

# **MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

## **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, Tim Maunders and Ken Williams with the Clerk and Finance Officer and Town Centre Manager.

## **140. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

## **141. TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLANS**

The Mayor welcomed Mrs. Alison Brett, Regeneration Officer, Flintshire County Council to the meeting.

Mrs. Brett referred to the Healthchecks study undertaken last year and the proposal for the development of formal plans of action for each of the towns in Flintshire. The plans will cover a 10/15 year period setting out a vision for the towns. It was proposed that a workshop be held in Mold in May / June when local stakeholders would be engaged. Mrs. Brett indicated that this would then be followed by the establishment of a new town partnership to progress issues raised.

Members welcomed the move and stressed the need to ensure the involvement of planners in the development of a plan for Mold. The need to have an understanding of the views of shoppers was also stressed.

Members noted that the previously undertaken Healthchecks study will form the baseline for the development of the action plan and noted that all stakeholders should be able to have their input.

## **142. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor advised thanked Members, volunteers and groups that had helped in the running of the successful Pancake Races in the Daniel Owen Square. Thanks were also given to the Beaufort Park for providing the pancakes, Spavens Sweet Shop for providing the prizes and to Graham Smith for compering the event.

The Mayor advised that Mold's status as a Fairtrade Town had been renewed and that Bryn Gwalia CP School was working towards receiving Fairtrade recognition.

The Mayor referred to the awarding of a substantial grant to the City of Cardiff for sustainable travel initiatives and advised that Mold had been granted £10,000 to develop a blue print for the future. The Mayor also advised that Cadwyn Clwyd's Board had approved bids for the funding of feasibility studies for 'Local to Mold' and Sense of Place the previous day.

Reference was made to the issue of financial assistance cheques to a number of local groups and to the opening of two new local businesses.

The Mayor advised Members that she was arranging a charity dance to be held at Bryn Gwalia CP School on the evening of 25<sup>th</sup> April with proceeds going to the Mold Community Hospital League of Friends and Contact Club.

#### **143. MINUTES**

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009 be received and approved.

#### **144. MATTERS ARISING**

144.1 Minute 132 Alcohol Control Zones - Designated Public Place Orders – The Clerk advised that since the last meeting, discussions had been held between the County Legal and Democratic Services Officer and Chief Superintendent Ruth Purdie with the result that the County Council's Executive was to be told a County-wide DPPO would be supported by North Wales Police and could therefore be applied. The County Council's Executive would be asked to consider this approach at its next meeting. As such there appeared little need for Chief Superintendent Ruth Purdie to attend a meeting of the Town Council.

144.2 Minute 135 Public Representations – The Clerk advised that there would be further promotion of this new initiative in forthcoming weeks.

#### **145. ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR**

**Resolved:** It was resolved to note the election of Councillor Robert Brian Lloyd as Councillor for the West Ward.

#### **146. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

146.1 The Council noted the confirmation of the date of the Inquiry for the appeal by Liberty Properties relating to the retail development off Denbigh Road. The Council also noted, from the additional correspondence (item 8.6), that Liberty Properties had submitted an appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the erection of the single retail unit on land at Denbigh Road and Milford Street and that both appeals would be heard at the Inquiry on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2009. It was agreed that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor Stephanie Hulley together with the Clerk should prepare the Council's case for the Inquiry. Members queried the need for the engagement of a planning consultant. It was agreed to make further enquiries as to the practicalities and cost of such an appointment. The Clerk advised of recent savings resulting from the uncontested election for the West Ward. It was also agreed to allow the Members preparing the Council's case to determine any such appointment within reasonable costs.

146.2 The Council noted that Flintshire County Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan is now available on the County Council's website ([www.flintshire.gov.uk](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk)).

146.3 The Council noted the correspondence from the County Council's Head of Highways and Transportation relating to the request to ensure the proper restoration of the grass verges in Linden Drive following gas mains replacement and advising that whilst the contractor was allowed 12 months to reinstate the verges, the matter would be kept under review.

146.4 The Council noted receipt of the final report on implementation of the Local Government Partnership Scheme available at the Town Hall office.

146.5 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council advising of its proposals for the development of 'School Travel Plans' throughout the County. Leaflets were circulated and the Mayor asked Members, particularly those who are governors of schools, to promote the initiative.

146.6 The Council noted the correspondence from Flintshire County Council following the period of consultation on the County Leisure Strategy.

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

#### **147. REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS**

The Council considered the information received from the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales (LGBCW) regarding its review of the electoral arrangements for Flintshire.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to note the correspondence.

#### **148. DIGITAL TV SWITCHOVER**

The Council noted that information had been received from Digital UK to assist in the switch to digital TV. The information pack, held at the Town Hall office, is designed to help Members share information with people in the community. Councillor Bryan Grew advised that an advisory group is currently touring Wales to give further assistance. He also commented that Welsh television should also be available to residents of the Flintshire coastal strip following the switchover to digital TV.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the report be noted.

#### **149. FLINTSHIRE BUS SERVICES**

The Council considered the request for comments on the bus services in the County in order to inform the Environment and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Members referred to a variety of issues relating to the bus services including: better marketing of existing timetables; smarter timetabling; integration with rail services; enhanced use of the bus station enquiry office; cleaner buses of a better quality and equipped to take bicycles and prams; reliable services; an intersecting circular bus service from towns to villages; shuttle bus services from County Hall to Mold Town

centre; a 'Park and Ride' scheme from County Hall to Mold Town Centre every Saturday; maintenance of the Deeside shuttle, supplemented by an extended shuttle service within the County; and the use of smaller buses 'on-demand'.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to forward the comments detailed above together with those previously identified in the consultation process for the sustainable travel town bid to the Environment and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

## **150. REORGANISATION OF THE NHS IN WALES**

The Council noted that the Minister for Health and Social Services in the Welsh Assembly Government had advised that the establishment of six new Local Health Boards in Wales will proceed with shadow boards formed from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009 and fully operational from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009.

In light of the perceived lack of acknowledgement of the consultation responses it was agreed to ask the Minister if she would advise who had supported the proposals.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to write to the Minister with copies of the letter to Assembly Members and the local Member of Parliament, seeking information about the amount of support given to the Minister's proposals.

## **151. TIDY TOWNS**

The Council considered the previously circulated report detailing work undertaken within Mold through the Tidy Towns initiative.

It was noted that the opportunities for Mold in the Tidy Towns programme in 2009/10 are presently unknown with other areas of the County, not receiving funds in the current financial year, being included.

Councillor Carolyn Cattermoul reminded Members that Bryn Gwalia Communities First had been able to access a substantial amount of funds for work around the Clubhouse. It was acknowledged that having schemes identified, costed and ready to be undertaken within the Town could be advantageous in the event that further funds, from whatever source, become available.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to note the report.

## **152. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER**

The Council considered a verbal report from the Town Centre Manager.

The Town Centre Manager referred to the resurrection of the Mold Business Forum in partnership with the North Wales Chamber of Commerce and to its launch on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009. He advised that the launch was to be hosted by North Wales Newspapers.

Reference was made to the work undertaken in the development of a loyalty scheme for Mold retailers and the meeting to be held in April to take this forward.

The Town Centre Manager advised of the positive comments received about the community windows and indicated that the U3A were looking to present a display. It was also reported that the Art Group had gained 10 new members as a result of the display in the former Nice Price store.

The Town Centre Manager advised of the voluntary work being undertaken by Jodie Kendrick in revising the database of retailers for the 'visitmold' website. It was also noted that Becky Davies was also volunteering to maintain the Cittaslow Mold website. The Council acknowledged the work being undertaken and agreed that a formal letter of thanks should be sent to the two volunteers.

The Town Centre Manager expressed his frustration that an impasse had been reached with the proposal for banners on the lighting columns in the Town Centre. It was agreed to write to the Chief Executive of Flintshire County Council seeking his help in resolving the difficulties experienced.

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

### **153. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Council considered the planning applications detailed below:

153.1 LEJ/045914 – Change of shop signage, Little Black Sheep, 5 Church Lane – no objections.

153.2 LEJ/045975 – Demolition of existing detached garage, erection of ground floor extension, provision of first floor accommodation and erection of new detached garage, Hafod, Bedford Way Lane – no objections.

153.3 KYT/045996 – Display of 1 no. fascia sign, 18 Wrexham Street Lane – whilst there were no objections in principle to the placing of a sign at this location, subject to compliance with the policies applying to the conservation area, the Council did consider that the proposed sign was rather large.

153.4 CZR/046033 – Demolition of rear lean-to glazed extension and erection of a new single storey extension, Llys Awel, Ruthin Road Lane – no objections.

153.5 KYT/045932 – Proposed use of part of site as a cleaning compound and siting of skip, closed container and welfare unit for Flintshire County Council, Best House, Gas Lane – no objections.

153.6 JZP/046071 – Erection of single storey pitched roof extension at rear of dwelling, 11 Is y Coed Lane – no objections.

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

## **154. NOTICES OF MOTION**

On the proposal of Councillor Stephanie Hulley it was agreed to ask Flintshire County Council to provide a vehicle activated flashing speed indicator on Chester Road.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to approve the action identified.

## **155. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS**

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the report be noted.

## **156. MEETINGS ATTENDED**

156.1 Councillor Joyce Jones referred to her attendance at a meeting of the Bryn Gwalia Communities First Partnership Board.

156.2 Councillor Bryan Grew advised of the progress for the development of the new primary health care facility in Mold. He confirmed that access to the Glanrafon depot site would be gained from New Street car park. He also indicated that consultation on the design of the building, completion of which is expected by December 2010, would take place in the near future. Councillor Grew also referred to the meeting of the County Forum and advised that he agreed to sit on the working group looking at the development of a Flintshire County Council / Town and Community Council charter.

156.3 Councillor Geoff Collett referred to a recent meeting of the Cittaslow Mold Space and Place Group.

156.4 Councillor Chris Bithell referred to a recent meeting held with Members and officers of the County Council regarding issues raised by Graham Roberts of Mold Alexandra Junior Football Club. Councillor Bithell advised that consideration was being given to leasing the football pitch at Victoria Road to the Club. He also advised of the employment of a dog warden and the introduction of enforcement measures to deal with dog fouling.

156.5 The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Tony Cattermoul advised of an 'Open Doors' weekend in September being organised by the Civic Society when public buildings will be open to the public.

156.6 The Mayor referred to her attendance at meetings of the Parkfields Management Committee and Executive. The Mayor also referred to the recent Neighbourhood Forum when only a few members of the public attended and the meeting of Mold 2000.

## **157. 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**

<b>MOLD TOWN COUNCIL</b>	<b>DATE: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2009</b>
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<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MINUTE NO. REFERS</b>
None		

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