

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in BAGILLT COMMUNITY LIBRARY on Wednesday 11TH March 2015.

PRESENT : Councillor C.R. Williams (Chairman)

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

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk), PC Kerry Smith-Williams and PCSO Tom Hulse (minute Nos. 134 and 135)

134. POLICING

PC Kerry Smith-Williams and PCSO Tom Hulse attended the meeting. Whilst there were no particular issues to be raised by Members, PC Smith-Williams indicated what they were doing in the Village, referring to certain areas that might give cause for concern regarding the forthcoming Easter school holidays.

The Officer advised that she had still not received printed contact cards for distribution to Members, but once again gave her mobile number, which was 07896171683. PCSO Hulse advised he had still been unable to make progress on re-starting Police Surgeries at the Community Centre as he was having difficulty contacting the bookings secretary.

The Chairman thanked the two Officers for attending and requested that they stay for the next item, on which they may be able to contribute and they accordingly agreed.

135. PUBLIC INQUIRY ITEM

There were four members of the public present, two who were interested on the item on Traffic Calming, and two on the Flintshire LDP, and each had appointed a spokesperson.

In relation to traffic calming, Members were advised of the petition being circulated round the Village and to concerns being expressed by local residents that having road humps instead of chicanes was having a detrimental effect on them using the shops in the High Street, which could lead to their ultimate closure. Councillor T. Renshaw suggested that it would be appropriate to invite the relevant Officer from Flintshire County Council to the next Council meeting to respond to these concerns and any other matters regarding the traffic calming scheme that had been installed in the High Street. This was accordingly agreed. The Chairman had placed an item on the agenda regarding the 'Give Way' sign by the War Memorial, and advised that

at least there was now information on both sides. He had observed traffic coming from the Holywell end ignoring the need to use the other side of the road and instead going over part of the pavement to avoid doing so. In addition, there were instances of motorbikes also ignoring the need to use the other side of the road. PC Smith-Williams noted these concerns.

In relation to the Flintshire LDP, which was on the agenda later, the member of the public indicated that, whilst he was particularly interested in three sites, at this stage he merely wished to hear what Members had to say when they came to the item.

136. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 11th February 2015, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

137. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman advised that of the £825 which was in the Chairman's fund for 2014/15, a sum of £311.96 had been spent to date and, given that March was the last meeting in the current financial year, he wished to make two recommendations for donations, which would account for most of the remaining £513.04.

It was his recommendation that £25 be given to the Glan Clwyd Children's Ward Appeal, which was being organised locally and, as he also wished to make a personal donation to this appeal, he requested that the Council's donation be by way of reimbursement to himself. Secondly, he wished that a sum of £475 be made to the Bagillt Heritage Society, with approximately £200 being used for a computer base at the Community Library and the remainder being utilised for expenditure in connection with the War Memorial and if any was left it could be used towards the community garden project on the foreshore.

Members concurred with the recommendations made by the Chairman and that these payments be added to the accounts later in the agenda.

On behalf of the Bagillt Heritage Society, Councillor B.T. Doleman thanked the Chairman and the Council for making further funds available for the projects they were undertaking for the benefit of the community.

138. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

a. Flintshire County Forum

A meeting held at County Hall, Mold on 26th February 2015 had been attended by the Chairman and Clerk. There had been a number of

presentations by County Officers in relation to the Armed Forces Community Covenant, Community Asset Transfers update, White Paper Reform in Local Government, Public Services Funding Position and the Flintshire Planning Code, and also a presentation by the Chief Executive from One Voice Wales.

There had also been Local Council items in relation to Section 106 monies, Council Tax additional charge and planning decisions over the Christmas period.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

b. Scrutiny Workshop

The Chairman indicated that he had attended a Scrutiny Workshop earlier in the week. There were discussions about the change to a number of Streetscene services, as a result of the financial situation faced by the County Council, and they had covered such issues as grass cutting policy, car parking strategy, street lighting policy and waste collections policy. In relation to the waste collection issue, it was indicated that in future there would only be one bin provided for green collection with a further one, if required, involving a charge. Councillor R.K. Jones indicated the intention was that this collection would stop between November and February. In addition, he referred to the fact that in relation to street lighting there would be reductions in the number of lights in certain areas, following safety criteria, and there was also to be replacement lighting which would use less energy. On waste collection, he indicated that the intention was to introduce a Sunday service in some rural areas to better utilise the available vehicles.

There was to be a further Workshop later in the week to again listen to views expressed by both County Members and representatives from Town and Community Councils.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

139. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. Applications

App. No.	Location	Detail
053258	5 Alwen Drive	Proposed bedroom extension
052868	St. Peter's Church	Change of use to single dwelling

Councillor C.P. Owens indicated that, whilst he was not against the principle of development at the Church, he did have reservations in the way in which this application was being presented, i.e. reliance on parking on the public highway, rather than their own property, the information circulated regarding flood alleviation and also the reference to connection to the main sewer, having regard to the distance that it was away from the property.

RESOLVED :

1. That application 053258, be supported.
2. That an objection be made to application 052868 on the grounds indicated above.

b. Flintshire Local Development Plan (LDP) – Candidate Site Register

Information received from Flintshire County Council in relation to the next stage of this process, including plans relevant to the Bagillt Community area, had previously been circulated to Members. The letter from the County Council indicated that they were pleased to receive the views of Town and Community Councils on the candidate sites submitted and to meet and discuss them if this would be helpful. In addition, it was noted that both the candidate site assessment methodology background paper and the topic papers would be the subject of a six week consultation exercise commencing 9th March and ending 20th April 2015.

Councillor T. Renshaw made reference to the offer from the Officer leading the LDP process to meet with the Council and suggested that he be invited to attend the April Council meeting, when any issues in relation to the sites circulated could be discussed with him and Members concurred with this recommendation. The Clerk indicated that if the request for Officer attendance from the County Council was accepted, both for the traffic calming, agreed earlier in the meeting, and on the LDP, then he suggested that the quarterly attendance by the Bagillt Streetscene Supervisor be deferred until the July meeting, when he was next due.

RESOLVED :

That Flintshire County Council be requested to send the appropriate Officer to attend the next meeting of the Council to discuss the candidate sites submitted for the Bagillt area and, in the event of both this and the request concerning traffic calming attendance being accepted, the Clerk advise the Streetscene Supervisor for the area that his next attendance would be held in abeyance until July.

140. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Information Commissioner	35.00	101706	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Clr. C.P. Owens	52.52	101707	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act 1976(S.19)
Clr. C.P. Owens	37.60	101708	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act 1976(S.19)
Clr. C.R. Williams	25.00	101709	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Bagillt Heritage Soc.	475.00	101710	Loc.Govt.Act 2000 (S.2)
Mr. G. Roberts	836.53	101711	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	146.12	101712	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)

Note: The Welsh Water/Dwr Cymru invoice for the Community Centre was imminent and would require prompt payment when received. The Clerk would consult the Chairman and Vice Chairman when received and report details to the next meeting.

141. REFORMING LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER CONSULTATION

The meeting considered a report by the Clerk, on which the Chairman and Vice Chairman had been consulted, in order to agree a response on behalf of the Council to the Consultation. The information being sought on the Consultation was mainly directed at County Council level and the survey, which could be completed on-line from the Welsh Government web site, contained numerous questions on which they were seeking views. The Clerk indicated that he had extracted the parts which covered the aspects directly related to Community Councils and also some, which were of a generic nature, on Councillors. The Chairman and Vice Chairman had been consulted on the various points raised and their views in relation to the questions listed had been circulated.

The meeting proceeded to go through the questions listed in the report and agreed to the suggestions with regard to the responses, apart from the question relating to the number of elected Members, which was felt to be loaded as it related to Wales as a whole and any comment should purely relate to Bagillt, which it was felt had the appropriate number. The Clerk indicated that, both at the County Forum and from his professional body, the Society of Local Council Clerks, they were encouraging Town and Community Councils to respond to the consultation. The Welsh Government were holding a consultation with Clerks in South Wales on the 19th

March 2015, which had been arranged with the Society, whilst Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that there was to be a local consultation in Wrexham for County Councils, covering the Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham area.

RESOLVED :

That the report circulated by the Clerk form the basis of the Council's response to the Consultation questions, which were thought appropriate to Local Councils, apart from comments agreed in relation to number of Local Members.

142. COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFERS (CAT)

The Clerk advised that he had now received information in relation to the next stage of the process relating to the business model application, which was being made available on-line. He had completed the document as far as possible for the War Memorial. Copies had been sent to Councillor B.T. Doleman, having regard to his involvement with the Bagillt Heritage Society, and Councillor M.A. Reece in view of his working relationship to obtaining paving slabs, should the planted area be paved over, and also information on grants for professional cleaning of the Memorial, and they were content with the information which had been entered in the model format. The Council were asked to agree to the next stage being submitted, which should then elucidate the information being sought in relation to costs for maintaining the planted area as it presently was, notwithstanding the paving option, and also for electricity costs on lighting the area. In addition, there was no commitment on the Council until a formal decision was made once all information and detail had been clarified.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk be authorised to submit the Stage 2 model business application form in respect of the CAT process for the War Memorial and keep the Council advised accordingly.

143. URDD EISTEDDFOD, FLINT 2016

The Chairman of the Urdd Eisteddfod 2016 Executive Organising Committee, Mr. Jeremy Griffiths, had thanked the Council for the recent donation of £1,000, which was part of the agreed 2014/15 budget. This would be part of the Flint and Bagillt fund raising account. With regard to the intention that the Council make similar amounts available in 2015/16 and 2016/17, he had suggested that perhaps the cheque for £1,000 in the next financial year could be presented to him at a Council meeting as a way of getting some publicity in the local newspapers for the Eisteddfod. In addition, he would be pleased when attending to answer any questions Members may have about the 2016 event in Flint.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk arrange with Mr. Griffiths to make the presentation at a future meeting of the Council once the new Chairman was in office.

144. HIGH STREET – TRAFFIC CALMING/DROPPED KERBS/PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

Notwithstanding the discussion on traffic calming referred to earlier at the meeting, it was noted that the scheme had been installed following on from re-surfacing works. In relation to the comments forwarded after the January 2015 meeting regarding the casualty figures used for traffic calming, they had advised that for a pedestrian crossing they were obviously more local and centred on the location. Whilst not part of the original scheme, a Zebra Crossing was now being considered to be sited on the raised table in the centre of the Village. This was subject to statutory legal consultation advertisement and a copy of the notice and plan had been circulated for information.

In relation to the dropped kerbs, Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that eight had been completed and a further eight were pending. There was also the issue of raised iron works, which would be pursued with the contractor concerning costing.

RESOLVED :

That in relation to the pedestrian crossing, the Council support for the scheme be notified to Flintshire County Council.

145. COASTAL COMMUNITIES FUND

Information received from the Delyn AM had previously been circulated to Members for information. It indicated that Flintshire was one of four areas in Wales which could apply for funding that remained. A briefing event had been held yesterday at Connah's Quay and Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that, after discussions with Officers, he was hopeful that the suggestion of a footbridge over the A548 to permit safe access to the foreshore could be included for funding which, when combined with other possible sources, may make the proposal viable. The Clerk advised that, following on from the comments made at the last meeting, addressed by Mike Taylor of Flintshire Countryside Services, he had made him aware of the information from the Delyn AM in relation to the Coastal Communities Fund.

RESOLVED :

That the information be noted.

146. BAGILLT FORESHORE

Reference was made by Councillor M.A. Reece to concerns he had expressed with the Countryside Service regarding the cutting of grass in relation to the commencement of nesting by skylarks. In response, he had been advised by Countryside Services that they felt it was too early for the skylarks to be nesting, although they would be in the air making a noise on a sunny day, and that the grass cutting should enhance the habitat for them. In addition, they would not be cutting after this as it was due to start warming up.

147. LOCAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COUNCILLORS

The meeting noted information circulated by the Clerk regarding training courses arranged at the Town Hall, Mold on Local Government Finance and Community Planning, which had been organised by One Voice Wales and would involve a charge for any Member to attend. Councillor T. Renshaw made reference to training opportunities made available freely by Flintshire County Council, particularly after elections were held and, whilst these mainly related to Code of Conduct and Planning, if there were sufficient demand no doubt others could be arranged. Councillor B.T. Doleman made reference to the training courses which were arranged by Flintshire Local Voluntary Council and which were free to attend.

RESOLVED :

That the comments on training be noted.

148. MEMBERS' ITEMS

a. War Memorial

Reference was made by Councillor M.A. Reece to a grant that could be made available through Cadw for professional cleaning of the War Memorial, whilst Councillor B.T. Doleman indicated that there was also the possibility that some heritage funding could also be made available.

RESOLVED :

That Councillor M.A. Reece pass the information he has onto the Clerk, who could then investigate and report back accordingly.

b. Raised Beds

Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that he had been in consultation with the Streetscene Supervisor as to the possibility of relocating the two metal raised beds in Gadlys Lane to the Stag Inn car park, and this had been accordingly agreed. However, it would require paving slabs to be used as a base and, whilst he could obtain these from Flint, he would require assistance, including transport, to bring them to Bagillt. The Chairman indicated that he could provide the vehicle to move the slabs, although it may take two journeys due to their weight, and other Members made an offer of assistance.

In relation to the provision of further raised beds and the purchase of something similar of that available from a commercial supplier would be far too expensive for the Council. Councillor M.A. Reece briefly reported on an alternative option that might be possible when the Council were in a position to consider a further site. Relating to the relocation of the metal containers from Gadlys Lane to the car park, if this were achieved then Streetscene were offering to put in plantings.

RESOLVED :

That in relation to the raised beds, the arrangements agreed by Councillor M.A. Reece be fully supported.

c. Streetscene Issues

Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that he had recently held site discussions with the Area Supervisor on a number of items. These related to the relocation of a handrail to Victoria Road playing area from Flint, the provision of a new dog bin at Gadlys Lane, in the vicinity of the former British Legion Club, and the siting of the publicly funded public bench in High Street. In order for these matters to proceed, he requested the support of the Community Council by writing to the appropriate Streetscene Officer. To save time, Councillor R.K. Jones suggested that the Clerk e-mail him with the details agreed and he would raise the issue direct with Mr. Derek Charlton of Streetscene on behalf of the Community Council.

RESOLVED :

That the three issues reported by Councillor M.A. Reece be supported, and that the Clerk advise Councillor R.K. Jones accordingly, who would take this matter up on behalf of the Council with the appropriate Streetscene Officer.

d. Pedestrian Crossing – A548

Councillor R.K. Jones updated the meeting concerning progress on funding concerning the proposed pedestrian crossing at the Lyons Den/Bettisfield junction across the A548, which would also include appropriate signage to the foreshore. It was noted that the Council would be kept informed of progress in relation to this issue.

e. Street Lighting – Fault

Councillor G. Hotchkiss made reference to the issue of the street lighting fault at Riverbank, which he had referred to at previous meetings, and was still awaiting repair. In reply, Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that the electrician due to undertake the work had been on holiday and it was hopeful that this would be attended to shortly.

f. Request for Dog Bin

Councillor G. Hotchkiss indicated that he wished to request the support of the Council for a dog bin on the footpath going across Ladysmith Bridge, in the vicinity of the burnt out factory, having regard to the number of dog users who used this route and there being no facility.

RESOLVED :

That the Member be supported and that representations be made to Streetscene accordingly.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Date of Council Meeting	Wednesday 11th March 2015
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Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no Declarations of Personal Interest		

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Chairman