

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in BAGILLT COMMUNITY LIBRARY on Wednesday 10th May 2017.

PRESENT : Councillor K. Rush (Chairman)

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

APOLOGIES: Councillor C. Williams

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. L. Wood (Clerk)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2017/18

RESOLVED: That Councillor A. Griffiths be elected Chairman of the Community Council for the ensuing Municipal year.

(Councillor A. Griffiths in the Chair)

Councillor A. Griffiths made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invested with the Chain of Office by Councillor K. Rush. The Chairman presented Councillor K. Rush with the Past Chairman's Badge in recognition of his year as Chairman for 2016/17 and congratulated him on his year of Office.

Councillor K. Rush thanked all Members for the support given to him during the past Municipal year which he has very much enjoyed and he wished the new Chairman all the best for his forthcoming year.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN 2017/18

RESOLVED: That Councillor C. P. Owens be appointed Vice Chairman of the Community Council for the ensuing Municipal year.

3. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Clerk advised the meeting that all 12 Members of the Council had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in her presence on Monday 8th May. There was therefore no need for any further action in relation to this matter.

4. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED: That the Members indicated below be appointed as the Council's representatives on the organisations indicated.

1. Local Organisations

a. Bagillt Community Association

Councillors C. Shorten and T. Shorten

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

5. MEMBERS ATTENDANCE RECORD 2016/17

A list had been previously circulated showing the attendance record for each Member of the Council for the 2016/17 municipal year.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted, sent to the IRPW and placed on the Community Notice Boards and Council website.

6. COUNCIL VACANCIES FOLLOWING ELECTION

The Clerk circulated the co-option notices that were to be displayed after the Meeting on the Council Notice Boards and website inviting expressions of interest for 14 working days. The Clerk explained any expression of interests will be reported to the June Meeting to enable

the Council to consider co-option.

The Clerk asked the Council, if we receive more than two expressions of interest, do the Council wish to vote by show of hands or Ballot paper. Councillor B. T. Dolman suggested vote via ballot paper.

RESOLVED: That the notices be noted and copies be placed on the Community Notice Boards and Council website. A ballot paper vote will take place, if required at the June meeting to enable the Council to Co-opt two new Members.

7. POLICING MATTERS

The Clerk informed the Council that PCSO Chatham was unable to attend the meeting, however if Members have any issues, we can email these to PCSO Chatham.

Councillor M. A. Reece reported un-taxed vehicles parked in the village and asked this information was emailed to PCSO Chatham for action.

Councillor C. R. Williams again shared his grave disappointment that a Police Representative had not attended the Council Meeting for a couple of months and suggested a letter should be sent to the Police Sargent sharing the Councils' extreme dissatisfaction with the non-attendance at the Council meetings and would like an explanation.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will write to Sargent K. Smith-Williams.

8. MINUTES

The following comments were made on the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 12th April 2017.

a. Minute No. 144 - Streetscene

Councillor C. R. Williams shared concerns regarding the County Council changing the policy regarding road sweepers only operating once a year, unless areas need it more frequently. We should write to Flintshire Streetscene to ask why the policy was changed

Councillor C. P. Owens reminded the Council that Bagillt is not listed as a 'priority area' and agreed we should write to Flintshire Streetscene to ask why Bagillt is not a 'priority area' and where is the Policy which has not be published.

The Chairman said it appears that only Towns are priority and not the villages.

b. Minute No. 146 – Bagillt Community Centre

Councillor K. Rush said it was brought to his attention by numerous residents in the East side of the village, that claims had been made that Bagillt Labour Councillors were trying to close the Community Centre. Councillor K. Rush confirmed it was not true and reported that himself and Councillor B. T. Doleman met with Mrs. M. Jones and Mrs. K. Jones, Members of the Community Association, who do a sterling job, to address issues relating to Financial Assistance and potential resignation of the Community Association. The meeting was very Successful. The Community Centre belongs to the village and not the Council.

c. Minute No. 147 – Bagillt Community Library

Councillor B. T. Doleman reported that a lease had now been received by the Community Library, however Councillor B. T. Doleman's name was spelt wrong, therefore he would take the lease back to Flintshire County Council to have this corrected before signing the document and officially taking over the Community Library Lease.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held 12th April 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

9. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATION

The Chairman read out two invitations which had been received by the Council. One was from the Members of Bagillt WI, inviting the Council to attend a Guest Night on Wednesday 7th June at Bagillt Community Council and the other was from Nightingale House Hospice, listing various fund raising events throughout the year. Both invites were circulated around the table for Councillors to note the dates, should they wish to attend.

10. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor C. R. Williams updated the Council on the meeting of the North and Mid Wales Local Association of Local Councils Meeting he attended on 17th April.

Fly tipping was discussed and it was indicated the fine for fly tipping may be increased as the current fine does not cover the cost of the removal of the items.

Councillor C. R. Williams also said that Councillors should be aware, if they are a carer for a dependant relative and need to pay for alternative care whilst they attend to Council Business, the Councillor can claim an allowance.

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

<i>Name</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>Voucher No</i>	<i>Expenditure Powers</i>
Mrs. L. Wood	710.28	8	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
- May			
HM Revenues & Customs	130.80	9	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
- May			
Clwyd Pension Fund -	130.18	10	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
- May			
Opus Electricity	50.56	11	Loc.Govt.(MP) Act 1976 (S19)
C. P. Owens	310.00	12	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
JDH Audit Services Ltd.	154.80	13	Loc.Govt. Finance Act 1982
Bagillt Bowling Club	480.00	14	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act.1976(S.19)
S. P Evans	150.00	15	Parish Councils Act 195
Cllr C. R. Williams	56.75	16	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Zurich Municipal	439.99	17	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Ebuyer.com	73.68	18	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)

RESOLVED: That the abovementioned accounts be paid.

12. TRAINING FOR NEW AND EXISTING COUNCILLORS

The Council considered an email from Mr. G. Owens, Flintshire Chief Officer, Governance regarding Training dates for New and Existing Councillors following the May Elections and the Clerk asked for names of those Councillors wishing to attend.

Councillors R. Davies, C. P. Owens, C. Shorten and T. Shorten indicated they wished to attend a training session.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will forward the Councillors names to Mr. G. Owens, Flintshire Chief Officer, Governance and await further information.

13. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS 2017/18

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 Action Plan indicated that they were unable to reconcile the movement of fixed assets from 2015/16 to 2016/17 and it should be presented in a spreadsheet format. The Clerk said she has made the necessary updates to ensure the register reconciles and will change the format to an excel spreadsheet.

The Clerk reported that the Internal Auditor had asked for the Actuarial fees to be placed in 'other payments' on the Annual Return and not the 'staff costs'. The Clerk actioned this and both the Clerk and Chairman initialled the alteration.

The Clerk also reported that it has been advised the Clerk should complete a HMRC P11D in relation to the home allowances paid to the Clerk. Compacc Services, who conduct the Council's Payroll Services can complete this form on behalf of the Clerk at a cost of £35.00. The Clerk requested the Council's approval to request this service.

The Auditors recommended that changes were made to the quarterly Budget Monitoring Reports that the Clerk prepares. The report should include reasons for significant variances. The Clerk advised that in consultation with both Chairman and Vice chairman, she hopes to implement these changes by July, in time for the first quarterly Budget Monitoring Report.

RESOLVED: That the report of the Internal Auditor for the 2017/18 accounts and the report of the Clerk in responding to the Action Plan issues be noted and authorisation was given for Compacc Services to complete the HMRC P11D form on the Clerk's behalf at the cost of £35.00.

b. External Audit

Members had previously been circulated with a copy of the Accounting Statements, Annual Government Statement – Part 1 and Part 2 and also a section completed by the Internal Audit. The Clerk explained the documents needed to be signed by the Chairman and Clerk, as true copies.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Accounting Statement of the Return, be approved, together with the Annual Government Statement, Parts 1 and 2, having noted the Responsible Financial Officer had certified the Accounting Statement, that the Chairman sign the indication of approval by the Council in relation to the Accounting Statement and Annual Government Statement.
2. That it be noted that public notices of the audit would be 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 the necessary supporting documents, including those signed by the Chairman and Clerk at this meeting, as being true copies, by the due date the External Auditor had indicated.

14. REVIEW OF INTERNAL CONTROLS 2017/18

The Council 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 2017/18, 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.

15. BAGILLT FORESHORE

Councillor M. A. Reece approached Mr. M. Taylor, Flintshire Countryside Service to ask if we can have recycled soil to cover the contaminated land near the scrapyards to enable trees to be planted. To date, no response has been received.

16. BAGILLT YOUTH CLUB

The Council considered the letter received from Mr. I. Budd, Flintshire Chief Officer, Education & Youth regarding the closure of the Youth Club. The letter stated the position remains unchanged in relation to qualified leadership staff and that the Youth Services will be in contact when the situation changes.

Councillor K. Rush said Mr. Budd removed the Youth workers from Bagillt Youth Club and if the Council do not continue to challenge the closure, the Youth Club will be taken over by the School. Children need to be attracted to attend the Youth Club. We want the club reopened and the Youth Workers put back, Bagillt is suffering at the hands of the big towns.

The Chairman and Councillor K. Rush suggested we should write again to Mr. Budd sharing our disappointment and stating we are not happy about the School taking over the Youth Club. It is not just the Youth Club but other groups, such as the Morris Dancers will suffer from the loss of the club.

Councillor B. T. Doleman said the Youth Club was changed by stealth, no consultation process.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will write to Mr. I. Budd, Flintshire Chief Officer, Education & Youth and also to the newly appointed Interim Chief Officer, Education & Youth, Mrs. C. Homard to ask for Youth Club to be re-opened.

17. HIGH STREET – TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME

The Clerk informed the Council that no update had been received by Mr. A. Stanford, Flintshire Senior Engineer Traffic.

Councillor C. R. Williams shared concerns that the progress is very slow and we need to address this.

Councillor B. T. Doleman said a letter should be sent to Chief Executive of Flintshire County Council informing him that the Council is very disappointed with the Officer's performance, communication is very poor and this matter has been ongoing for too long.

RESOLVED: The Clerk with write to Mr. C. Everett, Flintshire Chief Executive to share the Council's concerns.

18. BY-PASS CROSSING

Councillor C. P. Owens was concerned about claims in the local newspaper stating that this Council refused the scheme for a by-pass crossing. As far as Councillor C. P. Owens can re-call, there has never been a discussion regarding the exact terms and what was agreed between Flintshire County Council and the Welsh Government. We have discussed this matter as a Council and we gave our opinions but to say we refuted the scheme around 4 / 5 years ago is untrue. The Council Minutes, which are a public record, will prove this.

Councillor M. A. Reece said that ex-Councillor R. K. Jones did not secure the funding and passed an email to the Chairman from Mr. R. Nursaw, Flintshire Principle Engineer which discussed at the Council Meeting in February 2017. The Chairman read the email out which detailed Flintshire County Council were in the process of formulating a Welsh Government Road Safety Grant bid to address various safety measures on the A5026 from Lloc to the junction with the A548 in Bagillt. The bid submission would have a good case for being awarded funding due to numerous accidents along this route including two serious accidents at the A548 Bagillt junction.

Councillor M. A. Reece informed the Council that he will be meeting Mr. D. Charlton, Flintshire Operational Manager - North & Trunk Roads on Thursday 11th May to look at the scheme and invited fellow County and Community Councillor. R. Davies to attend.

Councillor B. D. Doleman said the comment made regarding the Council showing total negativity about the Lyons Den's Scheme was totally untrue. Councillor B. T. Doleman said he had always supported the Lyons Den crossing but said we must continue to address the issue that a central crossing in the village to access the Coastal Path was also needed.

RESOLVED: That the above is noted and Councillor M. A. Reece will report back to the Council after his meeting with Mr. D. Charlton, Flintshire Operational Manager - North & Trunk Roads.

18. ESTABLISHING CLOSER WORKING LINKS WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH THE RELEVANT COUNCILS

The Council considered an email from Holywell Town Council Clerk regarding asking Members to consider the possibility of establishing a forum involving Holywell Town Council and other local Town/Community Councils. To begin with, a representative from Bagillt,

Brynford, Caerwys, Cilcain, Halkyn, Llanasa, Mostyn, Trelawynd & Gwaenysgor, Whitford and Ysceifiog were suggested.

The main purpose of the forum would be to see if there was common ground on certain issues between the authorities, such as tourism for example, where a joint approach could help bring wider benefits.

As a first step, the relevant Council Chairs and Clerks could be invited to an informal evening meeting in Holywell on a date to be set after the May elections/annual meetings to discuss the matter and its possible development.

Councillor B. T. Doleman said this is a good idea and the Council could benefit from this working group.

Councillors agreed this suggestion should be supported.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will reply to the Holywell Town Clerk and ask to be updated once a meeting date and time is convened.

19. DOG CONTROL PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

The Council considered a letter from Mr. A. Farrow, Flintshire Chief Officer, Planning & Environment regarding consultation on a proposed Dog Control Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to cover the whole County.

PSPOs are intended to prevent individuals or groups committing anti-social behaviour in a public space where the behaviour is having, or is likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality, is, or is likely to be, persistent or continuing in nature, and is, or likely to be, unreasonable.

The PSPO is necessary to replace the current Dog Control Order which will cease in October 2017, and will last for an initial period of 3 years. This matter will be open to consultation from 1st June 2017 and the County Council is currently developing a list of sites within its ownership that will be included in the order.

The purpose of the letter is to enquire if there are any 'Public space' sites that fall within Bagillt's responsibility (either owned or leased) that we would like to nominate to be included in the consultation exercise, which would allow enforcement action to be taken against any individual allowing their dog to contravene any of the above orders.

There will be no costs associated with the order for Community Council and the cost of the enforcement patrols will be recovered through the income from any fixed penalty notices issued. There will be some minimal costs in respect of any signage required by Community Council at each of the nominated sites, which will be agreed between the two parties before the arrangements come into place.

Councillor C. P. Owens said the Coastal Path has a big issue with dog fouling but as it is not classed as a Public Open Space, this will not be considered under this scheme but feels it should be and asked the Council to write to Mr. A. Farrow to ask the coastal path is considered.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will write to Mr. A. Farrow, Flintshire Chief Officer, Planning & Environment to request the coastal path is considered.

20. PLAY AREAS

a. Pen Lon Play Area Proposal

The Clerk informed the Council that Mr. R. Roberts, Flintshire Play Design Officer. had met 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 and it was agreed they would make a contribution of £4834.66 therefore needed the Council's approval to go ahead with the upgrade and providing the match funding cost of £10,000.

Councillor M. A. Reece said residents had complained that the gates at the play area allow older children to access the park on bikes and then they are going down the slide on the bikes but the Council are unable to alter the gates as they must allow wheelchair access.

b. Maes Teg Play Area

The Clerk informed the Council that Mr. R. Roberts, Flintshire Play Design Officer had advised that the small playhouse structure with slide at Maes Teg, Bagillt has come to the end of its economic life due to its age and condition, therefore we will be arranging for its removal in next two weeks. There are no plans for its replacement but consideration might be given via the next Match funding round which will be 2017/18 financial year.

Councillor M. A. Reece was also aware of this and agreed the item required removal and hoped the Housing Association may contribute towards a new item of play equipment or once the new Cabinet Member for Leisure has been appointed, they could seek funding.

c. Manor Play area

Councillor B. T. Doleman reported that residents from the Manor had complained about the state of the play area. Councillor B. T. Doleman visited the play area and found rubbish everywhere and the bins were over flowing as well as the grass being overgrown.

Councillor B. T. Doleman was also concerned about the surface, the park is on a slope and the area is covered with large chunks of bark which is a trip hazard for young children, therefore requested the County Councillor look into this issue. He said the equipment is

very good but the surface needs improving.

Also on one side of the park, it has an automatic closing gate to prevent dogs entering but on the other side, they have a five bar gate which dogs can easily enter the park through.

RESOLVED:

- a. That the Council accept the Play area proposal and costs and the Clerk will inform Mr. R. Roberts, Flintshire Play Design Officer of this decision.
- b. The Clerk will inform Mr. R. Roberts, Flintshire Play Design Officer that the Council agree with the removal of the playhouse structure.
- c. The Clerk will write to Mr. A. Roberts, Leisure Manager - Public Open Spaces to request the issue at the Manor Playarea are addressed.

20. MEMBERS ITEMS

- a. Councillor T. Shorten reported that the grass on the triangle of land between Beechcroft Close and Gadlys Lane has not been cut so far this year.
- b. Councillor C. Shorten reported that Ty Newydd had lager cans and rubbish in the overgrown Verge and the Old Leadworks on Merilyn Lane also has rubbish dumped including a vacuum cleaner and many empty cans.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will write to Flintshire Streetscene to report the above issues.

ACCORDANCE WITH BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Date of Council Meeting	Wednesday 10th May 2017
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Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
There were no Declarations of personal interest		

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Chairman