

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 12th September 2007.

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor Andrea Mearns

60. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

61. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Resolved: It was resolved that the public and the press be excluded from the meeting in order to allow discussion on confidential matters.

62. PRIMARY HEALTH CARE FACILITIES IN MOLD

The Mayor welcomed Paul Bowker from the Flintshire Local Health Board and Paul Booth of Apollo Capital Projects to the meeting to discuss proposals for the provision of a new primary health care facility in Mold.

The Mayor reminded Members that at the last meeting on the 18th July, concerns had been expressed that the proposals for the new Primary Health Care Facility would not benefit the public of Mold.

Mr. Bowker initially apologised to Members that he would be unable to discuss specific details about sites under consideration for the facility. There is currently no commitment to any particular site, although two sites are under consideration and the developers are seeking to negotiate with the owners. Mr. Bowker confirmed that Pendre Surgery had decided not to participate within the overall scheme although the remaining three Doctors' Practices were still committed to being involved.

Mr. Booth indicated that following the withdrawal of Pendre Surgery, a smaller site was needed for the facility and that currently two sites were under consideration. He stated that following the preparation of detailed plans there was still a requirement to submit the proposal to the Welsh Design Council and then to the Welsh Assembly Government who have to be satisfied with the overall business plan for the project.

In responding to Members questions, Mr. Bowker indicated that patients from the Pendre Surgery would not be disadvantaged as a result of the practice not being lo-

cated within the new facility. It was recognised that Pendre Surgery has limited scope for growth in terms of patient care, but the basis of the scheme is to provide for the expansion in future years of the other practices. All shared facilities at the new facility / resource centre would however, be available to Pendre Surgery patients as well as those of the other practices. Members were reminded that the standards of accommodation for the three practices currently committed to the scheme, were not up to the required standard.

Reference was made to the need for car parking at any new facility and Mr. Booth indicated that the requirements of the Doctors' Practices and of course, planners needed to be taken into account. He also indicated that the Welsh Assembly Government would be unlikely to approve a scheme that had off-site parking.

Members commented on the benefits that will be available to patients as a result of having equipment, services and the proximity of other agencies all within one building. Mr. Booth indicated that the matter of confidentiality was being taken into account in the detailed design of the building itself.

Messrs Bowker and Booth indicated that the programme for the development of the facility within Mold was behind schedule although they indicated that, subject to the agreement of owners of the sites under consideration, they would hope to have the facility available within a period of two years.

Mr. Bowker advised of the Flintshire Local Health Board's excitement at the provision of this new facility within Mold and indicated that he would be happy to return to meet with Councillors at a time when he was able to share more information. He did indicate that he would be happy to consider any other sites Members could identify.

The Mayor thanked Messrs Bowker and Booth for attending the meeting and for their responses to the questions posed.

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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL	DATE: 12th September 2007
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MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
	None	