

# MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

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

## PRESENT:

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

## APOLOGIES:

Councillor Brian Lloyd

## 86. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

## 87. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor referred to the 'Switch-On' of the Christmas lights and thanked those involved. Similarly, the Mayor thanked Members for their attendance at the Remembrance Service and Parade and the two-minute silence held at the Town Hall on Remembrance Day.

The Mayor advised the Council of his attendance at the Mold Community Hospital League of Friends and Abbeyfields' coffee mornings, North West Cancer Research annual cheque handover, Flintshire MIND AGM and the Caerwys Town Mayor's Civic Service.

The Mayor also referred to his attendance at the 'Your Champions Awards', the Mold Town Concert Band 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner, the North Wales Brass Bands Competition and the Tidy Wales Awards when the Mold Spring Clean had been commended. The Mayor advised that he had visited Mr. & Mrs. Hayes of Gladstone Street who had celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

The Mayor gave Members advance notice of a charity concert he was arranging to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

## 88. MINUTES

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009 be received and approved.

## 89. MATTERS ARISING

89.1 Minute 73.1 Policing Matters – The Clerk advised he understood that the Police had been due to meet with Aldi to discuss works within the car park but that Aldi had requested that only the Police be involved in the meeting.

89.2 Minute 73.2 Crossing at Hall View – The Clerk indicated that he would advise Members of the date for the meeting with County Highways officers.

89.3 Minute 73.3 Cae Bracty / Mold Flood Alleviation Scheme – The Clerk advised that arrangements had been made by David Hanson MP and Sandy Mewies AM to meet with Welsh Water and Flintshire County Council on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2009 to discuss the development of a scheme to alleviate flooding in the Town. It was agreed that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Broncoed Ward members should attend the meeting.

89.4 Minute 73.6 Community Shop Window – Councillor Andrea Mearns advised that the Nativity scene in the former Choices shop was due to be dedicated on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 11.00am.

89.5 Minute 81.5 Planning Application, Lidl Development, land at Denbigh Road and Milford Street – In response to a question from Councillor Andrea Mearns, Councillor Chris Bithell advised that the Hall View (Denbigh Road) boundary to the site will be retained intact and maintained as a condition of planning. In addition, further trees will be provided and those in situ retained as far as possible on the other site boundaries. The building will be constructed of brick and other improvements have been sought and obtained. The position of the art work will be determined in due course.

## **90. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

90.1 The Council noted with regret the correspondence from the Driving Standards Agency confirming the future closure of the driving test centre in Mold.

90.2 The Council considered the previously circulated report detailing attendances at the two summer playschemes held in Mold has been received from Flintshire County Council. The Council was pleased to note the success of the schemes and agreed to congratulate the County Council's Play Unit. It was also agreed to ask, in the light of the success of the move of the one scheme to Gas Lane, the County Council to consider an alternative location for the scheme for the Bubblegum Club.

90.3 The Council considered the previously circulated notes from Mr. John Davies, Raikes Lane, Sychdyn outlining initial thoughts for an approach to commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 'Battle of Britain'. The Council agreed to support the proposal and Councillor Tim Maunders identified the need to collect memorabilia for the events.

90.4 The Council considered the correspondence from 'Contact the Elderly' advising of a desire to establish small Sunday tea groups in the area and agreed to invite Jane Carey-Evans to the January meeting of the Council to outline the project.

90.5 The Council noted receipt of the minutes of the meeting of Flintshire Fair Trade Coalition held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2009.

90.6 The Council welcomed the correspondence from Flintshire County Council's Head of Planning advising of the reintroduction of the planning enquiry service at County Hall and the intention in the future to allow representatives of local councils to address the Planning Committee.

90.7 The Council noted the copy correspondence from Sandy Mewies AM and Paul Olsen on behalf of Ieuan Wyn Jones AM, regarding the recent business rates revaluation. It was also noted that this issue would be addressed during the report of the Town Centre Manager.

90.8 The Council noted the correspondence, in response to the Council's request for the County Council to consider a 20mph speed outside all schools in Mold, outlining the approach being adopted.

90.9 The Council considered the consultation document 'Community Strategies and Planning, Collaborative Community Planning' and agreed that a group of Members comprising the Mayor and Councillors Bryan Grew, Robin Guest and Andrea Mearns be given the responsibility to determine a response.

90.10 The Council acknowledged that the Welsh Assembly Government is reviewing its Welsh Language strategy and agreed that Councillor Bryan Grew should attend the presentation due to be held at Clwyd Theatr Cymru 14<sup>th</sup> December.

90.11 The Council considered the correspondence from the County Council's Head of Highways and Transportation in response to the request to review the arrangements for the cutting of grass on verges and within estates in the Town. The Council agreed to ask if there were any other options available to improve the local environment and to seek a copy of the schedule for grass cutting.

90.12 The Council noted the invitation to the Bryn Gwalia Communities First Christmas Event to be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009.

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

## **91. SKATEBOARDING FACILITIES**

The Council considered the previously circulated report detailing the suggestion of the County Council that a skateboard park could be sited to the rear of the existing play area at the Maes Bodlonfa recreation ground.

The Council noted that the existing play area could be reduced without any detriment to the play experience and that works recently commenced to upgrade the play area could accommodate the skateboard park. It was also noted that there would not be any affect on the use of the two football pitches in the recreation ground.

County Leisure Officers had indicated that a report on the precise details of a scheme would be prepared with the help of students from Glyndwr University,

supported by the Wheeled Sports Development Officer, who would liaise directly with skateboarders to determine the suitability of the site and the equipment required.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to support the proposal and await a further report.

## **92. ANNUAL RETURN & INTERMEDIATE AUDIT 2008 / 09**

The Council noted the previously circulated report confirming that the External Audit of the Town Council's accounts for the year 2008/09 had been completed and a clean report issued.

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

## **93. UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

The Council considered the previously circulated report detailing the outcome of the meeting of members of the Planning Committee and the response to the modifications of the Unitary Development Plan (Attached).

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

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

The Town Centre Manager gave a verbal report to the Council.

The Town Centre Manager advised that the Town Partnership had submitted bids for funding for a variety of schemes and that the Flintshire Regeneration Partnership would be reviewing these in the near future.

The Town Centre Manager referred to the correspondence regarding the recent business rates revaluation (Minute 84.7 refers) and indicated that the majority of businesses in the Town should not be affected by this revaluation. He advised that more information was required on the 'hardship relief' which could be considered on an individual basis.

Reference was made to the desire for Bryn Gwalia Communities First to be involved in the Mold Spring Clean 2010 which is possibly due to take place during 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> April. Reference was also made to the ongoing debate about the provision of promotional banners on the Town's lighting columns.

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

## **95. STORAGE FACILITIES – TOWN HALL**

The Council considered the previously circulated report highlighting the difficulties with storage at the Town Hall.

The Council supported the provision of a large cupboard on the landing of the Town Hall and agreed the arrangements for funding the provision set out in the report.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to approve the building of a storage cupboard on the landing of the Town Hall with funding provided from this and the next financial year.

## **96. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

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

96.1 RMH/046719 – Erection of a dwelling (Plot 97), Broncoed Works Site, Wrexham Road – no objections.

96.2 TGE/046859- Remodelling and refurbishment works including new access ramp to front and egress ramp to rear, Fire Station, Lead Mills – no objections.

96.3 KYT/046769 – Internal alterations to provide disabled access to cash office and reception counters, provision of new counters and security shutter, alterations to existing toilets to form disabled toilet, refurbishment of staff kitchen, retention of platform stair lift to main staircase and provision of platform lift at rear of building, Mold Town Hall – no objections.

96.4 LEJ/046724 – Siting of steel storage container, The Centre, Unit 3 Argoed Depot – the Council agreed to suggest that any planning permission granted should only be for a maximum temporary period of 12 months.

Note: Councillor Bithell did not vote on this application.

96.5 LEJ/046795 – Installation of customer order display unit, McDonalds, King Street – no objections.

96.6 KYT/046814 – Erection of additional buildings in association with upgrade of existing and provision of additional tanks and control equipment, Mold Sewage Treatment Works, Bromfield Lane – the Clerk advised that this application had been withdrawn.

96.7 KYT/046854 – Renewal of planning permission, ref 43923, to allow siting of steel container, Pendre Surgery, Clayton Road – the Council agreed to suggest that any extension to the planning permission previously granted should only be for a maximum temporary period of 12 months.

96.8 KYT/046770 – Listed Building Application - internal alterations to provide disabled access to cash office and reception counters, provision of new counters and security shutter, alterations to existing toilets to form disabled toilet, refurbishment of staff kitchen, retention of platform stair lift to main staircase and provision of platform lift, Mold Town Hall – no objections.

96.9 LEJ/046872 – Proposed access changes and frontage improvements, Darby & Joan, Grosvenor Street – no objections.

96.10 BMK/046881 – Erection of single-storey lean-to extension to front of dwelling, Lynden, Ruthin Road – no objections.

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

## **97. NOTICES OF MOTION**

97.1 The Council considered the proposal from Councillor Bryan Grew and agreed, that for an experimental period of 6 months from January 2010, the Council's Planning Committee would have delegated authority to determine responses to

planning applications. It was also agreed that all Members should receive a copy of the Committee agendas in order that they would be aware of applications made.

97.2 The Council considered the proposal from Councillor Andrea Mearns and agreed to sign up to a 'Covenant of Mayors', an EU Mayors' initiative to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 20% by 2020. It was noted that the requirements are believed to be achievable in Mold and Cittaslow Mold is already underway with some of them. It was also noted that there are no direct costs involved in confirming this commitment.

97.3 The Council considered the proposal from Councillor Andrea Mearns and agreed to support and fund the affiliate membership of Cittaslow Mold in the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens. In the event that this membership is not practical it was agreed to support the associate membership of the Town Council.

97.4 The Council considered the proposal from the Mayor and agreed to ask Travis Perkins to instruct their delivery drivers not to park on double-yellow lines while waiting to enter their yard and in addition to ask the police to enforce the parking restrictions in this part of New Street.

## **98. MEETINGS ATTENDED**

98.1 Councillor Geoff Darkins referred to his attendance at the recent meeting of the Alyn Works Liaison Committee. He commented on the staff charity contributions and the current situation of both Companies' production forecasts.

98.2 Councillor Chris Bithell referred to his attendance at the recent meeting held to consider the arrangements for the provision of public art at the new Lidl development. He advised that students from the Alun School were involved in the selection panel.

Councillor Bithell also referred to the current consultation and approach to public involvement with North Wales Police – 'Balance Your Bobbies'.

98.3 Councillor Ken Williams referred to his attendance at the recent meeting of Mold 2000 and to that with the District Police Inspector.

98.4 Councillor Joyce Jones referred to her attendance at the recent meeting of the Alyn Works Liaison Committee and advised that she had left details of the staff charity contributions with the Clerk.

98.5 Councillor Geoff Collett referred to a meeting of the Cittaslow Mold Space and Place Group and advised that bids for schemes had been prepared for submission to the Town Partnership.

98.6 Councillor Carol Heycocks referred to her attendance at the recent meeting held to consider the arrangements for the provision of public art at the new Lidl development. Reference was also made to the monthly meeting with the Mold Air Cadets.

98.7 Councillor Andrea Mearns advised of her attendance at the recent meeting of Mold 2000 and referred to the petition from a number of retailers requesting there not

to be an increase in the size of the Food and Drink Festival. Reference was made to the Mold 2000 Quiz held to raise funds for enhancements to the Christmas lights and she suggested that Councillors should arrange a fundraising event.

Councillor Mearns referred to a recent meeting of the 'Sense of Place' Feasibility Study Working Group and to the Fairtrade AGM when three local schools were involved. Councillor Mearns also referred to the recent litter pick and advised that a lot of litter on Tyddyn Street / Grassy Lane had come from the Cemetery. She suggested that covers be provided to the litterbins in the Cemetery.

98.8 Councillor Tim Maunders referred to the 'Christmas Lights Switch-On' and presented the Council with £310.00 as a contribution from Mold Round Table towards the funds for enhancements to the Christmas lights.

**99. 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> November 2009</b>
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<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MINUTE NO. REFERS</b>
	None	