

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL GLAN ABER, Bagillt, on Friday 13TH April 2012.

PRESENT : Councillor R.K. Jones (Chairman)

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

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk), Mr. M. Taylor, Countryside Services, Flintshire County Council (minute No. 160), P.C. Martin Price and PCSO Nathan Harvey (minute No. 161).

159. PUBLIC INQUIRY ITEM

There were four members of the public present, two of whom indicated they wished to speak to the meeting. In view of the fact that the Police were coming to the meeting, but had been delayed for a short while, the Chairman indicated he would deal with the other address first, as the Flintshire Officer was present. He would allow the members of the public who wished to speak on these two items to do so at the appropriate time.

160. BAGILLT FORESHORE

Mike Taylor, Senior Countryside Ranger, Flintshire County Council, was attending to address Members on current and future foreshore issues. Since the last time he had attended a meeting of the Council there had been significant progress and he made particular reference to the fact that Flintshire County Council had taken on a 125 year lease of the former Bettisfield Landfill Site, and made reference to the respective responsibilities of the County Council, his own Countryside Services Unit, as well as the sea defence role, which involved other organisations. Reference was also made to the funding streams which had enabled progress in relation to the Coastal Footpath in this area and also the cycle path, to the route which had been achieved and to the formation of the Friends of the Bagillt Foreshore. The progress to date had resulted in more use by the general public, which had in turn assisted in significantly reducing fly tipping and anti-social behaviour on the foreshore.

The official opening for the Coastal Footpath for the region was taking place on Saturday 5th May 2012 at Flint Castle, when there would be a series of events to encourage the public to attend. Councillor M.A. Reece advised that as far as the Bagillt section was concerned, arrangements had been agreed for an official

opening of this section on Friday 4th May 2012 by a local person. Mike Taylor then went on to make reference to the groups that had been working with the Countryside Services to achieve improvements, such as Friends of the Foreshore, Bagillt Heritage Society and the fishermen. Whilst there was an issue to be clarified in relation to the constitution of the Friends, Countryside Services were looking forward to continuing working with groups who had helped in a number of clean-ups.

Reference was then made by the Officer to the erosion aspects on the foreshore, which was known as managed retreat. As far as the future was concerned, there could be a possibility of introducing a Visitor Centre at the Winding House, the introduction of wildlife such as natterjack toads and possibly a bird hide. Reference was made to Condeys Pool and to the disbandment of the Angling Club and to land owned by United Utilities. Circulated at the meeting were copies of plans which delineated various areas of land on the Foreshore. In response to the Chairman, Mr. Moyden, on behalf of the Friends of the Bagillt Foreshore, advised that the study they had initiated was expected to be received by the end of May, and it was noted that Flintshire County Council were also awaiting results of a study on the foreshore. Countryside Services were looking forward to continuing to work with the Community Council and local Groups to continue improvements at the foreshore.

Councillor M.A. Reece made reference to the sluicing pools, of which there were three in the village, including Green Park Lake. In response, Mike Taylor advised that the Countryside Services would not be undertaking any technical aspects but would endeavour to arrange tidy-ups as necessary. In response to the Members' concerns regarding the bird hide issue and the consequences of nesting season on other usage, the Officer advised that it was not intended to be one which would come under the auspices of a body like RSPB and would merely be for local use, such as by schoolchildren, if it was achieved. Councillor J. Williams made reference to the dock area and the plaque which was formerly in the area which referred to its role and that this now only partly remained. Unfortunately, the plaque put up by United Utilities did not cover this issue and the Officer noted it as a possible future project. In response to the access around the car park area, Mike Taylor made reference to the endeavours to ensure that it was possible to be utilised by those who were disabled and indicated that his promise to return to this issue was confirmed. In conclusion, he made reference to the Dragon Project and to changes which would improve the feature. Unfortunately, it would not be ready in time for the opening of the Coastal Footpath but was anticipated to be ready by the Golden Jubilee.

The Chairman thanked Mike Taylor for attending the meeting and updating Members in relation to the many foreshore issues, and looked forward to a further update in due course.

161. POLICING MATTERS

PC Martin Price advised that he was now taking over the Community Beat Manager role for Bagillt, together with the Pen y Maes and Greenfield areas of Holywell, whilst his colleague with him at the meeting, Nathan Harvey, was the new PCSO for Bagillt. As far as making contact with him was concerned, the Officer indicated his landline and mobile contact numbers when he was on duty, as well as his e-mail address at North Wales Police. He reminded Members that, in respect of incidents of the non-urgent 101 number and 999 for urgent matters, and that a message could also be left with his contact numbers.

Councillor C.R. Williams expressed the view that the village had been treated poorly by the Police in recent years, particularly with regard to a lack of response. In reply, the Officer indicated that when calls were made to the Police they were graded according to specified criteria. Councillor C. Williams requested an update in relation to the Petrolheads issue, given that they were understood to be applying for a liquor licence. The Officer confirmed he had held discussions with the owner of the premises and that the intention was it would only apply to occasional events held inside the premises. In relation to the cruise nights held outside, which were giving cause for concern, particularly in relation to noise, then it was intended that the timing of these events would be brought forward.

The Chairman then invited the member of the public, who had indicated he wished to speak to raise his issue in relation to the policing item. Reference was made to problems with speeding traffic along High Street from all sorts of vehicles, despite the 30 mph limit, and to the dangers that could accrue, and enquiries were made regarding the possibility of checks being made, possibly by use of the mobile facility. In response, PC Price indicated he would endeavour to make arrangements for the use of a mobile facility, but also referred to the survey possibility by the Highway Authority. This enabled an account to be made of the number of vehicles and the percentage going over the speed limit, without identifying individual ones. This was done over a set period, but there could be a charge involved. In response to Councillor M.A. Reece, he advised that in relation to vehicles parking on kerbs, providing there was sufficient space left for a double buggy to get past, then the Police would not class this as obstruction. In relation to the former library building Councillor T. Renshaw indicated he had seen a number of youths on the roof prior to the meeting and this noted by the officers.

The Clerk enquired regarding future attendance at Council meetings, and PC Price indicated that it was his intention that either he or his colleague present today would attend wherever possible. In return, he requested that he be notified when each meeting was being held by e-mail and also that if Members had any particular issues upon which they sought information he be informed so that either of them could report accordingly.

The Chairman thanked both Officers for attending and indicated that the Council looked forward to working with them over the foreseeable future.

162. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 9th March 2012.

a. Minute No. 148(e) – Dog Bin

The Clerk advised the meeting that Councillor M.A. Reece had advised the appropriate County Council Department of the site and that a request had also been made for a litter bin to also be provided in the area.

b. Minute No. 149(b) – Bagillt Heritage Society

The Clerk advised that earlier today he had received a response from Flintshire County Council and had passed a copy on to Councillor B.T. Doleman. It advised that the lighting at this location was not maintained by Flintshire County Council, but that they could arrange for repairs to be carried out and a re-charge made to the Community Council at cost if required. Councillor B.T. Doleman informed Members of the lighting arrangements which had been undertaken when the War Memorial had been improved by the Bagillt Heritage Society and that they would sort out the replacement bulbs accordingly. The Chairman felt that, in view of the Flintshire response, they should be requested to indicate what help and assistance they had given to other War Memorials in the County.

c. Minute No. 153 – Bagillt Foreshore

The Clerk read out to the meeting a response received from United Utilities, copies of which had been previously forwarded to Councillors C.P. Owens and M.A. Reece. It advised that there had been a break-in at the Pumping Station, which the Police had attended and it had been suggested they start to close the gates so that access was restricted to vehicles. This would be a deterrent for people trying to gain access from means other than simply walking through. The Company were currently looking into the land ownership at this site and rights of way so they could establish whether or not they were responsible for the pathway. It may be that they would change the current style of gate to an alternative which provided access to the public on foot. However, it may be found that they needed to keep the site open for vehicle access and were hoping that this information would be with them very soon so they could advise the Council accordingly.

Councillor M.A. Reece made reference to discussions held with both the Legal and the Rights of Way Sections at Flintshire County Council. The former were suggesting going down the route of making a formal declaration by having local people complete evidence forms, whilst the latter felt that it would be better to wait and see if United Utilities were prepared to install a style and to provide a key for vehicular access to assist the fishermen and farmer before pursuing any legal issues. Councillor C.P. Owens, who had originally raised this issue at the last meeting, made reference to the present difficulty of walking this route due to the danger from barbed wire. It was noted that the Operations Manager of the Company, who was dealing with the issue, was on holiday until next week and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Company for an update.

d. Council Insurance

The Clerk reported to the meeting on the renewal received from the Council's present insurers, AON, and reminded the meeting of the quotation received from Zurich Insurance for a three year agreement, which showed significant savings. It was agreed that Zurich be advised that the Council now wished to formally enter into an agreement with their Company so that an invoice can be received and paid at the next Council meeting, given that the current arrangement would expire on 1st June 2012.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 9th March 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

163. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No.	Location	Detail	
		049624	4 Chapel Terrace

RESOLVED :

That the application be supported.

164. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid :-

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
The Information (S.111) Commissioner	35.00	101470	Loc.Govt.Act 1972
One Voice Wales (S.111)	449.00	101471	Loc.Govt.Act 1972
Mr. G. Roberts (S.112)	819.68	101472	Loc.Govt.Act 1972
H.M. Revenue & (S.112) Customs	151.42	101473	Loc.Govt.Act 1972

165. ADDRESS TO COUNCIL MEETINGS BY FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Following on from a report to the last meeting on the Streetscene launch, the Operations Manager and Area Supervisor had requested to attend and explain to the Council how the new service would operate. After consultation with the Chairman, they had been offered the meeting to be held on 8th June 2012.

Mr. Colin Everett, Chief Executive, Flintshire County Council, had now accepted the offer made by the Council to address the meeting to be held on 13th July 2012. At the June meeting Members would have the opportunity of revising the issues they wanted to raise with him, given that they were agreed some months ago.

RESOLVED :

That the arrangements for addresses to be made by Flintshire County Council Officers to the June and July meetings of the Council be noted.

166. ANNUAL RISK ASSESSMENT 2012/13

The meeting considered a report by the Responsible Financial Officer on Annual Risk Assessment, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. The report reminded Members of the risk assessments undertaken in previous years. It was a statement adopted by the Council showing identified risks, assessing them and putting controls to manage. The Council had a duty to provide assurance to local tax payers and to prevent the cost of litigation.

With regard to internal controls, the Clerk advised that he had been in contact with Councillors A. Griffiths and C. Williams, who undertook this new procedure on behalf of the Council. In view of them both being involved in a contested election, this issue could not be dealt with at the May meeting as normal, but would now be left in abeyance until June 2012.

RESOLVED :

1. That consideration of the report of the Responsible Financial Officer be accepted as the formal Risk Assessment by the Council for 2012/13.
2. That in relation to the key risks, response again be identified as relating to the Council's assets, Bank accounts, Internal Controls and Insurance, for statutory and other purposes.
3. That the Appendix attached to the report be accepted as having taken all the appropriate steps to minimise risks in conjunction with the documented Internal Controls, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations..

167. ACCOUNTS 2011/12

The meeting considered a report prepared by the Responsible Financial Officer, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. It was pointed out that on the second page was the end of the fourth quarter Bank reconciliation as at 31st March 2012, and that the ledger of accounts, invoices and Bank statements were available for Members to peruse at the meeting. In accordance with guidelines, changed last year, formal approval of the accounts for the last financial year would await the submission of the Annual Return at the next meeting once the appropriate section had been completed by the Internal Auditor.

RESOLVED :

That the accounts for 2011/12 be noted as circulated and signed by the Chairman and Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer, who would also sign the accounts ledger.

168. EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL AUDIT ISSUES 2011/12

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members.

In relation to the internal audit, this would take place between the 18th and 25th April 2012, with the outcome and any action plan being reported to the Annual Council meeting to be held on 11th May 2012. The Annual Return forwarded by

the External Auditor would be sent to the Internal Auditor for the completion of Section 4 of the form. At the same time he would require Section 1 to be completed, and a copy of this had also been previously circulated to Members with the information contained therein matching the figures contained in the accounts circulated in an earlier agenda item. At the May meeting the Council would be requested to approve Section 1 in draft and also Section 2, copies of which would be circulated with the Agenda.

JDH Business Services had been the Council's Internal Auditor since 2002/03 and over the years had been helpful in improving the Council's financial procedures, as well as carrying out the audit as notified on an annual basis at the end of the financial year. The Clerk indicated it was therefore prudent for the Council to consider re-appointing them in accordance with the engagement letter entered into between both parties in March 2005, and upon which he reported further to the meeting.

In relation to the external audit, this had originally been confirmed by Hacker Young that it would take place on 31st May 2012. However, a further communication later advised that this Council was one of the 5% chosen for an intermediate audit. Whilst this required production of more paperwork to confirm certain procedures, there was no further cost to the Council, although it would be necessary for the Chairman and Clerk to certify certain procedures, which would be reported to the May meeting.

Most additional papers required for this type of audit were readily available, as they were produced each year for internal audit, although some prior minute records in relation to the appointment of JDH as Internal Auditor had needed to be researched and copied from the archives at Hawarden. It was also altering the date of audit which was given to those Councils chosen for an intermediate audit to the end of June, with the public notice dates changing also, and these would be displayed next month.

RESOLVED :

1. That the Internal Audit arrangements for 2011/12 financial year be noted.
2. That, JDH Business Services be formally re-appointed in accordance with the previous engagement letter, as the Council were completely satisfied with their level of service, following consideration at this meeting of their role and benefit to the Council.
3. That the choosing of Bagillt for an Intermediate Audit by the External Auditor, be noted, together with the change in date and that there would be further information at the May meeting accordingly.

169. BAGILLT CHURCHES

A copy of a letter from the Arch Deacon of St. Asaph concerning the issues raised at the last meeting relating to St. Peter's and St. Mary's Churches, Bagillt, was considered, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. It was noted that a copy had also been forwarded to the member of the public who raised the concerns at the last meeting.

Councillor M.A. Reece reported to the meeting on a discussion held with the Vicar of Bagillt prior to her leaving for another appointment.

RESOLVED :

That the response received from the issues raised at the last meeting be noted.

170. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS – NOMINATIONS

The Clerk reported that following the close of nominations and withdrawals, there would be no contest in the West Ward, with seven nominations being received for the same number of vacancies from existing Members. In relation to the East Ward, ten nominations had been received for the seven vacancies, from the existing seven Members plus three others.

As the persons election would all be known by Friday 4th May 2012, at the latest, the Clerk recommended that the scheduled date for the Annual meeting be retained.

RESOLVED :

1. That the nominations received for the two Community Council Wards be noted.
2. That the Annual Council meeting be held on 11th May 2012, as scheduled.

171. WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE ISSUES

The meeting considered a response from Flintshire County Council to issues previously raised by this Authority, copies of which had been previously circulated. In relation to bins and containers, it was noted they were looking at the type of recycling containers currently supplied and the problem with them during windy conditions, as well as asking crews to return them in an orderly manner with the lids closed to try and prevent them being blown over. The request for them to be placed outside by 7.30 a.m. was to provide operational flexibility given that a lot of people were working as this ensured that missed collections were minimised. In relation to difficulties experienced by some

residents, the Authority did operate an assisted collection service, details of this were contained in the letter. Reference was made by the Chairman to the need to wait and see in relation to the new collection service and to the fact that it would still be a number of years until the taking of refuse outside the County for disposal and incurring more cost was solved.

RESOLVED :

That the response from Flintshire County Council on the waste issues raised by the Council be noted.

172. FLINTSHIRE HOUSING BALLOT – COMMUNITY CARETAKER

It had been announced in a press release on the Flintshire website that tenants voted to stay with the Council with 88% in favour and 12% against. This was the highest turnout in Wales with 71% of tenants voting, and at the subsequent Council meeting on 27th March 2012 the Council accepted the outcome. This meant that the Community Caretaker arrangements between Flintshire and Bagillt could continue for 2012/13, funding for which was agreed in the budget in January and notified to the County Council.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

173. DATA REGISTRATION

The Clerk informed Members that he had received information from a colleague that the Council should be registered with the Information Commissioner (ICO) for data registration purposes and having checked with the ICO this was the case. There was a form to complete on which he reported to the meeting and the Council was required to pay a fee of £35 as a Tier 1 Authority, which was renewable annually.

RESOLVED :

That the requirement to register with the ICO for data registration be noted and that the Clerk be authorised to complete the necessary paperwork and forward the registration fee accordingly.

174. MEMBERS' ITEMS

Play Area Equipment

Councillor S.M. Manfredi made reference to a brochure he had obtained from a Flintshire based firm to supply play equipment. Whilst it was understood that

they provided equipment to other Authorities, this was not the case with Flintshire, despite the fact that the prices quoted seemed to be lower than the company that the County Council was using.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk make enquiries with Flintshire County Council to see if Playquest Adventure Play Limited were included on the list for quoting for play equipment and if not why that was the case with them being a local company.

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

Date of Council Meeting	Friday 13th April 2012	
Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no declarations of personal interest		

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Chairman