

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in BAGILLT COMMUNITY LIBRARY on Wednesday 13th May 2015.

PRESENT : Councillor C.R. Williams (Chairman)

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

APOLOGIES : Councillor Mrs. S.L. Jones

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk) and PCSO Tom Hulse (minute No. 5)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2015/16

RESOLVED :

That Councillor Mrs. D.J. Williams be elected Chairman of the Community Council for the ensuing municipal year.

(Councillor Mrs. D.J. Williams in the Chair)

Councillor Mrs. D.J. Williams made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invested with the Chain of Office by Councillor C.R. Williams. The Chairman presented Councillor C.R. Williams with the past Chairman's Badge in recognition of his year as Chairman for 2014/15, and congratulated him on his year of Office.

Councillor C.R. Williams thanked all Members and the Clerk for the assistance given to him during the past municipal year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN 2015/16

RESOLVED :

That Councillor K. Rush be appointed Vice Chairman of the Community Council for the ensuing municipal year.

3. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED :

That the undermentioned Members be appointed as the Council's representatives on the organisations indicated below :-

1. Local Organisations

a. Bagillt Community Association

Councillors R.K. Jones and C.P. Owens

b. Bagillt Heritage Society

Chairman

2. Other Organisations

a. North and Mid-Wales Association of Local Councils

Councillor C.R. Williams

b. Flintshire County Forum

Chairman with Vice Chairman as substitute

c. Flintshire Access Forum Collaboration

Councillor B.T. Doleman

4. ATTENDANCE RECORDS

A list had been previously circulated showing the attendance record for each Member of the Council for 2014/15 municipal year.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

5. POLICING

PCSO Tom Hulse was present and indicated that PC Smith-Williams was now Acting Sergeant at Flint for the next three months. In the meantime the Community Police Officer would be PC2904, John Tapley. Reference was made by PCSO Hulse to complaints received regarding the actions of quad bikes and requested the co-operation of Members by using the 101 service when such instances were being observed, so that the Police had an opportunity of catching inappropriate usage in action. Councillor B.T. Doleman made reference to problems with motorbikes which were being delivered by a lorry and were then racing up and down a section of the High Street doing wheelies. Whilst noting that their speed made it impossible to observe number plates, Councillor T. Renshaw suggested that information relating to the lorry, if observed, should be passed on to the Police as they could then take

action. Councillor C.R. Williams concurred with the information that had been given regarding the motorbikes in the High Street.

In relation to the earlier Special meeting concerning the Traffic Calming Scheme in the High Street, at which the Officer had been present to listen to the debate, he suggested that perhaps an option to deter vehicles mounting the pavements would be to erect bollards in appropriate places. Councillor R.K. Jones requested that the Police pass such information onto the Chief Officer for Transportation at the County Council. Councillor A. Griffiths referred to the problems of vandalism which had been occurring at Ysgol Merllyn, to which the Officer was aware but there were problems concerning open access due to a fencing deficiency.

The Chairman thanked the Officer for attending both meetings.

6. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 8th April 2015.

a. Minute No. 151(b) – War Memorial

Councillor R.K. Jones made reference to the significant grants there were available from Cadw concerning War Memorials. Councillor B.T. Doleman indicated that, following receipt of the Cadw information at the last meeting, he was consulting other people who could be sources of the details that would be required if any application were to be made concerning financial assistance for professional cleaning of the Monument.

b. Minute No. 151(c) – Raised Beds

Councillor M.A. Reece advised the meeting that he was making progress on this issue and, with the assistance of the Streetscene Area Supervisor, was hopeful that other containers which had been located could be used for this purpose.

c. Minute No. 161(b) – Community Centre Car Park

In response to Councillor A. Griffiths, the Clerk indicated that he had forwarded a letter to the appropriate Officer in the Probation Service requesting assistance, but to date had not received a response. Councillor K. Rush indicated that some work had been carried out in this area to improve the situation but it was not known by whom.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council, held on 8th April 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7. PLANNIG

a. Applications

App. No.	Location	Detail
053320	West End Stores, Boot End	Change of use to four flats
053651	Grosvenor House, Sandy Lane	Outline erection of bungalow

RESOLVED :

That applications 53320 and 053651 be supported.

Note : Councillor T. Renshaw declared a personal interest in application No. 053651, and left the meeting whilst it was being discussed.

b. Appeal - Land at the side of Glendun, High Street

The appeal follows the refusal of the application to construct a three bed dormer bungalow, which the Council supported at the June 2014 meeting. It was to be decided on the basis of an exchange of written representations and a site visit by an Inspector. The Council could withdraw or modify its previous comments.

RESOLVED :

That the previous decision to support the application be not modified.

c. Flintshire LDP – Candidate Site

Following the discussion at the last meeting, which was attended by the appropriate Officer from Flintshire County Council, Members were now requested to determine the Council's response to the sixteen sites notified for the Bagillt area. Whilst the County Council was not inviting representations on submitted sites, they would be pleased to receive the views of the Community Council on those that had been submitted.

RESOLVED :

That Flintshire County Council be advised that the views of this Authority on the sites previously notified to them by reference to individual plans are as follows :-

BAG001 and BAG0014 – former Canton Depot

There was support for these more or less identical sites, with the proviso on the need for appropriate access arrangements if the existing Depot were to be changed to housing.

BAG002 – Pen y Cefn, The Nant

This submission was supported

BAG003 – Bryn Hyfryd, Sandy Lane

This submission was supported, notwithstanding that this had been an objection site at the UDP stage

BAG004 – Nant y Glyn

This submission was supported

BAG005 – Old Lead Mill, High Street

This application was supported, whilst noting the lack of mains sewerage in the area and the need for what the site had previously been used for to be examined.

BAG006 – Gadlys Lane

This submission was supported

BAG007 and BAG015 – Wern Farm

These submissions were supported, given that the area had previously been allocated in the UDP for housing purposes, but there was a need for infrastructure problems in the area, particularly with regard to highways, to be addressed if there were to be further development.

BAG008 – Land West of Victoria Park ; BAG009 – Land East of Victoria Park ; BAG0111 – Land West of Riverbank ; BAG0012 – Land Adjoining Maes Teg, Farm

Having regard to the fact that all four sites join on to each other, it was felt that they all needed to be taken into account and the Council would not support them, either individually or as a group, notwithstanding the difficulty of access for other than BAG009. In addition, it was felt that the site BAG0012 at Maes Teg Farm was in the adjoining Holywell Town Council area.

BAG010 – Old London Road

This application was not supported given that it had been an objection site for the UDP and the need for improved highway access arrangements.

BAG013 – Ysgol Glan Aber

This application was not supported, as it was felt that the School playing field was already located within the settlement boundary and should be left as an open space.

FLI005 – Land Adjoining Manor Estate

This submission was not supported, due to whether such a development was sustainable in relation to the housing that was already in the area, and there was also the matter of access arrangements.

8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid:

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Dwr Cymru Welsh Water	761.98	101718	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act.1976(S.19)
SLCC Enterprises Ltd.	82.80	101719	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Bagillt Bowling Club	480.00	101720	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act.1976(S.19)
JDH Business Services Ltd.	134.40	101721	Loc.Govt. Finance Act 1982
Zurich Municipal	400.56	101722	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Delyn Press	175.00	101723	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Clr. C.P. Owens	162.50	101724	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act 1976(S.19)

Bagillt Heritage Society	10.00	101725	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
Mr. G. Roberts	805.66	101726	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	144.46	101727	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)

9. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

Play Area Upgrade Scheme – 2015/16

Councillor R.K. Jones indicated that the Clerk would shortly receive a letter from Flintshire County Council concerning the arrangements for match funded play area upgrades for this financial year, and could be reported and considered at the next financial year. The Clerk reminded Members that the Council had made provision in its budget to upgrade one play area if the match funding scheme were continued and that, subject to the County Council criteria concerning priority, it should be in the East Ward.

RESOLVED :

That the report be noted.

10. REVIEW OF INTERNAL CONTROLS 2015/16

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk, copies of which had been previously circulated, which had been prepared in consultation with Councillors A. Griffiths and B.T. Doleman, who were prepared to certify that the Internal Controls listed were in place and being adhered to by the Council.

RESOLVED :

That the document, as circulated, be constituted as the review of Internal Controls by the Council for 2015/16, following certification by Councillors A. Griffiths and B.T. Doleman, that the Internal Controls, as listed, were in place and being adhered to by the Council.

11. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2014/15

a. Internal Audit

The meeting considered the report and action plan of the internal auditor, JDH Business Services Ltd, copies of which had been previously circulated. The auditor had confirmed, on the basis of the audit work carried out, that the Council's system of Internal Controls was in place, adequate for the purpose intended and effective, subject to the recommendation reported in the Action Plan. In relation to the Action Plan, it was noted that a guidance note had

been issued for 2015/16, to ensure the Council meet the requirements of the Pensions Regulator with regard to auto enrolment. The Clerk reminded Members that he had previously informed them that he had registered with the Pensions Regulator as the contact for the Council to ensure that Members were kept informed, and that the date applicable for this Authority was June 2016.

The Clerk indicated that the Council would have a number of options, such as the Local Government Pension Scheme, using a private pension provider and the Central Government NEST Scheme, which was regularly advertised on television. It was suggested that enquiries be made with Flintshire County Council, who operate the Clwyd Pension Scheme, which could be joined by Town and Community Councils, to obtain an indication of likely costs, both for employer and employee. With regard to his own particular situation, the Clerk indicated he was already a member of this pension scheme and, even if the Council are required to offer a pension, that he would decline due to this and the fact that it was his intention to retire from the post within the next twelve months before the date applicable.

RESOLVED :

1. That the satisfactory report of the internal auditor for 2014/15 be noted.
2. That in relation to the guidance note concerning Pensions Auto Enrolment, the Clerk made initial enquiries with Flintshire County Council for information regarding their Local Government Pension Scheme and report to a future meeting.

b. External Audit

The meeting considered copies of the Accounting Statement in Section 1 and the Annual Governance Statement in Section 2 of the Annual Return, copies of which had been circulated at the meeting. The internal auditor had completed Section 4, following the audit of accounts referred to in the previous minutes.

RESOLVED :

1. That the Accounting Statement in Section 1 of the Return, be approved, together with the Annual Governance Statement in Section 2, and that the Chairman be authorised to sign the Council's confirmation on the Annual Return.
2. That it be noted that the public notices of audit had been duly displayed on the Council's notice boards and referred to on the website, as required by the external auditor.

3. That the Clerk forward the Annual Return and necessary supporting documents to the external auditor by the due date he had indicated.

12. ANNUAL INSPECTION – STREET FURNITURE

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk concerning the annual inspection of street furniture, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. This inspection, of Council owned bus shelters, public seating and notice boards, had been carried out by Councillor M.A. Reece and the Clerk in order to comply with insurance and risk assessment guidelines, and had taken place on 15th April 2015. Within the information circulated were the findings, together with some actions that were required to be undertaken.

RESOLVED :

1. That the annual inspection of street furniture, as circulated, be noted.
2. With regard to future actions, the following be noted for attention :

Boot End bus shelter – requirement for replacement roofing, and that three quotations had been requested from contractors.

Public bench adjacent to Boot End bus shelter – the wooden part of this structure required painting, and this would be requested to be carried out by the successful contractor undertaking the roof shelter repair.

Public bench adjacent to Feathers Inn – the bottom wooden slats need extra support in the middle by way of a metal strap, which Councillor Reece would undertake, with the Council meeting any cost of parts.

13. ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND CODE OF CONDUCT CHANGES

The Monitoring Officer at Flintshire County Council has advised that, the Welsh Assembly Government legislation for Sections 55-58 come into effect on 1st May 2015, concerning Access to Information, required to be on the Community Council websites. Therefore, forms of declaration of interest would no longer be passed to him for recording. This would now be the responsibility of each Local Council's Proper Officer, who was the Clerk, to comply with legislative requirement to keep its own register and this included information to be placed on the website. The Clerk advised that it was intended that the register already on the website would be updated as new declarations were made, in order to comply with Section 58 of the legislation.

Guidance had also been received from Welsh Assembly Government in relation to the duties now placed concerning website information under this legislation, as well

as Members' interests. It was considered that the Council complied with regard to contact arrangements by indicating how to contact the Clerk. In relation to Members, the names and contact telephone numbers, political affiliations were appropriate, Ward represented and other positions held, such as Chairman and Vice Chairman, were included. With regard to meetings, notice was given in the News section of each meeting, the items to be discussed and minutes were also included on the website.

In addition, Members were asked to note information received from the Ombudsman relating to guidance and the Code of Conduct, copies of which had been previously circulated.

RESOLVED :

That the information received from Flintshire County Council, Welsh Assembly Government and the Ombudsman, in relation to Access of Information and Code of Conduct changes, together with details now reported by the Clerk, be noted.

14. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – WORKSHOPS

The Clerk advised that the County Council were holding seminars on Bus Subsidies on two alternate dates in June and representatives of Town and Community Councils were being invited to attend. It was noted that Councillor M.A. Reece would be attending in his capacity as County Member.

RESOLVED :

That the information be noted.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
Councillor T. Renshaw	Planning application 053651	7(a)

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Chairman