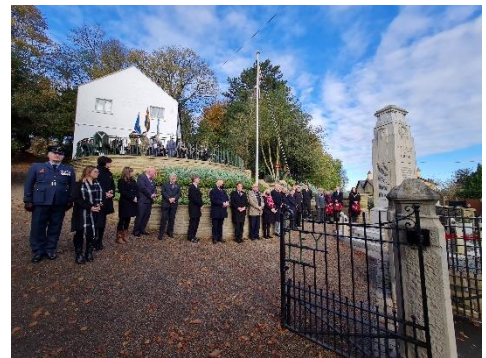




# MOLD TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 2022 TO APRIL 2023



# CONTENTS

	<u>Page No.</u>
• Introduction	3 - 5
• About this report	6 - 7
• About Mold Town Council	8 - 9
• Mold Town Councils' Contribution to Well-being	
<b>Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priorities:</b>	
<b>Community Safety</b>	10
<b>Economy and Skills</b>	11 - 14
<b>Environment</b>	15
<b>Health and Independent Living</b>	16
<b>Resilient Communities</b>	17 - 23
• Bailey Hill Project	24 - 29
• Our objectives	30
• Statement of Well-being: Mold Town Council	31 - 32
• Contact details	33
• Appendix 1    Mold Town Councillors 2021/22	34
• Appendix 2    Council and Committee meetings 2022/23	35 – 37

## Introduction

Welcome to this 2022/23 Annual Report.

Mayor's Report 2022-23

It is with great pleasure and pride that I write this report on my twelve months as Mayor of Mold.

I would like to thank everyone that has helped me in achieving a memorable year which through my various programmes of entertainment has given me the opportunity to help my chosen charities which have been North Wales Bowel Cancer Support Group, Mold Hospital League of Friends and Mold Alex FC.

During the last year I have been privileged to meet so many people that give so much of their time volunteering and helping all kinds of groups and underprivileged people and this was very much shown when we invited nominations for our Awards evening.

Volunteers are the nucleus of everything that goes on in our town and Mold flourishes on their hard work.

Special thanks go to Jo, Jane, Helen and to my Consort Liz for their endless support and guidance enabling me to carry out my role.

I wish my successor Teresa Carberry all the best in her role and I urge all my fellow Councillors to support her as much as possible.

I commend this report to you.

Councillor Haydn Jones

Mayor of Mold Town Council

2022/23



## From the Town Clerk

On behalf of the Officers of the Council may I welcome you to this 2022/23 Annual Report of your Mold Town Council.

The Annual Report is required by law – the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 – to show how your Council's work contributes to the objectives set out in the Flintshire Local Well-being Plan. The Environment Wales Act 2016 delivers against Welsh Government's Programme for Government commitment to introduce legislation for the environment. This positions Wales as a low carbon, green economy, ready to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Also, the recent Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2021 makes an Annual Report a requirement for all Town and Community Councils, no matter their size or budget.

The content of the rest of the report is far more flexible and at its core is setting out what the Council said it would do in 2022-23 and what it actually did. Also, its aims, objectives and aspirations. It should also illustrate any achievements, enhancements and positive effects that the Town Council has had on the town, its inhabitants and visitors alike.

The Council welcomes your feed-back on what could be added, improved, or subtracted to make future annual reports more readable, informative and appealing.

As Town Clerk and Finance Officer my responsibility is:

- to advise and support the Council, manage its finances and ensure it operates within the law, independently and objectively whilst recognising that the Council as a whole is responsible for its decisions;
- to lead and support the officer team which carries out the functions and decisions of the Council.

It is a privilege to carry out these functions and I would like to thank the officers for their dedication, commitment and sheer hard work which sometimes goes well beyond day-to-day expectations.

The teams within your Council are the Councillors, the Staff, and the very many volunteers who assist our events and projects. All working together, this enables us to make great things happen. I would like to thank everyone for the support, encouragement and the amazing amount of time you give for the benefit of others and Mold.

The past year has continued to be a very testing time for all with the slow emergence from the COVID-19 pandemic, with changes to the way businesses and shops conduct themselves, as well as the way the council now works; things have changed since March 2020. The law for Welsh Councils states that all meetings must be hybrid and councillors can remain at home, if they need to and still take part in a meeting, operating safely in carrying out the work of the Town Council. We continue

to evolve and adapt to new working practices and operations in response to legislative and other requirements.

Finally, I would like to thank members of the public, plus other public and business organisations who have contributed to our work here in Mold. Also, the help and assistance given by Flintshire County Council Members and Officers, together with local partners, has been invaluable and much appreciated.

Working for Mold Town Council this year has been a pleasure and I felt extremely proud to be working with such a supportive group of officers, staff, councillors and volunteers.

I hope you find this annual report an informative and helpful document.

Helen Belton, Town Clerk and Finance Officer



## About this Report

The Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 is a piece of challenging legislation promoted by the Welsh Government which aims to improve further the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales now and for the longer term. The Commissioner certainly has a very important and challenging task.

In order to meet the requirements of the Act, Flintshire Public Service Board (PSB) was established to prepare and publish a Well-being Plan for Flintshire, a draft of which it completed in November 2017. The membership of the board includes a number of public services and bodies.

There is also representation from the Community and Town Council, as the Act stipulates that all Community and Town Councils with a turnover of £200,000 or more must in its annual report comment on how it is contributing to the objectives of the County's Well-being Plan.

Whilst the Flintshire PSB realises that there is much that could be done to add value to public service and to the communities of Flintshire it has identified and agreed a number of priorities that support the seven goals of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act. These are:

- Community Safety – Domestic Abuse, Modern Slavery, Organised Crime Gangs, Child Criminal Exploitation;
- Economy and Skills – Promotion of careers in the Public Sector, Championing skills across all sectors, Support own workforces at risk of poverty, Collective work on workforce policies, Identification of PSB partner land for housing, education or well-being;
- Environment – Build a map of land and sea assets across the County, Community based approach to delivering a coastal green infrastructure plan, develop a plan for some pilots to trial doing things differently, Using the environment in local communities to support resilience;
- Healthy and independent Living – Development of extended Care Home and Discharge to Assess facility, Opening of the Health and Well-being Care Centre in Flint, develop a shared understanding of social prescribing, Co-located health and social care workforce, Early Help Hub;
- Resilient Communities – Pilot area-based work, Getting Flintshire Moving to increase activity, Evaluation of new ways of working and delivery of Community Benefits, Agreeing Community Benefit strategies across all partners, Explore the benefits of Community Shares, Development of Social Prescribing, A New leadership programme for those who work with communities;

These priorities have been chosen as the themes where the PSB can add most value and make a positive and lasting difference. Working together to make an impact in these priorities is the collective aim of the Flintshire PSB, realising that no

single organisation can achieve on their own; the partner organisations represented on the PSB can collectively make a positive difference for the people who live, visit and work in Flintshire; each of the over-arching priorities have in-year priorities which support them.

Going forward the Flintshire Public Services Board proposes to:

- Make future Annual Reports digitally interactive with more video and blog content.
- Include reference to the national indicators (where relevant).
- Better reflect upon how the PSB is applying the 5 ways of working in reporting progress.

### **The Environment Wales Act 2016**

The Environment Wales Act 2016 delivers against Welsh Government's Programme for Government commitment to introduce new legislation for the environment. This positions Wales as a low carbon, green economy, ready to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act places a duty on all public authorities, when carrying out their functions in relation to Wales to “seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity” wherever possible within the proper exercise of their functions. In doing so, public authorities must also seek to “promote the resilience of ecosystems”. Section 6 also requires public authorities to consider the effect of decisions taken, or activities carried out within Wales, but also in relation to biodiversity outside of Wales.

Under subsection (6), public authorities must prepare and publish a plan setting out what they propose to do to maintain and enhance biodiversity. Having regard to any guidance given by the Welsh Ministers, and the documents listed in legislation.

This report describes how Mold Town Council has contributed to the priorities of the Flintshire Well-being Plan for the community of Mold. The report includes details of some of our objectives for the future. The report also details the Town Council's response to the Environment Act 2016 and how it has met its duties under the Act. The report covers the municipal year of Councillor Haydn Jones' year of office as Mayor of the Town Council. Elections for the Town Council took place during May 2022 with eleven previous and five new Councillors elected to serve on the Council for five years.

Councillor H Jones' year of office was May 2022 to May 2023.

Helen Belton

Town Clerk and Finance Officer of Mold Town Council

2023

## About Mold Town Council

Mold Town Council was created in 1974 following the re-organisation of local government and the disbanding of Mold Urban District Council. It is one of 34 Town and Community Councils in Flintshire.

Mold is the County town of Flintshire. Flintshire County Council became the unitary authority after a re-organisation of local government in Wales in May 1996.

Mold has a population of circa 10,209 (2020 estimate) and for local government purposes the Town is divided into four electoral wards, Mold Broncoed, Mold East, Mold South and Mold West, with four town councillors representing each Ward.

A Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor are elected each year by the Council at the Annual Meeting, which is held during May. The Mayor receives an allowance to cover the costs involved in undertaking civic duties; the Town Council provides an allowance for all councillors, this is mandatory, although they can refuse to accept it if they wish.

Details of the elected members and how to contact them are available at [www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk). Notices of meetings, agendas, reports and minutes can also be viewed here, along with many governance documents and other information about the Council.

### Mold Town Council's aims

- To promote and represent the community's views and aspirations at local, county, regional and national levels
- To serve those who live in and work in Mold and those who visit the Town
- To promote Mold as a place to live, work, shop and invest in and a place to visit
- To provide effective and efficient services that give value for money and to improve those services as needed
- To strive to improve the quality of life for all residents of Mold

To achieve these aims, Mold Town Council has agreed the following objectives

- To consult with the community to establish its aspirations for the future
- To promote the vitality and viability of Mold
- To encourage and participate in, partnership and agency working with the public, private and voluntary sectors to achieve quality services in all areas for the betterment of Mold its residents and visitors
- To promote sustainable policies that strive to improve the environment to meet the needs of residents and visitors for both the present and future
- To help create a socially inclusive and caring community that embraces all residents and which seeks to develop their wellbeing, knowledge, understanding and mutual co-operation
- To strive for a pleasant, clean and safe environment



- To deliver quality services that provides value for money and to review those services on a regular basis
- To support local voluntary groups that seek to assist residents and visitors to Mold

The Council derives almost all of its funds from its precept plus receipts from burials at Mold Cemetery. The Mold town's precept is added to Flintshire County Council and the North Wales Police Commissioner tax bills and is based upon Mold Town Council's estimated expenditure. For the financial year 22/23 the Council estimated that it would need to spend £439,700. Of this amount, £289,280 was made up from the precept and the remainder was funded from other sources of income, such as cemetery income, fees and grants.

Further information about the Council's finances, including its annual accounts, can be seen at [www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.moldtowncouncil.org.uk).

This report includes examples of many of the Council's services which are delivered to all age groups in a variety of forms. The report describes Mold Town Council services which contribute to the well-being of Mold and its community.

## Mold Town Council's Contribution to Well-being:

### Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Community Safety

Focus on priorities identified through the North Wales Strategic Assessment, with particular reference to Domestic Abuse, Modern Slavery, Organised Crime Gangs, Child Criminal Exploitation

#### What have we done?

We work closely with North Wales Police, taking a lead role in supporting Shop Watch. National and Independent Retailers in the town has met with the Town



**Flintshire  
Against  
Business  
Crime**

Council and Police for Flintshire Against Business Crime to discuss crime affecting the business community and share intelligence.

We have a Councillor representative who attends the South Flintshire Police consultation events.

Through a Service Level Agreement with Flintshire County Council Mold Town Council fund the current CCTV provision in the Town. This equates to 12 fixed operational cameras in the Town. The cost of the service for 2022/23 was £5,030. The Town Council has also funded two additional redeployable CCTV cameras for the town and it works closely with South Flintshire Police and Flintshire County Council CCTV as to the placement of the cameras so they best serve the Police requirements. NWP have confirmed that the redeployable cameras are valuable both in relation to preventing and detecting crimes but also in relation to safeguarding issues.

We funded the summer play schemes during the school summer holiday period of 2022, funding weeks of fun, games, competitions, face painting, treasure hunts etc. all free of charge for children aged 5-12 years. Whilst the scheme provides young people with fun and enjoyable activities through their long summer break it also helps combat Anti-social behaviour and builds cohesive communities.

#### Looking ahead in 2022/23

The Town Council is committed to providing funds for the play scheme in future and will continue to support CCTV as an option when attempting to prevent and fight criminal and anti-social acts.

## Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Economy and Skills

To strengthen the local economy and increase employment opportunities for our residents. Alongside this we will act to ensure that, as well as employment opportunities, our residents have the skills to take up these opportunities and the means to access them through appropriate transport.

### What have we done?

Officers continue to promote the town, under the Totally Mold banner using social media and press releases to highlight what Mold has to offer and our promotion has reached national press. The Mayor during his term attended over 100 official engagements including numerous business visits which included openings of 13 businesses, which through social media and press releases, helps promote the business and highlight the success of the town. The promotion of the town helps increase footfall and employment opportunities, which increases the local economy.

Mold Town Council continue to raise awareness of the importance of volunteering and how it offers an alternative path to young people who do not follow the academic route.

We actively encourage and welcome volunteers to assist with the many events organised in the town. The volunteers have the opportunity to build their skill set and gain experience within a working environment. Mold Town Council help fund other volunteer led events which are not Town Council events, such as the Daniel Owen Festival and Mold Food and Drink Festival.



Mold Town Council aims where possible to contract local contractors to provide our public services such as the maintenance of our hanging baskets, works at Mold Cemetery, installation and maintenance of the Christmas lighting.

The Bailey Hill Tripartite Group involving Mold Town Council, Flintshire County Council and the charity Friends of Bailey Hill have continued to work in partnership to meet the aims and objectives as set out by the funding bodies who contributed

towards the £1.7 million redevelopment of the Bailey Hill Park. The funding is due to end in June 2023 and work has started to plan for beyond the funded project.

The Town Council owns and manages the Town's cemetery where two full time members of staff are employed. The Cemetery Superintendent lives on site and works with the Cemetery Assistant to ensure the Cemetery is kept in pristine condition. Throughout the year we also have casual staff and local contractors working at the Cemetery. We continue to make biodiversity improvements by selective mowing of the Cemetery Community Orchard to increase the number of wild flowers for pollinators.

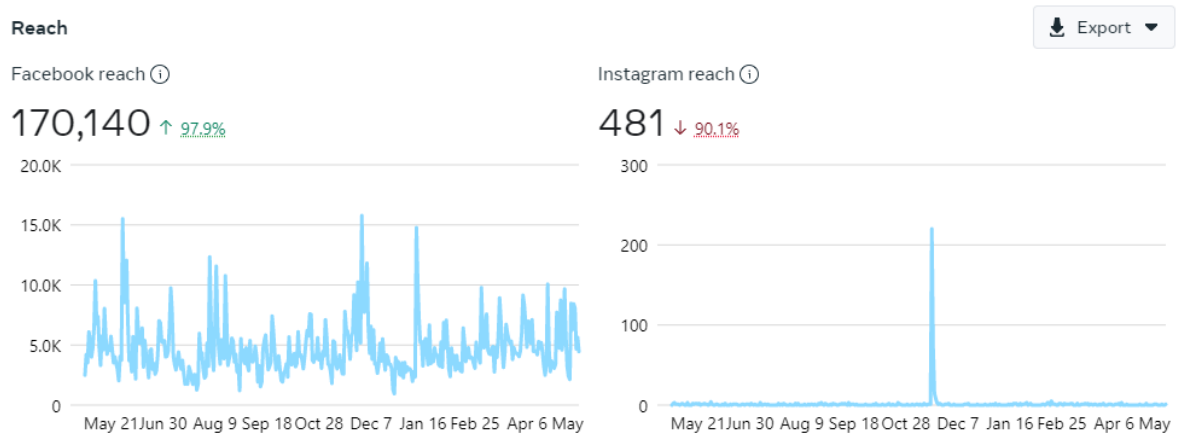
Mold continues to buck the trend with many new businesses opening and expanding in the town. Officers offer a variety of support to help promote local businesses and seeking additional opportunities such as grants, funding and support.

Using social media to engage with the community, businesses and visitors to the town - building on the success of the town website [www.totallymold.org.uk](http://www.totallymold.org.uk) and branding, the Totally Mold Facebook and Instagram insights are as follows:

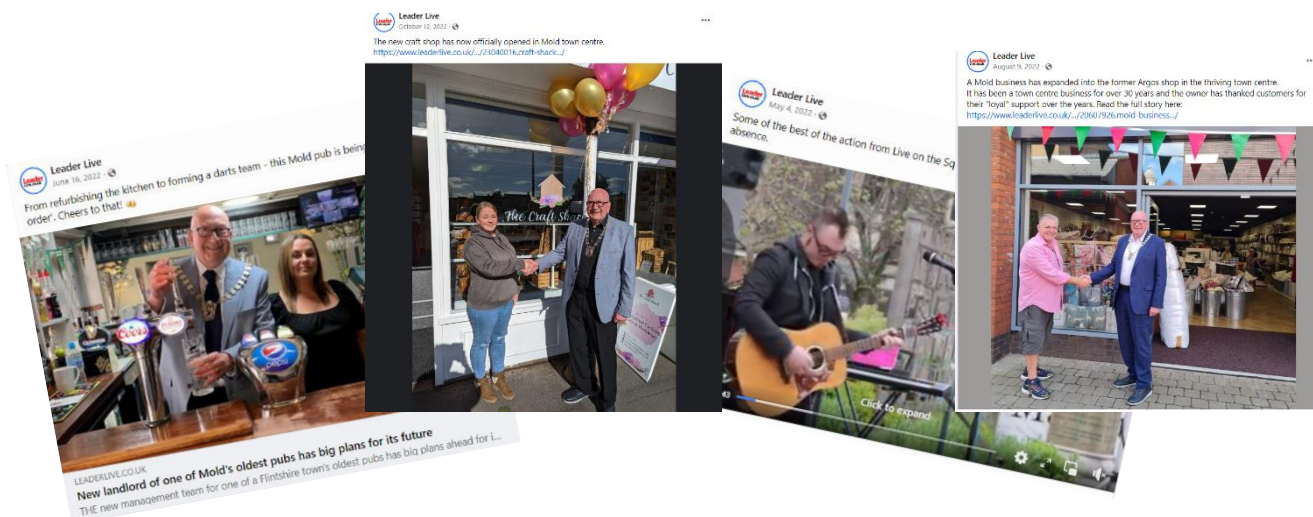
**FOLLOWERS** - Facebook: 8330 Instagram 628

**ENGAGEMENT**- Over 60,000 monthly engagements were made on Totally Mold social media accounts.

**REACH** - Totally Mold social media posts reach is up by 90% from the previous year.



This is in addition to Officers Press Release coverage in the local press online and paper form.



## Mold SMART Towns

Trefi SMART Towns Wales is a Welsh Government funded project delivered by Menter Môn, to raise awareness of how technology and data can help to regenerate Welsh high streets. Mold was one of the first towns to engage with the project. As part of the pilot project The Welsh Government provided a package of support which included free footfall counting equipment. The Cisco Meraki devices (footfall counting equipment) would enable Flintshire County Council and Mold Town Council to accurately assess the current level of shoppers and visitors in a particular area. Having accurate data can allow businesses to make more informed decisions, and to analyse the effect of any events or interventions. Cisco Meraki devices are wireless and can detect the presence of Wi-Fi enabled equipment in order to estimate the total number of people in a given area at a given time.

Mold was the first town to participate in the pilot project. The focus was to use the pilot project to learn about the technology, the benefits and lessons learned to help develop a larger plan to roll out similar technology across other Flintshire towns.

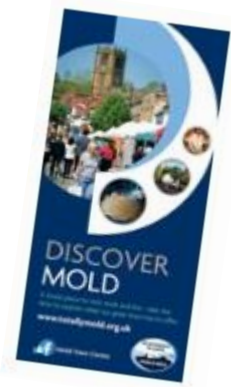
Sensors have been installed throughout Mold Town to measure footfall. It was imperative to ensure that the data captured could transfer across long distances. The devices installed offer good quality, practical solution for network connections.

The Smart Towns Team visited Mold in 2021 at the start of the pilot project to film the start of the pilot project ([Ymglymiad Yr Wyddgrug gyda Blwyddyn Trefi SMART | Mold's involvemnet with the Year of SMART Towns - YouTube](#)). This year the Smart Towns Team were keen to find out what progress had been made and capture the successes and lesson learnt to help support other areas going through the process.

[CASE STUDY: Yr Wyddgrug/ Mold One year on... - YouTube](#)



**Discover Mold** - Following the success of the previous years 'Discover Mold' leaflet, working with Flintshire County Council Tourism Officers, the leaflet has been updated to include a Map of where Mold is located and this was distributed to a wider catchment area including holiday parks and hotels.



**Looking ahead in 2023/24**

Now the SMART Town technology is up and running and capturing footfall around the town, this anonymised data is available for businesses, organisations and groups in the town.

The Mold information Panels which are situated around the town will be repaired and updated, the new panels will include updated images of the town and of the Bailey Hill which has undergone a significant redevelopment, the panels will also include the Totally Mold branding and QR code for the new Town Council 'Totally Mold' Website.



## Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Environment

To protect and enhance what we have, and use the environment to improve the well-being of people living, working and visiting the area and, protect people and the environment from events such as flooding and climate change.

### What have we done?

As in previous years we provided £10k match funding for play area improvements; in 2022 at Gas Lane, replacing and repairing the play area and equipment. For 2023-24 the focus will be on Chapel Street play area improvements.

Mold Town Council has funded the 100 colourful hanging baskets, the six barrier baskets in King Street car park and the planting in the six Welcome to Mold signs.

### Mold Plastic Reduction

Mold Town Council had previously adopted a single-use plastic reduction policy. This applies to all the events and activities carried out by the Council. We have worked with other town and community councils in the area which are also looking to reduce the amount of unnecessary plastic in their communities.

We joined the national Refill scheme and people can fill up their own drinking containers with free water provided at Mold Town Hall. Over 20 businesses in Mold are in the scheme. The aim is to cut down the number of single use plastic bottles used in Mold.

An inspiring group of residents and businesses set up Mold Plastic Reduction in May 2019, supported by Mold Town Council, who work with a number of interested schools, community groups, businesses and residents and has become accredited as a 'Plastic Free Community'. This scheme is run by UK environmental charity Surfers Against Sewage and recognises steps taken by towns to eliminate single use plastic and reduce all avoidable plastic use and waste. Two Town Councillors represent Mold Town Council on the Mold Plastic Reduction Committee

### Looking forward

More trees and wild flowers will be planted at public sites wherever possible in Mold between Autumn 2023 and March 2024.



## Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Health and Independent Living

Enjoying positive physical and mental well-being and living as independently as possible are fundamental to most people's definition of a productive and fulfilling life.

### What have we done?

During 2022/23 the Mayor of Mold Councillor Haydn Jones fundraising appeal under the broad banner 'Save a Life, Make a Difference' throughout his Mayoral year he raised awareness of services and activities provided by the main beneficiaries from the Mayoral appeal; Mold Community Hospital League of Friends, Mold Alex Football Club and North Wales Bowel Cancer Support Group.



Mold Community Hospital League of Friends received £4000, Mold Alex Football Club received £4000 and North Wales Bowel Cancer Support Group received £2000.



The total raised from Mayoral events and donations was £10,000 and the beneficiaries received; £4000 to Mold Community Hospital League of Friends, £4000 to Mold Alex Football Club and £2000 to North Wales Bowel Cancer Support Group.

Mold Town Council has awarded over £15,000 to local community groups during the last financial year.

Beneficiaries included the Daniel Owen Centre (£5,000), Blues and Soul Festival (£2,000), Citizens Advice (£3,000), Flintshire Foodbank (£1,000), Mold Town Band (£1,000) and contributions to local organisations under Section 137 powers totalling £1,550.

### Looking ahead in 2023/24

At its Annual Meeting held on 10 May 2023, the new Mayor of Mold, Councillor Teresa Carberry was elected to serve as Mayor for the forthcoming Municipal Year and stated that she would work towards an objective to support 'Youth, Culture, and Diversity' within the town.





## Flintshire Public Service Board Well-being Priority: Resilient Communities

A community which is resilient has the ability to respond positively to the challenges it faces, cope with adversity and ultimately to thrive.

### What have we done?

Mold is now firmly established as a town of events and at the heart of many of the events is the support of Mold Town Council. Whether that is directly organising an event, or financial support is provided or merely providing an enabling role to assist event organisers to deliver a safe and successful event for the town

The following calendar of events was provided for the community of Mold and wider area during 2022/23:

**Mold Community Awards** - Ceremony was held in April 2023 at the local Rugby Club. The awards acknowledge the outstanding contribution and commitment of groups or individuals living or working within Mold Town or supporting Mold residents.

**Live on the Square** – Financial Support from Mold Town Council organised by local volunteers.

**Easter Fun Day** - a free event, organised, delivered and funded by Mold Town Council and its volunteers

**Pancake Races** – a free event, organised, delivered and funded by Mold Town Council and its volunteers

**Mold Carnival** - a free event, organised, delivered and funded by Mold Town Council and its volunteers

**Mold Food & Drink Festival** - Financial Support and volunteers provided by Mold Town Council, and Town Councillor involvement in organising committee.

**Daniel Owen Festival** – Financial support and promotion from Mold Town Council and Town Council Officer acts as telephone contact person for the festival.

**Town Bonfire** – Organised by Mold Fire Station and Mold Alex, Mold Town Council provide financial support and promotion of the event.

**Novemberfest** – Organised, delivered and funded by Mold Town Council and its volunteers.

**Remembrance Sunday** – Organised by Mold Town Council

**Christmas Lights switch on evening** – Organised, delivered and funded by Mold

**Mold Festive Market** – entertainment organised by Mold Town Council

The **Mold Community Awards** Ceremony was held in April 2023 at the local Rugby Club. The awards acknowledge the outstanding contribution and commitment of groups or individuals living or working within Mold Town or supporting Mold residents. There were five categories covering outstanding voluntary service and / or outstanding achievement within the community of Mold: - Volunteering award under the age of 25, Volunteering award - For individuals or groups aged 25 and over, Business of the Year, Sporting Achievement Award, Community Project/Event of the Year Award and the Mayor's Choice Award. Over 200 nominations were received.



Continuing to work in partnership with local Historian David Rowe, a further five **Historic Mold** talks were held online, each fully booked with attendance of 90-100 at each event. The talks covered a number of historical topics on the history of Mold and the people.



The Mayor held his Charity fundraising evening in February 2023 which was attended by Civic Heads, local businesses and family and friends. The evening was a great success and raised over £6,400 for the Mayoral 'Save a Life, Make a Difference' appeal.

The Mayor held further fundraising events including a concert held at Bryn Coch School, which raised over £1400 and an evening with comedian John Martin which raised £600.

Friday, March 24th at 7.00pm  
**Mayor of Mold Concert**




Tickets £15.00

Côr Rhuthun. Musical Director Robaf Anwyn  
Sioned Terry & Trystan Lewis  
Accompanist Tim Stuart, Presenter Elwyn Roberts  
Bryn Coch School, Victoria Road,  
Mold CH7 1EW  
All proceeds to the Mayor's 'Save a Life' appeal

Tickets available from Mold Town Council, Earl Road, Mold  
01352 758532 E: events@moldtowncouncil.org.uk  
Slop Y Sismrn, New Street, Mold 01352 753200



Saturday 22nd April, 7.30pm  
**An Evening with Comedian John Martin**



A John Martin show is full of energy, excitement and class!

Venue Alexandra, Mold Alex FC,  
Denbigh Road, Mold CH7 1BP

Tickets £10.00  
Available from  
Mold Town Council, Earl Road, Mold 01352 758532 opt 3  
e: events@moldtowncouncil.org.uk

All proceeds to the Mayor's Save a Life Appeal



Mold Carnival saw record numbers attend the free community event which provides free entertainment throughout the day in addition to over 500 community performers attending.



Mold Town Council organised a free event to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth with over 500 members of the community attending to enjoy free refreshments and music on Daniel Owen Square.



The Easter Fun Day on Bailey Hill was held on Easter Saturday and families enjoyed the free entertainment from children's entertainer, free crafts, free face painting and free Easter eggs from the Easter Bunny as well as other character visits.



Councillor Teresa Carberry continues to run the **School Uniform Recycling Stall**. With residents donating school uniforms which Cllr. Carberry offers free of charge to those that from a stall inside the Daniel Owen Centre. The uniforms are now stored inside the Town Council store room.



**Parkfields Community Fridge** (which opened November 2020) continues to provide an invaluable service to the community, ensuring food and toiletries are available free of charge to all those that need. Mold Councillors Haydn Jones and Tina Claydon are involved in the scheme as the representative of MTC and Trustees of Parkfields Community Centre. The project which aims to reduce food waste and ensures that nobody in our community goes hungry. It provides free food and essential personal hygiene to those in need in Mold. The Community Fridge receive their supplies via donations from supermarkets, purchased via grant funding and donations from the community and local businesses and our open twice a week.





In 2006 Mold became the first Welsh town to achieve Cittaslow status. The aims and objectives of Cittaslow Mold are shaped by the principles of Cittaslow UK which are:

- Encouraging diversity rather than standardisation.
- Supporting and encouraging local culture and traditions.
- Working for a more sustainable environment.
- Supporting and encouraging local produce and local products.
- Encouraging healthy living especially through children and young people.
- Working with the local community to build these values.

These form the overall vision of Cittaslow Mold that are achieved through the delivery of specific goals. The Town Council strives to recognise the Cittaslow Goals within all activities it carries out. These goals include the environment, infrastructure, the quality of urban fabric, encouragement of local produce and products and hospitality and community. Through our Cittaslow status we have attracted interest nationally and internationally, hosting visits to share best practice.

### **.Looking ahead in 2023/24**

The Annual Meeting in May took place both in person and online with Councillor Teresa Carberry elected as Mayor for the forthcoming municipal year. All meetings are now hybrid in compliance with the Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2021. Following the Covid-19 pandemic and with the introduction and implementation of the requirements of new legislation, Mold Town Council has had to adapt to new ways of working and meetings arrangements.

We are very conscious of our responsibility towards maintaining Mold's ongoing vibrancy and vitality; however, this must be balanced against our responsibility towards our resident Council Tax payers, who only make up approximately 15% of people using the town.

The Town Council continues to consider its accommodation, as the Town Hall is without a lease at present and if adopted as the future home for the Council, funding will be needed either for a new home, a new lease or purchase and a fund for repairs if the Town Hall remains its home for the future.



## Bailey Hill Project

The Bailey Hill Centre officially opened to visitors on the 13<sup>th</sup> June and has been manned by our fantastic Visitor/ Events Volunteers. Volunteers welcome visitors to site and provide information on the history of Bailey Hill as well as information on the Bailey Hill Project. Volunteers keep a record of number of visitors, questions asked and comments made.



### Volunteers

We continue to have 5 volunteering opportunities available as part of the project:

- 🍃 Research Volunteers
- 🍃 Visitor Volunteers
- 🍃 Events Volunteers
- 🍃 Gardening and Wildlife Volunteers
- 🍃 Management Volunteers

This year volunteers have had the option to attend the following workshops:

- 🍃 L3 Outdoor First Aid
- 🍃 Education Materials Workshop
- 🍃 Art Workshop
- 🍃 Storytelling Workshop

From May 2022 to March 23 we have a total of 55 committed volunteers who have provided the project with a total of 1464.25 hours which is the equivalent to 209 days.



## Events and Activities

A variety of events and activities have been held on Bailey Hill over the last 12 months.

**Bailey Hill Medieval Weekend** – took place on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May. This event is a part of the National Lottery Heritage Fund and LEADER funding through Cadwyn Clwyd which meant the event was free to attend. Experienced re-enactment group Cwmwd Iâl was the main attraction of the event. Cwmwd Iâl set up a medieval warrior encampment on the outer bailey and camped onsite for the weekend. Cwmwd Iâl also provided a number of battle demonstrations in the performance area over both days – this included involving some of our young visitors. There were a number of other performances/ activities provided over the weekend including:

- A workshop from Theatr Clwyd – to recruit for the ‘Re-imagining Bailey Hill’ Project.
- Storytelling with Fiona Collins – using some of the poetry created through the ‘Capturing the Castle in Words’ Project.
- Huw Davies, our resident artist as part of the ‘A Different View’ art project – who provided workshops as part of the community element of the project.
- Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust attended and displayed some of the archaeological finds from the 2020 redevelopment work.
- Professor Llusern – who provided a number of medieval puppeteers, street magic and storytelling show.
- FREE arts and crafts activities provided by the Bailey Hill Volunteers.
- Refreshments were also served in the Bailey Hill Centre by the Bailey Hill Volunteers.

It was a well-attended event with volunteers recording over 600 visitors over the weekend.



**School Visits** - On the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of July all year 7 students from Mold Alun High School visited the Bailey Hill Centre. Students visited the site in groups of approximately 30 on an hourly basis on both days. The Bailey Hill Visitor Volunteers set up a Bailey Hill trail for students to take part in and delivered a small talk on the history of the site to each group.

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July – a total of 4 groups of approximately 30 students in each group visited Bailey Hill. On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July – a total of 6 groups of approximately

30 students in each group visited Bailey Hill. Over the 2 days we spoke with 217 children and 45 adults.

### **National Play Day – 3<sup>rd</sup> August –**

To celebrate National Play Day 2022 – 15 goodie bags were hidden around the Bailey Hill Park. The event was publicised on social media and with a poster in the window at the Bailey Hill Centre. By the end of the day all bags were taken to their new home.



**Kite Workshop, 23<sup>rd</sup> August –** A kite workshop was held in the Bailey Hill Centre for families. The event was attended by a total of 30 people and consisted of designing and making a kite, followed by flying the kite in the park. The event attracted a lot of interest and was well received.



**Yoga on Bailey Hill –** a number of outdoor yoga sessions have been provided over the summer months in the park. The sessions are well attended and have become a regular offering as part of the project.

**Daniel Owen Festival –** The Bailey Hill Project was delighted to be asked and involved with the Daniel Owen Festival 2022. During the festival week, the Bailey Hill Volunteers provided a number of guided tours for year 6 pupils from Mold Primary Schools. We partnered with Menter Iath, Wrexham and Flintshire to provide the tours bilingually. Over a three-day period, we provided 6 tours to 147 pupils.



**Every Now and Then Performance, Theatr Clwyd** - In addition to the tours as part of the Daniel Owen Festival Theatr Clwyd Young Persons Group along with the Cwlis writing group, created an immersive performance on the inner bailey inspired by the history of Bailey Hill. The event took place as part of the Daniel Owen Festival on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. 11 young people took part in the performance and 46

people attended the performance. The performance was a great success and showcased the new performance area on Bailey Hill.

**Cadw Open Doors** - is a Wales' annual contribution to the European Heritage Days initiative, which invites heritage organisations, private owners, local authorities and others to open their doors or offer activities to the public free of charge during September. Bailey Hill took part in the 2022 event and offered FREE guided tours of Bailey Hill, followed by tea and coffee in the newly redeveloped centre. The event was well attended and will become an annual event for Bailey Hill.

**Bailey Hill, Children Ghost Stories** - This year we sought ghost stories from visitors and local residents relating to Bailey Hill, with the plan of providing a children's ghost tour and an adult ghost tour onsite. Although we received a few ghost stories, it was not enough to develop a full adults tour. With support from local Ghost Tour Guide, Ann Mary Cameron who has vast experience of delivering Ghost Tours in Chester and who has written a number of books. We provided a free Ghost Stories, Ghost Tour for children. Numbers for the event were kept to 25 (to include children and parents) and spaces were booked quickly.

**Guided Tours** – We continue to provided Guided Tours for local interest and community groups, as well as educational sessions for school as uniformed groups.

### Bailey Hill Projects

**A Different View, Art Project** - The Artist's aim for the project was to introduce the community to the ancient Welsh board game of Gwŷddbwl / Wood Sense, through a series of interactive workshops which covered the background to the game in the history, folklore and mythology of Wales. Gwŷddbwl is a perfect analogy for the turbulent past of Bailey Hill.

The project ran workshops for almost 200 hundred children and adults where they learned about, sculpted, played and took away their own Gwŷddbwl game.

From those workshops hundreds of beautiful, individual playing pieces were produced. The artist used those small clay sculptures as inspirational starting points to develop designs for a series of thirteen bronzes to represent Tri Thlws ar Ddeg o Ynys Prydein / The Thirteen Treasures of The Island of the Mighty. A Welsh legend that dates back to the 6th century, and comprises magical items collected and hidden by the bards Myrddin Wylt (Merlin) and Taliesin.

One of those treasures was / is a magical Gwŷddbwl set that predicts the future by playing itself. The set is made of thirteen pieces. The sculpture is made of thirteen pieces.

Pieces that will be hiding in the woods on Bailey Hill in direct reference to the Thirteen Treasures and to the concept of the game of Gwŷddbwl - Wood Sense, The Wisdom of the Magical Forest.

The bronze sculptures will be fixed high in the trees. The site will have to be thoroughly explored to find them all.



And then the puzzle of which treasure is represented by which sculpture will have to be solved in order to claim a unique prize. A one-off treasure. A bronze Gwŷddbwll set. The launch for this new treasure trail will be launched later in the year.

**Bailey Hill's – Men Shed** - The Men's Shed concept started in Australia around 1999. It has since spread to New Zealand, Ireland, the UK, Canada and, more recently, Europe and the USA with approximately 2000 Sheds worldwide. Men's Sheds are mainly 'grassroots' community groups that are created because of a common interest. They have mostly been for men to access tools, workbenches, skills and opportunities to make and mend in the company of others.

This project is about bringing likeminded people together, sharing skills, worries, concerns and having fun! As a by-product, attending a project like Men's Sheds often reduces social isolation, loneliness and offers a safe space to allow men to deal with mental health concerns while remaining independent.

The sessions take place on a Thursday in the wooded area of the medieval ditch. The participants arrive onsite at 10am and collect the tools and shelter from the Bailey Hill Centre. The men then make their way to the medieval ditch where camp is set up. The participants work in the camp all day, in all weathers. The men return to the centre at 3pm where the tools are carefully packed away and stored for the next week.

Since the start of the project the participants/ 'shedders' have created a variety of articles out of wood. Each participant has made two tools out of the wood materials available on site. These tools include

A Maul - a heavy often wooden-headed hammer used especially for driving wedges and often used to spilt large pieces of wood.

A shave horse - is a combination of vice and workbench, used for green woodworking. Both tools have been made to support the 'shedders' in the making of their own, Bailey Hill Stick Chair.

The funding for this project was secured via Cadwyn Clwyd as a 3-month pilot project. Due to its success further funding is being sourced to continue this project with sustainability for the project being the main aim.



**Bailey Hill Forest School** - Additional funding from Cadwyn Clwyd was also secured to provide 10 local schools with a free Forest School Day on Bailey Hill. The aim of which was to encourage more schools to see the park as an asset in providing outdoor education. Woodland Classroom Ltd was secured to deliver the project on behalf of the Bailey Hill Tripartite Steering Group. The sessions took place between January and March with a total of 259 pupils benefitting from the sessions.

As part of the project an open session in after-school hours (3.30 - 6pm) was delivered. This informal drop-in session was designed to promote Bailey Hill as a venue for outdoor activity sessions and open up a dialogue with local provider who might want to use the space in the future. Following on from this a day's free training titled *Leading Outdoor Education Sessions*. Which had an aim to build confidence and practical skills for anyone wishing to lead their own groups in outdoor activity sessions.

The course showcased Bailey Hill as a venue, as well as the hire equipment available through the project. 18 adults attended from a variety of local organisations and schools. The course included the following activities; tarps and knots, sharp tool skills with axe, knife and saw, basic fire lighting and safety, campfire cooking with kids, managing an outdoor space with groups of children and delivering the curriculum in an outdoor setting.

### **Green Flag**

The Bailey Hill Tripartite group was successful in achieving Green Flag status for the second year running.

### **Looking ahead in 2023/ 2024**

The Bailey Hill Tripartite Group are keen to continue the huge success of the project in the coming year with many items still to look forward to, including:

- 🍀 The results from Durham University with regards to the artefacts and skeletons found during the 2020 redevelopment work.
- 🍀 The installation of the new play area on the outer bailey.
- 🍀 The launch of the brand-new Bailey Hill Website.
- 🍀 The erection of seven new interpretation panels around the park to further share the history of Bailey Hill with visitors.
- 🍀 To promote the Education Materials available and encourage more schools to engage with outdoor education.
- 🍀 Launch the new treasure trail – A Different View Project.
- 🍀 Continue to host the successful Men's Shed Project.
- 🍀 The hosting of a variety of events and activities for visitors.
- 🍀 The continued successful partnership between Flintshire County Council, Mold Town Council and the Friends of Bailey Hill.

## Our Objectives

The Council has adopted the following principles, as its Council long term objectives.

To contribute towards the delivery of:

- ✓ A Prosperous Mold.
- ✓ A Resilient Mold.
- ✓ A Healthier Mold.
- ✓ A More Equal Mold.
- ✓ A Mold of Cohesive Communities.
- ✓ A Mold of Vibrant Culture & Thriving Welsh Language.
- ✓ A Globally responsive Mold.
- ✓ A Competent Council.

These overarching goals were identified in our Annual Report published in 2016 which provide a framework for the delivery of future projects.

The Council will embrace the principles of Sustainable Development detailed in Flintshire's Well-being Plan 2017-2023 of Long-Term Planning, Prevention, Integration, Collaboration and Involvement to deliver these goals.

- Long term: the importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long term needs.
- Prevention: how acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.
- Integration: considering how public bodies' well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.
- Collaboration: acting in collaboration with any other person that could help the Council meet its well-being objectives.
- Involvement: the importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the Council serves.

## Statement of Well-being: Mold Town Council

This Well-Being Statement sets out the Council's commitment to the principle of sustainable development to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, 'the Act', defines sustainable development as the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by acting, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals. In this regard the Council recognises the role it has to play. Therefore, it will promote sustainable development in how it goes about meeting its duty under the Act and when working for and with the communities that make up its area.

The Act puts in place seven well-being goals. These well-being goals are indivisible from each other and explain what is meant by the well-being of Wales. The Council embraces these well-being goals and will place them at the heart of its forward planning and decision-making arrangements to improve the general quality of life (well-being) within its administrative area. The Act provides a more detailed definition for each of the seven well-being goals. However, for the purposes of this statement the seven goals are:

A  
Prosperous  
Wales

A  
resilient  
Wales

A  
healthier  
Wales

A  
more equal  
Wales

A Wales of  
cohesive  
communities

A Wales of  
vibrant culture  
and thriving  
Welsh Language

A globally  
responsible  
Wales

When applying these well-being goals to the functions, activities and services provided by the Council; the Act requires the Council to think more about the long term, to work better with people and communities and also other public bodies, to look to prevent problems and to take a more joined up approach.

The Council will go about this by making the following commitments:

## **COMMITMENTS**

- Look to the long term so that its actions or lack of action does not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Taking an integrated approach to applying the seven well-being goals when deciding upon priorities.
- Involving the diversity of the population in the decisions affecting them, when and where it is applicable to do so.
- Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions.
- Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring.
- Take all reasonable steps towards meeting the local objectives in the local well-being plan that has affect in its area. In this regard and when the Public Services Board publishes its local well-being plan, the Council will consider and review the local objectives contained in the plan alongside its own objectives for the year ahead.
- Form its own judgement of what steps it would be reasonable for it to take towards meeting the local objectives in its area, on the basis of its own knowledge and consideration of the circumstances and characteristics of its area.
- Report annually detailing the progress it has made in meeting Well-being objectives.
- Supporting Sustainable Development.

## **ACTIONS**

The Council commits to the following set of actions:

- Publishing this well-being statement on its website.
- Incorporating this well-being statement into its Annual Report, which provides an overall framework to focus the Council's activities, investments and spending priorities.
- Incorporating the well-being goals into its future Planning
- Continue to extend its influence and reach into the community to help sustain general well-being in the communities that make up its area.
- To support Sustainable Development.
- To work with others to bring about Well Being in Mold.



## Contact Information (2022/23)

Mold Town Council  
Town Hall  
Earl Road  
Mold  
Flintshire  
CH7 1AB



Telephone: 01352 758532

### Town Clerk and Finance Officer:

Helen Belton

Telephone: 01352 751819

Email: [townclerk@moldtowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:townclerk@moldtowncouncil.org.uk)

### Events and Community Engagement Officer:

Jane Evans

Telephone: 01352 758532

Email: [events@moldtowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:events@moldtowncouncil.org.uk)

### Business Regeneration Project Officer:

Joanne Lane

Telephone: 01352 872418/758532

Email: [business@moldtowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:business@moldtowncouncil.org.uk)

Email: [baileyhill@moldtowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:baileyhill@moldtowncouncil.org.uk)



### Cemetery Superintendent:

Arfon Williams-Cooke

### Cemetery Assistant:

Michael Gallagher

### Address:

The Lodge, Mold Cemetery, Alexandra Road, Mold, Flintshire CH7 1HJ

Telephone: 01352 753820

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## Mold Town Councillors 2022/23

## Appendix 1.

### BRONCOED WARD

Haydn Bateman (01352) 754510 email: haydnbateman18@gmail.com  
Teresa Carberry (01352) 754434 email: teresa.carberry@flintshire.gov.uk  
Pete Dando 0791 6920847 email: Pete\_Dando@hotmail.co.uk  
Tim Maunders (01352) 752099 email: timmaunders@icloud.com

### EAST WARD

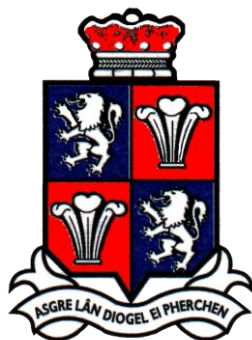
Chris Bithell (01352) 754578 email: Christopher.bithell@flintshire.gov.uk  
Sarah J Taylor 07578 828044 email: [sarahtaylor8044@gmail.com](mailto:sarahtaylor8044@gmail.com)  
Bryan Grew (01352) 759673 email: bgrew@sky.com  
Paul Beacher (01352) 758961 email: paul.beacher@btinternet.com

### SOUTH WARD

Geoff Collett (01352) 756582 email: geoff.collett@flintshire.gov.uk  
Catherine F Hill 07584 282878 email: catherine4moldsouth@gmail.com  
Robin Guest 07812 016917 email: tobyreggie@hotmail.com  
Haydn Jones (01352) 759744 email: haydnjones@outlook.com

### WEST WARD

Brian Lloyd (01352) 753107 email: rbl.pwllglas@yahoo.co.uk  
Tina Claydon 07709 953649 email: tina.claydon@flintshire.gov.uk  
Joanne Edwards (01352) 752184 email: jocarm84@gmail.com  
Megan Lloyd Hughes email: [meganlloydhughes@gmail.com](mailto:meganlloydhughes@gmail.com)



17<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
28<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
26<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
27<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
25<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
29<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
31<sup>st</sup> January 2024  
28<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
27<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
24<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Annual Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024



## Schedule of Committee Meetings

The following dates are suggested for meetings of Mold Town Council Committees during the next year:

### **Cemetery Committee**

24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 - 6pm  
6<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
6<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
6<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### **Planning Committee (Zoom)**

5<sup>th</sup> June 2023 - 6pm  
3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023  
31<sup>st</sup> July 2023  
29<sup>th</sup> August 2023 (Tues)  
25<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023  
20<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
18<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
15<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
12<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
11<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
8<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (Tues)

**Community, Development & Regeneration Committee  
Tbc.**

November 2023

February 2024

April 2024

**Personnel Committee**

14<sup>th</sup> June 2023

13<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Budget Committee**

13<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Policy & Audit Committee**

21<sup>st</sup> June 2023

20<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Financial Assistance Committee**

14<sup>th</sup> June 2023

17<sup>th</sup> January 2024