

MOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Mold Town Council Tourism Committee held on Thursday 16th November 2006 at the Town Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors: Jack Laing (Chairman), Geoff Collett, Ray Dodd, Robin Guest, Joyce Jones and Andrea Mearns with the Clerk and Finance Officer.

IN ATTENDANCE: David Evans (Tourism Manager) and Esther Roberts (Managing Director, North Wales Tourism).

APOLOGIES: Town Councillors Chris Bithell and Carol Heycocks and County Councillor Peter McFarlane.

10. TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

The Chairman welcomed Esther Roberts and David Evans to the review meeting.

Esther Roberts referred to items previously raised and commented as follows:

- a. The signposting of the Tourist Information Centre (TIC) from New Street car park had been completed although concern was expressed that the gold on black finger posts were not that clear. It was agreed that David Evans should discuss the possible use of white on brown signs with colleagues from the County Highways Department and he indicated that funds could probably be found to provide signs this financial year.
- b. The TIC was now selling tickets for Clwyd Theatr Cymru (credit card sales) and for Silver Star coach tours. Contact had been made with Jones (Flint) Coaches and the services of the TIC offered but there had been no response.

Mrs. Roberts circulated a report setting out the activities of the TIC and a draft budget for the year 2007/08. Reference was made to the possible future charging for the Flintshire Walking Guide and the promotion of the TIC with 'Visit Wales' (formerly the Wales Tourist Board) and as a point of contact for the walking campaign. Members supported the draft budget proposals.

Reference was also made to the refurbishment of the railway station at Flint and the possible installation of a tourist information point (TIP). David Evans agreed to investigate what is proposed and the possibility of a telephone link directly to the TIC.

In response to a question, David Evans advised that the Flintshire Tourism Strategy should be out for public consultation in December 2006 with a view for publication in March / April 2007. Members felt that it might be beneficial to develop a Mold Strategy and it was felt that this should be further considered following the publication of the Flintshire document and after next year's National Eisteddfod. In the meantime it was necessary to continue promoting Mold at every opportunity.

The possibility of seeking support funding for the TIC from other Town and Community Councils was raised and David Evans agreed to broach the subject with appropriate Councils.

Resolved: It was resolved that above issues be addressed where appropriate and that the next meeting be held during the second week in April 2007.

11. MINUTES

Resolved: It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 26th July 2006 be approved as a correct record.

12. MATTERS ARISING

12.1 Item 6 – Mold Food Town

The Committee was advised that there had been a good response from both officers and Members of the County Council to the first Mold Food and Drink Festival. The Clerk advised that a report was to be made to the County Council's Executive on the success of the Festival and that dates had been agreed for next years event.

12.2 Item 8 – Sites for Cinema Poster Displays

The Clerk advised that the information had been provided to Julia Grime but there had been no further response as yet.

13. MAP OF MOLD – SITES FOR IMPROVEMENT

The Committee considered the previously circulated schedule of sites that had been identified as in need of improvement.

The Clerk advised that there had been a positive response from the Police and a holding response from Redrow regarding the land between Llys Daniel Owen and Denbigh Road.

Reference was made to the situation regarding Harley's Garage and the need for probate to be sorted before any definitive improvements were likely. It was felt that a letter should be sent to the family asking that the site be tidied in readiness for next year's Eisteddfod.

It was also agreed to pursue the following sites:

- a. Bus station – general cleanliness particularly with the collection of weeds and cigarette ends in the 'brick-on-edge' edging.
- b. Post Office – general cleanliness in front of the building and at the side of the telephone kiosks.
- c. Pathway from Pwll Glas to Ash Grove alongside the old hospital.

Members also felt that it would be appropriate to congratulate the County Council on the floral display and general maintenance of the area of land in front of St. Mary's Parish Church.

It was also agreed that a meeting of the Tourism Committee should be held in January / February to discuss this one matter.

Other comments were made and are reflected on the attached schedule.

Resolved: It was resolved to take action as identified above.

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