

# **MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held virtually on-line over video conferencing 6pm Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

## **PRESENT:**

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

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

Visitor: Denzil Hughes Regional Engagement Manager for Flintshire, Wrexham and Denbighshire for the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

**106. APOLOGIES:** None

**ABSENT:** Councillor Geoff Matthias, Gareth Williams and Tim Maunders

## **107. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **108. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor gave Members an update on her official engagements attended since the last meetings and informed members she was delighted that Mold had been identified by Welsh Audit Office and One Voice Wales for examples of good practice in relation to the Totally Mold voucher scheme, Naked Takeaway and plastic reduction.

The Mayor also expressed thanks to the community who had been carrying out litter picking around the town but raised concern that this was having to be carried out by the community in the first place and asked members to consider how the message to not drop litter and the impacts on the town and environment could be delivered to the community.

## **109. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That:

- a) The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021 be received and formally approved; and
- b) The Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 2020 be received and noted.

## **110. CENSUS 2021**

The Mayor welcomed Denzil Hughes, Regional Engagement Manager for Flintshire, Wrexham and Denbighshire for the Office for National Statistics (ONS). provided members with an overview of the Census 2021 and his role to

engage which takes place every 10 years. This year's Census will be mainly be a digital-first census, encouraging people to respond online if they can. Paper copies will be available for those who are not able to complete online.

All households will receive a letter from the ONS in the post week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 with a unique link to complete the household details. The online form will take approximately 20 minutes. After 21<sup>st</sup> March a reminder will be sent to those who have not completed, followed by visit by ONS who will not enter the property but will be able to help residents complete and answer any questions.

Every householder is required to complete the Census by law and there is a fine up to £1000 for those that do not complete.

Denzil asked members to help to raise awareness of the Census with residents and would forward information that could be shared on social media to help with the promotion of information. The Mayor thanked Denzil for attending.

**Denzil Hughes left the meeting at 6.25pm**

#### **111. JOINT REPORT OF THE BUSINESS & REGENERATION OFFICER AND EVENTS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER**

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

The Business and Regeneration Officer informed members that she had been asked to carry out a presentation for the Welsh Audit Office good practice exchange in relation to the Totally Mold voucher scheme and will provide and update to members at the next meeting.

The Business and Regeneration Officer informed members that Buckley had been successful in obtaining a Circular Economy Grant to set up a repair café and asked members if they would support her investigating whether this would be possible in Mold. Members confirmed they would support and the Business and Regeneration Officer would bring a report to the next Council meeting.

**6.30pm Councillor Parry joined the meeting**

Councillor Mearns asked if there is anything the Town Council could do to support the businesses regarding a review of business rates. The Business and Regeneration Officer informed members that when speaking with the agents of the current empty units, there is still a demand for units within Mold but will let members know if there is anything that can be done to support the current businesses regarding reduction of rates but confirmed that these were set Nationally, not locally.

Regarding the Totally Mold vouchers, Officers are waiting for auditors comments before submitting a full report to members.

**RESOLVED:** that;

- a) to support the investigation into Mold repair cafe
- b) the report be received and noted.

## **112. CONSULTATION – NEW DRAFT GUIDANCE CODE OF CONDUCT**

Members considered the previously circulated link to the document and the Clerk asked members to feedback any comments direct to the Public Service Ombudsman via email [communications@ombudsman.wales](mailto:communications@ombudsman.wales) by 21 March 2021

**RESOLVED:** that members would feedback direct.

## **113. CONSULTATION – LITTER AND FLY TIPPING PREVENTION PLAN**

Members considered the previously circulated link to the document and the Clerk suggested members support all the comments on the plan and the Clerk would draft a reply to the consultation.

Litter and fly tipping around the town was a concern for members, in particular the fly tipping down Tyddyn Street along the Cemetery field. Councillor Mearns confirmed she had previously asked Steve Jones Chief Officer for Flintshire County Council Streetscene to erect a gate along the Cemetery field lane to stop vehicles entering. Councillor Bithell confirmed that as this was a public right of way a gate would not be possible.

Members also suggested putting information on social media advising residents to ensure they only use registered collectors to dispose of litter and waste as if evidence of their address is found within the fly tipping, they would be responsible for the fine.

Members also asked if CCTV could be installed along the lane, the Clerk advised that images from CCTV would not be able to identify culprits if carried out in the dark but would look into this option and report back at the next meeting.

**RESOLVED:** for the Clerk to respond to the consultation on behalf of members.

## **114. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION (CDR) COMMITTEE**

Members considered the previously circulated report. Following discussion members did not support the CDR be abolished but did agree that a full review of the terms of reference should be carried out at the next CDR committee and recommendation would be made to full council following this meeting.

**RESOLVED:** for the CDR Committee to review the terms of reference.

## **115. LITERARY FESTIVAL 2021/22**

The Mayor gave members the background to the proposed Literary Festival in Mold during 2021/22 with the possibility of this becoming an annual event. The Mayor confirmed the event would be organised by a volunteer committee but requested an officer from the Council attend the meetings to take the minutes. Members supported the request.

**RESOLVED:** for an officer to attend the Literary Festival committee meeting to take the minutes.

**116. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS**

Members considered the previously circulated information regarding Planning decisions.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

**117. MEETINGS ATTENDED**

Members considered the previously circulated report from the Town Clerk and Officers.

**RESOLVED:** The report be received and noted.

**118. ACCOUNTS / PAYMENTS**

The Council considered the schedules previously circulated.

Month 10 Community Bank account CB1 £84,498.41

**RESOLVED:** that the schedule of payments be approved.

**The Meeting closed at 7.30pm**

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

<b>MOLD TOWN COUNCIL</b>		<b>DATE: 24 February 2021</b>
<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MINUTE NO. REFERS</b>

Mayor's signature: ..... Date: .....  
SHARED DRIVE//MINUTES/MTC/MIN210224