

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL MERLLYN, Bagillt, on Friday 9th October 2009.

PRESENT : Councillor C.P. Owens (Vice-Chairman in the Chair)

COUNCILLORS : R.K. Jones, Mrs. S.L. Jones, M.A. Reece, T. Renshaw, C. Williams, Mrs D.J. Williams and J. Williams.

APOLOGIES : Councillors B.T. Doleman, A. Griffiths, Mrs. N.M. Jones and T.M. Withington.

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk).

67. PUBLIC INQUIRY ITEM

There was one member of the public present, who indicated that he did not wish to speak but would listen to the discussions after giving the Clerk an application for financial assistance on behalf of Condeys Community Angling Club, which unfortunately had been received too late to be considered at this meeting in accordance with Council policy.

68. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 11th September 2009.

a. Minute No. 52 – Policing Matters

The Clerk indicated that, following enquiries with Flintshire County Council it had been ascertained that they were indeed the owners of the land adjacent to Talbot Terrace, High Street, and representations were now being made to the appropriate Department for action concerning its unkempt state.

b. Minute No. 53(b) – Dog Control Order

The Clerk indicated that a reply had been received from the County Council making reference to the prior Police practice up to April 2008 to provide acceptance points so that members of the public could take stray dogs that had been found or contained at Mold and Deeside Police Stations. As from that date the County Council was required to provide an acceptance point where dogs could be taken by members of the public outside of office hours and the service

was to collect dogs from members of the public up to 10 p.m. seven days a week. Dogs contained by the public during office hours were collected by Dog Wardens and they did not encourage the public to catch stray dogs if they were wary or had any doubts. Likewise, they did not encourage the public to catch stray dogs out of hours. If they responded to all reports of dogs straying, the majority were still not there when they attended and these call-outs could be deemed a misuse of public funds.

c. Minute No. 61 – Children’s Play Area – Victoria Road

The Clerk made reference to Resolution 4, and requested the meeting to confirm that it did wish for representatives from Communities First Holywell Neighbourhoods to attend the November meeting of the Council, to which they had previously indicated they would be able. This was accordingly agreed.

d. Minute No. 63 – Standards Conference Wales 2009

The Clerk advised the meeting that although Councillor R.K. Jones had been allocated a place from the allocation to Local Councils in Flintshire, he was now unfortunately unable to attend due to family commitments. This information had been conveyed to Flintshire County Council, who were advised that a replacement would not be possible and that this Authority may still be liable for the £50 conference fee.

Councillor

R.K. Jones indicated that he had not actually forwarded the booking form sent to him from Flintshire, whilst Councillor T. Renshaw, who would be attending as a nominee from Flint Town Council, made reference to the date the booking forms were received in relation to when they were required to be returned.

e. Minute No. 66(b) – Tyddyn Messham

The Clerk advised Councillor Mrs D.J. Williams that there had as yet been no recent applications received for development.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 11th September 2009 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

69. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

a. Friends of Bettisfield

Reference was made by Councillor J. Williams to the meeting he had attended on the 6th October 2009, and in particular to comments made by the Head Ranger at Flintshire Countryside Services, Mr. M. Taylor, concerning the coastal path and access arrangements. With regard to the Ffynnongroyw area, Mr. Taylor had indicated that pedestrian access across the A548 was to be by way of a Pelican Crossing and he was asked if such an arrangement were to apply to other areas such as Bagillt. As far as this Council were concerned, it was felt, on grounds of public safety, a footbridge would be the best form of access, a view shared by Councillors R.K. Jones and M.A. Reece. In his capacity as a Member of the Bagillt Heritage Society, the Chairman indicated that his group were not attending meetings of the Friends of the Bettisfield and he noted that it was held on the first Tuesday in the month and that advance notice was given each time on a Council Notice Board.

Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that a footbridge would be a more expensive alternative and would involve greater use of land, particularly when disabled access was taken into account. He therefore suggested that clarification on this issue in relation to access to the foreshore in Bagillt should be sought from Mr. Taylor.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk seek clarification from Flintshire Countryside Services concerning access arrangements to the foreshore to encourage use of the coastal path, with particular relevance to the Bagillt area.

70. PLANNING

a. Applications for Consideration

No.	Location	Detail
046635	Castle Villa, High Street	Renewal of Outline permission to erect two detached dwellings.

RESOLVED :

That the application be supported.

b. Roadrunner Waste Limited

The meeting considered a letter received from Flintshire County Council referring to a condition of a planning permission granted in February 2009 that submission of a dust monitoring and management scheme was required for the approval of the Local Planning Authority. A copy of the scheme had been attached, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, and the Council were invited to make comments accordingly.

Reference was made by Councillor M.A. Reece to the fact that the crushed material was being located on an adjoining nearby site, which had recently been granted permission for industrial units, and to the dust problems on the A548 and to local residents. This had been undertaken by Roadrunner so as to provide room for other works being undertaken on their existing site, which had been part of the planning application. Councillor R.K. Jones shared the concerns of the Member regarding the firm using another site for part of their operation without first obtaining permission even if it were only of a temporary nature. There was also the matter of the lack of enforcement over a number of years by Flintshire concerning this operation and there was therefore the need to ensure that this matter was properly controlled.

RESOLVED :

That representations be made to Flintshire County Council regarding the extension of operations to another nearby site without permission and to the problems it was causing in the locality and requesting that, if this were to continue, it be formalised by way of an application and consent which meant it could be properly controlled.

c. Flintshire Unitary Development Plan

The meeting considered a letter received from Flintshire County Council regarding the Statement of Decisions and Proposed Modifications, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members together with extracts from the document relating to Bagillt issues. It was noted that representations at this state could only relate to a particular proposed modification, or to the fact that the County Council had not accepted an Inspector's recommendation, and not to the contents of the original Deposit Plan. In relation to the modification regarding Wern Farm, Bagillt, it was noted that the Housing Allocations Table had been amended with an increase in yield from 44 to 46. Reference was made by Councillor R.K. Jones to the comments in the Inspector's Report regarding this area concerning the fact that existing facilities could manage in relation to highways, sewerage, schools etc., notwithstanding the known problems regarding, in particular, the drainage facilities in this area. In the event of an application being

made for development on this land in the future, then this Authority would need to make any necessary representations on this issue.

RESOLVED :

That the Statement of Decisions and Proposed Modifications regarding the Bagillt area, as contained in the Flintshire Unitary Development Plan, be noted.

71. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid :-

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Mr. G. Roberts	799.08	101283	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	224.20	101284	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
Huws Gray Ltd.	33.49	101285	Parish Councils Act 1957

72. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2009/10

The meeting considered a report by the Clerk on applications for financial assistance, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. Members were advised that this was the second year of the new policy adopted in February 2008, to only consider applications for financial assistance or donations at the October and, finances permitting, February Council meetings. All applications were required to have up to date financial information by way of a balance sheet or bank statement(s), apart from agreed Organisations.

At the estimates meeting in January 2009, a sum of £1,800 was allocated for Section 137 expenditure, which allowed the Council to expend monies for the benefit of all or some of the community where there was no other expressed legislative power. The Clerk reminded Members that, in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted in May 2008, it meant that it was not necessary to declare a personal interest in financial assistance applications to community or voluntary organisations up to a maximum of £500.

RESOLVED :

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

Society	£	Cheque No.
Bagillt Open Door Club	100	101286
Ysgol Merllyn 300	101288	
Ysgol Glan Aber	300	101289
New Brighton Chapel	100	101290
Action Group		
Bagillt Women's Institute	100	101291
Busy Rascals After School Club	200	101292
Home-Start Flintshire	50	101293

2. That no financial assistance be given in respect of the applications received from Bobath Children's Therapy Centre, Shelter Cymru and Gwalia Promotions on behalf of Nightingale House Hospice.

3. That the application from Bagillt Bowling Club be deferred to enable clarification on whether the green was owned by Flintshire County Council, given that that Authority own and maintain the majority of bowling greens within the County and, subject to the information being received, the application for financial assistance from Bagillt Bowling Club be dealt with at the November meeting of the Council.

73. 25th COUNCIL ANNIVERSARY 2010

The meeting considered letters received from Ysgol Glan Aber and Ysgol Merllyn on their views regarding the matter of a prize to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Council next year. Both Schools supported the suggestion of an Anniversary Trophy, perhaps on a community based theme such as helping others in the community as part of a volunteering project, as well as including contributions to the life of the Schools involved. It was also suggested that perhaps Councillors could judge the applicants for such an award.

RESOLVED :

1. That the support of the two Schools in presenting a trophy in recognition of the 25th Anniversary of the Council be noted.
2. That the two Schools be informed that the idea for awarding on a community based theme and involving Councillors in judging applicants, probably by way of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, was also supported.

74. COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

The Clerk requested Members to consider whether they wished to publish a sixth edition of the Community Newsletter. This would be subject to the content received, with the intention that it should be in late November or

early December, as in the past two years, which would give the opportunity to local organisations to make reference to intended Christmas events.

The Clerk indicated he had received a positive response from Ysgol Merllyn about including an article and he was hopeful that there could be further articles, at least from the Community Policeman, Bagillt Heritage Society and possibly the Library. The Chairman suggested that the representative at the meeting on Condeys Community Angling Club may also like to include an article, to possibly also include progress on the Friends of Bettisfield, the community group formed to look after the foreshore. Councillor R.K. Jones supported the publication of a sixth edition subject to there being sufficient content, but felt that there should be a discussion afterwards on whether there was enough interest in the community to continue with this service.

RESOLVED :

1. That the intention to produce a sixth edition of the Newsletter in late November/early December, subject to there being sufficient content, be agreed.
2. That the Clerk report to a November meeting of the Council on progress in relation to producing a sixth edition.
3. That at the meeting of the Council in January 2010 when considering estimates a discussion be held concerning whether the publication of future editions of the Newsletter should continue.

75. CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA – VICTORIA ROAD – FUNDING

The meeting noted a letter received from Flintshire County Council, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. Flintshire advised that they were prepared to delay the installation of play equipment until December 2009, due to the fact that it was a condition of the grant that it must be drawn down within six months of the offer.

Councillor

M.A. Reece indicated that there was not a functioning parent/teacher association at Ysgol Glan Aber to make an application for a further scheme, but the Trem Afon Group had indicated they would be prepared to do so with assistance, which was offered by Councillor C.P.Owens in preparing a scheme. He further reported to the meeting on the cost of a particular type of equipment which could be included in such a scheme.

RESOLVED :

1. That the response from Flintshire County Council be noted and that

they be thanked accordingly.

2. That the preparation of a further scheme to complete the equipment thought necessary, by way of a local Group with assistance from Councillor C.P. Owens, be noted and supported.

76. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Bank reconciliation and information on income/expenditure at the second quarter to 30th September 2009, as previously circulated to Members, was noted.

.77 WALES AUDIT OFFICE

The Clerk reported that the Auditor General had published a report which considered how Town and Community Councils could improve their financial arrangements, in particular problems which had occurred in relation to financial management and fraud. In addition, they had developed a Good Practice Guide, which was available on their website together with a check list. In relation to the latter, the Clerk advised he had circulated copies to Councillor A. Griffiths and C. Williams, having regard to their role on internal controls.

RESOLVED :

1. That the report by the Clerk on information received from the Wales Office be noted.
2. That the suggestion of the Clerk that he complete a check list on behalf of the Council in consultation with Councillors A. Griffiths and C. Williams with a view to circulating for information to all Members be agreed.

78. POST OFFICE, HIGH STREET – TEMPORARY CLOSURE

The meeting considered a letter received from Post Office Limited concerning the temporary closure of the branch Post Office in High Street, Bagillt, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. They were apologising for the late notification of the closure given that it had occurred on 2nd September 2009. The letter indicated the provision of a Post Office service to customers in the local community was important and gave an assurance they were working to resume a Post Office service in Bagillt and were apologising for any inconvenience this temporary closure may cause to their customers in the Village. Details had been enclosed with the letter of other nearby branches at Riverbank, Bagillt, Greenfield, Flint and Holywell.

Members made reference to the effect this closure was having on local

residents as well as adjoining businesses such as the Chemist shop and the convenience store, and the need to ensure that the previous service was restored as soon as possible.

RESOLVED :

That representations be made to Post Office Limited concerning progress in relation to restoration of the previous service, given the inconvenience to users and effect on neighbouring businesses.

79. CLERK'S SALARY

The Clerk advised that notification had been received of a pay award settlement for 2009/2010 of 1% from 1st April 2009.

RESOLVED :

That the notification of the award be noted and implemented accordingly.

80. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Councillor R.K. Jones reminded the meeting that Remembrance Sunday would take place on 8th November 2009, with the usual arrangements for a Church Service at 11 a.m. and a Service at the War Memorial in the High Street at 12 noon. As in past years, he would be arranging for a Wreath for the Chairman to lay on behalf of the Community Council.

The Clerk advised he would contact P.C. Byron concerning a Police presence at the War Memorial Service, as in previous years.

The Chairman and Clerk made reference to an enquiry from Flintshire County Council concerning lighting at the War Memorial, with particular relevance to the previous temporary arrangement. They had been advised that this was not necessary due to the lighting which had been installed as part of the upgrade scheme and also reminded about the location of the power wire in the area used for planting.

RESOLVED :

That the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday be noted.

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

Date of Council Meeting	Friday 9th October 2009
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Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no declarations of personal interest.		

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Chairman