

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL GLAN ABER, Bagillt, on Friday 12th February 2010.

PRESENT : Councillor A. Griffiths (Chairman)

COUNCILLORS : B.T. Doleman, R.K. Jones, Mrs. S.L. Jones, S.M. Manfredi, C.P.Owens, M.A. Reece, T. Renshaw, C.R. Williams, Mrs. D.J. Williams, J. Williams and T.M. Withington.

APOLOGIES : Councillors Mrs. N.M. Jones and C. Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk), P.C. Byron (minute No. 116) and Mr. G.C. Nancarrow of Flintshire County Council (minute No. 117).

116. POLICING ISSUES

P.C. Byron informed the meeting that he was now back on full duties and referred to the comment made at the last meeting concerning problems with motorcycles. The Officer informed the meeting that there had recently been a spate of thefts in the area from industrial and agricultural premises and he also referred to incidents concerning drugs. The Chairman made reference to a new type of drug, which was causing a problem and was referred to at the last meeting, and the Officer indicated the legality was still being examined.

The Officer thanked the Council for the letter which had been forwarded to his Inspector, as requested at the last meeting, and which was on prominent display at the Police Station, and noted views expressed by Members that there did appear to have been an increase in the number of Police cars travelling through the Village. In response to Councillor C.R. Williams he advised there was a change in the PCSO arrangement for the Bagillt area and he also made reference to the assistance he was able to gain from a Special Constable. Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones indicated that she would keep the Officer informed concerning the Residents and Tenants Association. P.C. Byron noted views expressed by Councillor Mrs. D.J. Williams concerning impending school holidays, and also advised of increased patrols for the school areas. The Chairman thanked the Officer for attending and it was noted that he now had to leave the meeting to attend to other business.

117. ROADRUNNER WASTE – PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Mr. Gary Nancarrow of Flintshire County Council Planning Department was present to address the meeting on the two planning applications relating to Roadrunner Waste, which were included later on the agenda. Mr. Nancarrow indicated that whilst application No. 046953, relating to the satellite site, had been received by the Council, the other, application No. 046995, on change of

use on land adjacent to the existing site, should be with the Council shortly. He commenced by reminding Members of the planning situation relating to Roadrunner and pointed out that as a result of the restricted space in the existing site, there had been delays in complying with planning conditions, hence the use of the satellite site by the applicant.

In relation to the satellite site, this concerned an area of land which had planning permission for industrial units and which, due to the economic situation, had not been built. In his view, the application would only be for a limited period until such time as the former Tarmac area, which was the subject of the other planning application, could be utilised. Councillors C.R. Williams, C.P. Owens, R.K. Jones and M.A. Reece made reference to the problems the locality had faced with Roadrunner over a longer period, in particular dust generation and debris on the highway, including from the satellite site, which had not been helped by lack of enforcement by the Planning Authority. Mr. Nancarrow advised Members that debris or mud on the highway was a Police function and could not be enforced by the Planning Authority. In relation to the satellite site, it would be reasonable if this merely related to the storage of empty skips with product and equipment being placed within the area purchased from Tarmac, which was the subject of the other application.

In relation to the change of use application, Mr. Nancarrow circulated plans explaining what was intended, which the Council would receive in due course. The area was such that it would allow for storage of material whilst work was undertaken on the existing site and accommodate what was presently being placed on the satellite site. The surface of the area would also make it easier to keep clean, but at present it was unknown what was intended with the former workshop area which would give further space for operation. Councillor R.K. Jones expressed the view that, the application for the Tarmac site, as explained by the Officer, subject to the condition for only empty skips being adhered to on the satellite site, could be supported, providing that there were conditions included regarding wheel washing and dust suppression. Mr. Nancarrow advised that both the existing site and the area subject to the application on change of use would in relation to working processes be enforced by the Environment Agency, who had greater resources than the Council and powers to ensure conditions were adhered to.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Nancarrow for attending the meeting and explaining the two applications, as well as responding to Members' comments.

118. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 8th January 2010.

a. Minute No. 101 – Planning Application – Bagillt Foreshore

Reference was made by Councillor M.A. Reece to the land ownership situation, on which the Clerk also commented following information from the Senior Ranger from the Countryside Services. The Clerk also confirmed the letter sent by the Council after the last meeting concerning the support for the coastal footpath and cycleway had been welcomed.

b. Minute No. 102 – Estimates of Income and Expenditure

The Clerk reported he had held a meeting with the new supervising Officer for the Community Caretaker arrangements, and whilst the existing system would continue until the end of this financial year, confirmation, although expected, was awaited concerning 2010/11.

c. Minute No. 112 – April 2010 Council Meeting Date

The Clerk reported that Ysgol Glan Aber had agreed to the scheduled meeting being put back a week to Friday 16th April 2010.

d. Minute No. 115(d) – Venue for Meetings

The Clerk advised that he had received a response from Bagillt Community Association, advising that at present they had a regular booking on a Friday evening until 7.15 p.m. The need for possible use by the Council in the event of inclement weather had been noted.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 8th January 2010 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

119. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

1. The Chairman advised that, following an invitation from One Voice Wales, he had put his name forward in the ballot for the ten places allocated for North Wales Authorities in respect of an invitation to a Royal Garden Party to be held on the 20th July 2010. The invitation was for current Chairmen to reflect their service and, if successful in the ballot, he would be accompanied by his wife.

2. The Chairman made reference to recent deaths of the mothers of Councillors C. Williams and B.T. Doleman, and expressed deepest sympathy on behalf of the Council to both families.

120.

REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

a. One Voice Wales – Wrexham/Flintshire Area Committee

The Chairman advised that he had attended the meeting in Wrexham held on 1st February 2010. The main part of the meeting had been a presentation from a representative of Planning Aid Wales, who had given information in relation to assistance and training they had to offer to Town and Community Councils. Whilst information could be downloaded free from their website, face to face training for Members had a fee involved. It had also been pointed out at the meeting that of the 64 Local Councils in the Flintshire and Wrexham area, 36 were currently members of One Voice Wales.

b. Waste Strategy/Street Scene Review

The Chairman and Clerk had attended a workshop organised by Flintshire County Council at County Hall, Mold on 10th February 2010. The Clerk indicated that the Waste Strategy, which was on the County Council website for consultation, was a response to Welsh Assembly Government policy entitled 'Towards Zero Waste' which came into effect in April 2010, with a new strategy for the period to 2024/25. This was a more stringent and challenging strategy than the present, and explained the relevance concerning recycling, foodstuffs, energy generation and the reduction of reliance on landfill, or the Authority would face a financial penalty of £200 per tonne. Reference had also been made to waste prevention to reduce packaging, re-use, recycling/composting, energy recovery and disposal of the residual in landfill. The challenging targets set by WAG referred only to municipal waste, which in turn only accounted for 20% that was created. The other 80% arose from commercial, industrial and trade.

The Chairman made reference to details which had been given concerning joint partnership working with other Local Authorities in North Wales in relation to waste, and comment was also made on this issue by Councillor R.K. Jones.

The Street Scene Review covered services in more than the Environment Directorate and encompassed issues such as street cleansing, car park services, ground maintenance, traffic signs, litter/litter bins, dog fouling/dog bins, lighting, fly tipping, road repairs, graffiti removal and pest control. A comprehensive review was being carried out to improve the service delivery and how the public could make contact without being passed along a chain, and to also make the workforce take ownership of the area of working. These services impacted on the perception of how the Council performed to the public and how residents

think of their neighbourhood and if improved would reduce the likelihood of anti-social behaviour. The Clerk advised that details had been given of the progress of the review to date with this workshop being one of the contacts made with stakeholders.

121. PLANNING

a. Applications Determined –On-Line Consultation Period

| No. | Location | Detail |
|--------|---------------------------|--------|
| 046832 | Dollar Park, Bagillt Road | Cha |

It was noted that it had been objected to on the same grounds as the 2007 application as well as the previous decisions by the Planning Authority and Planning Inspector, following consultation with all Members of the Council.

| | | |
|--------|----------------|-----|
| 046781 | 28 High Street | Ren |
|--------|----------------|-----|

It was objected to as the additional details showed it to be too dense and high development, as well as flooding concerns.

| | | |
|--------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 047049 | Cefn Cottage, The Nant | Erection of agricultural building. |
|--------|------------------------|------------------------------------|

It was noted that this application had been supported.

b. Applications

| No. | Location | Detail |
|--------|--|--|
| 046953 | Roadrunner Waste land for skip Deebank Industrial Estate | Continuation to use storage, pallets and equipment |

Reference was made to the comments earlier in the meeting when the Planning Officer had been present and the need for this to be just restricted to empty skips with a deadline for removal.

| | | |
|--------|--|-------------------------------|
| 047131 | Land side of Afon y Cra dwellings Bryntirion Road | Erection of two semi-detached |
|--------|--|-------------------------------|

Reference was made by Councillors R.K. Jones and S.M. Manfredi regarding the previous application and concerns about access, notwithstanding that the number of dwellings had been increased from 1 to 2 with more resultant traffic.

RESOLVED :

1. That in relation to 046953, the application as it stood be objected to but that it be pointed out that if it were just to be restricted to empty skips for a defined temporary period then this would be withdrawn.
2. That in relation to application 047131, the proposal be objected to on the grounds of vehicle access arrangements.

122. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk on Applications for Financial Assistance, copies of which had been previously circulated. The report outlined the current policy which had been adopted in February 2008, the budget allocation, the remainder available for this financial year and details of the seven applications which had been received.

RESOLVED :

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

| Society | £ | Cheque No. |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Condies Community Angling Club | 200.00 | 101317 |
| Bagillt Ti a Fi | 120.00 | 101318 |
| Urdd Gobaith Cymru Fflint Maelor | 70.00 | 101319 |
| Victim Support Eastern Branch | 60.00 | 101320 |

2. That no financial assistance be given in respect of the applications received from North Wales Deaf Association, Marie Curie Cancer Care and Clwyd Crimebeat.

123. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid :-

| Name | £ | Cheque No. | Expenditure Powers |
|-----------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water | 1,026.69 | 101314 | Loc.Govt (MP) Act 1976 (S.19) |
| Mr. G. Roberts | 782.22 | 101315 | Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112) |
| H.M. Revenue & | 205.14 | 101316 | Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112) |

Customs

124. BAGILLT COMMUNITY CENTRE – FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Arising from the report made by the Clerk concerning the payment referred to in the previous minute to Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water in respect of water/sewerage costs at the Community Centre, Councillor C.P. Owens expressed the view that, as with other organisations, the Council should receive financial details. This was a view shared by Councillor R.K. Jones.

The Clerk reminded the meeting that the Council had for many years agreed to pay the water/sewerage costs and insurance cover at the Community Centre on behalf of the Bagillt Community Association, because if the organisation, which was registered with the Charity Commission, failed the responsibility for the community centre building would pass to the Council. At the last meeting of the Council it had been agreed to meet the costs on these items for 2010/11 and this had been conveyed to the Community Association accordingly.

Members felt that the appropriate time for such details to be made available should be prior to the discussion on estimates for the 2011/12 financial year. In addition, if the Association wished to present the financial information in person then they should be invited to do so accordingly.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk write to the Bagillt Community Association concerning the submission of financial details to enable the Council to continue offering financial support for the 2011/12 financial year.

125. WEBSITE UPGRADE/IMPROVEMENT

Councillor C.P. Owens indicated that one quotation had at last been received from the enquiries he made with appropriate firms some time ago, and he would pursue the others to see if they also wished to submit based on the specification he had previously forwarded and report to the next meeting. The quotation received was from a firm called EMDF of Manchester, and the design brief would include the following :-

5 static pages ; 2 dynamic content pages ; 1 admin panel and associated user access for configuration to enable remote editing and/or uploading to dynamic pages ; site map to enable simple browsing ; enquiry form to facilitate controlled correspondence to nominated resource ; migration of existing website data.

The cost for the effort to provide the above was quoted at £490 and this presumed that the existing hosting provided supported php script hosting along with mysql hosting. Once terms were agreed they would provide a full specification following further discussions with Councillor C.P. Owens.

Councillor C.P. Owens endeavoured to briefly describe the purpose of the design brief he had given and offered at a future meeting to do a short powerpoint presentation which would make it easier to follow. In view of the fact that the budget provision for next year had been increased to £750 he suggested that the dynamic content pages be increased by 1 to 3 and a further quotation be sought from EMDF accordingly. In addition that the further technical information requested be pursued with the hosting.

RESOLVED :

1. That the quotation received from EMDF be noted and they be requested to submit a new price based on an additional dynamic contents page for consideration at the next Council meeting.
2. That the Clerk make enquiries with HCI Data who act as hosts for the existing .gov website registration to answer the technical points raised in the quotation from EMDF.

126. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

The Local Government Boundary Commission published its draft proposals for Flintshire on 25th January 2010 and was suggesting a reduction from 70 to 60 Councillors and from 57 to 20 Electoral Divisions, all of which would be multi-Member of between 2-4 Members. Details of the proposal for the two Bagillt Divisions being joined with Flint Coleshill, with three Members had been previously circulated and the Commission were suggesting Bagillt as the name for the new Division. Comments could be made on the proposals until 30th March 2010.

Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that he totally rejected the report of the Boundary Commission on electoral arrangements for Flintshire and Bagillt in particular. The decision to move away from single Member representation to multi-Member in each case for Electoral Divisions went against the original intentions of the Local Government Act 1972 principle. In relation to the information included with regard to the suggested new Bagillt Electoral Division, the projections quoted did not take into account the full effect of the UDP percentage growth for the area. Whilst the joining together of Electoral Divisions could be appropriate in dense urban areas, this was not the case when rural areas were involved due to the size of the area to be covered by elected Members notwithstanding as in the suggested Bagillt Electoral Division there would be three Members for the new area. Members present supported the views expressed by Councillor R.K. Jones.

The Clerk briefly reported that Flint Town Council had also rejected the proposals of the Boundary Commission, making similar views in relation to single Member Divisions and the need for community of interest.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk make representations to the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales rejecting their proposals on the lines suggested by Councillor R.K. Jones.

127. SALT BINS – GRITTING

The meeting considered a copy of a response received from Flintshire County Council on salt bins and gritting, following the representations made to that Authority after the discussion at the last meeting of the Council. The Chairman made reference to a substitute grit which had been used following depletion of existing resources which unfortunately was still evident in a number of areas and was a potential hazard to walkers.

RESOLVED :

That further representation be made to the Highway Authority requesting they arrange for the substitute grit to be removed from the areas it had been used.

128. ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT (WALES) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS

The Clerk advised that the Welsh Assembly Government was consulting on this issue and brief details of the proposed changes had been previously circulated to Members. It was not expected that any of the changes would be of concern and it was noted the issue would be discussed at the next meeting of the Clwyd Branch of the Society of Local Council Clerks.

RESOLVED :

That the further consultation be noted.

129. PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES

The Clerk advised that he had circulated a copy of the complaints booklet to each Member with the agenda as the Council did not have an office facility in the community area. This would enable a Member to pass the information onto a member of the public should the need arise.

RESOLVED :

That the matter be noted.

130. BAGILLT COMMUNITY CENTRE – CHANGING ROOMS

The Clerk advised that he had received a response from the Bagillt Community Association, which they indicated that there was a lease in place to Bagillt Hotspurs FC and all costs were met by the Association. Councillor M.A. Reece, who had originally raised the issue, indicated that the Bagillt Hotspurs FC had not used the facility for a significant period and that details should be sought of the lease arrangement to see if this facility could be used in the future for youth purposes.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk make further enquiries with the Bagillt Community Association and report back to a future meeting.

131. MEMBERS' ITEMS

a. Bagillt Community Centre Car Park

In the absence of Councillor T. Renshaw, who had left the meeting, Councillor R.K. Jones presented this request for consideration by the Council. The car park adjoining the Community Centre, which was thought to still be within the control of the Church Authorities, was overgrown and unusable due to its condition and lack of better entrance. If there was a change to the wall arrangement and a clearance of the car park then it could be a useful asset to be used for both Church purposes, such as for funerals and events taking place at the Community Centre. In the event of the Church Authorities being amenable then it would be possible for the Council to consider making a financial contribution to be considered at the next estimates time.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk make enquiries with the Vicar of Bagillt on this issue and report back to a future meeting.

b. Beechcroft Car Park

Councillor C.R. Williams made reference to the present poor condition of the car park, particularly the number of potholes and to the use that was made by both elderly persons and youngsters using the Beechcroft facility. Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that he supported the Member and that enquiries should be made with the Community and Housing Services Directorate.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk make representations to Flintshire County Council concerning the state of the Beechcroft ,Highfield Road car park.

c. High Street – State of Highway

Reference was made by Councillor C.R. Williams to the present state of the High Street surface along much of its length through the Village, which had no doubt been exacerbated by the recent freezing weather.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk make representations to the Highway Authority accordingly.

d. Ysgol Glan Aber – School Crossings Officer

Councillor M.A. Reece made reference to the fact that the School Crossings Officer or “lollipop lady”, Jean Frost, had completed 20 years in the post outside Ysgol Glan Aber and suggested that perhaps the Council could present her with an engraved plaque of the Council’s logo as it had done when the caretaker to Ysgol Merllyn retired last year.

RESOLVED :

That the suggestion be agreed and the Clerk obtain the necessary detail from the Member and make arrangements for an engraved plaque to be presented by the Chairman.

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

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Date of Council Meeting | Friday 12th February 2010 |
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| Member | Item | Minute No. Refers |
|--|-------------|--------------------------|
| There were no declarations of personal interest. | | |

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Chairman