

# **MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2006.

## **PRESENT:**

Councillors: Bryan Grew (Mayor), Chris Bithell, Tony Cattermoul, Carolyn Cattermoul, Geoff Darkins, Ray Dodd, Robin Guest, Carol Heycocks, Stephanie Hulley, Joyce Jones, Jack Laing, Andrea Mearns, Sheila Powell and Ken Williams with the Clerk and Finance Officer and Town Centre Manager.

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Councillors: Geoff Collett and Phill Lloyd.

## **12. MAYOR' ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor advised the Council of his attendance at the opening and rededication of the refurbished Parkfields Community Centre and at the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Abbeyfields development in Mold.

The Mayor also referred to the Bryn Gwalia litter pick that had been called off due to the inclement weather and reminded Members that it had been rearranged for 4<sup>th</sup> June.

The Mayor offered his congratulations to Mold Rugby Club following its unbeaten run in winning its league this year. It was agreed that a letter of congratulations should be sent from the Town Council.

## **13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Sheila Powell declared an interest in item 12.10 on the agenda (Minute 22.10 refers).

## **14. MINUTES**

**Resolved:** It was resolved that:

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2006 be received and approved as a correct record;
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Tourism Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2006 be received and noted; and
- c) The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2006 be received and approved as a correct record.

## **15. MATTERS ARISING**

- 15.1 Town Council 26<sup>th</sup> April 2006  
Item 163.1 – Suggested Road Name

Councillor Chris Bithell advised that the name previously submitted was already in use and consequently Hafod Alyn had been suggested to the County Council.

- 15.2 Town Council 26<sup>th</sup> April 2006  
Item 163.12 – Dog Litter Bin

The Clerk advised the land on Chester Road by Checkpoint was owned by Somerfield Stores plc and that he was awaiting a response to the request to locate a dog litterbin on site.

- 15.3 Town Council 26<sup>th</sup> April 2006  
Item 172.1 – Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC) Funding

The Clerk advised that an acknowledgement had been received from the Leader of Flintshire County Council advising that the views of the Town Council had been noted.

## **16. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

16.1 The Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council regarding the issue of recycling trade waste. Members, whilst noting the comments made, felt that the letter did not address the issue raised, whether trade waste was sorted and recycled and whether any thought was being given to this matter. Reference was made to the lack of recycling facilities for the glass waste generated by public houses and to the fact that this goes to landfill. It was agreed to further pursue the matter.

16.2 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council setting out the approval for use of the New Street car park for the Food Festival due to take place on 30<sup>th</sup> September and 1<sup>st</sup> October 2006. Members were pleased to note the positive support being offered by the County Council.

16.3 The Council noted the correspondence from the Head of Flood and Coastal Risk Management at the Welsh Assembly Government regarding the drainage scheme affecting Cae Bracty. The comments were welcomed.

16.4 The Council noted that copies of the minutes of the last meeting of the Flintshire Local Health Board and the agenda for the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May had been received.

16.5 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council advising of the Environmental Competitions due to take place and agreed to enter the 'Best Kept Town Centre' category.

16.6 The Council considered the correspondence from the Solicitor to Flintshire County Council and agreed that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillor Sheila Powell and the Clerk should attend the meeting to discuss issues of general concern about the Code of Conduct for Members on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July.

16.7 The Council noted the correspondence from the Planning Inspectorate advising that the appeal against the refusal to grant planning permission for the erection of a conservatory at The Haven, Upper Bryn Coch Lane had been allowed subject to conditions on the materials to be used and the finish of the wall to cill height.

16.8 The Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council giving notice of an application for the 'stopping up of the highway' for part of Love Lane (on the Bro Alun side of Denbigh Road). In noting that the highway had already been declared as surplus to highway requirements and the land disused for a number of years, the Council agreed to raise no objections.

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

## **17. FLINTSHIRE & DISTRICT EISTEDDFOD**

17.1 The Council noted that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor had attended the meeting for all Town and Community Councils held on 17<sup>th</sup> May and that they would be representing the Town Council at the Proclamation Ceremony to be held in Flint on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2006. The Mayor advised that a number of events were planned for the week following the Proclamation. Members expressed their disappointment that there had been a need to move the Proclamation Ceremony to Flint and agreed to advise the Eisteddfod organisers of this disappointment.

17.2 Councillor Andrea Mearns advised of her meeting with the Chair of the Mold Fundraising Committee and Selwyn Evans. She indicated that nearly half of the target of £60,000 had already been promised and that it was intended to pool all resources to achieve the local target. Councillor Mearns identified some of the fundraising events that were proposed and indicated that any other ideas for fundraising events would be welcomed. It was agreed that Members should advise Councillor Mearns of any possible fundraising ideas.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that

- a) The Council's disappointment at moving the Proclamation Ceremony be expressed to the Eisteddfod organisers; and
- b) Ideas for fundraising events be forwarded to Councillor Mearns.

## **18. 'WHITE ON BROWN' TOURISM SIGNS**

The Council noted the report on the meeting between Members of the Tourism Committee and Messrs Vernon Pownall and Andy Cochran of the Welsh Assembly Government's Transport Directorate on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2006. It was noted that there is, at this stage, little scope to pursue the provision of signs but Members were advised that the reasons for the stance of the Town Council had been noted and that a review of signage, due to commence shortly, would take those views into account. A response setting out the arguments put by the Committee was circulated at the meeting for the information of Members.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that:

- a) The report and the submission to the Welsh Assembly be noted; and
- b) The Minister, Andrew Davies AM, be invited to meet with Members of the Tourism Committee to discuss this matter.

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

The Town Centre Manager Council reported that the meeting between the Eisteddfod organisers and the business community had been postponed until July although it was confirmed that businesses were to sponsor the Daniel Owen Prize.

The Town Centre Manager advised that the 'visitmold' website was progressing and it was envisaged that the first presentation would be made within the near future.

Reference was made to the programme for the alterations to 24 High Street and the Town Centre Manager indicated that works were due to commence in August this year. He advised of his concerns at the length of time being taken to determine to some planning applications, referring to 24 High Street and the Taylor Tiles site, and of the need to grasp opportunities as they arise. The Town Centre Manager believed this to be of particular importance now when considering the challenges facing the Town as a result of the approval of the extension to Broughton Shopping Park. Members concurred with this view and agreed that the Council should express its concerns to the County Council.

The Town Centre Manager made reference to the number of vacant shops in the Town and the continuing installation of roller shutters.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the report be noted and that the views of the Town Council regarding the need to process planning applications expeditiously be expressed to the County Council.

## **20. REPORT OF THE CLERK & FINANCE OFFICER**

20.1 The Council approved the disposal of its old computers to the Flintshire Local Voluntary Council for distribution to voluntary groups following cleaning of the disks.

20.2 The Clerk reported on the current arrangements for the computer / internet facilities at the Town Hall and sought the approval of the Council to the installation of broadband internet facilities. The Clerk advised of the likely costs of the new equipment and the ongoing rental charges that are expected to be comparable to the current charges.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the action identified be approved.

## **21. NOTICES OF MOTION**

The Town Council considered the proposal of Councillor Andrea Mearns and supported the provision of a display within the Town to advertise the features on show at the film theatre at Clwyd Theatr Cymru. It was agreed to ask the Tourism Committee to consider appropriate sites.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to support the provision of displays advertising the film theatre at Clwyd Theatr Cymru and to ask the Tourism Committee to identify suitable sites.

## **22. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

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

22.1 LEJ/041177 – One illuminated fascia sign and one illuminated projecting sign, 11 High Street – the Council agreed to object to this application because the internally illuminated sign does not comply with the policies relating to the conservation area. Members also expressed concern that the works had been undertaken before the application had been determined.

22.2 TOC/041402 – Conversion of roof space to provide additional office space, St. Andrews Park, Queens Lane – no objections.

22.3 LEJ/041233 – Retrospective application for additional parking (12 bays), Business Services Centre, Preswylfa, Hendy Road – no objections.

22.4 LEJ/041393 – Erection of single storey extension, 2 Ambrose Terrace – no objections.

22.5 LEJ/041424 – Erection of a detached garage, 14 Lon y Parc – no objections.

22.6 CTB/041353 – Change of use to coffee shop/sandwich bar to sit in and take-away, 63 Wrexham Street – no objections.

22.7 LEJ/041461 – Change of use of existing courtyard into public smoking haven, The Gold Cape, 8 Wrexham Street – no objections although concern was expressed about the possible noise nuisance that may result as a result of customers being encouraged to smoke outdoors.

22.8 KCS/041333 – Change of use to operation of 1 no. private hire vehicle, 30 Llys Daniel Owen – no objections.

22.9 TOC/041460 – Change of use of existing semi-detached dwelling to 2 no. flats, 5 Maes Bodlonfa – the Council agreed to object to this application. It is considered that the accommodation is unsuitable for conversion and could result in noise transference between properties. Concern was also expressed about the additional strain that would be placed on the already difficult parking arrangements in this part of the Town.

22.10 LEJ/041428 – Renewal of permission for siting of temporary classroom unit with toilet facilities, Ysgol Delyn, Alexandra Road – no objections.

22.11 LEJ/041478 – Erection of a conservatory, 4 Llwyn Bach, St Mary's Park – no objections.

22.12 KYT/041408 – Siting of a temporary portacabin, Mondi Packaging, Maes Gwern – no objections.

22.13 KYT/041439 – Change of use to operate 1 no. eight seater private hire vehicle, Whitford, 16 Harrowby Road – the Council agreed to object to this application. It is considered that the property in this location is unsuited to this type of use being without a driveway or parking facilities and at the end of a cul de sac that already experiences parking difficulties despite being designated for residents only.

22.14 RMH/041302 – Renewal of application No. 034920, outline residential development, Bromfield Timber and Joinery, Queens Lane – the Council agreed to object to this application. It is considered that the application is contrary to the existing planning policy and that the land should be retained for industrial use.

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

### **23. MEETINGS ATTENDED**

23.1 Councillor Joyce Jones advised of her attendance at the Alyn Works Liaison meeting and of the effect of rising energy costs on the operational arrangements at Synthite.

23.2 Councillor Ken Williams advised of his attendance at the meeting of the Welsh Assembly Government's North Wales Regional Committee and circulated details of the discussions.

23.3 Councillor Sheila Powell advised of her attendance and that of Councillors Tony Cattermoul and Ken Williams at the recent meeting organised by the North Wales Police Authority to discuss the proposed reform of the Police. Reference was made to the funding arrangements that seemed to indicate a shortfall of close to £62million and support from central government being in the form of a loan.

23.4 Councillor Andrea Mearns advised of her attendance at the meeting of the Steering Group for the Food Town. She referred to the support of the County Council to the production of a leaflet specifically for the Food Festival and the arrangements necessary for this to be available for July this year. Councillor Mearns indicated that arrangements were underway for the Farmers Market to take place in the Town each month, hopefully starting in September.

23.5 Councillor Andrea Mearns advised of her attendance at the meeting of the Hotel and Restaurant Association to discuss progress with the Food Festival. She confirmed that there were no grants available to support the Festival which therefore, had to be self funding. Councillor Mearns referred to the gala dinner to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, the proceeds of which would be for the Food Festival, and expressed her hope that Members would support the event by taking a table for the Town Council.

## 24. 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

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| <b>MOLD TOWN COUNCIL</b> | <b>DATE: 31<sup>st</sup> May 2006</b> |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|

| <b>MEMBER</b>            | <b>ITEM</b>                         | <b>MINUTE NO. REFERS</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Councillor Sheila Powell | Planning Applications – Ysgol Delyn | 22.10                    |

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