

# **MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held virtually on-line over video conferencing 6pm Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

## **PRESENT:**

Councillors: Teresa Carberry (Mayor), Sarah Taylor (Deputy Mayor), Trevor Arnold, Haydn Bateman, Geoff Collett, Bryan Grew, Robin Guest, Karen Hodgkinson, Haydn Jones, Andrea Mearns, Brian Lloyd, Tim Maunder, Anthony Parry and Chris Bithell.

Officers: Ian Jones Town Clerk and Finance Officer, Jane Evans Events and Community Engagement Officer, Jo Douglass Business and Regeneration Officer.

Also Present: One member of the public.

**139. APOLOGIES:** Jo Lane Bailey Hill Officer.

**ABSENT:** Councillor Geoff Matthias and Gareth Williams.

## **140. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **141. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No Mayor's announcements.

## **142. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That:

- a) The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 and the Minutes of the Special meeting of the Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021 be received and formally approved;
- b) The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 be received and noted; and
- c) The Minutes of the meeting of the Community Development and Regeneration Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021 be received and noted.

## **143. JOINT REPORT OF THE BUSINESS & REGENERATION OFFICER AND EVENTS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER**

Members considered the previously circulated report from the Business & Regeneration Officer and Events & Community Engagement Officer.

The Business and Regeneration Officer updated members on the previous Co-op unit and confirmed that Poundland would now take up the lease.

Councillor Mearns informed Members that Club Spice had withdrawn from the Naked Takeaway scheme.

Councillor Lloyd asked if the cones on the upper High Street were being removed shortly and also asked if Officers would take forward with Flintshire Markets to request that traders do not cover the seats in the Daniel Owen Square with goods.

#### **144. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE**

Members considered the recommendations of the Community Development and Regeneration Committee as to its future and Terms of Reference.

The Committee had recommended;

- a) To retain the Community Development and Regeneration Committee
- b) To re-examine and re-draft a more concise and focussed Terms of Reference of the Committee; and
- c) That a small sub group of 3 to 4 members be engaged to carry out this process.

Members supported the recommendations and it was agreed that Councillors Collett, Carberry, Taylor, Guest and Maunders form a sub group to carry out the review.

**RESOLVED:** That a sub group to take this forward, carry out the review. and report back to Council.

#### **145. NOMINATION OF MAYOR 2021/2022**

On the proposal of Councillor Karen Hodgkinson and seconded by Councillor Haydn Jones it was agreed that Councillor Sarah Taylor be formally nominated as Mayor of Mold Town Council for the ensuing year.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Sarah Taylor be formally nominated as Mayor for the ensuing year 2021/2022.

#### **146. WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON LOCAL AUTHORITY POWER TO TRADE**

Members considered the previously circulated information regarding Welsh Government's consultation on the draft General Power of Competence (Commercial) (Conditions) (Wales) Regulations and the proposal that Community Councils which meet certain criteria be provided a power to trade.

Deadline for submission is 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021. Members agreed a sub group would be the best way to discuss this and to reply on behalf of Council.

**RESOLVED:** That a sub group consisting of Councillors Taylor, Mearns and Arnold should meet, discuss and formulate responses and reply on behalf of Council.

#### **147. GREEN RECOVERY CIRCULAR ECONOMY FUND**

Members considered the previously circulated suggestions and ideas following the decision taken at March 2021 meeting of the Town Council regarding information from Flintshire County Council Regeneration Department about the various funds

coming on stream, with a focus on technology and the creation of SMART towns together with bringing long term empty units into use.

The Business and Regeneration Officer confirmed she would take the ideas and suggestions which had been submitted forward with Flintshire County Council Regeneration Officers and would also include suggestion for additional seating within the town centre, suitable stage covering which would protect performers from weather conditions (as the current covering does not suffice) and also request for large pagodas within the square, similar to Holywell.

**RESOLVED:** That the Business and Regeneration Officer to take the ideas and suggestions which had been submitted and updated ideas forward with Flintshire County Council Regeneration Officers.

#### **148. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SUMMER PLAYScheme 2021 INITIAL NOTIFICATION**

Members were asked to note that Flintshire County Council had officially received the mandate, nationally and locally to deliver play services. This would include the County Summer playscheme programme 2021. The Town Clerk reminded Members that the cost of the play scheme had been included within the budget and Members were content with the position.

**RESOLVED:** That the updated position be noted.

#### **6.24pm Councillor Bithell joined the meeting**

#### **149. PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE REAR OF THE RED LION, WREXHAM STREET.**

Members considered the previously circulated correspondence from Flintshire County Council Access Enforcement Officer following an enquiry from the public and emails written by the Town Clerk, on Members behalf. The Town Clerk reported that this matter had again by raised at the Community, Development and Regeneration Committee as the Chair's letter to Streetscene had not been fully responded to.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the land in question was in private ownership and the advice from the Access Enforcement Officer would be for a prominent community figure, such as the Mayor to speak directly with the current landlord/owners as to how to resolve the matter amicably and without recourse to a claim for a footpath which could be a protracted and difficult journey to pursue.

Councillor Bateman informed Members that he had visited the site and the actual footpath is a passage way at the side of the Red Lion garage, this was approximately 6ft wide, however it was bricked up at the end. If the bricks were to be removed and lighting installed this would resolve the issue.

It was agreed that the best way forward would be a meeting locally..

**RESOLVED:** That the Mayor and Deputy Mayor would visit the Red Lion and discuss a way forward with the current Landlord.

## **150. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS**

Members considered the previously circulated information regarding Planning decisions.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

## **151. MEETINGS ATTENDED**

Councillor Mearns informed Members that Parkfields had received a grant for community growing, which has resulted in ten families receiving skills training on how to grow food. The Mayor suggested the training was filmed / blog created then this could be shared with the wider community. Members were in agreement with this suggestion.

Councillor Mearns informed Members of a Zoom meeting regarding Community Engagement being held on 13<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm hosted by Mold Involved CIC Group, all were invited to join and email would be forwarded to Members from Officers.

The Town Clerk updated Members on the One Voice Wales (OVW) Larger Council's meeting at which he and Councillor Grew had attended. Information / discussions from the OVW meeting included:

- Local Places for Nature Grants – new grants would be available soon. Previously Council had been received grants for trees which were then planted at the Cemetery
- OVW attendees also shared good practices and the Clerk provided information regarding the Totally Mold vouchers, Naked Takeaway and financial aid provided during Covid.
- Transforming Towns programme which is Welsh Government funding available for projects for principal Councils mainly, to help increase the vibrancy and footfall in the town. Flintshire County Council will inform Council if they take forward.
- The proposals to change the audit system from one concentrated audit once in every three years has been delayed until next year as Wales Audit had underestimated the work involved. There were currently over 200 local Councils in Wales yet to return last year's audit which would need to be processed / cleared before any changes to audit system.
- OVW are holding an innovative conference on the 21<sup>st</sup> July and they were asking for nominations for good practice and the Town Clerk said he would submit the Totally Mold vouchers scheme and Naked Takeaway.

**RESOLVED:** The information to be received and noted

## **152. ACCOUNTS / PAYMENTS**

The Council considered the schedules previously circulated.

Month 12 Community Bank account CB1 £23,717.91

**RESOLVED:** that the schedule of payments be approved.

## **153. BAILEY HILL PROJECT, LODGE AND COMMUNITY ROOM**

Members considered the previously circulated report from the Bailey Hill Officer on the latest developments including the handover of the building.

The Town Clerk gave Members the apologies from the Bailey Hill Officer who was not available to attend as she was delivering a public Zoom event about the Bailey Hill.

Councillor Mearns provided Members with additional information not included in the report and confirmed that the path surfaces were not the finished surface, they were going to be sprayed with fine gravel prior to opening. The play area would not be able to go in the existing play area space due to the archaeological finds. Should there be money available, the tripartite partnership would look at 'natural' play equipment, however natural play equipment required additional inspections which Flintshire County Council did not carry out. Exploratory trenches would be put in the Outer Bailey to see if there was anything of archaeological note.

The Bailey Hill Officer was planning a soft launch event for June and this would adhere to Welsh Government guidelines with a number of small groups over a few days. Pending Welsh Government regulations, a larger event in September may be planned.

Councillor Taylor wanted it noted that Members place on record their thanks to the Bailey Hill Officer who had done an incredible job, not only with the report but throughout the project especially given the unforeseen circumstances relating to the archaeological finds and Covid, the Bailey Hill Officer has gone above and beyond the call of duty on many occasions to see the project through.

Members also asked that the Town Clerk also put forward the project at the One Voice Wales innovative conference to demonstrate good practice with regard to partnership working and volunteers.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted and endorsed.

## **154. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED:** that the member of public be excluded from the rest of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business.

**155. APPOINTMENT OF A CONTRACTOR TO CARRY OUT THE COUNCIL’S HANGING BASKETS ARRANGEMENTS**

The Council considered the previously circulated quotes from contractors. Members approved that DJ Services be awarded the 3-year contract.

**RESOLVED:** That the DJ Services be awarded the 3-year contract on the terms and conditions as outlined

**The Meeting closed at 7.07pm**

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

<b>MOLD TOWN COUNCIL</b>		<b>DATE: 28 April 2021</b>
<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MINUTE NO. REFERS</b>

Mayor’s signature: ..... Date: .....  
SHAREDDRIVE//MINUTES/MTC/MIN210428