

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall, Earl Road, Mold at 6pm Wednesday 29th June 2022.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Haydn Jones, (Mayor), Teresa Carberry (Deputy Mayor), Paul Beacher, Tina Claydon, Geoff Collett, Joanne Edwards, Catherine Hill, Brian Lloyd, and Sarah Taylor.

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

Attending via Zoom: Councillor Haydn Bateman and Tim Maunders.

Also, Visitor: Katie Wilby, Chief Officer for Streetscene, Flintshire County Council.

27. APOLOGIES: Councillors Chris Bithell, Bryan Grew, Robin Guest, and Darren Norman.

ABSENT: Councillor Geoff Matthias.

28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

29. VISIT BY STREETSCENE

The Mayor welcomed Mrs Katie Wilby, Chief Officer for Streetscene at Flintshire County Council to the meeting, to advise on the latest position on the bus station and New Street car park following the consultation exercise with bus operators. Mrs Wilby advised Members that two plans had been draw up to allow for a drop off and pick up facility for coaches at the Bus Station on the same side as the public conveniences, with coach parking for up to five coaches in New Street Car Park. This would require the re-location of the proposed electric charging points and some re-surfacing and line painting of spaces to coincide with the flood alleviation works already planned.

Members expressed concern that not having adequate coach parking in the town was damaging to the economy. It was also raised that it was not possible to report problems with the public conveniences at the bus station as the telephone helpline displayed was not in use. Concern was also raised over the general cleanliness of the Bus Station and future proposal for the empty kiosk.

Mrs Wilby responded to the comments and agreed to send the plans to the Town Clerk via email to enable Members to decide on their preferred option. She also agreed to hold a meeting with a sub-group of Members as soon as possible to address the concerns raised.

RESOLVED: A Sub-group consisting of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors Beacher, Collett, Edwards and Taylor together with the Town Clerk to meet with Mrs Katie Wilby, Chief Officer for Streetscene at Flintshire County Council.

6.25pm Mrs Katie Wilby left the meeting.

30. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor provided an update on the engagements listed within the agenda. In addition to the engagements listed, the Mayor informed Members that he attended the Afternoon Tea at St David's Hall in support of Nightingale House.

The Deputy Mayor also informed Members that she had attended the NEWCIS (North East Wales Information Services) wellbeing event at Soughton Hall on the 15th June and the Buckley Town Council Civic Service on the 19th June.

31. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That:

- a) The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 25th May 2022 be received and formally approved as a correct record;
- b) The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 6th June 2022 be received and noted.
- c) The Minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 6th June 2022 be received and noted.
- d) The Minutes of the Community, Development and Regeneration Committee meeting held on 21st June 2022 be received and noted.
- e) The Minutes of the Policy and Audit Committee meeting held on 22nd June 2022 be received and approved.

32. JOINT REPORT OF THE BUSINESS & REGENERATION/EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICERS

The Town Council received the previously circulated report from the Business and Regeneration Officer and the Events and Community Engagement Officer.

Members discussed the date of the Christmas Light Switch, which usually takes place on the last Tuesday in November (29th). Given that the Football World Cup Group Stage Match between Wales and England was scheduled for that day, Members agreed to change the date to **Monday 28th November, 2022**.

Members also discussed the possibility of creating a 'Fan Zone' for the World Cup, but felt with the winter climate, together with concerns that this would take business away from the many pubs and hospitality businesses it was decided not to investigate proposals further.

Members thanked the Events and Community Engagement Officer for organising an excellent Queen's Jubilee Celebration in the Daniel Owen Square.

RESOLVED: That:

- (i) the date for the Christmas light switch on be changed to Monday 28th November.
- (ii) that the report be received and noted.

33. FINANCIAL REPORTS

33.1 POLICY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Members considered the recommendations from the Policy & Audit Committee held on the 22nd June 2022 relating to the report of the Internal Auditor, the Annual Return and the additional governance assertions with supporting information.

Members noted that the Annual Return was supplemented by additional questions in the Annual Governance Statement to test the assertions. The complete set of papers, annual return, various requested documents and additional questions form the whole of the information to Wales Audit who are now responsible for the external audit.

The report of the Internal Auditor was considered and noted that the actions recommended had been responded to, implemented or would be attended to as soon as practicable.

RESOLVED: That

- (i) The report of the Internal Auditor for the financial year 2021/2022 be formally received and approved;
- (ii) The draft Annual Return and additional questions to test assertions be received and approved and the Mayor to sign;
- (iii) The observations of the Internal Auditor be received and approved.

33.2 FINAL ACCOUNTS 2021/22

Members considered the previously circulated final Financial accounts 2021/22. The Town Clerk gave a brief summary of the financial position at the year-end, referring to the documentation to succinctly illustrate the Town Council's financial performance.

RESOLVED: That the Financial accounts for 2021/22 be accepted and approved.

34. CITTASLOW UK

Council considered the previously circulated information pack about Cittaslow including its origins, aims, ideology and ethos.

Members discussed the information and the benefits of being members of Cittaslow verses the cost and it was felt that a small sub-group of interested Members would meet to review in more detail, and the item be deferred to the next meeting of the Town Council if possible within the timescale.

Councillor Sarah Taylor formally withdrew her desire to be a Cittaslow UK Director.

RESOLVED: the item be deferred to the next meeting following a review by the sub-group and its recommendations.

35. IMPROVEMENTS TO CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS 2022/23 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATCH FUNDING SCHEME.

Members considered the previously circulated letter from Aura Leisure & Libraries regarding the match funding for improvements to Children's Play Areas 2022/23 whereby Chapel Street or Gas Lane play areas had been identified as being in most need of investment. Members discussed and agreed that Gas Lane play area being the larger and most used play area should be prioritised for investment.

RESOLVED: That Members agreed to support the match funding of the Children's Play areas 2022/23 of £10K be agree for Gas Lane play area.

36. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S STANDARDS COMMITTEE – TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE.

Members considered the previously circulated email from Flintshire County Council regarding a vacancy on the Standards Committee for a Town and Community Council Representative.

RESOLVED: That the position be noted.

37. APPOINTMENTS PANEL – TOWN CLERK AND FINANCE OFFICER

Members discussed appointing a well-balanced panel to undertake the process of shortlisting, interviewing and appointing a new Town Clerk and Finance Officer. It was agreed that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor together with representation from each Ward would form the panel.

RESOLVED: That

(i)The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors Geoff Collett, Catherine Hill and Sarah Taylor (1 vacancy) would form the appointments panel; and

(ii) The Cemetery Committee would be re-scheduled to the 25th July, 2022.

38. SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING FOLLOWING INTERVIEWS AND APPOINTMENTS PANEL MEETING.

Members agreed to schedule a Special Meeting of the Council on 13th July to consider recommendations from the appointments panel.

RESOLVED: That a Special Meeting of the Council will be held on the 13th July, 2022.

39. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

Members considered the previously circulated information regarding Planning decisions.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

40. MEETINGS ATTENDED

Councillor Tina Claydon reported that she, together with Councillor Teresa Carberry, had attended a meeting with Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board, which was looking at its long-term strategy and that a questionnaire was available for all users of the Service as a consultation exercise.

RESOLVED: the link to the consultation would be sent out and shared.

41. ACCOUNTS / PAYMENTS.

The Council considered the schedules previously circulated.

Month 2 Community Bank account CB1 £26,877.43

Month 2 Events Bank account £6,406.88

RESOLVED: That that the schedules of payments be approved.

42. VACANCIES

Members noted the situation regarding representatives on outside bodies, Council Committees and Panels.

RESOLVED: that

- (i) Councillor Tina Claydon be appointed to the Youth and Children’s Committee;
 - (ii) Councillor Paul Beacher be appointed to the Budget Sub-Group Committee;
- and
- (iii) Councillor Teresa Carberry be appointed to the Financial Assistance Review Panel.

Meeting closed at 7.15pm

Mayor’s signature: Date:

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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL		DATE: 29th June 2022	
MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS	