

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 24th June 2009.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Tony Cattermoul (Mayor), Chris Bithell, Carolyn Cattermoul, Ken Corbett, Geoff Darkins, Ray Dodd, Bryan Grew, 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 and Andrea Mearns.

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

28. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor advised of his attendance at the Buckley and Connah's Quay Civic Services. He also referred to the performances of the Gondoliers and Oklahoma held at Clwyd Theatr Cymru both of which had been excellent productions.

The Mayor advised that he had participated in the judging of the best dressed shop window competition held in conjunction with the Festival of Hope due to be staged at Gwysaney Hall on 26th / 28th June.

29. MINUTES

Resolved: It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 27th May 2009 be received and approved.

30. MATTERS ARISING

30.1 Minute 18 Draft Flintshire Regeneration Strategy – Councillor Chris Bithell advised that the Planning Inspector had upheld the appeals by Liberty Properties (for both the single and two retail units off Hall View / Milford Street). Reference was again made for the need for a consistent approach, across all departments of the County Council, to the issues affecting local communities.

30.2 Minute 20 County Forum / Draft Charter for Flintshire – Councillor Bryan Grew advised that the working group had now held its first meeting.

31. CORRESPONDENCE

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

31.1 The Council noted receipt of the Annual Report 2008/09 of the Clwyd Community Health Council.

31.2 The Council noted the correspondence from the Head of Highways and Transportation advising of the proposals for the installation of 'mobile' vehicle activated signs on Chester Road and King Street.

31.3 The Council noted receipt of the report of the consultation on the 'Proposals on the Future of Community Health Councils in Wales' and the Minister's response.

31.4 The Council noted the letter advising of changes to the arrangements for Cittaslow UK and its establishment as a community interest company.

31.5 The Council noted the correspondence from PC Janette Stott advising that the VOSA operation, including the check on noisy exhausts, will be taking place on 11th September.

31.6 The Council considered the letter from the Deputy First Minister and Minister for the Economy and Transport forwarded by Assembly Members regarding the reduced maintenance of the roundabouts on the Mold by-pass. Members commented that the current condition of the roundabouts was not good and considered the response from the Deputy First Minister to be inadequate. It was noted that the verges of the trunk roads were cut on a regular basis and Members felt that verge maintenance could be reduced to allow additional cutting of the roundabouts. It was also noted that there were inconsistencies in the approach of the WAG and the Trunk Roads Agency to allowing sponsorship of roundabouts. The Council felt that sponsorship should be pursued when funds for maintenance were limited. It was agreed to pursue the matter accordingly.

31.7 The Council noted that the correspondence from the Planning Inspectorate granting the appeals by Liberty Properties (for both the single and two retail units off Hall View) had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

31.8 The Council noted receipt of the Flintshire Rural Business Plan Phase 1.

31.9 The Council considered the correspondence from John Les Tomos, seeking the nomination of a representative of the Town Council to support and act as an advisor on the committee of the newly constituted Mold Food and Drink Festival. It was agreed to ask Mr. Tomos to attend the next meeting of the Council to discuss this further. In the event that the Council agrees to the request Councillor Bryan Grew offered to serve on the committee.

31.10 The Council agreed to consider the request from Menter Iaith for a financial contribution towards a rock and pop music festival to be held in Mold on 25 / 26 July with the other requests for financial assistance.

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

32. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Council considered the report detailing the applications and recommendations of the Panel for financial assistance. It was agreed to make contributions as follows:

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| a) Gwyl Gobaith / Festival of Hope | £200.00 |
| b) Flintshire U3A | £150.00 |

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|---------------------------------------|---------|
| c) Tandem Cymru | £175.00 |
| d) St John Cymru –Wales Mold Division | £250.00 |
| e) The Club House | £200.00 |
| f) Tegeingl Festival Society | £175.00 |
| g) Wisp Dance Group | £100.00 |
| h) Mold & District Civic Society | £150.00 |

Members also considered the request from Menter Iaith and agreed a contribution of £150.00 towards the rock and pop music festival to be held on 25 / 26 July 2009.

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

Note: The Mayor and Deputy Mayor stood down from the debate on item (h) above and Councillor Bryan Grew assumed the Chair.

33. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

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

Reference was made to the new B&M store and the positive comments received from other retailers following the opening of the store. The Town Centre Manager also indicated that by comparison to recent national comments about trading within market towns, Mold appeared to be holding its own.

The Town Centre Manager advised that the launch of the new Mold Business Forum was to be held on 1st July 2009 and sponsored by North Wales Newspapers. The Forum, which was to be more embracing than Mold 2000, will be supported within the organisation of the North Wales Chamber of Commerce. It was formally agreed that Councillor Andrea Mearns should represent the Town Council at Forum meetings.

The Town Centre Manager referred to a recent marketing initiative suggested by a local business that he had discussed with the County Council's Markets officers. It was agreed in principle to contribute £100 towards this initiative if, once the details are finalised, it is considered appropriate and worthwhile. Members commented upon the draw of the street markets and the opportunities that could arise from their promotion.

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

34. NOTICES OF MOTION

34.1 The Council considered the proposals submitted by the Mayor and agreed to ask Flintshire County Council to:

- Refurbish the Town Hall entrance gates, stripping, repairing, painting, regilding and removing the post box;
- Refurbish the gates to Bailey Hill and providing a notice board nearby for the notices currently on the gates; and
- Repair the steps on Bailey Hill from the former tennis courts and provide handrails.

Resolved: It was resolved to approve the action identified.

35. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council considered the planning applications detailed below, including two new applications:

35.1 KYT/046302 – Variation of condition no. 3 attached to planning approval ref: 033413 to vary hours of opening, 10A Wrexham Street – no objections in principle but it is considered appropriate that a consistent approach is taken on the opening and closing times for all the takeaway shops within the Town.

35.2 LEJ/046379 – Conversion of garage and extension to rear of same to provide accommodation for ageing relative with extension above garage to provide additional living accommodation, 9 Tan y Craig – no objections.

35.3 LEJ/045975 – Amended Application - 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.

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

36. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

Resolved: It was resolved that the report be noted.

37. MEETINGS ATTENDED

37.1 Councillor Stephanie Hulley referred to her attendance at a recent meeting of the Town Concert Band Committee and advised Members that the Band had now been in existence for a period of 10 years.

37.2 Councillor Ken Williams advised of his attendance at a recent meeting of Mold 2000 when there had been a discussion on business rates. He also advised that a number of businesses in Wrexham Street had received forms to claim compensation for the loss of trade during the period when the gas mains were re-laid. Reference was also made to the possibility of providing free car parking on the quieter trading days of the week. Councillor Williams advised that such an arrangement is operated in Shrewsbury on Thursdays.

37.3 Councillor Geoff Darkins advised of his attendance at the annual meeting of Mold Alexandra FC.

37.4 Councillor Carol Heycocks advised of her attendance at the last meeting of the governors of Ysgol Delyn prior to its relocation to a campus in Flint. It was agreed that the Mayor would write to the school expressing the thanks of the Council for the many years of service in the Town.

37.5 Councillor Bryan Grew advised of his attendance at annual meeting of the Flintshire / Wrexham Regional Committee of One Voice Wales when he was elected Chair for the forthcoming year. Councillor Grew advised that the training modules

were to be circulated within the very near future and suggested that Members should take advantage of the training opportunities that will arise. He also referred to the local procurement pilot being undertaken by local councils for their supplies and to the 'Secret Millionaire' grants that are available.

37.6 Councillor Robin Guest referred to his attendance and that of other Members at the recent Town Centre Action Plan workshop organised by the County Council.

37.7 Councillor Brian Lloyd referred to his attendance at the annual meeting of the Bryn Gwalia Communities First project and to a recent visit to the Synthite and Dynea plants.

38. 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

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| MOLD TOWN COUNCIL | DATE: 24th June 2009 |
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| MEMBER | ITEM | MINUTE NO. REFERS |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Councillor Tony Cattermoul | Financial Assistance | 32 |
| Councillor Chris Bithell | Financial Assistance | 32 |
| Councillor Robin Guest | Financial Assistance | 32 |
| Councillor Carolyn Cattermoul | Financial Assistance | 32 |
| Councillor Ken Corbett | Financial Assistance | 32 |