

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall, Earl Road, Mold at 6pm on Wednesday 29th March 2023 (also, by Video conferencing).

PRESENT:

Councillors: Haydn Jones, (Mayor), Teresa Carberry (Deputy Mayor), Paul Beacher, Tina Claydon, Geoff Collett, Joanne Edwards, Chris Bithell, Sarah Taylor, Robin Guest.

Attending via Zoom: Councillors: Haydn Bateman, Bryan Grew, Brian Lloyd, Catherine Francis Hill, Megan Lloyd Hughes.

Officers: Helen Belton, Town Clerk and Finance Officer, Jane Evans, Events and Community Engagement Officer and Jo Lane, Business Regeneration Project Officer.

139. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public present

140. APOLOGIES: Councillor Pete Dando.

ABSENT: Cllr Tim Maunders

141. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs T Carberry and S Taylor – Daniel Owen Centre.

142. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was announced that £1,465 had been raised at the concert, which had been a wonderful evening. The Mayor, Cllr Haydn Jones, thanked everyone who had attended or supported the concert and thanked the Events Officer, Jane Evans and her volunteers. Nostalgia Night was the next event.

143. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That:

- a) The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd February be received and formally approved as a correct record;
- b) The Minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Meeting held on the 28th February, 2023, be received and formally approved as a correct record;
- c) The Minutes of the meeting of the Accommodation Committee held on the 28th February, 2023, be received and formally approved as a correct record, with the amendment that Cllr R Guest was not present;
- d) The Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Audit Committee held on the 14th March, 2023, be received and formally approved as a correct record;

- e) The Minutes of the meeting of the Financial Assistance Committee held on the 21st March, 2023, be received and formally approved as a correct record.

144. TESCO (MOLD) – BARRING OF YOUNG PEOPLE

To discuss an email sent to Cllr Bithell from a member of the public (attached). All young people had been banned for 2 days from the store and a young man was seeking support from the Town Council. It would have been helpful for the Town Council to have been told that it was a temporary 2-day ban. On balance, it was felt that the matter had been dealt with reasonably by Tesco.

It was **RESOLVED** to discuss this issue at the Youth Committee. It was further **RESOLVED** to write to the young man to explain the course of action.

145. OFFICER'S REPORTS – EVENTS OFFICER'S REPORT

A report had been received from the Events and Community Engagement Officer (attached).

Volunteers were still needed, both for Easter Saturday and for Live on the Square. Feedback had been received regarding Remembrance Sunday; Jane and Cllr S Taylor were to be congratulated on the consultation. Cllrs Guest and Bithell were pleased at how well this had gone.

Flower Baskets – no recompense was necessary but The Gathering would appreciate a plaque to say that it was sponsoring.

There had been sad news that Barclays Bank was pulling out of the town. Barclays' policy is to reject anything more than a 5-year lease. A pop-up bank would occasionally visit. This would merely be for advice and paperwork but would carry no cash.

The Volunteer Recruitment Evening was planned for the 18th April.

It was **RESOLVED** to ask the Town Clerk to send a letter to Barclays to ask about the hub and to add that the Town Council is disappointed at their decision.

146. CITTASLOW REVIEW

A report had been received regarding the Board Meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to nominate the Town Clerk as a Director of the Cittaslow UK.

The future membership would be added to the April agenda.

147. THE ACCOMMODATION GROUP

Based on the recommendations from the Accommodation Committee, it was **RESOLVED**;

to approach two architects for an initial response on costings, to look at the options within the Town Hall for the Town Council and its staff, and to gauge interest;

that Cllr G Collett would write an outline brief;

that there would need to be a consultation with the public;

that the architect's report would also contain an engineer's report;

that the Town Clerk would research grants for a feasibility study.

Cllr M Lloyd Hughes arrived at 7pm.

148. WORKNEST AND WURKPLACE REVIEW (FOR DECISION BY MAY 2023)

When the contract ends with Werkplace, in May 2023, it was **RESOLVED** not to enter into another contract with this company or a similar company.

However, it was **RESOLVED** to ring-fence the money already in the budget for Health and Safety or Employment advice.

This would be reviewed in a year's time.

149. PRE-PAID EQUALS CARDS

It was **RESOLVED** to acquire 5 pre-paid Mastercards for the Clerk, the Events Officer, the Cemetery Superintendent, the Project Officer and the Caretaker. Full reports would be presented and limits could be placed on cards.

150. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

The Planning Decisions had been noted.

151. MEETINGS ATTENDED

No meetings attended.

152. RECOMMENDATION FROM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PANEL

Based on the recommendations from the Financial Assistance Panel, the Council **RESOLVED** the following;

To allocate £100 to Llangollen Eisteddfod.

To allocate £300 to the Wales Air Ambulance.

To refuse Suitcase Theatre on the grounds that they were given assistance earlier in the financial year.

To refuse The British Heart Foundation on the grounds that they are a national charity.

To refuse Macmillan on the grounds that they are a national charity.

To set up a meeting with the Daniel Owen Centre regarding their accounts, and to discuss public use of toilets as well as the condition of the toilets.

153. RECOMMENDATION FROM POLICY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Based on the recommendations from the Policy and Audit Committee, the Council **RESOLVED** the following;

INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2022-2023

To accept the Internal Audit Report and **note** its findings. The Town Clerk was thanked for the work she had done.

POLICIES

To concentrate on the priorities of the Biodiversity Policy and the Training Plan, which were statutory items.

154. ACCOUNTS / PAYMENTS.

The Council considered the schedules previously circulated.

Month 11 Community Bank account CB1 £32,888.50 (excl. VAT)

Month 11 Events Bank account £487.32

RESOLVED: That that the schedules of payments be approved.

155. MEMBER’S ALLOWANCES

Members were minded to declare their councillor allowance as income on their tax returns.

156. FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT 2022-2023

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and accept the financial risk assessment.

157. VACANCIES

To note the situation regarding representatives on outside bodies, Council Committees and Panels.

Planning Committee – Councillor Megan Lloyd Hughes

Budget Sub-Group – Councillor Bryan Grew.

158. THE EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public for the final two agenda items. Officers Jane Evans and Jo Lane left the room.

159. PART 2 – PRECEPT CALCULATIONS

The Town Clerk explained the percentage difference in the precept calculations. Although 5% had been agreed as a rise and 5% had been calculated on last year’s precept, the large increase in tax base had lowered the rise to 4.5%.

160. PART 2 – STAFF ISSUE

An issue regarding a staff member’s pay was discussed.

It was **RESOLVED** that the clerk would seek some advice from the auditor.

Meeting closed at 7.30pm.

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 March 2023
MEMBER Cllr S Taylor Cllr T Carberry	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS 152 152

WORD/MINUTES/MTC/MIN20230329