

# **MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009.

## **PRESENT:**

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

## **APOLOGIES:**

Councillor Ken Corbett

## **69. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

## **70. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Mayor welcomed Robert Robins, Flintshire County Council's Head of Overview and Scrutiny, to the meeting.

Mr. Robins circulated his presentation on the role and operation of Overview and Scrutiny within the democratic structure of the County Council. He also highlighted how individual members of the public can contribute to the process that allows decisions and policies to be scrutinised.

In response to questions Mr. Robins indicated that Overview and Scrutiny could only make recommendations to the Executive on issues relating to the work of the County Council. He indicated that the success of Overview and Scrutiny could perhaps be viewed in the lack or low number of issues called in for scrutiny as a result of ongoing and positive consultation with all members.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Robins for attending and clarifying the current arrangements.

## **71. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor thanked those Members who had been able to support his Civic Service. He advised the Council of his attendance, also at St. Mary's Parish Church, at the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service for Mold Community Hospital.

The Mayor reminded Members of the forthcoming Remembrance Day Service and of the two minutes to be held at the Town Hall on Remembrance Day.

## **72. MINUTES**

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 be received and approved.

### **73. MATTERS ARISING**

73.1 Minute 52 Policing Matters – Councillor Chris Bithell advised of the recent activity of the Community Beat Managers in pursuing parking offenders. In response to Councillor Hulley, the Clerk advised that there had been no response from Aldi to the request for a meeting with the Police at which the Town Council would be represented.

73.2 Minute 56.3 Crossing at Hall View – The Clerk advised that the Principal Highways Officer had agreed to meet with Town Councillors on the matter of a request for a controlled crossing at Hall View.

73.3 Minute 56.7 Cae Bracty / Mold Flood Alleviation Scheme – The Clerk advised that both David Hanson MP and Sandy Mewies AM were working to organise the meeting with Welsh Water and Flintshire County Council to discuss the lack of progress with the development of a scheme to alleviate flooding in the Town.

73.4 Minute 56.10 Earl Road Resurfacing – Councillor Andrea Mearns highlighted the fears of retailers if there were to be any further resurfacing in the Town centre prior to Christmas. The Town Centre Manager agreed to check this matter with County Highways' Officers.

73.5 Minute 58 Skateboarding Facilities – Councillor Chris Bithell asked if there had been any feedback from Leisure Officers regarding the provision of skateboarding facilities. The Clerk advised that a response was expected for the November meeting of the Council.

73.6 Minute 63 Report of the Town Centre Manager – In response to a question from Councillor Andrea Mearns, the Town Centre Manager agreed to review the possible of one of the empty shops for a nativity scene this Christmas.

73.7 Minute 64.1 Junction Dreflan / Denbigh Road – The Clerk advised that a response had been received from the County Highways Department indicating that there were no breaches of planning conditions in respect of this junction.

73.8 Minute 64.2 Road Safety / Signing Leadmills – The Clerk advised that a response had been received from the County Highways Department indicating signing is in accordance with relevant regulations and that a vacancy for a School Crossing Patrol was being advertised.

### **74. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

74.1 The Council was pleased to note the correspondence from Keep Wales Tidy advising that Mold Spring Clean has been shortlisted for this year's Tidy Wales Awards.

74.2 The Council considered the correspondence has from Flintshire County Council and agreed to nominate Councillors Chris Bithell, Tony Cattermoul, Ray Dodd and

Carol Heycocks to participate in the selection of the public art that will be placed within the new Lidl development off Hall View, Mold.

74.3 The Council considered the notice amending the 'Prohibition of Waiting Order – Service Area to the rear of Y Pentan Public House, New Street' and agreed to raise no objections.

74.4 The Council considered the correspondence from the North Wales Brass Band Association and agreed to contribute £500 towards the event. In supporting the event it was agreed to ask that the contribution be given towards a particular award or section of the competition.

74.5 The Council considered the correspondence from the Mold Food and Drink Festival Committee regarding the expansion of the festival next year and the need to take the whole of the long stay parking area in New Street car park. The Council confirmed its support for the festival and felt that it would be appropriate to extend the site whilst removing any confusion for drivers about the parking arrangements. Suggestions included the use of the car park at Bryn Coch CP School, Love Lane car park and better use of the park and ride facility although it was recognised that some of these options could only apply at the weekend. It was also felt that the remainder of the New Street car park could be used as long stay for the period of the festival. Consultations would be needed with Somerfield Stores but such a proposal would avoid any confusion and annoyance for drivers. It was stressed that whatever options are considered and implemented, there needs to be appropriate and sufficient signage to encourage drivers, to clearly identify directions to car parks and to avoid confusion.

74.6 The Council considered the correspondence from the Chair of Governors, Bryn Coch CP School seeking support in an attempt to obtain a reduction in the speed limit on Victoria Road. It was noted that a reduction in the speed limits has already been implemented on the roads near to a number of schools within the county of Wrexham and that consideration is being given to extending these reductions to a larger number of roads. It was agreed to support the approach being taken by the Governors at Bryn Coch School, but also felt that it would be appropriate to include Alexandra Road within the proposal, and to write to the Highways Department accordingly. It was also considered appropriate to ask that a similar approach, in reducing the speed limit outside schools, be extended throughout Mold. Copies of any correspondence should also be circulated to the schools.

74.7 The Council noted receipt of the minutes of the meeting of the Flintshire Fair Trade Coalition held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

74.8 The Council noted receipt of the report from the County Council detailing the quarterly incident data from the CCTV monitoring office.

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

## **75. ACCOUNTS 2009/10 – HALF YEARLY REVIEW**

The Council considered the previously circulated report including the bank reconciliation, petty cash, income and the expenditure schedules that detail all amounts and invoices paid up to 30th September 2009.

The Clerk made reference to the recent and current absences from work and indicated that a small amount of additional expenditure would be incurred in covering for those absences.

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

## **76. MINOR AUTHORITY GOVERNORS**

The Council noted that the terms of office of Councillors Stephanie Hulley and Geoff Collett as Minor Authority Governors for St. David's RC School and Bryn Coch CP School respectively had come to an end.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that Councillors Stephanie Hulley and Geoff Collett be re-nominated as Minor Authority Governors for St. David's RC School and Bryn Coch CP School respectively.

## **77. UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

The Council considered the previously circulated report detailing the proposed modifications to the previously deposited Unitary Development Plan (UDP). It was noted that representations at this stage can only relate to a particular proposed modification or to the fact that the Council has not accepted a recommendation from the Inspector.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the report be referred to a future meeting of the members of the Planning Committee for a response to be agreed.

## **78. GAMBLING ACT 2005 – STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY**

The Council considered the previously circulated document and noted Flintshire County Council's intention to review its policy in respect of the Gambling Act 2005.

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

## **79. GRANT AID – DARBY & JOAN CLUB**

The Council noted its previous decision to provide grant aid of £500 to the Darby and Joan Club as a contribution towards the installation of facilities for the disabled and the improvement of the frontage of the building.

It was also noted that it has taken some years to get the project underway with the internal works being completed this year. A grant from the Community Action Partnership of £4,800 has now been approved as a contribution towards the total cost of £10,000 for the final phase of works that will provide disabled access and improve the frontage of the building and the Council agreed to honour the previously approved grant.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to approve the previously agreed award of £500 to the Darby and Joan Club.

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

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

The Town Centre Manager initially referred to the concerns expressed at the rating revaluation exercise undertaken recently and the possible effects that this may have on local businesses. It was agreed to write to Ministers, Assembly Members and the Valuation Office Agency expressing those concerns and seeking support in minimising the effect on local businesses.

Reference was made to the recent meeting of the Mold Town Partnership and the Town Centre Manager indicated that whilst he was happy to chair the Partnership in its early days some uncomfortable moments had arisen. He advised that a number of projects had been submitted for support and he outlined the prioritised list of projects. The Town Centre Manager indicated he was in discussion with the County Council's Head of Regeneration regarding the overall level of funding available to Mold Town Partnership and that he had received some positive comments.

The Town Centre Manager referred to the successful 'Marketing the Market' campaign and the positive reaction of many retailers, and sought the support of the Council to the tune of £100 for the continuation campaign being suggested. Members supported this contribution.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the report be received and approval given to the actions highlighted.

## **81. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Council considered the planning application detailed below including six additional applications:

81.1 KYT/046675 – Display of various illuminated and non-illuminated signs, Abbey National plc, 31 High Street – no objections subject to compliance with the policies applying to the conservation area.

81.2 SB/DS/046667/046669 – Fell 1 no. sycamore and prune 1 no. sycamore, land to rear of 13 Lllys y Fron and Prune 1 no. lime and 1 no. sycamore, land rear of 15 Lllys y Fron – no objections.

81.3 PXR/046704 – Single storey extension to side and rear, 2 Hafod Park – no objections.

81.4 RMH/046719 – Substitution of house type at Plot 79, Broncoed Works Site, Wrexham Road – the Council noted that this application, for plot 97 not 79, was not a substitution of house type but a new application for this site. It was agreed to seek clarification from the Planning Officer.

81.5 Erection of one new retail unit (1063sq.m) and associated works to supersede approval APP/A6835/A/09/2092132, land at Denbigh Road and Milford Street – Members considered the application and agreed to make the following comments: it was felt that more trees should be provided along the boundary by the Bro Alyn

Cottages and within the area designated as wet meadow grass, perhaps retaining existing trees where appropriate. This provision would provide better screening for nearby properties and a more pleasant environment for the store; it was also felt that a better and more prominent site should be identified and earmarked for the provision of public art; and Members were disappointed with the design of the proposed store and the fact that it offered no individuality or uniqueness in this Cittaslow town. Members felt that an opportunity was being missed for the development of a showcase store that would be eco-friendly.

81.6 KYT/046649 – Replacement of existing chain link fence with new concrete post and wooden vertical board fence and gate, Bethesda Chapel, New Street – the Council queried the suitability of providing a wooden board fence alongside a listed building and within the conservation area.

81.7 ADW/046750 – Erection of Learning Disability Housing providing 2 supported wheelchair living standard bungalows for 6 people with a range of disabilities and 4 supported 2 bed apartments for people with learning disabilities with associated car parking, Ty'r Binwydden, Clayton Road – no objections.

81.8 LEJ/046760 – Conversion of top floor flat into 2 no. flats, Earl Buildings, Earl Road – no objections.

81.9 JZF/046812 – Erection of extension to side and porch to front of dwelling, 8 Broncoed Park – no objections.

81.10 LEJ/046785 – Replacement of existing concrete chimney with 3 no. stainless steel flues, Alun School, Wrexham Road – no objections.

81.11 LEJ/046742 – Display of 3 no. illuminated fascia signs and 1 no. projecting sign, Specsavers, High Street – no objections subject to compliance with the policies applying to the conservation area.

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

## **82. NOTICES OF MOTION**

82.1 On the proposal of Councillor Andrea Mearns it was agreed to ask Flintshire County Council to review its arrangements for the cutting of grass on verges and within estates in the Town. The frequency of grass cutting this year has resulted in both unkempt and untidy appearances prior to and following cutting respectively.

## **83. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS**

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

## **84. MEETINGS ATTENDED**

84.1 Councillor Bryan Grew referred to his attendance at the Annual Meeting of One Voice Wales when Brian Gibbons AM had given a positive view on the development of charters between County and local councils. Reference was made to the local service agreement reached between Bala Town Council and Gwynedd County

Council which had resulted in extra responsibilities and funding being passed onto the Town Council. Councillor Grew commented upon his attendance at a meeting of the Larger Councils' Committee and indicated that Councillor Andrea Mearns had given a well-received presentation on the Cittaslow network. Councillor Grew also commented on the recent meeting of the Town Centre Partnership believing that a positive approach had been taken.

84.2 Councillor Andrea Mearns advised that she had represented the Town Council and Cittaslow Mold at the Cittaslow UK Conference. Councillor Mearns referred to a recent meeting of the 'Sense of Place' Feasibility Study Working Group when it was reported that Mold had been frequently described as a 'friendly place' in the recent survey. Councillor Mearns also referred to the Larger Councils' Committee and her presentation on the Cittaslow network.

## 85. 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: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009</b>
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<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MINUTE NO. REFERS</b>
	None	

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