

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL GLAN ABER, Bagillt on Tuesday 17th April 2007.

PRESENT : Councillor B.T. Doleman (Chairman)

COUNCILLORS : R. Davies, A. Griffiths, Mrs. D. Jones, R.K. Jones, Mrs. S.L. Jones, C.P. Owens, M.A. Reece, C. Williams, C.R. Williams, Mrs. D.J. Williams, and J. Williams.

APOLOGIES : Councillor J. Owens

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk)

148. POLICING MATTERS

The Clerk made reference to the fact that P.C. Schofield was not present and that it was not known if he would be attending the meeting. A copy of a letter which had been sent to P.C. Schofield at the request of the Chairman, and the letter received from Inspector Maxwell, arising out of the liaison meeting held in January, had been previously circulated. It was noted that with regard to the latter, a further meeting was to be held later this month at the Town Hall, Flint, at which the Council would once again be represented by Councillor A. Griffiths.

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from North Wales Police Authority concerning neighbourhood policing. It made reference to the series of meetings held by the Police Authority towards the end of last year to inform Local Councils in North Wales about the budgetary situation and future demands placed on the Police Service. In the wake of the Police budget settlement for the current financial year and its implications for neighbourhood Policing in North Wales, the Police Authority were once again arranging an opportunity for meetings with local Councillors to inform them about the future shape of neighbourhood policing in their areas. The meeting for Flintshire would be held at Theatr Clwyd, Mold on 29th May 2007, and it was agreed that the Council would once again be represented by Councillor A. Griffiths together with the Clerk.

149. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 9th March 2007.

a. Minute No. 134(d) – Beechcroft, Highfield Road

The Clerk advised Councillor Mrs. D. Jones that no response had been received from the Housing Directorate and it was agreed a reminder letter

be forwarded.

b. Minute No. 147(a) – Wern Avenue, Fencing

Councillor A. Griffiths advised the meeting that the fencing had still not been repaired.

c. Minute No. 147(c) – Highfield Road

The Clerk advised Councillor Mrs. D. Jones that he had been in contact with the Community Caretaker, who had once again reported the matter to the Housing Department for action.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 9th March 2007 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

150. NOTICE BOARDS

a. Adjoining 83 Riverbank

The Clerk reported that the notice board had been received and erected since the last meeting of the Council and was in use. There had been initial problems with the locking mechanism, which had been repaired, but the suppliers had in any case forwarded a replacement lock.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

b. Car Park, High Street

The Clerk reported that Glasdon, the suppliers of the other notice board, were unable to provide a black colour version for location at this site. He had therefore been in contact with the Planning Department and advice had been received that the Council could withdraw its current application and then re-submit within a period of twelve months, at no cost, when a suitable alternative had been found. The Clerk made reference to further brochures he had received and suggested that progress be made by authorising the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to agree an alternative, although it was noted that it would be more expensive than the type of notice board erected at Riverbank.

RESOLVED :

1. That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, in consultation with the Clerk, be authorised to agree an alternative type of notice board to meet with the approval of the Planning Authority, and that once all the necessary permissions had been received, an order be placed accordingly.
2. That the Clerk be authorised to withdraw the current planning application and that when the issues in 1. above had been agreed, to re-submit accordingly.

151. UNAUTHORISED USE OF LAND OFF HOLYWELL ROAD (A5026) BY TRAVELLERS

Further to the discussion at the last meeting, and the further information sent to Members last month, copies of additional correspondence between Flintshire County Council and Action Committee, had been previously circulated to Members. The Clerk read out to the meeting e-mails received from the Legal Officer of Flintshire County Council and the Local County Councillor, R. Baker. The former advised that a decision on what action it was expedient for the Authority to take involved balancing the impact of breaches of planning control and other environmental issues against assessments of the personal circumstances of the travellers. Assessments were waiting to be completed before seeking Counsel's advice on the most appropriate action to take. The latter also advised that it was understood the travellers intended to apply for planning permission, which may be contentious as the site was outside the settlement boundaries of both Holywell and Bagillt, access was problematical and the site was adjacent to a Grade II Listed Building.

The Chairman read out to the meeting a letter sent to local residents from the Delyn Constituency AM, which once again referred to the legal situation and the processes being undertaken by the County Council.

In addition, the Chairman also read out to the meeting concerns that had been expressed to him by local residents concerning the felling of trees, despite the protection of a Tree Preservation Order, the location of the site between two bends in the road, creating a major traffic hazard, pollution in the nearby stream which flowed past the site, and that the site itself was part of an old unregistered landfill site, last used in 1963. In relation to the latter point, information was given concerning previous action taken by the landowners regarding a leachate problem identified by the Environment Agency.

Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones made reference to a comment in the press regarding the site being adjacent to Glyn Abbott Wood, whilst it was confirmed at the meeting that no such area was known to exist and the area of woodland in

question was Coed Bagillt. Reference was made by Councillor J. Williams to action taken previously when there had been an encroachment on the former Holywell tip further up the road, which had been prompt, whilst reference was made by Councillor C.P. Owens to the title deeds for the land and that ownership had not changed according to the Land Registry web site.

RESOLVED :

1. That the information received concerning correspondence from the County Council and the Action Committee, and in the updating e-mails concerning the processes being undertaken by the Authority, be noted.
2. That in relation to the concerns of residents reported to the meeting by the Chairman, letters be forwarded to the County Council, landowners (Veiola) and the Environment Agency, drawing the various points to their attention.

152. PLANNING

a. Residential Development – Former British Legion Club

Further to discussion at the last meeting (minute No. 135) a copy of the Decision Notice issued by the Planning Department at Flintshire County Council on 20th February had been previously circulated. Councillor Mrs. D. Jones indicated that she had initiated discussion at the last meeting following on from information received from County Council officers in relation to the decision being made at an earlier date, which would have been prior to the February meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED :

That the date the decision was taken by the Planning Authority in relation to this matter be noted.

b. Applications Determined - Planning On-Line Consultation Period

| No. | Location | Detail |
|------------|-------------------------|--|
| 042889 | 8 Trebor Avenue | Erection of dormer windows at side extension |
| 042967 | Summerhill, Gadlys Lane | Erection of single storey games room to side |

It was noted that both applications had been supported.

(c) Applications for Consideration

| No. | Location | Detail |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| 043042 | Opposite Rhydwen Garage, Bagillt Road | Erection of 11.7 metre monopole with two base equipment cabinets |
| <p>Members were informed that at the pre-application consultation they had objected, although it was noted that the precise siting had changed slightly.</p> | | |
| 043079 | 38 Nant y Glyn | Erection of two storey side extension |
| 043019 | Mayfair House, High Street | Erection of three storey development of 21 x 2-bed. apartments with 32 car spaces |
| <p>Members were reminded that this site had recently received planning permission for 6 x 3-bedroom dwellings.</p> | | |
| 043018 | The Feathers, High Street | Erection of three storey development of 18 x 2-bed apartments with 27 car spaces |
| 043105 | Gwelfor, Tyddyn Mesham | Erection of single storey kitchen extension to provide extra bedroom/bathroom |

RESOLVED :

1. That applications 043079 and 043105 be supported.
2. That in relation to application 043042, the previous objection be reiterated.
3. That in relation to application 043019, that whilst the Council were not against residential development on this site, an objection be made on the grounds that the three storey development is out of context with neighbouring properties in terms of height and density and is therefore inappropriate over-development, with concerns about sewerage capacity in the area and traffic generation/ access onto the High Street.

4. That with regard to application 043018, an objection be made on the grounds that it is inappropriate development in terms of height and density in relation to neighbouring properties, concerns about sewerage capacity in the area and traffic generation/access onto the High Street together with the need for a retaining wall along all of the rear of the site to protect the access road on top to other properties.

Note : In relation to application 043018, Councillor C.R. Williams declared a personal interest and did not speak or vote thereon.

153. FINANCIAL INFORMATION 2006/07

a. Fourth Quarter 2006/07

The meeting noted the previously circulated Bank reconciliation statement and income/expenditure information for the January to March 2006/07 quarter.

b. Approval of Accounts 2006/07

RESOLVED :

That the accounts for 2006/07 be approved as circulated and signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer.

154. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

a. War Memorial Improvements

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Heritage Society had made a new application for grant aid following discussions with the fund organisers and were hopeful that this would receive approval when it was considered in July 2007. The grant aid if approved would be worth more than the previous application, which had fallen due to promised information not being forwarded in time. Once again the Society would be seeking the assistance of the Community Council to meet 10% of the total cost, which was a condition of any approval.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

b. Ysgol Merllyn – CCTV

Councillor R.K. Jones advised the meeting that new high quality colour CCTV had been installed at Ysgol Merllyn and suggested that as the next

meeting of the Council would be at that venue perhaps Members would like to take the opportunity of seeing it for themselves.

RESOLVED :

That arrangements be made with the caretaker at Ysgol Merllyn for a short demonstration of the new CCTV prior to the next Council meeting.

c. One Voice Wales – Wrexham/Flintshire Area Committee

The Clerk reported he had attended a meeting on the 16th April, held in Mold, with the principle point of discussion being Communicating With Your Community. Those present formed groups and reported back on matters as adopted by their Councils and it was noted that these included notice boards and community newsletters, issues which were current with this Authority, and allowing the public to speak for a few minutes at the start of each Ordinary Council meeting rather than once a year, as did Bagillt. There had also been reports on action being taken by One Voice Wales to encourage additional membership, particularly from larger Town and Community Councils. At the next meeting, to be held in Wrexham on the 9th July, there would be planning training by Planning Aid Wales, and each Member Council would be entitled to send two Councillors and the Clerk.

RESOLVED :

That in relation to the next meeting of the Area Committee which will give planning training, that the Council be represented by the then Chairman, Councillor C. Williams and the Clerk.

155. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid :-

| Name | | Cheque No. | Expenditure Powers |
|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---|
| Mr. G. Roberts | 707.90 | 101092 | Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112) |
| Cornhill Allianz Insurers Plc. | 648.51 8.05 | 101093 101095 | Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.111) |
| Flintshire County Council | 3,150.00 | 101094 | Loc.Govt.(MP Act 1953 (S.4)/ Parish Councils Act 1957 |
| HM Revenue & Customs | 209.52 | 101096 | Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112) |

156. DONATIONS

The meeting considered two applications for donations.

RESOLVED :

1. That in accordance with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, a donation of 60 be made to Victim Support Eastern Branch North Wales (cheque No. 101097).
2. That no donation be made to Wales Air Ambulance.

157. HANGING BASKETS 2007

Following on from the experience in 2006, the Clerk requested Members to indicate if they wished to do likewise for this year, provision for which had been made in estimates.

In relation to the plants in the hanging baskets, reference was made by Councillor R.K. Jones to those erected in Flint, which did seem to be of a higher standard, and he was advised by the Clerk that for 2006 they had used a different local supplier. The Chairman, who had undertaken the watering of the plants in 2006, advised that the success of such a scheme was dependent on regular watering and occasional feeding of the plants, and that consideration did need to be given to possible alternatives, notwithstanding the lack of finding an alternative more convenient water source last year.

RESOLVED :

That the provision of hanging baskets in the High Street be once again agreed and that the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, be given authority to proceed accordingly, both in relation to the provision of the plants and their containers as well as improvements to watering arrangements.

158. COMMUNITY RECREATION OUTREACH PROGRAMME (CROP) – GYMINIS/SPORTSTART

The meeting considered a letter received from Flintshire County Council, on CROP which was a physical activity based programme for children between the ages of ten months and seven years. There had in recent years been a gradual reduction in the programme due to lack of core funding and that as a result from July 2007 there will be no physical activity provision for young children living in Flintshire. The Council were being invited to attend a meeting, to be held on 23rd April, to enable a discussion on this subject between the County Council and Town and Community Councils.

RESOLVED :

That the Council be represented at the meeting by Councillor B.T. Doleman and the Clerk.

159. COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

The Clerk indicated that he had placed this item on the agenda in order to make progress, following on from the discussion at the February meeting. Particular points related to the intended first publication date, the gathering of articles and general information topics and recruiting the volunteers for delivery throughout the community. In relation to an intended publication date, Councillor R. Davies indicated that perhaps Autumn would be the appropriate time to aim for and that, in relation to volunteers, he had already recruited six to assist with any delivery. In relation to gathering of articles and information to include in the first edition, the Clerk indicated that he was seeking assistance from Members, and it was agreed that progress could better be made with a small group. Councillor C.P. Owens advised that copies of the newsletter when published could also be included on the Council's section of the Heritage Society website to better ensure as many people as possible were able to see a copy.

RESOLVED :

1. That Autumn be agreed as the intended first publication date of the Community Newsletter.
2. That the Clerk consult with Councillors C.P. Owens, R. Davies and Mrs. D. Jones concerning information to be included in the first edition, with a view to reporting back to the Council in due course.

160. NEW BRANCH POST OFFICE, BOOT END, BAGILLT

The Clerk referred to the previously circulated letter from the Post Office advising that there was to be a re-opening of a Branch Post Office for the Boot End with effect from 16th April 2007, albeit on a part-time basis for 6 days a week. A further letter had been received indicating that they had been unable to open the Branch at the Boot Garage, Bagillt Road as planned and the date of opening had now been put back to 14th May 2007.

RESOLVED :

That the re-opening of a Post Office facility for the Boot End be welcomed.

161. LOCAL GOVERNMENT POLICY STATEMENT 2007 – A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

The Welsh Assembly Government had issued this document and a copy of the covering letter and extract, as it related to Town and Community Councils, had been previously circulated to Members, together with information received from One Voice Wales on this subject. The Clerk advised that progress in relation to issues relating to Local Councils should proceed following the Welsh Assembly elections and that Body having the necessary legislative powers.

RESOLVED :

That the information be noted.

162. GUIDANCE ON ESTABLISHING COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

The meeting considered a letter and information received from One Voice Wales, which was recommending that all Local Councils should have a Complaints Procedure.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk prepare a suggested Complaints Procedure for the Council, based on the Guidance received from One Voice Wales, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and report back to a future meeting.

163. MEMBERS' ITEMS

a. Old London Road (Gadlys)

Reference was made by Councillor M.A. Reece to the fact that access had become narrow over a period of time, which made it unusable by vehicles, and enquired whether anything could be done. In view of the type of road, it was probably unlikely it was a highway maintainable at the public expense but it was agreed enquiries be made with the Highway Authority.

b. Former Shop Premises – New Brighton Road

Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that since requesting this item be placed on the agenda he had received further complaints and expressions of concern and had contacted the County Council direct, and they had recently arranged for scaffolding to be placed round the building to ensure public safety.

c. Skip Storage – Land Adjoining Former Bettisfield Colliery Site

Councillor M.A. Reece read out to the meeting the contents of a letter he had received from the Chief Planning Services Officer, Flintshire. It concerned the use of skips on this land by Roadrunner without permission. It had been confirmed there was not planning permission for storage of skips or waste on or adjoining the land in question and discussions had taken place with Roadrunner Waste Limited. It was likely either an application would be made for the continuation of the skip storage or formal action would be taken to secure cessation of the use. The issue the Member had raised concerning the dumping of rubbish by other persons in the skips would be investigated and he would be kept informed of the results.

d. Traffic Calming Moratorium – Tyddyn Mesham

The meeting was informed by Councillor R.K. Jones that the Flintshire Executive would be meeting next week to consider a recommendation on the removal of the moratorium on physical Traffic Calming measures. In the circumstances, he suggested that the Highway Authority be approached concerning making progress on the Tyddyn Mesham scheme, albeit the price previously estimated and measures intended may now have changed.

RESOLVED :

That the Highway Authority be approached accordingly concerning making progress on the Traffic Calming Scheme for Tyddyn Mesham.

164. PROPOSAL FOR BRANCH SURGERY PREMISES CLOSURE – WERN SURGERY, BRON Y WERN, BAGILLT

The meeting considered the contents of copy letters received from the Local Health Board and Dr.J.C. Kapoor concerning an application by the latter to withdraw from providing general medical services from his Branch Surgery at Bagillt. As an interested party to this proposal, the Council were invited to comment on the application.

Reference was made by Councillor R.K. Jones to the need to oppose the closure, which was supported by other Members present. Particular reference was made to the comments made by the Local Health Board about having additional services at Doctors Surgeries in the Village when plans were being made to close the Bagillt Clinic. There was also the matter of some patients having to rely on public transport and the cost to get to Flint.

RESOLVED :

That the proposal to close the Branch Surgery at Bron y Wern be objected to.

165. LANDMARK WALES PROJECT – CONSULTATION EXHIBITION

Copies of a letter received from Flintshire County Council had been circulated at the meeting. Landmark Wales was a partnership of seven Local Authorities in Wales including Flintshire and the Landmark Wales Project was an ambitious plan to mark major entry points to Wales and key transitional locations between regions. The project partners had identified the A494/River Dee in Flintshire as a Phase 1 site, to which a restricted competition process applied. Details were given in the letter of the public exhibition to be held between the 14th-28th April 2007. For the information of Members Councillor R.K. Jones gave brief details of the type of projects being planned.

RESOLVED :

That the public consultation on Landmark Wales Project be noted.

166. YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE WERN

The Clerk read out to the meeting a letter received from the Flintshire County Council Youth Service. They had received an approach from young people of the Wern area, who were asking if transport could be arranged on Monday evenings to take them to the Boot End Youth Club, as they felt to walk, especially on dark nights, was too far. The Youth Service were approaching the Community Council to see if they would consider a match funding with the Youth and Community Service to make this facility available. The cost of the service per evening would be 64, and the Clerk advised that he had held an initial discussion with the Youth Service and a twelve week period to the summer holidays was being suggested as a trial period. Members spoke in support of the proposal.

RESOLVED :

That the Flintshire Youth Service be advised that this Council was agreeable to match funding the provision of transport on one evening per week for an initial twelve week period to the school holidays in July, at an estimated cost of 384.00.

167. POSSIBLE HIRE OF TRAFFIC WARDEN FROM NORTH WALES POLICE

The Clerk advised the meeting that following on from discussions with Clerks to Flint Town Council and Hope Community Council he had approached the Chairman on whether this would be something the Council would be interested in

pursuing and accordingly then spoke to the Business Manager at the Eastern Division, Wrexham. It had been confirmed there was a period of a few hours per week available and he gave the meeting details of the use made by Hope Community Council over the past twelve months, who were of a similar size to Bagillt. It was also pointed out that Flintshire County Council were in the process of taking the necessary approach to decriminalise parking enforcement, which was likely to come into effect in 2008. Councillor R.K. Jones suggested that the Council may be better to leave the matter in abeyance for the time being until such time as the Flintshire position had been clearly established and other Members agreed accordingly.

RESOLVED :

That the possible hire of Traffic Warden services be deferred for the time being to enable the position of Flintshire County Council concerning their approach to decriminalisation of parking enforcement to be clarified.

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S
CODE OF CONDUCT**

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Date of Council Meeting | Tuesday 17th April 2007 |
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| Member | Item | Minute No. Refers |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Councillor C.R. William | Planning Application No. 043018 – The Feathers, High Street | 152(c) |

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Chairman.