

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL MERLLYN, Bagillt on Friday 6TH July 2007.

PRESENT : Councillor M.A. Reece (Chairman)

COUNCILLORS : R. Davies, B.T. Doleman, A. Griffiths, R.K. Jones, Mrs. S.L. Jones, S.M. Manfredi, J. Ovens, C.P. Owens, C.R. Williams, Mrs. D.J. Williams and J. Williams.

APOLOGIES : Councillors Mrs. D. Jones and C. Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk), Councillor T. Renshaw, Inspector N. Maxwell and P.C. S.O., M. Griffiths (minute No. 33)

33. POLICING

Councillor T. Renshaw, who was a Flintshire County Council representative on the North Wales Police Authority, thanked the Council for the invitation to attend and address Members and introduced his colleagues, Inspector N. Maxwell, the Territorial Inspector for the North Flintshire area and Police Community Support Officer, M. Griffiths, who was one of three such persons within the North Flintshire area. Councillor Renshaw advised that he would be referring to the role of the Police Authority in relation to policy and financing, whilst his colleague, Inspector Maxwell, would deal with operational issues.

It was the role of the Police Authority to raise the finance required by the Police Authority. He made reference to the links with the Home Office and that in North Wales there were three Command Divisions, with Flintshire being located in the Eastern. Whilst the Police Force, through the Chief Constable, did have certain discretions on expenditure, major ones and those of a controversial nature, such as the recent issue of a Mounted Division, were discussed and approved by the Authority. In relation to the press articles on the use of horses, he explained to the meeting the link with Cheshire Police on this issue, the fact that the horses were being sponsored by businesses, and that they were to be stabled at Erddig in Wrexham.

Councillor Renshaw then went on to make reference to the independent checks that were made on both the Police Authority and the Police Force, and to the excellent reports which had been received on both. In relation to the Police Authority, this was undertaken by the Audit Commission, when they had made an unqualified report for the past three years, which no other in England and Wales had achieved. In relation to the Police Force, they were subject to HMIC inspection and they had also had an excellent report, and in particular he made reference to Health and Safety issues. In relation to the Eastern Division, there

had been reductions in crime statistics covering a number of areas, whilst on traffic accidents there had been no fatalities within the Flintshire area in the preceding twelve months. In relation to speeding, of the thirteen fixed cameras in North Wales, nine were located in Flintshire, and he stressed that their purpose was to reduce accidents, and not as an income generator.

In conclusion, Councillor Renshaw made reference to the role of Community Policing, and the need for public support. As a result, significant progress had been made in relation to Neighbourhood Policing Panels, and whilst some areas had been very successful, unfortunately Bagillt still had some progress to make. One of the purposes of the Panels was to listen to public concerns and then to produce an action plan and if the community were then not happy with the results then the matter was referred to the Territorial Inspector.

Inspector Maxwell referred to the Command Structure, both in North Wales as a whole and also for the Eastern Division. As well as Police response to emergencies and the like, he also was responsible for Community Beat Managers in this area. In relation to the Bagillt area, he advised that he was hopeful that the replacement for P.C. Schofield would be known shortly and he would then advise the Clerk to include contact arrangements, which could then be notified to all Members of the Council. In relation to P.C. Schofield, he indicated that he would be moving to a nearby rural area, and this had arisen out of a vacancy arising and a request from the Officer. He indicated that the PCSO present at the meeting did work in both the Bagillt and Flint area but that there were only three such Officers at present in the Flintshire area, although it was hoped this would increase next year.

The Chairman then invited questions from Members. Reference was made by Councillor R.K. Jones to the previous comment made in relation to the Mounted Division. He was advised that this would be for the purpose of patrols within the Division and not for crowd control and the four horses were being purchased by way of sponsorship and existing Officers would be trained in their usage, and horse boxes were used to transport the animals to the various areas. Councillor R.K. Jones then made reference to the Community Beat Manager situation, as did Councillor B.T. Doleman, and they were advised that it was the intention that each CBM should spend 80% of their time on their community duties, with only 20% abstraction. Councillor Mrs D.J. Williams made reference to the aspect of sickness within the Police Force and was advised that it had been reduced recently and that monitoring of the situation was undertaken. Councillor J. Ovens was advised that the siting of fixed speed cameras was undertaken by the Arrive Alive organisation, which involved the six Counties in North Wales and that the Police were only one part of the partnership.

In conclusion, Councillor Renshaw and Inspector Maxwell made reference to the use of information technology by the Force, with the latest addition to helping Officers on the beat being by way of the use of blackberries, and that there was

an aim for continuous improvement. The Chairman thanked Councillor Renshaw and the two Officers for attending the meeting and responding to issues raised by Members.

34. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 8th June 2007.

a. Minute No. 20(a) – Access to the Foreshore

The Clerk read out to the meeting a reply from Flintshire County Council, advising that they were unaware of any progress concerning the discussions between Veolia and the Wildlife Conservation Body regarding the transferring of the land. They had written to the Company indicating the concern locally about the damage being caused to the land by their failure to control access and seeking their proposals, and were also in contact with the Environment Agency concerning the problem of fly tipping and seeking action by them to address this.

b. Minute No. 30 – Hanging Baskets 2007

The Chairman made reference to the watering arrangements, and at his suggestion it was agreed a letter of thanks be forwarded to Mr. Philip Griffiths for his co-operation in allowing the use of his water supply.

c. Minute No. 32(b) – Dog Fouling

The Clerk advised a response had been received from Flintshire County Council advising that the Dog Warden would be increasing his patrols within the areas of Bryntirion, Tyddyn Mesham and Old London Road, Bagillt. The Animal and Pest Control section did not have any designated powers or resources to prosecute irresponsible dog owners who allowed their dogs to foul and therefore no prosecutions had been carried out. Councillor R.K. Jones advised that in relation to the latter point, the powers of prosecution were within the Environmental Health Section and made reference to a case which had been carried out, to the time taken to get the matter to Court and to the fact that the matter had been dismissed.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 8th June 2007 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

35. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

1. The Chairman reported that he had attended the Flint Town Council Civic Service held on Sunday 1st July 2007.
2. The Chairman advised that he would be attending the Flintshire Eisteddfod Local Authorities Buffet in Mold on Saturday 4th August 2007, together with Councillor C.P. Owens.
3. The Chairman indicated that he had asked the Clerk to send a letter to Mr. Ian Roberts on his retirement as Head of Ysgol Glan Aber at the end of the current term. Councillor R.K. Jones advised the meeting of the progress regarding a replacement and of the interim arrangements that would apply for the next term.

36. UNAUTHORISE USE OF LAND OFF HOLYWELL ROAD (A5026) BY TRAVELLERS – PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 043412

Members had previously received a copy of the brief details of the planning application (043412), as contained on the Flintshire website, information received by e-mail from a local resident and further letters from the West Bagillt Action Committee. In addition, the Clerk confirmed to the meeting that he had recently received a copy of the planning application, which Members were now requested to consider. He also made reference to a discussion with the Clerk to Holywell Town Council, who had advised that their Authority would not be considering the application until 17th July 2007, and had therefore received dispensation from the Planning Authority to send in their comments afterwards, which would be beyond the normal 21 day period for observations, as the application itself would not be considered until September.

Councillor R.K. Jones referred to a meeting he would be attending, together with Councillor J. Owens and Flintshire Legal Officers, to receive an update following information from Counsel. He therefore suggested that if the Council were to object to the proposal that the precise grounds await information from the meeting he referred to together with a decision to be made by Holywell Town Council with a view to ensuring that there was, as far as possible, unison in the observations to be made.

RESOLVED :

1. That in relation to planning application 043412, it be agreed that the Council will object to the proposal and that the Planning Authority be requested to agree a dispensation to enable the grounds for making this decision at a later date, as had been agreed for Holywell Town Council.

2. That the Clerk contact Councillors R.K. Jones and J. Ovens, following their meeting with Flintshire Legal Officers to see if there were any relevant matters which could be imparted into the observations to be made.
3. That the Clerk make contact with Holywell Town Council following their meeting later this month concerning their decision on the application.
4. That following the information obtained in items 2 and 3 above the Clerk then consult the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in order to agree the response from this Council using their recess period powers.

37. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

On behalf of the Bagillt Heritage Society, Councillor B.T. Doleman indicated that they were still awaiting the outcome of the decision relating to their grant application and that it was expected shortly. Once this had been received, and in the expected event of it being successful, then he would contact the Clerk concerning a letter on behalf of the Council to confirm that the 10% figure which was necessary from another Organisation would be forthcoming, as previously agreed.

38. PLANNING

a. Applications Determined under Planning On-Line Consultation Period

No.	Location	Detail
043141	Kings House, High Street	Erect shop front advertisements.

It was supported.

b. Applications

No.	Location	Detail
043018	The Feathers, High Street	Erect three storey development in two buildings of 18 x 2 bed apartments with 27 car spaces

The Clerk advised this was an amended application in terms of the site plan, details of which were reported to the meeting, but otherwise it remained the same. The Council had previously objected to the proposal and the grounds used were read out to the meeting. Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that this type

of development would not comply under the Welsh Housing Quality Standard, which he felt was a relevant planning consideration. There was also the matter that, when taken into consideration with the two other developments in close proximity of a similar type, one of which had already received planning permission, it would change the nature of housing in the area and would exceed what was required for accommodation of this nature from local persons. This could lead in the future to an inappropriate standard, which would affect the surrounding area.

043514	13 Riverbank	Two storey side extension, bedroom/sitting room
043322	Units 3/4 Manor Industrial Estate	Erection new silo adjacent to existing

The Clerk advised Mrs D.J. Williams of the intended use of the new silo, whilst Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to the need for appropriate shielding and an assurance regarding possible noise.

043457	Land at Top Hill	Erect single storey dwelling with loft bedroom
--------	------------------	--

Councillor J. Ovens reminded the meeting of previous septic tank works on the site and to the enforcement action taken by the Authority.

RESOLVED :

1. That an objection be made in relation to application 043018, reiterating the previous grounds and also adding the points made at the meeting concerning the Welsh Housing Quality Standard, exceeding the accommodation type needed for local people and that when combined with the two other nearby similar developments could lead to problems in the future.
2. That applications 043514 and 043457 be supported.
3. That application 043322 be supported, with the request that every effort be made to shield the silo and for an assurance concerning noise emissions.

Note : Councillor J. Williams declared a personal interest in application 043514 and did not speak or vote thereon.

39. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid :-

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Flintshire County Council	26.00	101113	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
Mr. G. Roberts	687.79	101114	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
Mr. J.W. Wain	1.00	101115	Loc.Govt. (Misc.Provisions) Act 1953(S.4)
HM Revenue & Customs	209.51	101116	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
Open Spaces Soc.	30.00	101117	Loc.Govt. Act 1972(S.111)
Mr. G. Roberts	666.80	101120	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
HM Revenue & Customs	209.51	101121	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)

40. DONATIONS

The meeting considered one application which had been received, details of which had been previously circulated.

RESOLVED :

That no donation be made to Shelter Cymru.

41. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Responsible Financial Officer referred to the Bank Reconciliation and income/expenditure figures for the first quarter, which had been circulated at the meeting.

RESOLVED :

That the financial information as circulated be noted.

42. AUTHORITY FOR ACTION DURING THE RECESS PERIOD

RESOLVED :

1. That in accordance with the provisions of Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, acting as a Sub-

Committee, be given powers to act on matters of an urgent nature during the recess period.

2. That in accordance with the provisions of Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, together with the Local Member who lived nearest to the application site, acting as a Sub-Committee, be given powers to act on comments regarding planning applications and other matters where Local Member involvement would be helpful during the recess period.

43. STREET NAMING – FORMER CANTON GARAGE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

The Clerk advised that, following consultation with Councillors Mrs. S.L. Jones and J. Williams, as Local Members, and the Vice-Chairman in the absence of the Chairman, the developer's suggestion of Ffordd Canton was supported and Flintshire County Council be advised accordingly. The twenty-one day period for consultation expired before this meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

44. THE DEMISE OF DUNVANT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The meeting considered a letter received from the County Legal and Democratic Services Officer at Flintshire County Council concerning the demise of Dunvant Community Council, copies of which had been previously circulated.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted

45. PROPOSAL FOR BRANCH SURGERY CLOSURE – BRON Y WERN

A copy of the decision letter from the Flintshire Local Health Board (FLHB) to approve the application for closure, together with the report of the oral hearing, had been previously circulated to Members. Councillor J. Ovens referred to a discussion held with Councillor A. Aldridge of Flintshire County Council, who was now a Member of the FLHB, the need for support from the Community Council for the efforts being made for a Primary Health Care facility in the village, and to the petition which had been raised. In support Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to the fact that patients had not been informed prior to the application being made to the FLHB by the Doctor concerned to close the Surgery, and to the comments which had been made at the hearing concerning bus facilities. As it happened there was a better bus service to where the present Branch Surgery was located in Bagillt, rather than the replacement one in Flint, and there was

also concern regarding the knock-on effect the closure would have on the Chemist shop in the High Street. He advised the meeting that he had made representations to the FLHB concerning their prior promise for improved facilities in the village following on from the decision to close the former Clinic. A copy of the representations he had made would be forwarded to the Clerk and he suggested the Council should also make similar comments.

Councillor A. Griffiths referred to a letter his wife had received at the end of last month, as she was a patient of the Doctor concerned, which had been after the decision had been made. The Chairman made reference to the premises opposite the Upper Shippe Inn that were due to be converted to a pizza parlour and were uncompleted, which perhaps could be investigated by the FLHB as a possible replacement Clinic facility as they had previously promised.

RESOLVED :

That following receipt of the information indicated by Councillor R.K. Jones, the Clerk make representations on similar lines to the Flintshire Local Health Board, and also pointing out a possible facility for the location of a new Primary Health Care resource in the village, as suggested at the meeting.

46. ONE VOICE WALES (OVW) CONFERENCE AND AGM 2007

The meeting considered the appointment of up to two delegates to attend the 2007 OVW Conference and AGM, to be held at Llandrindod Wells on 13th October 2007, details of which had been previously circulated to Members.

RESOLVED :

That as the Chairman was unable to attend, the Vice-Chairman be authorised to do so if he was available and that the charge of £50 for one delegate be paid accordingly.

47. COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEBSITE

Following on from the provision made in estimates, Councillor C.P. Owens reported that the domain name bagilltcommunitycouncil.gov.uk had been registered, and in addition to enabling information relating to the Council, it would also enable E-Government facilities for services. It would be possible for Members of the Council to have an e-mail facility linked to the site. The Clerk advised that he had the last twelve months of Council minutes available to forward to Councillor C.P. Owens for inclusion on the website, and had already forwarded an updated version of the information which was circulated annual public inquiry session on Council activities, contact details, and other relevant information. There would be a registration fee of £100 plus VAT which would cover a two year period

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

48. COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

The Clerk reminded Members that they had previously agreed for Councillors R. Davies, Mrs. D. Jones and C.P. Owens, together with himself to consider issues for possible inclusion in the first edition of the Community Newsletter, which was due to be published in the Autumn, and a report setting these out had been previously circulated to Members. The meeting proceeded to go through the issues raised, some of which were more pertinent for future additions, should the first one be successful.

RESOLVED :

1. That the suggested items for inclusion in the first edition, subject to space being available, be agreed, with the article from a Member of the Council being from the Chairman and from a local organisation from the Bagillt Heritage Society, by way of Councillors B.T. Doleman and C.P. Owens.
2. That a draft of the first edition be prepared for consideration at the September meeting.

49. MEMBERS ITEMS

a. Foresters Hall, High Street

Councillor J. Owens advised the meeting of the delay in having the re-pointing works undertaken at Foresters Hall.

b. Roadrunner Waste

Councillor C.P. Owens made reference to the increased activity taking place at the additional site in the vicinity of Bagillt Car Spares, which did not have permission, and was advised by the Clerk that he had been pursuing this matter with the Planning Authority for an update on an application or enforcement action but to date had not received a reply.

RESOLVED :

That further representations be made to the Planning Authority concerning this matter.

c. Radio Antennae – A548 Dual Carriageway – Blossoms

Councillor Mrs D.J. Williams referred to the recently erected radio antennae by the A548 dual carriageway close to the junction by the Blossoms, and enquired whether it had received planning permission. The Clerk indicated that he would need to check the records and would advise the Member according.

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

Date of Council Meeting	Friday 6th July 2007	
Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
Councillor J. Williams	Planning application No. 043514 – 13 Riverbank, Bagillt	38(b)

.....
Chairman