

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 29th April 2009.

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: Geoff Collett, Geoff Darkins and Bryan Grew.

158. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

159. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor thanked all those who had helped and supported her charity dance and advised that some £450 had been raised for local charities.

The Mayor referred to the Mold Spring Clean stating that it had been a resounding success with a large number of volunteers involved. The Mayor thanked Members and the Town Centre Manager for their involvement and efforts.

The Mayor referred to her attendance at the 'Buzz Ah' concert, the Lord Lieutenant's Awards Evening when Mold Army Cadets had won one of the awards and the opening of the new coffee bar at the Beaufort Park Hotel.

The Mayor indicated however, that the highlight of the month's events was the granting of the Freedom of the County to the Royal Welsh with the parade through the Town.

160. MINUTES

Resolved: It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 25th March 2009 be received and approved.

161. MATTERS ARISING

161.1 Minute 142 Sustainable Travel - The Mayor advised that TAITH was looking at funding for initiatives in the Mold area and that the Saltney / Mold / Denbigh Greenway was receiving further consideration.

162.2 Minute 146.1 Planning Inquiry, Liberty Properties – The Mayor advised of her attendance together with that of Councillors Tony Cattermoul Stephanie Hulley and Chris Bithell, as the local County Councillor, at the planning inquiry. She confirmed

that the local Members had decided not to engage the services of a planning consultant. The Mayor advised that the inquiry had gone into minute levels of details in relation to planning guidance and the local plan and she outlined the basic issues raised.

162. CORRESPONDENCE

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

162.1 The Council was pleased to note the correspondence from Bangor University advising that work has commenced on the restoration of the North Wales Heroes' Memorial Arch.

162.2 The Council welcomed the correspondence from the County Council's Head of Public Protection advising of the proposal to introduce a Dog Control Order across the whole of the County. The Council agreed to support the proposals and hoped that any fines that are generated from the enforcement of the order could be invested in the employment of more dog wardens.

162.3 The Council considered the correspondence indicating that the County Council will be required to reduce the maintenance of the roundabouts on the Mold by-pass (A494 trunk road). It was noted that the Welsh Assembly Government covers the costs of maintenance, undertaken by the County Council, and that due to financial restrictions there is to be a large reduction in the number of cuts alongside other reduced maintenance operations in the current financial year. It was agreed to support the County Council in its efforts to retain the standard of grounds maintenance and to raise this matter with the Assembly Members. It was also suggested that the Welsh Assembly be asked to consider the sponsorship of the roundabouts as a means of funding the right levels of maintenance.

162.4 The Council noted the confidential information received from the County Council, detailing incidents observed and recorded through the CCTV Control Room, is available at the Town Hall office. The Clerk advised that further information had been received relating to the development of a service level agreement between the County and Town Councils for the provision of CCTV services. It was agreed that Councillors Carolyn Cattermoul, Tim Maunders and Ken Williams would support the Clerk and Town Centre Manager in discussions with the County Council.

162.5 The Council welcomed the correspondence from the County Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services regarding the proposal for a countywide order controlling the consumption of alcohol in public places. It was agreed to support the proposal.

162.6 The Council considered the correspondence from the County Council's Head of Overview and Scrutiny and agreed to a presentation on the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at a future meeting.

162.7 The Council considered the correspondence from PC Janette Stott regarding the monitoring of exhaust noises. The Council expressed its disappointment that the Police does not have measuring apparatus and whilst noting that the VOSA officers would be willing to combine an operation alongside other enforcement issues, felt

that they should be asked to obtain the necessary equipment. It was also agreed to ask when the bollards would be installed in the Aldi car park.

162.8 The Council noted the correspondence from the Deputy Leader of Flintshire County Council seeking patience in relation to the need for repairs to potholes in the highways.

162.9 The Council noted the statement detailing assistance in reducing non-domestic rates for businesses in the current year provided by Sandy Mewies AM. It was agreed to pass this onto Mold 2000 and to ask the local press to advertise the assistance.

162.10 The Council considered the correspondence giving a further opportunity for a response on the Review of Electoral Arrangements in Flintshire. It was agreed that the County Councillors should meet to prepare a response.

162.11 The Council noted the correspondence regarding the Police Authority Community Forum for Flintshire on Tuesday 12th May 2009 at the Town Hall, Caerwys.

162.12 The Council noted the correspondence from the Planning Inspectorate acknowledging the Council's appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the skateboard park. It was agreed that Councillors Tony Cattermoul, Bryan Grew and Ken Williams and the Clerk should deal with any further responses needed in relation to the appeal.

162.13 The Council considered the correspondence advising of the consultation event at Llandudno on the Draft Wales Waste Strategy – 'Towards Zero Waste'. The Clerk advised that the event was due to be held on 17th June, not as indicated, and it was agreed that Councillor Andrea Mearns should attend.

162.14 The Council noted Inspector Alun Oldfield was changing his role to work in Mold CID. It was agreed to invite Acting Inspector Andy Massey to a future meeting of the Council.

162.15 The Council noted the correspondence from the Head of Leisure Services and agreed to support the suggested move of the summer playscheme to the Gas Lane play area for the afternoon sessions.

162.16 The Council considered the correspondence indicating that the landlord of the Griffin Inn would be willing to allow the general public to use the toilets within his premises as part of an approach to make more public toilets available within the Town. It was noted that the number and availability of public toilets in Mold had been at the fore in discussions at the Cittaslow Mold 'Space and Place' Group but it was also acknowledged that some funding might be required to encourage businesses to join the initiative. It was agreed to approve this approach in principle and to establish a small group to investigate the matter further. It was agreed that this group would comprise Councillors Geoff Collett, Robin Guest, Brian Lloyd and Andrea Mearns.

162.17 The Council considered the correspondence from the Head of Highways and Transportation, Flintshire County Council, advising of a proposal to formally 'stop up'

part of the Public Footpath No. 46. The Council welcomed and agreed to support the proposal that will regularise the current position.

162.18 The Council considered the correspondence from the Arts, Culture and Events Manager, Flintshire County Council, advising of proposals for the celebration of the unveiling of the new public artwork to be placed in the Daniel Owen Precinct. It was agreed to support the celebration and to provide £200 for match funding.

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

163. ELECTION OF MAYOR FOR YEAR 2009/10

Resolved: It was unanimously resolved that Councillor Tony Cattermoul be elected Mayor for the forthcoming year 2009/10.

164. FINAL ACCOUNTS 2008/09

The Council considered the previously circulated report setting out the accounts of the Town Council for the year 2008/09 which included:

- a) Summary Income and Expenditure Account;
- b) Balance sheet;
- c) Details of the Expenditure incurred within the year 2008/09;
- d) Bank and Cash Reconciliation for the year; and
- e) The final 2008/09 quarterly analyses of petty cash expenditure and income.

In noting the comments within the report, the Council recognised the costs carried forward to the current year and the funds held for specific activities.

Resolved: It was resolved that the accounts be approved for audit.

165. PROPOSALS ON THE FUTURE OF COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCILS IN WALES

The Council noted the response made regarding the proposals for the reorganisation of Community Health Councils in Wales.

Resolved: It was resolved to approve the response made to the Welsh Assembly.

166. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

The Council considered a verbal report from the Town Centre Manager on the general activities undertaken. The Town Centre Manager also submitted a report at the meeting on the success of the Mold Spring Clean.

Members expressed their acknowledgement of the success of the Spring Clean and gave their thanks to the Town Centre Manager for the time, effort and commitment given. The Council also acknowledged the commitment of the many volunteers and agreed that letters of thanks should be sent to recognise the contributions of Alison Brett, Judith Wright and Andy Hughes.

Reference was made to the continuing work being undertaken in the development of the loyalty scheme for Mold retailers. The number of retailers interested in the scheme was currently being assessed.

The Town Centre Manager advised that Flintshire County Council had agreed to part fund the provision of lighting in the Daniel Owen Precinct that, with the support of Daniel Owen Estates, would allow the scheme to be progressed. He also advised that the meeting to launch the revised Mold Business Forum, in partnership with the North Wales Chamber of Commerce, had been delayed.

The Council noted the comments of the Town Centre Manager on delaying writing to the Chief Executive of Flintshire County Council regarding the impasse with the proposal for banners on the lighting columns in the Town Centre. This would be pursued in due course.

Resolved: It was resolved to note the report and to approve the actions identified.

167. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council considered the planning applications detailed below:

167.1 LEJ/046095 – Infilling ground floor void to form locker facilities and public entrance together with internal adaptations to police station, Mold Police Station, King Street – the Clerk advised that the application had been approved by the County Council.

167.2 CZR/046094 – Erection of a replacement dwelling with integral ‘granny’ annex, Tyn Llwyn, Raikes Lane – no objections.

167.3 JZP/046145 – Dormer roof extension, 5 Hafan Deg – no objections.

167.4 BMK/046149 – Erection of a 22 metre high lattice communications mast, West Coast Energy, Maes Gwern, Mold Business Park – the Council was advised that the application had been approved by the County Council.

167.5 CZR/046122 – Refurbishment of existing ‘chauffeurs cottage’ into annex to be used as ancillary to main dwelling, Bryn Coch Hall, Upper Bryn Coch – no objections.

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

168. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

Resolved: It was resolved that the report be noted.

169. MEETINGS ATTENDED

169.1 Councillor Chris Bithell referred to his attendance at the recent All Wales Convention when the issue of additional powers for the Welsh Assembly was debated. He advised that a majority of those present supported the granting of additional powers.

169.2 The Mayor referred to her attendance at meetings of the Parkfields Management Committee and Executive. The Mayor also referred to the recent Cittaslow Local Produce meeting when it was noted that the feasibility study had been approved. The Mayor advised that she had visited Sturminster Newton and had been pleased to support its application for Cittaslow status.

170. 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.

171. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

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

170. SID MATTHEWS COMMUNITY AWARDS

The Council considered the previously circulated report from the panel appointed to consider nominations for the Sid Matthews Community Awards 2006.

Resolved: It was resolved that the report be approved and that the following awards be given:

- a) For “Outstanding Voluntary Service / Achievements by a Local Youth Organisation” – Ysgol Bryn Gwalia Fairtrade Group;
- b) For “Outstanding Voluntary Service by an Individual” – Richard Spray, 1 Bryn Heulog; and
- c) For “Outstanding Voluntary Service by a Local Organisation” – Buzz Ah.

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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL	DATE: 29th April 2009
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MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
Councillor Ken Williams	Planning Applications	167.2
Councillor Robin Guest	Planning Applications	167.2
Councillor Tim Maunders	Sid Matthews Community Awards	170