**MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at Mold Town Hall, Mold on Wednesday 26th November 2014.

**PRESENT:**

Councillors: Carol Heycocks (Mayor), Brian Lloyd, Chris Bithell, Bob Gaffey, Bryan Grew, Robin Guest, Phil Thomas, Anthony Parry, Karen Hodgkinson, Andrea Mearns and Geoff Collett and Gareth Williams, The Clerk and Finance Officer and Town Centre Manager.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jill Roberts, External Communications Manager Dwr Cymru and Sharon Blackall, Dwr Cymru, with one members of the press (Leader).

**APOLOGIES**: Councillors: Haydn Bateman, Ray Dodd and Geoff Matthias

**95. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

**96. DWR CYMRU/WELSH WATER**

The Mayor welcomed Jill Roberts and Sharon Blackall from Dwr Cymru together with Sam Tulley from Flintshire County Council and invited Sharon to provide an update to members. Sharon advised members that she is looking after the scheme and liaising with residents and businesses affected by the works. She advised that the current work on Ruthin Road is progressing and is schedule to be complete by Christmas. The works on High Street and Chester Street are due to commence on 12th January 2015 which should take approximately 4-6 weeks to complete. There will be traffic management required which will be agreed with Highways at Flintshire. Sharon informed members that there had been no official complaints received, however, there had been two anonymous complaints which could not be acted upon due to lack of information. The workmen on site continue to keep the traders up to date, and when the water need to be turned off, it was after 6pm and those affected were put on temporary water supplies, so no business was without water at any point.

Councillor Geoff Collett raised concerns should the works begin on the High Street before the Daniel Owen Square is complete, due to the relocation of the Street Market traders. Sam Tulley advised that unless the Daniel Owen Square works were complete and the Street Market traders were able to return to the Square then the water works would not begin on the High Street.

The Town Centre Manager comments on the very poor condition of the old water pipes and the obviously need for the works, adding that Dwr Cymru had done everything they could to communicate with residents and traders, including having a presence in Town & Country Estate Agents every Wednesday. Sharon advised that she had received no visitors since her presence at Town & Country.

The Town Centre Manager went on to ask when Ruthin Road would be open in both directions. Sam Tulley advised that at the moment the works are approximately 500-600 metres long which is too long for traffic lights, so there is still a need for the one way system. However, as the work moves along it will be reviewed.

Councillors Anthony Parry and Gareth Williams raised concerns relating to traffic congestion at Upper Bryn Coch and down to Brook Street. Sam Tulley agreed that he would assess the problem the following day to see if there are any alternatives for traffic management.

Councillor Bryan Grew asked when work would commence on Wrexham Street, and was advised it would be after High Street and Chester Street are completed.

The Mayor expressed her agreement with the Town Centre Manager that the condition of the old water pipes was very poor.

The Mayor thanked the officers for providing the update and responding to questions.

**97. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor advised members of her recent activities:-

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| 23/10/2014 | Cancer Research, Presentation of Cheque at Padeswood Golf Club |
| 25/10/2014 | Domestic Abuse evening (Social) at the Civic Hall, Connah’s Quay |
| 31/10/2014 | Llwynegrin Singers, Dinner at Highfield Hall |
| 05/11/2014 | Bonfire celebrations at Cottage Nursing Home |
| 06/11/2014 | Officially opened Dementia Cafe at Llys Jasmine |
| 07/11/2014 | Officially opened the Novemberfest |
| 09/11/2014 | Attended the Remembrance Service and March past of Parade and on to the Novemberfest |
| 11/11/2014 | Act of Remembrance at the Town Hal then on to St. David’s Church for the School Children’s Remembrance Service |
| 14/11/2014 | Scottish Power and Trinity Mirror “Your Champions Awards” at the Crown Plaza, Chester |
| 16/11/2014 | Thanksgiving Service for Mold Hospital at Bethesda |
| 17/11/2014 | Youth Council meeting at the Town Hall |
| 19/11/2014 | Spent the morning at the Nightingale House shop in Mold to celebrate their 1st birthday. In the evening went to present certificates to the Brownie Pack at Parkfields |
| 20/11/2014 | Attended the Annual Flower Club demonstration at Bryn Coch School |
| 21/11/2014 | Chaired the AGM at 1378 Mold Air Cadets then continued on to the fashion show in aid of Bailey Hill/Motte at Clwyd Theatr Cymru |
| 24/11/2014 | Primary Schools Youth Council meeting at Bryn Gwalia School |
| 25/11/204 | Christmas lights switch on. |

**98. MINUTES**

**Resolved:** It was resolved that:

a) The minutes of the meeting of the council held on held on 22nd October 2014 be received and approved;

b) The minutes of the meeting of the Tourism Committee held on 15th October 2014 to be received and noted;

c) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 4th November 2014 be received and noted;

d) The minutes of the meeting of the Cemetery Committee held on 20th October 2014 be received and noted.

**99. INFORMATION ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Town Council 22nd October 2014**

99.1 Minute 82 Report of the Town Centre Manager - Councillor Mearns advised that during the Children’s Council meeting earlier in the week, the schools had indicated that they were not aware of the Time Capsule Competition being organised. The Town Centre Manager confirmed that he would speak with Nia from Mold Library about this. Councillor Bithell asked when and where the capsule would be placed. The Town Centre Manager advised that the capsule will be placed in one of the wall pillars.

99.2 Minute 82 Report of Town Centre Manager - Councillor Mearns asked for an update on the Bailey Hill Access statement sign off. The Town Centre Manager advised that he would chase its progress the following day.

99.3 Minute 82 Report of Town Centre Manager - Councillor Bithell asked if there was an update on the initial plans for the New Street Car Park. The Town Centre Manager advised that he had not received any further information.

99.4 Minute 86 The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRP) - Councillor Mearns asked if there had been any response from the IRP following the Town Councillors response to the consultation. The Clerk advised that she had only received confirmation of receipt of the Town Councils response.

99.5 Minute 88 Notice of Motion - Councillor Bithell asked if there was any update following the letter sent to Natural Resources Wales in relation to Flood Mapping designations. The Clerk confirmed that she had received a phone call from an Officer of NRW and had sent an email to all members providing an update. Following a discussion on Flood Map designations and that they are not amended once flood defence schemes are in place, it was agreed that the Clerk would write to Carl Sergeant seeking support to address the issue.

99.6 Minute 89 Notification of Planning Decisions - Councillor Parry asked if there was an update on the Planning approval for Upper Bryn Coch. The Clerk advised that she had not received a response following the email she sent expressing the Town Councils concerns on increased traffic. Councillor Guest advised that he had spoken with Planning expressing his dissatisfaction on the service received from the Planning Department. He advised members that it had been over a weeks since approval had been given for Maes Gwern access to the development site, so there was no reason the contractors should be using Upper Bryn Coch. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Andrew Farrow expressing the Town Councils concerns.

**Tourism Committee 15th October 2014**

99.7 Minute 15 Tourism Information Points – Councillor Mearns asked if there was any news on the Planning application for the TIP’s. The Town Centre Manager advised that Alison Brett at Flintshire County Council was currently working with Planning and he would speak with her the following day.

**100. REPORT OF THE TOWN CENTRE MANAGER**

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

The Town Centre Manager thanked those members who had assisted during the recent Novemberfest, advising that the event had been a sell out on the Friday and Saturday.

The Town Centre Manager provided an update on progress of the works on the Daniel Owen Square, advising that the contractors laying the granite are working longer hours. He advised that there was to be a progress meeting that Friday but assurances had been given that a substantial area would be complete for the Festive weekend on 13th&14th December.

The Town Centre Manager provided details of the Festive weekend, advising that Peter Pan characters from Interact Wales would be around the town with a pantomime in St. Mary’s Church hall on the Sunday evening. There is to be a treasure hunt in the town’s shops for young children to find the Peter Pan character toys, with the Christmas Concert at St. Mary’s Church on the Monday evening.

The Town Centre Manager advised that he was currently working on a post Christmas marketing initiative to increase trade in the town and would provide more detail on the initiative after Christmas.

The Town Centre Manager advised that there had been a rise in shop lifting in the town and at a recent Shop Watch meeting of traders at the Town Hall, Chester Against Business Crime came and gave a presentation.

Councillor Guest suggested that there could be room to increase numbers at the Novemberfest on the Sunday afternoon. In response Councillor Grew advised that Sunday was originally for using left over beer from the weekend as they were unsure how much would be left over, but now it could be promoted more. Councillor Collett gave thanks to the Town Centre Manager for all the work he had done in delivering another successful Novemberfest, adding thanks for all the other events organised by the Town Centre Manager throughout the year. All members supported Councillor Collett’s words of thanks.

**101. PROVISION OF SALT BINS**

Members consider the previously circulated report and commented that a number of the existing salt bins listed within the report may not be in the street stated. It was agreed that members would check their areas to confirm whether any of the existing salt bins were missing, and the item be considered again at the next meeting.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that:

1. The report be deferred to the next meeting of the Council;
2. That members would check the streets with their wards and report on any missing bins to the Clerk.

**101. WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION – TRUNK ROAD SPEED LIMIT REVIEW**

Members considered the previously circulated consultation document and agreed that they were happy for the National Speed limit to apply on the A494...

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the Town would support the National Speed limit to be applied to the A494.

**102. MATCH FUNDING SCHEME – 2014/15, PROPOSED PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS AT GAS LANE, MOLD**

Members considered the proposals made by Flintshire County Council for new play equipment at Gas Lane, Mold. Whilst members were happy to support the scheme Councillor Karen Hodgkinson raised concerns relating to the age range of the equipment and whether it complimented the existing equipment to cover a wide age range.

**Resolved**: It was resolved that:

1. Members support the proposals made by Flintshire, subject too:
2. A satisfactory response that the new equipment will complement the existing equipment to accommodate a wide age range of children.

**103. MOLD FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME**

Members noted the correspondence received from Sandy Mewies AM, providing an update on the Mold Flood Alleviation Scheme.

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

**Councillor Robin Guest left the meeting at 8.10pm.**

**104. FLINTSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM**

Members considered the correspondence received from Flintshire Local Access Forum advising that the membership of the Forum is due for renewal in January 2015. Members agreed that they would like Neville Howell to continue to represent the Town on the Forum

**Resolved:** It was resolved that Neville Howell would be nominated for membership of the Forum on behalf of the Town.

**105. ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATIONS ACT 1984 (A5119 RHYD Y GALED TO NEW BRIGHTON**

The Clerk advised members that in addition to the consultation on proposals to amend the speed limit from Rhyd y Galed to New Brighton to 40mph, correspondence had also since been received consulting on proposals to amend the speed limit Rhyd y Galed to King Street to 30mph. Members agreed that the proposals would improve safety on the roads.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to support the speed limit amendments as stated.

**106. OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the Council be represented on the following organisations as follows:

106.1 Daniel Owen Community Association - Councillors Geoff Collett and one vacancy, consideration for this would be deferred to the next meeting of the Council on 9th December 2014

106.2 Alyn Works Liaison Committee - Councillors Bob Gaffey, Geoff Matthias, Brian Lloyd and Karen Hodgkinson (West Ward Members).

**107. COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

**Resolved:** It was resolved to appoint the following members to the standing committees of the Council as detailed below:

107.1 Planning Committee - full delegated powers - six members - Councillors Bryan Grew, Brian Lloyd, Andrea Mearns, Anthony Parry and Gareth Williams and Karen Hodgkinson.

107.2 Audit Sub Committee – Councillors Haydn Bateman, Bob Gaffey, Geoff Matthias, Anthony Parry, Phil Thomas and Bryan Grew

**108 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS**

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

**109 MEETINGS ATTENDED**

Councillor Bryan Grew advised that he had attended two One Voice Wales meetings, one with the Partnership Council and the one with the Minister which had been very positive for Town & Community Councils. There are no plans for mergers, but the Minister has asked One Voice Wales to look at ideas of what can be done.

**Councillors Gareth Williams and Bryan Grew left at 8.30pm**

Councillor Bob Gaffey had attended the Friends of Bailey Hill fashion show and expressed his disappointment for the lack of support.

Councillor Andrea Mearns advised that she had attended two meetings with Alan Roberts from Flintshire relating to the Bailey Hill. She advised that there would be a rolling programme for cutting trees down, with the entrance area being done first. The second phased would be carried out by Canopy. Flintshire are reluctant to spend money on the play area as the Master Plan proposes the play area in a different location. Alan Roberts had expressed a wish for a joint funded scheme for the play area over three years of approximately £60,000.

Councillor Mearns advised that Mel Breeze had now left Parkfields, and he would not be replaced. However, the Minister for Tyddyn Street will include Parkfields within the pastoral care.

Councillor Mearns had met with Lorna Jenner to discuss the Tourist Information Points (TIP’s) and Councillors Richard Brookes and Chris Bithell had provided information for them.

Councillor Mearns had received advised from Judith Wright (Keep Wales Tidy) on Green Flag status. She has advised the level of Community Award, with a £100 fee. The next applications are in January 2015, so it is unlikely to be ready by then.

Councillor Anthony Parry advised that the doctors from the Grosvenor Surgery had resigned and the surgery was relying on Locums. It was agreed a request would be made to BCUHB to address the problem.

**110. 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.

**The Meeting ended at 8.45pm**

**SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH MOLD TOWN COUNCIL’S**

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

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| **MOLD TOWN COUNCIL** | **DATE: 26TH November 2014** |

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| **MEMBER** | **ITEM** | **MINUTE NO. REFERS** |
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