

**19/10/05**

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 19th October 2005.

**PRESENT:**

Councillors: Ray Dodd (Mayor), Chris Bithell, Geoff Collett, Geoff Darkins, Bryan Grew, Robin Guest, Carol Heycocks, Stephanie Hulley, Joyce Jones, Jack Laing, Phill Lloyd, and Andrea Mearns with the Clerk and Finance Officer and Town Centre Manager.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillors Ken Williams.

**75. COUNCILLOR J.O. JONES**

The Mayor and other Members paid tribute to Councillor J.O. Jones who passed away recently. All those present stood in silent tribute.

**76. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor advised the Town Council of his attendance at the Open Day of Flintshire Mind which was held at the Town Hall. The Mayor also advised of his attendance at the Alun School when he presented awards and certificates to pupils who had gained success and recognition in academic and vocational endeavours.

The Deputy Mayor advised the Town Council that he had completed the sponsored walk for the British Heart Foundation, on behalf of the Mayor, and that he had raised nearly £100.00.

**77. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Joyce Jones declared an interest in agenda item 13.1.

**78. MR. MAL BREEZE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER**

The Mayor welcomed Mr. Mal Breeze to the meeting.

Mr. Breeze explained that he was employed by the United Reform Church as a church related community worker and had come to Mold following a request from the Parkfields Community Centre Management Committee for assistance. He commenced his duties in Mold in March 2005.

Mr. Breeze advised that the improvements at Parkfields were due to commence shortly and that he had responsibility for overseeing the works. He was supporting the groups who had been moved to facilitate the works and had been reviewing the options for the development of new activities at the Centre following completion of the works. Mr. Breeze explained that he was working alongside the Communities First team at Bryn Gwalia and the Club House Management Committee with whom he working to ensure that the two facilities are operated in a complementary fashion. It was initially envisaged that the more robust activities would be hosted at the Club House.

Mr. Breeze indicated that the United Reform Church had agreed to cover the costs of his appointment for a period of five years.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Breeze for the insight into the work being undertaken and advised that he had the full support of the Town Council.

**79. MINUTES**

Resolved: It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 28th September 2005 be received and approved as a correct record;

**80. MATTERS ARISING**

80.1 Item 63.12: One Voice Wales Annual General Meeting – Councillor Bryan Grew advised that he had now received the agenda for the AGM and sought the views of the Town Council on an emergency motion that there is, in the light of the recent decision to postpone the council tax re-banding exercise in England, a reversion to the 2004/05 council tax bands in Wales. It was agreed on the casting vote of the Mayor that Councillor Grew should give the Town Council's

support to the emergency motion.

80.2 Item 68: Mold Cenotaph – The Clerk and Finance Officer advised that the application for grant aid towards the cleansing of the Cenotaph had been approved.

80.3 Item 69: Traffic Calming / Match Funding Area Map for Clearance – The Clerk and Finance Officer advised that the County Council had confirmed that it would be able to match fund the costs of the provision of the puffin crossing on Wrexham Road.

80.4 Item 71.3: Traffic Lights Timing / King Street and High Street Clearance – The Clerk and Finance Officer advised that the County Council had confirmed that it would be addressing the concerns raised.

## 81. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence, including three additional items, were considered:

81.1 The Town Council noted receipt of notes of the meeting of the Flintshire Fairtrade Coalition held on 12th September 2005.

80.2 The Town Council welcomed the correspondence from Flintshire Youth and Community Service detailing the establishment of a detached youth work approach for young people on the Bryn Gwalia Estate.

80.3 The Town Council noted the correspondence from John Gaunt & Partners, Solicitors in relation to the transfer of licence at The Griffin, High Street. In doing so, the Council agreed to ask the licensing authority, Flintshire County Council, for information on how the Licensing Committee's views are relayed to the new licensees and to address the Town Council in February / March 2006 on the operation of the new arrangements.

80.4 The Town Council noted the copy Notice from Flintshire County Council regarding a reduction in the length of the existing one way restriction at Meadow Place.

80.5 The Town Council noted the correspondence from Portwood Services Ltd in relation to the transfer of licence at The Leeswood Arms, Wrexham Street.

80.6 The Town Council noted the correspondence regarding the General Conference of Mayors For Peace held in Hiroshima in August 2005.

80.7 The Town Council considered the correspondence from the Flintshire Welsh Language Initiative requesting assistance towards the Eisteddfod for learners of the Welsh language and agreed to consider the matter alongside other grant applications at the meeting in January 2006.

80.8 The Town Council noted the correspondence from Portwood Services Ltd in relation to the transfer of licence at The Bridge Inn, King Street.

80.9 The Town Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council advising of its inability to assist with the request for the relaxation of parking regulations or the creation of a residents parking area to accommodate Mrs. LaFlamme, Hermon, 2 Bailey Cottages.

80.10 The Town Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council's Treasurer. In response to the request for the reinstatement of the funding, originally allocated for the second canopy in High Street, to allow for the improvement of street lighting, the Treasurer advised that there was no evidence to suggest the availability of unspent monies from the Environmental Works Scheme for use in relation to the Town Centre. The Council agreed to defer this matter to the next meeting to allow further research by Members.

Resolved: That the actions set out above be approved.

## 82. ACCOUNTS 2005 / 06 – HALF-YEARLY REVIEW

The Town Council considered the previously circulated report detailing the position relating to the income and expenditure as at 30th September 2005 and including the Bank Reconciliation, Income, Petty Cash, Expenditure and Summary schedules.

It was noted that the amounts of some of the items of estimated expenditure shown had been amended to reflect decisions taken by the Council since the budget had been originally agreed in January 2005.

It was again noted that the balance brought forward, from the 2004/05 accounts, exceeded that which had been envisaged and as such the decision of the Town Council on 28th September 2005 to provide match funding for the

installation of a puffin crossing on Wrexham Road near to its junction with Brook Street / Gas Lane could be accommodated. The Clerk and Finance Officer reminded the Council that he had earlier advised that since the dispatch of the agenda correspondence had been received from the Head of Traffic and Highway Services in which he stated that the County Council would be able to fully match fund the project. The additional cost required therefore, from the Town Council would amount to £7,000. The decision to proceed was again supported.

The Council noted that there were a number of minor increases and reductions shown in the expenditure schedules and agreed that they should be accommodated through savings and alterations elsewhere in the budget.

Resolved: It was resolved that the report be received and approved.

#### 83. REVIEW OF PRINCIPAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY AREAS – COMMUNITY BOUNDARY ANOMALIES

The Town Council considered the previously circulated report and supported the comments that resulted from the informal meeting held on 11th October 2005.

Resolved: It was resolved that Flintshire County Council be asked to consider:

- a) The reorganisation of the existing four Mold wards to provide for a total of five wards covering the Town; and
- b) In the event that this proposal is not accepted, the Town Council seeks an amendment to the boundary between the Broncoed and South Wards as previously recommended.

#### 84. MAP OF MOLD – SITES FOR IMPROVEMENT

The Town Council considered the previously circulated schedule of sites identified by Members as being in need of attention. It was noted that a number of these sites were in private ownership and the Council was anxious to ensure that care would be taken with any approaches to those owners.

It was felt that the matter should be addressed by the Tourism Committee, which should be given the delegated responsibility to manage the project.

Resolved: It was resolved that the matter be referred to the Tourism Committee.

#### 85. TRAFFIC CALMING HAFOD PARK

Councillor Robin Guest advised the Town Council that he had discussed the matter of removing the traffic hump outside 17/18 Hafod Park with officers of the County Council. He stated that the officers remained of the view that the removal of the traffic hump would affect the overall integrity of the traffic calming scheme and that they therefore would not support the proposal.

The Town Council felt that the matter could not be pursued any further.

Resolved: It was resolved that the position of the County Council be noted.

#### 86. REPORT OF THE TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

The Town Centre Manager reported verbally to the Town Council.

He advised that the detailed planning application for the former Arriva and County Council Depot sites had been submitted and that Homebase were hoping to commence trading in September 2006.

The Town Centre Manager advised of the current position regarding the vacancies of retail units in the Town and recent changes in trading. He indicated that nationally trading was not good at present but that retailers were hoping for an upturn in the period before Christmas. In response to questions the Town Centre Manager advised that there remained interest in some of the vacant units but that, whilst rents were considered to be high for some units, the main concern of retailers was the level of the national non-domestic rates payable within the Town.

Reference was made to the need to promote and present the Town in the best way and that the level of maintenance and cleansing services in certain areas does not help. It was agreed to pursue the County Council to provide details of the cleansing schedules, promised at a meeting in August 2005, and to ask if the maintenance of the Town Hall could be reviewed.

Resolved: It was resolved that the report be noted and that the County Council be approached regarding the matters highlighted.

## 87. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Town Council considered those applications previously circulated and two new applications:

87.1 KYT/040287 – Change of use to private hire taxi operators, 4 Ffordd Pennant – no objections.

87.2 KYT/040291 – Extension to existing garage and conversion of garage to sitting room/study with second storey above, 73 Parc Hendy Pennant – no objections.

87.3 KYT/040314 – Advertisement consent for William Hill, Oxford House, 7 Chester Street Pennant – no objections subject to compliance with the policies relating to the conservation area.

87.4 KYT/040251 – Single storey rear extension and attic conversion, Oaklea, Bryn Coch Lane Pennant – no objections.

87.5 KYT/040180 – Erection of advertisement signs, HSBC Bank, 22 High Street Pennant – no objections subject to compliance with the policies relating to the conservation area.

87.6 KCS/040303 – Erection of a single storey rear extension to provide larger kitchen and sun room, 4 Swn Y Nant Pennant – no objections.

87.7 DCT/040347 – Change of use from an office to consulting room for a chiropractor, Belgravia House, Grosvenor Street Pennant – no objections.

87.8 KSM/040400 – Listed building application, removal of chimney breast (internal only) and repositioning of boiler, Sunnybank, King Street Pennant – no objections.

Resolved: It was resolved that the observations set out above be forwarded to Flintshire County Council.

## 88. MEETINGS ATTENDED

88.1 Councillor Stephanie Hulley advised of her attendance and that of Councillor Tony Cattermoul at the recent meeting of Abbeyfield Mold.

88.2 Councillor Stephanie Hulley advised of her attendance and that of Councillor Carol Heycocks at the recent opening of the Eatonfields offices on Mold Business Park.

88.3 Councillor Andrea Mearns advised of her attendance at a recent meeting organised by the County Council to discuss the potential for Mold to be designated as a "food town". The benefits of the approach are seen as a valuable way of developing a 'sense of place' for the town centre and a contrast to the 'clone town' syndrome, raising local profile and attracting visitors and investment and bringing the town and the rural hinterland closer together. Councillor Mearns advised that further discussions were to be held and more information would be provided to the Town Council.

## 89. ACCOUNTS / PAYMENTS

The Council considered the schedule previously circulated and noted that expenditure complied with the statutory powers available to local councils.

Resolved: It was resolved that the schedule of payments be approved.

**SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH MOLD TOWN COUNCIL'S**

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

<b>MOLD TOWN COUNCIL</b>	<b>DATE: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2005</b>
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<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MINUTE NO. REFERS</b>

Councillor Joyce Jones	Planning Applications	87.1
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