

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL GLAN ABER, Bagillt, on Friday 10th June 2011.

PRESENT : Councillor R.K. Jones (Chairman)

COUNCILLORS : A. Griffiths, M.A. Reece, T. Renshaw, C. Williams, C.R. Williams, Mrs. D.J. Williams, J. Williams and T.M. Withington.

APOLOGIES : Councillors Mrs. N.M. Jones, Mrs. S.L. Jones and C.P. Owens.

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk), Hannah Parish and Tom Evans (Flintshire County Council minute No. 19), and P.C. Jennifer Salisbury (minute No. 20),

19. ROADRUNNER WASTE – PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Hannah Parish, Senior Minerals and Waste Officer, and Tom Evans, Case Officer, of the Planning Department of Flintshire County Council, addressed the meeting on the revised planning applications for Roadrunner Waste, Deebank Industrial Estate, which were referred to later on the agenda. Members were advised on the reasons why the applicant had withdrawn the previous applications, which included the need to address concerns that had been expressed by consultees, including the Community Council, and that the Department now had sufficient staff resources to ensure appropriate monitoring. Reference was particularly made to the change of use on the main site to an inert waste recycling facility, the new crushing plant and water sprinkling system to suppress dust, and it was explained why wheel washing would not be appropriate at this site and that any conditions placed on approval would be enforced via monitoring. The Officers also made reference to the role of the Environment Agency in relation to any pollution concerns.

With regard to the satellite site, reference was made to the fact that it would be for the storage of empty skips, and also for an end product from the inert waste recycling at the main plant, that both would have height restrictions in relation to any approval, which would be temporary due to the prior consent for industrial units, as well as ensuring appropriate screening.

Reference was made by the Chairman and Councillor M.A. Reece to the records of both the Company and County Council in ensuring that planning conditions were adhered to, the location of Japanese Knotweed on the fence line of the main site and the drainage of water from the main site to ensure that it does not cause pollution. Councillor J. Williams referred to the fact that the satellite site was adjacent to an SSSI, whilst Councillor C.R. Williams made reference to the mud problem on the highway, which arose from the satellite site due to heavy vehicle movement. In response, the Officers referred to their prior comments concerning the staffing position to ensure monitoring, that any water used on the

main site would be drained away by using the foul sewerage, that it would not be possible to place a condition concerning the Knotweed, as it was outside the application site but that the Council should make mention of it in their comments, and that the Countryside Council for Wales were a consultee, like this Authority, and could comment in relation to the SSSI site.

The Chairman thanked the two Officers for attending and addressing the meeting.

20. POLICING MATTERS

P.C. Jennifer Salisbury, the Bagillt Community Officer, was in attendance and advised that she had only come on duty today earlier today after being away for two weeks but had endeavoured to obtain information in relation to local issues. On the matter of anti-social behaviour, she indicated that incidents in the Bagillt East Ward were down but there had been an increase in the Bagillt West Ward, which was mainly due to the problems with motorbikes. In relation to the noise of vehicles, referred to at the last meeting, this had been passed on to the Traffic Police. Whilst she was aware of the message received from Councillor M.A. Reece while absent, she had not received any further information in relation to the incidents reported at the last meeting concerning St. Mary's Mews and the Leadworks recreation area. In relation to incidents concerning motorbikes, she stressed the importance of advising the public to use the 101 system to report these to the Police so that the information became recorded and to the difficulty of catching them, due to the nature of the vehicle.

The Officer also advised that Bagillt would be receiving visits in the future from CPSO's, with Officers from the Flint and Holywell Police Stations appropriate to the Bagillt East and West areas. The Chairman thanked P.C. Salisbury for attending the meeting.

The meeting also noted the letter which had been circulated with the agenda from Chief Inspector Darren Wareing, advising of the new Flintshire Command Team.

21. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on 13th May 2011.

a. Minute No. 5 – Regeneration

The Clerk advised the Chairman that he had received an e-mail response from Niall Waller that he was looking into the issues raised at the last meeting and would forward a letter in the post once he had the information needed.

b. Minute No. 15 – Japanese Knotweed

Councillor A. Griffiths spoke on behalf of Councillor C.P. Owens, who was unable to attend the meeting due to an injury, and advised that there had as yet been no action taken by Flintshire County Council concerning the Japanese Knotweed. This was despite a letter being forwarded to the Clerk indicating that they would be carrying out treatment of the Knotweed by the first week in June, which would consist of initial application of weedkiller followed by several weed treatments. It was agreed that the Clerk take this matter up once again with Flintshire and also draw attention to the Knotweed at Roadrunner Waste which may actually be located on the highway verge.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on 13th May 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

22. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman advised the meeting that he had been invited to attend the Flint Town Council Civic Service to be held on Sunday 10th July 2011, and he hoped to be able to do so.

23. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No.	Location	Detail
048608	Roadrunner Waste Ltd. concrete batching Deebank Industrial Estate	Change of use from plant to inert waste recycling facility.
048649	Roadrunner Waste Ltd. application for open air Deebank Industrial Estate empty skips/product.	Retrospective storage of

Reference was made to the address given by Flintshire Planning Officers earlier in the meeting in respect of these two applications and the Clerk also reported on the comments made by the Council when they had considered the previous applications.

RESOLVED :

1. That in relation to application 048608, the application be supported subject to suitable conditions concerning dust suppression facilities on site, ingress and egress arrangements, no transfer of materials from the

application to the satellite site, and reference to the presence of Japanese Knotweed even though it is outside the area of this application.

2. That in relation to application 048649, the proposal be objected to, on the grounds of dust generation to the detriment of residents and debris on the highway due to vehicle movements, with the proviso that this objection would be withdrawn if it were to be only used for empty skip storage for a temporary defined period.

24. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

That the following accounts be paid :-

Name		£	Cheque No.	Expenditure
Powers				
Mr. G. Roberts	840.66	101410		Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	156.38	101411		Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
HCI Data Ltd	81.60	101412		Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Mr. D.J.J. Wain	1.00	101413		Loc.Govt.Act 1953 (S.4)
SLCC Enterprises Ltd.	78.00	101414		Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Open Spaces Soc.	40.00	101415		Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)

25. BAGILLT BRANCH LIBRARY

The meeting considered a Service Level Agreement (SLA) offered by Flintshire County Council, following on from the decision at the last meeting by this Authority to fund the running costs for six months, copies of which had been previously circulated. The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted the Society of Local Council Clerks, who had advised that the Council could use Section 19 of the Local Government Act 1976, which relates to buildings, or, alternatively, Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, which is for the discharge of functions by another Authority, in terms of powers for meeting the payments referred to in the document. With regard to the monitoring arrangements referred to in Section A, which was a commitment for this Council, it had been agreed with Flintshire that the date to review mid-session would be amended from the 2nd to the 9th September, which was the scheduled date when the Council met that month. With regard to the funding referred to in Section C, there was a slight difference to that reported to the last meeting but this was due to the fact that one of the calculations concerning sickness cover was only an assessment. If the Council were prepared to accept the SLA then they would need to authorise the Clerk to sign on behalf of the Council.

In relation to the long-term future, the Clerk referred to a Funding Fair he had attended in Wrexham on 18th May 2011, when he had taken the opportunity of contacting the Big Lottery Stand in relation to the People and Places Programme.

Copies of the leaflet they had given relating to this programme for funding had been previously circulated to Members. The Clerk indicated that he had spoken to one of the representatives at the Fair and explained what the Council were doing at present to keep the Library open for the next six months in order to enable the long-term to be considered and to consult with the local community. Whilst Councils such as Bagillt could apply for funding, as explained on the leaflet, it was unlikely to succeed merely if it were to replace that no longer being spent by the County Council to keep it as a Library. Other aspects needed to be involved which could include a Library presence and the support from organisations, who could also make use of the premises. Consulting the community at large, as envisaged by the Council, was a good way forward to ensure there was support. The Big Lottery representative also indicated that there would need to be an assurance that when their funding was expended, as applied for, there was financial cover for the future of the building.

The Clerk reported that shortly after the previous meeting of the Council, Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones had indicated that she was unable to be a Member of the Working Group, due to personal circumstances, and that Councillor M.A. Reece had offered to replace her.

The Clerk advised that he had prepared an initial draft Newsletter and Questionnaire for the public consultation exercise, which he was circulating to the five Members on the Working Group, with a view to a meeting being held in the next 2-3 weeks so that a report can be made to the next meeting of the Council. It was intended that the Working Group would meet at the Library either on a Tuesday evening or Saturday morning in order to assist those Members who were working.

RESOLVED :

1. That in relation to the Service Level Agreement, the document be accepted subject to the change of the review commitment date mid-session from 2nd – 9th September and that the Clerk be authorised to sign on behalf of the Council.
2. That in relation to powers for expenditure on the Library by this Authority, the report of the Clerk be noted.
3. That in relation to the People and Places funding possibility from the Big Lottery, the report of the Clerk be noted.
4. That Councillor M.A. Reece be appointed to replace Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones on the Library Working Group.

26. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2010/11

a. Internal Audit

The Clerk advised that the Internal Auditor, JDH Business Services Ltd., had confirmed that on the basis of the audit work carried out the Council's system of internal controls, was in place, adequate for the purpose intended and effective, subject to the recommendations reported in the Action Plan. A copy of the Internal Audit Report and Action Plan had been previously circulated to Members.

In relation to the Action Plan, the Clerk advised that it had been his practice to request that those receiving financial assistance forward an acknowledgement, so that he could be assured they had received the cheque sent and most did so. In view of the comments by the Internal Auditor, he would amend the letter to advise that forwarding an acknowledgement or receipt would be a requirement of receiving a donation from the Council and that in future these would be attached to the voucher for audit purposes.

In relation to Section 4 of the Annual Return it was noted that this had been completed by the Internal Auditor and signed accordingly.

RESOLVED :

1. That the Internal Auditor report by JDH Business Services Ltd. on the Council's accounts be noted.

2. That in relation to the Action Plan, the requirement for those receiving donations to forward an acknowledgement or receipt be made a condition and that these be attached to the appropriate voucher for audit purposes.

b. External Audit

The Clerk reported that notification had been received from Hacker Young that the External Audit would be held on 31st July 2011, and that public notices to this effect would be displayed on the Council's Notice Boards and public Library from 17th June 2011, as required by the External Auditor. A copy of Sections 1 and 2 of the Return had been previously circulated to Members.

RESOLVED :

1. That the notification of External Audit on 31st July 2011 and display of public notices from 17th June 2011, be noted.

2. That, following certification by the Responsible Financial Officer, the accounts and statements in Section 1, be approved.

3. That in relation to the Annual Governance Statement in Section 2 it be confirmed that the responses are accurate, complete and represent the Council's final responses and that the Annual Return be signed by the Chairman.

27. CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT

The meeting considered a letter received from Flintshire County Council on Civil Parking Enforcement, copies of which had been previously circulated. The letter advised that, in conjunction with the application to the Welsh Assembly Government for Civil Enforcement Powers, a review of all signs and markings with existing Orders would be carried out to ensure that they accord with the Regulations and were legally enforceable. Remedial works would be programmed to rectify all reported defects before enforcement commenced.

Once civil parking was operational a phased programme would be initiated to review all existing Traffic Regulation Orders to ensure they provided the most suitable solution to current on-street parking/traffic management problems. A programme would be developed for this review, with the first phase to consider any outstanding requests, then extending across the County into the future. The Council were being asked if they had any observations on existing restrictions, which could be extended, reduced, amended or removed, together with any reasons supporting the submission.

The Chairman referred to the number of streets in the Village which, due to their width, required vehicles to be parked on pavements to enable larger vehicles, such as emergency services or waste collection, to move freely. He expressed the view that if this practice were to be curtailed once the County obtained Civil Parking Enforcement powers then it could cause many problems. Reference was made by Councillor T. Renshaw to the need for the yellow lines, previously on Gadlys Lane from its junction with the High Street to the Upper Shippe Inn, to be reinstated so as to prevent parking in the proximity of this junction. It was not known why the previous yellow lines had been removed.

RESOLVED :

That the views expressed by Members be conveyed to Flintshire County Council as the Community Council's observation on the review.

28. MEETING BETWEEN FLINTSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

The meeting considered a letter from the Flintshire Local Access Forum (FLAF), copies of which had been previously circulated. It referred to the fact that the Forum was a Statutory Body under the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000, which imposed a duty on each principle Authority to set up such a Body to advise it, the Countryside Council for Wales and others on all matters relating to public

access to land for the purpose of open air recreation and enjoyment of the area. FLAF were seeking to develop communication links, exchange of views and collaboration with Community and Town Councils in the County in relation to the Rights of Way network. It was concerned with all the users of the network, including pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians, carriage drivers and less able people, including wheelchair users.

To start this process Community and Town Councils were grouped geographically into five areas and a meeting has been organised in each at which representatives were invited to meet with Members of FLAF. The purpose was to exchange information on current or recent activities and issues relating to rights of way and explore possible ways in which FLAF and Councils could collaborate on related matters. FLAF was aware that in several Community Council areas interested citizens had at a various times carried out relevant local activities, for example, descriptive leaflets of walks in the area, or by organising walks or groups of volunteers to carry out light maintenance of the network, and it would be valuable if Local Council representatives were able to share such experiences at the meeting. Bagillt was being grouped with Brynford, Flint, Halkyn, Holywell, Mostyn and Whitford, and were being invited to two representatives to a meeting to be held at the Town Hall, Flint on 20th July 2011.

RESOLVED :

That the Council be represented at the meeting by Councillor T.M. Withington and the Clerk.

29. BAGILLT FORESHORE

Councillor M.A. Reece informed the meeting of the progress of the tarmaced area from the by-pass to the bridge and up to the viewing point, and indicated that this work had apparently led to two claims of land ownership.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

30. COMMUNITY AWARDS 2011 – YSGOL GLAN ABER AND YSGOL MERLLYN

The Clerk advised that the Head Teacher, Ysgol Merllyn, had confirmed the School was once again to participate in nominating a pupil to receive a suitably engraved shield with the Council's logo, to be presented by a Member of the Council on the 15th July 2011 at 1.45 p.m. It had only been possible to discuss the matter verbally with the Head Teacher at Ysgol Glan Aber, who indicated that the School wished to participate and it was expected that it would be at the end of the School summer term.

This meeting of the Council at Ysgol Glab Aber would be the last for the current head Mr. Huw Jones who was leaving for another post and for the caretaker Mr. David Bell who was retiring at the end of the summer term. He had wished both well for the future on behalf of the Council and now he was aware that Mr. Steve Lewis head at Ysgol Merllyn was also leaving for another post after this term he would do likewise in his case.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

31. MEMBERS' ITEMS

a. Play Area, High Street

Reference was made by Councillor A. Griffiths to the continuing problem with the completion of the play area in the High Street, opposite the Blossoms Hotel, and to the fact that the verge itself now required attention. The Clerk advised that he had received a further letter from the Legal Department at Flintshire County Council advising that a fund management firm had been retained to find a structure for the developer, Wraysbury Homes Limited, against which its Bankers may provide more building funds. Flintshire had put a proposal to the firm which would enable the outstanding works to the play area at the above site to be completed and for them to be transferred to that Authority. They had not received a reply, but were again chasing up the matter.

RESOLVED :

That the legal position in relation to the play area be noted but that further representations be made to Flintshire County Council concerning the need for attention to be given to the verge as it was becoming a highway visibility issue.

b. Land at High Street

Councillor M.A. Reece made reference to an area of land in the vicinity of the taxi premises which had become overgrown as it had received no attention for many years. He had with the co-operation of the then appropriate Officer at Flintshire arrange for a provision to be made in the budget for this year which would enable some of the trees to be removed. Unfortunately, that particular officer had now retired and his replacement was refusing to carry out the work, for which budget provision had been made, indicating that there were more serious tree issues in Flintshire to be addressed first. He was requesting support for the work to be carried out as previously promised.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk make representations to Flintshire County Council in support of the issue as now reported by Councillor M.A. Reece.

32. HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRE SERVICE IN FLINTSHIRE

The meeting considered a letter received from Flintshire County Council, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. It advised that they were reviewing the provision of its Household Recycling Centre (HRC) service across the County and was seeking to compare the service with that provided by other Welsh Councils. The letter also included consideration of options to introduce a Residents Only Policy at the Council's HRC sites, to consider the future provision of the Local Bring sites (Local Recycling Facilities) and review the current permit scheme for vans and large trailers at HRC sites.

The Chairman referred to the Residents Only policy and whether or not this applied to the whole of the County as the sites at Flint and Greenfield were used by people from Bagillt . There was a need to ensure that any change in policy did not lead to more fly tipping, which would only increase costs, as well as public nuisance. In addition, he felt that the current Local Recycling Facilities should be retained due to their usage and that vans and large trailers should also be able to continue to use HRC sites by way of their permit scheme. Councillor J. Williams expressed the view that the Residents Only feature was a particular issue in relation to the Saltney area, due to their facilities being used by people who lived across the adjoining Chester area.

RESOLVED :

That the views expressed by Members be conveyed to Flintshire County Council accordingly.

33. PUBLIC CONVENIENCE SERVICE IN FLINTSHIRE

The meeting considered a letter received from Flintshire County Council, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. It was noted that they were reviewing the public conveniences in the Council by a Member and Officers Task and Finish Group, the Terms of Reference of which were included in the letter.

RESOLVED :

That although Bagillt had no public conveniences a view should be expressed that those currently provided at nearby Flint and Holywell should be retained and operated by Flintshire County council.

34. NORTH WALES OFF-SHORE WIND FARMS NEWSLETTER

The meeting noted a Newsletter received from RWA NPower Renewables concerning the off-shore wind farm off the North Wales Coast.

35. AGE CONCERN - SPONSORING INFORMATION POINTS

The meeting considered a letter received from Age Concern North East Wales, who were currently engaging with older people's forums in Flintshire to establish the most efficient way of disseminating vital information into the community. As a result they were contacting businesses and Councils within the County which had strong links with older people to see if they might be interested in sponsoring information. These could take the form of revolving display stands, notice boards and such like to be displayed in places such as libraries, post offices, surgeries and community hospitals where high footfall might normally be expected.

As Bagillt only had a Library building that was currently being financially supported by this Council to remain open, it was not felt appropriate to offer to sponsor an information point.

RESOLVED :

That Age Concern be advised that the Council were not able to assist with sponsoring an information point but if they forwarded leaflets to the Clerk then they could be displayed on the Council's three Notice Boards.

36. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURES 2011

The Clerk had circulated at the meeting a letter he had received at a recent meeting of the Clwyd Branch of Local Council Clerks. It related to the Local Government (Wales) Measures 2011, which had been passed by the Welsh Assembly, with a number of its Sections devoted to changing the law concerning Community Councils in Wales. It covered such issues as Community Meetings, Community Polls, merging or grouping of Community Councils, Member Co-options, Power of Well Being in Wales, Grants, Charter Agreements and Payments and Pensions for Members. A number of provisions referred to in the information would come into effect on 10th July 2011 and it was noted that as and when further information became available, the Clerk would report to Members accordingly.

37. REVIEW OF COUNTY ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY OF FLINTSHIRE

The Clerk advised that he had today received two copies of the Commission's final proposals for the Electoral Arrangements for the County of Flintshire, which had been submitted to Welsh Assembly Government for consideration. It was now being proposed that the number of Members on the County Council should

reduce from 70 to 66 and a reduction in the Electoral Divisions from 57 to 36. As far as Bagillt was concerned, it would retain two single Member Electoral Divisions, as they were at present, and they would be two of the 17 single Member Divisions that would be in the new structure. A public notice relating to the proposals was being displayed throughout the County and any further representations concerning the matters in the report had to be submitted not later than 20th July 2011.

RESOLVED :

That the final proposals be noted and that the decision to retain two single Member Electoral Divisions for Bagillt, as present, be welcomed.

38. HOUSEHOLD WASTE CHANGES

The Chairman made reference to the proposals by Flintshire County Council to replace plastic sacks with wheelie bins and to move over to a two-weekly collection in the Autumn. As well as making reference to the number of bins and sacks that local residents would have to cope with to divide various types of items, there was the issue of a fortnightly collection and the problems for a number of residents having to cope with wheelie bins, either due to lack of space or the inability of the person concerned to handle them. The offer of assistance in relation to this latter aspect may well place overburdens on Council staff. Other Members present made reference to problems with particular areas in relation to using wheelie bins, as well as the seemingly over-complicated arrangements for dividing the types which were to be placed on residents.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

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

Date of Council Meeting	Friday 10th June 2011
--------------------------------	---

Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no declarations of personal interest		

.....

Chairman