

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Delyn Room, County Hall, Mold on Wednesday 25th May 2011.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Ray Dodd (Mayor), Chris Bithell, Geoff Collett, Ken Corbett, Geoff Darkins, 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:

Councillors: Tony Cattermoul and Carolyn Cattermoul.

12. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

13. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reiterated his thanks to Members for granting him the honour of being Mayor of Mold.

The Mayor advised of his engagements since the Annual Meeting including the opening of the Pro-Med Clinic and attendance at the launch of the Safe and Sound Project, the Methodist Church coffee morning and Parkfields AGM.

14. COUNTY COUNCIL'S HOUSING BALLOT

The Mayor welcomed Richard Lovelace, Flintshire County Council's Housing Project Director and his colleague Mel Evans to the meeting to advise on the detail and arrangements for the Housing Ballot.

Mr. Lovelace circulated his presentation which set out the background to the balloting of council tenants on the proposal to transfer the housing stock to a newly formed registered social landlord. The presentation highlighted the requirement for Councils to meet the Welsh Housing Quality Standard and the work and costs needed to achieve that standard.

Mr. Lovelace detailed the process that had been followed which would culminate in the ballot of tenants later in the year. He outlined the arrangements for the proposed new landlord, the services to transfer and those that would be retained by the County Council.

In response to questions, Mr. Lovelace identified the known financial arrangements although he stressed that in the event of a 'no' vote, the Council would have to negotiate with the Welsh Government regarding the way to meet the Housing Standard. He advised that independent advice is available to tenants.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Lovelace for his attendance and presentation.

15. MINUTES

Resolved: It was resolved that:

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 27th April 2011 be received and approved;
- b) The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 11th May 2011 be received and approved;
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 9th May 2011 be received and approved; and
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Cemetery Committee held on 18th May 2011 be received and noted.

16. MATTERS ARISING

Mold Town Council 27th April 2011

16.1 Minute 141.1 Aldi Car Park Barriers –The Clerk advised that during the absence of Aldi's Area Manager, the covering Manager was endeavouring to identify the current position.

16.2 Minute 141.3 Car Parking Meeting – The Town Centre Manager advised that Members had met with the County Council's Deputy Leader and Director of Environment to discuss car parking. He reported it had been acknowledged that towns within the County had differing attributes and needs and that charging for the car parks would remain. The Town Centre Manager also advised that the Town Council would be a partner in the future discussions on the car parking strategy.

16.3 Minute 141.7 Bailey Hill Lodge – The Clerk advised that Members had met with the County Council's Chief Executive and other officers when it had been agreed that discussions would be held with the Town Council with a view to granting a lease for the Lodge. It was agreed that the Budget Sub Group would initially look at the offer from the County Council.

16.4 Minute 142.1 Queen Elizabeth II Fields – The Clerk advised that further information had been received and that classification of any recreation ground generally ensured that it would be exempt from development for purposes other than recreation. Whilst there was no absolute guarantee of exemption, the classification did ensure that the proceeds from any future sale would be applied to replacement recreation facilities. The Clerk added that classification did not prevent development on the land for recreational purposes, such as a wheeled play facility. It was agreed to nominate the following three sites to the County Council for consideration as Queen Elizabeth II Fields:

- Victoria Road recreation ground
- Maes Bodlonfa recreation ground, including the formal park and Kendrick's Field
- The open spaces on the St. Mary's Park estate (either side of Ffordd Newydd, Mold)

16.5 Minute 142.8 Planning Inquiry, Ruthin Road Development – Councillor Geoff Collett advised he had attended the inquiry and that the decision was expected by the end of June 2011. He also advised research had indicated that the average speed on Ruthin Road by the 30mph sign was 55mph.

Annual Meeting 11th May 2011

16.6 There were no matters arising.

Personnel Committee 9th May 2011

16.7 There were no matters arising.

Cemetery Committee 18th May 2011

16.8 There were no matters arising.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were considered:

17.1 The Council noted receipt of the latest Mold CCTV Incident Statistics for the period 1st January – 31st March 2011.

17.2 The Council considered the correspondence from the Chair of the Flintshire Local Access Forum and agreed to nominate Councillor Geoff Collett and Cittaslow Mold representative Andy Hughes to attend the meeting between local councils and the Local Access Forum.

17.3 The Council considered the correspondence from One Voice Wales and agreed that the Council should be represented by Councillors Bryan Grew and Brian Lloyd at the Conference and Annual General Meeting in October 2011.

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

18. MOLD GATEWAY SIGNAGE

The Council noted a grant had been made available for the redesign of the ‘Gateway to Mold’ signs and that a group of four members, two from each of the Council and Cittaslow Mold, was sought to liaise with the consultants.

Resolved: It was resolved that Councillors Geoff Collett and Andrea Mearns represent the Council in the project.

19. REPORT OF TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

The Town Centre Manager circulated the minutes of the March meeting of the Town Partnership and a copy of the latest ‘Town Centre Matters’.

The Town Centre Manager reported on the following:

- The new 'Town Trail' was due to be printed shortly.
- A temporary part-time Events Coordinator has been appointed with funds from the Rural Development Programme to work on new and existing events in Mold and Holywell. The Coordinator, whose hours are flexible, is employed until September 2011.
- Grants have been awarded from the Rural Development Programme for a detailed plan for the implementation of improvements to the Daniel Owen Square and also for the surveys and management plan of Bailey Hill.
- Work on the provision of information points in the Town is continuing.
- New shops – Card Factory is opening on Friday 27th May and Costa Coffee is likely to be opening later in June 2011.
- With the purchase of the former Kwik Save site by Sainsbury's, discussions are underway with neighbouring businesses and a meeting will be arranged with the Town Council and Cittaslow Mold in the near future. The County Council has agreed to fund a feasibility study on the longer term options for the rugby, football and cricket clubs and representatives of the Town Council and Town Partnership will be involved in the discussions.

Resolved: It was resolved to note the report.

20. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

Resolved: It was resolved to note the report.

21. MEETINGS ATTENDED

21.1 Councillor Stephanie Hulley advised of her attendance at meetings relating to the provision of services at St. David's RC Primary School for pre-school children.

21.2 Councillor Carol Heycocks advised of her attendance at a meeting of the Daniel Owen Management Board and also at an open meeting of the Mold Air Cadets.

21.3 Councillor Geoff Darkins advised of his attendance and that of other members, at the recent Alyn Works Liaison Committee. He advised that the recent events in Japan, following the earthquake, had affected the companies' business.

21.4 Councillor Andrea Mearns advised of her attendance at recent interviews for a Cittaslow UK Support Worker when Sophie McKeand of Mold had been appointed. Councillor Mearns also advised of attendance at the Parkfields AGM when the better financial position had been noted. However, it was then reported that just after the meeting problems with the sewage pump had surfaced requiring a substantial amount of expenditure.

22. 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: 25th May 2011
--------------------------	---------------------------------------

MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
	None	