

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 21st July 2010.

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES:

Councillor Geoff Darkins

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

38. ‘MOLD SALUTES’

The Mayor welcomed Tudor Owen, a former Mayor of the Town, to the meeting.

Mr. Owen expressed the apologies of Mr. John Davies who was the Chairman of the ‘Mold Salutes’ committee who was unable to attend the meeting and then went on to outline the objectives of the event.

‘Mold Salutes’ has three objectives: firstly, to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain; secondly, to hold events that bring about the involvement and interaction of veterans and young people in the community; and lastly, to raise funds for the RAF Memorial Trust and the Help for Heroes charity.

Mr. Owen advised the Council of the events due to take place over the four day commemoration period followed by an ‘auction of promises’ to be held in September. He also indicated how Members could assist, both prior to and during the event.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Owen for his comments and wished him and the ‘Mold Salutes’ committee success for the event.

39. COMMUNITY STRATEGIES

The Mayor welcomed Mr. Andy Roberts, Flintshire County Council’s Head of Planning Policy to talk about community plans.

Mr. Roberts advised the Council that the development of community plans was new to Wales and has now been included within the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009. He indicated that whilst the process has been operational in England and general information has been published for sometime, there is no set guidance within Wales for the development of community plans. It is therefore, for communities to pursue as they feel appropriate.

Mr. Roberts informed the Council that the new strategic plans are termed 'local development plans' (LDP) and the process for the preparation of these plans will commence shortly after the completion of the Flintshire Unitary Development Plan. The LDP requires there to be a greater involvement of communities and the County Council will, in due course, be making it clear how this will take place to ensure that a community consensus based on evidence of needs can influence the LDP.

It was stressed by Mr. Roberts that there is a wealth of information currently available providing background evidence and able to inform thinking about the development of a vision and plan for Mold.

In response to questions, Mr. Roberts acknowledged that communities would require resources to become fully involved although whether it would be possible to provide these was not yet known. The possibility of providing staff time and other practical resources and joint training was highlighted. Mr. Roberts advised that the County Council had yet to determine how it would respond to the Gwernymynydd community plan which was nearing completion. The response could form the basis for the future handling of all community plans. In noting the need for a consensus of views from a community in the preparation of a plan, Mr. Roberts stated that the important requirement was for an engagement with the community. He did however, indicate that a response rate of 20% – 25% would be very good.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Roberts for his comments.

40. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor advised the Council of his engagements since the last meeting. These included the Flintshire County Council and Holywell Town Council Civic Services and the annual meeting of the Llwynegrin Singers.

Reference was also made to the Mayor's attendance at the County Forum, the North West Cancer Research Mold Branch annual draw and an 'Evening of Brecht' at Clwyd Theatr Cymru.

The Mayor advised Members that his Civic Service would be held at 11.00am on Sunday 12th September at St. Mary's Parish Church.

41. MINUTES

Resolved: It was resolved that:

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 30th June 2010 be received and approved;
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 7th July 2010 be received and noted; and
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Audit Sub Committee held on 20th July 2010, circulated at the meeting, be received and approved.

42. MATTERS ARISING

Mold Town Council 30th June 2010

42.1 Minute 33.2 Bailey Hill Cottage – The Clerk advised that there had been no formal response as to the future of the Cottage and Warden's position. Councillor Carolyn Cattermoul indicated that the County Council could be looking at achieving budget savings by keeping the property empty.

42.2 Minute 35.2 Mold Food and Drink Festival – Councillor Bryan Grew advised of progress in the preparations for this year's festival and asked Members to let him know if they would be able to assist at the event.

42.3 Minute 35.5 Charity Shops – The Mayor advised that he had raised the matter of the number of charity shops in the Town with the Leader of the County Council.

43. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were considered including five additional items circulated at the meeting:

43.1 The Council considered the correspondence from Inspector Martin Best, North Wales Police, inviting Members to the next bi-monthly consultation meeting linked to a tour of the Police Firearms Training Complex. It was agreed that Members who were interested in attending would advise the Clerk.

43.2 The Council noted that Flintshire County Council is undertaking consultation on equal opportunities and is seeking the views of the general public. It was agreed that Members would either respond directly or through the Clerk within the next few days.

43.3 The Council noted the correspondence from Scottish Power / Trinity Mirror seeking nominations for the 'Your Champions' Community Awards. Members noted that nomination forms are available from the Clerk.

43.4 The Council considered the correspondence from the Welsh Assembly Government inviting comments on the proposed Local Government (Wales) Measure. It was agreed that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors Bryan Grew and Andrea Mearns should consider the document and respond on behalf of the Council.

43.5 The Council noted receipt of the Flintshire Record Office's Annual Report 2009/10.

43.6 The Council noted the correspondence advising that Mold has been awarded equal first prize in the Best Kept Town Centre in the Flintshire Environmental Awards and expressed its thanks to all those who had helped in preparing and maintaining the floral displays.

43.7 The Council considered the correspondence from Flintshire County Council advising of amendments to the parking order for New Street car park. The Council noted that the amendments affected the use of the car park rather than any

alterations to the layout, other than that suggested for the area between the Iceland and Somerfield Stores. The Mayor commented that the inclusion of permit holder parking at the two suggested locations should hopefully resolve many of the concerns previously raised. With regard to the area between the Iceland and Somerfield Stores, the Town Centre Manager highlighted some of the concerns raised. It is understood that some of the New Street retailers backing onto this area were of the view that they owned parts of the land suggested for inclusion within this order. Whilst retailers had not yet been consulted by the County Council it was noted that they should seek to resolve their concerns directly with the County Council. It was agreed to respond requesting that Flintshire County Council should consult fully with the retailers affected by the proposals showing in detail the areas of land being included within the car parking order. It was also felt that some consideration should be given to the possibility of introducing permits for the New Street retailers affected.

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

44. AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council considered the recommendations from the Audit Sub Committee held on 20th July 2010 and agreed to approve:

- a) The recommendations of the Audit Sub Committee relating to Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Annual Investment Strategy, Internal Financial Controls and Risk Assessments; and
- b) The Annual Return and Statement of Assurances for the external audit of the Town Council Accounts 2009/10.

Resolved: It was resolved that the recommendations of the Audit Sub Committee Council be approved.

45. ACCOUNTS 2010 / 11 – QUARTERLY REVIEW

The Council considered the previously circulated report detailing the position, as at 30th June 2010, relating to the income and expenditure of the Town Council in the current year.

The Clerk advised the Council that he would, in future reports, separate out the expenditure shown within Section 137 Payments and incurred on specific initiatives in order that Members would have a clearer picture on all individual aspects of this budget heading. He also advised that the Budget Review Group had been meeting and hoped to report to the Council in October at the Half-Yearly Review.

Resolved: It was resolved that the report be received and noted.

46. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

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

The Town Centre Manager outlined the various changes that are taking place within the Town's retail units referring specifically to Country Casuals, the empty Ethel Austin shop, Derby House, Paperway and Furniture Discounter.

Reference was made to the Keep Wales Tidy Week due to be held in September and Members agreed to let the Town Centre Manager know if they wished to pursue any scheme.

Reference was also made to 'Marketing the Market' campaign and the Loyalty Scheme to which 12 retailers had committed themselves.

The Town Centre Manager advised of the work being undertaken by the Town Partnership on a 'vision for Mold'. He stated that consultation would be undertaken in due course on the aspirational statements suggested by the Partnership. The Town Centre Manager indicated that during discussions it had been suggested thought be given to Mold entering the Wales in Bloom competition. It was agreed to support this suggestion in principle and to seek further advice on the practicalities and implications of pursuing an entry to the competition.

Resolved: It was resolved that the report be received and that the actions highlighted be approved.

47. NOTICES OF MOTION

47.1 On the proposal of Councillor Bryan Grew it was resolved that a sub-group comprising Councillors Chris Bithell, Geoff Collett, Bryan Grew, Brian Lloyd, Tim Maunders and Andrea Mearns consider the detail of the Flintshire Charter and the approach to be pursued in its implementation.

48. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

Resolved: It was resolved to note the report.

49. MEETINGS ATTENDED

49.1 Councillor Carol Heycocks advised of her attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Air Cadets. Reference was also made to her visit to Oberammergau and it was agreed that Councillor Heycocks could take a Town Council plaque for issue if necessary. It was suggested by Councillor Andrea Mearns that the Town Council should also look at the provision of other mementoes and it was agreed this should be considered.

49.2 Councillor Andrea Mearns advised of her attendance at a meeting to discuss community supported agriculture. She indicated that this promoted local produce and there was the intent to involve young people in the process. Councillor Mearns referred to her attendance as International Vice President at the Cittaslow Assembly held in South Korea. Councillor Mearns advised of a meeting of the Parkfields Management Committee when staffing levels were discussed alongside options for increasing rental levels.

49.3 Councillor Joyce Jones advised of her attendance at the annual meetings of the Daniel Owen Community Association and the Club House.

49.4 Councillor Brian Lloyd referred to his attendance at the annual meeting of the Club House and advised of his election as a member of the Committee.

49.5 Councillor Ken Corbett advised of his attendance at the annual meeting of the Llwynegrin Singers.

50. 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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL	DATE: 21st July 2010
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MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
	None	