

## **BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL GLAN ABER, Bagillt, on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

**PRESENT : Councillor A. Griffiths (Chairman)**

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

**APOLOGIES :** Councillors B.T. Doleman, R.K. Jones and T.M. Withington

**IN ATTENDANCE :** Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk), Sergeant J. Williams (minute No. 52) and P.C. Byron.

### **52. POLICING MATTER**

Sergeant J. Williams, the Officer responsible for Neighbourhood Policing in North Flintshire, and P.C. Byron were in attendance. P.C. Byron made reference to issues raised at the previous meeting, in particular the issue of motorbikes at the Boot End and contact made with the land owner.

Sergeant J. Williams briefly explained his role in relation to Neighbourhood Policing in North Flintshire and provided the meeting with some crime statistics for the Bagillt area, which were obtainable on the North Wales Police website. Reference was made to both reductions and increases and it was pointed out that for most categories Bagillt was consistent with the North Flintshire average. Councillor C.R. Williams requested a comment in relation to the use of P.C. Byron's time on other than Community Policing in Bagillt. In response, Sergeant J. Williams indicated that as well as Community Policing there were responses that had to be attended to which were prioritised, that did require assistance from Community Officers. He indicated that it was his wish that Community Officers spent as much time within their particular areas as possible and it was unfortunate that this area did not have P.C.S.O. assistance. It was the wish of the new territorial Inspector, who unfortunately was not able to attend this or the subsequent, Council meeting, that community policing be strengthened and it was hoped that this would be addressed in the near future.

Councillor T. Renshaw made reference to the Police Authority Community Forum which had been held at the Town Hall, Flint on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2009, and which had also been attended by the Chairman. In particular there had been two addresses given, one in relation to anti-terrorism and the need for information from local people, and another about the Policing Pledge, which had the aim of making safer communities. Members were also reminded of the facility to use

the 101 number for non-emergencies, which was not only for Policing issues.

Reference was made by the Chairman to land adjacent to Talbot Terrace, High Street, which was in an unkempt state and was being used by a gang of youths. It was thought that the land was in the ownership of the County Council and enquiries had been made with the Authority for confirmation. In addition, the Chairman made reference to a particular problem with a motorised vehicle, and the Officer indicated that he was aware of the person concerned and would pursue the matter accordingly.

P.C. Byron made reference to the unsatisfactory state of the former Victoria public house and that he had made contact with the Fire Brigade regarding it possibly being an unsafe building. Councillors J. Williams and C.P. Owens made reference to the action taken by Flintshire County Council to the former derelict club site at the Boot End, which had led to the owner himself arranging to have it demolished. The Clerk indicated he would advise P.C. Byron of the appropriate Officer to contact at the County Council.

The Chairman made reference to an incident which had occurred on the Stag car park in August, which had been reported to the Police, and not responded to, and the Officers present indicated they would look into the matter and advise him accordingly.

The Chairman thanked Sergeant J. Williams for attending the meeting and it was noted that P.C. Byron would remain for the rest of the agenda.

### **53. MINUTES**

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

#### **a. Minute No. 34 – Public Inquiry Item**

The Clerk advised that Flintshire County Council had written to Mr. C. Renshaw concerning his article in the last edition of the Community Newsletter entitled “Teaching Through the Medium of Welsh at the Bagillt Schools”. A copy of the letter had been sent to this Authority and it advised that Flintshire County Council had recently undertaken a survey of the demand for Welsh medium education, and the outcome from this would be the subject of analysis as part of the School Modernisation Agenda.

#### **b. Minute No. 37(b) – Dog Control Order**

Reference was made by Councillor S.M. Manfredi to the contradictory aspect concerning the role of the public in relation to

catching and containing stray dogs and he was advised by the Clerk that this was as received in the response from Flintshire County Council. It was agreed that further representation be made to Flintshire County Council concerning the need for clarity.

**c. Minute No. 45 – 25<sup>th</sup> Council Anniversary**

The Clerk advised that to date there had been no response from either School but as they had only just returned from the summer break he would forward reminders.

**d. Minute No. 47(b) – Lighting Column – Top Hill**

Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that the new column was now illuminated and that the old one had been removed.

**e. Minute No. 47(c) – Flooding**

The Clerk read out to the meeting the response received from Flintshire County Council concerning their drain clearing service and the availability of sandbags. Councillor C.R. Williams indicated that the real point of issue was the dip in the road surface in the vicinity of The Feathers Hotel and by the Old Police Station at Top Hill, which required attention, and it was agreed these issues be brought to the attention of the Highway Authority.

**54. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chairman indicated he had received notification that the Chairman of Flintshire County Council would be holding a Civic Ball on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

**55. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES**

**a. Flintshire County Forum**

The Clerk indicated that he had attended the Forum held at the Town Hall, Flint on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2009. In relation to information sharing of a national nature, particular reference had been made to swine flu whilst on local the nuisance being caused by ball games and to the aspect of signage. The Model Charter Working Group had held its first meeting and was expected to hold a further one towards the end of last month with a view to completing their task and reporting to the next County Forum. There had been updates received in relation to the Flintshire UDP/LDP, Local Alcohol Control Zones, Planning Third Party Representations, Town Centre Action Regeneration Plans and Dog Fouling and Enforcement.

**b. Planning Customer Focus Groups**

The Council had been represented by the Chairman and the Clerk at the meeting held at County Hall, Mold on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2009. It had been well attended and those present had been divided into four groups, each with a County Officer to discuss the same topics and report back on issues raised for the benefit of all present. The subjects dealt with had been the pre-application process, which included such issues as involvement in larger applications at pre-application stage, County Member involvement in the process, sending out weekly lists electronically to Local Councils and access to Officers. In relation to submission/validation, reference had been made to website links and information on site history. The aspect of consultation and assessment covered the drawbacks for some with electronic consultation, prior notice of committee/delegation date being helpful, acknowledgement of consultation response and welcoming officers attending Local Council meetings as well as third party Local Councils speaking at a Planning Committee. In relation to decision and post-decision, Decision Notices did not give the reasons for refusal via the web, Policy Guidance and Section 106 Agreements, enforcement issues and a copy of the full decision allowing Local Councils to monitor compliance with conditions.

There would be further meetings of the Focus Group, which would be open to all Town and Community Councils to attend, and it had been pointed out that Planning Officers would be prepared to attend individual Local Council meetings.

**56. PLANNING**

**a. Applications Determined – Recess Period**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Detail</b>
046467	Site of Whitefield House High Street.	Re-design of plot 6.
046450	Land the side of 24 Wern Avenue	Residential caravan to occupy during building of dwellings

It was noted that the proposal was neither supported or objected to. Comments had been made on the need for a time limit on a caravan and agreed means of removal and concern expressed on drainage from the site.

**b. Applications for Consideration**

No.	Location	Detail
046607	Riverview, Tyn Twll Lane.	Erection of a single storey Extension

**RESOLVED :**

That the application be supported, notwithstanding that it may be outside the building line which would be a matter for determination by the Planning Authority.

**57. ACCOUNTS**

**a. Recess**

**RESOLVED :**

That the action of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in approving the undermentioned account be endorsed :-

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Dw'r Cymru/Welsh Water	465.38	101277	Loc.Govt. (MP) Act 1976 (S.19)

**b. For Payment**

That the following accounts be paid :-

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Hacker Young	327.75	101278	Loc.Govt.Fin. Act 1982
Huws Gray Ltd.	25.91	101279	Parish Councils Act 1957
Mr. G. Roberts	854.87	101280	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	201.96	101281	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
Soc.of Local Council Clerks	47.00	101282	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)

**58 RECESS PERIOD**

It was noted that during the Recess Period the Chairman and Vice-Chairman authorised payment of an account, as indicated in the previous minute, agreed to invite the Police Inspector to a Council meeting and a response to the Consultation from the National Assembly for Wales, which was to be considered later on in the agenda.

## **59. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING 2009**

The Clerk reported that following on from the decisions taken at the last meeting, the Housing Association had agreed to have a second lantern on their premises at Foresters Hall, as had the new landlord at The Stag, and the Community Association would also welcome a lantern at the Community Centre. In relation to additional costs, the Clerk indicated that he had been in contact with the Council's contractors, LITE Limited. The cost of additional works in each building would be £98.00 each, with a further £40.00 for wall brackets, if needed rather than flush mounted. Installation and subsequent removal costs would be £140.00 per display and it was noted that the estimated cost to connect to a power supply, which may be required at the Community Centre from inside the building, assuming there was no existing one available, would be approximately £150, subject to site survey.

Councillor C. Williams made reference to previous problems regarding equipment that had been tested and subsequently not functioning and the need for it to be checked further after installation, notwithstanding the co-operation required from the owners of the premises concerned. The Clerk reminded Members that the principle decisions made at the last meeting were, that once replacement of the lighting displays was necessary then the scheme would be discontinued and that for this year, with the co-operation of the owners of the premises concerned, all existing displays, apart from the rope spirals, were to be utilised. In relation to rope spirals, the Clerk advised the meeting that there had to date been no request for their usage by another organisation.

### **RESOLVED :**

1. That, having regard to the co-operation reported by the Clerk, the decision to have a second lantern erected at both the Foresters Hall and The Stag Inn, and for the first time a lantern at the Community Centre, be proceeded with, thereby utilising all existing lanterns.
2. That the costing received from LITE Limited for the additional work, as reported, be approved.

### **.60 CONSULTATION LEGISLATIVE COMPETENCE ORDER**

The meeting considered information from the National Assembly for Wales relating to Community Councils, Council Recruitment and Retention and Allowances. In addition, copies of a suggested response, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, had been previously circulated.

### **RESOLVED :**

That the response, as previously circulated, be approved as the Council's views on the Consultation.

#### **61. CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA – VICTORIA ROAD – FUNDING**

The meeting noted a letter received from Flintshire County Council concerning the approval of the funding for play equipment, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. As a condition of the £12,000 from the Flintshire Community Trust Limited, it was noted that the Council would be required to make a payment of 10% (£1,200) reimbursement to AD Waste Limited, being a condition of the grant which this Authority had agreed to provide.

At the meeting details were circulated of the intended equipment to be installed and on which the views of the Councils were sought as a part provider of the funding. Communities First representatives would be able to attend the November Council meeting after contact had been made by the Clerk.

Councillor C.P. Owens advised that if a local group could draw up a scheme on which he would be willing to assist then other funding could be available, which could be applied for with the assistance of Communities First. If successful, it would be possible to gain funding of up to 90% for grants up to £5,000 and from a different fund a 50/50 match funding was available for schemes in excess of £5,000. In connection with the latter, it would be better if the equipment to be provided by way of the funding already gained could be included in the total sum to assist any match funded bid but this would require the work not to have commenced. There was inevitably a time limit in which to make applications and one possibility could be involving the PTA at Ysgol Glan Aber. Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that he would be prepared to approach them in his capacity as School Governor.

#### **RESOLVED :**

1. That the funding approval, Community Council contribution and the play equipment to be provided, be noted.
2. That in order to encourage a local group to put forward a further scheme to complete the equipment thought necessary, the Clerk make enquiries with Flintshire County Council to see if a delay in commencement of the scheme in 1 above, was possible.
3. That the suggestion to approach a local group to make a funding application through Communities First on the lines suggested in the discussion, be noted.

4. That it be noted representatives from Communities First would be able to attend the November meeting of the Council, with particular reference to funding opportunities in the Boot End.

**62. STRATEGY FOR FLINTSHIRE'S LIBRARIES 2009-12**

The meeting considered information received from Flintshire County Council on their objectives towards a Strategy for 2009-12, and upon which views were being requested, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. The Clerk suggested that unless any Member had a particular point to make on the objectives previously circulated, that he prepare a response in conjunction with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman on behalf of the Council

**RESOLVED :**

That the suggestion of the Clerk be approved.

**63. STANDARDS CONFERENCE WALES 2009**

The meeting considered a letter from Flintshire County Council regarding the above conference to be held in Cardiff on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Each Unitary Authority was being requested to forward an invitation to Town/Community Councils within its area for nominations to attend the Conference, and each had been allocated a maximum of five places. The Clerk reported that Councillor R.K. Jones, who was unable to be present, had indicated he would be willing to be nominated for one of the five places for the Flintshire area.

**RESOLVED :**

That Councillor R.K. Jones be nominated to attend the Standards Conference Wales 2009.

**64. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2008/09**

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 2008/09. 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 2008/09, and the action taken by the Clerk in relation to requisite notices, be noted.

## **65. COUNCIL WEBSITE**

Councillor C.P. Owens made reference to the Council website, which had been set up in 2007 but was now out of date and in need of improvement. To date any information forwarded by the Clerk had been placed on the website by the Member on a voluntary basis, who unfortunately did not have the time to keep it up to date and organise any improvement. From some enquiries made, it would cost in the region of £300 to make the necessary improvements and bring it up to date and then there would also be the need for it to be kept up to date by possibly giving the Clerk an appropriate facility, but ensuring that there was technical back-up available should it be needed.

The Clerk made reference to a prior discussion held with Councillor Owens on this subject and that he had made some enquiries with other Councils in the Flintshire area. A number did have websites, using a variety of ways on keeping it maintained, brief details of which were reported. Councillor C.P. Owens gave instances of how improvements could be included to enable a better service to the community and Members present indicated that they supported the need for it to continue and be brought up to date and maintained for the future.

### **RESOLVED :**

That Councillor C.P. Owens draw up a specification for enhancing the Council website on the lines now being suggested and report to a future meeting so as to enable quotations to be invited from appropriate organisations.

## **66. MEMBERS'S ITEMS**

### **a. Unauthorised Access**

Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones made reference to work being undertaken for what was perceived to be an unauthorised access onto the highway without permission being sought and on which she sought advice.

### **RESOLVED :**

That the Member forward the precise location of the premises in question and the Clerk approach the appropriate Department at Flintshire County Council accordingly.

### **b. Tyddyn Messham**

Reference was made by Councillor Mrs. D.J. Williams to the work undertaken at a property which resulted in the removal of the

hedgerow. Whilst this gave better visibility for traffic using this narrow highway, she wondered if there had been a recent application for development, which did not appear to be the case.

**c. Play Area – Development Opposite The Blossoms, High Street**

The Chairman made reference to the lack of completion in the play area, which was part of the planning condition placed on the developer. The Clerk advised that he had approached Flintshire County Council on this issue, who confirmed they had not yet taken over adoption of the site as it was not up to the required standard and was now being investigated by Planning Enforcement.

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

<b>Date of Council Meeting</b>	<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2009</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**