

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 24th September 2008.

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: Tim Maunders and Sheila Powell

58. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were expressed as detailed in the schedule shown at the end of the minutes.

59. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor advised the Council of some of the many engagements attended since the last meeting, the highlight of which was the Mold Food and Drink Festival. The Mayor thanked all Members who had helped together with the Clerk and Town Centre Manager for their assistance.

The Mayor also referred to the presentations of the 'Blooming Mold' Awards, held this year at the Mold Community Hospital and to the Flintshire Environmental Awards, when she collected the prize for the 'Best Kept Town' in the County.

60. MINUTES

Resolved: It was resolved that:

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 23rd July 2008 be received and approved;
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council Planning Committee held on 6th August 2008 be noted;
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Town Council Planning Committee held on 3rd September 2008 be noted; and
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Cittaslow Mold Committee held on 21st July 2008 be received and approved.

61. MATTERS ARISING

Mold Town Council – 23rd July 2008

61.1 Minute 48.1 Highway Repairs: The Council noted that works to repair the road surface had commenced on Clayton Road and it was hoped that the County Council would be able to continue to the sites previously identified by the Town Council.

61.2 Minute 48.3 Local Government Boundary Review: The Clerk advised that the Boundary Commission had noted the comments of the Town Council on the realignment of the Broncoed and South Wards but indicated that this issue would not be dealt with at this time.

Planning Committee – 3rd September 2008

61.3 Minute 3 Planning Application – Bryn Awel Hotel: Councillor Carolyn Cattermoul advised the Council of her views that the proposals were for buildings that exceeded the height of the existing buildings.

62. CORRESPONDENCE

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

62.1 The Council noted the two letters from Flintshire County Council relating to traffic calming at Gwernaffield Road. The letters highlighted the various road signs and measures to reduce speeding currently located on the road and the reluctance to increase that number. Reference was also made to the vehicle activated sign with an indication that it should be installed in the near future.

62.2 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council rejecting the request for the relocation of a road sign on Wrexham Road.

62.3 The Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council but decided not to contribute towards the costs incurred by the Flintshire Optec Youth Exchange Trust.

62.4 The Council considered the correspondence from One Voice Wales detailing the motions accepted for debate at the Annual General Meeting. It was agreed that the Town Council's representatives should support the motion sponsored by Abergele Town Council relating to licensing and that sponsored by Penllergaer relating to rate relief for community halls if appropriate.

62.5 The Council noted the correspondence from Gwernaffield Community Council supporting the provision of a footway along the whole length of the highway to Mold (Gwernaffield Road).

62.6 The Council noted the correspondence inviting representatives of the Town Council to the Annual General Meeting of the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales but agreed not to attend the meeting.

62.7 The Council welcomed the correspondence from Sandy Mewies AM with the copy statement detailing enhancements to Non Domestic Rates Relief for small businesses. It was agreed to send a copy of the statement to the Licensed Victuallers Association.

62.8 The Council noted receipt of a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Flintshire Fairtrade Coalition held on 8th September 2008.

62.9 The Council noted the correspondence inviting interested persons to stand for nomination to the Flintshire Local Access Forum. It was also noted that anyone interested had to return an application by 14th November 2008.

62.10 The Council noted the correspondence confirming arrangements for a meeting with Welsh Water and the County Council (see Minute 52.1, 23rd July 2008) to discuss the drainage system affecting Cae Bracty and other areas in Mold.

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

63. A SHARED COMMUNITY – RELATIONSHIP BUILDING AND CHARTERS FOR UNITARY AUTHORITIES AND COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS

The Council noted the previously circulated guidance document from the Welsh Assembly Government. The Mayor made reference to the meeting of the County Forum to be held shortly to consider the model Charter Agreement, developed to promote closer links between County Councils and town and community councils, and asked that Members submit any views to the Clerk prior to 20th October.

Resolved: It was resolved that Members submit any views on the guidance to the Clerk before 20th October 2008.

64. ANNUAL REPORT

The Council considered the previously circulated draft information for the Annual Report and with a couple of additions approved the content.

Members considered the merits of holding an open meeting and felt that it offered members of the public an opportunity to question the Town Council and to suggest proposals for consideration.

Resolved: It was resolved that the information form the basis of the Annual Report and that the Mayor determine an appropriate date for an open meeting.

65. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

The Council considered the previously circulated report of the Town Centre Manager.

The Town Centre Manager referred to the presentation, held recently for retailers and businesses, detailing two options for a loyalty card. He indicated his pleasure at the response and advised that he was pursuing the matter with the companies who

had advertised their schemes. Reference was also made to the Food and Drink Festival and the comments from retailers, ranging from those who thought it provided a good showcasing opportunity for the Town to some who had expressed concern about the effect on parking.

Resolved: It was resolved that the report be received and noted.

66. NOTICES OF MOTION

66.1 The Council considered the proposal of Councillor Stephanie Hulley for the introduction of alcohol free zones in all children's play areas in the Town and in the Daniel Owen Square. Members made reference to the requirements for the policing of such a proposal and also the extent of the area of exclusion. It was felt that the views of the public, businesses, retailers and Police should be sought and it was agreed that this matter should be considered at the open meeting referred to previously in the meeting (Minute 64 refers).

Resolved: It was resolved to consider this matter further at the open meeting.

67. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Town Council considered the following applications, including one new application:

67.1 CZR/045365 – Erection of new shop front and replacement windows, 10 Chester Street – no objections subject to compliance with conservation area policies.

67.2 DGJ/045341 – Change of use to self-storage container site, Morris Garage, Wrexham Road – It was agreed to object to this application. The Council considers that the proposed development is a totally inappropriate use of the site which is within a residential area of the Town. Such a proposal is considered to be more suited to, and the Council considers there to be sufficient space within, one of the industrial estates of the Town.

67.3 KYT/045429 – Renewal of planning permission ref; 42246 to allow change of use to private hire operators, 4 Ffordd Pennant – no objections.

Note: Councillor Joyce Jones left the meeting during discussion on this application.

67.4 JZB/045425 – Modification of existing pole supports to allow the installation of 3 no. 3G antennas alongside existing 2G antennas together with cabling and other ancillary works, BT (Mold ATE), Chester Street – It was agreed to object to this application. The Council believes that with the uncertainty as to the long term safety of the mobile phone masts to the health of the public, it is inappropriate for such a proposal to be sited in the middle of the Town.

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

68. MEETINGS ATTENDED

68.1 Councillor Bryan Grew referred to the recent meeting of the Flintshire / Wrexham One Voice Wales area. He advised that councils had been recommended to provide sufficient funds for training within their budgets for 2009/10.

68.2 Councillor Geoff Darkins referred to his attendance at the recent meeting held to discuss the revised arrangements for post office services. He advised that the proposals did not affect the post office in Mold.

68.3 Councillor Carol Heycocks advised of her attendance at the annual meeting of the Mold Squadron of Air Cadets.

68.4 Councillor Geoff Collett referred to a meeting of the Cittaslow Mold group, 'Space and Place', and indicated that the group were working on the arrangements for the sponsorship of benches and the development of a trail at Bailey Hill.

68.5 Councillor Chris Bithell referred to his attendance and that of other Members at the Neighbourhood Forum meeting when the issues of anti-social behaviour, parking on pavements and 'boy racers' were considered.

68.6 Councillor Ken Williams advised of his attendance at the meeting held with community members and the local Police Inspector. He advised that there had been a reduction in the majority of crime categories in recent months.

68.7 Councillor Stephanie Hulley advised of her attendance at the governing body for St. David's School and her new responsibility for the breakfast club.

68.8 The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Tony Cattermoul, advised that he had attended the Fairtrade Celebration and indicated that Bryn Gwalia School was one of the schools involved.

68.9 The Mayor advised of her attendance at meetings of the Hotel and Restaurant Association leading up to the Mold Food and Drink Festival.

69. 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: 24th September 2008
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MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
Councillor Joyce Jones	Planning Applications	67.3

FB/MINUTES/MTC/MTCMINS080924