

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in BAGILLT COMMUNITY LIBRARY on Wednesday 12th April 2017.

PRESENT : Councillor K. Rush (Chairman)

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

APOLOGIES: Councillor M.A. Reece, T. Renshaw and J. Williams.

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

143. POLICING MATTERS

The Clerk informed the Council that PCSO Darren Chatham, Bagillt Community Police Officer was unable to attend the Meeting due to work commitments.

144. STREETSCENE

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

Councillor R. Davies has received a number of telephone calls from residents requesting a dog bin and litter bin near Bettisfield. Mr. Hickie said he does have an allocation of spare bins so can action this.

Councillor G. Hotchkiss shared concerns regarding fly tipping near the skip site in Greenfield. Garden bins and push chairs are been used to transport rubbish. Councillor G. Hotchkiss also reported the Company who make concrete slabs based on the Industrial Estate are creating an tremendous amount of noise. Mr. Hickie said the skip site area falls under his colleagues remit and will pass the information on for action.

Councillor. B. T. Doleman asked for an update on the Recces Terrace Sewerage Scheme. Mr. Hickie confirmed this was completed. However, Councillor B. T. Doleman said there is more water is in garden gullies than before. Mr. Hickie said they diverted the water flow, half will go towards Grosvenor Scaffolding via the under pass and then the bulk goes to Gadlys Lane culvert and then to the Dock therefore this should no longer be an issue. Flintshire are awaiting funding for a Tidal flap which Mr. Hickie will be raising at his next monthly meeting.

Councillor G. Hotchkiss reported on going issues with the grid at the bottom of Upper Riverbank, after a heavy shower the grid is always blocked. Mr. Hickie agreed to meet

Councillor G. Hotchkiss to investigate this issue.

Councillor C. Williams reported low over hanging tree branches in Old London Road, the branches are from the large trees in the fields and will catch passing van, large vehicles. Mr. Hickie noted this issue.

Councillor C. R. Williams said the tree roots which are left after a tree came down in storm 'Doris' are still at the bottom of Merilyn Lane. Councillor C. R. Williams also said that the streets of Bagillt are messy, no road sweepers go around and the refuse lorries leave mess around the village. He feels the village is neglected by Flintshire County Council. Mr. Hickie said he will report the issue regarding the tree is to Mr. A. Roberts, Flintshire Head of Play Unit as it falls within his remit and explained the County changed the policy regarding road sweepers about 2 years ago and they only sweep once a year, unless areas need it more frequently. Mr. Hickie will report this concern.

A Member of the public said he noted a road sweeper cleaning the streets at 11pm in the evening making such a noise and said the pavements were still not cleaned satisfactory. Mr. Hickie said it is a proposal from the County for night working as they provide a 7 day service.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Hickie for attending the meeting.

145. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 8th March.

a. Minute No. 133 – Bagillt Foreshore

Councillor. B. T. Doleman asked if Mrs. S. Price, Flintshire Transport Policy Officer would be attending a meeting. The Clerk confirmed it was agreed Mrs. Price would attend the June Meeting to discuss Active Travel proposals.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council, held on 8th March 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

146. BAGILLT COMMUNITY CENTRE – FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Chairman reported that himself and Councillor B. T. Doleman met with Mrs. M. Jones and Mrs. K. Jones, Members of the Community Association to address issue relating to Financial Assistance and potential resignation of the Community Association.

The Chairman explained he informed the Community Association that due to the current bank balance held by the Community Centre, the Council will not be providing financial assistance at this stage, however, should in the future the balance decrease, they would be welcome

to apply to the Council again providing up to date accounts and ensuring our Council representatives are invited to all Meetings of the Community Association. Both the Chairman and Councillor B. T. Doleman praised the Community Association for their efforts in running the Community Centre.

The Chairman then read a letter to the Council that the Clerk has received from Mrs. K. Jones, Community Association, which asked that the Council confirm if they will continue to cover the cost of the insurance and water rates for the Community Centre. Mrs. Jones also asked we provide them with a copy of the new funding legislation for charities from the Welsh Assembly.

Councillor B. T. Doleman said the Council should consider adopting a policy, where by only organisations with a bank balance with £1000 or less are considered for a financial donation unless the organisation has a specific project which they can provide details about. Also smaller organisations should be considered.

Councillor. C. P. Owens shared his concerns about the Council Representatives not being invited to the Community Association Meetings and that the Council Representatives should be invited to all meetings held. Notices should be displayed advertising their Annual Meeting as all residents of Bagillt should be invited to attend and he does not re-call seeing such notices displayed.

Councillor. G. Hotchkiss also shared concerned about the Council representatives not being invited to meetings. The Chairman said this was addressed at the meeting with Mrs. M. Jones and Mrs. K. Jones.

The Chairman said as the Council are not making a financial donation at this time, should the Community Association fail to comply with the Charity Commission rules and regulations, the Council would not be held liable. However, if and when the Community Association request a financial donation in the future, the Council must be provided with fully audited and up to date accounts before the Council can agree to give 'public money'.

Councillor B. T. Doleman reminded Councillors of the comments made by Councillor T. Renshaw at the last meeting, 'It is a Councillors legal duty to ensure any money spent is being spent properly otherwise we could find ourselves with a financial problem which the local Ombudsman could seek to take action against Councillors on surcharge'.

Councillor C. R. Williams asked if the Community Association had paid the Community Centre Insurance as he was very concerned about the consequences if this was not paid. The Chairman confirmed the Community Association had paid this.

Councillor C. P. Owens remains concerned that as the Community Association are not a proper Constituted body, irrespective if they provide fully audited accounts, as a Councillor, he could not agree to provide a financial donation.

Councillor C. Williams said he agrees with Councillor C. P. Owens that if the Community Association are not a proper Constituted body, the Council cannot support them financial.

Councillor C. R. Williams said he understands all Councillors views but we need support this Community Centre as the members of the Community Association do an excellent job.

The Chairman proposed as no request has been received to date, the Council can review the situation as and when the Community Association apply to the Council for a financial donation.

Councillor B. T. Doleman agreed and said at that time, Councillors can then agree or abstain to vote and all decisions will be recorded in the minutes.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will write to Mrs. K. Jones, Community Association and advise should they wish to apply for a financial donation, they can apply to the Council providing fully audited accounts and can they ensure Councillor representatives are invited to all the Community Association Meetings.

147. BAGILLT COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Councillor C. P. Owens reported information to the Council that had been received via the Clerk from Ms. Lisa Mclellan, Flintshire Asset Manager. The Water Bill has been returned un-paid from Flintshire County Council as the County state they not liable for paying this bill. Ms. Mclellan said the Community Library have a Tenancy of Will agreement. Councillor C. P. Owens explained a Tenancy of Will is an informal agreement between a prospective Landlord and a Tenant. The Community Library does not have an agreement with Flintshire County Council, therefore we cannot pay this bill and if we did, this would be accepting liability.

Councillor C. P. Owens is concerned that the water will be disconnected and feels legal advise is needed. Also whilst we do not have a tenancy agreement, we cannot apply for grants and this is why the library is in a state of disrepair.

Councillor B. T. Doleman said this issue surrounding the lease has been ongoing for over 3 years.

The Chairman suggested we contact Mr. N. Cockerton, Flintshire Chief Officer, Organisational Change to ask either himself or an appropriate Officer to attend a meeting to discuss the tenancy and un-paid water bill.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will write to Mr. N. Cockerton, Flintshire Chief Officer, Organisational Change to request a meeting.

148. CHAIRMANS COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman on behalf of the Council thanked all the Councillors who are standing down at the forthcoming Elections:

Councillor Terry Renshaw who started in 2008

Councillor Mrs. Sandra L. Jones who started in 2004

Councillor Gerard Hotchkiss who started in 2013

Councillor Kevin Jones who started in 1987

Councillor Josiah Williams who started 2004

The Chairman thanked the Councillors for serving the Community of Bagillt and wished them all the best in the future.

149. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

App. No.	Location	Detail
056628	Castle Villa, High Street, Bagillt CH6 6HE	Variation of condition no 2 attached to planning permission ref: 046635 to allow further period for submission of reserved matters.

NOTE: Councillor B. T. Doleman declared a personal interest and left the Meeting and did not vote thereon.

RESOLVED: The application was supported.

150. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Name	£	Voucher No	Expenditure Powers
Mrs. L. Wood - April	650.61	100	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
HM Revenues & Customs - April	125.40	101	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
Clwyd Pension Fund - - April	118.86	102	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
Opus Electricity	47.82	103	Loc.Govt.(MP) Act 1976 (S19)

North & Mid Wales Assoc. Of Local Councils	16.00	104	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Compacc Accounting U.K. Ltd.	104.00	105	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Delyn Press	244.80	106	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)

RESOLVED: That the above mentioned accounts be paid.

151. BAGILLT FORSHORE

Councillor B. T. Doleman updated the Council on the Memorial for the Colliery and reported at the last meeting, the group voted and decided to use the site at the scrapyard. It is hoped that the Official Opening will be in September.

152. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Council considered the Budget Monitoring report and Bank reconciliation statement for the fourth and final quarter to 31st March 2017, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members.

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

153. ANNUAL RISK ASSESSMENT 2017/8

The meeting considered a report by the Responsible Financial Officer on Annual Risk Assessment, copies of which had been previously circulated. The report reminded Members of the Risk Assessment undertaken in previous years, and it was a statement adopted by the Council showing identified risks, assessing them and putting controls in to manage. The Council had a duty to provide assurance to local tax payers and to prevent the cost of litigation.

RESOLVED:

1. That consideration of the report by the Responsible Financial Officer be accepted as the formal Risk Assessment for the Council for 2017/18.
2. That in relation to the Key Risks, the responses again be identified as relating to the Council's assets, Bank accounts, internal controls and insurance, for statutory and other purposes.

154. BY PASS CROSSING

The Council considered the update received from Mr. R. Nursaw, Flintshire Principal Engineer. Mr. Nursaw responded to the Council's previous letter regarding figures used to obtain a grant when considering a pedestrian crossing compared to the figures used when the traffic calming scheme.

Mr. Nursaw said the criteria used to evaluate the need for traffic calming is outlined within Flintshire's Traffic Calming policy. The evaluation is specific to the identified location, in this case the High Street, Bagillt. The location of the signalised junction / pedestrian crossing improvement at Lyons Den was identified due to the high amount of serious accidents to vulnerable users and police concern for the safety of road users at this location. For the Road Safety Grant bid to be successful it would need to meet the Welsh Government bid criteria for this type of scheme proposal. The same criteria would also apply to a potential crossing of the A548 in the centre of Bagillt. The traffic calming on the High Street needs to meet a different set of requirements to those required for the crossings on the A548.

Regarding the Welsh government Road Safety Grant bid submission, (Lyons Den) we have now been informed by Welsh government that the bid was successful. Mr. Nursaw will update the Council on the delivery timeline.

Councillor C. P. Owens said he feels he point that Mr. Nursaw states the traffic calming scheme the High Street needs to meet a different set of requirements to those required for the crossings on the A548 is a direct contradiction to what Mr. A. Stanford said at the Council meeting he attended.

Councillor B. T. Doleman agreed the Lyons Dens area is a very bad for accidents therefore supports the need of a crossing at this location but said we still need to address the issue that residents and school children from the village need a central crossing to access the Coastal Path. Residents will not walk all the way to the Lyons Den crossing.

RESOLVED: That the email be noted and the Council will await further information from Mr. R. Nursaw, Flintshire Principal Engineer.

155. PLAYAREA UPGRADE

The Council considered the play area proposal and quote for Pen Lon, Bagillt which was sent via Mr. R. Roberts, Flintshire Play Design Officer. The Clerk updated the Council that Mr. Roberts was meeting with Ms. S. Roberts, Health & Safety Manager for Wales and West Housing Association requesting the Association make a contribution to the costs for the play area. To date, Mr. Roberts had not confirmed the outcome.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will contact Mr. R. Roberts, Flintshire Play Design Officer to ask for an update.

156. BAGILLT YOUTH CLUB

The Chairman read the letter from from Mr. I. Budd, Flintshire Chief Officer, Education & Youth regarding the closure of Bagillt Youth Club. Mr. Budd said that there are now more restrictions on the activities that can be carried due to various items being left in the hall. These items are used by the adjacent School on a daily basis and we now share the use of the building for the benefit of the children of Bagillt (by children I refer to those younger than the Youth Service 11-25 age range). We still do not have enough Youth Workers in Charge to open all of the Youth Clubs within the County, however to allow us to do some future planning I am looking at all of the reasons for the low numbers in attendance at Bagillt Youth Club before it closed. One reoccurring theme that keeps coming up is that the Youth Club is located at the wrong end of the Village. If and when we can recruit more staff to the service would it be possible to run a Youth Club from the Village Hall and if so what sort of storage could you offer for equipment for the use of the Club Members.

The Chairman is disappointed with the response and said we must continue to support the re-opening of the Youth Club. He shared concerns that the closure of the Youth Club appears to be due to the school requiring an extension.

Councillor B. T. Doleman confirmed the suggestion of using the Village Hall as the Youth Centre has been previously asked and it is not a suitable location for a Youth Club. The Youth Club at Boot End, Bagillt has been running for over 60 years and the location has never been an issue.

Councillor Mrs. S. L. Jones said the local Morris Dancing Club holds weekly training for approximately 60 dancers, If they can accommodate the Morris Dancers, why can they not accommodate a Youth Club. Councillor Mrs. S. L. Jones also believes the Morris Dancers are key holders to the building.

The Chairman asked another letter is sent to Mr. Budd to request the decision to leave a Community without a facility for the children is reconsidered and the Youth Club is re-opened.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will write to Mr. I. Budd, Flintshire Chief Officer, Education & Youth to request the Youth Club is re-opened and to ask the question regarding the Morris Dancers being accommodated but not the Youth Club.

157. ACCESS TO INFORMATION – MEMBERS’ ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

The Council considered a report of the Clerk, copies of which had been previously circulated. This follows the advice received from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) that the Council were required to publish their Determinations Policy for the last financial year and the amount of allowances and expenses paid to Members in that year by 30th September 2017. In addition to sending a copy of the list to the IRPW for their information, it also needed to be displayed locally by way of the three Council Notice Boards and Council website.

RESOLVED: That the actions as reported by the Clerk be agreed in relation to the Council’s duties, as informed by the IRPW.

158. STREET FURNITURE WORKS

The Clerk advised the Council that a quote had been obtained from S. P. Evans to carry out the works that the Clerk and Councillor M. A. Reece indicated needing attention after the Annual Street Works Inspection was carried out in March 2017. The works were: The seat near the Feathers Inn required wood and metal work painting; the Raised Bed Planter in Gadlys Lane required painting and the Notice Board by the High Street car park required ‘a backboard’ to avoid when knocked, the magnets falling off.

Regarding the Notice Board, The Clerk also informed the Council that Councillor M. A. Reece sourced a sheet of metal, free of charge from KMS Hardrange and fixed this to the notice board to prevent the issue off the magnets falling off when knocked. On behalf of Councillor M. A. Reece, the Clerk asked the Chairman if the Council could send a thank you letter to KMS Hardrange.

NOTE: Councillor K. Rush declared a personal interest and whilst remained in the meeting, abstained from voting.

RESOLVED: That a letter of thanks is sent to KMS Handrange and the quotation from S. P. Evans is accepted and the Clerk will inform S. P. Evans to start the works as soon as possible.

159. HOLYWELL LESIURE CENTRE

The Council considered the response from Mr. T. Jones, Chair of Trustees regarding the letter the council sent asking how much of a donation is being asked for, when is the money needed for and what grants etc do they currently have.

Mr. T. Jones said they have not specified an amount for Community Councils as they appreciate Councils have different precepts. To date they have received a grants varying from £100 to £1,000. It is the Leisure Centres intention to use Social Media to assist our marketing activity, a £1,000 donation has been assigned to marketing which will cover web design and operation and several other aspect which will be targeted to increase our customer base. Specific feedback will be given to each Council as to how their grant has been used and what we have achieved.

Holywell Town Council is providing £20,000 split over both financial years separated by just one month. Mr. Jones said if the Council agreed to providing a donation, it can be received at a time that is best for our Council, however an early indication of timing would allow for better forward planning.

RESOLVED: That the letter be noted and no action be taken at this time.

160. ELECTIONS MAY

The Clerk reported to the Meeting that 12 Councillors, 3 of which are new to the Council have been validly nominated to the East and West Ward of Bagillt Community Council in respect of the Elections due on 4th May and as a result of the numbers received the were elected unopposed.

It was agreed as there was no Election for Bagillt Community Council, the Annual Meeting would remain on Wednesday 10th May.

The Clerk also shared a letter which will be sent to the new Members. The letter provides essential information and explains before commencement of duties as a Community Councillor, a Declaration of Office must be signed in the presence of the Clerk. The Clerk has offered two dates to both new and existing Members to attend the Community Library and sign the Declaration of Office, either: Monday 8th May – 5.30pm -6.30pm at the Community Library or before the Annual Meeting of the Council from 6.30pm.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Date of Council Meeting	Wednesday 12th April 2017
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Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no Declarations of personal interest		

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Chairman