

## **MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

### **PRESENT:**

Councillors: Chris Bithell, Tony Cattermoul, Carolyn Cattermoul, Geoff Collett, Geoff Darkins, Robin Guest, Carol Heycocks, Joyce Jones, Andrea Mearns and Ken Williams with the Clerk and Finance Officer and Town Centre Manager.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillors: Ray Dodd (Mayor), Bryan Grew, Stephanie Hulley, and Jack Laing.

### **142. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

In the absence of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor it was agreed that Councillor Carol Heycocks should chair the meeting.

### **143. MAYOR' ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

### **144. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **145. MINUTES**

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2006 be received and approved as a correct record.

### **146. MATTERS ARISING**

#### **146.1 Item 134 – Policing in Mold**

The Chairman introduced Inspector Mark Pierce and PC Colin Coulborn to the meeting to update the Town Council on some of the items previously raised.

a) Inspector Pierce advised that he had met with the Aldi Foodstores Area Manager who confirmed that speed humps would be fitted in the car park and that a barrier would be installed in due course. Arrangements would be made with McDonalds for the closure of the barrier. In addition PC Coulborn advised of the operations undertaken within the car park which had resulted in three cars being seized and a further six drivers issued with warning. Reference was also made to cyclists using pavements and the Daniel Owen Precinct and Inspector Pierce advised that he would ask the Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) to review this matter.

b) Inspector Pierce advised that the disposal of chewing gum on the ground is an offence that can be penalised by a fixed penalty fine. He indicated that the Community Beat Managers and PCSOs were aware of this and would be alert to the situation.

c) Arrangements were in place for a drugs awareness session to be held at the next parents evening at the Alun School and hopefully in the near future at Ysgol Maes Garmon.

d) Inspector Pierce advised that indiscriminate parking that resulted in a dangerous obstruction would be addressed by the CBMs and PCSOs. Reference was made to the current situation on Wrexham Road, particularly with increased traffic due to the closure of Chester Road, with parking causing many obstructions. Inspector Pierce indicated that this would be investigated.

The Chairman thanked Inspector Pierce and PC Coulborn for attending and responding to the issues raised.

#### 146.2 Item 136 – Litter Pick

The Clerk and Finance Officer advised that Mold Rotary Club were unable to undertake the litter pick on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2006 and that an alternative date would be sought.

### **147. ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR – WEST WARD**

The Council noted the report of the Returning Officer advising that Mrs Sheila Powell had been elected unopposed to the vacancy in the West Ward and that she will commence her role as Councillor after 30<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

### **148. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

148.1 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council regarding the alteration to ward boundaries.

148.2 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council advising that the works requested to the carriageway at the pedestrian crossing in High Street will be carried out as soon as the necessary resources become available.

148.3 The Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council in relation to the protocol for conduct at planning site visits. Members expressed concern that there remained a difficulty with the process identified. Whilst acknowledging the difficulties, Members felt that there should be some arrangements within the protocol to invite members of the public to the site meeting particularly as paragraph 9.3.2 allows one objector to comment. It should not be expected that

objectors would turn up at the site meeting by chance. It was agreed to express this view to the County Council.

148.4 The Council considered the correspondence from Mrs Eleanor Roberts and agreed to arrange the provision of temporary insurance for the staging for the charity concert at Bryn Coch School on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2006. It was noted that the costs of the insurance would be reimbursed.

148.5 The Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council regarding the issue of recycling trade refuse. Members felt that the letter did not address the specific issue highlighted, that is, the lack of recycling of the trade refuse already collected rather than that taken to the amenity sites by the traders themselves. It was agreed to pursue the matter to seek an assurance that this would be considered by the County Council.

148.6 The Council noted the correspondence from Sandy Mewies enclosing a letter from Andrew Davies, Minister for Economic Development & Transport regarding the sponsorship of trunk road roundabout maintenance.

148.7 The Council considered the correspondence from Neil Fenby, Transport Directorate, Welsh Assembly Government and Flintshire County Council's Head of Traffic and Highway Services regarding the provision of 'white on brown' road signs. The Council reiterated its view that the provision of signing is vitally important to tourism in North Wales and felt that this matter should be pursued believing that other areas must be similarly affected. It was agreed to write to Andrew Davies, Minister for Economic Development & Transport, Sandy Mewies AM, One Voice Wales and the Welsh Local Government Association seeking their support to a change in the regulations. It was also agreed to ask the local trade and business organisations to write in a similar vein.

148.8 The Council considered the correspondence from ABL Cultural Consulting, the company preparing the business plan for a new museum in the Old Court House, and agreed that Councillors Tony Cattermoul, Robin Guest and Ken Williams should be nominated to meet with a representative of the Company to discuss the future of the project.

148.9 The Council noted receipt of the minutes of the meeting of Flintshire Local Health Board held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2006 and the agenda for the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

148.10 The Council noted the correspondence advising of the next meeting of the Police and Community Consultative Group to be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2006 at the Daniel Owen Centre, Mold.

148.11 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council seeking names for the development currently underway at Nercwys Road but felt unable to make any suggestions.

148.12 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council advising of the appeal against the refusal of planning permission for a conservatory at The Haven, Upper Bryn Coch Lane to be held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2006.

148.13 The Council noted the correspondence from the new Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.

148.14 The Council noted that the correspondence from Flintshire County Council giving notification of the outcome of recent planning decisions will be held on file at the Town Hall.

**Resolved:** That the actions set out above be approved.

#### **149. APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The Council considered the previously circulated letter in support of the previously deferred application for financial assistance from Bobath Children's Therapy Centre Wales. The Council noted the comments and agreed to a grant of £50.00 being given to the organisation.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that a grant of £50.00 be given to the Bobath Children's Therapy Centre Wales.

#### **150. POLICE REFORM IN WALES**

The Council considered the previously circulated correspondence in relation to the police reform in Wales and the reply from the Home Office received on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2006 and circulated on the night.

The Council expressed its disappointment at the contents of the correspondence believing that the arguments against the merger of the forces were being ignored regardless of their merits. It was also felt that the general public have no confidence that the revised arrangements will deliver the level of service required.

It was agreed to respond to the Home Office, David Hanson MP and the Secretary of State for Wales Peter Hain MP, with the view that the arguments for reform had been considered and debated by the Council who had then reached the view that no benefit would be achieved and that the reform was not therefore necessary. It was also agreed to send copies of the correspondence to the North Wales Police Authority and HM Inspector of Constabulary who had initially recommended the reform.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to respond accordingly.

#### **151. ALDI CAR PARK**

The Council noted the previously circulated report and felt that the matter had been addressed by Inspector Mark Pierce earlier in the meeting (Minute 146.1 refers).

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the information be noted.

## **152. PUFFIN CROSSING – WREXHAM ROAD**

The Council noted that the work to install the puffin crossing in Wrexham Road would commence after Easter 2006 and that the work had been delayed because of the road works on Chester Road.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the report be noted.

## **153. CITTASLOW MOVEMENT**

The Council considered the previously circulated report.

The Council supported the pursuit of membership of the Cittaslow Movement and whilst noting, that it was not necessarily the responsibility of the Town Council to co-ordinate any application, acknowledged the need to provide the initial financial support. It was also noted that there had been no specific budget allocation set aside for this initiative but the Council agreed that this should be addressed as the accounts are reviewed during the forthcoming year.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that:

- a) the matter be referred to the Tourism Committee with the remit to pursue the application and the ability to co-opt other interested persons as necessary; and
- b) in the event of the application for membership of the Cittaslow Movement being made, the initial fee and annual membership subscription be covered by the Town Council.

## **154. LOCAL PLANNING GUIDANCE NOTES**

**Resolved:** It was noted that copies of the revised Local Planning Guidance Notes were available for Members.

## **155. REPORT OF THE TOWN CENTRE MANAGER**

The Town Council considered a verbal report from the Town Centre Manager who advised:

- a) That Artychoke Website Design had been chosen by the panel to prepare the “visitmold.com” website. The terms and conditions were to be agreed and the final prices to be submitted for consideration following detailed talks with the Company;
- b) Of arrangements for the Finance Committee of the Eisteddfod to meet with representatives of the retailers and businesses in the Town;
- c) That a steering group had been formed to progress the Food Town Initiative; and
- d) On the current number of vacant retail units in the Town.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the report be noted.

## **156. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

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

156.1 DCT/041019 – Amendment to house type to include garage (Plot 13), Former Autodrome, Nercwys Road – no objections.

156.2 KYT/040562 – Erection of non-illuminated hoarding sign, Direct 2 Door, 7 Broncoed Park Industrial Estate – no objections.

156.3 DCT/041028 – Erection of a pair of semi-detached dormer bungalows and garages, 1 Bryn Hilyn, Bromfield Close – the Town Council agreed to object to this application on the grounds that the access arrangements for the dwellings would be wholly inappropriate for both construction and subsequently residents vehicles.

156.4 KYT/040448 – Erection of signs, 56-58 New Street – no objections.

156.5 TOC/040947 – Erection of a timber conservatory to front of dwelling, 3 Parc Plas Aney – no objections.

156.6 DCT/041080 – Erection of two detached dwellings in lieu of larger single dwelling previously approved under reference 036778, Plots 8 & 9, Cwrt Rhyd Galed – the Town Council agreed to object to this application believing there to be insufficient space around the dwelling identified as plot 8.

156.7 KYT/041068 – Replacement of existing conservatory to rear, September Cottage, 3 Brook Mount – no objections.

156.8 LEJ/041037 – Amendment to house type, Plot 1, Cwrt Rhyd Galed – no objections.

156.9 DCT/041054 – Amendment to house types on Plots 5 and 96, Morris Homes Site, Denbigh Road – no objections.

156.10 DGJ/041111 – Listed building application, demolition and realignment of frontage boundary wall to facilitate access and improvements and erection of dwelling, Bromfield, Wrexham Road – no objections.

156.11 LEJ/041185 – Erection of a two storey rear/side extension, 3 Ffordd Dolgoed – no objections.

156.12 KSS/038919 – Erection of 20 No. apartments with associated car parking, land at New Street (formerly Taylor Tiles site) – no objections.

156.13 DCT/041174 – Conservation area consent application, demolition of existing buildings and erection of 20 No. apartments with associated car parking, and landscaping (variation of planning permission 034411), land at New Street (formerly Taylor Tiles) – no objections.

156.14 DCT/041200 – Conversion of existing building into 3 no. flats, Barraclough House, Castle Street – no objections.

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

### 157. MEETINGS ATTENDED

157.1 Councillor Ken Williams advised of his attendance at the North Wales Regional Committee of the Welsh Assembly Government when the subject had been affordable housing. He circulated a summary of the proceedings for the information of Members.

157.2 Councillor Andrea Mearns reported on the meeting when the Steering Group for the Food Town had been formed and indicated that Sheila Powell, the newly elected Member for the West Ward, was present. Councillor Mearns advised that the Hotel and Restaurant Association had agreed that the food festival should be held on the weekend of 30<sup>th</sup> September / 1<sup>st</sup> October 2006 and that a treasure hunt with a food theme would be held in the Town on Easter Monday. Reference was also made to the establishment of a Mold Slow Food Convivium, being organised by Ben Haskins of the Welsh College of Horticulture who had also indicated that he would like to bring the Farmers Market to the Town.

157.3 Councillor Geoff Darkins advised of his attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Bryn Gwalia Tenants and Residents Association.

### 158. 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: 29<sup>th</sup> March 2006</b>
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<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MINUTE NO. REFERS</b>
	None	