**OLD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of Mold Town Council Community, Development & Regeneration Committee held on Tuesday 11th October 2016at Mold Town Hall.

**PRESENT**: Councillors: Andrea Mearns (Chair), Phil Thomas, Chris Bithell, Town Manager and Support Officer.

**1. APOLOGIES:** Councillors Richard Brookes, Geoff Collett, Karen Hodgkinson, Anthony Parry (Mayor), Bob Gaffey (Deputy Mayor) **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest expressed.

**3. MINUTES**

To receive and approve the minutes of the last Community, Development & Regeneration Committee meeting held on 9th March 2016.

**Resolved:** It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Community, Development & Regeneration Committee held on Wednesday 9th March 2016 be approved as a correct record.

**4. INFORMATION ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Councillor Thomas asked for confirmation of the guarantee for the pavement slurry seal as when originally discussed it was mentioned 7-10 years. The Town Manager confirmed the guarantee from the contractor was 5 years.

The Town Manager had recently carried out a thorough inspection alongside the contractor and Streetscene Supervisor and the contractor is currently in the process of resolving the faults found during the inspection.

The Town Manager informed members improvements to the lighting and designated walkway in New Street car park had not yet been started and he had now escalated this to a Senior Streetscene Officer at Flintshire County Council.

The Town Manager informed members Flintshire County Council had received engineering advice regarding the flooding on Love Lane car park and Flintshire County Council had addressed some of the drainage issues on the Denbigh Road side of the car park. This was an ongoing project within Flintshire County Council. Councillor Mearns suggested inter spectators could be put into the ground in the car park for drainage, they could also separate oil and water. The Town Manager confirmed he would take this forward with the Streetscene Supervisor.

The town notice boards had recently been revamped at a total cost of £600 which was a vast saving compared to the cost of purchasing new notice boards. Councillor Mearns suggested a maintenance schedule is put in place to keep the notice boards tidy and clean. The Town Manager confirmed he would look into this.

**5. ON GOING PROJECTS**

The Town Manager informed members the first completed gateway sign was now in place on the Denbigh Road and passed members a photograph which he had taken during his inspection. The gateway sign which was due to go outside the Leader office on the Wrexham Road was no longer able to be sited there due to high voltage electric and gas mains and the Streetscene Supervisor was looking for an alternative place to locate. Once all the signs are in place a photocall will be arranged with members and a press release issued which will include how the sign have been funded.

The flower troughs which are on the signs do not have a lift out trough, they have built in drainage and would need to be planted directly into the trough. The Town Manager will confirm whether Flintshire County Council will take responsibility to plant and also whether these would be watered by the contractor who carries out the hanging baskets or Flintshire County Council

The Gateway signs came in separate panels and fitted together on site, members commented that the line where the sections joined could be seen. The Town Manager confirmed he would speak to the manufacturer to see what could be done to minimise.

Due to workload over the summer the town map project had not been progressed but the Town Manager confirmed he would now be in a position to revisit the project. Councillor Thomas asked if the map would be bi lingual rather than two separate versions. The Town Manager confirmed he would speak with Menter Iaith as to what would be acceptable as there was an awful lot of information to be added to the map.

The town WiFi project would also be progressed and the Town Manager was currently looking at capabilities and had received an offer of assistance from a local resident who works within the IT sector.

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

**6. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

To consider additional works required to meet Health & Safety needs and development of the festive lights.

The Town Manager confirmed the budget set aside for the Christmas lights had more or less been spent on the erection of the lights, crane hire, maintenance and on going costs.

The contractor had reported back on a number of issues which needed to be addressed before the erection of this year’s lights.

* Catenaries wires and anchor parts have not been tested for 3-5 years and some need to be replaced.
* The bracket above Vaughan Davies is dangerous and needs replacing.
* There are a few issues regarding connectivity on the festoons.

The Town Clerk had confirmed there was currently £4,500-£5000 in reserves which would cover the priority issues. However, as the CDR committee do not have delegated power to spend reserves this will need to be put to full council in Octobers meeting. Councillor Bithell suggested at the budget setting meeting next year, the Budget & Audit committee consider the amount needed for the Christmas lights.

Councillor Mearns asked if there was any money remaining from the car parking revenue which could be used. The Town Manager confirmed the next amount of revenue was approximately £5,000 and due to be received this financial year, but would need to confirm the amount and when due. Councillor Bithell confirmed he would take forward at the next Flintshire County Council meeting regarding parking revenue.

**Resolved:** It was resolved to ask full council to support the request of the CDR committee to use reserves to resolve Health and Safety issues with the Christmas lights.

**7. EVENTS**

The Town Manager gave members an update on discussions relating to the proposed Celtic Fayre. He expressed disappointment with the progress and the proposal was not supported by the towns market traders, although the town shops were in favour.

Following a discussion, members agreed that due to the limited time remaining to resolve current issues and progress with marketing of the event, the festive market for this year should not be progressed but the Town Manager should look at revisiting the project earlier next year.

The Town Manager was in discussion with Connection Magazine regarding producing an events guide for next year, this would then be distributed to hotels, B&B’s etc. A small amount of funding may be required from Council if this was to proceed.

**Resolved:** It was resolved not to progress with the festive market for the forthcoming festive period.

**Councillor Bithell left the meeting at 7.10pm**

**Due to only two members of Council remaining in the meeting, the committee was not quorum, the following items were therefore for discussion purposes only and no resolutions made.**

**8. CIVIC PRIDE**

To discuss and consider the town’s civic pride including floral Mold and Mold Town Partnership (MTP) initiative regarding buildings and infrastructure.

A task group from MTP had been looking at buildings within the towns conservation areas. Councillor Mearns suggested discussion on who should lead this, whether it be Flintshire County Council or Mold Town Council and would take forward for consideration during meeting of full council.

The Town Manager confirmed he would have discussions with Flintshire County Council regarding what steps could be taken to improve the floral displays within the town following the Best Kept Community Awards.

The Town Manager asked if the Wild About Mold Project would cover floral and planting displays within the town centre. Councillor Mearns suggested the Town Manager email North Wales Wildlife Trust who were leading on the project with his ideas and suggestions.

**9. PIGEONS**

Pigeons within the town, especially around the Daniel Owen Square area were still causing issues with regards to droppings on the benches and pavements. Streetscene were now cleaning the benches on the square once a week to help reduce the problem.

A number of humane deterrents had been looked into but not considered suitable. The Town Manager had contacted Flintshire County Council regarding placement of spikes on the roof of the town hall and was awaiting reply.

It was suggested that RSPB should be spoken to as to suggestions and The Support Officer agreed to do so..

**10. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

To discuss public communication and ways to engage the public.

Deferred to the next meeting.

**The meeting was closed at 8.00pm**

**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: 11th October 2016**  |

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

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