

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in YSGOL MERLLYN, Bagillt, on Wednesday 9TH October 2013.

PRESENT : Councillor M.A. Reece (Chairman)

COUNCILLORS : R. Davies, A. Griffiths, G. Hotchkiss, R.K. Jones, Mrs. S.L. Jones C.P. Owens, T. Renshaw, C.R. Williams, Mrs. D.J. Williams and J. Williams

APOLOGIES : Councillor B.T. Doleman and S.J. Moore

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk) and Mr. J. Williams, Flintshire County Council (minute No. 79)

77. MR. S.E. JOHN AND MR. G.N.I. JONES

The Chairman referred to the recent deaths of Mr. S.E. John, who had run the Chemist Shop in the Village for many years, and Mr. G.N.I. Jones, who was the Clerk to Flint Town Council of long standing, and requested Members to stand in silent tribute before the meeting commenced. It was agreed that letters of sympathy from the Council should be sent by the Clerk to Mr. John's family and also to Flint Town Council.

78. POLICING MATTERS

Although there was no Police presence at the meeting, Members raised a number of issues. Councillor C.R. Williams made reference to clear evidence of Policing in the neighbouring towns of Flint and Holywell, whilst there continued to be no presence in the Village, which had not been helped by the fact that PCSO Harvey had been away on holiday.

Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that he had hoped to raise an issue with an Officer in attendance at the meeting concerning anti-social behaviour from a gang of youths congregating at Trebor Avenue play area, and also causing a nuisance to neighbouring property. A view was expressed by Councillor J. Williams that it would be beneficial if the Village could get P.C. Byron back and was advised by the Chairman that this former local Police Officer had now moved to Denbigh.

Reference was made by Councillor A. Griffiths to the issues he had raised at the last meeting, and that possibly due to the press presence and reporting, he had received a visit from the Police to go into the matters in more detail, but since then he had received no feedback on what had happened. The Member also referred to a problem with regular motorcycles at the Boot End caused by speeding along the highway, whilst Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that they were also prevalent along Bryntirion Road. Councillor T. Renshaw reminded Members of the need to report

such issues to the Police by using the 101 service, which recorded messages, with as much information as possible and to the action that could be taken against perpetrators, with evidence of continued nuisance. Councillor G. Hotchkiss expressed concern regarding an instance of cold calling in his area, and was advised that this was an issue covered by Flintshire Trading Standards in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Wardens. In relation to this issue Councillor C.R. Williams made reference to a Welsh Government initiative regarding the placing of signs indicating clearly 'No Cold Callers', which was also commented upon by Councillor T. Renshaw.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk draw to the attention of the Police the various issues raised by Members.

79. STREETSCENE SUPERVISOR FOR BAGILLT AREA

Mr. John Williams, Area Supervisor for Streetscene, was in attendance to update Members and respond to any issues. Reference was made by Councillors G. Hotchkiss, R.K. Jones and Mrs. D.J. Williams to street lights needing attention in their particular areas, which was noted by the Officer. Councillor J. Williams thanked the Officer for arranging the filling of the pothole indicated at his last attendance, whilst the Chairman made reference to the infill that was available via Streetscene if there were volunteers available and that it may be possible for a particular area on the Foreshore to get the assistance from the fishermen.

Reference was made by Councillor A. Griffiths to the issue of dog bins, particularly to their present siting on the Foreshore in relation to the Dragon area, an issue he had raised with the Head Ranger who had attended the last meeting. In response, the Officer noted the comments made, but indicated the need to ensure that any facility was accessible by the relevant Flintshire vehicle for emptying purposes. In relation to dog bins in general, Mr. Williams advised that there were presently none in stock and that they were on order.

Reference was made by the Officer to work carried out since the last meeting he had attended concerning white lining, and he was advised of an area in the Boot End by Councillor R.K. Jones which still required attention in relation to this issue. The Member also referred to a section of Bryntirion Road in the Nant area concerning the roadside edge, of which the Officer was aware, and of the need for further supporting hardcore. Councillor Mrs. D.J. Williams raised the issue of dog fouling signs in relation to a particular area along Tyddyn Mesham, and advised the Officer as to the problem caused by dog walkers at certain times so that he could pass it onto the appropriate Section for action. Reference was made by Councillor R. Davies to the area in front of a shop in the Village and the need for attention, which was noted by the Officer.

The Chairman thanked Mr. J. Williams for attending the meeting and advised Members that he would attend again in 3-4 months for another update.

80. MINUTES

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

a. Minute No. 63(a) – Springfield Quarry

Councillor C.R. Williams enquired whether there had been any progress concerning the signing mentioned at the last meeting, and in response Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that he would raise the situation with the relevant Planning Officer.

b. Minute No. 65(c) – Former Library Building

Councillor C.P. Owens informed the meeting that the Group would be receiving the keys from Flintshire County Council later this week, which would then enable an inspection of the premises, whilst Councillor R.K. Jones reported on the completion of the formalities by the County Council.

c. Minute No. 65(d) – Bagillt Heritage Society

Councillor C.P. Owens indicated that the Society were receiving assistance from the Royal Engineers to move a large stone to its purported original site at Garreg Lyddyn, and that there was media interest in this event.

d. Minute No. 68 – Community Caretaker

Reference was made by Councillor A. Griffiths as to whether there had been notification of any work undertaken by this person for the Council in the preceding month and was advised by the Clerk that this was not the case. He was making reference to his van being seen in the Village for a long period of time and it was noted that this would be a matter for the County Council.

RESOLVED :

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

81. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

a. Society of Local Council Clerks – Wales Regional Conference

The Clerk had previously circulated a report of his attendance at this event, which took place in Llandudno on 18th September 2013. In particular, the report made reference to addresses received from the Secretary of State for Wales, a Guide to Local Council Insurance, Audit Office Update, Absence Management Workshop, Legal Update and Communication and Public Engagement. The Clerk indicated that it had been a worthwhile event to have attended.

b. Councillor Training

Councillor G. Hotchkiss made reference to a One Voice Wales training event he had attended at St. Asaph on the 24th September 2013, on the subject of The Council. He had found it a very useful source of information as a new Member, which had unfortunately been slightly marred by the fact that three attendees arrived late, thereby condensing the time available for the event. The Clerk indicated that the Member was also due to attend another training event organised by One Voice Wales next month.

c. Highways Study

Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that the Highways Department of Flintshire County Council would shortly be undertaking a study of the access arrangements on the A548 between the Lyons Den and Bettisfield area, and once the information had been received there would then be a matter of deciding any way forward, including obtaining funding. It was his intention that, once the study was complete, he would make the information available to the Council.

d. Environmental Enforcement

Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that the County Council now had Environmental Enforcement Officers in place and they would be visiting particular hotspots throughout the County and he gave instances of the issues they would be covering.

82. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No.	Location	Detail
051188	Coetia Llwyd, Northop Road, Milwr	Erection of agricultural shed

051262	Bryntirion Road	Erection of overhead lines
051300	Oaklands, Gadlys Lane	Erection of single storey breakfast room extension

RESOLVED :

1. That in relation to applications 051188 and 051262, the applications be supported.
2. That in relation to application 051300, it be neither supported nor objected to and left to the Planning Officers to decide.

83. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid.

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water	192.55	101576	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act 1976 (S.19)
SLCC Enterprises Ltd.	32.50	101577	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
UHY Hacker Young	372.00	101578	Loc.Govt.(Finance)Act 1982
Mr. G. Roberts	822.15	101579	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	149.12	101580	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
North & Mid-Wales Assoc. of Local Councils	14.50	101581	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Sian Jones Translation Services	176.40	101582	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)

84. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The meeting considered a report by the Clerk on Applications for Financial Assistance, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. All applications were required to have up to date financial information, apart from the agreed organisations.

At the Estimates meeting in January 2013, a sum of £1,800 was allocated to this expenditure, with the former Section 137 now being replaced by the Power of Wellbeing, which had the same financial restriction. Members were reminded by the Clerk that under the Code of Conduct only donations exceeding £500 would require a Declaration of Interest.

RESOLVED :

1. That in accordance with Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, the following donations be agreed :-

Organisation	£	Cheque No.
Friends of The Bagillt Foreshore	350.00	101583
Bagillt Heritage Society	250.00	101584
Ysgol Merllyn	300.00	101585
Ysgol Glan Aber	300.00	101586
Welsh National Memorial/Flanders	100.00	101587

2. That in relation to the application from Save Bagillt Library Group, this be given further consideration at the November meeting when that Organisation has had the opportunity of inspecting the former Library building and reporting back accordingly.
3. That no financial assistance be given in respect of the application received from Shelter Cymru.

85. BAGILLT FORESHORE

The Clerk advised that a letter had been received from The Friends of the Bagillt Foreshore concerning the cancellation of the Vintage Vehicle event. This was due to highway concerns regarding the access arrangements to the Foreshore, and that they had been advised of the discussion at the last meeting on this issue, following which representations had been made to Flintshire County Council. Reference was made by Councillor J. Williams to the last meeting of the Friends, and to the problems which had been caused by a particular individual, who apparently had been invited along at the behest of the Ranger Service, who were not present themselves. This view was supported by Councillor C.P. Owens, who had also been in attendance, as was the Chairman, who similarly expressed this view.

Councillor J. Williams made reference to a discussion earlier in the meeting concerning the highway study for access arrangements from the A548, and that in his opinion the most appropriate location for traffic lights to aid pedestrian access to the Foreshore would be by the junction nearby the former Royal Oak public house. This view was shared by the Chairman, who had expressed similar sentiments in his capacity as Local County Councillor, and also by Councillor T. Renshaw.

RESOLVED :

That it be placed on record this Authority is of the view that the most appropriate location for a pedestrian crossing aided by traffic lights on the A548 would be in the vicinity of the road junction by the former Royal Oak public house, and that this information be conveyed to the Highway Authority in support of the Local Member.

86. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2012/13

The Clerk reported that notification had been received from the external auditors, UHY Hacker Young, completing the audit process for the last financial year and returning the annual return, duly signed. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been displayed on the Council's Notice Boards and, after the set period required by the Auditor, a Statement of Assurance of the action would be forwarded to him.

RESOLVED :

That the conclusion of the audit for 2012/13 be noted.

87. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The bank reconciliation and income/expenditure for the second quarter to 30th September 2013, as previously circulated to Members, was noted.

88. CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT NOTICE (CPE)

The meeting considered a letter from Flintshire County Council giving the opportunity to raise any further concerns, in addition to the comments made after the last meeting, on the issue of double yellow lines. At the last meeting the need for additional lines in the vicinity of Ysgol Glan Aber, and extending those in High Street, had been agreed and forwarded to the County Council. With regard to the Parking Places Order and Victoria Road, which had been discussed at the last meeting, it was noted that this area would now be excluded. This was due to the fact that the land by the garages was for residential parking and a means to private access to private dwellings and the condition also prevented remedial action that would permit enforcement to be undertaken.

Councillor J. Williams raised the matter of warnings prior to the issue of parking tickets, and was advised by Councillor R.K. Jones that, whilst this was undertaken in the initial week earlier this month, this was no longer applicable.

RESOLVED :

That no further request for double yellow lines in the Village be made in addition to those already forwarded to the County Council, and that the situation regarding Victoria Road being excluded from the Parking Places Order be noted.

89. FOOD PROCUREMENT

A copy of an e-mail reply from Flintshire County Council, following the request made after the last meeting, had been enclosed for Members' information. It was the view

of Councillor T. Renshaw that the reply given did not answer the issue raised concerning the use of local suppliers, a view that was shared by other Members.

RESOLVED :

That the issue be once again raised with Flintshire County Council advising that their initial response did not answer the particular matter raised.

90. BUS SHELTER – MANOR ESTATE – SEATING

The Clerk reported that, following the discussion at the last meeting, contact had been made with Flintshire County Council and the private contractor, Mr. Tony Lloyd, concerning the installation of seating at this bus shelter. After contacting Councillors R.K. Jones and T. Renshaw, the Chairman and Vice Chairman agreed for the work to be undertaken by the private contractor, and confirmation had accordingly been issued by the Clerk. The Clerk indicated that the contractor had advised him that there would be a short delay awaiting the metal to be galvanised, but would be completed shortly.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

91. MEMBERS' ITEMS

a. Footpath No. 10 – Obstruction

This issue had been raised by Councillor B.T. Doleman but due to the fact that he was unable to attend he had requested that it be deferred to the next meeting, as he was awaiting further information from the County Council.

b. Drainage – High Street

Councillor T. Renshaw once again raised the issue of the matter of foul sewerage entering a storm drain in the vicinity of the convenience store in the High Street. Councillor M.A. Reece advised that he had attended a site meeting with the relevant County Officer and that the issue had been referred to the Environment Agency.

RESOLVED :

That an enquiry on progress with this issue be raised with the appropriate Authority.

c. High Street Car Park – Barrier

Councillor A. Griffiths raised the issue once again of the fact that the barrier remained open at the car park, allowing large inappropriate vehicles to enter the car park area. The barrier had been installed to allow access for recycling vehicles to enable them to unload the recycling facilities. The Chairman indicated that he had spoken on this matter to an Officer in the Housing Department, who were in charge of the car park, and it appeared that they did not have a key, as he had offered to lock the gate himself if he was given the necessary item. Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that he would make enquiries concerning the present style of vehicle used to access the recycling facilities, with particular regard to the size, to see if it were possible for the barrier to remain permanently locked, whilst still permitting access.

92. COUNCILLOR MRS. N.M. JONES – RESIGNATION

The Clerk reported to the meeting that earlier today he had received an e-mail from Councillor Mrs. N.M. Jones resigning from the Council, with immediate effect, which he had accepted and acknowledged accordingly. This then created a vacancy in the East Ward and he advised Members that he would make arrangements for the display of the appropriate notice which allowed electors in that Ward to request the vacancy to be filled by means of an election. He would report on the outcome of this process at the next Council meeting.

RESOLVED :

That the resignation of Councillor Mrs. N.M. Jones, creating a vacancy in the East Ward, and the action proposed by the Clerk, be noted.

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

Date of Council Meeting	Wednesday 9th October 2013
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Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no Declarations of Personal Interest		

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Chairman