

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held virtually on-line over video conferencing 6pm Wednesday 24th November, 2021.

PRESENT:

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

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

Visitors: Alix Ellis, Programme Manager Climate Change and Carbon Reduction, Flintshire County Council.
One member of the public.

87. APOLOGIES: None.

ABSENT: None

88. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Chris Bithell, (as Trustee), Tim Maunders, (as Trustee), and Karen Hodgkinson, (as Manager), declared an interest in Agenda item 10 - Financial Assistance Request from the Daniel Owen Community Association.

89. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor provided an update to the engagements listed within the agenda and thanked the Volunteers and Officers who took part in Mold NovemberFest and the Remembrance Sunday.

90. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That:

- a) The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 27th October 2021 be received and formally approved as a correct record;
- b) The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 25th October 2021 be received and noted.
- c) The Minutes of the meeting of the Cemetery Committee held on 1st November 2021 be received and noted.
- d) The Minutes of the meeting of the Community, Development and Regeneration Committee held on 2nd November 2021 be received and noted.
- e) The Minutes of the meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 16th November 2021 be received and noted.

91. CARBON REDUCTION PRIORITIES, OBJECTIVES AND BEST PRACTICE

Members received a presentation from Alix Ellis, Programme Manager Climate Change and Carbon Reduction, Flintshire County Council. Alix explained the rationale behind the appointment of a Program Manager to deal with Flintshire County Council's approach to developing and implementing a carbon reduction policy and model and also to achieve a reduction in costs associated with various activities and services provided.

She outlined areas which had been identified for cost savings and carbon reduction including transportation, street lighting, building costs including heating and lighting etc.

Members asked various questions about this subject matter and Alex responded appropriately. Members also asked if it was possible for Alix to send a copy of the presentation to the Town Clerk.

Councillor Mearns informed Members of the public sector guidance on the procurement of sustainable products which supports the Welsh Government's ambition to deliver a circular economy for Wales.

The Deputy Mayor (who was now in the Chair) thanked Alix for her presentation and wished her all the best in her new role within Flintshire County Council.

6.25pm The Mayor left the meeting (pre-arranged) and the Deputy Mayor Chaired the meeting.

7.15pm Alex Ellis left the meeting at 7.15pm

92. VACANCY- WEST WARD MOLD

Members considered the latest position regarding the advertised vacancy which had arisen due to the sudden resignation of ex Councillor Geoff Matthias.

The Town Clerk provided Members with an update and advised of the options available for consideration. Currently there had been no request for an election but as the closing date was midnight on the 24th November which had not yet come to pass. If there was no call for election, then the Town Council could advertise the procedure for co-option. Some Members felt it would be pre-emptive to take any decision prior to the closing date for an election request, and this view was generally supported.

RESOLVED: A decision on this matter be deferred for consideration at the meeting of full Council in January.

93. JOINT REPORT OF THE BUSINESS & REGENERATION OFFICER AND EVENTS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

Council received the previously circulated report from the Business and Regeneration Officer and Events and Community Engagement Officer.

Members considered the request to purchase five Zoll Defibrillators direct from Welsh Ambulance Service to replace some of the defibrillators that are currently not in use as batteries were unavailable due to the global microchip shortage. Consideration would be needed with respect to replacing the remaining defibrillators with these recommended

type (Zoll), which required standard batteries and were currently replaced free of charge by the Ambulance Service.

The Events and Community Engagement Officer informed Members she was working with the Welsh Ambulance Service and would visit businesses which currently had a defibrillator with a representative from the Ambulance Service to request that they register with The Circuit system held by the Welsh Ambulance Service. This was an updated live system that emergency services access to inform members of the public where the nearest defibrillator was. The Welsh Ambulance Service had also offered to provide CPR training once Covid restrictions allow.

RESOLVED: That five Zoll Defibrillators be purchased from current budget and budget consideration would be made for further defibrillator purchases in future budget proposals.

94. ANNUAL AUDIT 2020/2021

The Town Clerk informed Members that there had been no progress with finalising the Annual Audit 2020/2021 but as soon as the situation was resolved it would be reported to the Town Council in the New Year.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

95. BAILEY HILL KICKSTART SCHEME

Members considered the previously circulated report by the Bailey Hill Project Officer regarding the Kickstart Scheme which provided funding to create new jobs for 16 to 24 year olds who were on Universal Credit and were at risk of long term unemployment. Employers had until 17th December to apply.

The Bailey Hill Project Officer also updated Members about the play area equipment which had been ordered with a delivery date that had been delayed until end of March 2022.

RESOLVED: That the Kickstart Scheme be proceeded with as soon as practicable before the closing date.

96. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – THE DANIEL OWEN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (PUBLIC TOILETS)

Members considered the previously circulated letter from the Daniel Owen Community Association (DOCA) requesting additional funding (above the £5k already given) to support the continuing use of the Daniel Owen Centre toilets for public use.

Following discussion, it was considered that an immediate grant of £2,500 should be applied with immediate effect as an emergency measure and a detailed report was requested from the DOCA regarding the toilets; usage, proposed improvements and costs for Members to discuss when considering future funding. Members also asked the DOCA to advertise to the public when the toilets are open for use.

RESOLVED: That a grant of £2,500 be applied as an emergency fund and further funding would be considered once a detailed report had been received from DOCA.

(7.20pm Councillors Bithell, Maunders and Hodgkinson went into the 'waiting room' during the discussion and voting on this item).

97. ACTIVE TRAVEL ROUTE PROPOSAL – CYCLE TRACK ALONGSIDE THE CEMETERY

The Town Clerk gave a verbal update on the responses from Flintshire County Council to the issues raised by the Cemetery Committee at its meeting held on 1st November 2021 as referred to in Minute 14 of the Cemetery Committee.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

98. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

Members considered the previously circulated information regarding Planning decisions.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

99. MEETINGS ATTENDED

Councillor Carberry updated Members on her meeting with Claire Hubbard regarding Flintshire County Council school uniform hub.

100. ACCOUNTS / PAYMENTS

The Council considered the schedules previously circulated.

Month 7 Community Bank account CB1 £31,859.05

RESOLVED: That that the schedule of payments be approved.

The Meeting closed at 7.50pm

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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL		DATE: 24th November 2021
MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS
Councillors Chris Bithell. Tim Maunders and Karen Hodgkinson	10: Request for Financial Assistance DOCA	96

Mayor's signature: Date:
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