

## **MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall, Mold on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

### **PRESENT:**

Councillors: Geoff Collett (Mayor), Hadyn Bateman, Chris Bithell, Richard Brookes, Geoff Darkins, Bob Gaffey, Bryan Grew, Robin Guest, Carol Heycocks, Brian Lloyd, Geoff Matthias, Andrea Mearns, Anthony Parry, Phil Thomas and Gareth Williams with the Clerk and Finance Officer, Clerk and Finance Officer designate and Town Centre Manager.

### **APOLOGIES:**

Councillors: Ray Dodd

### **61. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

### **62. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor advised of his wish to change the format, as he did not intend to go through all his engagements individually, but would provide a printed sheet showing all activities since the last meeting. The Mayor advised that he wished to use the time to provide Council with information gained whilst carrying out his duties, to benefit the whole council. A sheet of activities was handed out.

The Mayor advised Council of a gift received from the Mayor of Deir Hanna, Isreal. Mr El-khateed Raja had sent a representative with a plate as a gift from Israel.

The Mayor welcomed Samantha Roberts to Mold Town Council who had taken up the position of Clerk and Finance Officer on 24 September 2012.

The Mayor provided an update on the campaign to save the minor injuries and x-ray units at Mold Community Hospital and gave thanks to all the councillors who had given their support. The Mayor also gave details on the two marches which had been planned for Friday 28 September 2012, and asked for volunteers to assist in marshalling.

The Mayor advised that he had attended the Holywell Civic Service and confirmed that arrangements had been made for Mold's Civic Service for Sunday 25 November 2012. 3.00pm at St. Mary's Church, Mold, and he hoped that as many as possible would attend.

The Mayor advised that he had also attended a presentation evening at Flintshire County Council for this year's Best Kept Communities, in which Mold was awarded first price in the town category.

Reference was also made to the opening of the Mold Food and Drink Festival on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2012, in which over 15,000 had attended over the two

days. Councillor Bryan Grew asked that thanks to all the organisers of the festival be put on record.

The Mayor advised that the training course organised by One Voice Wales for 4<sup>th</sup> October was currently undersubscribed, and asked if anyone wished to attend to advise the Clerk.

### **63. MINUTES**

**Resolved:** It was resolved that:

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2012 be received and approved;
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2012 be received and noted;
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2012 be receive and noted;
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Cemetery Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2012 be received and noted; and
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Audit Sum Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2012 be received and noted.

### **64. MATTERS ARISING**

#### **Mold Town Council 18<sup>th</sup> July 2012**

Minute 50 Correspondence – Councillor Andrea Mearns asked if the Financial Assistance Panel had met to determine whether a grant should be given to the Mold Juniors Football Club. The Clerk advised that the panel had met and the club had been awarded £150.00.

Minute 51 Mold Flood Alleviation Scheme – Councillor Haydn Bateman advised that there was to be a meeting of residents on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2.00pm at the Baptist Chapel.

Minute 55 Report of the Town Centre Manager – Councillor Bob Gaffey expressed concern over the organisation of the Mold Carnival. He suggested that the Council should consider taking responsibility for organising the carnival. The Town Centre Manager agreed to speak with Helen Perry, with a view to inviting the committee to attend a future meeting of the Council. Councillor Chris Bithell asked for an update on the Tegeingl. The Mayor advised that he had spoken with the organisers and they had been happy with the attendance. Councillor Robin Guest suggested that the Committee should be advised it is the general impression that the Tegeingl Festival is only conducted in the medium of welshes, which is not the case. Councillor Bob Gaffey advised that there is a Tegeingl Committee meeting next month and he would report back to Council.

Minute 57.1 Notice of Motion – The Clerk advised that Flintshire County Council had agreed to support the request and had requested a quote for the works required. The Clerk advised that Flintshire may seek match funding from the Council in the region of £250.00. A further update will be provided when more details are available.

Minute 59.2 Meetings Attended – Councillor Andrea Mearns asked if an invitation had been made to the County Council's Interim Facilities Manager to attend a future meeting of the Council to discuss public procurement. The Clerk advised it had not yet been arranged but agreed to make the invitation.

## **65. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

65.1 The Council noted the Correspondence received from Flintshire County Council advising that it has approved the nomination of 17 recreation grounds for inclusion in the Fields in Trust – Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge. Two recreation grounds in Mold are included, Maes Bodlonfa and St Mary's Park, however, the latter may yet have to be removed from the process because the land is leased rather than owned by the County Council.

65.2 The Council noted the correspondence received from Flintshire County Council in response to the request for more litter bins and recycling bins near to the wheeled play facility at the Maes Bodlonfa recreation ground.

65.3 The Council noted the correspondence from the County Council's Chief Executive highlighting the current position regarding the Regional Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Project. The Mayor advised that he would express concerns over the project at the next County Forum. Mold Town Council has provided financial assistance to the current CCTV service, and so should be consulted on any proposals. The Mayor also added that he has concern over the level of service should it be centralized.

65.4 The Council noted the correspondence has been received from David Hanson MP and HM Treasury in relation to the issue of regional public sector pay and concerns about the impact this policy would have on services and the local economy.

65.5 The Council considered the attached notes of the meetings of the Flintshire Local Access Forum and the Rights of Way Improvements Plan received from Neville Howell, the Town Council's representative on these groups. Members expressed the apparent lack of communication and requested that all future minutes are made available to the Council from the Local Access Forum and the County Forum. Member also agreed in order to offer support that an invitation is made to Neville Howell to attend a future meeting of the Council.

65.6 The Council noted the availability of the CCTV statistics for the period April – June 2012 at the Town Hall office for Members to view.

65.7 The Council considered the correspondence received from Flintshire County Council relating to winter services for 2012/13. The Clerk advised members of the

approach adopted last year and sought confirmation that the Council wished to continue the same approach. It was agreed that the Council would recommend the provision of an additional three bins per year. Members were asked to advise the Clerk of locations for the potential placing of bins, which could then be considered at the next meeting of the Council.

65.8 The Council noted the correspondence from the Flintshire Access Forum setting out the approach it will be pursuing to enhance collaboration with Town and Community Councils. Whilst no Member indicated that they wished to participate, it is still open for anyone to attend the meetings and become involved.

65.9 The Council considered the correspondence received from Mrs. M. Walker, 35 Parc Hendy asking if a dog litter bin can be provided in Parc Hendy. Mrs. Walker has suggested that a bin be sited on the grassed area at the entrance to Nant Derw. Members agreed that enquiries should first be made with the County Council on confirmation as to whether combined litter/dog waste bins were to be used in the future.

65.10 The Council noted the correspondence received from Flintshire County Council's Environmental Protection office in response to concerns raised previously about dog fouling at Maes Bodlonfa. However, members agreed that the request to consider a by-law for the control of dogs at Maes Bodlonfa had not been satisfactorily answered. It was agreed that a further letter be sent relating to this matter.

6.11 The Council noted the details received that the new Police and Community Support Officers who will be based in Mold are PCSO Carol Richards, PCSO Chey Arrowsmith and PCSO Emma Owen. PC Janette Stott will remain as Community Beat Manager, PCSO Lynn Turner will be moving to another area of Flintshire South. Members agreed that a letter of thank be sent to PCSO Lynne Turner for her commitment and support given to Mold over the last five years.

6.12 The Council noted the correspondence from the County Council's Head of Finance setting out possible changes to the Council Tax Base Setting and the Benefits system and the effect these may have upon the Town Council's budget for 2012/13.

6.13 The Council noted the correspondence received from Flintshire County Council advising that it is preparing to review its Licensing Policy in respect of the Gambling Act 2005. A three yearly review is required and whilst the County Council is not minded to depart significantly from its existing policy, representations are invited from the Town Council.

6.14 The Council considered the correspondence received from the Boundary Commission for Wales advising that its revised proposals will be published on 24<sup>th</sup> October and will be available for consultation for a period of eight weeks, until 18<sup>th</sup> December 2012. Members agreed that the same group of members involved in the original consultation should review the revised proposals and make recommendations for a response to the next meeting of the Council. The members were Councillors Geoff Collett, Bryn Grew, Robin Guest and Brian Lloyd.

6.15 The Council noted the correspondence received outlining the role of the Neighbourhood Warden Service that is available throughout the County.

6.16 The Council considered the correspondence received from Flintshire County Council advising of its review of the Local Housing Strategy 2012-2017. Members agreed that a small group of members meet to consider the Strategy and provide a response on behalf of the Council.

6.17 The Council noted the correspondence received from the Electoral Commission advising of the Police and Crime Commissioner Elections due to be held on 15 November 2012.

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

## **66. PLAYAREA IMPROVEMENTS**

The Clerk advised that the Council has set aside £5000 in the budget for a contribution, to be matched by Flintshire County Council, towards the costs of play area improvements and suggested that Members advise the Clerk of which play areas they consider to be in need of improvement, and then for a group of four councillors, one from each ward, be given the responsibility of considering the list of requirements and agreeing which play area should be recommended for improvement this year. A number of play areas were asked to be considered, which included; Park Alun, Ffordd Pentre, Hawthorn Avenue, Gas Lane, Chapel Street, Park Avenue, Bryn Hilyn Lane and Pont y Garreg. It was also agreed that the recent report completed by Flintshire County Council on play areas should be considered.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that Councillors Richard Brookes, Geoff Matthias, Anthony Parry and Gareth Williams would consider the list and agree which play area should be recommended for improvements this year.

## **67. MOLD COMMUNITY HOSPITAL**

The Mayor outlined the actions taken following the publication of the proposals of the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board to close the minor injuries and x-ray units at the Mold Community Hospital. He provided an update on the arrangements for the forthcoming marches on 28 September 2012 to coincide with the consultation sessions being provided by Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) at Clwyd Theatr Cymru. The Mayor sought continued support from the Council for the action opposing the closure of the Minor Injuries and x-ray units at Mold Community Hospital.

Members agreed it would be appropriate to confirm the Council's opposition to the proposals and that the Mayor should write to the Health Board and the Princess Royal expressing these views following the consultation events on 28 September 2012.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the Council's views in opposition of BCUHB's proposals be expressed as outlined above.

## **68. ONE VOICE WALES – AGM MOTIONS**

Councillor Bryan Grew sought views from Council on the list of motions due for debate at the Annual General Meeting of One Voice Wales.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to support all the motions listed.

#### **69. TRAFFIC CALMING – GAS LANE**

The Clerk advised on the County Council's proposal to install traffic calming on Gas Lane. The Council considered the plan showing the proposal and agreed unanimously in support of the proposals.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that a letter of support be sent to Flintshire County Council.

#### **70. WELSH REGENERATION SUMMIT**

The Town Centre Manager advised of the forthcoming National Regeneration Summit to take place in Colwyn Bay on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012. The event will provide delegates with an opportunity to explore key issues in regeneration with leading experts. The Town Centre Manager sought support to attend the event with the new Clerk with the potential for three councillors to also attend. The event would cost approximately £150.00

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the Town Centre Manager, Clerk and Councillors Geoff Collett, Andrea Mearns and Anthony Parry would attend the event.

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

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

The Town Centre Manager commented on forthcoming Daniel Owen Festival 13<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> October, and asked that members view the website for further information.

Reference was made to the forthcoming November Fest, with real ale, food and entertainment, which will be held at St. Mary's Hall. In addition other hospitality groups within Mold were being encouraged to participate. It was suggested that the Council offer financial support. The Clerk advised that money for projects was available in the Town Centre Manager budget. It was proposed and agreed that £500 would be given in support of the November Fest.

The Town Centre Manager gave an update on the gas mains works within the town, and advised that the work is currently on schedule, with Pwll Glas/High Street being reached by 29 October 2012. Reference was made to the local traders who had been accepting of the on-going works.

The Town Centre Manager advised that there is a meeting scheduled with the Town Partnership and Flintshire County Council next week to look at work streams. Councillor Mearns expressed concern in the apparent lack of communication as the minutes had not been provided of the Town Partnership annual general meeting, and

requested that all future minutes are made available for the County Forum and Mold Town Partnership meetings.

A report was tabled at the meeting relating to Car Parking Policy. The Town Centre Manager suggested that members consider its content, and requested that the four County Councillor attend the workshop arranged by Flintshire County Council scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> October 2012, and report back to Council. The Town Centre Manager offered to meet with the four County Councillors before the workshop.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to note the report and approve the actions detailed above.

## **72. NOTICES OF MOTION**

Councillors Richard Brookes and Phil Thomas sought support to consider establishing a pilot scheme to determine if 'Facebook' and Twitter can be an effective means of communication with residents of the Town.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that Councillors Richard Brookes and Phil Thomas carry out research and report back to Council with recommendations including criteria for implementation.

## **73. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS**

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

## **74. MEETINGS ATTENDED**

The Chair advised that he wished to change the approach, and requested that members use the agenda item to report to Council any information they have obtained from outside bodies.

## **75. 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.

## **76. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Council agreed to the exclusion of the public and the press from the meeting in order to allow discussion on confidential matters.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

## **77. BAILEY HILL LODGE**

The Clerk advised the Council of the current situation regarding the transfer of Bailey Hill Lodge to the Town Council. Following a debate on the issues raised, it was

agreed that a further report would be brought back to Council once further information was available.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that a further report would be brought to a future meeting of the Council

**SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MOLD TOWN COUNCIL'S  
CODE OF CONDUCT**

<b>MOLD TOWN COUNCIL</b>	<b>DATE: 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012</b>
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<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MINUTE NO. REFERS</b>
None		