

## **BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL GLAN ABER, Bagillt, on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

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

**COUNCILLORS :** B.T. Doleman, A. Griffiths, S.M. Manfredi, M.A. Reece, C.R. Williams, Mrs. D.J. Williams and J. Williams.

**APOLOGIES :** Councillors Mrs. N.M. Jones and Mrs. S.L. Jones.

**IN ATTENDANCE :** Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk) and Mr. N. Taylor, Flintshire County Council Countryside Services (minute No. 120).

### **120. BAGILLT FORESHORE**

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Mike Taylor, Head Ranger of The Flintshire Countryside Services to the meeting. Mr. Taylor referred to the last time he had attended a Community Council meeting and indicated that he would now update Members on progress, which had only been undertaken recently due to the fact that the lease for managing the Bettisfield area between Veiola and Flintshire County Council had only been signed this month. The County Council would now be responsible for managing the site for a period of 125 years and this had enabled the previously indicated funding of £50,000 to be used, which had to be completed by the end of this month, and it had also been possible to obtain a further £20,000. The work comprised of the footpath, fencing of the area, a car park area, commencement on providing a gated access and the provision of signs and notice boards, the latter of which could also be used by the community.

Mr. Taylor referred to the works which had already been undertaken at Greenfield Dock, and to the organisation known as 'The Friends of Greenfield Dock', a similar situation which he was hoping to create for the Bettisfield area. This would involve people who utilised the area such as fishermen and residents, and it was hoped that some could become volunteer Rangers to supplement the presence on site. An increased presence on the site, following on from the improvement works, by encouraging more of the public to use the area for recreational use, would in turn would deter fly tipping and visits from four-wheel drive vehicles and motorbikes. There was funding for the area until 2012, following which it was hoped that the Community Council would support representations to Flintshire County Council for it to be continued beyond this date. The formation of a Friends Group, as for Greenfield, would allow other funding and improvements to be enabled, and he indicated that he had in mind some interpretation panels to be erected in the area, as well as perhaps appropriate sculptures representing the industrial heritage. In relation to this latter aspect, Councillor B.T. Doleman advised that, in his capacity as a member

of the Bagillt Heritage Society, they were looking to become involved in an industrial walk on the foreshore and would certainly welcome working with the Countryside Services, including being part of any 'Friends' group.

Reference was made by Councillor M.A. Reece to the former Winding House and a conversation with the landowner as to the possibility of it being used in the future as a museum, which was noted by Mr. Taylor. Councillor A. Griffiths referred to the damage caused by four-wheel drive vehicles and motorcycles on the foreshore and also the vandalism to the former Condeys Pool area and enquired as to policing of the site. In response, Mr. Taylor referred to the gating aspect, and that he was in discussion with the fishermen. He hoped that following a further meeting in the future that there would be complete agreement concerning its erection, whereupon he could issue keys to those who had access rights and therefore deter inappropriate vehicles onto the foreshore. In addition, the presence of more people using the area for recreational purposes in the future would in itself act as a deterrent to inappropriate behaviour and he made reference to the working arrangements of his Section in relation to the foreshore area.

Councillor S.M. Manfredi referred to the need for safe access to the foreshore across the dual carriageway if walkers in particular were to be encouraged to use the area consequent upon the improvements which were being undertaken. Mr. Taylor indicated that he would support such a provision to encourage further use in the future. In relation to a meeting being convened to discuss setting up a group for Friends of Bettisfield area, Councillor M.A. Reece indicated the likely date, time and venue which he would need to confirm. Councillor J. Williams commented on the aspect of boat theft and to the fact that some undoubtedly occurred from River Dee access which was duly noted. In addition, there was the Pump House aspect and to discourage vehicles being used for fly tipping purposes then it would be better if the gate access was moved. In response, Mr. Taylor indicated that he had funding to undertake such a provision but he would need to contact the owners, United Utilities, to obtain their consent.

In conclusion, Mr. Taylor indicated that he was looking for support from the Council in terms of what was being planned for the Bettisfield area and in the formation of the Friends Group, as had happened with the Greenfield Dock area.

**RESOLVED :**

1. That Mr. Taylor be thanked for his presentation in bringing Members up to date with the plans for the Bettisfield area.
2. That the improvements as envisaged be supported, including the formation of a Friends Group to further assist in the management of the area.

## 121. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

### **a. Minute No. 112 – Estimates of Income and Expenditure – Hanging Baskets**

The Clerk reported to the meeting on the information received from Northop Community Council concerning purchase of a water bowser and he would now contact the firm suggested and report back to a future meeting of the Council.

### **b. Minute No. 115 - Alcohol Control Zones**

Councillor J. Williams indicated that he had received comments from a local resident concerning the views expressed by P.C. Byron relating to Victoria Road not being too problematic in relation to drinking, which was not agreed. In response, the Chairman reminded the Member that if the problem concerned those under 18 years of age then the Police had powers to take action without the need for an alcohol control zone.

### **c. Minute No. 119(a) – Pedestrian Crossing, High Street**

Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that he would be submitting a petition to Flintshire County Council concerning this matter.

### **d. Minute No. 119(b) – Top Hill – State of Highway**

The Clerk read out to the meeting a reply received from Flintshire County Council, and was advised by Councillor C.R. Williams that it did not refer to the particular areas of concern which were close to the junctions with the High Street at both The Feathers Hotel and Castle Villa junctions. The Clerk indicated he would take this matter up further with the Highway Authority.

### **e. Minute No. 119(c) – The Poplars, Boot End**

The Clerk read out to the meeting a reply received from the County Council which confirmed that the highway was adopted and that they would now be undertaking some works.

### **f. Minute No. 119(d) – High Street Pavements – Icy Weather**

The Clerk read out to the meeting a reply received from Flintshire County Council which indicated the priority areas and that this included the High

Street, which would result in some gritting of the pavements.

**RESOLVED :**

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2009 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**122. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

1. The Chairman indicated that the Council had been consulted on the future format of the County Forum and that the second meeting was planned for Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at a venue to be notified and that he would be representing the Council together with the Clerk.

2. The Chairman reported to the meeting on a letter received from the Flintshire Over 50's Advisory Group, who were holding a meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2009 concerning NHS restructuring in North Wales. As some neighbours were on the Group and would be attending he would obtain any necessary information from them to be reported to a future meeting.

3. The Chairman reported on a letter received from One Voice Wales indicating that a number of places were allocated to Town and Community Councils to attend a Buckingham Place Garden Party in July and, if oversubscribed, would be subject to a ballot. As the invitation was for the current Chairman he advised the meeting he would not be putting his name forward.

4. The Chairman read out to the meeting a letter received from a resident in Bagillt concerning a proposal to establish a school that taught through the medium of Welsh within the Village by the transformation of Ysgol Merllyn or Ysgol Glan Aber over a suitable period of time to achieve this goal. The Council were being asked if they were willing to offer this proposal to the people of Bagillt to measure the amount of interest and respond to this proposal. Both Village Schools taught Welsh as a second language and there were Welsh medium Schools at both Flint and Holywell.

The writer indicated that up until the 1920's Bagillt was Welsh in character identity and Welsh conversation was the norm within the community but this had all changed. The writer felt that young people and children deserved support and there was more to see of the world through bilingualism offering a better future.

Councillors C.R. Williams and J. Williams indicated that they supported the sentiments in the letter, however, it really was a matter for the Local

Education Authority, who were Flintshire County Council. It was agreed the writer be informed the Council support the view expressed in principle and, if required would be prepared to write accordingly to the County Council. In addition, it was felt the writer should be offered the opportunity of including an article in the next edition of the Community Newsletter.

### **123. VACANCY IN EAST WARD**

The Clerk advised that the Returning Officer had indicated a request had been received to fill the vacancy by an election. The election period had commenced the day before the meeting and nominations would close on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2009 and if there was an election it would take place on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009. It was noted that Notice of Election had already been displayed within the Ward.

#### **RESOLVED :**

That the report be noted.

### **124. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **a. War Memorial**

Councillor B.T. Doleman advised the Heritage Society were pursuing the issue of an appropriate stone trough to be placed at the site of the War Memorial in order to prevent future inappropriate use of this area left by the developer. He indicated an ideal version had been found, but this was subject to a previous order not being confirmed and the price.

#### **b. Lighting Column – Top Hill**

Councillor M.A. Reece reported to the meeting that he had made a request for a lighting column in the vicinity of Pen y Bryn, Top Hill. In support of this he read out to the meeting a response received from Flintshire County Council, which indicated that funding could not be provided for this purpose out of the Regeneration budget. Regeneration funding was to carry out physical improvements which would not normally be covered under the County Council's core services and was to improve vitality and viability in the seven main towns in Flintshire recognised as in need of support in the Town Centre Health Check Study of 2008. The Chairman indicated that he felt this was an issue that could be raised at the next County Forum.

#### **c. Road Runner**

Councillor M.A. Reece advised the meeting that the appropriate Planning Officer had informed him planning permission was to be granted for the

application which had been submitted in 2007. In view of the present economic situation the applicant was to be given an appropriate time limit to comply with all the conditions including those which were previously not adhered to.

Councillor J. Williams made reference to the proposals increasing the height and length of the shed to be used for sorting purposes and that, from information he had received, it appeared that this had been approved in November 2008. In response to Councillor S.M. Manfredi, the Clerk advised the meeting that when he had looked up the matter on the website at the request of another Member, it had indicated that a report had been submitted to the Planning Committee in August 2007 recommending approval, but this had been withdrawn before being considered and there was no other information on the site about further consideration.

#### **d. One Voice Wales – Wrexham/Flintshire Area Committee**

The Clerk reported on the meeting he had attended together with Councillor A. Griffiths, which had been held in Wrexham. The principle business had been a presentation by Nick Jenkins, the external auditor with UHY Hacker Young. The presentation had been on governance issues affecting Local Councils in North Wales and had been very interesting in drawing attention to a number of issues relating to matters which had been highlighted during audit. As a result the auditor had been invited, and had agreed to attend the next meeting of the Clwyd Branch of Society of Local Council Clerks to be held in March. Amongst other issues raised at the meeting was reference to the One Voice Wales website which included information relating to this Council and also their magazine, a copy of which was available for any Member of the Council to read. In relation to the magazine, the Clerk pointed to an article concerning insurance cover, which indicated that any Member over the age of 75 was not covered automatically and this fact needed to be drawn to the attention of the insurance company.

#### **e. Policing Partnership**

Councillors A. Griffiths and C.R. Williams indicated that they had attended the second of these meetings held at The Town Hall, Flint on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009. The meeting, which was addressed by the territorial Inspector and a Sergeant, was unfortunately poorly attended. Reference had been made at the meeting to environmental audits being undertaken by Community Policemen, which would involve the Local Council. It was the view of the Inspector that a Community Policemen should not be taken off his regular duties unless there was an emergency. Councillor A. Griffiths indicated that he had taken the opportunity of raising concern

about the foreshore and damage by vehicles and motorcycles, of which the Inspector did not seem to be aware. Other representatives attending had raised the issue of parking on pavements.

## **125. PLANNING**

### **a. Applications For Consideration**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Detail</b>
045898	5 Cae'r Ffynnon Tyn Twll Lane	Erection of an extension to rear.

The Clerk advised that the previous application to extend had been supported by this Authority but had been refused permission.

#### **RESOLVED :**

That the application be supported.

### **b. Dollar Park, Bagillt Road, Holywell - Appeal**

Councillor M.A. Reece reported to the meeting on his attendance at the first day of the appeal and how information on that day had been presented and questions asked by those representing the various parties. It was understood that the result of the Planning Inquiry would be notified in a few weeks.

### **c. Planning Consultation for Members**

The Clerk advised that Councillor J. Williams had requested clarification of the present arrangements, following the changes agreed in October 2008. To aid the discussion the Clerk made reference to the fact that he had circulated a copy of minute No. 77(c), which changed the arrangements during the Recess only.

Councillor J. Williams expressed the view that he thought Members would be consulted on all applications relating to the Ward they were in, not just the Recess, a view that was shared by Councillors M.A. Reece and C.R. Williams. By reference to recent applications on which he had concerns, he expressed the view that he wished to be consulted on all applications relating to the West Ward.

The Clerk indicated the current delegation scheme involved the Chairman, Local County Councillor and Member who lives nearest the site agreeing views on behalf of the Council when the time limit of three weeks was

before the next meeting of the Council. In addition, all three Members had to be in agreement with the views to be expressed and in the event of the application being determined as controversial then a request would be made for an extension of time in which to respond. If the Council so wished they could dispense with this delegation and report all applications received to the next appropriate meeting (other than in recess periods), and if the time limit were to be exceeded then he would request an extension of time, which the Planning Authority may or may not grant.

**RESOLVED :**

That the current system, as amended in October 2008, be adhered to for planning applications.

**126. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

**RESOLVED :**

That the following accounts be paid :-

<b>Name</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Expenditure Powers</b>
Delyn Press	90.00	101231	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.111)
Mr. G. Roberts	702.60	101232	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
HM Revenue & Customs	206.56	101233	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.112)
Councillor A. Griffiths	42.40	101234	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.111)
One Voice Wal	22.00	101239	Loc.Govt. Act 1972 (S.111)

**127. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk, copies of which had been previously circulated. The report detailed applications which had been outstanding from the October meeting due to lack of financial information and whether it had now been received together with any applications received from that date and whether financial details had been received.

**RESOLVED :**

1. That in accordance with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, the undermentioned donations be agreed :-

<b>Donation</b>	<b>Amount £</b>	<b>Cheque No.</b>
Victim Support North East Wales	60.00	101236
Samaritans North East Wales	60.00	101237
Homestart Flintshire	50.00	101238
Family Learning Group, Ysgol M	100.00	101241
Bagillt Youth Club Fundraising F	150.00	101240

2. That no financial assistance be given to the undermentioned Organisations :-

St. Kentigern Hospice  
North Wales Deaf Association  
Macmillan Cancer Support North Wales  
Denbighshire and Flintshire Agricultural Society

3. That the undermentioned Organisations be advised that the Council can make no financial assistance available as the requested financial details had not been forwarded and that they be advised to re-apply in time for the October 2009 meeting :-

Estuary Voluntary Car Scheme Group  
Bagillt Open Door Club  
Urdd Gobaith Cymru Flint Maelor Committee

## **128. ADDRESSES TO MARCH MEETING**

The Clerk reported that following on from the discussion at the last meeting, arrangements had been agreed for the March meeting to be addressed by Nicola Gilbert of Flintshire County Council on the Community Caretaker and Neighbourhood Warden Services and David McKnight of Communities First Holywell on funding possibilities for schemes in the Boot End.

### **RESOLVED :**

That the report be noted.

## **129. COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER – DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS**

Further to discussion at the last meeting, and to enable a discussion on future delivery arrangements, as requested by the Chairman, a copy of the areas (and approximate number of properties) undertaken by particular Members, had been previously circulated. Councillors S.M. Manfredi and C.R. Williams indicated that they would be prepared to assist with future delivery arrangements, whilst Councillors M.A. Reece and B.T. Doleman indicated that they would work

together in future for delivery in their combined areas. The Clerk also made reference to the fact that next month there would be a new Member on the Council. It was therefore suggested that any adjustments for delivery areas could be considered with the new person also assisting. Councillor S.M. Manfredi indicated that he felt that Councillor R.K. Jones would also be prepared to assist with deliveries in the area in which he lived.

**RESOLVED :**

That following on from the election of the new Member of the Council, the Clerk approach that person to see if he/she would also be prepared to assist with deliveries in the area they lived and then make appropriate adjustments in delivery arrangements following on from the comments made at the meeting.

**130. RURAL HOUSING ENABLER**

The Clerk read out to the meeting a letter received from Flintshire County Council indicating that a Rural Housing Enabler had been appointed to assist with increasing the supply of affordable housing. It was an independent broker who, in partnership to develop affordable housing solutions for village communities, and a letter went on to explain the role involved for this person. The appointment was in partnership to the Wrexham County Borough Council and Local Housing Associations for a three year period. They were looking to develop a work programme to identify priorities for the Flintshire area and were therefore contacting Community Councils for expressions of interest.

**RESOLVED :**

That the letter be noted.

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

<b>Date of Council Meeting</b>		<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2009</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Minute No. Refers</b>
There were no Declarations of Interest.		

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**Chairman**