

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL MERLLYN, Bagillt, on Friday 8TH June 2012.

PRESENT : Councillor B.T. Doleman (Chairman)

COUNCILLORS : R. Davies, A. Griffiths, R.K. Jones, M.A. Reece, Mrs. D.J. Williams, J. Williams and T.M. Withington.

APOLOGIES : Councillors Mrs. N.M. Jones, Mrs. S.L. Jones, S.J. Moore, C.P. Owens, T. Renshaw and C.R. Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk), Mr. K. Wilding and PCSO Harvey (minute No. 18) and Messrs. D. Charlton and J. Williams (minute No. 19).

18. POLICING MATTERS

The Clerk advised that as PC Price was unable to be present, his colleague, PCSO Harvey, was in attendance to provide an update. PC Price had suggested inviting a representative of the Petrolheads Café to address the meeting on revised proposals at their enterprise, to which the Chairman had agreed, and accordingly Mr. K. Wilding was welcomed to the meeting.

As owner of the premises, Mr. Wilding thanked the Council for the invitation and indicated that the enterprise had now been running for approximately two years. Whilst they would be continuing to encourage biker visits to their premises, these tended to be of the 45-65 age group. He was no longer going to hold 'Cruise Nights' and the vehicles that had come for these events were now precluded from using the car park. It had not been his intention to cause concern to local residents and accordingly apologised sincerely for the noise which had been generated at weekends. This would no longer be an issue. He had made a significant investment in the Café and wished it to be part of the community. Mr. Wilding advised the meeting that the Café employed two full time and four part-time staff and made reference to the excellent co-operation from local Police during the period the premises had been open.

Mr. Wilding expressed his frustration at the lack of co-operation he had received as a local businessman from Flintshire County Council, and gave particular examples. In particular this related to planning issues as the premises were suffering from lack of signage so that they could be easily located from the Flint direction. Reference was also made to the lack of co-operation from the Wales Tourist Board. He did however thank Councillor M.A. Reece for prior contact in trying to open up a nearby bridge to encourage people wishing to gain access to the foreshore for recreation and bird watching purposes, which could also benefit his premises. Earlier today they had placed a portakabin in the vicinity of the

Café premises, which could at some time in the future be used for classroom type purposes by the local community.

Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that he was prepared to continue his endeavours to assist in relation to the reference to access to the foreshore. Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to the issues raised about Flintshire County Council and to the fact that that body was only responsible for maintaining areas which were under its control and that all organisations and individuals were subject to planning controls.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Wilding for attending the meeting.

PCSO Nathan Harvey advised that arrangements were in hand to undertake the speed survey in the High Street and reference was made to the criteria used to assess the situation in terms of volume and speed of traffic. Reference was made by Members to the fact that they had seen the Officer patrolling the Bagillt area in recent weeks, which was a welcome sight, and he indicated that this arrangement would continue.

The Chairman thanked the Officer for attending the meeting.

19. STREETSCENE

The meeting was attended by Mr. D. Charlton, Streetscene Team Leader, and Mr. J. Williams, Supervisor for the Bagillt area.

Mr. Charlton advised Members of the services covered by the new Streetscene service. This commenced in April and included cleansing issues, such as dog fouling, fly tipping, graffiti removal, litter bins and street cleansing. It also covered waste, such as recycling collections, waste collection disposal, maintenance of public toilets and car parks. Highway issues were also covered such as, signs, flooding, maintenance, gritting/snow clearing and lighting. Reference was also made to targets and information on both this and the services was circulated at the meeting.

Reference was made to the way in which the Department was organised and the division of the County into Streetscene areas, of which there were 12. The Bagillt area was in area No. 4, which also included Brynford and Halkyn, the local Supervisor having a buddy arrangement with adjoining area 5. The staff had come from the various independent services and they were now on a training and learning curve in order to make them multi-skilled, which would take a period of time to achieve.

There was now a one point contact number of 01352 701234, which took responsibility for all calls received for the services reported. This would mean callers would not be passed to other numbers. In addition, there was an

emergency out of hours system, and the normal hours service also now included a Saturday.

Mr. J. Williams, the Area Supervisor (which included Bagillt), advised of his previous experience and that the new system was also a leaning curve for him. He passed on his mobile contact number to the Clerk, advising that it would not be left on when he was not on duty and that it was only intended for use for particular local problems with a degree of urgency, otherwise the main contact number should be utilised.

Councillor R.K. Jones, who had recently been re-elected to the County Council, indicated that he was now responsible on the new Executive for the waste collection service, and a review was being undertaken on how the new system was operating, which would take a period of time. On the waste collection issue, Councillor T.M. Withington advised, that on collection day in his area there was often a hold-up caused by the vehicles on certain main roads at a busy time in the morning when people were trying to get work or get children to school. Councillor J. Williams asked the Officers present if they felt that the changes in the waste collection service were an improvement, given that the previous one was felt to be an excellent service and they commented accordingly. He also made reference to the notified change in collection day for his area to a Saturday.

Councillor A. Griffiths made reference to the pavements which were placed in the centre of the Village in the High Street some years ago and to the fact they were in urgent need of maintenance, particularly having regard to the growth of weeds which was detracting from their appearance. Councillor R. Davies indicated that an area of land in front of his commercial premises also needed attention and, although he was paying both Council Tax and Business Rates, he was having to help maintain the area, which should be the County Council responsibility. The Officers present noted the comments and indicated they would investigate for attention.

The Chairman thanked the two Officers for addressing the meeting and it was noted that at some time in the future it would be possible for one of them to attend another meeting to address any local concerns.

20. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on 11th May 2012.

a. Minute No. 7(a) – Dog Bin

Councillor M.A. Reece advised the meeting that he had now been able to solve this issue with the appropriate Officer of the County Council.

b. Minute No. 11 – Induction Training for Community Councillors

The Clerk advised the meeting that Councillors R. Davies and S.J. Moore had both been booked on County Council induction courses

c. Minute No. 13 – Christmas Lighting

Reference was made by Councillor J. Williams to the level of precept raised by Flint and Holywell Town Councils, which was respectively 5 and 4 times higher than that of Bagillt and that the Council could not hope to compete with the schemes that they organised.

d. Minute No. 17 – Zebra Crossing, High Street

Councillor M.A. Reece advised on the cost of a planning application for each advertisement hoarding, which would make it prohibitive for this possible scheme and that perhaps the way forward was to seek donations from local firms.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on 11th May 2012 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

21. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

a. The Chairman advised that he would be attending the Civic Sundays organised by Flintshire County Council on 17th June 2012, and by Flint Town Council on 1st July 2012.

b. The Chairman indicated that he would be attending the Flintshire County Forum, which was to be held at Mold on 13th June 2012.

c. The Chairman advised that he would be visiting the Laxey and Lonan Heritage Trust on the Isle of Man in July, both in his capacity as Secretary to the Bagillt Heritage Society and also as Chairman of this Council. The Heritage Society would be making a presentation to commemorate the visit and he also wished to do the same from the Council. He suggested presenting a shield incorporating the Council's logo, with an appropriate inscription.

RESOLVED :

That the Chairman be supported in his visit to the Isle of Man and that the Clerk arrange for one of the Council's shields to be appropriately engraved for presentation purposes.

22. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No.	Location	Detail
		049750 Twll y Llwynog, The Gadlys

RESOLVED :

That the application be supported.

23. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid :-

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Mr. G. Roberts (S.112)	847.40	101482	Loc.Govt.Act 1972
H.M. Revenue & (S.112) Customs	151.42	101483	Loc.Govt.Act 1972
I. Whitwell (S.4)	1.00	101484	Loc.Govt.Act 1953

24. ADDRESS TO JULY COUNCIL BY FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Members were reminded by the Clerk that Mr. C. Everett, Chief Executive of Flintshire County Council, had agreed to address the Council meeting to be held on 13th July 2012. A list had been previously circulated of the issues originally indicated by Members that they wished to raise and the meeting was requested to revise these, given that they were agreed some months ago.

Reference was made by the Clerk to the fact that when the list had been originally drawn up for an address at the January Council meeting, the issues of Flintshire County Council budget for this financial year and the Council Housing Ballot were appropriate, but this was no longer the case. In addition, with regard to concerns on domestic waste collection arrangements, Members were reminded of comments made earlier in the meeting by Councillor R.K. Jones, in his new capacity as the Executive Member responsible for that service.

In relation to the item on the list regarding the future of County Council assets remaining in Bagillt, and the prior reference to the closing of the Library, the Chairman updated the meeting in relation to the efforts by the Working Group

concerning the future use of the building and to the business plan which they had been requested to draw up and had subsequently submitted. He also indicated that he had been endeavouring to contact the appropriate Officer dealing with this issue for an update, but had been unsuccessful in making contact or receiving a return call. Councillor R.K. Jones advised the name of the Officer who was dealing with this issue and to the fact that he was currently away on leave. In relation to the waste issue, he felt that the Chief Executive may wish to comment on the current position regarding the North Wales Strategic Residual Waste Project.

RESOLVED :

That the references to the Budget, Housing Ballot and Waste Collection be deleted from the list of items on which the Chief Executive was requested to comment and that if any Members had any additional matters they wished to raise then they advise the Clerk as soon as possible.

25. BAGILLT FORESHORE

Councillor M.A. Reece referred to the lighting of a beacon at the Dragon feature on the foreshore on Monday 4th June 2012, as part of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. It had been well attended and he felt that the Council's thanks should be sent by way of a letter to the organisers, in particular Peter and James Carlyle, Paul Evans and Alan Reece.

RESOLVED :

That a letter of thanks be sent accordingly.

26. REVIEW OF INTERNAL CONTROLS 2012/13

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk, which had been prepared in consultation with Councillors A. Griffiths and B.T. Doleman, who were prepared to certify that the Internal Controls listed were in place and being adhered to by the Council. The documentation followed the format agreed in previous years, suitably amended to take account of any changes.

RESOLVED :

That the document, as circulated, be constituted as the Review of Internal Controls by the Council for 2012/13, following certification by Councillors A. Griffiths and B.T. Doleman, that the Internal Controls, as listed, were in place and being adhered to by the Council.

27. ONE VOICE WALES – CONFERENCE AND AGM 2012

The Chairman advised the meeting that he did not wish to attend the Conference and AGM of One Voice Wales, to be held in October 2012.

RESOLVED :

That in view of the wishes expressed by the Chairman, no delegate be appointed to attend the 2012 Conference and AGM.

28. BOUNDARY COMMISSION – RESPONSES TO INITIAL PROPOSALS

The Clerk advised the meeting that on 13th June 2012 the Boundary Commission would publish all the responses received in the initial consultation regarding their proposals to change Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries. The consultation would run until 10th July 2012 and any responses after that date would not be considered. In the light of the submissions and counter proposals to the second period on consultation, the Boundary Commission would consider changes to its proposals.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

29. COMMUNITY AWARDS 2012

The Clerk advised the meeting that both Ysgol Glan Aber and Ysgol Merllyn had indicated that they once again wished to participate in the presentation of Community Awards. Members were reminded that the pupil was chosen by each School and they were presented with a shield incorporating the Council's logo and suitably engraved. The presentation was to be undertaken at the end of the Summer term and it was usually carried out on behalf of the Council by the Chairman or Vice Chairman, and if not available a Member who was a School Governor.

RESOLVED :

That the responses of the two Schools be noted and that the Clerk make the necessary arrangements to have the shields engraved and arrange for Members to make the presentations on behalf of the Council.

30. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURES 2011 – FILLING OF VACANCIES BY CO-OPTION

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Flintshire County Council concerning the above legislation, which would affect filling vacancies by co-option. It was expected that legislative guidance under the Measures would be available soon and the purpose of the correspondence from Flintshire County

Council was to advise Councils of the co-option procedure and a necessity that would be introduced to give public notice. The County Council had also forwarded a suggested public notice which advised of the vacancy, the criteria for qualifying as a Councillor, and an invitation to be considered for co-option, which would take place at a notified Council meeting.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

31. MEMBERS' ITEMS

a. Replacement of Bollards

Councillor A. Griffiths referred to the accessway to the rear of his premises, and to the fact that previously there were bollards preventing vehicular use in the vicinity of Rising Sun Cottages by the former British Legion premises. There were instances of vehicles inappropriately using this access, despite there being a sign erected at its junction with Merilyn Lane indicating it was unsuitable for such traffic.

RESOLVED :

That representations be made to the Highway Authority for the possible re-introduction of bollards preventing vehicular use of this inappropriate access.

b. County Council Responses to Communications

Councillor Mrs. D.J. Williams enquired whether Flintshire County Council had a declared policy in relation to responding to correspondence and/or telephone contact, with particular relevance to issues raised by Town and Community Councils. In reply, the Clerk indicated that when he was working with Flintshire they did have a policy in relation to responding to correspondence within a declared time period and that perhaps this could be an additional issue to raise with the Chief Executive when he attends the meeting next month.

RESOLVED :

That this item be added to the list to be raised with the Chief Executive when he attends the Council meeting next month.

c. Unadopted Play Area, High Street

Reference was made by Councillor R. Davies to the untidiness in relation to the unadopted play area in the High Street opposite the Blossoms

public house. Councillor R.K. Jones reminded Members that the developer had got into financial difficulty and to the approach being taken by their Bankers which had led to a long delay in trying to resolve the issue which had been raised on many occasions with the County Council's Legal Department. He had recently spoken to the appropriate Officers in both the Legal and Streetscene Departments with a view to at least getting the areas within and outside the play area cut to tidy it up. It had been possible to reach agreement providing it was being undertaken without prejudice to the County Council's position.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

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

Date of Council Meeting	Friday 8th June 2012
--------------------------------	--

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

.....
Chairman