**MOLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Mold Town Council Community, Development & Regeneration Committee held on Wednesday 9th March 2016at Mold Town Hall.

**PRESENT**: Councillors: Brian Lloyd (Mayor), Andrea Mearns (Chair), Geoff Collett, Karen Hodgkinson, Phil Thomas, Chris Bithell, Anthony Parry, Town Manager and Support Officer.

Also Present: Andrew Lightfoot Streetscene Supervisor for Flintshire County Council and William Smuts Graphic Designer.

**12. APOLOGIES:** Councillor Richard Brookes. **13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

**14. MINUTES**

To receive and approve the minutes of the last Community, Development & Regeneration Committee meeting held on Wednesday 16th September 2015.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Community, Development & Regeneration Committee held on Wednesday 16th September 2015 be approved as a correct record.

**16. INFORMATION ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

The Town Manager gave members an update on the Christmas lighting and confirmed new festoons were currently being costed. The electric connector points on the High Street and by Vaughan Davies needed to be replaced, these will be done at the same time as the heritage lighting and costs of replacement will come from the parking revenue project fund.

**17. ON GOING PROJECTS**

The Town Manager gave members a verbal update on the current projects including the Gateway Signs, additional Visitor Information Points (VIPs), the Mold Town map, footpath renovation, street cleaning machine and lighting including essential maintenance work required for the Christmas lighting.

The Town Manager confirmed he had received confirmation that the town projects budget, which had come from previous car park revenues via Flintshire County Council agreement, was secure and did not have to be spent by end of the financial year, 31st March 2016 as previously discussed.

**Gateway Signs** - the Town Manager showed members visuals of the proposed wording and layout of the Gateway signs. The signs will be approx. 4 meters high and will be narrower than current signs. They will have a steel pole through the middle which will ensure stability of the structure. A planter for flowers is built into the sign. The colour will match with the Visitor Information Points.

Each gateway sign will have:-

a) Name of the road

b) The Town Crest

c) Silhouettes pre agreed in previous meeting

d) Welcome message

e) The town name

f) Strap line

g) Be bi-lingual

The six straplines for consideration are:-

1) Birthplace of Daniel Owen – for the Denbigh Road

2) Home of Theatr Clwyd – for the A5119 Flint Road

3) First Welsh Cittaslow Town – for the A5119 New Brighton Road

4) Gold Cape found here – for Chester Road

5) Friendly market town – for Wrexham Road

6) Gateway to the Clwydians – for the A5119 Ruthin Road

Councillor Hodgkinson suggested not to use the Gateway to the Clwydians strapline, as you would in fact be leaving the Clwydians when you enter into Mold on Ruthin Road.

Councillor Collett raised concerns about using Theatr Clwyd strapline as once designed and erected, we would be unable to amend and the future of the theatre should be a consideration.

It was agreed members would review the straplines and provide alternative suggestions if they felt it appropriate.

Councillor Mearns asked members to consider adding the “Cittaslow and Fairtrade” accreditations to the sign, this would be just the wording as we would be unable to use the logos on the signs. Suggestion of the wording would be “A Cittaslow and Fairtrade Town” at the base of the sign.

The Town Manager informed members there was also an option to add promotional information for events, which would be on softer vinyl and could be removed after the event. The vinyl overlays would be costed additionally, approx. £60-80 each and advertising permissions would need to be looked into in relation to this.

Councillor Mearns suggested paving sets are put around the bottom of the signs rather than grass, as strimming right up to the sign may cause damage. Andrew Lightfoot confirmed paving around would be his preferred option and would cover the cost.

Councillor Mearns suggested the strapline and welcome message should be in yellow as this would complement the blue colouring of the sign. William Smuts confirmed he would provide proofs of the signs with this colour option for members to review.

Members approved the Gateway signs, based the amendments which are to be reviewed:-

a) The brighter blue sky version as opposed to grey sky.

b) Contemporary font, Myriad Pro preferred

c) ‘Welcome’ and strapline font in yellow to be reviewed (William Smutts to send proofs)

d) A different strapline on each sign preferred, if approved by Flintshire County Council

e) Cittaslow and Fairtrade accreditation to be underneath, below planter

f) signs to be set in paving sets

The Town Manager will send members a proof of the change in colour font for ‘welcome’ and strapline wording once an update has been received from William Smuts. The six straplines will be emailed to members for consideration.

**Visitor Information Points (VIPs)** - the Town Manager gave members an update on the additional VIPs which will be located in Love Lane car park and the car park at the back of Aldi (leading onto Kings Street). There will also be a wall mounted VIP for the Daniel Owen Precinct (under the tunnel), the wall of the public conveniences in New Street car park and King Street, Griffiths Square and Grosvenor Street car parks. The wall mounted VIPs will have a map and general welcome information. All the additional VIPs will be installed by Flintshire County Council Streetscene.

**Councillor Collett left the meeting 7.00pm**

**Town Map** – the Town Manager provided handouts of the proposed town map and asked members for help in confirming the road names which were not named (or shown) and also to check the footpath names and any additional roads and footpaths which should be added. The map will be available in two formats, English and Welsh, as there was too much information to have it bilingually.

**Councillor Collett entered the meeting at 7.10pm**

Members agreed a Councillor from each ward would take responsibility to review and it was agreed, Councillor Bithell would carry out for the East Ward, Councillor Lloyd the West Ward, Councillor Collett the South Ward and the Town Manager would ask Councillor Williams to review for the Broncoed Ward.

Councillor Thomas confirmed he would speak to the Ramblers Association and Walkabout Flintshire to ask them to review and check the footpaths.

**Williams Smuts left the meeting at 7.15pm**

**Streetscene update -**  Andrew Lightfoot confirmed to members the signage project, to declutter the signs around the town, was now 2 to 3 weeks from completion. Councillor Mearns said the sign for New Street car park did not have a symbol for / or mention the public conveniences. Andrew confirmed he would take this forward.

Andrew Lightfoot gave members an update on the improvements to New Street car park and that marking of a designated pedestrian walkway would be carried out. Councillor Collett mentioned the lighting in the car park needed to be addressed, the Town Manager confirmed this had been brought to the attention of Streetscene and was being taken forward.

Andrew Lightfoot has been asked to arrange a demonstration of The Glutton®, a street cleaning machine which is very easy to operator and could be used by volunteers after events. The Town Manager confirmed after the demonstration he would look into costs of purchasing a street cleaning machine for Mold.

The trial of the chewing gum removal machine had been successful and a machine was being purchased by Streetscene to use around the town.

Councillor Mearns asked Andrew if any action was being taken regarding the flooding issue at Love Lane car park. Andrew confirmed he was looking at putting in a soakway to help alleviate but further discussion needed to take place to find the best solution.

**Footpath renovation** – The Town Manager and Andrew Lightfoot have carried out a review regarding the footpath improvements and their preferred option was the slurry seal, which once carried out, would last approximately 7 to 10 years and only takes a short period of time to carry out. Councillor Collett asked Andrew to look into a guarantee regarding the 7-10 years claim.

Slurry seal comes in two colour options, red or black with the red option being the costlier of the two, it is also significantly cheaper than tarmac.

Councillor Mearns said that the Town Manager must communicate with the retailers and businesses regarding the colour selected, which is a change to the current red in the town and also confirm to them when the work will be carried out. The Town Manager confirmed that this would take place.

Members approved for the pavements in the town to be renovated with black slurry seal, based on a guarantee of 7 to 10 years being received from the supplier.

**Andrew Lightfoot left the meeting 8.00pm**

**18. EVENTS**

The Town Manager gave members a brief update on forthcoming events.

Mold Spring Clean which takes place on 18th to 21st March was being progressed and all members were asked to once again volunteer. Giveaways, would be purchased from the Tidy Towns budget.

A ‘What’s on in Mold’ promotional flyer has been produced and the Town Manager asked members for approval to proceed with printing 6000 A4 flyers, at a cost of approximately £400t. Councillor Mearns suggested the remaining money from Welsh Water marketing initiative could be used to cover the cost.

Members approved the £400 cost of the printing.

The Town Manager provided members with a paper about the plans for Mold Festive Experience 2016 and gave members an update of his discussions with the Celtic Fayres Limited and Flintshire County Council regarding a potential joint initiative for the 2016 festive period. The Town Manager had also been in discussions with Flintshire County Council regarding the use of Meadow Place car park for the event. He is working closely with Flintshire Markets team on the project.

The Celtic Fayre would be situated in Meadow Place car park, the Daniel Owen Centre and Daniel Owen Square and would run for 5 days, from Wednesday 7th through to Sunday 11th December. The aim would be to attract ideally 100 inside stalls and 20-30 outside stalls with children’s rides, Santa’s Grotto and festive entertainment all taking place and the Santa Dash would be held on Sunday 11th December. The aim of the event would be to benefit retail trade via an increase in footfall over this period. From past experience, Celtic Fayre’s would expect to attract at least an additional 10,000 extra visitors to the town during the first year.

The Town Manager asked members to support the event, apart from the commitment of officer time, direct risks to the Town Council would be limited to £1500, which will be used for marketing and entertainment. Members approved the £1500 budget for the Mold Festive Experience 2016.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that members supported the Festive Experience and approved £1500 budget to be used.

**19. NOTICE BOARDS**

The Support Officer had been asked to obtain quotations for replacing the existing notice boards. The quotations obtained ranged from £850 to over £2,000 per unit. Councillor Mearns suggested looking at tidying up the existing notice boards and look at the costs of replacing the middle section or just the glass. The Support Officer was asked to take forward and look at the options.

The Support Officer had also looked at the current positions of the notice boards around the town and suggested the notice board at the Bus Station (King Street) be moved further up King Street to near BM Bargains side wall so it would be visible to people going down King Street, but not going to the Bus Station. An additional notice board was suggested for outside the Town Hall on Earl Road.

**Resolved:** It was resolved for the Support Officer to look at repair options on existing notice boards.

**20. TOURISM AMBASSADOR**

Members considered the previously circulated information on proposals for the Town Council to become a Tourism Ambassador for North East Wales. The Tourism Ambassador scheme is a free scheme for tourism related businesses who wish to participate in tourism events and delivering on various elements.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to support Mold Town Council becoming a Tourism Ambassador for North East Wales.

**21. RDP (LEADER) FUNDING PROJECTS**

The Town Manager provided an update on RDP Leader funding that is now available within the rural area covered by Mold. He informed the Committee that changes were having to be introduced by Cadwyn Clwyd due to the regulations covering state aid and more information would become available in the near future.  
  
In the meantime, a Cadwyn Clwyd proposal for funding to support town and community councils understanding the financial and business implications when considering asset transfer from Flintshire County Council has been agreed.

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

**The meeting was closed at 8.50pm**

**SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS**

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

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

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| **Community, Development & Regeneration Committee** | **DATE: 9th March 2016** |

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| **MEMBER** | **ITEM** | **MINUTE NO. REFERS** |
|  | None |  |

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