

## **BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL GLAN ABER, Bagillt, on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

**PRESENT : Councillor C. Williams (Chairman)**

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

**APOLOGIES :** Councillors B.T. Doleman and T.M. Withington.

**IN ATTENDANCE :** Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk) and P.C. Byron. Ms. E. Jones and Ms. P. Adshed, Flintshire County Council (minute No. 53).

### **52. POLICING MATTERS**

P.C. Byron made reference to speed patrols being undertaken together with Flintshire County Council, which would continue next week, and to the cautions which had been issued. He also made reference to the notices which had been issued in relation to vehicles on the foreshore and to anti-social behaviour in the Village since the last meeting. In relation to incidents in the vicinity of Merllyn C.P. School, reference was made to the amount of alcohol which had been seized and also to the checks which had been made with Trading Standards concerning licensed premises, which had led to a prosecution. In relation to The Stag Inn, he indicated that the new licensee had now received a full licence and would co-operate this year in relation to displaying a Christmas lantern at the premises.

P.C. Byron circulated at the meeting information in relation to crime statistics and that there had been a reduction in the numbers for the Bagillt area. The Officer also made reference to the issue of drugs and the on-going pursuit of information and offenders. Circulated at the meeting were postcards and posters in relation to the Community Policing initiative, both in the Village and for the neighbouring area, with the former being delivered to homes in the community and upon which he was seeking assistance concerning their circulation. The Officer indicated that he had as yet been unable to pursue the issue of traffic inappropriately using Tyddyn Mesham as a shortcut. Councillor M.A. Reece referred to the problem of parked vehicles in the High Street, particularly on the pavement areas, making it difficult for buses and other traffic to pass through, which was noted by the Officer, who also indicated that he had undertaken an initiative in the Victoria Road area concerning vehicles parked on pavements.

Reference was made by Councillor Mrs D.J. Williams to a number of youths that had earlier this evening been congregating around and climbing on the bus

shelter at Tyddyn Mesham, which P.C. Byron undertook to investigate. The Member also referred to the continuing problem of vehicles being sold from grass verges, to which the Officer appropriately responded.

### **53. EMERGENCY PLANNING UPDATE**

The Chairman welcomed the two Officers of the Joint Emergency Planning Service to the meeting, who advised that they worked for both Flintshire and Denbighshire County Councils. The Chairman indicated that he and the Clerk had attended an update at County Hall in June and, following a report back to the Council, it had been decided to invite the representatives to address the Council, so that Members could be clear as to the assistance being sought concerning local information which could be utilised in times of an emergency. Accordingly, the Officers indicated that they would make particular reference to the Community Plan aspect.

Following the Civil Contingencies Act in 2004, there had been a change in emphasis for the Emergency Planning Service together with other Statutory Agencies and Public Utilities. There was a regional element to Emergency Planning, both in terms of North Wales and individual County areas and, as a consequence, particular types of emergency, such as coastal protection, would have a higher emphasis in certain Authorities.

Regarding the Community Plan, they were seeking assistance from Local Councils to prepare information in relation to their own particular area that was familiar to them, both in terms of facilities which could be utilised and the availability of such things such as generators when power was disrupted, availability of boats in time of flooding and people who were trained in First Aid. Inevitably, in times of emergency, there was a time delay before the Emergency Services could come to the assistance of an area, and therefore the local population had to rely to some extent on themselves, therefore, a further matter of local information being sought was to list those people who were felt to be particularly vulnerable. It was hoped that those who were prepared to volunteer would look after their own immediate area in the community, both to provide the information to go in the Plan and keeping it updated.

An example of a Community Plan was shown at the meeting and the Clerk advised that he could arrange for all Members to receive a copy at a future meeting and then everyone could have the opportunity of including information so a master copy could be completed.

Councillor Mrs D.J. Williams referred to the fact that, whilst Members of the Council may be more than happy to volunteer to both provide information and assist in their own immediate area in times of an emergency, it would depend if that person were available at the time of need, as a number did work. In response, this aspect was noted and it would mean that there would need to be

more than one volunteer for each particular area to ensure that there was cover, should the need arise.

Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to the self-help concept and indicated that there were limits to this. In addition, he made reference to the issue of sandbags, which were particularly useful in times of flooding. In response, the Officers indicated that, whilst such provision was presently available from the depots in the County area, the matter of storage at a more local level was something which would merit further consideration. It was also indicated that plans were already in hand to see if a more long-lasting type of bag could be obtained, so that those made in advance would last for a prolonged period and be immediately available in times of need.

Reference was made by Councillor M.A. Reece to the aspect of buildings being utilised in times of an emergency, whilst Councillor S.M. Manfredi made reference to the role of the Police.

**RESOLVED :**

1. That the Officers from the Joint County Emergency Planning Service be thanked for attending and making their presentation.
2. That the Council agree in principle to assist in the preparation of a Community Plan, subject to agreement of individual Members to help with providing information and acting as contact points for their immediate area in times of an emergency.
3. That the Clerk circulate to a future meeting of the Council a draft of the suggested Community Plan issued by the Joint Counties Emergency Planning Service, with a view to Members entering known information and for future discussion.

**54. MINUTES**

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2008.

**a. Minute No. 34(a) – War Memorial Improvement Scheme**

Councillor M.A. Reece advised the meeting that the residents had told the builder they did not wish a further concrete plinth to be built and placed in another area away from the War Memorial, but were now co-operating in relation to placing their refuse sacks outside their premises for collection.

**b. Minute No. 34(b) – New Benches – War Memorial**

The Clerk reported that a site meeting had been held with Councillor B.T. Doleman and Mr. N. Watson of the Heritage Society, himself on behalf of the Council and a representative of Flintshire County Council to agree the siting of the benches, which had been delivered and were now awaiting erection.

**c. Minute No. 35(a) – One Voice Wales – Wrexham/Flintshire Area Committee**

The Clerk referred to a letter he had received from the Area Officer and a subsequent telephone conversation from the Chairman of the Committee, following on from the representations made after the last meeting. There had been an apology made concerning the curtailment of the presentation, and reasons given for why it had been considered necessary.

**d. Minute No. 51(a) – Dog Bins**

The Clerk reported that, following a discussion with Councillor M.A. Reece, an application had been made to site one of these bins at the rear of the car park in the High Street, in the region of the recycling bins. He also read out to the meeting a response received from Flintshire County Council concerning a survey which was being undertaken last month due to the number of requests being received, the results of which were awaited.

**e. Minute No. 51(d) – Hedges**

The Clerk advised that he had not received a response from the County Council, but Councillor Mrs. N.M. Jones indicated that the hedges at Old London Road would be cut early next week. Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that the hedges at Gadlys Lane had been attended to.

**f. Minute No. 51(e) - Bagillt Library**

In response to Councillor A. Griffiths, the Clerk indicated he had consulted with the Branch Librarian before submitting the views expressed at the last meeting, and she had been in support of the sentiments made. However, a response from Flintshire County Council was awaited and it was agreed a further letter be sent accordingly.

**g. Minute No. 51(f) – Riverbank Play Area**

Councillor M.A. Reece advised the meeting of a meeting held to discuss what could be provided and that a further meeting was to be held on

7th October 2008, which would give the opportunity of modification prior to a final decision.

**RESOLVED :**

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**55. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES**

**a. Police Authority Community Forum for Flintshire**

Councillor A. Griffiths indicated that he had attended the Forum, which had been held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2008 at the Daniel Owen Centre, Mold. After being advised of the Policing priorities for the current year, those attending had been advised by the Chairman that the target for Flintshire was to improve local crime solving from the current 32% to 43% by 2009/10. Reference had also been made to the number of PCSO's in North Wales, the bulk of which were currently in the Wrexham area. P.C. Byron indicated that on occasions he had been able to obtain assistance from the PCSO whilst working in the Village.

**b. Society of Local Council Clerks – Wales Regional Conference**

The Clerk advised that he had attended the conference, which had been held at Llandrindod Wells on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2008, to which there had been approximately 90 representatives, a number of whom were Town and Community Councillors. After receiving a short address from the Deputy Minister for Regeneration at the Welsh Assembly, there had been an interesting presentation from representatives of the firm responsible for external auditing in the West Wales area, which seemed to show a much more friendly and helpful manner in the way they contacted and advised Clerks. There had been presentations from Chief Executives of One Voice Wales and the Society concerning training for Councillors and continuing professional development, including a formal qualification for Clerks. There had also been a short presentation on the planning process from a representative of Powys County Council and an address by the Public Service Ombudsman for Wales on local democracy. In all, it had been a worthwhile conference to attend, which had previously always been held in South Wales.

## 56. PLANNING

### a. Applications Determined in the Recess Period

No.	Location	Detail
045258	Land at Sunnyside, Top Hill	Erection of 4-bed. dormer dwelling.

It was noted that the application had been supported.

045128	Land at Dee Bank Industrial Estate	Hand car wash – change of use/retrospective part.
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It was noted that the application had been supported.

045233	Valparaiso, Sandy Lane	Outline – erection of two dwellings.
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It was noted an objection had been made on grounds of access, highway width and wildlife.

045259	Land at Gadlys Lane	Erection of breeding stock shed/ storage of small plant/equipment for land cultivation.
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It was noted no support had been offered, neither had there been an objection to the application.

045331	14 Walwen Ucha	Erection of garden wall and garage.
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It was noted that the application had been supported

045354	Rose View, High Street	Demolish existing garage, erect new single storey with workshop area.
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It was noted that the application had been supported

045354	Rose View, High Street	Demolish existing garage and construct new games room.
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It was noted that the amended application had been supported.

It was noted that Councillor M.A. Reece, as Local County Member, did not participate in the consultation and decision making for applications 045233 and 045354, as he had declared a personal interest in them to the Planning Authority.

**b. Recess Period Procedure**

Councillor J. Williams expressed the view that all Members within the Ward should be consulted when planning applications are received during the Recess period to enable them to express a view. The Clerk briefly advised the meeting of the delegation procedure used during the Recess period and also in between meetings using the planning on-line service, and suggested that the item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting to enable him to set out the existing procedures and the consequences of the change being suggested by the Member.

**RESOLVED :**

That the Clerk report to the next meeting of the Council on the delegated Authority procedures used for planning applications so as to enable a change to be considered, as being advocated by Councillor J. Williams.

**c. Applications for Consideration**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Detail</b>
042185	Victoria Inn, Bagillt Road	Demolition of existing public house and erection of 8 semi-detached dwellings.

The Clerk reported to the meeting that this was an amended site layout plan and that when it had been originally considered in November 2006, it had neither been supported nor objected to but concern had been expressed regarding the access onto the Bagillt Road, fencing and encroachment onto the embankment.

045432	The Old Presbytery, Foel Gron	Renewal of Outline planning permission.
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**RESOLVED :**

1. That in relation to application 042185, an objection be made on the grounds of access onto Bagillt Road.
2. That with regard to application 045432, the proposal be supported.

**c. Dollar Park, Bagillt Road, Holywell**

The Clerk reported that he had received an e-mail from a local resident concerning a preliminary meeting taking place in November regarding this application, and whether further information was available and what the owners/advisors were objecting to concerning the Flintshire County Council decision. In response, the Clerk indicated he had advised that the person concerned contact the Planning Department at Flintshire County Council and perhaps ask to see the case file or request his Local County Councillor to raise the issue for him.

**57. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

**a. Recess**

**RESOLVED :**

That the action of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in relation to payment of the accounts listed below be endorsed :

<b>Name</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Expenditure Powers</b>
Dw'r Cymru/Welsh Water	420.19	101201	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act 1976 (S.19)
Delyn Press	230.00	101202	Loc.Govt.Act 1986 (S.5)

**b. Accounts for Payment**

**RESOLVED :**

That the following accounts be paid :

<b>Name</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Cheque No.</b>	<b>Expenditure Powers</b>
Mr. G. Roberts	822.46	101205	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
HM Revenue & Customs	199.01	101206	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
Dw'r Cymru/Welsh Water	66.15	101207	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act 1976 (S.19)

**58. COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER**

Further to the third edition, which was published and delivered in July, the Clerk indicated that he had not received any comments from the public in relation to the Newsletter, and other Members indicated likewise. The Clerk requested the Council to consider whether they wished to publish a further edition and when would be the appropriate time, subject to sufficient articles. Councillor R.K. Jones felt that the Council should endeavour to publish the next edition of the Newsletter in late November/early December in order to publicise local Christmas events. He also felt there might be the opportunity to place an article concerning the new Vicar for Bagillt. The Clerk indicated that he would also approach the two Schools to see if they wished to submit articles, as previously Ysgol Merllyn had indicated they would be pleased to do so again, but to date he had not received any response from Ysgol Glan Aber.

**RESOLVED :**

That a report be made to the meeting in November 2008 concerning the publication of the next edition of the Newsletter, in relation to probable content and publication date.

**59. COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEBSITE**

Councillor C.P. Owens reminded Members that the website had been going now for a period of twelve months, and made reference to statistics received regarding usage, which averaged almost 30 per day. In addition, he reported on information which was already on the website and that he was looking for assistance with a view to having details also available in the Welsh language.

In relation to possible future expansion, Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to a discussion earlier in the meeting regarding the Emergency Planning item, and whether details in relation to the Community Plan could be included. He was advised by Councillor C.P. Owens that this may not be possible due to the restrictions placed as a result of the data protection legislation. The Chairman referred to the article at the start of each meeting in relation to the Public Inquiry item, and felt that if agendas were also included on the website, with a facility for members of the public to raise issues, then they could be reported to the relevant meeting without the member of the public having to attend. Councillor C.P. Owens felt that this would be a useful addition and the Clerk advised he would forward the necessary information to the Member for placing on the website.

**RESOLVED :**

That the report be noted.

**60. FLINTSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**

The Clerk reported that, arising out of the discussion at the July meeting, Flintshire Citizens Advice Bureau had accepted the offer to address the Council in October on their role.

**RESOLVED :**

That the report be noted.

**61. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING 2008**

The Clerk reported to the meeting on the response received from Flintshire County Council concerning the possible use of five lighting columns at the Boot End to display the rope lights. Even utilising the different method of connection recommended by LITE Limited in 2007, the Flintshire Lighting Officer still felt that the lamps would be subject to vandalism, and details were given to the meeting of other restrictions that would be placed by Flintshire County Council should they be used.

Councillor M.A. Reece felt that perhaps the way forward would be to look for another building in that area which could utilise all or some of the available rope lights and the Christmas lantern, formerly located at the Bagillt Arms public house. The Clerk advised Members of the costs which had been quoted in 2007 for the new fitting arrangements for lamp columns suggested by LITE Limited, and the previous cost of each time switch and bracket arrangement for fitting lights to a new dwelling.

Councillor R.K. Jones felt that in view of the comments received from Flintshire County Council and the costs indicated by the Clerk, the use of the lighting columns in the Boot End should not proceed for this year, and that discussions should be held with the Church Authorities to see if the building referred to by Councillor M.A. Reece could be utilised. In suggesting this course of action he was cognisant of the fact that before the end of the next month the Council would have to place its order for Christmas lighting arrangements with the Company. However, the Member also suggested that the Clerk should have discussions with other Local Authorities which have different arrangements for use of lighting columns, notwithstanding that most, if not all, are of a different type, to see if useful information could be used in relation to discussions with the Lighting Authority in the future.

**RESOLVED :**

1. That no further action be taken for this year concerning the use of lighting columns in the Boot End, but that the Clerk hold discussions with other Local Councils in Flintshire who make use of lighting columns and obtain

details of their fixing arrangements.

2. That discussions be held with the Church Authorities with a view to use of their building in the Boot End for the display of Christmas lighting.

## **62. AUTHORITY FOR ACTION DURING THE RECESS PERIOD**

### **a. Planning Applications and Payment of Accounts**

The meeting noted the action taken by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman concerning these issues, as reported earlier in the agenda.

### **b. Footpath No. 76**

It was noted that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had supported the proposal by Flintshire County Council to correct the alignment of public footpath No. 76 on the foreshore on the Definitive Map which had been drafted incorrectly. Councillor M.A. Reece reported on the need for further notices to be served on landowners due to the fact that a number of others had been found, and it would also be necessary to approach previous persons who had given information with regard to the actual route walked to request them to once again confirm this issue.

#### **RESOLVED :**

That the action of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be endorsed.

## **63. FORMER BETTISFIELD COLLIERY LANDFILL SITE**

The Clerk reported on a telephone conversation held the previous day with Mr. G. Nancarrow of the Planning Department at Flintshire County Council, who had apologised for not responding to a letter sent by the Community Council in May regarding the issue of the land being transferred to Flintshire from Veolia. He indicated that the Planning Department fully supported the land being taken over by Flintshire and that the matter was now in the hands of the Council's legal staff. A letter, setting out in more detail these points, would be forwarded to the Council next week.

#### **RESOLVED :**

That the report be noted.

## **64. SPRINGFIELD QUARRY - RESTORATION**

The Clerk advised that in the same conversation with Mr. G. Nancarrow of the Planning Department, the Officer had also made reference to correspondence

received from Veolia regarding the long awaited restoration of the Springfield Quarry site and that the Council may wish to request details given their previous interest in the matter. Councillor R.K. Jones fully supported that a letter should be forwarded by this Authority concerning this matter to ensure that the area was appropriately restored.

**RESOLVED :**

That the Clerk forwards a letter to Flintshire County Council accordingly in relation to this matter.

**65. DOCUMENTATION OF INTERNAL FINANCIAL CONTROLS - REVIEW**

The Clerk referred to the report made to the last meeting of the Council on additional information required by the external auditor. As a consequence, Members were asked to consider the report previously circulated in his capacity as Responsible Financial Officer, which updated the internal financial controls since it was last undertaken by the Council in May 2005. In addition, it was pointed out that the Council would need to review this document on an annual basis at the same time as the risk assessment.

**RESOLVED :**

That the documentation, as circulated, in relation to internal financial controls, be approved as a review and update of the current arrangements.

**66. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS - REVIEW**

Arising out of the issue referred to in the previous minute, the Clerk indicated he had received an updated Model Document from One Voice Wales in relation to Financial Regulations. A comparison would be undertaken in relation to existing financial regulations to enable the Council to undertake a full review at a future meeting.

**RESOLVED :**

That the report be noted.

**67. DAFYDD-AP LLEWELLYN MONUMENT CAMPAIGN**

The meeting considered a letter received from the Campaign Committee, and Members were asked to consider the offer to address a future meeting by their Chairman to expand on their proposals.

**RESOLVED :**

That the offer to address a future meeting be accepted, and an invitation be extended for the November 2008 Council meeting.

**68. MEMBERS' ITEMS**

**a. Victoria Road Playingfield**

Councillor J. Williams requested that consideration of this item be deferred until the next meeting.

**b. 'Bagillt' Sign**

Councillor A. Griffiths made reference to the fact that whilst there was a sign at the Flint end of the Village on the A548 indicating the Village of Bagillt, this was not the case on approaching from Greenfield. Members were of the view that there used to be a sign in the vicinity of the Pump House and that the Highway Authority should be requested to have this reinstated.

**RESOLVED :**

That the Clerk make representation to the Highway Authority accordingly.

**c. Water Bowser**

Councillor Mrs D.J. Williams indicated that whilst travelling through Northop recently she had noticed use being made of a small water bowser which may be appropriate for watering hanging baskets in Bagillt in future years.

**RESOLVED :**

That the Clerk make enquiries with Northop Community Council in relation to this matter.

**69. POST OFFICE LIMITED'S NETWORK CHANGE PROGRAMME**

The Clerk indicated that although neither of the Post Offices in Bagillt were included in the list of those to be closed in the Flintshire area, it had been agreed by the Chairman that he should attend the Information Forum organised by the Post Office and held on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2008 in Ruthin, and report to this meeting. The Clerk advised that there had been presentations made by representatives of the Post Office section of Royal Mail, Federation of Sub-Post Masters/Mistresses and the consumer body, Postwatch. Details were given of the criteria which had

been used to identify those to be closed, an alternative mobile service for those affected in the rural areas and that if a Post Office was saved then although the next on the substitute list would be considered for closure, it would not necessarily be from the same area and they in turn would have the chance of a consultation process.

**RESOLVED :**

That the report be noted.

**70 SITE OF FORMER TANDOORI RESTAURANT, BOOT END, BAGILLT**

The Clerk referred to a letter received from Flintshire County Council advising that at the end of April a Statutory Notice served on the owner requiring the building to be demolished had expired which meant the Council could carry out the work in default. On-going discussions with the agent indicated there had been no offers for the site so a decision was taken to appoint a contractor to carry out the demolition. Shortly before the Council's contractor was to commence work the owner chose to appoint his own following consultation with the County Council. The Notice required that all material and debris should be moved from the site so on completion the site should be clear, which would hopefully make it more appealing to a potential purchaser. Reference was made by Councillor C.P. Owens to the fact that the building had in fact been demolished but he was concerned that asbestos had been left in an open skip near to the pavement, although vehicle access to the site had been blocked off.

**RESOLVED :**

That the Clerk draw the attention to the County Council to the matter of asbestos still on the site.

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

<b>Date of Council Meeting</b>	<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2008</b>
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<b>Member</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Minute No. Refers</b>
There were no Declarations of Personal Interest.		

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**Chairman**

