

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 28th November 2007.

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors: Stephanie Hulley and Phill Lloyd.

97. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

98. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor welcomed Caroline Maxwell to the meeting explaining that Caroline was a Masters Degree student undertaking a placement with the County Council and Town Council.

The Mayor advised that Councillor Tony Cattermoul had hosted a visit by a church group from Taiwan to the Town Hall who had in return given two discs of Chinese gospel music.

The Mayor advised of her attendance at the Parkfields and Ysgol Delyn Harvest services. She thanked Members for their support at the Remembrance Day Service and in particular David Hanson MP and Councillor Bryan Grew for reading the lessons. The Mayor referred to her attendance at the 'Your Champions' dinner sponsored by Scottish Power and The Chronicle.

The Mayor also referred to the 'Switch On' of the Christmas lights the previous night and said how pleased she had been to see all the primary schools participating.

99. MINUTES

Resolved: It was resolved that

a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 24th October 2007 be received and approved;

b) The minutes of the meeting of the Cemetery Committee held on 14th November 2007 be received and noted; and

c) The minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 20th November 2007 be received and approved.

100. MATTERS ARISING

100.1 Mold Town Council 24th October 2007

100.1.1 Minute 89: Cittaslow Mold – Project Worker – The Council considered the supplementary notes circulated at the meeting detailing the arrangements with the Town Council undertaking the financial management and administration of the Project.

It was noted that part of the funding package provides for the costs involved in the management and administration to be paid to the Town Council and that they have been estimated and based on three hours each week provided by the Clerk. The Council recognised that this results in the necessary monies required for the Clerk to become a full-time employee being available immediately and covered by grant aid.

The Council in recalling its earlier decision to increase the hours of the Clerk to full-time with effective from 1st April 2008 noted that there will now be a contribution to the costs involved for the first three months of the next financial year.

Resolved: It was resolved that the Council approves the move to full-time working by the Clerk with effect from 3rd December 2007.

100.1.2 Minute 93.2: Public Toilets – Daniel Owen Community Centre - In response to a question from Councillor Andrea Mearns, Councillor Robin Guest advised that the costs involved in extending the opening hours of the public toilets would be calculated and advised to the Council.

100.1.3 Minute 93.3: Saturday Park and Ride Service – The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Andrea Mearns, advised of the comments from the General Manager of Clwyd Theatr Cymru and her request to utilise the lower car parks for the shuttle service if provided.

100.1.4 Minute 94.9: Planning Application, 6 The Mall, Ambrose Lloyd Centre – The Clerk advised that a further two letters in support of the planning application had been received.

100.2 Cemetery Committee 14th November 2007

100.2.1 Minute 7: Cemetery Extension – In response to questions from the Deputy Mayor, the Clerk advised the County Council had been advised of the findings of the ground assessment and that grant aid for remediation works was unlikely.

100.3 Personnel Committee 20th November 2007

100.3.1 Minute 6: Clwyd Pension Fund – Employer Contribution Rates – The Council noted and agreed the recommendation of the Committee to adopt the new standard employer contribution rate of 18% from 1st April 2007.

Resolved: It was resolved that the recommendation of the Personnel Committee be approved.

101. CORRESPONDENCE

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

101.1 The Council noted the correspondence from the Planning Inspectorate advising that the appeal against the refusal of outline planning permission for a dwelling within the curtilage of 16 Beechwood Close had been dismissed.

101.2 The Council considered the correspondence from Mrs. Vickery, 3 Ffordd Dolgoed. The Council noted that a dog litter bin had been recently provided on the corner of Bryn Coch Lane and Upper Bryn Coch and as a result felt that it would be more appropriate for another bin to be placed at the top of Ffordd Dolgoed near to the footpath leading to Ffordd Trem y Foel.

101.3 The Council considered the correspondence from Mr. & Mrs. J. Stamper, Plas Aney Lodge, 79 Hendy Road. Councillor Robin Guest advised that he had spoken to Mr. Stamper advising him Cittaslow Mold would be undertaking a review of benches in the Town and that it would be appropriate to await that review before taking any action. The Council supported that approach.

101.4 The Council considered the correspondence advising that the planning application for the erection of two and three storey apartment blocks at Bromfield Timber & Joinery, Queens Lane had been referred to the National Assembly for Wales and that a Public Inquiry was to be held. The Council agreed that it should be represented at the Inquiry.

101.5 The Council considered the correspondence from Mr. P. Kirkham, 3 Maes-y-Twr concerning speeding traffic on Nercwys Road. The Council noted the concerns expressed within the correspondence and referred to the discussions previously held with the County Council and the need for a programme of works that covers all roads leading into the Town. The Council recalled funds had been carried forward from the last financial year to allow for the installation of vehicle activated signs on Gwernaffield Road but also that the County Council had subsequently advised that the site was not within the priority areas of the County thus blocking the works. It was agreed that a meeting be sought with County Council officers with a view to identifying what can be done to overcome the concerns of residents at Maes-y-Twr and reduce the speed of vehicles on the roads leading into the Town.

101.6 The Council was pleased to receive the correspondence from John Skyner and agreed to congratulate him on his success in achieving a NVQ Level 2 in Business Administration.

101.7 The Council noted the correspondence confirming that Mold had been declared a Fairtrade Town. It was agreed to investigate the use of the Fairtrade logo on the Council's stationery.

101.8 The Council considered the correspondence from Mr. A. Patterson, 1 Garmon Villas regarding the lack of a footpath and drainage and the speeding traffic on Gwernaffield Road. The Council recalled its previous discussion on this matter in September 2005. At that time the County Council advised that there were no capital funds available but also that the provision of a footway would be included on the list of potential schemes for future consideration. It was noted that the matter of speeding could be addressed with County Council officers as suggested earlier in the meeting (Minute 101.5 refers). It was agreed the concerns regarding drainage should be referred to the County Council and that information should be sought as to the current position of the earlier request for a footpath.

101.9 The Council considered the correspondence regarding the review of the Regional Waste Plan and Councillors Tony Cattermoul and Sheila Powell expressed an interest in attending the review meeting.

101.10 The Council noted receipt of the Annual Report 2006–07 of the Adjudication Panel.

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

102. ANNUAL REPORT

The Council considered the previously circulated contents of a suggested annual report. Members made reference to a variety of other activities that should also be included in the annual report but supported the comments already made.

Resolved: It was resolved that the annual report be prepared and the Mayor be authorised to make the necessary arrangements for an Annual Meeting.

103. MOLD FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL 2007

The Council was advised that donations had been approved for the entertainers who performed at the Mold Food & Drink Festival 2007 held in September. It was agreed that the Council should make these payments and invoice Cadwyn Clwyd accordingly.

Resolved: It was resolved that the Council approves the payment of the donations for the entertainment at the Mold Food & Drink Festival 2007 and the invoicing of Cadwyn Clwyd for reimbursement.

104. RENOVATIONS – ST MARY'S PARISH CHURCH

The Council considered the report advising that major works are required to the structure of St. Mary's Parish Church. They noted that whilst grant aid is being

sought from the Heritage Lottery Fund and CADW, an amount of approximately £30,000 would still be required from the Parish.

The Council felt that it would be appropriate to contribute towards the scheme of works and agreed in principle to do so with further thought being given to the amount of contribution when the budget for 2008/09 is considered.

Resolved: It was resolved that the request for a contribution to the cost of the works be approved in principle with the amount being considered when the budget for 2008/09 is agreed.

NB: Councillors Chris Bithell and Carol Heycocks left the meeting during discussions on this item.

105. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

The Town Centre Manager presented a verbal report to the Council.

The Town Centre Manager advised of his recent meeting with the consultants appointed by the County Council to undertake health checks of the towns and indicated that they would meet with the Council in due course. He highlighted the positive investments that have taken place within the Town over the past five years stressing that this provided a good indicator that the Town was not struggling.

Reference was made to the new shop lettings, including the acquisition of the former Greenwoods shop by Austin Reade and the progress with the former Currys store.

The Town Centre Manager also referred to the 'Switch On' of the Christmas lights and gave thanks to all the groups that had been involved in making the evening a success.

Resolved: It was resolved that the report be noted.

106. NOTICES OF MOTION

106.1 Councillor Carolyn Cattermoul referred to the new arrangements introduced for the Remembrance Sunday Service and parade and expressed concerns about the amount of time between the Service and the Act of Remembrance taking place at the cenotaph. Members felt that it was appropriate for the Act of Remembrance and two minutes silence to be held at the cenotaph and agreed that it would be more appropriate for the Service to commence at 10.00am.

106.2 On the proposal of Councillor Tony Cattermoul it was agreed to ask the County Council for details of the progress being made towards instituting a free bottle collection service from all public houses and in particular to estimate: the savings in landfill tax; the collection costs; and, the losses from trade waste charges and to publish these estimates. During the discussion reference was made to the previous

practice of having deposits on bottles such that they were returned to the outlets for subsequent recycling. It was also agreed therefore, to write to David Hanson MP to ask if he will pursue the reintroduction of deposits with breweries and manufacturers to assist with recycling.

106.3 At the request of Councillor Stephanie Hulley who was unable to attend the meeting, it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

106.4 On the proposal of Councillor Robin Guest the Council noted:

- a) with pleasure, the increasing willingness of local people to recycle waste plastic materials and thereby reduce the volume of household rubbish sent to landfill sites, and
- b) with concern, the absence of a market for many discarded plastics, and the undesirable choices of landfill sites or incineration as means of disposal

Accordingly, it was agreed to ask David Hanson MP, the Welsh Members of the European Parliament and Assembly Members to ensure that urgent consideration be given at national and international level to the prohibition of the use of any packaging material not capable of being recycled and converted into a re-usable material. It was also agreed to write to the supermarket companies asking for their support in this matter.

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

107. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

107.1 PXR/044166 – Porchway extension to front elevation and two storey extension to incorporate new garage, 12 Llys Ambrose – no objections.

107.2 CZR/044189 – Installation of combined sewer overflow, erection of kiosk, hard-standing, fencing and landscaping, land adjacent Highfield, Bryn Awelon – no objections.

107.3 LEJ/044197 – New entrance with canopy to front (south) elevation including removal of front steps, Mold Crown Courts, County Civic Centre – no objections.

107.4 KYT/044222 – Two storey extension to provide an additional bedroom, family room and ancillary accommodation, 8 Broncoed Park – no objections.

107.5 KCS/042956 – Amended application for the erection of 3 no. 2-storey detached houses and associated garages, Former Highway Depot, Denbigh Road – no objections.

107.6 KYT/044205 – Sub-division of existing unit and minor alterations to create additional openings to 2 no. elevations, Units 5-7, Bromfield Industrial Estate, Stephen Gray Road – no objections.

107.7 KYT/044266 – Replacement shop front, 7A High Street – no objections subject to compliance with the policies applying to the conservation area.

107.8 LEJ/044250 – Erection of conservatory to rear, Sandhurst, Bryn Coch Crescent – no objections.

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

108. MEETINGS ATTENDED

108.1 Councillor Ken Williams advised of his attendance at the meeting with the Police Inspector and other community representatives. He advised of the action being taken at weekends to curb anti-social behaviour and of the increased detection rates within the area.

108.2 Councillor Bryan Grew advised of his attendance at the annual meeting of One Voice Wales. He referred to the Ministerial support for local councils that was expressed at the meeting and to the increase in the number of councils joining One Voice Wales.

108.3 The Deputy Mayor referred to her meeting with Bryan McManus regarding the recycling of textiles and in response the Council agreed to support the approach. Reference was also made to the meeting of Cittaslow Mold and the need to undertake a survey of footpath No. 5 in the near future. Councillor Geoff

109. 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: 28th November 2007
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MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
Councillor Chris Bithell	Renovations – St. Mary's Parish Church	Minute 104
Councillor Carol Heycocks	Renovations – St. Mary's Parish Church	Minute 104