

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL MERLLYN, Bagillt, on Friday 10th October 2008.

PRESENT : Councillor C. Williams (Chairman)

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

APOLOGIES : Councillors R. Davies, B.T. Doleman and S.M. Manfredi.

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk) and Ms. Jan Gavin and Ms. Julie Griffiths, Flintshire Citizens Advice Bureau (minute No. 71).

71. FLINTSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The Chairman welcomed the two representatives of the Flintshire Citizens Advice Bureaux to the meeting. They advised they would be talking about the services operated by their Bureaux and would be leaving for Members' perusal copies of their Annual Report, a report demonstrating the impact of the Bureaux in Flintshire, and a copy of their usual powerpoint presentation, which referred mainly to more national issues. Reference was made to the funding sources of the Bureaux, with particular reference to Flintshire County Council, Welsh Assembly Government, the Legal Services Commission and other Organisations for particular issues, as well as the funding received from Town and Community Councils, which contributed to the day to day running costs of the service.

There were presently three Bureaux located within Flintshire, at Mold, Holywell and Deeside, and for the present time Deeside was also having to cover for the Bureau which had to be closed at Flint, that had previously been the busiest. The Bureau had currently 53 volunteers, as well as 24 paid staff, and reference was made to the clients assisted during 2007/08, as well as the income generated, particularly by way of benefits received by clients, and also the amount relating to their debt issues. Reference was also made to the legal services aspect, the family matters service, their involvement in equality matters, particularly by way of employment, and debt issues. The latter was now the most common form of service sought from the Bureaux. In conclusion, it was pointed out that the Bureaux was always looking for volunteers, and reference was made to the detailed training they received before being able to participate in Bureau services.

The Chairman then invited questions, with Councillor R.K. Jones making reference to the closure of the Flint Bureau, and to the reduced funding the Flint Town Council were now making available as a consequence. In reply it was

pointed out that as the Bureaux were now only running from three locations their costs had been accordingly reduced, which negated this loss of income. In response to the Chairman, they advised there had been efforts made to seek alternative premises in Flint but this had not been possible and the Bureaux as such were dependent on facilities being provided by the County Council, which had to meet a certain criteria. Councillor R.K. Jones was advised that the Bureaux worked in liaison with the Welfare Rights Unit at the County Council to ensure that clients received the best information and that there was no duplication. The Chairman thanked the two representatives from the Flintshire Bureaux for attending the meeting.

72. POLICING MATTERS

The Clerk advised the meeting that he had been informed shortly before the commencement of an apology from P.C. Byron due to the fact that his shift arrangements for the day had been changed.

The Clerk made reference to the letter previously circulated from the new Territorial Inspector for North Flintshire, and to a meeting which had been arranged on Policing partnership on the 30th October 2008 at Flint, to which the Council could appoint representatives.

RESOLVED :

That the Council be represented at the meeting by Councillor A. Griffiths on behalf of the East Ward, and Councillor C.R. Williams on behalf of the West Ward.

73. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 12th September 2008.

a. Minute No. 54(b) – New Benches - War Memorial

The Clerk reported that the two benches had now been erected at the War Memorial.

b. Minute No. 54(d) – Dog Bins

The Clerk reported on a reply received from Flintshire County Council confirming that, as a result of the survey, a new bin would be installed at the High Street car park.

c. Minute No. 54(f) – Bagillt Library

The Clerk read out to the meeting a reply received from Flintshire County Council indicating that the budget for 2008/09 was fully committed, but the observations put forward by this Authority would be taken into consideration when an external re-decoration schedule for the following financial year was drawn up.

d. Minute No. 56(c) – Dollar Park, Bagillt Road, Holywell

The Clerk advised the Planning Authority had indicated that the Inspectorate had decided a pre-Inquiry meeting in November was not justified and matters relating to the organisation could take place during the first day. The Inquiry was scheduled to take place on the 20-24th January and 27-28th January 2009. The appellants in the submitted questionnaire had set out the grounds of appeal, which could be viewed on the public file at any time during office hours, but they had failed to meet the requisite time scales to submit a further statement setting out the case they were going to make at the Inquiry. The Council's statement of case on the appeal could be viewed on the file.

e. Minute No. 62(b) – Footpath No. 76

Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that new maps were to be issued following a representation received with all relevant parties to be re-consulted.

f. Minute No. 68(b) - Bagillt Sign

The Clerk advised that Flintshire County Council had indicated village signs were only provided by them if the relevant Town or Community Council met the cost, which would be in the region of £200. Councillor R.K. Jones advised that there was indeed a sign from the Greenfield direction, but it was not in the best location for making a clear direction.

g. Minute No. 68(c) – Water Bowser

The Clerk advised Mrs D.J. Williams that he had been in contact with his colleague at Northop Community Council, who would make enquiries with the local persons involved and advise him accordingly.

h. Minute No. 70 – Site of Former Tandoori Restaurant, Boot End, Bagillt

Reference was made by Councillor C.P. Owens to the health and safety issues concerning this matter, which could have been dealt with better.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 12th September 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

74. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

The Clerk advised he had received a letter from LITE Limited indicating that the costs of testing, delivery, installation and dismantling of the existing lights in the centre of the Village would be £2,016 plus VAT. Whilst this covered testing the rope spirals, it did not include their erection or dismantling. He had enquired of the Company if there was an arrangement by which the rope spirals could be connected together if the building previously suggested at the Boot End was forthcoming for the display together with the Christmas lantern formerly used at The Bagillt Arms. There would also be the additional cost of a time clock arrangement, which had been referred to at the previous meeting.

The Clerk advised Members that following information from P.C. Byron, he had contacted the new Licensee at The Stag Inn, who was willing to have a Christmas lantern on his premises using the former connection. As The Kings House premises had now been passed from Costcutter to McColls, contact had been made with the latter's head office to see if the previous Christmas lantern arrangement could continue to apply and a response was still awaited.

Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that N.R. Glaziers would be prepared to allow an electricity supply from their premises for any Christmas lights placed on the adjacent Church building providing their costs were reimbursed. He was however still awaiting formal approval from the Church Authorities. In relation to minute No. 61 of the last meeting, Councillor R.K. Jones stressed that the suggestion he had made concerning not using the rope spirals on lamp columns in the Boot End had been due to the time factor in relation to an order being placed with the contractor and that discussions should continue with other Town and Community Councils who had different connection arrangements using lamp columns, some of which were similar to the type used in the area being suggested in the Boot End.

RESOLVED :

1. That the quotation received from LITE Limited, as reported by the Clerk, be accepted, whilst noting that there would be further costs involved in any lighting located at the Boot End.
2. That the position regarding The Stag Inn and The Kings House premises in the High Street for erecting Christmas lanterns, be noted.

3. That the Clerk and Councillor M.A. Reece work in liaison concerning the possible use of Church premises at the Boot End for the rope spirals and the spare Christmas lantern, with a view to achieving the aimed for result providing the necessary permission and technical aspects were achievable.

75. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

1. The Chairman advised that he had received an invite from The Bagillt United Reformed Church to attend a service on the 5th October 2008, which was due to the fact that they were joining with the Flint United Reformed Church, but unfortunately he had been unable to attend.
2. The Chairman indicated that an invitation had been received from Ysgol Merllyn to switch on their Christmas tree lights on 1st December 2008, and subject to work commitments he would be accepting.
3. Members were reminded there would be the usual Remembrance Sunday service at 12 noon at the War Memorial on 9th November.

76. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

a. One Voice Wales – Wrexham/Flintshire Area Committee

Councillor A. Griffiths reported on a recent meeting he had attended at County Hall, Mold. The Leader and Chief Executive of Flintshire County Council had been in attendance and he made reference to the presentation made by the former. Arising out of the information received from these representatives it appeared that match funding provision was still available provided there was sufficient notice, that the number of dog bins in Flintshire was controlled by the fact that there was only one employee available to arrange for their emptying due to the costs and that training was to be offered to Town and Community Councillors. Of the 34 Town and Community Councillors in Flintshire 18 were Members of OVW, whilst in Wrexham it was 50-50.

77. PLANNING

a. Applications Considered Using Planning On-Line Service

No.	Location	Detail
045458	Kings House, High Street	Proposed re-location of entrance door and window.

It was noted that the application had been supported.

045235 Fishpool Farm, Bagillt Road Outline – residential development.

It was noted that as the Members consulted were not in agreement the Chairman agreed an extension of time be applied for to enable the matter to be considered at this meeting, and this had been agreed by the Planning Authority. Councillor C.P. Owens made reference to his concern about over-development on the site given the detail contained in the proposal and to the area which has been set aside for flood alleviation, which he felt could result in more three storey dwellings in the area. Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to the UDP situation and to the fact that other developments in the Village had more than made up the growth intended for Bagillt, and therefore this scheme could not be classed as infill or windfall development.

RESOLVED :

That in relation to application 045235, an objection be made to the proposals on the grounds indicated above.

b. Applications for consideration

No.	Location	Detail
045418	5 Cae'r Ffynnon, Tyn Twll Lane	Erection of two storey extension to rear.
045390	Station Road	Erection of warehouse with incidental office accommodation.

RESOLVED :

That with regard to applications 045418 and 045390, they be supported.

c. Comments on applications using delegated authority in the recess and using the planning on-line service

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. Members were reminded that Councillor J. Williams had advocated that all Members within the Ward should be consulted on applications received in the recess period and it was agreed a report be made to this meeting setting out current delegation arrangements. The report set out the current arrangements in relation to both the recess and planning on-line responses in between meetings.

RESOLVED :

1. For the recess periods in future all seven Members within either the East or West Ward be notified of planning applications with a majority of the views expressed sufficing, with Members expected to respond or be contacted by the Clerk within seven days of receipt of the information: in the event of holidays reducing the views expressed and there being no clear comment determined, then the Chairman and Vice-Chairman would make a decision and they would also be used in the same way if all seven Members had responded and there was no clear majority view.

2 That the current arrangements in relation to planning on-line responses between meetings continue.

78. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid :-

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Hacker Young	334.88	101208	Loc.Govt. Finance Act 1982
Mr. G. Roberts	707.18	101209	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
HM Revenue & Customs	199.00	101210	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
Flintshire County Council	3,150.00	101211	Loc.Govt.M.P) Act 1953 (S.4)/Parish Councils Act 1957
Delyn Press	90.00	101212	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Huws Gray Ltd.	45.04	101213	Parish Councils Act 1957 (S.1)

79. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk on applications received for financial assistance, copies of which had been previously circulated. The report reminded Members of the new policy adopted in February, a copy of which had been circulated as an appendix. Each of the applications received were listed in the report together with information on whether financial details had been received and if an application had been granted in previous years.

RESOLVED :

1. That in accordance with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1872, the following donations be agreed :-

Ysgol Glan Aber – £300	cheque No. 101214
Ysgol Merllyn – £300	cheque No. 101215
Bagillt Bowling Club – £200	cheque No. 101216
Bagillt Ti a Fi – £100	cheque No. 101217

2. That no financial assistance be given in respect of the applications received from WRVS Supporter Care, Shelter Cymru, Childline Cymru/Wales, Delyn Women's Aid Limited and Marie Curie Cancer Care North Wales.
3. That the applications received from Estuary Voluntary Care Scheme Group, Victim Support North East Wales and St. Kentigern Hospice, be deferred until the February 2009 meeting pending receipt of the requested financial information.
4. That Bagillt Bowling Club be reminded they should also approach Flintshire County Council for assistance in relation to maintenance, given that the majority of bowling greens within the County which are owned by that Authority were maintained by them.

80. BAGILLT FORESHORE – FORMER BETTISFIELD COLLIERY LANDFILL SITE

Further to discussion at the last meeting, the Clerk indicated that the letter had now been received from the Planning Officer at Flintshire County Council, copies of which had been previously circulated for Members' information.

81. COUNTRYSIDE AND RIGHTS OF WAY ACT 2000 – FLINTSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

The meeting considered a letter from Flintshire County Council, copies of which had been previously circulated. The Council were being requested to consider whether they wished to nominate any person for consideration of membership to the Forum and guidance for prospective Members had also been previously circulated.

RESOLVED :

That the letter be noted.

82. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY FORUM

The meeting considered a letter received from Flintshire County Council advising that the first County Forum between the County Council and Town and Community Councils was to be held on the 20th October 2008 at Connah's Quay.

All Local Councils were being requested to send the Chairman and Clerk to this event and in addition a representative from Wrexham and Flintshire One Voice Wales had been invited to observe. At the first Forum there would be an opportunity to discuss approaches to issues including Relationships and Communications, Scope for Joint Work in the Model Charter, Local Development Plan and Community Strategy.

RESOLVED :

That it be noted that the Chairman and Clerk were to represent the Council at the first Forum and report back to the next meeting of the Council.

83. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A report by the Responsible Financial Officer on the Bank reconciliation and income/expenditure for the second quarter to 30th September 2008 was noted.

84. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2007/08

The Clerk reported that notification had been received from Hacker Young, the external Auditor that a clean report had been issued in respect of the annual return for 2007/08. Notice of conclusion of the audit had been displayed on the Council's Notice Boards and at the Branch Library.

RESOLVED :

That the receipt of a clean report on the annual return for 2007/08, and the action taken by the Clerk in relation to requisite notices be noted.

85. VICTORIA ROAD, BAGILLT – CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

The meeting considered a letter from Flintshire County Council, copies of which had been previously circulated. Victoria Road, Bagillt had been included in the Capital Upgrading Programme with a funding allocation of £20,000. Also previously circulated was a specification of costings for the proposed expenditure and it was pointed out that additional items had been identified above the sum allocated, which would enable the scheme to be completed. The purpose of writing to the Council was to inform the Authority of the allocation and enquiring if consideration could be given to provide additional funding to complete the scheme.

Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to the fact that Phase 2, as identified, was to cost £25,000, which was in excess of Phase 1, and that given Flintshire County Council had previously removed equipment from this site which had been partly paid for by this Authority under a former scheme when Delyn Borough Council was in being then they should at least maintain this aspect. In addition,

he referred to the fact that this area was included within the Boot End Communities First for the Holywell Neighbourhoods and that they should be approached accordingly. Councillor M.A. Reece, who had attended the site meeting, also circulated at the meeting copies of plans showing the equipment intended to be installed and indicated that the issue of Community First funding had also been raised with the Flintshire representative. Councillor T.M. Withington expressed surprise that aspects such as fencing and gates were being included in an upgrading programme when they should perhaps be maintained by relevant Authority accordingly.

Councillor J. Williams referred to the fact that there were no goal posts in this area, having previously been removed, and he was advised by Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones that apparently this related to the fact those wishing to play formal football sessions were required to make a payment to the County Council. The request for goal posts to be replaced was to allow local children to have informal games of football in the area rather than some form of league fixture.

RESOLVED :

1. That Flintshire County Council be advised that this Authority was not in a position to provide additional funding to the level required in Phase 2 and that representation should be made for funding via the Communities First programme, as Victoria Road Playingfield was within the Boot End.
2. That representations be made to Flintshire County Council regarding the need for goal posts to be re-erected at the playingfield so as to enable informal games for local children.

86. EAST WEST INTERCONNECTOR – ELECTRICITY SUPPLY UNDER IRISH SEA

The meeting noted a letter received from Eirgrid concerning plans to develop a project which would link existing networks in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that he had visited the exhibition, which had only been of marginal benefit, although he indicated that no planning application had been made as of yet. Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that he had been seeking information on this aspect for some time given the possible effect on the coastline if it was not be located in the foreshore area itself due to the SSI status of the Dee. If the route intended was to be in the vicinity of the coastal footpath then it may be possible to obtain some funding as a recompense for any disruption. He indicated that he would report to a future meeting of the Council when further information had been received.

RESOLVED :

That the matter be noted.

87. MEMBERS' ITEMS

a. Pedestrian Crossing – High Street

Councillor M.A. Reece indicated he had requested a survey to be undertaken by the Highways Authority with a view to re-introducing a pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of Foresters Hall, given the problems with parked vehicles and people crossing the road to access the shops in this area. Councillor Mrs. N.M. Jones indicated that parked vehicles, particularly on pavements, were aggravating the situation in this area and referred to the previous comments by P.C. Byron at the last meeting that he would be addressing this issue. Councillor A. Griffiths also referred to large vehicles parking in this area when delivering to the shops blocking the road for short periods of time.

Councillor R.K. Jones indicated he supported the proposal for the introduction of a pedestrian crossing in this area as if this did come about then the regulations would automatically prevent vehicles from parking from a specified distance either side or risk prosecution.

RESOLVED :

That the request for the re-introduction of a pedestrian crossing in the High Street in the vicinity of Foresters Hall be supported.

b. Riverbank Bus Shelter/Bus Stop

Councillor M.A. Reece reported on the possibility of a bus shelter on the Riverbank Estate side of the Holywell Road, and to the investigations he had made concerning an appropriate type. He referred to a company used in the Wrexham area that were prepared to undertake a free survey of the area, and it was noted that the type of shelter of the size required could be provided for a cost in the region of £1,500.

RESOLVED :

That the proposal indicated by the Member be supported and a report be made to a future meeting of the Council.

c. War Memorial – Concrete Plinth

Councillor M.A. Reece made reference to further discussions with the builder who had approached the tenants and they were now in agreement to have their refuse collected from each property. Unfortunately the builder was not prepared to remove the plinth as it covered a number of

service pipes but was happy for some planting tubs, chainlink fencing or signs to be placed on the plinth which would discourage future use for storing refuse sacks. The Clerk referred to the role of the Bagillt Heritage Society in improving the War Memorial and suggested that they should be approached to see what would be an appropriate use of this area given the fact that it was not going to be moved and then report back to the Council.

RESOLVED :

1. That the comments of the builder in relation to future use of the concrete plinth be noted.
2. That the Bagillt Heritage Society be requested to come up with an alternative use of the concrete plinth area and that a report be made back to a future meeting of the Council to enable this Authority to consider providing the necessary funding.

88. COMMUNITIES FIRST HOLYWELL NEIGHBOURHOODS

The Clerk reported that notification had been received of the Partnership Board AGM to take place on 23rd October 2008. In addition to giving out community awards they were seeking nominations for election to the Partnership Board who would need to be present at this meeting.

RESOLVED :

That Councillor J. Williams be nominated as a statutory representative on the Partnership Board.

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

Date of Council Meeting	Friday 10th October 2008
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Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no Declarations of Personal Interest.		

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Chairman