

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall, Earl Road, Mold at 6pm on Wednesday 25th October 2023 (also, by Video conferencing).

PRESENT:

Councillors: Cllrs. Sarah Taylor (Deputy Mayor and Chairman), Paul Beacher, Joanne Edwards, Haydn Jones, Bryan Grew, Brian Lloyd, Chris Bithell, Tina Claydon, Robin Guest, Catherine Frances Hill, Megan Lloyd Hughes (Zoom), Tim Maunders (Zoom).

Officers: Jo Lane, Town Clerk and Finance Officer and Jane Evans, Events and Community Officer

Also Present: 35 Members of the public in attendance and 5 members of the public via Zoom

116. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Each of the Councillors introduced themselves to the public and stated their name and the ward they represented.

A member of the public had contacted the Clerk prior to the meeting to request to speak at the meeting. At the meeting the member of the public read out a statement regarding the changes to the PSPO for the gardens in Maes Bodlonfa.

Cllr. Sarah Taylor thanked the member of the public for speaking and outlined the statutory process for making changes to PSPO's. As the statutory body, Flintshire County Council (FCC) undertook the consultation and therefore any questions relating to this would need to be directed to Flintshire County Council. Cllr. Taylor explained that the Town Council was a consultee in the consultation process in exactly the same way that members of the public were, and that their views would only be considered alongside and with the same weight as those of the members of the public. The majority of the respondents to the consultation had indicated that they wished dogs to be banned from the garden area. The issue over the questions which were asked in the consultation were determined by FCC and not the Town Council.

Cllr. Bithell explained that he is a County Councillor as well as a Mold Town Councillor. Cllr. Bithell is the cabinet member for public protection and it was his duty to present the report regarding the PSPO to the cabinet. The FCC consultation took place in June/ July (6 weeks) and was published on FCC website, available via Flintshire connects office, attached to the railings of the gardens and published within the press. The notice in the gardens also contained a map of the area/ gardens which was being consulted on. The name of the garden/park did not stop people from responding to the consultation. The name of the garden/park is also on the FCC notice which has been on railings of the gardens entrance for a number of years.

The consultation gave three options for people to vote on; dogs to be on a lead in the gardens, a total ban of dogs from the gardens or no change. Over 831 responded to the consultation with 61% of people voted for a total ban. FCC followed due process with regards to the consultation.

A member of the public wished to ask questions in relation to Cllr. Bithell in his capacity as a County Councillor at Flintshire County Council. As this was a meeting of Mold Town Council, the public were advised that this would need to take place outside of this meeting and to contact Cllr. Bithell directly.

Cllr. Collett advised that the PSPO will be reviewed in three years' time and that no petition had been presented to Flintshire County Councillors.

Cllr. Guest explained the change to PSPO's is not a Mold Town Council decision. The Town Council did vote to ban dogs in the gardens during a meeting in 2020. At that time Mold Town Council was advised that it was too late to put forward for the PSPO order and that a further consultation would take place in 3 years' time in 2023. When the review of the PSPO orders took place earlier this year, Flintshire County Council consulted with Mold Town Council and the recommendation from Mold Town Council was that dogs to continue to be allowed in the gardens, but requested dogs to be kept on a lead. The process regarding the implementation of a PSPO has been explained to members of the public, Mold Town Council are simply a consultee in the process and as such have no power to veto FCC decision.

Cllr. Jones advised that the request for dogs to be put on lead in the garden was raised by him in the meeting that took place in April 2023. Mold Town Council minutes are available on the Town Council website.

Cllr. Taylor stated she appreciated residents' frustrations but these issues do need to be directed to Flintshire County Council. There is confusion between what Mold Town Council are responsible for and what Flintshire County Council are responsible for, even with planning we are a consultee and equal to that of residents.

Mold Town Council have Standing Orders in place which outlines how Town Council meetings are run. Mold Town Council Standing Orders state that 15 minutes be granted for public participation at the start of the meeting, as public participation had exceeded 40 minutes Council called for a close of this agenda item.

Public Participation session ended 18.42pm and members of the public left the meeting

18.45pm Two members of the public remained in the Chamber and 2 members of the public on zoom

18:45pm Cllr. Collett left the meeting

117. APOLOGIES: Cllrs Teresa Carberry (Mayor), Pete Dando and Haydn Bateman

ABSENT: None

118. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

119. MAYORS ANNOUCEMENTS

Cllr. Taylor has tried her best to cover engagements in the absence of the Mayor. A highlight for Cllr. Taylor was attending the Rally Revival Festival which was well attended and Cllr. Taylor had also undertook a number of appointments and activities as part of the Daniel Owen Festival. The Tuebrook Hope group had also visited Mold for their 3rd annual visit and Cllr. Taylor spent time meeting and chatting with the visitors.

120. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That:

- (a) The Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held n the 27th September 2023 be received and formally approved as a correct record;
- (b) The Minutes of the Cemetery Committee Meeting held on the 4th October 2023 be received and formally approved as a correct record;
- (c) The Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Town Council Meeting held on the 11th October 2023 be received and formally approved as a correct record;
- (d) The Minutes of the Personnel Committee Meeting held on the 17th October 2023 be received and formally approved as a correct record;
- (e) The Minutes of the Financial Assistance Panel Meeting held on the 18th October 2023 be received and formally approved as a correct record;
- (f) The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 23rd October 2023 be received and formally approved as a correct record.

121. OFFICER REPORTS

Member considered the previously circulated report.

It was noted that volunteers were still needed for the annual Novemberfest Event and members were asked to contact the Events and Community Engagement Officer if they could offer a to volunteer.

Members also noted that the free parking after 3pm had come into effect as of 1st October, this was something that members had been requesting via FCC for a number of years and were pleased that this was now in place within the town.

The Events and Community Engagement Officer requested a decision in relation to the D Day 80 Lamp Light and Peace Event. A discussion took place with members highlighting their concerns regarding Health and Safety of the

lamps, which were not to be left unattended. Members also discussed whether an event should be held in 2024 for the D Day anniversary. Following discussion, it was agreed not take forward.

RESOLVED – To note the report information and no action taken with regards to D Day lamp of Peace.

18:55pm Cllr. Collett returned to the meeting

122. WELSH TRANSLATION

A discussion took place with regards to what is the legal obligation to the Town Council with regards to bilingualism and the Clerk informed members that there is currently no legislation stating what Town or Community Councils must do. Mold Town Council have already adopted a Welsh Language Scheme which states what Mold Town Council will do with regards to bilingualism. Members agreed that the Councils Welsh Language Policy should be reviewed at the next Policy & Audit meeting.

The Clerk had obtained five quotes from Welsh Translators and members agreed that Officers should work with three of the translators to ensure continuity in the case of absence/holidays. Going forward it was agreed that translation would be sent to three translators; Sian Jones, Dafydd Timothy and Thomas Samuel.

RESOLVED – For the Welsh Language Scheme to be reviewed at by the next Policy and Audit Committee and Officers to work with the three approved translators.

123. RUTHIN CASTLE PUB

Cllr. Sarah Taylor provided members with an updated regarding the licencing review of the Ruthin Castle pub in relation to the anti-social behaviour which had been taking place and as a consequence a number of residents had raised concerns. Following the review, it was confirmed that Flintshire County Council Licencing have withdrawn the live entertainment license. The pub is currently closed and the landlord has vacated.

Cllr. Taylor has written an email-to the departments involved within Flintshire County Council thanking them for their work and support on this matter.

124. BRYN GWALIA RESIDENTS MEETING

(i) **MOTION:** received from Cllr. Jones – it is essential that MTC take this to highest level. The ASB behaviour is a Town wide problem.

Cllr. Claydon provided members with an update on her involvement since the initial meeting in August and confirmed that she had spoken with a number of residents who have requested future meetings take place away from the estate. Cllr. Claydon confirmed that she had spoken with the Police and Crime Commissioner, who has advised that there is funding available up to £5,000 via the Police and Crime Commissioner in which Mold Town Council can support

the residents to apply for. The Police and Crime Commissioner had confirmed he would like to attend the next meeting of residents and Town Council meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to invite Police and Crime Commissioner to future Town Council Meeting and for Cllr. Claydon and the Events and Community Engagement Officer to coordinate a public meeting, to be held in the Daniel Owen Centre. The Police and Crime Commissioner and other agencies would be invited to the public meeting.

(ii) It was asked at the public meeting if additional CCTV camera could be purchased for the area. This request is supported by North Wales Police and would be monitored by Flintshire County Council. Costs provided.

If agreeable additional CCTV could be budgeted for the next financial year. Work will start shortly on the 2023/24 budget.

Cllr. Guest proposed that a camera be bought out of this year's budget and be sited in an area agreed with the local Policing team. When the Budget Committee meet it was proposed that another CCTV camera is budgeted for the next financial year.

It was **RESOLVED** that one CCTV camera be purchased with immediate effect

19.15pm One member of the public joined the meeting via zoom

19.20pm One member of the public left the zoom meeting

125. KENDRICKS FIELD – SECURITY AND FACILITIES

(i) Members discussed the possibility of funding benches for Kendrick's Field to support less abled dog walkers who exercise their dog(s) on the field. An estimate had been provided by FCC for the cost on bench and installation.

Cllr. Frances Hill advised that there is £2,000 available via the Cittaslow Scheme of which some of this fund could be used to go towards purchasing some benches for Kendrick's Field if members agreed. It was also noted that Mold Town Council have a Memorial Bench Scheme and the Clerk was asked to look into whether any requests had been received recently. Members approved the funding of two benches based on FCC approval to site on the field.

It was **RESOLVED** to look into purchasing and installation of two benches for Kendrick's Field.

(ii) Cllr. S Taylor read out the email correspondence which had been received regarding the PSPO for Maes Bodlonfa gardens and members requested that the emails be circulated by the Clerk to members.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk with support from Cllr. Taylor would respond to the emails on behalf of the council.

126. ANNUAL FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO MOLD FIRE SERVICE

It was **RESOLVED** to make a £400 contribution to Mold Fire Service to support the annual Fire Work Display.

127. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PANEL RECOMMENDATION

One application had been received from Mold Ex- Serviceman's Club for Financial Support towards their 100th Celebration. The Financial Assistance Committee Proposed a contribution of £250.00 be made and all members supported.

It was **RESOLVED** to make a £250 Financial Contribution.

128. 20 MPH RESTRICTIONS

Cllr. Jones raised the concern that Mold Town Council was not consulted with regards to making recommendations of roads that could be exempt from the new 20mph speed limit and that he was not aware that Flintshire County Councillors were asked if any areas could be exempt. Cllr. Jones said he was made aware of the consultation carried out by County Councillors by a resident of the South Ward who had received email correspondence following a question that they had asked and Cllr. Jones felt this should have been brought to a Town Council Meeting for a full discussion.

Cllr. Collett confirmed that he had consulted with a number of residents in the South Ward over the last 4 years and had not met a single person who did not support 20mph and that the 20mph was National Law laid down by Welsh Assembly and that the criteria for road exemption are extremely tight.

Cllr. Bithell advised that he has asked for several exemptions in the East ward as they are through routes i.e. Denbigh road and Cllr. Bithell had been advised that they would not be considered due to the criteria set out by Welsh Government.

Cllr. Guest proposed that Mold Town Council request to Flintshire County Council that all feeder roads around Mold are considered for exemption during the re-designations process.

It was **RESOLVED** to take the above proposal forward.

19.45pm One member of the public left the Chamber

129. POLLING DISTRICT, PLACE AND POLLING STATION REVIEW 2023/24

Members were asked to suggest a new polling station for the Broncoed Ward as the Glanrafon Centre was no longer available to use. Following discussion, it was agreed to put forward the Ebenezer Church as suitable polling station upon agreement from the Church.

It was **RESOLVED** to suggest Ebenezer Church be considered as the new Polling Station for Broncoed Ward.

130. APSE CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIA ONLINE SEMINAR

After the successful nomination of Mold Cemetery reaching the final for the best cemetery and crematorium at this year's APSE Awards, Mold Town Council had been invited to present at the APSE online seminar, to be held virtually on the 16th November

The Cemetery Superintendent has agreed to present on behalf of Mold Town Council, with support from the Clerk.

RESOLVED to note the information.

131. WINTER PREPERATIONS 2023/24

Mold Town Council normally buy 3 new Salt Bins each year. The Town Clerk had previously sent information to all Councillors to request proposals for new salt bin locations to be put forward prior to the meeting. Three requests had been received prior to the meeting and two requests submitted at the meeting.

- South Ward – additional Salt Bin in Hafod Park.
- Broncoed Ward – Salt Bin requested for Broncoed Lane (unadopted).
- East Ward – salt bin at the top of Bryn Awelon and on Ffordd Argoed.
- Broncoed Ward – salt bin for the top of Milford Street near the Top Club.

Members asked the Clerk to request that Streetscene notify the Ward Councillors as they wish to be involved with the placement of the new salt bins.

It was **RESOLVED** to request additional salt bins for Hafod Park, Bryn Awelon, Ffordd Argoed and Milford Street. The Town Council are unable to fund a salt bin on an unadopted road.

19.53pm Cllr. Lloyd Hughes left the meeting (zoom).

132. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual Report was previously circulated.

RESOLVED the information be noted.

133. COMMUNITY REVIEW PRE-QUESTIONNAIRE

The Community Review Pre-Questionnaire was completed.

RESOLVED the information be noted.

134. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

RESOLVED the Planning Decisions had been noted.

135. MEETINGS ATTENDED

No notice of meetings attended. A reminder that a written report should be circulated prior to the Town Council Meeting.

136. ACCOUNTS/ PAYMENTS

The Council considered the schedules previously circulated.

RESOLVED: That that the schedules of payments be approved.

137. VACANCIES

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

- CDR Committee – 2 vacancies
- Policy and Audit Committee – 1 vacancy
- Planning Committee – 1 vacancy

It was **RESOLVED** to note the vacancies.

138. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

20.00pm All remaining members of the public in the Chamber and on zoom left the meeting. The Events and Community Engagement Officer also left the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public for the next agenda item.

139. STAFF VACANCY

It was **RESOLVED** to except the recommendations made by the Personnel Committee.

Meeting closed 20.05pm.

Mayor’s signature: Date:

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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL		DATE: 25TH October 2023
MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS

WORD/MINUTES/MTC/MIN/ JL 25/10/23

Draft