

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in BAGILLT COMMUNITY LIBRARY on Wednesday 12TH November 2014.

PRESENT : Councillor C.R. Williams (Chairman)

COUNCILLORS : B.T. Doleman, A. Griffiths, G. Hotchkiss, Mrs. S.L. Jones, C.P. Owens, M.A. Reece, T. Renshaw, K. Rush, C. Williams, Mrs. D.J. Williams and J. Williams

APOLOGIES : Councillors R. Davies and R.K. Jones

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk)

85. POLICING

The meeting noted that PC Tony Gray had been moved to another area and that the Council would be advised of the replacement in due course. PCSO Tom Hulse was not present for the meeting, but had attended the recent Remembrance Sunday Service to assist colleagues with traffic control, and the Police had also laid a Wreath.

86. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 8th October 2014.

a. Minute No. 71 – Streetscene Supervisor for Bagillt Area

Councillor G. Hotchkiss indicated that, at the last meeting, Mr. Williams had made reference to the availability of road planing and requested that contact be made with the Officer with a view to the necessary material being provided to repair potholes at the Holy with the fishermen offering to lay the material.

b. Minute No. 72(c) – War Memorial

Reference was made by the Clerk to the work undertaken by Councillors M.A. Reece, A. Griffiths and K. Rush to clean the War Memorial prior to Remembrance Sunday. Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that he had passed on details of a grant possibility to the Clerk for a more detailed and professional cleaning option.

c. Minute No. 72(d) – Raised Beds

Councillor M.A. Reece informed the meeting that the hoped for surplus free raised beds had already been claimed by another party.

d. Minute No. 73(2) – Chairman’s Fund

Further to the discussion at the last meeting regarding the request from New Brighton Chapel Action Group for funding to purchase four rose bushes, the Clerk reported on further details received from them regarding the particular type of memorial roses they were after and that the price per plant was £22.99 each, as confirmed by a local supplier and as reported to the meeting. The Chairman indicated that he wished the Council to agree to cover the cost of these particular four rose bushes, which would be £91.96, out of the Chairman’s Fund, and this was accordingly agreed and included later in the minutes in the Accounts for Payment.

e. Minute No. 80 – Review of Polling Districts and Places

The Clerk confirmed that Flintshire County Council had concluded their review and, as far as Bagillt was concerned, the existing arrangements would apply, as reported to the last meeting.

f. Minute No. 83(a) – Public Bench, High Street

The Clerk advised the meeting that he had been contacted by Councillor M.A. Reece and that a letter was to be sent from Flintshire County Council requesting clarification of some issues prior to giving consent for the siting of the public bench at the requested site.

g. Minute No. 83(c) – Community Centre, High Street

The Clerk advised the meeting that the Community Association had been in contact with the Probation Service regarding assistance to deal with the overgrowth and weeds in the vicinity of the changing facilities, and were awaiting confirmation of a date when this would be forthcoming. With regard to the car park area, this had been referred to the Church authorities and a reply on the matter was awaited from the Priest in charge.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 8th October 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

87. CHAIRMAN’S COMMUNICATIONS

1. The Chairman made reference to the excellent attendance at the Remembrance Sunday Service in Bagillt on the 9th November 2014, at which he had laid a Wreath on behalf of the Council.

2. The Chairman made reference to his recent attendance at the North and Mid-Wales Association of Local Councils and together with Councillor T. Renshaw referred to some of the issues which had been covered, including an increase in membership fee which, for Bagillt, based on population, would rise to £35 and be referred to later in the meeting for payment.

88. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

a. Flintshire County Forum

A report by the Clerk had previously been circulated to Members on the meeting he had attended together with the Chairman and held on 16th October 2014 at Mynydd Isa. The issues covered in the report related to updates on Community Asset Transfer, Local Development Plan and Highways Road Maintenance from County Officers, together with other reports from representatives on behalf of the White Ribbon Campaign and Urdd National Eisteddfod to be held in Flint in 2016.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

89. PLANNING

a. Applications Determined – On-Line Consultation Period

No.	Location	Detail
052631	Land adj. Cambrian Works, Station Road	Change of use of vacant land to provide parking area

It was noted that the application had been supported.

b. Applications

No.	Location	Detail
052812	Bryn Gwyn, Gadlys Lane	Erection of replacement dwelling and temporary siting of caravan

RESOLVED :

That the application be supported.

c. Springhill Quarry

Councillor M.A. Reece advised that he had received a list of planning applications determined during October from the Planning Officer and this included reference to Springfield Quarry, when the proposal for extension of time to start mineral extraction had been withdrawn. As a consequence, he had spoken to the Officer responsible for mineral workings and had been advised that there was neither the monies available nor soil to comply with the prior planning conditions on the land being restored. In addition, there was disagreement among the land owners as to how the matter should proceed and further meetings were to be held but there was a requirement to make the pool areas safe, although there had been a view expressed by Councillor R.K. Jones about the possibility of them being used for fish purposes. The area was itself returning to nature, although the Planning Officer had indicated that perhaps there was the possibility in the future of the area being made over to the Community Council for use as a wildlife park, which he felt he could not support in view of the likely financial implications for this Authority should it ever become a feasible possibility.

Councillor T. Renshaw referred to the original planning permission for extraction of minerals at this Quarry and that there should have been a Bond in place, notwithstanding that the Company had ceased to trade. The Chairman made reference to the numerous conditions, one of which including planting trees, which would now only seem possible by way of natural growth which was occurring. It was agreed that the report be noted and that there would be a further one made if and when a further meeting was held with the land owners and some form of proposal was agreed.

90. CLERK'S SALARY ARRANGEMENT

The Clerk reported that, as a consequence of his computer suffering a second hard-drive failure, he had had to have the machine replaced, with the result that some of the information held could not be retrieved. This included the software from HMRC to submit the forwarding of information on line on a monthly basis, known as 'real time information'. After consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman, consent was given to switch over to using a payroll company to undertake this task for the remainder of the year, at a cost of £7 per month. The Clerk further reported on why he had approached a particular company and that, in all likelihood, the Council would be requested in due course to continue with the arrangement for the foreseeable future, with the particular reasons that were given.

RESOLVED :

That the use of Compacc Accountancy Limited of Mold to undertake payroll services on behalf of the Council, be approved with the actions of the Chairman and Vice Chairman being endorsed.

91. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Compacc Accountancy Ltd.	42.00	101674	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
Bagillt Bowling Club	480.00	101675	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act 1976(S.19)
Delyn Press	175.00	101676	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Clr. R.K.Jones	18.00	101677	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Get Mapping Plc.	67.20	101678	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
NAMWALC	35.00	101679	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Clr. C.P.Owens	121.67	101680	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act 1976(S.19)
New Brighton Chapel Action Group	91.96	101681	Loc.Govt.Act.2000(S.2)
Mr. G. Roberts	821.46	101682	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	146.12	101683	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
Clr. C.R.Williams	25.00	101684	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Clr. C.R. Williams	25.00	101686	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Mr. G. Roberts	777.15	101688	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	146.12	101689	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)

RESOLVED :

That the accounts be paid.

92. COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER (CAT)

The meeting considered information received from Flintshire County Council, copies of which had been previously circulated, including a list of assets put forward by them to enable consideration and interest by local communities who may wish to express an interest in taking over the running, development and management of these assets in the future. The Clerk advised that, at this stage, the Council were being requested to indicate if they wished to express an interest in any without commitment and if they were of the view that the list was correct. He advised that Councillor R.K. Jones, who could not be present had made reference to the fact that two of the play areas within Bagillt were not included on the list, which were Manor and the new development opposite The Blossoms. In addition, he had received further information, both from the County Council and Flintshire Local Voluntary Council concerning the procedure and advised that only expressions of interest were being invited at the moment for further consideration, which would have no binding on either party.

The Clerk suggested that, in relation to the War Memorial referred to on the list, this only related to the area currently subject to regular planting and that if this were a matter the Council wished to pursue then Councillor M.A. Reece had already been able to obtain surplus paving slabs from Flintshire County Council which could be utilised to cover this area, thereby saving on maintenance, although there would still be the issue of electricity charges. In relation to the Bowling Club, the Community Council were already supporting this organisation by meeting the cost the green maintenance and he suggested that the issue of CAT should also be formally brought to their attention as they, as a community group, may wish to express an interest.

Councillor T. Renshaw expressed the view that Bagillt was a small Authority with limited resources and that further details in relation to present running costs would be required before the Council could indicate it may wish to proceed further. He was supported by other Members in these views.

Reference was also made by the Clerk to the previously circulated e-mail from Holywell Town Council concerning a joint meeting with neighbouring Authorities to discuss the issue further. He suggested that there would be merit in the Chairman and himself agreeing to attend and report back to a future meeting.

RESOLVED :

1. That, at the present time, the Council were unable to agree to a formal expression of interest on any of the assets listed, notwithstanding the comments made regarding the War Memorial, until such time as the County Council were able to forward financial details.
2. That in relation to the list of assets, the exclusion of the two Play Areas be brought to attention of Flintshire County Council.
3. That in relation to the Bowling Club, the CAT information be made available to the Club Secretary, as they may wish to express an interest.
4. That Holywell Town Council be advised that the Council would be prepared to attend a meeting of neighbouring Local Councils on matters of mutual interest in relation to CAT and would be represented by the Chairman and Clerk.

93. INITIAL ESTIMATE CONSIDERATIONS FOR 2015/16

The meeting considered a report by the Clerk, copies of which had been previously circulated. The report was to allow Members to give a view on possible new items and the removal of others, prior to the report prepared, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman during the Recess, which would be considered at the January 2015 meeting, thereby enabling the budget and precept to be agreed for the next financial year.

a. Bagillt Bowling Club

Members were reminded that they had been meeting the cost of maintenance to the bowling green for four years, and that the Probation Service, which was now re-organised and known as The Wales Community Rehabilitation Company, had offered to continue the arrangement for 2015, at the same cost as 2014. The Clerk confirmed he had recently received the current balance sheet of the Bowling Club, which was a condition of the financial assistance arrangement.

RESOLVED :

That the Bagillt Bowling Club be advised that the Council supports the continued use of the revised Probation Service for green maintenance for 2015, and would be prepared to make a grant available of £1,920 to meet the cost, provision for which will be included in the estimates report for the January meeting.

b. Bagillt Community Centre

Members were reminded that the Council currently covered the cost of insurance and water/sewerage costs for the premises, with the former being subject to a three year deal which reduced the cost and gave some surety as to continuing levels for this period. The Centre was responsible for covering the cost of water usage by the Church by way of the graveyard and, having regard to the recent six month Welsh Water bill paid in September, the estimates provision of £1,500, which had been reduced from last year, would be exceeded.

The views of the Community Association had been sought regarding the higher Welsh Water bill, which could only be partly explained by Centre bookings. There was also the issue of increased water usage by the Church if their plans for improved facilities gets under way, which needed to be addressed through the Community Association for a separate water meter.

It was a condition of the continued financial assistance that the Council receive a copy of the audited accounts, which were now due, and were also made aware of the Centre Management Committee meeting so that this Authority could be represented. The Clerk indicated he was pursuing this issue with the Secretary.

RESOLVED :

That the Community Association be advised that, subject to the agreed conditions, the Council would continue to support the Centre as previous, notwithstanding the

need to address the water supply issue to the Church should they introduce new facilities, and provision would be included in the estimates report for the January 2015 meeting.

c. Community Library

The Clerk reminded the meeting that the Council had agreed to place a sum of £500 in estimates, which had originally been intended to cover the cost of insurance, and at subsequent meetings it had agreed to meet the cost of electricity charges for the first twelve months and also acrylic protection for some windows to counteract vandalism. This would mean that the provision would be exceeded and the Clerk requested Members to consider what sum should be included in the report for January.

RESOLVED :

That a sum of £1,000 be included in the estimates report for January 2015 for financial assistance to the Library, when the position of electricity charges in particular would be clearer to enable the figure to be reassessed, should this be needed.

d. Play Area Improvements

The Clerk advised that, to date, there had been no notification of any scheme for next year and that this may be unlikely given the discussion taking place on Flintshire County Council budget pressures and the CAT option, which had been considered by the Council in the previous item. Members were requested to indicate their views on this issue in the light of this information to enable an amount to be included in the draft estimates report for the January meeting.

RESOLVED :

That for the purposes of the January report, a sum of £10,000 be included for play area improvements.

e. Playschemes

Members were reminded that for many years they had been involved, in partnership with Flintshire County Council, in providing two Playschemes in the Village during the Summer for younger children, and also activities for older children. Also, for the past two years, agreeing to fund an extra week at both sites, due to reduced funding for the County Council.

RESOLVED :

That, on the assumption that the schemes will continue in the next financial year, provision be made in estimates for the January meeting to fund four weeks at both sites in the Village, and also any continued activities for older children.

f. Raised Beds

In the light of the information given earlier in the meeting concerning surplus troughs, the Clerk advised he would consult with Councillor M.A. Reece, with a view to including an amount in the draft estimates report to enable the Council to consider whether they wished to proceed in the next financial year and this was accordingly agreed.

g. Urdd Eisteddfod – Flint 2016

Members were reminded that it had been agreed in January 2014 to put £1,000 in the budget to make funds available to support this event, with a view to making a similar provision for the next financial year. The Clerk indicated he would contact the organisation with a view to releasing the agreed amount for this financial year.

RESOLVED :

That a sum of £1,000 be included in the estimates report for January, with the intention that a similar provision be made for the next financial year, as that of the current one.

h. War Memorial

Having regard to the prior discussion on this matter, in relation to the Flintshire CAT option, it was agreed that a sum of £500 be included in the estimates report for further consideration at the January 2015 meeting.

94. HIGH STREET – PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

The meeting considered a letter and notice received from Flintshire County Council under the Highways Act 1980, relating to proposed Traffic Calming features at High Street. The reasons for the proposal was to calm traffic speeds and reduce the number of KSI accidents along the route, and the Council were being consulted on whether they had any observations concerning the proposal or whether they wished to formally object.

Councillor M.A. Reece made reference to the proposals for the different parts of the Village, whilst Councillor T. Renshaw indicated that chicanes would

have been a much better option to road humps. Councillor B.T. Doleman wondered if the KSI figures included the by-pass accidents, whilst Councillor C.P. Owens reminded the Council that they had previously objected to the scheme at the consultation stage.

RESOLVED :

That a formal objection be submitted to the scheme and a request for clarification of the KSI figures.

95. BAGILLT FORESHORE

Reference was made by Councillor B.T. Doleman to the Countryside Services Section at Flintshire County Council wanting to put the Clinks area towards Greenfield, whilst it was to the Flint side of the Bagillt Gutter. This could be confusing to local residents and he requested representations be made accordingly to Flintshire County Council.

RESOLVED :

That representations be made accordingly.

96. AUDIT CHANGES 2015/16

The Clerk reported on changes, which would affect both external and internal audit arrangements. In relation to the former, the auditor would be examining the Council's arrangements for budget setting and monitoring and on the latter the terms of engagement. He suggested the Chairman and Vice Chairman be consulted during the recess on any changes that were required to current practices, and he report to the January meeting.

RESOLVED :

That the recommendation of the Clerk be agreed.

97. AUTHORITY FOR ACTION DURING THE RECESS PERIOD

RESOLVED :

1. That in accordance with the provisions of Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, acting as a Sub-Committee, be given power to act on matters of an urgent nature during the recess period.
2. That in accordance with the provisions of Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, together with a local

Member(s) (excluding planning applications), acting as a Sub-Committee, be given power to act on matters where local Member involvement would be helpful during the recess period.

98. WINTER MAINTENANCE

The meeting noted the usual letter from Flintshire County Council on winter maintenance.

99. MEMBER'S ITEMS

a. Local Recognition

Councillor M.A. Reece made reference to the arctic convoys undertaken in World War II by Mr. Frederick Holloway of Whelstone, Boot End, and suggested a bouquet of flowers be presented by the Chairman to him and his wife, Agnes.

RESOLVED :

That the Chairman arrange for the purchase of a bouquet of flowers, to the value of £25, and arrange with Councillor M.A. Reece to make a presentation during the recess, with the reimbursement being included in the accounts for payment.

b. Barrier Update

Cllr Mrs D.J. Williams was advised by Councillor M.A. Reece that the barrier between High Street and the by-pass was to be replaced with rubber bollards.

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

Date of Council Meeting		Wednesday 12 November 2014
Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no Declarations of Personal Interest		

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Chairman