to you.

Councillor Sarah Taylor

Mayor of Mold Town Council

2021/22



From the Town Clerk

On behalf of the Officers of the Council may I welcome you to this 2021/22 Annual Report of your Mold Town Council.

The Annual Report is required by law – the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 – to show how your Council's work contributes to the objectives set out in the Flintshire Local Well-being Plan. The Environment Wales Act 2016 delivers against Welsh Government's Programme for Government commitment to introduce legislation for the environment. This positions Wales as a low carbon, green economy, ready to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Also, the recent Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2021 makes an Annual Report a requirement for all Town and Community Councils, no matter their size or budget.

The content of the rest of the report is far more flexible and at its core is setting out what the Council said it would do in 2021-22 and what it actually did. Also, its aims, objectives and aspirations. It should also illustrate any achievements, enhancements and positive effects that the Town Council has had on the town, its inhabitants and visitors alike.

The Council welcomes your feed-back on what could be added, improved, or subtracted to make future annual reports more readable, informative and appealing.

As Town Clerk and Finance Officer my responsibility is:

- to advise and support the Council, manage its finances and ensure it operates within the law, independently and objectively whilst recognising that the Council as a whole is responsible for its decisions;
- to lead and support the officer team which carries out the functions and decisions of the Council.

It's a privilege to carry out these functions and I would like to thank the officers for their dedication, commitment and sheer hard work which sometimes goes well beyond day-to-day expectations.

The teams within your Council are the Councillors, the Staff, and the very many volunteers who assist our events and projects. All working together, this enables us to make great things happen. I would like to thank everyone for the support, encouragement and the amazing amount of time you give for the benefit of others and Mold.

The past year has been a very testing time for all with the slow emergence from the COVID-19 pandemic and the many restrictions on life and mixing, which has made everything feel very different from prior to March 2020. We as a Town Council have continued to meet by video conferencing and operate safely in carrying out the work of the Town Council. We continue to evolve and adapt to new working practices and operations in response to legislative and other requirements.

Finally, may I also thank members of the public plus other public and business organisations who have contributed to our work here in Mold. Also, the help and assistance given by Flintshire County Council Members and Officers, together with partners we have locally. This will be my last contribution to Mold Town Council's Annual Report as I retire shortly but as a parting comment I have to say that working for the Town Council has been a pleasure. I have made many friends and worked alongside professional people and I can only wish the Town Council and the town itself a prosperous and successful future.

I hope you find this annual report an informative and helpful read.

Ian Jones, Town Clerk and Finance Officer

About this Report

Wales faces a number of challenges now and in the future. The most obvious and immediate challenge is the emergence from the COVID-19 pandemic which has impacted all society in differing ways.

Other challenges in the medium to long term are the cost of living, rising inflation, climate change, poverty, the economy, fuel poverty, High Street trade, national debt, health inequalities, Brexit effects and jobs and growth. To tackle these, we need to work together. To give current and future generations a good quality of life the Town Council need to think about the long-term impact of the decisions it makes. The operation and roll-out of the Totally Mold Vouchers gave the town a local focus and about what we could all do to help trade locally to prosper or at least to try to keep shops and premises open. The word obviously spread as the voucher scheme was popular and many new businesses have opened in the town during the past year. The Naked Takeaway scheme also hit the headlines and was commended for its contribution to the reduction of plastic use and to waste for landfill. A year-long pilot project offering takeaway food customers in Mold and Caerwys the choice of ditching single-use plastic and cardboard packaging, gained international recognition in June 2021, winning the prestigious Cittaslow Chiocciola Orange 2021 Award.

The Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 is a piece of challenging legislation promoted by the Welsh Government which aims to improve further the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales now and for the longer term. The Commissioner certainly has a very important and challenging task.

In order to meet the requirements of the Act, Flintshire Public Service Board (PSB) was established to prepare and publish a Well-being Plan for Flintshire, a draft of which it completed in November 2017. The membership of the board includes a number of public services and bodies.

There is also representation from the Community and Town Council, as the Act stipulates that all Community and Town Councils with a turnover of £200,000 or more must in its annual report comment on how it is contributing to the objectives of the County's Well-being Plan.

Whilst the Flintshire PSB realises that there is much that could be done to add value to public service and to the communities of Flintshire it has identified and agreed a number of priorities that support the seven goals of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act. These are:

- Community Safety – Domestic Abuse, Modern Slavery, Organised Crime Gangs, Child Criminal Exploitation;
- Economy and Skills – Promotion of careers in the Public Sector, Championing skills across all sectors, Support own workforces at risk of poverty, Collective work on workforce policies, Identification of PSB partner land for housing, education or well-being;

- Environment – Build a map of land and sea assets across the County, Community based approach to delivering a coastal green infrastructure plan, develop a plan for some pilots to trial doing things differently, Using the environment in local communities to support resilience;

- Healthy and independent Living – Development of extended Care Home and Discharge to Assess facility, Opening of the Health and Well-being Care Centre in Flint, develop a shared understanding of social prescribing, Co-located health and social care workforce, Early Help Hub;

- Resilient Communities – Pilot area-based work, Getting Flintshire Moving to increase activity, Evaluation of new ways of working and delivery of Community Benefits, Agreeing Community Benefit strategies across all partners, Explore the benefits of Community Shares, Development of Social Prescribing, A New leadership programme for those who work with communities;

These priorities have been chosen as the themes where the PSB can add most value and make a positive and lasting difference. Working together to make an impact in these priorities is the collective aim of the Flintshire PSB, realising that no single organisation can achieve on their own; the partner organisations represented on the PSB can collectively make a positive difference for the people who live, visit and work in Flintshire; each of the over-arching priorities have in-year priorities which support them.

Going forward the Flintshire Public Services Board propose to:

- Make future Annual Reports digitally interactive reports with more video and blog content.
- Include reference to the national indicators (where relevant).
- Better reflect upon how the PSB is applying the 5 ways of working in reporting progress.

The Environment Wales Act 2016

The Environment Wales Act 2016 delivers against Welsh Government's Programme for Government commitment to introduce new legislation for the environment. This positions Wales as a low carbon, green economy, ready to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act places a duty on all public authorities, when carrying out their functions in relation to Wales to “seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity” wherever possible within the proper exercise of their functions. In doing so, public authorities must also seek to “promote the resilience of ecosystems”. Section 6 also requires public authorities to consider the effect of decisions taken, or activities carried out within Wales, but also in relation to biodiversity outside of Wales.

Under subsection (6), public authorities must prepare and publish a plan setting out what they propose to do to maintain and enhance biodiversity. Having regard to any guidance given by the Welsh Ministers, and the documents listed in legislation.

This report describes how Mold Town Council has contributed to the priorities of the Flintshire Well-being Plan for the community of Mold. The report includes details of some of our objectives for the future. The report also details the Town Council's response to the Environment Act 2016 and how it has met its duties under the Act. The report covers the municipal year of Councillor Sarah Taylor's year of office as Mayor of the Town Council. Elections for the Town Council took place during May 2022 with eleven previous and five new Councillors elected to serve on the Council for five years.

Councillor Taylor's year of office was May 2021 to May 2022.

Ian Jones

Town Clerk and Finance Officer of Mold Town Council

2022



About Mold Town Council

Mold Town Council was created in 1974 following the re-organisation of local government and the disbanding of Mold Urban District Council. It is one of 34 Town and Community Councils in Flintshire.

Mold is the County town of Flintshire. Flintshire County Council became the unitary authority after a re-organisation of local government in Wales in May 1996.

Mold has a population of circa 10,209 (2020 estimate) and for local government purposes the Town is divided into four electoral wards, Mold Broncoed, Mold East, Mold South and Mold West, with four town councillors representing each Ward. Fourteen of the present councillors were elected in May 2017 to serve a five-year term of office, with a bi-election and co-option undertaken in July 2018.

A Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor are elected each year by the Council at the Annual Meeting, which is held during May. The Mayor receives an allowance to cover the costs involved in undertaking civic duties; no other councillors receive payments except agreed expenses incurred whilst carrying out Town Council activities if they choose to do so.

Details of the elected members and how to contact them are available at www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk. Notices of meetings, agendas, reports and minutes can also be viewed here, along with many governance documents and other information about the Council.

Mold Town Council's aims

- To promote and represent the community's views and aspirations at local, county, regional and national levels
- To serve those who live in and work in Mold and those who visit the Town
- To promote Mold as a place to live, work, shop and invest in and a place to visit
- To provide effective and efficient services that give value for money and to improve those services as needed
- To strive to improve the quality of life for all residents of Mold

To achieve these aims, Mold Town Council has agreed the following objectives

- To consult with the community to establish its aspirations for the future
- To promote the vitality and viability of Mold
- To encourage and participate in, partnership and agency working with the public, private and voluntary sectors to achieve quality services in all areas for the betterment of Mold its residents and visitors
- To promote sustainable policies that strive to improve the environment to meet the needs of residents and visitors for both the present and future

- To help create a socially inclusive and caring community that embraces all residents and which seeks to develop their wellbeing, knowledge, understanding and mutual co-operation
- To strive for a pleasant, clean and safe environment
- To deliver quality services that provides value for money and to review those services on a regular basis
- To support local voluntary groups that seek to assist residents and visitors to Mold

The Council derives almost all of its funds from its precept plus receipts from burials at Mold Cemetery. The Mold town's precept is added to Flintshire County Council and the North Wales Police Commissioner tax bills and is based upon Mold Town Council's estimated expenditure. For the financial year 21/22 the Council estimated that it would need to spend £439,700. Of this amount, £289,280 was made up from the precept and the remainder was funded from other sources of income, such as cemetery income, fees and grants.

Further information about the Council's finances, including its annual accounts, can be seen at www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk.

This report includes examples of many of the Council's services which are delivered to all age groups in a variety of forms. The report describes Mold Town Council services which contribute to the well-being of Mold and its community.

Mold Town Council's Contribution to Well-being:

Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Community Safety

Focus on priorities identified through the North Wales Strategic Assessment, with particular reference to Domestic Abuse, Modern Slavery, Organised Crime Gangs, Child Criminal Exploitation

What have we done?

We work closely with North Wales Police, taking a lead role in supporting Shop Watch. National and Independent Retailers in the town has met with the Town



**Flintshire
Against
Business
Crime**

Council and Police for Flintshire Against Business Crime to discuss crime affecting the business community and share intelligence.

We have a Councillor representative who attends the South Flintshire Police consultation events.

Through a Service Level Agreement with Flintshire County Council Mold Town Council fund the current CCTV provision in the Town. This equates to 12 fixed operational cameras in the Town. The cost of the service for 2021/22 was £1,600.

Following local concern, an Anti-Social Behaviour Committee was set up by the Town Council involving local support and interested groups as well as Flintshire County Council, schools, the Church and North Wales Police. The Group aimed to alleviate the recent anti-social behaviour that had been a creeping problem within the town by setting up activities and an awareness campaign. This work is still ongoing.

We funded the summer play schemes during the school summer holiday period of 2021, funding two weeks of fun, games, competitions, face painting, treasure hunts etc. all free of charge for children aged 5-12 years. The scheme was for a reduced time-period due to the pandemic. Whilst the scheme provides young people with fun and enjoyable activities through their long summer break it also helps combat Anti-social behaviour and builds cohesive communities. We were hoping to again increase the Play scheme provision during the summer of 2021 from three to four weeks at both sites of Park Avenue and Gas Lane play areas, but the pandemic impacted these plans. After much deliberation through Welsh Government and Local Authorities a limited Play scheme was possible.

Looking ahead in 2022/23

The Town Council is committed to providing funds for the play scheme in future and will continue to support CCTV as an option when attempting to prevent and fight criminal and anti-social acts.

Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Economy and Skills

To strengthen the local economy and increase employment opportunities for our residents. Alongside this we will act to ensure that, as well as employment opportunities, our residents have the skills to take up these opportunities and the means to access them through appropriate transport.

What have we done?

Officers have worked considerably on promoting the town, under the Totally Mold banner using social media and press releases to highlight what Mold has to offer and our promotion has reached national press. The Mayor made it her aim to visit all the businesses within the town centre and in addition attended over 35 official openings or expansion of existing businesses, all of these visits were promoted within the local press and on social media platforms to highlight the success of the town. The promotion of the town helps increase footfall and employment opportunities which increases the local economy.

Mold Town Council continue to raise awareness of the importance of volunteering and how it offers an alternative path to young people who do not follow the academic route.

We actively encourage and welcome volunteers to assist with the many events organised in the town. The volunteers have the opportunity to build their skill set and gain experience within a working environment. Mold Town Council help fund other volunteer led events which are not Town Council events, such as the Daniel Owen Festival and North Wales Blues & Soul Festival.

Some examples of the level of volunteers engaged to assist with events include:

Four-day Mold Spring Clean attended by over 400 volunteers; local schools, groups, businesses and residents.



The Town Council is committed to helping local businesses and has employed a Business & Regeneration Officer to assist the local traders and economy throughout 2021/22.

We aim where possible to contract local contractors to provide our public services such as the maintenance of our hanging baskets, works at Mold Cemetery, installation and maintenance of the Christmas lighting.

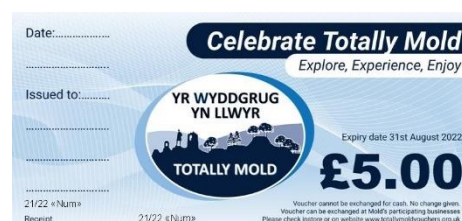
The Bailey Hill Tripartite Group involving Mold Town Council, Flintshire County Council and the charity Friends of Bailey Hill have secured over £1.7 million to undertake redevelopment work on the Bailey Hill to improve accessibility and facilities available on the site. Work started on site in February 2020 but progress was seriously delayed by many months due to Covid-19 and unexpected archaeological discoveries on site preventing progress.

The Town Council owns and manages the Town's cemetery where two full time members of staff are employed. The Cemetery Superintendent lives on site and works with the Cemetery Assistant to ensure the Cemetery is kept in pristine condition. Throughout the year we also have casual staff and local contractors working at the Cemetery. Going forward we are improving biodiversity by selective mowing of the Cemetery Community Orchard to increase the number of wild flowers for pollinators.

Recently work has been ongoing to construct a new walkway and cycleway with lighting, connecting Gas Lane and Tyddyn Street across the lower cemetery field. This has been possible via Flintshire County Council funded by the Welsh Government's Active Travel Grants.

This year has seen many more new businesses open and expand in Mold alongside our many established businesses and it is great to see the town busy again as the restrictions continue to ease and we saw the ending of all Covid-19 restrictions.

Building on the huge success of the Totally Mold Vouchers that was initially launched in October 2020 in response to the unprecedented challenges that the Coronavirus was having on the on the fabric of our Town and Community. Unlike the popular national high street voucher which can be spent anywhere and usually takes money out of the town, the Totally Mold Vouchers ensure that all the benefits stay here within the town itself. As a result, since the start of the scheme the vouchers have seen a cash injection of £25,000. The Voucher scheme was re-launched again in October 2021 with a validity date of 31st August 2022. The scheme has undoubtedly been hugely successful with the aim of encouraging people back into town, shopping and spending money, boosting the local economy and highlighting the fantastic range of shops and services available in Mold. All businesses participating in the scheme and accepting the vouchers were promoted on our in-house developed website www.totallymoldvouchers.org.uk



Building on the success of the new Town website www.totallymold.org.uk and the Totally Mold branding a Public Relations and social media campaign was launched. This saw the promotion of the Totally Mold Facebook and Instagram insights as follows:

ENGAGEMENT- Over 36,000 engagements were made on Totally Mold social media accounts.

COMMUNITY- An additional 900 new accounts followed Totally Mold since Nov 2021.

REACH- Totally Mold social media posts had a reach of over 1 million (excluding PR)

VIDEO- Totally Mold Reels and Videos had almost 12,000 views.

Measurements:

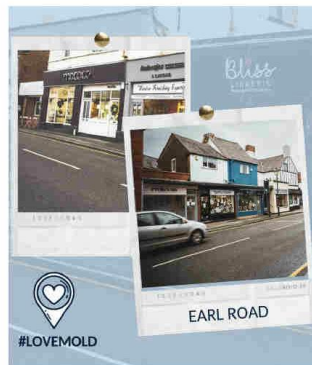
FACEBOOK

New Fans: 391 new page followers

Post Engagement (clicks, reactions, comments, shares): 35,803

Video Views: 7,154

Post Reach: 1,188,890



INSTAGRAM

New Fans- (followers): 520 new followers

Post Engagement (likes, saves, comments, shares): 456

Video Views/ Reels: 4,823

Post Reach: 3,914

Stories Reach: average of 100

INSTAGRAM



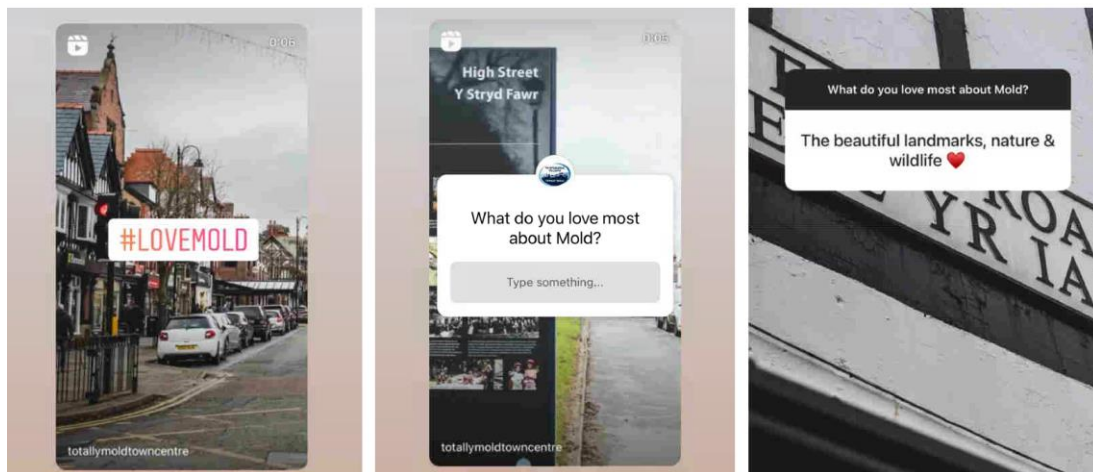
PAID ADVERTISING

Giveaway advert

Targeted at adults within a 10-mile radius of Mold

Post Engagement (likes, saves, comments, shares): 73

Post Reach: 1,622



This was in addition to four separate press releases that gained great coverage including ITV News.



Mold SMART Towns

A SMART town is a town which uses digital equipment to offer services and data to make their town more efficient and to improve the services and operations in the town through the capture of live footfall data. Insights gained from that data are used to manage assets, resources, and services efficiently; in return, that data is used to improve the operations and future prosperity across the town. New footfall sensors will be installed to complement and upgrade the existing static ones, which have been in use for a number of years. Not only will the new digital footfall counters provide more up to date data, but the funding means that it can cover more of the town centre. The updated technology will provide more up to date information, to help plan events, and expand the offer for visitors and shoppers. The mapping exercise has been planned to install the sensors for maximum coverage of the town. Here is a video link to the Mayor's commentary upon the Smart Towns initiative.



<https://youtu.be/yg2liU7BREs>

Looking ahead in 2022/23

Once the SMART Town technology has been installed and verified, this anonymised data will be available for Businesses in the town as well. It will assist them with their opening times, staffing to cover busier times and general trends in the town.

Building on the success of the PR and Social Media campaign, another campaign will be developed over a long time period to build momentum and keep Mold featuring in key publications.

The 'Discover Mold' leaflet has been updated and amended to include of Map of where Mold is located and this will be printed and distributed to a wider catchment area and it was found that the previous leaflet was very successful.

We are also looking to update the Mold information Panels which are situated around the town. To update some of the images and to provide an update on the Bailey Hill following the recent redevelopment works. They will also be branded with the Totally Mold logo and bring them up to date with the QR code for the new Town Council 'Totally Mold' Website.



Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Environment

To protect and enhance what we have, and use the environment to improve the well-being of people living, working and visiting the area and, protect people and the environment from events such as flooding and climate change.

What have we done?

As in previous years we provided £10k match funding for play area improvements. In 2021 at Maes Bodlonfa, replacing and repairing the play area and equipment. For 2022-23 the focus will be on Gas Lane play area improvements

Mold Town Council has funded the 100 colourful hanging baskets, the six barrier baskets in King Street car park and the planting in the six Welcome to Mold signs.



Looking forward

More trees and wild flowers will be planted at public sites wherever possible in Mold between Autumn 2022 and March 2023.

Mold Plastic Reduction

Mold Town Council had previously adopted a single-use plastic reduction policy. This applies to all the events and activities carried out by the Council. We have worked with other town and community councils in the area which are also looking to reduce the amount of unnecessary plastic in their communities.

We joined the national Refill scheme and people can fill up their own drinking containers with free water provided at Mold Town Hall. Over 20 businesses in Mold are in the scheme. The aim is to cut down the number of single use plastic bottles used in Mold.

An inspiring group of residents and businesses set up Mold Plastic Reduction in May 2019, supported by Mold Town Council, who work with a number of interested schools, community groups, businesses and residents and has become accredited

as a 'Plastic Free Community'. This scheme is run by UK environmental charity Surfers Against Sewage and recognises steps taken by towns to eliminate single use plastic and reduce all avoidable plastic use and waste.

Mold Plastic Reduction has held public meetings and workshops, Mass Unwraps in Tesco, Aldi and Lidl, numerous litter picks, run a Rags to Bags event, had stalls and activities at Mold events, made six business champion awards and two community champion awards to local community centres.

Naked Takeaway

Launched in January 2021, Mold Town Council in partnership with Caerwys and Llangollen Town Councils together with Mold Plastic reduction, was successful in its application to Welsh Government to fund pilot reusable food containers. The pilot project 'Naked Takeaway' ensured Tiffin Tins made of Stainless Steel and Takeaway pizza cases which are aluminium alloy being trialled in businesses.

Naked Takeaway was entered into the environmental category of the Cittaslow Chiocciola Orange 2021 Award. The reusable food containers scheme was voted overall winner of all seven categories at an online event held during the Cittaslow International Assembly on 12 June, 2021.

In taking top spot, Mold Town Council made history by becoming the first UK town to win the Cittaslow accolade. **'An amazing achievement recognised internationally!'**

Supported by all Councillors the main movers and shakers internally were Councillor Andrea Mearns, Town Clerk, Ian Jones and Business and Regeneration officer Jo Douglass.

Tidy Mold and Mold Spring Clean – we continue to engage and encourage the community to take pride in our town. In October 2021 we held a Tidy Mold day which was attended by over 60 volunteers; residents, community groups, Councillors and businesses all took part in the one day event which saw benches cleaned and stained, flower beds weeded and tidied and 81 bags of rubbish and various items that had been fly tipped collected



In March 2022 we held a four-day Mold Spring Clean attended by over 450 volunteers from local schools, community groups, Councillors, businesses and residents.



Volunteers tackled a number of 'Grot Spots' which had been reported as areas of litter build up and collected over 220 bags of rubbish along with a number of items which had been 'fly tipped' including a fridge freezer!

Throughout the year Mold Town Council loan out their litter picking equipment to other Town and Community Councils, groups, schools, businesses and residents who carry out litter picking throughout the year.



The aim of Mold Spring Clean is to make the town a pleasant environment to live, work and play in, and generate community pride for everyone and we are thankful to our volunteers who have continued to carry out litter picks throughout the year.

Ukraine Appeal – Following the outbreak of war between Russia and Ukraine a public appeal went out locally for a collection to help refugees fleeing the country, for warm clothing, sleeping bags, towels, blankets, first aid kits, hygiene products, nappies, toiletries, children's clothes and toys. The response in Mold was overwhelming with the Town Hall being full up with thousands of donations within a couple of days. Many people wanted to give cash to the appeal also and nearly £500 was donated in one afternoon. This was passed onto the UK Government's Disaster Appeal.



#WeStandWithUkraine



An army of volunteers helped load the donations onto vans for them to make their way to the central collection point in Wrexham. This was all co-ordinated by Mold Town Council locally and was an outstanding show of humanitarian support and effort. Something those involved will never forget.



Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Health and Independent Living

Enjoying positive physical and mental well-being and living as independently as possible are fundamental to most people's definition of a productive and fulfilling life.

What have we done?

During 2021/22 the Mayor of Mold Councillor Sarah Taylor fundraising appeal under the broad banner 'Save a Life, Make a Difference' raised awareness of services provided by the main beneficiaries from the Mayoral appeal; Flintshire Foodbank and Parkfields Community Fridge. The total raised from Mayoral events and donations was £5,880 to be presented to the beneficiaries.



Mold Town Council has awarded over £18,000 to local community groups during the last financial year.

Beneficiaries included the Daniel Owen Centre (£7,500), Blues and Soul Festival (£4,000), Citizens Advice (£3,000), Flintshire Foodbank (£1,000), Mold Town Band (£1,000) and contributions to local organisations under Section 137 powers totalling £1,790.

Looking ahead in 2022/23

At its Annual Meeting held on 16 May 2022, the new Mayor of Mold, Councillor Haydn Jones was elected to serve as Mayor for the forthcoming Municipal Year and stated that he would work towards an objective of "Save a Life - Make a Difference" and the main beneficiaries of his Mayoral appeal will be Mold Community Hospital League of Friends, Mold Alex Football Club and North Wales Bowel Cancer Support Group.



Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Resilient Communities

A community which is resilient has the ability to respond positively to the challenges it faces, cope with adversity and ultimately to thrive.

What have we done?

Covid restrictions continued throughout 2021/2022 and this had an effect on the town's activities and events. As a Town Council we found new ways to engage with our community whilst adhering to the Government legislation and as such, event formats were adapted to ensure Covid compliance was met. The Christmas Light Switch in November 2021 reduced the attendance by not having the fun fair and the event was held on the square with local schools invited to perform and a visit from Father Christmas, who this year, sat outside his Grotto to receive visits from the children. Remembrance Sunday Service was held outside at the Bailey Hill rather than inside the church and armed and uniformed services were invited but asked to reduce number of attendees. The popular annual Novemberfest was also held with a reduced attendance and was for the first time a fully seated event.

Once Covid restrictions were lifted, the annual events proceeded but with careful consideration on how best to safeguard the community.



The **Mold Community Awards** Ceremony was held in April 2022 at the local Rugby Club. The awards acknowledge the outstanding contribution and commitment of groups or individuals living or working within Mold Town or supporting Mold residents. There were five categories covering outstanding voluntary service and / or outstanding achievement within the community of Mold: - Volunteering award under the age of 25, Volunteering award - For individuals or groups aged 25 and over, Business of the Year. Sporting Achievement Award, Community Project/Event of the Year Award and the Mayor's Choice Award. Over 200 nominations were received.



Continuing to work in partnership with local Historian David Rowe, a further five **Historic Mold** talks were held online, each fully booked with attendance of 90-100 at each event. The talks covered a number of historical topics on the history of Mold and the people.



Mold Town Council's 16th annual garden competition '**Blooming Mold**' was for the second year held online. The competition asked for Mold residents, businesses and community groups to submit a photograph for judging. The monthly winners and overall winner, all received Totally Mold vouchers to spend with Mold businesses.



The Mayor held her Charity fundraising evening in February 2022 which was attended by Civic Heads, local businesses and family and friends. The evening was a great success and raised over £5,000 for the Mayoral 'Save a Life, Make a Difference' appeal.



Mold has now established itself as a town of events and at the heart of many of the events is the support of Mold Town Council. Whether that is directly organising an event, or financial support or merely an enabling role to assist event organisers to deliver a safe and successful event for the town.



Councillor Teresa Carberry continues to run the **School Uniform Recycling Stall**. With residents donating school uniforms which Cllr. Carberry offers free of charge to those that from a stall on Mold market and more recently from inside the Daniel Owen Centre. The uniforms are now stored inside the Town Council store room.

Parkfields Community Fridge (which opened November 2020) continues to provide an invaluable service to the community, ensuring food and toiletries are available free of charge to all those that need. The project has been the recipient of Mayoral fundraising in 2020 and 2021 and Mold Councillors Andrea Mearns and Haydn Jones are involved in the scheme as the representative of MTC and Trustees of Parkfields Community Centre. The project which aims to reduce food waste and ensures that nobody in our community goes hungry. It provides free food and essential personal hygiene to those in need in Mold. The Community Fridge receive their supplies via donations from supermarkets, purchased via grant funding and donations from the community and local businesses and our open twice a week.



In 2006 Mold became the first Welsh town to achieve Cittaslow status. The aims and objectives of Cittaslow Mold are shaped by the principles of Cittaslow UK which are:

- Encouraging diversity rather than standardisation.
- Supporting and encouraging local culture and traditions.
- Working for a more sustainable environment.
- Supporting and encouraging local produce and local products.
- Encouraging healthy living especially through children and young people.
- Working with the local community to build these values.

These form the overall vision of Cittaslow Mold that are achieved through the delivery of specific goals. The Town Council strives to recognise the Cittaslow Goals within all activities it carries out. These goals include the environment, infrastructure, the quality of urban fabric, encouragement of local produce and products and hospitality and community. Through our Cittaslow status we have attracted interest nationally and internationally, hosting visits to share best practice.

In 2017 we adopted our first Town Plan. We felt that it would provide an excellent opportunity for the whole community to express its views about the way Mold should develop in the future. The completed Town Plan describes how people who live and work here would like the community to develop, it identifies key facilities and services and it sets out the issues which need to be tackled if the town is to be improved for all residents according to the priorities chosen. The Plan is a useful tool for the Town Council because it represents the collective voice of our electors, and will be reviewed periodically to ensure it remains relevant. The Plan will also be used to influence the emerging Local Development Plan of Flintshire County Council.

As mentioned previously the Naked Takeaway pilot which ran from January 2020 was entered into the environmental category of the Cittaslow Chiocciola Orange 2021 Award. The reusable food containers scheme was voted overall winner of all seven categories at an online event held during the Cittaslow International Assembly on 12 June, 2021.



Looking ahead in 2022/3

The Annual Meeting in May took place both in person and online with Councillor Haydn Jones elected as Mayor for the forthcoming municipal year. All meetings are now hybrid in compliance with the Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2021. Following the Covid-19 pandemic and with the introduction and implementation of the requirements of new legislation, Mold Town Council has had to adapt to new ways of working and meetings arrangements.

We are very conscious of our responsibility towards maintaining Mold's ongoing vibrancy and vitality; however, this must be balanced against our responsibility towards our resident Council Tax payers, who only make up approximately 15% of people using the town.

In November 2021, the Town Council purchased updated replacement Christmas rope lights (which replaced the rather outdated coloured bulb system) with cool white LED light icicle lights, a 'Merry Christmas from Mold Nadolig Llawen o'r Wyddgrug' double sided illumination across High Street and Illuminated wraps on trees and lampposts. This was well received in the town by visitors and local traders. The Town Council will continue to review and update its lighting stock.

The Town Council has been in negotiation and consultation with Flintshire County Council regarding coach drop-off and parking facilities within the town. Also the upgraded WC facilities at the bus station together with the proposals at New Street car park for drainage alleviation works, resurfacing and electric car charging points.

The Town Council has to look at its accommodation very soon, as the Town Hall is without a lease at present and if adopted as the future home for the Council funding will be needed either for a new home, a new lease or purchase and a fund for repairs if the Town Hall remains its home for the future.



Bailey Hill Project

April 2021 marked the completion of the redevelopment works which had taken place on Bailey Hill during the last 12 months. The next stage of the project was to prepare the newly redeveloped Bailey Hill Centre for visitors.

Volunteers

Over the last 12 months two additional volunteer roles have been added to the project and we have welcomed a number of new volunteers into the Bailey Hill Volunteering team. We now have five volunteering roles imbedded into the project which include:

- ♥ Research Volunteers
- ♥ Visitor Volunteers
- ♥ Events Volunteers
- ♥ Gardening and Wildlife Volunteers
- ♥ Management Volunteers

To ensure all volunteers are confident in their volunteer role with the project, a robust training and workshop programme was created. Volunteers had the option to attend the following workshops over the last year:

- ♥ Fire Extinguisher Workshop
- ♥ L1 Safeguarding
- ♥ L2 Customer Service
- ♥ Communication Workshops with Theatr Clwyd
- ♥ L3 Outdoor First Aid
- ♥ Deaf Awareness Workshop
- ♥ Education Workshop
- ♥ Health and Safety Workshop
- ♥ Risk Assessment Workshop



From May 2021 to April 22 our volunteers provided the project with a total of 1125.5 hours which is the equivalent to 160.7 days.

In March 2022, the Bailey Hill Volunteers were nominated for and won the Mold Town Council Volunteering Award (Over 25's).

Events and Activities

A variety of events and activities have been held at Bailey Hill, the first being the 'Soft Launch Event'.

Bailey Hill 'Soft Launch' Event - took place from 28th February to 24th March. The week was very successful with 7 separate sessions taking place throughout the

week. A total of 51 visitors attended throughout the week and took part in a guided tour delivered by the Bailey Hill Visitor Volunteers as well as light refreshments in the Bailey Hill Centre.

Following the success of the 'Soft Launch' Event we received a lot of media coverage.

On Monday 7th March 2022– two news articles (one Welsh and one English) were published on the BBC Wales Website (links below):

https://www.bbc.co.uk/cymrufyw/60630690?fbclid=IwAR2P1RXay5dA8BhUs8IIUXosS8j-301wjOqqjKrZBI9ZQdtqZeDkb_tfHYc

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-60634692?fbclid=IwAR2NjP-XxJB-7u_1Os2JwZ1KspBhoKOb8a79U4UoJVfx6W-J7rvNjUA7Cs

The project also appeared on BBC Wales Breakfast, Lunch and Evening News. The Project Officer also undertook a live Radio Interview on BBC Radio Wales Drive Time show with Sian Lloyd at 5.25pm. On Thursday 10th March the project also appeared on ITV News Wales at 6pm that evening.

Bowls on Bailey Hill Exhibition – was held on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th April. Funding for the event was secured through Sporting Heritage. The funds were used to purchase the interpretation panels which were displayed at the event. The information for the panels were gathered by the Bailey Hill Research Volunteers along with the Ex- Bailey Hill Bowlers. We were also able to borrow a number of items including pictures, trophies and bowling uniform from the ex-bowlers for the event.



The Event was officially opened on Saturday 9th April at 10am by Mayor of Mold, Councillor Sarah Taylor along with some of the Ex- Bailey Hill Bowlers we have been working with. The exhibition was a great success with over 70 visitors attending over the weekend.

Easter Fun Day – took place on the 16th April 2022. The event was a family event with music and games provided by DJ Cookie, an Easter Trail which had been created by the Bailey Hill Volunteers, Free Arts and Crafts and refreshments served in the Bailey Hill Centre. The Easter Bunny also visited and to handout Easter Eggs to all children who attended. The event was a huge success with approximately 500 people attending.



Yoga on Bailey Hill - On the 26th April we hosted with local Dru Yoga Teacher, Jill Blandford to put on a pilot 'outdoor yoga' session on the inner bailey. The session was well attended with 16 people taking part. Due to the success we hoping to host more sessions in the future.

Guided Tours – From the information that has been collated by the Bailey Hill Research Volunteers an official guided tour has been created and is delivered by our Visitor Volunteers. The Visitor Volunteers have delivered a number of Guided Tours for a variety of groups and can easily adapt the information for different ages and abilities.



Kickstart Placement

The Bailey Hill Project was successful in securing funding from the Welsh Government to employ a Kickstart Placement for a period of six months. The Kickstart Scheme provided funding to create new jobs for 16 to 24 years olds on Universal Credit who are at risk of long-term unemployment. In March 2021, a new Kickstart Placement joined the project in the role of Heritage and Visitor Assistant and was been instrumental in supporting the day to day running of the project.

Green Flag

In July 2021 Bailey Hill won its first ever prestigious Green Flag Award for the park. The Green Flag Award recognised the work of the Tripartite Group to produce excellent visitor facilities, high environmental standards and commitment to delivering great quality green space. This was a huge achievement for the project and an application has been submitted for 2022 – we hope to achieve this award for a second consecutive year.



Play Area

The discovery of a 3m wide medieval defensive wall and associated floor levels directly under the existing swings has meant we are unable to proceed with the original plan to remove the old play area and replace with the new play facility. A huge amount of work has been undertaken to investigate other possible positions around Bailey Hill for a new play area to be located.

The outer bailey has been identified as the only area available on Bailey Hill, to locate the new play area while safeguarding the archaeology which has been found around the site. A new play area specifically designed for this location and in keeping with the heritage and history of Bailey Hill has been created. To ensure the Outer Bailey can be used for this scheme a further archaeological dig took place in June 2021. CPAT who were assisted by a few of the Bailey Hill Research Volunteers and spent three days excavating the area. No discoveries were made that would prevent the installation of the new play area. The play equipment has been ordered and the work will go out to tender through Flintshire County Council in the near future.

Looking ahead in 2022/ 2023

The Bailey Hill Tripartite Group are keen to continue the huge success of the project in the coming year with many items still to look forward to, including:

- 🍀 The results from Durham University with regards to the artefacts and skeletons found during the 2020 redevelopment work.
- 🍀 The installation of the new play area on the outer bailey.
- 🍀 The launch of the brand-new Bailey Hill Website.
- 🍀 The erection of seven new interpretation panels around the park to further share the history of Bailey Hill with visitors.
- 🍀 The creation of Education materials for use at local primary and secondary schools.
- 🍀 The official opening of the Bailey Hill Centre to welcome visitors to the park.
- 🍀 The hosting of a variety of events and activities for visitors.
- 🍀 The continued successful partnership between Flintshire County Council, Mold Town Council and the Friends of Bailey Hill.

Our Objectives

The Council has adopted the following principles, as its Council long term objectives.

To contribute towards the delivery of:

- ✓ A Prosperous Mold.
- ✓ A Resilient Mold.
- ✓ A Healthier Mold.
- ✓ A More Equal Mold.
- ✓ A Mold of Cohesive Communities.
- ✓ A Mold of Vibrant Culture & Thriving Welsh Language.
- ✓ A Globally responsive Mold.
- ✓ A Competent Council.

These overarching goals were identified in our Annual Report published in 2016 which provide a framework for the delivery of future projects.

The Council will embrace the principles of Sustainable Development detailed in Flintshire's Well-being Plan 2017-2023 of Long Term Planning, Prevention, Integration, Collaboration and Involvement to deliver these goals.

- Long term: the importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long term needs.
- Prevention: how acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.
- Integration: considering how public bodies' well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.
- Collaboration: acting in collaboration with any other person that could help the Council meet its well-being objectives.
- Involvement: the importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the Council serves.

Statement of Well-being: Mold Town Council

This Well-Being Statement sets out the Council's commitment to the principle of sustainable development to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, 'the Act', defines sustainable development as the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals. In this regard the Council recognises the role it has to play. Therefore, it will promote sustainable development in how it goes about meeting its duty under the Act and when working for and with the communities that make up its area.

The Act puts in place seven well-being goals. These well-being goals are indivisible from each other and explain what is meant by the well-being of Wales. The Council embraces these well-being goals and will place them at the heart of its forward planning and decision making arrangements to improve the general quality of life (well-being) within its administrative area. The Act provides a more detailed definition for each of the seven well-being goals. However, for the purposes of this statement the seven goals are:

A
Prosperous
Wales

A
resilient
Wales

A
healthier
Wales

A
more equal
Wales

A Wales of
cohesive
communities

A Wales of
vibrant culture
and thriving
Welsh Language

A globally
responsible
Wales

When applying these well-being goals to the functions, activities and services provided by the Council; the Act requires the Council to think more about the long term, to work better with people and communities and also other public bodies, to look to prevent problems and to take a more joined up approach.

The Council will go about this by making the following commitments:

COMMITMENTS

- Look to the long term so that its actions or lack of action does not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Taking an integrated approach to applying the seven well-being goals when deciding upon priorities.
- Involving the diversity of the population in the decisions affecting them, when and where it is applicable to do so.
- Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions.
- Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring.
- Take all reasonable steps towards meeting the local objectives in the local well-being plan that has affect in its area. In this regard and when the Public Services Board publishes its local well-being plan, the Council will consider and review the local objectives contained in the plan alongside its own objectives for the year ahead.
- Form its own judgement of what steps it would be reasonable for it to take towards meeting the local objectives in its area, on the basis of its own knowledge and consideration of the circumstances and characteristics of its area.
- Report annually detailing the progress it has made in meeting Well-being objectives.
- Supporting Sustainable Development.

ACTIONS

The Council commits to the following set of actions:

- Publishing this well-being statement on its website.
- Incorporating this well-being statement into its Annual Report, which provides an overall framework to focus the Council's activities, investments and spending priorities.
- Incorporating the well-being goals into its future Planning
- Continue to extend its influence and reach into the community to help sustain general well-being in the communities that make up its area.
- To support Sustainable Development.
- To work with others to bring about Well Being in Mold.

Contact Information (2021/22)

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Jane Evans

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Business & Regeneration Officer: Jo Douglass

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Bailey Hill Project Officer: Jo Lane

Telephone: 01352 872418

Email: baileyhill@moldtowncouncil.org.uk

Cemetery Superintendent:

Arfon Williams-Cooke

Cemetery Assistant:

Michael Gallagher

Address:

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Telephone: 01352 753820

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Mold Town Councillors 2021/22**Appendix 1.****BRONCOED WARD**

Haydn Bateman	Avondale, 17 Pen y Bryn Sychdyn CH7 6EE	01352 754510
Teresa Carberry	19 Ffordd Pentre, Mold CH7 1UY	01352 754434
Gareth Williams	Glan-yr-Afon House, Brook Street, Mold CH7 1PH	01352 754442
Tim Maunder	3 Milford Street, Mold CH7 1NF	01352 752099

EAST WARD

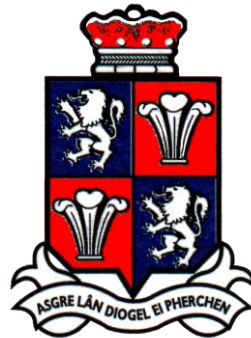
Chris Bithell	The Coppins, 88 Hendy Road, Mold CH7 1QR	01352 754578
Sarah J Taylor	11 Bron-y-Nant, Mold CH7 1UX	01352 751341
Bryan Grew	7 Maes yr Haul, Mold CH7 1NS	01352 759673
Andrea Mearns	Rosscote, Gwernaffield Road, Mold CH7 1RE	01352 757687

SOUTH WARD

Geoff Collett	8 Ffordd Hengoed, Mold CH7 1QD	01352 756582
Anthony Parry	Brynwood, Bryn Coch Lane, Mold CH7 1PS	01352 754423
Robin Guest	36 Ffordd Pentre, Mold CH7 1UY	01352 757408
Haydn Jones	26 Greenside, Mold CH7 1TN	01352 759744

WEST WARD

Brian Lloyd	Pwll Glas Farm Cottage, Gwernaffield Road, Mold CH7 1RQ	01352 753107
Geoff Matthias	7 Dreflan, Mold CH7 1DE	01352 753481
Karen Hodgkinson	4 Elm Drive, Mold CH7 1SG	01352 751795
Trevor Arnold	16 Parc Alun, Mold CH7 1LQ	01352 700710



25th May 2022

29th June 2022

27th July 2022

28th September 2022

26th October 2022

30th November 2022

25th January 2023

22nd February 2023

29th March 2023

26th April 2023

Annual Meeting 10th May 2023



Schedule of Committee Meetings

The following dates are suggested for meetings of Mold Town Council Committees during the next year:

Cemetery Committee

11th July 2022
7th November 2022
6th March 2023

Planning Committee

6th June 2022
30th June 2022
25th July 2022
22nd August 2022 (prov.)
26th September 2022
24th October 2022
21st November 2022
19th December 2022
16th January 2023
13th February 2023
13th March 2023
11th April 2023
8th May 2023

Community, Development & Regeneration Committee

21st June 2022
8th November 2022
7th February 2023
18th April 2023

Personnel Committee

27th June 2022
14th November 2022

Budget Sub-Group

12th December 2022

Policy & Audit Committee

14th June 2022
20th September 2022
14th March 2023