

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of meeting the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in BAGILLT COMMUNITY LIBRARY on Wednesday 12th October 2022.

PRESENT: Councillor C. P. Owens (Chairman)

COUNCILLORS: R. Davies, B. Gittins, A. Griffiths, J. Humphreys, Mrs. S. L. Jones, Ms. A. Locker, Mrs. W. Owens, K. Rush, Mrs. Y. Rush, Miss. T. Strong, C. Williams, and Mrs. D. J. Williams.

APOLOGIES: Councillor B. T. Doleman.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. L. Wood (Clerk), Mr. T. Cartwright, Flintshire Streetscene and Members of the Public

65. PUBLIC ENQUIRY ITEM

A Member of the Public indicated they wish to speak on agenda item 6.

66. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor B. Gittins declared a personal interest relating to Accounts (Minute 74).

67. STREETSCENE BAGILLT

Mr. T. Cartwright, Flintshire Streetscene attended the meeting and reported all issues from the last meeting had been resolved or were in hand.

Councillor Ms. A. Locker asked for an update following her reporting the wire fence around the Old Leadmills and reported the area is causing issues for residents as it allows open access to anyone and also the stone wall on the Church side is in need of repair. Mr. Cartwright confirmed he did secure the fencing as a temporary measure and will investigate regarding the stone wall.

Councillor K. Rush reported the blue bin at the Stag Public House car park is overflowing and asked it was emptied on a regular basis. Mr. Cartwright said he will request fortnightly collections.

Councillor C. Williams reported that a resident had to clear the leaves on Old London Road near Tynddyn Messham as this had not been cleared by the County Council in sometime. Mr. Cartwright said it is on a twice yearly schedule and will ensure it is cleared.

Councillor R. Davies confirmed with Mr. Cartwright that Councillors can contact him directly as and when matters arise as opposed to waiting for his attendance at the Council meetings and suggested that Mr. Cartwright could just attend meeting as and when urgent matter arise. Councillors felt keeping face to face contact was beneficial.

RESOLVED: That Mr. T. Cartwright, Flintshire Streetscene Officer will action all requests and report back to the next meeting he attends.

68. POLICING MATTERS

Councillor Ms. A. Locker reported she had contacted the Police late one evening due to hearing a very loud noise on the High Street. As previously discussed, due to the land surrounding the Leadmills not being secure, unauthorised access is a regular occurrence and it creates antisocial behaviour and recently a number of thefts have taken place, residents are feeling vulnerable. The Police did attend and will approach the land owner to ask they secure their land and it was also suggested that Councillor Ms. A. Locker could approach the land owner.

The Chairman expressed concerns as the land has a well which needs to be secured as this is a public safety issue.

Councillor K. Rush proposed that Councillor Ms. A. Locker, on behalf of the Council approaches the landowner to request they secure the land which will restrict access then reports back to the Council.

Councillor K. Rush reported that both he and Councillor R. Davies attended a Police drop in session on 30th September called 'Operation Twilight', here both Councillors were asked to identify areas in the village that are vulnerable to burglaries.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Ms. A. Locker will contact the Landowner and report back to the next meeting.

69. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The Chairman invited the Member of the Public to speak. The Member of the Public said she was a resident in the village, but has recently moved on, however, whilst living in the village she endured constant noise nuisance, namely from youths, drug taking, destroying flower beds and a lot of this anti-social behaviour takes place around the Community Library. These incidents have been reported to the Police and apparently they have no evidence as the CCTV Camera in the area was not working at the time.

The Chairman said anti-social behaviour has been an ongoing issue in the village for some time and the CCTV Cameras were purchased and installed on Police advice and have not helped with these issues.

Councillor Mrs. W. Owens said drugs are also big issue and Police take too long to attend to reported incidents.

Councillor Miss. T. Strong reminded Councillors that a delegation of Councillors attended a Police meeting in March and Councils were asked to attend future meeting and provide a list of the main three Policing issues in the village at that time, but no meetings have taken place. Councillors proposed we write to the Police for clarification when these meetings will be taking place.

Councillor B. Gittins said we need to engage with the youths in the village and said this evening, he approached youths who were congregating around the library and asked if they would do some litter picking and work together with the Council, they immediately helped to clear the area around the library. Councillor Gittins also asked the youths what they would like to see in the village for the, and their response was an area where they can go with friends.

Councillor Miss T. Strong said she had brief discussions about shelters that can be erected in the village, designed for youths to 'hang out' and will make more enquiries and report back to the next meeting.

Councillor J. Humphreys said we as a Council need to engage with the children, ask what they want, work together as a Community and proposed a Youth Forum.

Councillor Mrs. W. Owens asked if Councillors would need a DBS check to work with youths. Councillor, B. Gittins asked if it was required, would the Council pay for the DBS checks. The Clerk was asked to clarify if a DBS check was required.

Both Councillors Ms. A. Locker and Councillor Mrs. W. Owens said the issues with anti-social behaviour is not just with youths but with adults and residents are feeling very vulnerable. The Police need to be involved.

The Chairman proposed Councillors bring ideas to the next meeting and for Councillors to invite youths to attend the meeting, if under 18 years of age with parents to ask them for what they would like in the village as well as asking the PCSO to attend.

RESOLVED: That this item will be on the next agenda and Councillors can feed back ideas how to move forward and the Clerk will invite a representative from the Police to attend to discuss issues and CCTV Cameras; that Councillors will invite Youth representatives to attend and that the Clerk will seek advice regarding DBS checks.

70. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 18th July 2022 and the Special meeting held on 15th June 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

71. BAGILLT BOWLING CLUB

No updates or reports had been received.

72. UNPLANNED DEVELOPMENTS

The Chairman shared concerns that a number of Planning Applications are not being sent to the Community Council and there is a number of developments that would require planning.

Also, when Planning Applications are refused, on a number of occasion, we see locally that building works etc have started, the Community Council is not privy to the dialogue between the applicant and Flintshire County Council therefore we cannot explain to residents when asked. Developments that have a change of use with no permission can impact local residents.

Councillor Mrs. W. Owens asked where the Community Council can report these unplanned developments.

Councillor K. Rush proposed he and Councillor R. Davies could approach the Flintshire Cabinet Member for Planning and request he attends a Council meeting to explain the Planning Application process and other matters raised.

RESOLVED: That Councillor K. Rush and Councillor R. Davies will invite the Flintshire Cabinet Member

for Planning to attend a Council meeting.

73. TRAINING POLICY

The Chairman brought this item forward.

The Clerk reported that the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 states that Community Council's should produce a Training Policy by 5th November 2022.

The Council considered the Training Policy prepared by the Clerk and it was approved.

RESOLVED: That the Training Policy is approved and adopted and will be published on the Council's website.

74. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman reported that the Community Library had a book of condolence available following the passing of Her Majesty the Queen.

The Chairman also reported the Church has sent a thank you letter for the financial donation the Council made towards the new railings.

RESOLVED: Noted.

75. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor K. Rush reported that he and Councillor R. Davies attended a meeting with Flintshire's Chief Officer, Planning, Leader of the Council and Countryside Officer regarding the area around the GTR recycling centre and the Lions Den. The area is looking untidy and we visited the site to see if anything could be done. They are looking at the possibility of tree planting in this area to tidy it up.

We then visited the foot path by the new brewery, which had been blocked by the builders with bricks, Mr. T. Woodall said he would be contacting the builders to ask they clear the footpath. However, since the site visit, Mr. T. Woodall emailed to say the path was still blocked and he was sending an Enforcement Officer to the site.

Also, Mr. T. Woodall said he had found that in 2014 the Ramblers Society had submitted plans for a walkway/footpath that went through the land where the new brewery is built but this application has been misplaced and the Ramblers Society will have to re-apply.

RESOLVED: Noted.

76. FLOODING

Councillor J. Humphreys reported he had spoken to Mr. T Cartwright, Flintshire Streetscene regarding the flooding issues in the village. Mr. Cartwright confirmed all ditches between the bypass and the village have all been cleared using the £40,000 grant that the County Council received. All drains will be

inspected and any repairs will be completed, they will be sprayed white to indicate they need repair. All drainage works are on schedule.

RESOLVED: Noted.

77. TO RE-OPEN MINUTE NUMBER 60 FROM MINUTES DATED WEDNESDAY 18th JULY 2022 IN RELATION TO VILLAGE CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

The Chairman reported a letter explaining the reason for the request to re-open the previous decision which has been signed by five Councillors had previously been circulated to all Councillors.

The debate around this matter was heated at times and the Chairman was required to intervene to keep order. Councillor R. Davies asked for a recorded vote, however due to another heated situation, this did not take place. The Councillors then took a vote and the majority of Councillors were in agreement to re-open discussions.

RESOLVED: That discussions relating to Minute number 60, dated Wednesday 18th July 2022 were to be re-opened.

78. TO FURTHER DISCUSS THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL VILLAGE CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

Councillor B. Gittins advised the Council that there was a social media group and a petition in the village with approximately 300 signatures requesting that the Community Council extends the Village Christmas Light display by way of lamp post illuminations.

Councillor B. Gittins presented costing for the purchase and on costs for erection, testing and storage. The initial costs would be approx. £12,000 and then £1,800 annually. He advised he had intent from a number of local businesses to financial contribute, totalling £5,000 and that he had researched a possible £10,000 grant from the National Lottery Grant Fund.

Councillor B. Gittins informed the meeting that he had looked at the application form and in order to apply for the grant and to make this deadline for applications, the Community Council would need to provide bank account details and sign the form by the 23rd October, 2022.

A number of Councillors raised concerns surrounding the current Energy Crisis and how much this would cost residents, many of whom are already struggling in these times of austerity. Councillor B. Gittins said if the Council had to fund the entire scheme, that is no donations or grants, it would increase residents Council Tax by approx. 43p per month.

Councillors also raised concerns that although the petition had 300 signatures, we have approx. 4,000 electors in the village. Councillors agreed to petition more residents.

The Chairman suggested the social media group could take this forward themselves and then report back to Council and the Council could look to support the group. Councillor B. Gittins confirmed the National Lottery Grant has a set criteria and it needs to be the Community Council that applies. If the grant was successful, you have 12 months to spend the grant.

The Chairman requested the Clerk sought advice as if the Clerk of the Council can sign a Grant application form.

Councillor K. Rush proposed as it was unlikely the new lights could be purchased and installed by this Christmas and due to the timings with austerity, this item be re visited in February.

RESOLVED: That this item will be placed on the February agenda and more information and advice will be gathered.

NOTE: The Chairman informed Council as per Standing Orders the meeting must not exceed 2 hours, 9pm. Councillor K. Rush proposed we suspend Standing Orders and continue with the meeting until 9.15pm. Councillors agreed.

74. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

August

Voucher No	Name	Details	£
35	Mrs. L. Wood, Clerk	Clerks Salary & Expenses	714.55
36	HM Revenues & Customs	Tax & NI - Clerks Salary	187.43
37	Clwyd Pension Fund	Employers & Employees' Pension Contribution for Clerk	206.71
38	Opus Energy	Community Library Electricity	20.53
39	Flintshire County council	Election re charges	410.74
40	Viking	Office Supplies	52.58
	HSBC	Bank Chagres	5.00

September

Voucher No	Name	Details	£
41	RBL Poppy Appeal	Lamppost Poppies	90.00
42	Mrs. L. Wood, Clerk	Clerks Salary & Expenses	722.45
43	HM Revenues & Customs	Tax & NI Clerks Salary	187.63
44	Clwyd Pension Fund	Employers & Employees' Pension Contribution for Clerk	206.71
45	Opus Energy	Community Library Electricity	14.13
46	AVOW	Payroll Services	37.74

47	Mrs. L. Wood, Clerk	Reimbursement for Condolence book	21.99
	HSBC	Bank Chagres	5.00

October

Voucher No	Name	Details	£
48	Mrs. L. Wood, Clerk	Clerks Salary & Expenses	714.55
49	HM Revenues & Customs	Tax & NI Clerks Salary	187.43
50	Clwyd Pension Fund	Employers & Employees' Pension Contribution for C	206.71
51	Opus Energy	Community Library Electricity	19.45
52	Flintshire CC	Contribution towards Playscheme 2022	6160.00
53	Holywell Garden Centre	Flowers for condolence table	30.00
54	Flint TC	Photocopying Services - Agenda	13.50
	HSBC	Bank Chagres	5.00

RESOLVED: That the above-mentioned accounts be paid.

75. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

a. Budget Monitoring Report

The meeting considered the Budget Monitoring report and Bank reconciliation statement for the second quarter to 30th September 2022, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. See Appendix A.

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

b. Checks of Supplier Data

In order to meet the requirements of the financial regulations and internet banking, it is necessary for a programme of regular checks of standing data with suppliers to be followed. This required a Councillor to look through the accounts and certify a number of invoices and payment receipts.

RESOLVED: The Chairman, Councillor C. P. Owens reviewed a selection of invoices and payment receipts which were certified as correct.

NOTE: The meeting ended at 9.15pm and a number of items on the October Agenda were not discussed and will be placed on the November Agenda

Date of Council Meeting	Wednesday 12th October, 2022
<p style="text-align: center;">..... Chairman</p>	