

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL MERLLYN, Bagillt, on Friday 11th January 2013.

PRESENT : Councillor B.T. Doleman (Chairman)

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

APOLOGIES : Councillors A. Griffiths and T.M. Withington.

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk)

102. POLICING MATTERS

The Clerk reported that PC Price and PCSO Harvey were unable to attend the meeting due to course attendance and shift arrangements respectively.

103. MINUTES

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

a. Minute No. 94(e) – Initial Estimates Considerations – Community Caretaker

Reference was made by Councillor M.A. Reece to the current restrictions being placed on duties the Community Caretaker could undertake on behalf of the Community Council. Both he and Councillor R.K. Jones reported on tasks they had requested, which were well within his capabilities, and that had been stopped. The Clerk indicated he had been endeavouring to arrange a meeting through his line manager with appropriate Officers within the Housing Department to clarify the issue, which was intended to also involve Councillors R.K. Jones and M.A. Reece. Clarification was therefore needed to continue the present arrangement, and further reference to this would be included in the estimates minutes later in the agenda. Councillor T. Renshaw indicated that if continuing the arrangement with Flintshire County Council was a problem, then possibly contact could be made with Flint Town Council to see if use could be made of any time available to their Community Caretakers, on a rechargeable basis.

b. Minute No. 95 – Bagillt Foreshore

Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to contact made with the Environment Agency concerning the Flood Plan and that any response would be reported back to the Council. The Clerk read out to the meeting an e-mail received via Councillor M.A. Reece concerning a footpath along the riverbank, which was not a public one and was only informal, developed by Flintshire County Council with agreement from the Environment Agency. Reference was made to the hazards caused by natural erosion and the need to warn members of the public, therefore warning signs had been erected and Flintshire County Council had also installed physical barriers.

RESOLVED :

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

104. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

a. Bagillt Heritage Society

The Chairman reported on progress since the last meeting on the Industrial heritage Trail and in particular contact made with Welsh Water concerning an area of land they no longer used for sewerage purposes in the vicinity of the former Bagillt Railway Station. There was to be a meeting on the site to see if agreement could be reached regarding usage by the Society in connection with their Heritage Trail.

105. PLANNING

a. Applications Determined – Recess Period

No.	Location	Detail
050276	75 Bron y Wern	Erection of single storey extension.

It was noted that the proposal had been supported by East Ward Members.

b. Applications for Consideration

It was noted that no applications had been received since the agenda had been printed. However, the Clerk reported on a letter he had received via Councillor M.A. Reece concerning Dollar Park, which had been sent to the Planning Officer, and concerned an increase in the number of families

unable to occupy the six pitches on the site, the contents of which was noted.

c. Local Development Plan

Councillor M.A. Reece reported on a Flintshire County Council meeting with Planning Officers concerning the Local Development Plan, and to the offer they were making to attend each Town and Community Council within the County to explain the procedure and to discuss any areas of land the local Council may wish to have considered. It was noted that if all the land allocated in the current UDP was developed then Bagillt was considered to have met its requirements.

RESOLVED :

That the invitation from the Planning Department at Flintshire County Council to attend a future meeting to explain the Local Development Plan procedure be accepted and the Clerk make contact accordingly.

106. ACCOUNTS

a. Recess

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Huws Gray Ltd.	7.03	101524	Parish Councils Act 1957

RESOLVED :

That the action of the Chairman and Vice Chairman in approving the above account during the Recess, be endorsed.

b. For Payment

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Mr. G. Roberts	819.45	101525	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	151.42	101526	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
Society of Local Council Clerks	127.00	101527	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
Huws Gray Ltd.	16.00	101528	Parish Councils Act 1957
Ms. A. Reece	1.00	101529	Loc.Govt.1953(S.4)

107. ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer on Estimates for 2013/14, with an Appendix containing particular items prepared

in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman. As well as suggested levels of expenditure for the next financial year, details were included in relation to probably/actual income and expenditure for 2012/13. Members were reminded of the discussions and decisions made at the November meeting, as well as other factors taken into account in preparing the schedule in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

In relation to the Chairman's allowance, Members were reminded of comments made at the November meeting but it was agreed that, for Estimates purposes, it should remain the same level as for the current year, as included in the Appendix. Details were given in the report of quotations received by the Clerk concerning re-stocking Heraldic Shields and the possible introduction of past Chairman's badges. To assist the discussion concerning the latter, art work was circulated as to how such a badge would look, together with an example loaned by Flint Town Council. Members were of the view that the badges should replace the use of Heraldic Shields for past Chairman, to recognise their year of office, and that Shields in future should only be utilised as Community awards for the two Schools and other purposes, as necessary. Councillor T. Renshaw expressed the view that, on the matter of the position of Chairman of the Council, it should be open to all Members who attended regularly and participated in community activity, although he did not wish to be considered for the position himself. Councillors B.T. Doleman and M.A. Reece indicated that they supported these sentiments but that this was a matter for another meeting. In response to this, Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones indicated why she had not previously put forward a nomination at the Annual meeting.

In relation to playschemes, it was noted that since the November meeting a letter had been received from Flintshire County Council advising of reduced Welsh Government funding and, whilst they themselves were not reducing core funding, the provision would reduce the scheme from five to three weeks and be limited to two schemes for each Local Council area. Whilst Flintshire had initially been advised that the Council would wish to at least take up the minimum, they had been requested to supply costs if it were to be increased to four and five weeks, and these were reported. Councillor R.K. Jones felt that the Council should meet the cost of a further week at both schemes to bring it up to four, which would cost £1,200 and could be met from the miscellaneous fund in balances. Councillor T. Renshaw indicated that this subject had recently been discussed at Flint Town Council and what they were suggesting to Flintshire County Council was that the schemes be staggered over the five week period, and that the same could be suggested for Bagillt, with just one scheme in operation in the first and last week and both for the middle three weeks. The play area sum of £5,000 agreed at the November meeting was subject to confirmation by Flintshire County Council that the match funding had been successful and was not expected to be known until February.

In relation to the Community Centre, the level of assistance was expected to decrease due to lower usage and at present they were investigating an alternate insurance cover. Since the November meeting the Association had confirmed that the Deeds stated that they were liable for meeting the cost of water usage at the Church. Reference was made by Councillor M.A. Reece to holding another meeting at the Community Centre so Members could take the opportunity to see how the building was being maintained since the last time and it was noted that there had been some tree felling/pruning in the vicinity, which hopefully would assist with the prior damp problem.

The provisions for elections had been significantly reduced from this year so as to merely cover an uncontested election if a vacancy should occur, and as a result of the planned increase in expenditure no provision had been included in the annual miscellaneous schemes contribution. In relation to Christmas lighting, Councillor T. Renshaw felt that the £5,000 indicated at the November meeting to commence the fund should be retained in the budget and he was supported by Councillor J. Williams.

RESOLVED :

1. That a precept of £40,430 be made on Flintshire County Council for 2013/14, which equates to a Band D charge of £28.05, an increase of 17.61% (£4.20) on the last financial year.
2. That the amounts indicated in the previously circulated expenditure heads for estimates purposes for 2013/14, be approved as circulated, subject to an increase of £1,200 on playscheme expenditure and £200 for salt bin provision, to be met from balances.
3. That the Clerk be authorised to place an order with Messrs. Shaw & Sons for the purchase of five more Heraldic Shields, at a cost of £212.50 plus VAT and postage, and with Thomas Fattorini Limited, for the purchase of ten past Chairman's badges in metal, at a cost of £309.60 plus tooling charge of £292.61, excluding VAT and postage, with the Heraldic Shields in the future only to be used for Community Award purposes and presenting to Organisations and persons other than the past Chairmen, with the costs to be met from unused funds available in miscellaneous schemes in the current budget.
4. That the level of funding agreed at the last meeting be formally included in the budget for the next financial year to enable maintenance of the bowling green at the Bagillt Bowling Club.
5. That in relation to the Community Caretaker, which was subject to a discussion earlier in the meeting, the Clerk make representations to the Head of Housing Services for a discussion concerning future tasks which

could be undertaken whilst on Community Council time, and in the light of their outcome, contact as necessary be made with Flint Town Council to see if there was a possibility of utilising any spare time of their Community Caretakers on a rechargeable basis.

6. That in relation to the Community Centre, the Bagillt Community Association be advised that the Council would once again be making appropriate provision to continue the previous financial assistance towards the running of the Centre for the next financial year, subject to the previously agreed forwarding of financial details and being advised as to when future meetings are held on Community Centre issues to allow the Council the opportunity to be represented.
7. That on the matter of the Playschemes, Flintshire County Council be advised that the Council would wish to increase the number of weeks from the reduced figure of three to four at both schemes, with a request that they be staggered so that only one was in operation for two weeks, the remaining three weeks having both schemes in use and that the Council would meet the previously notified increase in costs.

108. LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENTS 2013/14

The meeting considered a report of the Responsible Financial Officer on Local Government Investments, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. The Appendix to the report advised that all excess funds were to be held in a Business Money Manager Account.

RESOLVED :

That the Annual Investment Strategy for Bagillt Community Council, as prepared by the Responsible Financial Officer, and circulated as an Appendix to the report, be adopted for meeting the requirements for this Authority for 2013/14.

109. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The meeting considered a report by the Responsible Financial Officer concerning Income/Expenditure and Bank reconciliation for the third quarter of the financial year 1st October to 31st December 2012, copies of which had been previously circulated.

RESOLVED :

That the details circulated for the third quarter be noted.

110. BAGILLT FORESHORE

Reference was made by Councillor R.K. Jones to a recent discussion with Mike Taylor of the Flintshire Countryside Services concerning the remaining section of the Coastal Footpath, which would be addressed in the near future.

111. TWINNING BETWEEN BAGILLT AND LAXEY, ISLE OF MAN

The meeting considered a report by the Clerk on twinning between Bagillt and LaxeY in the Isle of Man, copies of which had been previously circulated. Members were reminded that in September they had received a report from the Chairman on a visit to LaxeY, Isle of Man, together with an e-mail from LaxeY Village Commissioners, touching on the possibility of a twinning arrangement between the two areas and the Bagillt Heritage Society, and looking for advice on formal procedure. As a result of the decision to agree the principle of twinning arrangements, the Clerk indicated he had made a number of enquiries with fellow colleagues who had covered areas previously involved with twinning for many years.

The Clerk further indicated he had been in regular contact with the Clerk to the Village Commissioners, enquiring about possible information to be included in any resolution, such as how to describe the two areas, whether it should be bilingual, given that both Wales and Isle of Man had their own languages, and that it would be appropriate to include reference to the link of the Industrial Heritage. LaxeY had agreed how they wished to describe their area in a resolution and that they did not want a bilingual description in the minute. The Village Commissioners had met on 19th December 2012 to pass a Resolution to twin with Bagillt, including a description of the two areas and to record the Industrial Heritage link. After consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman during the Recess, Members were asked to approve the minute, included the report, which would replicate what had been agreed by LaxeY.

RESOLVED :

That in recognition of the established Industrial Heritage link between our two areas in Wales and the Isle of Man respectively, the "Community of Bagillt in the County of Flintshire" be twinned with the "Village of LaxeY in the Sheading of Garff" with immediate effect.

112. REVIEW OF SPEED LIMITS

The meeting considered a letter from Flintshire County Council, and an extract of roads in Bagillt affected by the review. The effected roads concerned sections of the A548 and the A5026.

RESOLVED :

That Flintshire County Council be advised accordingly :

1. That in relation to the A548, the section of Flint from West of Aber Park Industrial Estate to East of A5026 Walwen, the Council concur with Flintshire County Council that they do not support the suggested increase in speed limit of 50 to 60 mph by Atkins, and would favour reduction to 40 mph but if this was not possible they would agree with Flintshire that no review of speed limit be required. In relation to Walwen from East of A5026 to Greenfield Business Park, they support the view that no review of speed limit was required.
2. That in relation to the A5026, Holywell from St. Peter's Park to Victoria Park, Boot End, that the 50 mph speed limit, as suggested by Flintshire County Council, should be considered for the whole length of the section due to the carriageway alignment. In relation to Boot End from Victoria Park to A548 junction West of Bagillt, they support the view that no review of speed limit was required.

113. RESPONSE FROM FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

The meeting noted the undermentioned responses from Flintshire County Council on the subjects indicated, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members.

a. Civil Parking Enforcement

It was noted that there had been delays in the Civil Parking Programme, which was to be further considered at appropriate meetings later this month. Once approved the Council would be in a position to submit a formal application to Welsh Government and the latter advised that it would take a minimal of five months for them to consider. It was noted therefore that it was most unlikely the Council would be in a position to formally adopt Civil Parking before Spring 2014.

b. Springhill Quarry – High Street, Bagillt – Flooding

In relation to drainage matters alone, an inspection had been made of both the former Springhill Quarry and the large field between the Quarry and the High Street, and the view being expressed was that the Quarry had no impact on the flooding experienced by residents in High Street. Details were given in the letter concerning the fact that the flow discharging onto the highway was caused by heavy rain falling onto a saturated surface of the field, which currently consisted of sparse vegetation, and that due to size and nature of contours considerable surface run-off was generated. To

avoid loss of soil and nutrients from his land and to reduce the impact of silt blocking the drainage system serving the High Street, the farmer had constructed a temporary bund with sandbags and also laid a pipe to convey run-off onto the highway. This arrangement was acceptable as in interim arrangement to Flintshire County Council insofar as it considerably reduced the silt volume being conveyed onto the highway, enabling the drainage system to remain functional. As flow was discharging onto High Street naturally sourced the Council had no powers to instigate action but it was intended in the current financial year to construct a new highway drain between High Street and the A548, which would alleviate flooding at this location.

c. Green Park Lake, Bagillt – Silting

It was noted that the Council intended to undertake a level survey of the lakes, including silt levels, incoming pipe outfall levels and also to relate these to maximum tide levels. The information would inform Officers exactly what works were required to ensure that the lake functioned as a storage lagoon and had sufficient capacity to cater for the coincidence of high tide and extreme rainfall within the Bagillt catchment. This Authority would be updated when the survey had been undertaken and details of proposals had been established.

114. RECESS PERIOD

Other than the issues referred to in the Agenda regarding Accounts and Estimates, the Chairman and Vice Chairman were consulted on a request from the National Library of Wales to archive the Council's website in order for it to be preserved as part of their collection. As the request related to the website, Councillor C.P. Owens had also been consulted, and it was noted that the request had been agreed.

115. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES – CONSULTATION

The Clerk reported to the meeting on the Consultation concerning the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Bill, as it related to Community Councils. The Bill provided that every Town and Community Council should, by May 2015, provide their contact and membership details and records of the proceedings via the internet. In addition, the Clerk, as a minimum, should be contactable by e-mail. The Bill did not require each Town and Community Council to have its own website. The Consultation was suggesting that in many cases it may be possible for the Local Principal Council, or a Membership Organisation such as One Voice Wales, to host the website, and the Bill also provided for the Welsh Government to issue guidance on this matter.

As Members were aware the Council already had its own website and the Clerk was contactable by e-mail, so it was not thought that this legislation when enacted should cause any problems to the Council, but final details would have to be awaited. Councillor C.P. Owens indicated that the Flintshire Local Voluntary Council was offering a facility to assist Local Councils in relation to website provision on a rechargeable basis.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

116. MEMBERS' ITEMS

a. Springhill Quarry

Councillor M.A. Reece made reference to the prior report in the meeting regarding the response from Flintshire County Council on flooding, and requested that further representations be made for an update in relation to the Quarry itself, this was accordingly agreed.

b. Wern Avenue – Parking

Reference was made by Councillor C.R. Williams to the problems being caused by vehicles parking in Wern Avenue, particularly on the highway, in relation to the sharp bend in that road, a view concurred by the Clerk, who had used that route earlier in the evening. It was agreed that the matter be brought to the attention of the local Police Officer and also the Area Supervisor for Streetscene to see if anything could be done.

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

Date of Council Meeting	Friday 11TH January 2013
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Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no Declarations of Interest.		

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Chairman