

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL GLAN ABER, Bagillt, on Friday 8th February 2013.

PRESENT : Councillor B.T. Doleman (Chairman)

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

APOLOGIES : Councillors R. Davies, A. Griffiths, S.J. Moore and T. Renshaw.

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk) and PCSO Harvey (minute No. 118)

117. PUBLIC INQUIRY ITEM

The meeting was attended by one member of the public, who made reference to comments made at a recent meeting of the Friends of the Bagillt Foreshore. In particular he referred to the possible developments of the Cob area and the former Bettisfield Colliery, with the latter being a combined Visitor and Historical/Cultural Heritage Centre. There was also the possible rejuvenation of Dee Bank Quay, which could attract water sports. He made an appeal for artefacts of historical interest with a direct link to the Village to be collected and stored with appropriate care, under a permanent loan guarantee, and for the Community Council website to have an appropriate link to the Coastal Path website, to assist visiting cyclists, ramblers, tourists or general public. In addition, he would like the Council to set up a business strategy. He indicated that the Coastal Rangers had informed the Friends that they were more than willing to assist and that Welsh Government grants were available to encourage business growth along the Coastal Path. There was potential for public houses and the farming community or landowners to provide amenities for visitors. There was a need for Bagillt and Flintshire Councils to be involved with advertising and encourage investment within the area.

Councillor C.P. Owens indicated that there was already a link facility on the Council's website which could be utilised. Councillor C.R. Williams made reference to the storing of any collected artefacts until such time as a permanent facility was available. The Chairman suggested that, at the present time, a log of what was available and where it was presently held would be sufficient. In addition, he made reference to the efforts of the Bagillt Heritage Society in relation to seeking an appropriate place in connection with the Industrial Heritage Trail, for which they had received grant funding. Councillor M.A. Reece made reference to a meeting he would be attending with the Conservation Officer and the son of the land owner in relation to the scrapyard area, including the former Bettisfield Colliery engine house. Councillor R.K. Jones indicated it was

paramount to remove the scrapyard if grants were to be forthcoming, with a view to improving the area for visitors.

118. POLICING MATTERS

The meeting was attended by PCSO Harvey, who confirmed that PC Price had been transferred to other duties, and the Bagillt area would now be looked after by PC Tony Gray, who was unfortunately unable to attend tonight, but intended to do so for the next meeting. Reference was made by Councillor M.A. Reece to the for sale signs erected by various estate agents relating to properties in the High Street, which were located on boundary fences on the A548 dual carriageway side. As a result of the recent windy weather there had been an incident, whereby one had blown into the path of a travelling vehicle which could have led to a serious accident. The Officer indicated he would visit the area and make a note of the firms involved and speak to them accordingly whilst Councillor Reece would inform planning. Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to the prior statement regarding the change of local policeman, and was advised by the Officer that he would remain on duty in the Bagillt area and that the new Police Commissioner was in favour of local Policing.

Reference was made by PCSO Harvey to the complaints he had received regarding the use of Tyddyn Mesham by vehicles as a short cut. He was advised by Councillor Mrs. D.J. Williams and others of the fact that this had been an on-going discussion for many years with the local police, particularly with regard to the problems of enforcement. In relation to Police Surgeries, of which the February list had been circulated with the agenda, Councillor M.A. Reece requested the Officer to let him know when it was necessary to cancel one of these. He would in turn put a notice up at the Centre to avoid the public wasting their time and the Officer indicated he would arrange to do so in the future. The Chairman thanked PCSO Harvey for attending the meeting and that they hoped to meet with the new local police officer, PC Gray, at the next meeting.

119. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 11th January 2013.

a. Minute No. 107 – Estimates– Playschemes

The Clerk advised Councillor R.K. Jones that he was still awaiting a response from Flintshire County Council concerning the Playschemes following the discussion at the last meeting, and the same applied regarding the Play Area match funding scheme.

b. Minute No. 113(b) – Springhill Quarry

The Clerk advised Councillor M.A. Reece that he was still awaiting a response from the reminder sent after the last meeting.

c. National Assembly for Wales – Consultation

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had received a letter from the National Assembly for Wales concerning funding which was to be available in relation to the provision of website facilities for Town and Community Councils. Monies were to be forwarded to the relevant County Council at the rate of £500 for each Town and Community Council within their area. There had also been an e-mail from One Voice Wales concerning this issue and they indicated that Town and Community Councils should await further guidance in relation to this matter prior to approaching their relevant County Council. Whilst Bagillt had its own website, it may be possible to obtain some funding from the scheme for planned improvements.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 11th January 2013 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

120. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATION

The Chairman referred to an invitation received from the Mold Town Mayor concerning a charity dinner dance and auction, to be held on 20th April 2013, which was open to all Councillors.

121. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

a. Community Caretaker

Reference was made to a meeting attended yesterday at County Hall, Mold, with the Head of Housing, and colleague, at which the Community Council were represented by Councillors R.K. Jones, M.A. Reece and the Clerk. The meeting had been held to discuss duties which could be undertaken by the Community Caretaker, having regard to the recent previously reported examples where work that had been requested to be undertaken had been stopped by his Line Manager. The Head of Housing had indicated that it was important the Caretaker only undertook tasks which were covered in his job description to ensure that, in the event of any claim arising, the position of both Flintshire and Bagillt Councils were covered. Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that this Authority were seeking to continue with the original arrangement, whereby he could undertake

minor repairs and maintenance work on the Council's street furniture, as well as assisting elderly and disabled people in the private sector. As they were considered to be of a minor nature and this Authority wished the arrangement to continue, she was of the view that he should be able to do so. She would be taking the matter up with the Line Manager, and it was expected that a response clarifying the position for the future would shortly be forthcoming.

In relation to the litter picking duties, Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to the service already given to the area by Flintshire County Council. It was important that, as far as the Community Caretaker was concerned, he only spent time on this issue enhancing the service when not required for repair and maintenance duties and attended to particular problem areas. In relation to the assistance that had been given in recent times to the Community Centre, Councillor C.P. Owens felt that this only needed to be on an urgent basis and not as a regular feature. He was advised by the Clerk that this had arisen in consultation with the then Chairman and Vice Chairman, due to the skills of the present incumbent, and particularly related to plumbing issues, with the parts being provided by the Community Centre, and the Caretaker always checked with him before giving any assistance. In relation to the parking area adjoining the Centre, which was still in the ownership of the Church Authorities, Members were reminded that the Council had previously got the Probation Service to clear it of overgrowth from weeds. The Caretaker was requested to treat it occasionally with weed killer and generally endeavour to keep it tidy and it was agreed this should continue.

b. Fencing – Ysgol Merllyn

Councillor R.K. Jones informed the meeting that fencing works previously reported to the Council had now been completed.

122. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. Applications Determined – Recess Period

No.	Location	Detail
050438	Smithy Villa Gadlys Lane	Erection of extension for two double bedrooms

RESOLVED :

That the application be supported.

123 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid.

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Mr. G. Roberts	792.50	101530	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	151.42	101531	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
Thomas Fattorini Ltd.	733.27	101532	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)

124. APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk on applications received for financial assistance, copies of which had been previously circulated. After the October meeting there remained a sum of £350 in the budget from the existing £1,800. The report indicated that there were two applications for consideration which complied with the Council's criteria of also submitting appropriate financial details.

RESOLVED :

1. That, in accordance with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, a donation of £350 to the Bagillt Morris Dancers was agreed (cheque No. 101533).
2. That no financial assistance be given in respect of the application on behalf of the Denbighshire and District National Eisteddfod 2013.

125. BAGILLT FORESHORE

The Clerk circulated at the meeting a list of events which would take place on the Foreshore over the next six months, which were included in the recently published Countryside Services Events Programme. The first would be on Friday 1st March 2013, when the first lighting of the Bettisfield Dragon Beacon for 2013 would take place to celebrate St. David's Day and would be from 6.30 to 8 p.m. The meeting point was the Bettisfield car park.

All the events referred to in the list would be included on each appropriate agenda as a reminder to Members, as well as on the Council website.

Reference was made by Councillor R.K. Jones to the closed informal footpath referred to at the last meeting and advised that the Environment Agency were making funds available to the County Council to provide an alternative safer

route. Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that Mr. Peter Carlyle of Bagillt had been awarded the contract to provide fencing round the Dragon feature. There was also to be a plaque erected in bilingual format concerning Mr. Glen Edwards who had opened this section of the Coastal Footpath in Bagillt last year and that the funding was being raised by collections in local public houses.

126. HEALTH CARE IN NORTH WALES

On the 18th January 2013 the Betsi Cadwallader University Health Board met to consider the outcome of the consultation on their proposed changes. Ten Hospital Hubs would be established, offering seven days a week minor injury services, to standardise opening times and an x-ray service available every working day Monday to Friday. These included Holywell and Mold Community Hospitals, with the latter being included as a result of the consultation. Flint Hospital will be retained on an interim basis to provide Outpatient Services, including Phlebotomy and Minor Surgery, until the Primary Care Resource Centre had been developed in the town. Minor Injury Services and In-patient beds however would close and be provided at Holywell Community Hospital. Reference was made by Councillor R.K. Jones to the fact that the Health Board had already commenced on bed closures at the Flint Hospital prior to the consultation process being formally concluded. In support of this, Councillor C.R. Williams made reference to a patient he was aware of that had been discharged and then suffered a relapse and had to be taken to another hospital.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

127. CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Flintshire County Council had forwarded a copy of the report that had recently been presented to the Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny on Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE). It was the only North Wales Authority that had not yet adopted CPE, and it was now proposed to submit an application to the Welsh Government, which was expected to take six months, following which there would be a period of recruitment and training of new and existing staff but estimated it could be in place by October 2013.

The report set out the penalty charges, policy for resident parking schemes, disabled parking bays and off-street parking policy. In relation to the latter, it had also included proposals for car parks suitable for charging, which included neighbouring Holywell and Flint, with a level of 20p per hour for up to three hours and £2 all day, between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday to Saturday.

In relation to the car parking charges element, Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that there were still some discussions to be finalised concerning as to which car

parks it would apply. In some cases existing charged areas would be free and the converse in other cases and was expected to be concluded later this month.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

128. REQUEST VIA WEBSITE – BMX/SKATEBOARD FACILITY

The Clerk reported on a request he had received from a young person concerning what was known as a 'half pipe facility', on which he had consulted the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Councillor M.A. Reece had spoken to the young man, who was acting on behalf of a group that attended the Youth Centre in Bagillt, and he had also arranged for a Flintshire Officer to come and address them on the process which needed to be followed. There was to be further discussion with Flintshire Local Voluntary Council, who would advise the youngsters in relation to a constitution and how to go about applying for grants once they were in being. It was expected that this process could take at least 12 months and that in relation to a possible site in Bagillt then only Bron Haul or The Wern were thought to be appropriate. It was likely that such a facility would cost in the region of £32k and that at an appropriate time there would need to be further discussion as to a precise siting in one of the two areas indicated.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted and that the proposal be supported in principle with the organiser on behalf of the group informed accordingly.

129. BRICK BUILT BUS SHELTER, RIVERBANK

Further to comments made at the last Council meeting, the Clerk advised a new cheque was issued to cover the rental charge of £1 per annum, this time made out to Alexandra Reece. She had now returned the receipt, duly signed, and also the cheque as she wished the payment to be donated to the Community Council until further notice.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted and that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Alexandra Reece in respect of her kind gesture.

130. THOMAS PENNANT COUNTRY

The Clerk circulated at the meeting a letter received from the Thomas Pennant Society, which was requesting support for representations the Society had made to the County Council on their designation of the Holywell and North Flintshire

area as “Thomas Pennant Country”. Also included was a copy of the letter which had been forwarded to Flintshire County Council on this issue.

RESOLVED :

That the proposal be supported.

131. TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

The Clerk reported on a letter received from Flintshire County Council notifying of a Temporary Traffic Order for a number of roads within the County. As far as Bagillt was concerned it would affect Bryntirion Road between its junctions with High Street and Trebor Avenue, and was due to the need to close to facilitate carriageway resurfacing with associated works by the County Council.

Councillor R.K. Jones advised that there would also be a road closure on the Holywell Road (A5026) at the Holywell end to facilitate works, in the vicinity of the area which was now controlled by temporary traffic lights.

RESOLVED :

That the reports be noted.

132. FOOTPATH DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER

The Clerk reported that he had today received from Flintshire County Council a copy of an Order made on the 22nd January 2013 confirming the inclusion of a Public Footpath between Merllyn Lane and link road between Gadlys Lane and Merllyn Lane.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

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

Date of Council Meeting	Friday 8th February 2013
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Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no Declarations of Interest.		

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Chairman