

## **MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall, Mold on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

### **PRESENT:**

Councillors: Ray Dodd (Mayor), Chris Bithell, Geoff Collett, Ken Corbett, Geoff Darkins, Bryan Grew, Robin Guest, Carol Heycocks, 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, Carolyn Cattermoul, and Stephanie Hulley.

### **130. NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

Unfortunately Mr. Andy Robb, Partnership Manager, North Wales Fire and Rescue Service was unable to attend the meeting.

### **131. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

### **132. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor advised of his engagements during the period since the last meeting.

The Mayor advised that he had attended, alongside other Members, a meeting of the Youth Council held at the Alun School the minutes of which were included with the agenda for this meeting. The Mayor also advised that he had presented prizes to the winning teams of the Pancake Day races, with prizes donated by Memory Lane Sweets and Vaughan Davies.

The Mayor referred to his attendance at the Mold Air Cadets Annual Dinner held at the Plas Hafod and he commented how impressed he had been by the calibre of the young people he met at the event.

Reference was made to the Mayor of Holywell's Charity Concert and the Celebration Event recognising the achievements of older people in the County. The Mayor also advised of his attendance at the Service of Institution and Induction of the new vicar of Mold, the Reverend Rex Matthias.

The Mayor referred to the Mold Spring Clean held the previous weekend and thanked the Town Centre Manager, Members and the many volunteers, both individuals and organisations who participated in the event which on initial indications would exceed the previous year's efforts. The Mayor also referred to his and the Deputy Mayor's attendance at the official opening of the new biodiversity habitat at the Maes Gwern lagoons.

### **133. MINUTES**

**Resolved:** It was resolved that:

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012 be received and approved;
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2012 be received and noted;
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Youth Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012 be received and noted; and
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Audit Sub Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2012 and circulated at the meeting be received and noted.

### **134. MATTERS ARISING**

#### **Mold Town Council 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

134.1 Minute 121.3 Bailey Hill Lodge – The Clerk advised that there was no further information from the County Council in this matter.

134.2 Minute 122.7 Flintshire County Council's Housing Ballot – Councillor Chris Bithell advised that tenants had overwhelmingly voted to stay with the Council.

134.3 Minute 123 Proposed Parliamentary Boundary Changes – Councillor Bryan Grew advised that he had attended the public consultation event and presented the Council's argument for a change to the published option. He indicated that it was difficult to tell whether the Council's views were accepted but he advised that further comments could be made in the future.

134.4 Minute 126.1 Tree planting – Councillor Andrea Mearns advised that 30 fruit trees were being planted at different locations in Mold and that skills training in planting was being provided.

134.5 Minute 129 Town Hall – The Clerk advised that the valuation opinion of Legat Owen was imminent and negotiations with the County Council could then commence.

### **135. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following items of correspondence, including one additional item, were considered:

135.1 The Council considered the correspondence from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales seeking views on the Panel's review of payments to community and town councillors in Wales. Whilst recognising that expenses are and should be paid to cover travel and subsistence costs on working trips outside of the Town, Members had differing views on the payment of expenses for other activities. It was noted that some Members have agreed to receive agendas electronically thus saving the Council printing and postage costs. It was resolved to advise the Panel

that any national policy should provide a permissive power for individual councils to determine themselves whether they wish to make payments to councillors to cover the following costs:

- a) Claim for costs to provide for care necessary to family members to allow the councillor to attend council meetings; and
- b) The recompensing of the costs of postage, printing and telephone call.

NB: Councillor Chris Bithell voted against the above resolution.

135.2 The Council noted receipt of the copy minutes of the meeting of the Flintshire Fair Trade Coalition held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

135.3 The Council considered the copy of a letter to the County Council's Chief Executive regarding concerns about the parking arrangements of market traders in Earl Road. The Council was unsure about whether the market regulations prevented traders from parking on Earl Road or whether the matter was one solely for the Police to monitor and take action. It was agreed to ask the County Council's Chief Executive to take the appropriate action if the market regulations were being abused.

135.4 The Council noted receipt of the copy of the feasibility study for the relocation of existing sports clubs in Mold to a new multi-sports facility. It was also noted that the report provides the stakeholders with the information necessary to inform future discussions.

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

### **136. AUDIT SUB COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Clerk advised that the Audit Sub Committee had made two recommendations to the Council covering the adoption of new standing orders and the further appointment of Compacc as internal auditor. The Clerk also advised that, if the recommendation to adopt new standing orders were proposed and seconded, the matter would, in accordance with current standing orders, stand adjourned for consideration at the next meeting of the Council.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that:

- a) Following the proposal and seconding of the adoption of new standing orders, the matter be adjourned for consideration at the next meeting of the Council; and
- b) Compacc Complete Accountancy Services Limited be re-appointed as Internal Auditor for the 2012/13 accounts of the Town Council.

### **137. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S STREETSCENE**

The Council noted the previously circulated leaflet detailing the new contact numbers of the County Council's Streetscene department. It was also noted that the

Streetscene Manager and Mold Area Supervisor would be attending a future meeting of the Council to advise on the reorganisation.

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

### **138. CHARGING FOR PLASTIC AND PAPER CARRIER BAGS**

The Town Centre Manager outlined the rules regarding the single use carrier bags and the 'bags for life' and the charging policy applied by retailers. He advised that the overall impact in Wales had been positive with the majority usage of the single use bags being in supermarkets. It appeared that retailers had generally now become used to the charging arrangement.

Councillor Andrea Mearns advised that information from Keep Wales Tidy indicated that the cost of dealing with the litter from single use carrier bags was estimated at £1million throughout Wales. Assuming a cost for the cleansing of these bags and the pollution in the production of the plastic single use bags, it was envisaged that the charge should be levied at 9p per bag (not 5p). The inclusion of paper carrier bags in the 'single use' category resulted from studies that indicate the overall costs for production and disposal to be higher than those of the plastic bags which could be used again.

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

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

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

The Town Centre Manager advised that this year's Mold Spring Clean (MSC) had been undertaken over a period of four days including the previous weekend and that it had been a success. He indicated that over 850 people had been with tremendous support from the schools and Communities First. Sponsorship had been secured for the purchase and printing of the MSC carrier bags and other local businesses had been involved in a variety of projects including the wildlife habitat at the Maes Gwern lagoons. The Town Centre Manager also expressed his thanks for the support and contributions made by members of the Flintshire County Council's Streetscene department.

The Town Centre Manager advised that there is to be the first ever continental market in Mold within the Daniel Owen Square on 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> April. He also advised preparations are underway for the 'Mold Celebrates' event on 5<sup>th</sup> June and that funding had been received from 'Awards for All'.

Members thanked the Town Centre Manager and his team of volunteers for the successful Mold Spring Clean.

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

## **140. NOTICES OF MOTION**

140.1 The Council considered the proposal of Councillor Carol Heycocks and agreed to ask Flintshire County Council to install a digital bus information display machine at the bus stop on the corner of Wrexham Road and Bromfield Lane.

140.2 The Council considered the proposal of Councillor Chris Bithell and agreed to press the County Council and the Police to take the necessary action to deal with motorists who park on double yellow lines and on pavements causing obstruction for pedestrians, wheelchair users and mobility scooter users.

140.3 The Council considered the proposal of Councillor Chris Bithell and agreed to request the County Council to impose 20mph speed restrictions in the streets serving the schools in the Town.

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

## **141. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS**

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

## **142. MEETINGS ATTENDED**

142.1 Councillor Geoff Collett advised of meetings of the Cittaslow group regarding the planting of trees. He advised that a meeting was due to be held shortly with the County Council's Tree officer.

142.2 Councillor Carol Heycocks advised of her attendance at a meeting of the Daniel Owen Community Association. She also advised that she had attended the Air Cadets Annual Dinner and had supported the Mold Spring Clean.

142.3 Councillor Andrea Mearns advised of her attendance at a meeting of the Parkfields Management Committee and confirmed that the Bubblegum Club, supported by funding from this Council, was thriving.

Councillor Mearns also advised that the Bryn Gwalia energy scheme was progressing with 'energy champions' now ready to advise local residents.

Reference was made to her attendance at meetings to discuss the extension of the cemetery, of Ysgol Bryn Gwalia Governors, Mold 2000 and at Llangollen Town Partnership to discuss membership of the Cittaslow movement.

Councillor Mearns advised the Council that she had attended a meeting with colleagues from Cittaslow International with Members of the European Parliament responsible for structural funding.

142.4 Councillors Bryan Grew and Brian Lloyd advised of their attendance at a meeting of the Area Committee for One Voice Wales when there was a presentation from Betsi Cadwaladr UHB on bringing services together.

### 143. 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: 28<sup>th</sup> March 2012</b>
--------------------------	---

<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MINUTE NO. REFERS</b>
None		