

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Mold Town Council held at the Town Hall, Earl Road, Mold at 6pm Wednesday 30th March 2022.

PRESENT:

Councillors: Sarah Taylor (Mayor), Haydn Jones (Deputy Mayor), Haydn Bateman, Chris Bithell, Teresa Carberry, Geoff Collett, Robin Guest, Karen Hodgkinson, Andrea Mearns, Anthony Parry and Gareth Williams.

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.

Also: One member of the public.

132. APOLOGIES: Councillors: Bryan Grew, Tim Maunders, and Trevor Arnold. Also, Katie Wilby Head of Streetscene, Flintshire County Council.

ABSENT: Councillor Brian Lloyd

133. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

134. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor provided an update on the engagements listed within the agenda and thanked Councillor Andrea Mearns and Rachel Carter, Local Places for Nature Officer at One Voice Wales for a very informative day during her recent visit to Mold.

The Bailey Hill launch was a tremendous success and a special thanks to the Bailey Hill Project Officer, Jo Lane, and all the volunteers for all their hard work.

135. STREETSCENE UPDATE

The Town Clerk informed Members that Katie Wilby Head of Streetscene, Flintshire County Council, had sent her apologies as she had been advised not to attend the meeting by the Returning Officer during the pre-election period to consult on proposals, accordingly she would rearrange after the elections.

The Town Clerk had circulated the written update provided by Katie Wilby to Members.

Councillor Hodgkinson noted that filled rubbish bags left for collection by Streetscene bin wagons at the rear of the Daniel Owen Centre were not always being picked up promptly as they used to be – mostly at weekends, leading to concerns about hygiene. Members asked the Town Clerk to raise the concerns with Streetscene.

RESOLVED: That

(i) the report be noted;

- (ii) Flintshire County Council Streetscene be invited to a meeting of the Town Council following the elections.
- (iii) The Town Clerk to raise the concerns over the collection of bin bags at the rear of the Daniel Owen Centre with Flintshire County Council Streetscene.

136. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That:

- a) The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 23rd February 2022 be received and formally approved as a correct record;
- b) The Minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting held on 8th March 2022 be received and noted.
- c) The Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 14th March 2022 be received and noted.

137. JOINT REPORT OF THE BUSINESS & REGENERATION/EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICERS

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

The Events and Community Engagement Officer informed Members that four hundred and eleven Volunteers had attended and assisted in the Spring Clean event, with three of the schools also participating together with some groups to include the Brownies and Air Cadets. In total over two hundred bags of rubbish were collected.

The Deputy Mayor informed Members that there will be a 'Meet the Author – David McCaddon' event held on the 29th April at 2pm at the Daniel Owen Centre which will include afternoon tea and funds raised will be in aid of Hope House and the Mold BookFest.

Councillor Mearns informed Members that the Naked Takeaway year-long pilot project had now ended and the Project Outcome Report had been accepted by Welsh Government. The pilot project had generated a lot of interest from other areas wishing to undertake such initiatives and there were opportunities to share best practice. Councillor Mearns thanked all the members of the Steering Group for all their work on the project.

The Business and Regeneration Officer updated Members that the Dog Friendly Mold Campaign was still being featured and currently over thirty Businesses had registered themselves as being Dog Friendly on the Totally Mold Website.

Members requested the publicity be promoted about unspent 'Totally Mold Vouchers' as these were no longer being sold. Redemptions were to be claimed before their expiry on the 31st August 2022.

RESOLVED: That

- (i) the public and traders to be made aware of redemptions of unspent Totally Mold Vouchers before their expiry on the 31st August 2022; and
- (ii) the report be received and noted.

138. REPORT OF THE BAILEY HILL PROJECT OFFICER

The Bailey Hill Project Officer presented her report and updated Members that in addition to the invited launch events, a further two days were opened up to the general public offering twenty spaces each, and both days were fully booked. Forthcoming events included the ‘Bowls on Bailey Hill’ which would be on the 9/10th April and the Easter Fun day on Saturday 16th April. Yoga on Bailey Hill was also being trialled and paid guided tours and room booking were also available.

It was noted that the equivalent of two hundred and eighty-four-days’ worth of volunteering had been undertaken. Members thanked the Bailey Hill Project Officer and all the volunteers for all their hard work.

RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.

139. FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Members reviewed the previously circulated Financial Risk Assessment Schedule 2022. The Town Clerk informed Members that amendments to the 2021 schedule were identified in red front and Members were asked to comment on and approve the Risk Assessment.

It was suggested that under Assets, both the Daniel Owen Centre Store and the Bailey Centre should also be included. The Town Clerk informed Members that the Asset Register was assessed separately and all assets, wherever stored were listed in the insurance schedule. Members also asked the Town Clerk to check the availability of adequate land at the cemetery for the next fifteen years

Members considered an annual reminder of updated Members’ Interests to be implemented following the elections. The Town Clerk would prepare the appropriate forms for the newly elected Councillors to complete.

It was suggested that ‘a social value’ or ‘added value’ aspect could be added to the consideration when the award of contracts was being undertaken. The Town Clerk stated that this amendment should be inserted within Standing Orders when it was next reviewed.

RESOLVED: That;

(i) the Town Clerk undertakes the necessary action as outlined and makes any minor amendments to the narrative within the Financial Risk Assessment for 2022; and

(ii) Financial Risk Assessment for 2022 be approved.

140. ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2022/23

The Town Clerk presented Members with the draft Annual Investment Strategy which was good practice and was prepared in accordance with the statutory guidance on Local Government Investments issued by the National Assembly for Wales. The Town Clerk also reminded Members that they had received advice from the CCLA in January 2022 and the Budget Sub group has been tasked with examining funds and potential investments further.

RESOLVED: That the draft Annual Investment Strategy 2022/23 be approved.

141. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

Members considered the previously circulated information regarding Planning decisions.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

142. MEETINGS ATTENDED

Councillor Mearns informed Members of the recent meeting with Rachel Carter, Local Places for Nature Officer at One Voice Wales. Mold had been selected for a visit which included the Cemetery, Lead Mills and St Mary's orchard. It was suggested that further fruit trees could be planted by the cycle way at the Cemetery and possible funds were available.

The Mold repair café took place on Sunday 27th March at the Parkfields Community Centre and this will be a monthly event held on the last Sunday of the month between 11am -1pm.

Councillor Mearns also provided a further update on the 'Borrow Bus' project, which was currently being fitted out. Requests were to be made for donated tools, no matter the condition as they will be re-furbished. All local tool hire businesses would also be approached and updated on the project, and there had been a very positive response.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

143. FINAL REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES.

Members reviewed the previously circulated final report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. The Town Clerk informed Members that there had been no changes affecting Town and Community Councils since the draft report which was received and reviewed in Autumn 2021.

Members requested clarity on the 'Civic Budget' in addition to the requirement for the mandatory payment for one member as required in Council category Group 2. The Town Clerk confirmed that Members had previously resolved that the Mandatory payment would be made to the Mayor and the Civic Budget was in addition to this payment through the submission of an expenses form and associated receipts.

RESOLVED: that the final report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales be received and noted.

144. NOTICES OF MOTION

(1) Motion in the name of Councillor Geoff Collett:

RESOLVED: That:

(i) the Town Council pledges support to the people of the Ukraine in these difficult times and requests that the United Kingdom breaks all ties and commercial dealings with the

Russian State, Russian Companies and individual Russians who are know supporters of the Putin's Regime; and

(ii) Members of Parliament and Members of the Senedd representing the People of Mold will be informed of this Motion and are asked to fully support the Council.

(2) Motion in the name of Councillor Andrea Mearns :

RESOLVED: That:

(i) that all organisations awarded over £1,000 by Mold Town Council are required to produce a short report with details of outcomes from the financial award; and

(ii)The Town Clerk prepare a standard return form so that a consistent approach can be taken by all organisations.

145. ACCOUNTS / PAYMENTS.

The Council considered the schedules previously circulated.

Month 11 Community Bank account CB1 £42,956.06

RESOLVED: That that the schedule of payments be approved.

146. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT GROUP

Councillor Jones, as Chair of the Anti-Social Behaviour Support Group, gave an update on its first formal meeting held on the 1st March. A total of 17 people across different organisations including the PCSOs and head teachers, joined the on-line meeting together with the four nominated Members.

The meeting noted that many organisations provided services and events for the youth, but it was apparent that most weren't always aware of what was happening in the other organisations. 'Togetherness' was a key outcome of the meeting and a pledge to develop an 'All Mold Programme' thus enabling a synergy and avoid duplication of dates wherever possible to ensure a full programme as possible. The next meeting had been scheduled for the 12th April 2022 and the Flintshire County Council Anti-Social Behaviour Officer would again be invited.

Members were informed that a bid for funding from Flintshire County Council Public Protection had been submitted to North Wales Safer Communities and there was a hope of funding across Flintshire including Mold. On a cautious note however, it was noted that this is a problem across the region in its entirety.

The Group was asked to consider supporting the retention of facilities as it was noted that Flintshire Council Streetscene were considering removal of the 'Teen Shelter' due to the volume of litter. It was felt important for the youths to have places to meet with their friends.

RESOLVED: That the verbal report be noted

6.55 – 7.03pm Councillor Hodgkinson left the meeting.

147. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That members of the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting due the confidential nature of the business.

148. ACCOMMODATION SUB-GROUP

The Town Clerk had submitted a written report and gave a verbal update, informing Members of actions taken since the last meeting and the various responses from Flintshire County Council Assets and Estates Department. Councillor Gareth Williams reminded Members of the previously classified Community Asset Transfer list which was well worth a re-visit.

RESOLVED: That:

- (i) the report be noted: and
- (ii) the Accommodation Sub-Group to meet with Flintshire County Council Assets team to review and discuss a way forward for the best interests of the people of Mold.

The Meeting closed at 7.30pm

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

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL		DATE: 30th March 2022
MEMBER	ITEM	MINUTE NO. REFERS

Mayor's signature: Date:

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