

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 30th January 2008.

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillors: Carol Heycocks and Phill Lloyd.

110. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

111. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor advised of her attendance at the Police Control Room in St. Asaph and confirmed that she had provided Christmas presents on behalf of the Town Council to Rayner's Opticians.

112. MINUTES

Resolved: It was resolved that

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 28th November 2007 be received and approved;
- b) The minutes of the meeting of Cittaslow Mold held on 7th November 2007 be received and noted;
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 2nd January 2008 be received and noted; and
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Cemetery Committee held on 23rd January 2008, circulated at the meeting, be received and noted.

113. MATTERS ARISING

113.1 Mold Town Council 28th November 2007

113.1.1 Minute 106.4 Recycling Packaging Material – The Clerk advised that there had been no responses as yet from Assembly Members.

113.2 Planning Committee 2nd January 2008

113.2.1 Minute 2.3 Red Lion Inn – Councillor Tony Cattermoul advised that the establishment was not proposing to have an outside heater as part of the smoking area shelter.

114. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were considered:

114.1 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council advising of an appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the erection of five dwellings on the land to the side of Cranfield, Rhydygaled, Mold.

114.2 The Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council and in noting the comments about the capacity of the car parks, particularly that at Love Lane, felt that it would be appropriate to seek improved signage to assist and direct motorists to alternative car parks at busy periods. It was agreed to pursue this with the County Council.

114.3 The Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council regarding the provision of a free bottle collection service from all public houses. It was agreed to invite Mr. McBeth to a future meeting of the Council to discuss this matter further.

114.4 The Council noted receipt of the Annual Report of Flintshire Citizens Advice Bureau and the report and assessment of the impact of Flintshire CAB on the local community.

114.5 The Council considered the correspondence from David Hanson MP regarding deposits on glass bottles. In noting the comments the Council agreed that the matter should be pursued with the Welsh Members of the European Parliament.

114.6 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council regarding the drainage system on Gwernaffield Road.

114.7 The Council noted the correspondence from solicitors acting on behalf of the Bromfield Group Ltd regarding the additional design options and plans and the response of the Clerk. The Council also noted that the Inquiry would commence on 26th February 2008. Concern was expressed at the manner in which the new proposals had been submitted and at the uncertainty as to how they would be received and/or considered at the Inquiry. It was agreed to write to the Planning Inspector advising that the Town Council would follow the usual practice, as a statutory consultee, of commenting on applications once the Planning Authority has validated them, and asking for advice if the new proposals are to be considered.

114.8 The Council considered correspondence from Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) regarding the three specialist 'Debt Days' when the public can receive help and guidance on debt issues and benefit entitlement. It was agreed to ask CAB if it would consider holding a specialist 'Debt Day' in Mold in the future.

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

115. BUDGET 2008 / 09

The Council considered the previously circulated report detailing the estimates for the current year, the probable expenditure for the year together with estimates for the next financial year 2008/2009. The Council noted that the report included the quarterly review of the current years accounts with details of the petty cash expenditure, income and the bank / cash reconciliation as at 31st December 2007.

The Council reviewed the draft budget proposals and following careful consideration, agreed to include the following items of additional expenditure for the forthcoming year: lighting of pathway from Ffordd Pentre to Tesco car park (£1,000); provision of new road signs at the entrances to the Town (£4,000); and grant aid to St. Mary's Parish Church (£3,000). Members agreed not to pursue the other items of additional expenditure identified in the report.

The Council also supported an increase in the rental fees for the Jubilee Room as detailed in the report.

Having considered the detail of the budget and the proposals for additional items of expenditure, it was agreed that an increase in the precept of 3% would be appropriate for the coming year.

Resolved: It was resolved that:

- a) The quarterly reviews of general expenditure, petty cash expenditure, income and the bank reconciliation as at 31st December 2007 be noted and approved;
- b) The Burial Fees as detailed in the minutes of the Cemetery Committee held on 23rd January 2008 be approved;
- c) The charges for use of the Jubilee Room be increased from 1st April 2008 to £7.75 and £11.00 per hour for Charities/Voluntary Groups and Non Charities respectively;
- e) The draft budget for 2008/2009 be approved with the inclusion of the three additional items of expenditure detailed above; and
- f) A precept of £158,376.00 be approved for the year 2008/2009.

116. APPOINTMENT OF TRANSLATORS

The Council considered the previously circulated report that included suggested documentation for the seeking of tenders for the translation of the Council's agendas, letters and forms.

Resolved: It was resolved to approve the tender documentation and give authority to the Clerk, in conjunction with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to select and appoint translators.

117. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Council considered the report detailing the applications for financial assistance and agreed to make contributions as follows:

a) University of Wales, Bangor	£100.00
b) Hope House Children's Hospices	£200.00
c) Mold & District Choral Society	£100.00
d) North Wales Assn for Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus	£100.00
e) Childline Cymru / Wales	£200.00
f) Mold Junior Football Club – Girls Section	£100.00
g) North Wales Deaf Association	£100.00
h) Bobaith Children's Therapy Centre Wales	£ 50.00
i) Cruse Bereavement Care	£100.00
j) North Wales Police – South Flintshire Cadets	£200.00
k) ToCH, Cymru, Cathrina House	£150.00

Resolved: It was resolved that the grants detailed above be approved.

118. HIGHWAYS ISSUES

The Council considered the previously circulated report detailing feedback from the County Council on highways matters recently raised.

The Clerk reported County officers had agreed, since the report had been circulated, to install rumble strips coincidental with the start of the 30mph speed on Nercwys Road, but that they had also advised it would not be possible to provide a '30mph / Camera' sign.

Members welcomed the report and the actions being taken by the County Council.

Resolved: It was resolved that the report be noted.

119. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

The Council considered the previously circulated report and the Town Centre Manager made particular reference to the 'visitmold.com' website, the new Flintshire Business Guide that was now available and the Town Healthcheck study commissioned by the County Council.

Members made reference to the fall in both the pedestrian footfall figures and enquiries at the Tourist Information Centre (TIC). The Town Centre Manager advised that the reduction in footfall figures reflected the situation in many market towns and cities nationwide and the Deputy Mayor advised that the TIC statistics mirrored those of TIC's in the North West Region.

Resolved: It was resolved that the report be noted.

120. NOTICES OF MOTION

120.1 The Council considered the concerns relating to the rise in alcohol consumption and abuse but agreed not to support the proposal of Councillor Stephanie Hulley requesting a reduction in the drinking hours.

120.2 On the proposal of Councillor Chris Bithell it was agreed to support to and help in the formation of a Youth Council for the Town so that young people are able to be represented and enabled to consider and convey to the Town Council and other authorities, matters which are of concern to them.

120.3 On the proposal of Councillor Chris Bithell it was agreed to write to the management of Tesco's asking the company to either repair or replace the two benches alongside the walkway between Tyddyn Street and its store.

120.4 On the proposal of Councillor Chris Bithell it was agreed to write to Tesco's asking for the installation of a crash barrier alongside the roadway leading to the car park at the rear of Lon Isaf.

120.5 On the proposal of the Mayor it was agreed to ask Flintshire County Council to undertake repairs to the footpath in front of 2 Oakwood Close and 9 Ffordd Pennant.

120.6 On the proposal of Councillor Carolyn Cattermoul it was agreed to make further enquiries regarding the engagement of a traffic warden within the Town, albeit for a limited period each week, in an attempt to overcome the abuses encountered.

120.7 On the proposal of Councillor Ken Williams it was agreed to ask Flintshire County Council to carry out works to remove the chewing gum deposits from the pavements in the Town Centre.

120.8 On the proposal of Councillor Ken Williams it was agreed to ask Flintshire County Council to provide a litter bin in The Mall, off Wrexham Street.

120.9 On the proposal of Councillor Chris Bithell it was agreed to ask Tesco's to maintain a regular litter picking schedule for the landscaped areas within its site, both those within the car park and by the walkway from Tyddyn Street.

120.10 On the proposal of Councillor Andrea Mearns it was agreed to formally ask Flintshire County Council to enforce the Environmental Protection Act 1990, as amended by the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, particularly with regard to the clearance of litter by occupiers or owners of land and referring initially to the former Taylor Tiles site.

120.11 On the proposal of Councillor Robin Guest it was agreed to ask Flintshire County Council to consider the installation of a pedestrian haven on Ruthin Road at its junction with Ffordd Newydd.

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

121. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Town Council considered the following previously circulated applications:

121.1 LEJ/044431 – Proposed single storey rear kitchen/lounge extension, Tegfan, Woodlands Road – no objections.

121.2 LEJ/044432 – Erection of a first floor extension above existing garage and erection of a conservatory to rear, 4 Y Gilfach – no objections.

121.3 KYT/044440 – Variation of condition No.3 of planning permission ref:551/84 to allow the building to be used for car repairs and the installation of new doors to the front elevation, E.R.Williams, Gas Lane – no objections.

121.4 KYT/044345 – Partial removal of front boundary wall and raised garden and lowering of kerb to provide off-street parking area for two vehicles, 3 Marlow Terrace, Wrexham Street – no objections.

121.5 KYT/044409 – Extension of the car park at the north of Mold Law Court, Mold Crown Court, County Civic Centre – no objections to the proposals for the extra car parking but the Town Council objects to the additional exit which will cut through the existing wall alongside the footpath. The Council believes it would be a loss to the visual amenity of the area if this wall were to be breached.

121.6 PXR/044442 – Erection of a single storey to rear, Bryony, Bryn Coch Crescent – no objections.

121.7 LEJ/044508 – Erection of an extension, Bodwyn, Gwernaffield Road – no objections.

121.8 LEJ/044487 – Single storey side extension, extended dormer to front and pitched roof to dormers, 1 Alwyn Close – no objections.

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

122. MEETINGS ATTENDED

122.1 Councillor Ken Williams referred to his attendance at a meeting with representatives of the North Wales Police Authority when a number of budget options for 2008/09 were considered.

122.2 Councillor Sheila Powell advised of her attendance at a meeting held to discuss the Regional Waste Plan.

123. 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: 30th January 2008
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MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
Councillor Geoff Collett	Planning Applications - KYT/044409, Mold Law Courts	121.5
Councillor Chris Bithell	Budget 2008/09 – St. Mary's Parish Church Grant Aid	115
Councillor Sheila Powell	Financial Assistance – Hope House Hospice	117

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