

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in BAGILLT COMMUNITY LIBRARY on Wednesday 11th January 2017.

PRESENT: Councillor K. Rush (Chairman)

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

APOLOGIES: Councillors G. Hotchkiss, C. Williams and J. Williams.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. L. Wood (Clerk) and Mr. Neil Hickie (Streetscene Supervisor).

95. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman wished all Members and Members of the Public who were in attendance a Happy New Year and also wished Councillor. G. Hotchkiss a speedy recovery on behalf of the Council.

96. STREETSCENE

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Neil Hickie, Streetscene Supervisor to the meeting.

Councillor. M. A. Reece reported the footpath outside garage in the Boot End of the village is in need to repair due to pot holes and a clean-up of the leaves etc in areas is required.

Councillor M. A. asked for an update on the flooding at Reece's Terrace. Mr. Hickie reported works were due to start this week but due to weather warnings, this has been delayed until Monday 23rd January. Also, when funding becomes available in the next year or two, Mr. Hickie will extend drainage to Merilyn Lane.

Mr. Hickie reported whilst the works for the drainage are been carried out on the by-pass, they will also be installing cycle hoops which will slow cyclists down as there has been issues with cyclists coming from Bagillt along the path at a speed.

Councillor. B. T. Doleman asked where does the water come from that comes into our Village and shared concerned regarding when we have a high tide and water is backed up, where will it go. Mr. Hickie said the old culvert has been piped and lifted up so when we have a high tide this stops it. The tidal flap is currently missing however, this is not causing issues but Flintshire County Council have put a bid in to replace the flap.

Councillor. T. Renshaw asked for an update on the road through the village as after the road was resurfaced, the iron works was not reinstated properly in various places and the tarmac was not completed properly near junctions. Mr. Hickie said a contractor has been appointed and Mr. Hickie will be meeting with the contractor tomorrow to ask when the works will start.

Councillor. A. Griffiths reported over a month ago, a faulty light in Merllyn Lane, opposite Riverside Cottage. Councillor. A. Griffiths and a Member of the public who was in attendance stated it has been repaired twice but remains faulty. Councillor. A. Griffiths also shared concerns with litter in the village and how scruffy it is looking. Mr. Hickie will investigate both these issues.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Hickie for attending the meeting.

97. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 9th November.

a. Minute No. 79 – Riverside Bus Shelter

The Chairman asked Councillor Renshaw to update the Meeting on this matter as both Councillor T. Renshaw and the Clerk met with the Landowner on Thursday 5th January to discuss the issue relating to the bus shelter. Councillor. T. Renshaw shared the Landowners concern's regarding the difficulty for the Landowner and his family to drive off their driveway safely due to members of the public waiting at the bus shelter and obscuring his view. The Landowner has requested that the Council pay for the kerbs to be lowered outside his property in order to aid an easier and safer way of coming off his driveway.

Councillor T. Renshaw and the Clerk advised the Landowner at the meeting that under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council cannot give financial assistance to an individual as it has to be for the benefit of all or most of the community, therefore the Council was unable to assist with direct funding towards the kerb lowering. However, it was suggested the Council could seek to increase the annual rent for a set amount of years which under the current Tenancy agreement is currently £1 pa to an amount which would go some way to reimburse the costs of lowering the kerbs.

Further discussion lead to it been agreed that the Clerk would write to Flintshire County Council to ask if the County can provide financial assistance towards lowering the kerbs as it is a County bus stop.

The Clerk informed the Meeting that she spoken to Mrs. Katie Wilby, Flintshire Transportation & Logistics Manager to ask if Flintshire County Council can assist with the costs of lowering the kerb outside his property. Mrs. Wilby has confirmed a member of her team will visit the site and if deemed as a health and safety issue, Flintshire County Council can potentially pay fully or contribute towards the works. This information has been passed to the landowner and

Mrs. Wilby will keep both the landowner and the Council informed on the progress of this matter.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held 9th November 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

98. PLANNING

a. Applications

App. No.	Location	Detail
055188	Former British Legion Site, Gadlys Lane	Amendment to Residential Development

Flintshire County Council are holding a Planning Committee on Wednesday 18th January, 2017 and this application is included on the agenda. Councillor T. Renshaw will attend the Committee and speak on behalf of the Council, confirming our objections to this application.

App. No.	Location	Detail
055423	Field to South of Old London Road Bagillt, CH6 6BP	Erection of agricultural building, private stables for livery use, formation of manage and access track

Councillor R. Davies raised concerns again regarding the response from the Council relating to the developer already having started the work before Planning Permission has been granted and also along with Councillor A. Griffiths reported the Public footpath has been blocked off and people would need to climb over a fence to follow the footpath route. The incline going across the stream has also been altered and it is that severe you cannot access this either.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will write to Mr. J. Hill, Flintshire Footpath Officer to raise these concerns.

99. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Name	£	Voucher No	Expenditure Powers
Delyn Press	36.00	75	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
SLCC Enterprise Ltd	38.00	76	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
Mrs. L. Wood - November	666.03	77	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
HM Revenues & Customs	125.40	78	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)

- November			
Clwyd Pension Fund -	118.86	79	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
- November			
Zurich Insurance Plc	382.71	80	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act 1976(S.19)
Opus Electricity	116.93	81	Loc.Govt.(MP) Act 1976 (S19)
North & Mid Wales Assoc.	16.00	82	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Of Local Councils			

RESOLVED: That the above mentioned accounts be paid.

100. ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2017/18

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer on Estimates for 2017/18, with an Appendix containing particular items prepared in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman. As well as suggested levels of expenditure for the next financial year, details were included in relation to probably/actual income and expenditure for 2016/17. Members were reminded of the discussions and decisions made at the November meeting, as well as other factors taken into account in preparing the schedule, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

The report indicated the projected decrease in the precept if the proposals, as submitted, were approved. With regard to the factors taken into account, it had been assumed that the Council would wish to continue with the practice brought into force this year concerning the Chairman's fund, and that the Clerk's salary would remain the same for next year, even though another increase was to be reported in the National Scale, which was at his request with the continuance of the out sourced payroll facility. The decisions taken at the November meeting in relation to once again supporting Bowling Green maintenance, Community Centre, Community Library, Play Scheme/Summer Activities participation and Play Area improvement, had also been included.

The Chairman referred to the Community Library Insurers, who have requested a Safeguarding Policy to be adopted due to children under 16 visiting the Library without an Accompanying adult. It was suggested that the Council could assist by seeking a Safeguarding Policy from another Library for consulting with the Community Group.

Regarding the Community Centre, The Chairman circulated the Community Association Accounts which were sent to the Clerk, however these related to year ending 2015 and not Year ending 2016 therefore the Meeting agreed we need to see these update accounts and also, invite a member of the Community Association to attend the next meeting.

Whilst confirmation was still awaited from Flintshire County Council concerning possible Play Area improvement, Councillor R.K. Jones indicated a letter was on the way to confirm that the existing Play Schemes funding for the summer would continue for a further year, however, reduced by 50%. The Clerk suggested the Council may wish to keep the figure as included in the report to cover 4 weeks at both sites whatever the FCC decision which is

awaited.

Councillor M. A. Reece has been asked by Holywell Councillors to request the Council considers making a grant towards Holywell Leisure Centre, as the Leisure Centre is now operated by a Community Organisation. Holywell Town Council have given a grant of £20K. Holywell Councillors are asking neighbouring villages, who benefit from the centre, to also provide financial support.

Councillor. T. Renshaw asked as Bagillt has an East and a West Ward, would the Council have to also contribute to Flint Leisure Centre. Councillor. R. K. Jones confirmed no as Flint Leisure Centre does not come under the Community Asset Transfer scheme.

Councillor. C. R. Williams suggested they should apply for a grant like other organisations would and provide accounts etc.

Councillor. T. Renshaw suggested the Travelling and Subsistence expenditure should be increased to £200 to allow for Councillors to travel to meetings such as meetings of North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils which are beneficial to the Council.

RESOLVED:

1. That a precept of £411111 be made on Flintshire County Council for 2017/18, which equated to a Band D charge of £27.82, a decrease of £0.88 or 3.1% on the last financial year.
2. That the amounts indicated in the previously circulated expenditure heads for estimates purposes for 2017/18, be approved as circulated pending the Travelling and Subsistence expenditure be increased to £200.
3. That the level of funding agreed at the last meeting be formally included in the budget for the next financial year to enable maintenance of the bowling green at the Bagillt Bowling Club.
4. That in relation to the Community Centre, the Bagillt Community Association be advised that the Council will once again be making appropriate provision to continue the financial assistance, subject to the previously agreed criteria concerning Accounts and to be advised when meetings were to be held.
5. That the continuation of the Play Schemes programme, with the Council once again providing expenditure to cover four weeks at both sites, be noted and that, whilst appropriate provision had been made for the Play Area Improvements scheme, confirmation of any possible match funding scheme was awaited, with the proviso that if it were to proceed then a decision on the site to be chosen would be made at a later date.

6. That in relation to the provision to assist the Community Library, the Council would once again be taking responsibility in the next financial year for meeting the insurance and electricity costs. As reported by the Chairman it was noted there would be a need to adopt a safeguarding policy to comply with the Insurers requirements and it was agreed the Clerk contact a similar community library for information and forward it to the community group for perusal.

7. That the request for financial assistance for the Holywell Leisure Centre should be considered at a later date when there is a formal application from the Community Group running the facility to include the usual financial details about the organisation.

101. INVESTEMENTS STRATEGY 2017/18

The meeting considered a report of the Responsible Financial Officer on Local Government Investments, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. The Appendix to the report advised that all excess funds were to be held in the Business Money Manager Account.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Investment Strategy for Bagillt Community Council, as prepared by the Responsible Financial Officer and circulated as an Appendix to the report, be adopted for meeting the requirements for this Authority for 2017/18.

102. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Council considered the Budget Monitoring report and Bank reconciliation statement for the third quarter to 31st December 2016, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members.

RESOLVED: That the financial information be noted as circulated and approved.

103. HIGH STREET - TRAFFIC CALMING

A delegation from the Council met with Jo Stevens, Road Safety Senior Policy Advisor to discuss the scheme. Ms. Stevens drove through the village to see the scheme to help understand the concerns the Council and residents have.

The Chairman, Councillors. B. T. Doleman and T. Renshaw and Ms. Stevens then met with Mr. A. Stanford, Flintshire Senior Engineer to discuss this matter. Ms. Stevens was very concerned about the number of accidents we have had within a four year period before the traffic calming scheme were installed and noted that since we had the scheme was installed in 2014 we have had no accidents.

Councillor. T. Renshaw requested information regarding dates for the three serious accidents which have happened in a three year period, as the criteria for the scheme grant was three serious accidents within three years. This could not be this reported and the figures Ms. Stevens had were for a ten year period and the serious accidents were reported over a four year period. One of these reported accidents was a person who was drunk and fell in the road, this would not have been prevented by traffic calming.

Flintshire County Council, North Wales Police and Welsh Government were all asked by our Council, what constitutes a serious accident and was speeding one of the factors in the reported accidents, we are yet to be given this information.

Mr. A. Stanford reported that consultation took place in the village, this was disputed.

Councillor. T. Renshaw reported a suggestion was to replace the speed humps with tables. However, Councillor. T. Renshaw added we would want the tables to be to the same specification as the one by the Church and we want the chicane by Alston Court removed.

The Chairman reported the cost of a table was approximately £15,000. The village would require 6 sets to replace the current speed humps, however, 4 sets in the centre of the village would suffice. Therefore, considerably funding would be required which Ms. J. Stevens will also look into.

Ms. J. Stevens has asked Mr. A. Stanford to look at how much it would cost to remove the humps and replace them with tables as some preventative measures should be in place.

RESOLVED: The Council will await for a response from Mr. Anthony Stanford, Flintshire Senior Engineer.

107. WAR MEMORIAL – COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER

The Meeting considered an email from the Flintshire Legal Office regarding the Community Asset Transfer. It detailed that the Flintshire Chief Officer (Organisational Change) has advised that if the Community Council does not enter into an agreement then the County Council shall remove the asset from the Community Asset Transfer schedule and there will be no commitment to carry out any work.

Councillor. B. T. Doleman commented on this issue being on-going for some time, Flintshire County Council caused the damage to the light therefore should repair this before the Council sign the Community Asset Transfer and proposed if the County refuse to do this and say if we do not sign, they will remove the asset from the Community Asset Transfer schedule, this is what will have to be done.

Councillor. T. Renshaw commented that the County say 'there will be no commitment to carry out any work', but there will be as the light requires repair for damage caused by the County gardeners.

Councillor. B. T. Doleman added the County do not own the War Memorial just the land, the Community of Bagillt own the War Memorial.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will respond the Flintshire Legal Office to confirm the Council will not sign the agreement prior to the works being carried out therefore understand as stated by the County the War Memorial will be removed from the Community Asset Transfer Schedule and the maintenance of the War Memorial will remain with FCC.

108. AUTHORITY FOR ACTION DURING RECESS PERIOD

The meeting noted the actions of the Chairman and Vice Chairman during the recess in relation Accounts for Payment, Estimates of Income and Expenditure and Riverside Bus Shelter Meeting with Landowner.

109. CORRESPONDENCE & CLERKS REPORT

The following correspondence were received and circulated at the Meeting.

- Letter from Mr. Ian Budd, Flintshire Chief Officer (Education and Youth) regarding Bagillt Youth Club Provision.
- Email from Ms. H. Blythyn AM regarding Fibre Broadband and a copy of a letter from Ms. J. James AC/AM Minster for Skills and Science.
- Email from Mr. G. Owens, Flintshire Chief Officer (Governance) regarding Code of Conduct Training for Councillors.
- Welsh Government flyer regarding becoming a Councillor in the May 2017 Elections
- Email from Janet Kelly, Flintshire Best Kept Communities Competition Organiser re Best Kept Communities Competition 2017 in Information Evening on 8/2/17

The Chairman referred to the response from Mr. Ian Budd, Flintshire Chief Officer (Education & Youth) regarding to the closure of Bagillt Youth Club. Mr. Budd stated Youth Leaders were are not available for this Club and that staff did not want to work in small villages, however the Chairman believes the Youth Workers were moved to Holywell Youth Club due to anti-social behaviour at the Holywell Youth Club.

The Chairman said that all old Furniture has been left in the main hall, the football table was

broken and was not replaced, the computers did not work and all settees have been removed due to not have fire retardant labels on so the centre had no seating for the children. The Centre was used and by some very vulnerable children, many confided in the Youth Leaders, children now have nowhere to go and will be on the streets.

Councillor. A. Griffiths said it was a Health and Safety issue with all the old furniture in the hall and feels the Youth Club is now being used a storage room. This club should not have been closed without consultation.

The Chairman suggested the Youth Club be advertised in the local schools and once open again, monitor the use. Councillor. B. T. Doleman added the club had been open for over 50 years.

Councillor. R. K. Jones said that trained Youth Workers numbers have decreased from 23 to 4 members of staff and it has been a suggestion that the Youth Worker from Holywell shares her time between Holywell and Bagillt Youth Clubs

Councillor. R. K. Jones shared concerns relating to the response from Ms. Julie James AM Minister for Skills and Science regarding Broadband as Ms. James stated CH6 6DG and CH6 6DL are still under review and requested the Clerk to write back and ask for timescale that the East Ward of the village could be without superfast broad band.

Councillor Mrs. D. J. Williams said she lives in the CH7 6DG postcode area and her neighbour has superfast broad band which is attached to a pole in her garden, however her provider cannot connect her and the cabinet is not broad band ready in Trebor Avenue.

Councillor C. P Owens shared information regarding the technology surrounding these issues.

RESOLVED:

1. The Clerks report and correspondence were noted.
2. The Clerk will write to Mr. Ian Budd, Flintshire Chief Officer (Education & Youth) to request the Youth Club is re-opened.
3. The Clerk will reply to Ms. Julie James regarding broadband issues in the CH7 6DG and CH7 6DL areas of the village

ACCORDANCE WITH BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Date of Council Meeting	Wednesday 11th January 2017
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Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
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Chairman