

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL MERLLYN, Bagillt, on Friday 14th May 2010.

PRESENT : Councillor A. Griffiths (Chairman)

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

APOLOGIES : Councillors M.A. Reece, C. Williams and T.M. Withington.

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2010/11

RESOLVED :

That Councillor C.P. Owens be elected Chairman of the Community Council for the ensuing Municipal year.

Councillor C.P. Owens made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invested with the Chain of Office by Councillor A. Griffiths and thanked Members for electing him as Chairman. The Chairman presented Councillor A. Griffiths with an engraved shield incorporating the Council's logo in recognition of his year as Chairman for 2009/10 and congratulated him on his year of Office.

Councillor A. Griffiths indicated that he had enjoyed his year of Office and thanked all Members and the Clerk for assistance given to him during the past municipal year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN 2010/11

RESOLVED :

That Councillor R.K. Jones be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Community Council for the ensuing Municipal year.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCE 2010/11

RESOLVED :

That in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972(Section 5) the Chairman's allowance be fixed at £825 for the 2010/11 Municipal year and paid to the Chairman accordingly (cheque No. 101332).

4. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Council considered the appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies, the details of last year's appointments being included on the agenda.

RESOLVED :

That the undermentioned Members be appointed as the Council's representatives on the Outside Bodies indicated below :-

1. Local Organisations

- a. Bagillt Community Association**
Councillors B.T. Doleman and C. Williams
- b. Bagillt Heritage Society**
Councillor R.K. Jones
- c. Prince Dafydd ap Llewellyn Monument Committee**
Councillor C.P. Owens

2. Other Organisations

- a. One Voice Wales/Wrexham Flintshire Area Committee**
Chairman with Vice-Chairman as substitute
- b. Communities First Holywell Neighbourhoods Partnership Board**
Councillor J. Williams
- c. Flintshire Town/Community Council Planning Focus Group**
Chairman
- d. Flintshire Police Community Forum**
Councillor A. Griffiths
- e. Flintshire County Forum**
Chairman with Vice-Chairman as substitute

5. POLICING MATTERS

The Clerk advised that, following a conversation earlier in the week with Councillor M.A. Reece, it had been hoped that P.C. Byron would be able to attend this meeting. In particular there were concerns regarding being able to undertake community Policing duties in the Village and the lack of assistance. The Clerk indicated he would forward an e-mail to the Officer for his comments on this matter. The Chairman referred to comments made previously at a Council

meeting by a Police representative that the intention was, wherever possible, the allocated Community Policeman would spend up to 80% of his time on such duties in the area.

Councillor T. Renshaw advised that he too had concerns regarding community Policing in Bagillt and suggested Inspector Roome be invited to attend a future meeting of the Council on this issue, which was accordingly agreed.

6. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 16th April 2010.

a. Minute No. 146 – Talbot Terrace, High Street

The Clerk reported on conversations with Housing Department Officers at Flintshire County Council, and it appeared they were awaiting the views of the Assets Section as to the future for this site. Copies of correspondence between the two Authorities had been copied to Councillor Mrs. N.M. Jones, in her capacity as Local County Member. Councillor T. Renshaw suggested that, in the meantime, the County Council be requested to take steps to make the site secure and it was agreed this be conveyed to Flintshire County Council accordingly.

b. Minute No. 147(c) – Dog Bin – Beechcroft Close

The Clerk reported that Councillor M.A. Reece had been unable to agree a location for the dog bin with local residents, and accordingly Flintshire County Council had been advised that the request was now withdrawn.

c. Minute No. 147(d) – Welsh Water – Advance Warning

Reference was made by Councillor R.K. Jones to the reduction in water pressure which had occurred, a view that was shared by the Chairman.

d. Minute No. 147(e) – Litter Bin – Manor Estate

In response to Councillor R.K. Jones, the Clerk indicated he was still awaiting a reply and would send a reminder to Flintshire County Council accordingly.

e. Minute No. 153(a) – Removal of Equipment – Bron Haul Play Area

The Clerk read out to the meeting a response from Flintshire County Council concerning the frequency of inspections at the Authority's play facilities and the budget for repair. As it appeared that the play equipment at Bron Haul had not yet been removed, Councillors R.K. Jones and T. Renshaw suggested that Flintshire County Council be requested to consider a repair rather than its removal, and it was agreed the Clerk approach them accordingly.

f. Minute No. 153(c) – Victoria Road Play Area – Landfill Tax Scheme

The Clerk advised that the Play Unit were unable to advise as to future funding being generated by AD Waste coming in-house but had indicated that as the Authority did not have a landfill site operating in Flintshire, there was no landfill tax being generated for distribution within the County. Any further information on this matter would need to be addressed to the Director of Environment, and the Clerk indicated he would do so accordingly.

g. Minute No. 153(d) – Former Garage Site, High Street – Play Provision

Councillor A. Griffiths indicated that work had commenced on bringing the play area up to the required standard to enable adoption.

h. Minute No. 156 – Residual Waste Treatment Project

Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that he had attended an informal briefing session and made reference to the detailed report, which was available for perusal, and to the fact that he had misgivings regarding certain of the matters included therein. There had been mention made concerning the Welsh Assembly Government targets which had to be achieved and future funding.

i. Minute No. 158 – Trebor Avenue Play Area

The Clerk advised Flintshire County Council had agreed to undertake a further inspection, with a view to obtaining an estimate of cost to provide a post and rail fencing system. If the costs could be accommodated within the existing budget they would issue an instruction to carry out the works, and if not, they would advise accordingly.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 16th April 2010 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No.	Location	Detail
047389	Bagillt Arms/ 11 High house/betting office/ Street erection of 8 apartments.	Demolition of public dwelling and

Members were reminded that a previous application for this site to erect 10 apartments was objected to on the grounds of lack of parking and over-development. The meeting were informed that Councillor M.A. Reece would be objecting, as Local Member, on these grounds.

047370	Top yr Afon, Old London bungalow/outbuildings and Road replacement/garage.	Demolition of erection of
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The Clerk reminded the meeting that in February 2010, when the proposal had been to erect two semi-detached dwellings as replacement following demolition, the proposal had been objected to on the grounds of vehicle access arrangements.

047035 Plot off Tyddyn Mesham

Ere

The Clerk advised that this was merely for the submission of amended plans and that in January 2010 it had been decided neither to support or object to the proposal but that concern be expressed regarding access arrangements.

RESOLVED :

1. That with regard to application 047389, the proposal be objected to on the grounds of over-development and lack of parking facilities for the number of apartments.
2. That with regard to application 047370, the proposal now be supported as it is now for one property to replace an existing on the site.
3. That with regard to application 047035, the proposal once again neither be supported or objected to, but that concern be expressed regarding access arrangements.

8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid :-

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Mr. G. Roberts	764.25	101333	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	205.14	101334	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
JDH Business Services Ltd.	87.05	101335	Loc.Govt Finance.Act 1982

9. COMMUNITY CARETAKER ARRANGEMENTS

The Clerk indicated that although included on the Accounts for Payment, the usual invoice for the first six months was yet to be received. In addition, he referred to a recent conversation with the supervising Officer in the Housing Department advising that the present incumbent who undertook the Community Caretaker role was no longer employed by Flintshire County Council. Steps were being taken to appoint a replacement, to include Community Caretaking duties in Bagillt.

It had been agreed that as a replacement was expected to start some time next month that there be no temporary arrangements in the meantime and that the time due to the Community Council would be made up following the appointment. The Clerk also indicated that he would assist with ensuring that the new postholder was aware of what was expected in relation to Community Caretaking duties in Bagillt.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

10. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

a. Ysgol Merllyn – School Governors

Councillor A. Griffiths referred to a recent meeting he had attended when representatives of the Fire Authority together with designated Police Officer support, Neighbourhood Watch and the Head Teacher, had met to consider problems occurring at the School. It transpired that the existing CCTV was not able to provide sufficient information due to a light issue and the Flintshire representative who had also been present would take this matter back to the Authority to see if there was a possibility of additional /improved provision.

b. Flintshire Police Community Forum

Councillor T. Renshaw indicated that he had attended the recent public meeting on 11th May 2010 which had been held in Saltney to discuss road traffic issues. It had been well attended and after receiving a presentation those in attendance had been asked for their views on a number of issues. These related to whether or not there should be Police discretion on matters such as drink driving, driving under the influence of drugs, including prescription medicines, speeding, the use of mobile phones in vehicles and driving without due care and attention. In response to Councillor R.K. Jones he indicated that these meetings were held quarterly on a particular theme and went throughout the North Wales Police Authority area so that the Force could be best informed regarding public opinion.

11. REVIEW OF INTERNAL CONTROLS 2010/11

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk, copies of which had been previously circulated, which had been prepared in consultation with Councillor A. Griffiths and C. Williams, who had certified that the internal controls listed were in place and being adhered to by the Council. This followed on from the practice established last year and followed the format agreed, suitably amended to take account of any changes.

RESOLVED :

That the certification by Councillors A. Griffiths and C. Williams be noted, and that the documentation as circulated be accepted as the review of internal controls for the current financial year.

12. INTERNAL AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2009/10

The Responsible Financial Officer advised the meeting that the Action Plan and Report of the Internal Auditor, JDH Business Services Limited, had been received. On the basis of the work carried out, which was limited to the text indicated in the documentation, it was the view of the Auditor that the Council's system of internal control was in place and adequate for the purpose intended.

In relation to the Action Plan, the Internal Auditor had not commented on the follow-up from the 2008/09 financial year, despite the documentation/ action taken and agreed by the Council being included, and this had been drawn to his attention.

In relation to 2009/10, reference had been made to the fact that the Annual Return, which was forwarded by the External Auditor, had not been included to enable analysis of staff costs in the cash book. In future, if accounts were submitted before the Annual Return had been received then a draft should be included showing the figures that would be entered. Members were advised that the Internal Auditor and the Clerk were of the view that the delay in receiving the Annual Return was due to the new Accounts and Audit Regulations which had come into effect and to the fact that, unlike as at present, approval by the Council of the accounts for the previous financial year would not now take place until the external audit was completed. This may require a change in arrangements with the internal audit as they are normally done at the year end once the Council had approved the accounts and Members would be kept informed.

RESOLVED :

1. That the internal audit of the accounts 2009/10 and the satisfactory conclusion reach by the Council's Internal Auditor be noted.
2. That in relation to the Action Plan, the action to be taken by the Clerk in relation to the Annual Return for the previous and future financial years be noted and approved.
3. That in relation to the new Accounts and Audit Regulations, the comments of the Clerk be noted.

13. BAGILLT PLAYGROUP – FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Clerk advised that the Chairman had agreed to include this item to enable consideration of the request for urgent financial assistance.

Members were advised of the financial details that had been received, to the problems being faced by the Bagillt Playgroup of reduced numbers attending at Beechcroft and to the fact that the Council had received a return of £120 that had been allocated in the 2009/10 financial year to Bagillt Ti a Fi, a Welsh playgroup, that had now disbanded. If the Council were to agree now making the sum available to the Bagillt Playgroup then it would not impinge on the current policy of only considering applications at meetings in October and February and this organisation could also make an application for the October meeting.

Councillor A. Griffiths advised the meeting that a firm of contractors undertaking work in Highfield Road had use of some of the facilities at Beechcroft and had made contact with the Playgroup. In addition to giving them some publicity, the

firm had also donated a large hamper which the Playgroup could raffle for income purposes.

RESOLVED :

That in accordance with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, a donation of £120 be made to Bagillt Playgroup (cheque No. 101336) and that, as this sum has been returned from a payment made in 2009/10, the organisation be advised they could apply for consideration for funds available in the present financial year in October.

14. BUS SHELTER, BOOT END

The Clerk reported that he had received an e-mail from a Holywell Town Councillor via the Clerk of that Authority. It concerned an incident last month when there were a couple of people in their 70's having to wait for a late bus, with there being no seating facility at the bus shelter. The shelter was a relatively new one erected by Flintshire County Council, whilst across the road there was a stone bus shelter owned by this Authority and which had a public bench adjacent to it.

RESOLVED :

That representations be made to Flintshire County Council concerning the possibility of seating at the bus shelter and that Holywell Town Council be advised accordingly.

15. SHARED COMMUNITY – GUIDANCE ON RELATIONSHIP BUILDING MEASURES AND CHARTERS FOR UNITARY AUTHORITIES AND COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS

The meeting noted a letter received from the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government at the Welsh Assembly, copies of which had been previously circulated. In particular it made reference to the progress in relation to Charters between Unitary Authorities and Local Councils in Wales and to the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009, which had established Local Councils as Statutory Community Planning Partners, and there was also reference made to extending the power of well being through the role of Community and Town Councils.

16. CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX

The Clerk reported on a letter received from the Citizens Advice Bureaux advising that they were carrying out research on how an even better service could be provided to the Bureaux in Flintshire and Gwynedd. One of the problems was that methods which worked well in towns and cities may not do so

well in rural areas and the Bureaux were therefore carrying out a survey on rural and urban advice needs on how these can best be met.

They were requesting five Members of the Council to complete a questionnaire, which the Clerk had available at the meeting, and the Chairman and Councillors Mrs. N.M. Jones, Mrs. S.L. Jones, C.R. Williams and Mrs D.J. Williams agreed to each complete a questionnaire accordingly.

17. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN WALES – GUIDANCE

The Clerk reported that he had received copies of the Guidance from the Ombudsman, which was intended to be a valuable resource in promoting the best possible standards of conduct in public life and to be useful in work. The Clerk indicated he had received four copies in total, one of which he had passed on to the Chairman and, apart from keeping one himself for future reference, the other two were available for Members' perusal.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

18. DOLLAR PARK TRAVELLERS' SITE

The Clerk advised the meeting that he had received another letter from the West Bagillt Action Committee, which was a copy of that sent to the local press, as well as Flintshire County Council. It referred to the fact that there were now more caravans on the site, references in the local press regarding the County Council site at Queensferry and the continuing request to Flintshire County Council to remove the Travellers from the Dollar Park site, as per the findings of the Planning Inspector.

RESOLVED :

That the contents of the letter be noted.

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

Date of Council Meeting	Friday 14th May 2010
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Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no declarations of personal interest.		

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Chairman