

## **BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL MERLLYN, Bagillt, on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2008.

**PRESENT : Councillor M.A. Reece (Chairman)**

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

**APOLOGIES :** Councillor B.T. Doleman, Mrs. D. Jones, S.M. Manfredi, J. Owens and Mrs D.J. Williams.

**IN ATTENDANCE :** Inspector N. Maxwell, P.C. Colin Oare and P.C. Chris Byron (minute No. 152) and Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk).

### **151. COUNCILLOR J. OVENS**

Councillor R.K. Jones advised the meeting that Councillor J. Owens had recently been ill but was now recovering at home. It was therefore agreed that a letter be forwarded expressing best wishes for a speedy recovery.

### **152. POLICING MATTERS**

The Chairman welcomed the three Police Officers to the meeting, who were Inspector N. Maxwell, P.C. Oare and P.C. Byron. The Inspector had originally been invited to attend the meeting to discuss concerns expressed regarding drugs and drinking issues in the Village, but he commenced by explaining that the CBM position for Bagillt would be changing and that he was unable to give the reasons why this was necessary. P.C. Oare, who had only recently returned to light duties from sickness, would be replaced as Community Beat Manager for Bagillt in mid-April by P.C. Byron and would assist him in becoming familiar with the area. P.C. Byron was an Officer who was experienced in investigation work which would assist him in his new role as a Community Officer and he hoped that he would be in this position for at least two years. It was fortunate that it had been possible to obtain a quick replacement as often it was many months before this was achieved and he explained to the meeting why response officers had not been brought in to cover. As P.C. Oare had been off sick, part of his duties for the area had been covered by the Police Community Support Officers.

Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that the reasons for a change being necessary in Community Policing for the Village was a matter for the Police, but continuity of service in the role would be of benefit. This gave an opportunity for an Officer to become familiar with the Village and its residents and for local inhabitants to get to know the person. The Member also referred to a discussion with the Leisure Services Department concerning the persistent damage being caused to the

changing rooms in the Walwen due to vandalism.

Councillor C.R. Williams indicated that he felt that when compared with nearby Flint, Bagillt received a poor service in terms of Police presence, and that this was only the second occasion when he had seen P.C. Oare since he commenced CBM duties. Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones advised that she was aware of the efforts that had been made by P.C. Oare in getting to know the community, visiting premises and organisations in order to meet local people. However, she expressed concern that she had been made aware that a change was to happen prior to the Council being informed.

Councillor J. Williams made reference to the problems being caused by a particular gang of youths that congregated at the centre of the Village in the High Street. Reference was made by the Chairman to the problems being caused by vehicles parking on the pavements in the vicinity of the shop premises in the centre of the Village, which meant those pushing prams often, had to step onto the highway.

In response to the points raised, Inspector Maxwell made particular reference to the number of Officers within the North Flintshire Division and who were available for duty during one of the five shift patterns throughout a 24 hour period and how this number could be further depleted by reference to training, sickness, leave and responses of urgency. In order to better explain how duties were undertaken during a shift, he made the offer to take a couple of Members around. Councillors C.R. Williams and R.K. Jones indicated that they would welcome the opportunity.

In relation to the issue of drugs, he made brief reference to intelligence received by the Police and action that had been undertaken and that the overriding need was for appropriate evidence which would stand up in the Courts. On the issue of parking on pavements, nearby Flint and Holywell employed a part-time traffic warden to help with the situation and that Flintshire County Council had not decriminalised parking. If a CBM was to be used on such a duty it would take him away from other issues and would not stop parking problems. In relation to youths congregating, a more pro-active way forward was to provide them with a facility which would encourage them to use it and therefore not roam the streets with nothing to do. He noted a comment made regarding how groups were broken up by Officers in a nearby town.

P.C. Byron made reference to his e-mail contact with the Police and that he would welcome receiving information even before he started duty so that he could build up a picture of the area.

The Chairman thanked the three Police Officers for attending the meeting and responding to the issues raised by Members.

## 153. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

**a. Minute No. 138(a) – Dog Bins in Flintshire**

Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones advised that the dog bin in the Walwen was now being emptied.

**b. Minute No. 138(b) – War Memorial Improvement Scheme**

The Clerk advised the meeting that there had been no response from the developers and therefore he would now write to One Voice Wales requesting legal advice.

**c. Minute No. 138(c) – Land Adjoining Victoria Public House**

Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones advised that, whilst the site had been cleared and a fence erected, the latter had been removed and once again the area was in a mess. It was agreed that the matter be once again pursued with Flintshire County Council.

**d. Minute No. 138(d) – Derelict Premises, Boot End**

The Clerk informed the meeting on a response received from Flintshire County Council advising that there was still one current planning permission that had until November 2008 for work to commence.

**e. Minute No. 138(e) – Prince Dafydd the Second – Proposed Monument**

Councillor C.P. Owens made reference to a recent meeting he had attended of the Committee and circulated an example of the monument intended. It would appear that they were now thinking of having a principal monument in the Bagillt area and a small one in the vicinity of Basingwerk Abbey. In relation to the former, reference was made to the possibility of using County Council land in the vicinity of the by-pass but, to date, no such approach had been made.

**f. Minute No. 139(2) - Costco**

The Clerk advised he had spoken to Flint Town Council and, whilst they had made an application, the membership cards were only being utilised by Members of the Council for their own purpose. The Chairman indicated that he had application forms available, which may be of benefit to a local organisation.

**g. Minute No. 139(3) – Swimming Facilities**

The Clerk reported a response had been received from Flintshire County Council and it had been confirmed that there were facilities available after school at both the Holywell and Flint swimming pools, details of which had been passed on to the Chairman to advise residents who had raised the issue accordingly.

**h. Minute No. 149 – May Elections**

The Clerk advised the meeting that he had passed a nomination pack to each existing Member of the Council and confirmed that he was able to further assist with providing the electoral numbers for proposers and seconders

**i. Minute No. 150(c) – Foreshore**

In response to the Chairman, Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that he was hopeful to have the meeting with a representative of the Environment Agency some time next week.

**j. Minute No. 150(d) – Fencing – Wern**

The Clerk indicated that he had received a response from Flintshire County Council concerning the fencing issue, but they were also making reference to boats being parked in the area. Councillor R.K. Jones indicated he would take this particular aspect up with the relevant Officer.

**RESOLVED :**

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**154. CHAIRMANS ALLOWANCE 2007/08**

**RESOLVED**

That in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 (Section 5) the Chairman's Allowance for 2007/08 municipal year be increased by £165.00p and paid to the Chairman accordingly (cheque Nos. 101174/76).

## 155. PLANNING

### a. Applications Considered Under Planning On-Line Consultation Period

No.	Location	Detail
044522	adj. to Garryvoe, Bagillt Road	Erection of 7 x 3-storey dwellings
	It was noted it was supported.	
044578	5 Canon Drive	Retrospective application to erect front porch/children's play shed

It was noted it was neither objected to or supported but the standard of works undertaken could be better.

044609	Kings House, High Street	Erection of single storey extension to retail shop/new rear access porch
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It was noted it was supported.

### b. Application for Consideration

The Clerk reported on information he had received today from the Planning Authority concerning an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use of operation in activity in breach of a planning condition which related to 5 Canon Drive. It concerned the covered rear yard, covered drive and a rabbit house. This was not an application with the planning merits or its desirability open to opinion and the purpose was to obtain a statutory document confirming that the use described above was lawful for planning control purposes. The Council were being requested to indicate if they had any relevant factual information regarding the issue and in particular precise knowledge of how long, as described, the above had existed at the site.

Councillor R.K. Jones gave some background to this situation, but indicated that was unable to specify how long these matters had existed at the site.

### RESOLVED :

That the letter be noted.

## 156. DONATIONS

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk outlining four applications received since the last meeting and pointing out that there was only a sum of £20 remaining in the current year's budget.

### RESOLVED :

1. That the applications received from the Estuary Voluntary Car Scheme Group and St. Kentigern's Hospice be referred to the October meeting of the Council in line with the policy agreed at the last meeting.
2. That no contribution be considered in respect of the applications received from Llangollen Eisteddfod and Royal Welsh Agricultural Show Limited.

## 157. ONE VOICE WALES MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The meeting considered a letter received from One Voice Wales concerning renewal of membership for 2008/09 from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008, provision for which had been included in estimates for the next financial year.

### RESOLVED :

That membership of One Voice Wales is renewed after commencement of the new financial year.

## 158. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

### RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid.

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Mr. G. Roberts	776.84	101169	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
HM Revenue & Customs	217.30	101170	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
SLCC Enterprises Ltd.	52.88	101171	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
Delyn Press	230.00	101172	Loc.Govt. Act 1986 (S.5)
AON Ltd.	881.73	101173	Loc.Govt.(MP) Act 1976 (S.19)
One Voice Wales	395.00	101175	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.111)

**159. LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT – SECTION 183 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007**

The meeting considered advice received from the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG). This was that each Member of the Council should sign an amended Code of Conduct observation form, a copy of which had been previously circulated. The Clerk advised the meeting that each Member present had signed the form, the other Members who were not present had until 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008 to do so.

Further advice received from the Welsh Assembly Government, and discussed at a recent Society of Clerk's meeting, indicated that a new Code of Conduct would be published in mid-April. The new Councils would have a six month period in which to adopt the Code.

**RESOLVED :**

That the report be noted.

**160. COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER**

The second edition of the Community Newsletter was published and delivered in February, following on from the decision taken at the last Council meeting. The Clerk advised that he had received positive comments from the Library in relation to the content, which included an article on this organisation.

Councillors J. Williams and C. Williams indicated that they would require less newsletters in the future for the areas they delivered, whilst Councillor C.P. Owens indicated that he required some more. In relation to the publication of a third edition, the Clerk suggested that this should be the subject of discussion at the June meeting of the Council.

**RESOLVED :**

That the publication of a third edition of the Community Newsletter be agreed in principle, subject to there being sufficient information and that a decision to publish before or after August be taken at the June Council meeting.

**161. COMMUNITY CARETAKER**

Following on from the decision taken at the last Council meeting, the Clerk reported on a meeting held with representatives of Flintshire County Council concerning the service in the future. The suggestion to change from the present

one week per month to two days one week and three days another week had been agreed as being beneficial for all concerned. In addition it was discussed that a possible alternative of using Alan Catherall to that of using two locally based estate caretakers would give more flexibility, and it had been pointed out that they had received the same training. If this were to proceed the areas of duties undertaken would be brought to their attention by Alan. In addition, there had been a discussion on the possible use of some of the hours in the summer months to cover watering arrangements during the week for the hanging baskets. This was subject to the purchase of a water bowser and further discussion in due course.

Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that he would like to discuss the matter further with the officer concerned to ensure that the Council were receiving the best possible service for the monies expended.

**RESOLVED :**

That the report of the Clerk be noted and that Councillor R.K. Jones report back to the next meeting following a discussion with the relevant Flintshire County Council officer.

**162. COUNTY COUNCIL EMERGENCY PLANNING UPDATE FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

The meeting considered copy of an e-mail received from the Emergency Planning Officer of Flintshire County Council. Reference was made to the implementation of a Civil Contingencies Act in 2004 and the role of the various services in emergency situations with the ultimate aim of contributing to the development and maintenance of a safer, sustainable community.

It was the intention to hold a number of evening seminars specifically for Community Councils and it was hoped that both Members and Clerks would be able to attend. They would be provided with information and guidance which would help within their own communities to become more prepared for and resilient to an emergency.

**RESOLVED :**

That the Council be represented at one of the seminars by the Chairman, or in his absence the Vice-Chairman, and the Clerk.

**163. BAGILLT COMMUNITY CENTRE – HIRING/NOTICE BOARD**

Members had been previously circulated with copy of a reply received from Bagillt Community Association following the decision taken at the January meeting to continue to provide funding for particular aspects at the Community

Centre, with the proviso that the Council would wish in return to receive free use of the premises for very occasional Council meetings. The report indicated that the Association had no objection to this principle, but had made reference to the limited number of licensed events they could now hold in the Centre due to the new legislation and they could therefore not afford to turn away fee paying bookings. In relation to this response, Councillor C.P. Owens felt that the Centre should be made aware of when the Council meets on a scheduled basis and that in the event of a school premises not being available and the Council wishing to retain the same date, then if available, use could be made of the Community Centre.

Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to the decision taken at the last meeting of the Council concerning financial assistance for the Bagillt Playgroup and Toddlers and to the representations made to the Community Association to possibly assist this organisation by reducing their normal hiring fee during the period Beechcroft was unavailable. He was able to report that agreement had been reached to not count setting up and clearing away time, which would reduce the booking fee from £15 to £10 per session.

In relation to the Notice Board, the Clerk reported on the quotation received from Green Barnes Limited to provide a new wall mounted Notice Board, provision for which had been made in estimates for the next financial year.

**RESOLVED :**

1. That the response from the Community Association concerning the use of the Community Centre at Council meetings be noted, and they be informed of scheduled dates on which the Council meets to approach them for accommodation, should the need arise, in the event of either School being unavailable.
2. That the Clerk be authorised to order a wall mounted from Green Barnes Limited together with additional keys and magnetic discs.

**164. COMMUNITIES FIRST HOLYWELL NEIGHBOURHOODS**

The meeting considered a letter received from Communities First Holywell Neighbourhoods advising that they were planning community safety events in each of their areas and that they were inviting participation.

The Clerk also reported that, via Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones, a request had been received from the Holywell Co-ordinator to attend a Council meeting and address Members on their future aims.

**RESOLVED :**

1. That the Council be represented at the Community Safety Event, to be held at the Boot End on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2008, by Councillor J. Williams.
- 2, That the Holywell Co-ordinator be invited to attend a future Council meeting, with those to be held in April and June offered accordingly.

#### **165. NAMING OF DEVELOPMENTS – HIGH STREET, BAGILLT**

The Clerk reported on a letter received from Flintshire County Council indicating that the developer of properties at Central Garage and Mayfair House, High Street, Bagillt, had proposed the names of Bettisfield Court, Dee Estuary Court, Dee Court and Bagillt Court. The Council were invited to make observations on the suggestions and to also indicate which development the preferred name should refer to.

Reference was made by Councillor C.P. Owens to the fact that it would be appropriate if it were also suggested for one of these developments, or a future one, that reference be made to Prince Dafydd the Second, in view of his earlier report concerning the steps being taken to erect a monument in the Bagillt area.

#### **RESOLVED :**

1. That Bettisfield Court be suggested for the development at Central Garage, and Dee Estuary Court for the development at Mayfair House.
2. That Flintshire County Council be requested to draw to the attention of the developer to the possibility of one of these developments instead being named Cwrt Dafydd Ap Llewellyn, and if this were not possible it be suggested to a developer for a future street name.

#### **166. MEMBERS' ITEMS**

##### **a. Bus Shelter at Tyddyn Mesham/High Street**

It was reported by Councillor A. Griffiths that the roof on this bus shelter had come off, a fact which the Clerk indicated he had noticed tonight whilst driving to the meeting. It would be reported to the Community Caretaker next week with a view to him arranging for assistance to have it re-erected and securely affixed.

##### **b. Unauthorised Travellers Site, Holywell Road**

Reference was made by Councillor R.K. Jones to a Newsletter which had been published by the Liberal Democrat Party making reference to the traveller's site, to the fact that residents in the Bagillt West area had not been kept informed, and referring to the efforts of the Local Councillor who

represented the electoral division in which it was located.

Members were reminded of the discussion at the February meeting of the Council, when it had been decided to continue the public inquiry item and to the comments made by residents who were in attendance thanking the Council for having the opportunity of commenting at Council meetings and the efforts they had made and the action taken in relation to the travellers site. This compared favourably with Holywell Town Council. who did not permit the public to speak at their meeting.

The Clerk indicated that if a Member of the Council could forward one of the leaflets concerned he would respond accordingly and both Councillors R.K. Jones and J. Williams undertook to obtain a copy and forward it accordingly.

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

<b>Date of Council Meeting</b>	<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2008</b>
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<b>Member</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Minute No. Refers</b>
	There were no declarations of interest.	

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**Chairman**