

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 26th March 2008.

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, Andrea Mearns, Sheila Powell and Ken Williams with the Clerk and Finance Officer and Town Centre Manager.

137. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were made as detailed at the end of these minutes.

138. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor advised of her attendance at the Easter Event held at St. Mary's Parish Church on Easter Monday and organised jointly by Cittaslow Mold and the Church. She also advised that she had attended the Easter Egg Hunt at Parkfields the following day.

139. TRADE AND BOTTLE WASTE

The Mayor welcomed Messrs Andy Macbeth and Harvey Mitchell from Flintshire County Council's Environmental Services Department to the meeting. The Mayor reminded Members that the invitation to the meeting arose from discussions about the recycling of glass from public houses in the Town.

Mr. Macbeth advised the Council that there was no budgetary provision nor was there any statutory responsibility / obligation on the County Council for the recycling of glass from public houses. He confirmed that household waste glass was recycled as a result of the kerbside collections.

Members noted the comments but expressed concerns that the glass from public houses, if not recycled, would be ending up in landfill sites. Mr. Macbeth responded by confirming that commercial concerns could not use the household civic amenity sites but that they could use the bottlebanks within the car parks. He indicated that some of the trade waste collectors do provide recycling facilities although he was unable to quantify the amounts recycled. He reiterated that the County Council only collected some 22% of the trade waste within the County. Mr. Macbeth advised that there would be no landfill tax savings to the County Council if there were more recycling because the County Council collects a minority of the trade waste.

Mr. Macbeth advised the Council that Flintshire County Council was now the lead authority on the development of waste treatment plants and he expressed the view that this approach would hopefully resolve the issues relating to trade waste. Sites for the location of waste treatment plants are currently being investigated across North Wales.

Reference was made to previous requests for the relocation of the waste banks in the New Street car park to the area at the rear of Travis Perkins. Mr. Mitchell agreed that this matter would be reviewed.

In response to questions, Mr. Macbeth advised that the County Council, through the Environment and Regeneration Directorate, was currently investigating the introduction of mini recycling bins within town centres. He suggested that the Town Council contact the Director to seek further information on the suggested sitings for these bins. Mr. Macbeth also indicated that consideration could be given to the collection of trade cardboard waste, probably with a company from Oswestry, if suitable sites could be identified for its storage prior to collection.

The Mayor thanked Messrs Macbeth and Mitchell for attending the meeting and responding to the issues raised even if solutions were not readily available.

140. MINUTES

Resolved: It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 27th February 2008 be received and approved.

141. MATTERS ARISING

141.1 Minute 125 Mold Town Concert Band – The Mayor agreed that she would be able to present the cup to the Town Concert Band in recognition of their ambassadorial work at the time of the Band's next practice.

141.2 Minute 135.2 'Sustainable Travel Town' status – Councillor Andrea Mearns advised that the meeting with David Blainey had been rescheduled to 6.30pm on Wednesday 2nd April 2008.

142. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence, including one new item, were considered:

142.1 The Council noted with regret the correspondence from The Planning Inspectorate advising that the appeal against the refusal to grant outline planning permission for five detached dwellings at Cranfield, Rhydygaled had been allowed.

142.2 The Council welcomed the majority of the comments in the correspondence from the Manager of the Tesco Store regarding concerns raised at a previous meeting of the Town Council. Members hoped to see an improvement in the general cleanliness of the environs of the Store following these comments. It was however, agreed to pursue with the Manager, the erection of a barrier alongside the roadway leading into the car park.

142.3 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council advising that the signing to and within the car parks would be fully reviewed with a view to making optimum use of all the public car parks.

142.4 The Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council regarding the prohibition of parking on Raikes Lane near to the junctions with Glasfryn and leading to Clwyd Theatr Cymru. In supporting the proposal, the Council felt that restrictions were also needed on the lane opposite the Law Courts and leading to Black Brook where there appears to be continuous parking on the side of the road.

142.5 The Council noted receipt of the Notes of the Flintshire Fairtrade Coalition Meeting held on 18th February 2008.

142.6 The Council considered the correspondence from Mrs. A. Riley, Surgery House, Halkyn expressing concern about illegal parking in the Town Centre. Members acknowledged the concerns expressed and whilst noting further information will be forthcoming on the costs involved with the engagement of a traffic warden, they felt that the responsibility for dealing with traffic offences lies with the Police. Members commended the Community Beat Manager in his recent work in responding to the incidents of illegal parking and noted that a number of parking offence tickets had been issued. It was also noted that the County Council is still reviewing the possible introduction of decriminalising parking with a view to taking responsibility for dealing with parking offences. It was agreed to respond accordingly.

142.7 The Council noted the correspondence from Inspector Alun Oldfield thanking the Town Council for its grant towards the cost of a uniform for one of the Police Cadets. Members felt that the cadet could be involved in a number of projects within the Town, including the Food Festival, Cittaslow Mold, and cycling and parking on pavements.

142.8 The Council considered the further information regarding sponsorship packages for this year's Royal Welsh Show. Members noted that the area of Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham had been invited to be the Feature Area / County for this year's Show and that it was intended to raise funds towards the new food hall planned for the showground. In feeling that it would be inappropriate for the Town Council to contribute, it was agreed to refer the matter to Cittaslow Mold, whose goals correspond with the objectives of the project, with a view to supporting and making a contribution towards the proposal.

Resolved: It was resolved that the actions set out above be approved.

143. APPOINTMENT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

Resolved: It was resolved that the Deputy Mayor and Councillors Chris Bithell, Bryan Grew and Robin Guest form the selection panel for the appointment of the Town Centre Manager.

144. FLINTSHIRE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2008-2011

Resolved: It was resolved that a sub-group comprising the Mayor and Councillors Carolyn Cattermoul, Geoff Collett, Sheila Powell and Ken Williams be given the authority to determine a response on behalf of the Town Council.

145. DRAFT WELSH EDUCATION SCHEME FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Resolved: It was resolved that a sub-group comprising the Mayor and Councillors Carolyn Cattermoul, Geoff Collett, Sheila Powell and Ken Williams be given the authority to determine a response on behalf of the Town Council.

146. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

In asking the Town Centre Manager to present his final report to the Council, the Mayor praised the work that he had undertaken during the past 8½ years and thanked him for his enthusiasm and guidance.

In presenting his verbal report to the Council, the Town Centre Manager referred to Mold being different from many of the other town centres and the need to retain that identity as its unique selling point. Whilst feeling that there is an urgent need for the County Council to implement parking strategy the Town Centre Manager urged caution about the methods of overcoming congestion within the Town. He stressed that the alternative to congestion could be 'ruin'.

The Town Centre Manager referred to the excellent location of the Town, being in close proximity to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and to the conservation area within the centre that should be preserved and upheld by Planners.

The Town Centre Manager expressed his disappointment at the poor response from retailers to the healthcheck questionnaire recently circulated, believing that an ideal opportunity had been missed to raise issues of concern.

Finally the Town Centre Manager thanked the Council for its support in his activities over the years. The Council acknowledged and thanked the Town Centre Manager for the work undertaken.

Resolved: It was resolved the report be noted.

147. NOTICES OF MOTION

147.1 On the proposal of Councillor Chris Bithell it was agreed to seek further information on the style, costs and necessary permits required for the provision of benches within High Street / Town Centre. It was also agreed that consideration should be given to the possible sponsorship of benches.

147.2 On the proposal of Councillor Geoff Collett it was agreed to invite a representative of the Citizens Advice Bureau to a future meeting to talk about the operation and performance of the organisation.

Resolved: It was resolved that the actions identified be taken.

148. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Town Council considered the following applications:

148.1 LEJ/044559 – Erection of a two-storey side extension, 7 Cilnant – no objections.

148.2 KYT/044708 – Removal of lean-to garage and erection of two-storey extension and attached garage, 130 Chester Road – no objections.

148.3 LEJ/044737 – Partial conversion of existing integral garage and single storey extension to garage with attached porch, 3 Henblas – no objections.

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

149. MEETINGS ATTENDED

149.1 Councillor Andrea Mearns reported on her attendance at the meeting of Mold 2000 when the organisation agreed to look at ways of promoting and improving aspects of the Town. She advised of the monthly meeting of the Hotel and Restaurant Group preparing for this years Food and Drink Festival.

Councillor Mearns reported that there had been two Cittaslow Mold group meetings. Reference was also made to the 'Seed and Plant Exchange' held on St. David's Day and the Easter Event at St. Mary's Parish Church.

150. 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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL	DATE: 26th March 2008
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MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
Councillor Stephanie Hulley	Planning Applications - KYT/044708, 130 Chester Road	148.2