

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Ordinary meeting of the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in BAGILLT COMMUNITY LIBRARY on Wednesday 10th June 2015.

PRESENT : Councillor Mrs. D.J. Williams (Chairman)

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

APOLOGIES : Councillor R.K. Jones, Mrs. S.L. Jones and K. Rush

IN ATTENDANCE : Mr. G. Roberts (Clerk) and PCSO Tom Hulse (minute No. 16)

15. PRESENTATION – URDD EISTEDDFOD, FLINT 2016

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Jeremy Griffiths, who was Chair of the Eisteddfod Executive Committee, to the meeting, and made a presentation to him of a cheque for £1,000. This was the agreed contribution for this financial year from the Council and had accordingly been included in the budget. A photograph was taken of the presentation which would be used by Mr. Griffiths for publicity purposes in connection with the Urdd Eisteddfod, to be held at Flint in 2016, and a copy would also be sent to the Council for their records.

On behalf of the Eisteddfod Executive Committee, Mr. Griffiths thanked the Council, both for the cheque presented this evening and a similar contribution given in the Council's previous financial year. Each area within Flintshire had been given a target for funding purposes, and the one which included Bagillt, and the host area, Flint, was well on the way to meeting theirs and hopefully exceeding. He indicated that he had attended the last two Eisteddfod which had been held in Bala and Caerphilly, and made reference to the number of visitors which could be attracted to the area. The Proclamation Ceremony for the Eisteddfod in 2016 would take place on the 3rd October 2015 and the Council would receive an invitation to be represented. A number of sponsorship events had taken place and these were due to continue, and he made reference to his own involvement. Councillor T. Renshaw praised the efforts of Mr. Griffiths concerning the 2016 Eisteddfod, and referred to the fact that the last time this event had been held in Flint was in 1969.

16. POLICING

PCSO Tom Hulse was present and indicated that PC Smith-Williams would be returning as Community Police Officer for the area in one month. He advised that arrangements had been made for the Speed Detection Unit to be in the Bagillt area in the vicinity of Ysgol Glan Aber, following particular concerns on this issue. This action was supported by Councillor C.P. Owens. The Officer once again reported on the problems of vandalism at Ysgol Merllyn, partly due to the ease of access

concerning lack of fencing. This was agreed by Councillor A. Griffiths, who was a Governor at the School. Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that there had also been damage found at Ysgol Glan Aber, which the Officer noted. In relation to the summer period and the possible problem of youths congregating, the Officer requested the assistance of Members in drawing any concerns to his attention and was advised of problems which were on occasions of youths climbing onto buildings, such as the roof at the Library. The Officer confirmed that photographic evidence, if of sufficient quality, could be utilised to identify those involved but it should not be carried out at the safety of the person doing so. Councillor A. Griffiths made reference to a recent incident whereby a vehicle coming along the High Street had, due to its lack of covering and speed going over the humps, deposited part of its tree lopping load onto the highway, and he gave details of the vehicle concerned to the Officer.

The officer advised Councillor M.A. Reece that no progress had been possible concerning restarting the police surgeries at the Community Centre and enquired whether it would be possible to use the Community Library. Councillors B.T. Doleman and C.P. Owens as key holders for the building welcomed the suggestion and invited PCSO Hulse to make contact. The Chairman thanked the Officer for attending the meeting.

17. TRAFFIC CALMING – HIGH STREET

Prior to the meeting commencing, the Clerk had circulated information he had received from Flintshire County Council, following the outcome of the Special meeting held on 13th May 2015. This related to an invitation from the Chief Officer for Streetscene and Transportation for a meeting to be held at County Hall, Mold of a small representative group made up of interested residents and Community Councillors, on two possible dates in the following week. A copy of the traffic calming action plan, the ten year accident history, utilised for the purposes of scheme assessment, and overview relating to traffic calming cushions, the High Street, Bagillt chronology and the post completion scheme analysis had been circulated at the meeting. The Clerk indicated there had been further attachments received with the e-mail invitation, but these related to generic traffic calming issues and there had not been time to also copy these documents and he would do so shortly.

Councillor T. Renshaw expressed the view that, while a further meeting should be held with the Chief Officer, it should take place within Bagillt. This should be by way of an informal or private meeting of the Community Council, which would not be available for the general public to attend, although there should be representatives from the affected businesses in the High Street and also Mr. Paul Davies, as the spokesman for the public who had attended the Special meeting last month. This would then enable all Community Councillors who were available to attend and take part. Having regard to the strong feelings expressed at the Special meeting by the large number of people who had attended, then it should be made clear in the letter

to Flintshire County Council that the purpose should be to achieve the aims expressed of removing the humps. In addition, concern should be expressed on the fact that the information sent by the County Council had only been received by the Clerk on the afternoon of this Council meeting and, in particular, that the accident statistics had been promised during the Special meeting last month. Councillor C.P. Owens expressed the view that the accident history statistics were not detailed enough to make the situation clear and suggested that perhaps the Police could be approached to see if further information was available. In relation to the statistics, Councillor A. Griffiths made reference to an accident he was involved in on the High Street some eighteen months ago, which was not included, although this may be due to the fact that the date period may be later than when they were compiled.

Councillor T. Renshaw felt that when such letters were sent to the County Council, or another public Body, then it would be good practice if a copy was also made available to each Member, which would then enable the context of any reply to be better understood. In making this suggestion, he made it clear that there was no implied criticism in relation to the Clerk's role.

RESOLVED :

1. That the offer of meeting at County Hall, as outlined in the e-mail from Flintshire County Council, be declined, and instead the County Council be requested to attend such a discussion in Bagillt, which would be informal as far as the Community Council was concerned and therefore not open to the general public.
2. That in any such meeting referred to in 1 above, also invited should be representatives of traders in the High Street affected by the traffic calming humps, and also Mr. Paul Davies, who had acted as spokesman on behalf of the public who had attended the Special meeting on the 13th May 2015.
3. That the letter advise the County Council that, having regard to the strong feelings expressed at the Special meeting by the local residents who had attended, that they wished the humps to be removed, then the purpose should be to look at ways of achieving what the public had asked for.
4. That an expression of dissatisfaction be made concerning the late manner in which the Clerk had received detailed information concerning the traffic calming scheme that only enabled circulation to Members prior to this meeting of the Council commencing, with particular reference to the traffic accident statistics, which had been promised at the May Special meeting.
5. That a copy of the letter be forwarded to the Deputy Leader and Chief Executive who had also been present at the May meeting.

6. That a copy of the letter to be sent to the County Council concerning the above issues be also copied to each Member of the Community Council and that when such representations are made, either to the County Council or another public Body, then it be the practice to keep Members informed, so that they can properly understand the context of any reply that was received from the Body concerned.

18. MINUTES

a. Special Meeting – 13th May 2015

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Special meeting of the Council held on 13th May 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

b. Annual Meeting – 13th May 2015

1. Minute No. 6(a) – War Memorial

Councillor B. T. Doleman reminded the meeting of the damaged light needed to be replaced by Flintshire County Council before any Community Asset Transfer that was under consideration.

RESOLVED :

That the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on 13th May 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

19. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

1. The Chairman advised that she had received an invitation to attend the Flintshire County Council Civic Sunday, to be held on 14th June 2015, which she was unable to do.
2. The Chairman advised that she would be attending the next meeting of the County Forum, which was being held at Pantasaph on 25th June 2015.
3. The Chairman indicated that she had attended a Women's Institute event at the Community Centre, Bagillt on 3rd June 2015.
4. In relation to the Chairman's fund for 2015/16, the Chairman indicated that she wished to make a recommendation concerning a donation of £100 to the Flintshire Optic Youth Exchange Trust, as a student from Bagillt, Sam Entwistle of Sunnyside, had been chosen to be one of the six students participating this year. The Scheme involves six students

from Japan coming over in July and staying for up to three weeks with the Flintshire families and then Flintshire students return to Japan with them to stay for a similar period in August. It was the practice of the Trustees to make an application to each Town and Community Council which had a student chosen from its area, and in previous years a figure of between £50 and £200 had been received. The exchange was a wonderful opportunity for students that were chosen and gives them a greater improvement in confidence for the future.

Members concurred with the recommendation of the Chairman and that this payment be added to the accounts later in the agenda.

20. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVESB

SLCC/OVW Training Event

A copy of a report prepared by the Clerk on his attendance at a Training Seminar in Llandrindod Wells on 14th May 2015, had been previously circulated. In relation to the Local Government Reform White Paper there was a keynote address from Leighton Andrews AM, Minister for Public Services, together with a summary of consultation responses from both the SLCC and OVW. There were also presentations in relation to insurance implications for Local Councils and Facing Devolution of Services and Asset Transfer by reference to the experiences of Cornwall County Council. There had also been a workshop on Financial Accountability and Governance, when it had been pointed out that there would be a change in external auditor for the audit on this financial year, as well as some changes in the format.

21. PLANNING

a. Applications

App. No.	Location	Detail
053735	Oaklands, Tyddan Mesham	Erection of a dwelling
053740	Bryn Gwyn, Gadlys Lane	Reserved condition details

RESOLVED :

1. That in relation to application 053735, no comments be made on the application and that it be left to the Planning Officer.

Note : Councillors Mrs. D.J. Williams and C. Williams declared a personal interest in application 053735 and left the meeting while it was being discussed. In the

absence of the Vice Chairman, Councillor C.R. Williams, as immediate past Chairman, chaired the meeting for the discussion on this item.

2. That in relation to application 053740, the application be supported.

b. Training

The Clerk advised that Planning Aid Wales had arranged a free Planning Training Workshop for Town and Community Councils, to be held at County Hall, Mold on Tuesday 23rd June 2015. Further details in relation to this event had been previously circulated for Members' information.

RESOLVED :

That Planning Aid Wales be advised that this Council would like to be represented at the training workshop by Councillors C.P. Owens and C.R. Williams.

22. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED :

That the following accounts be paid :

Name	£	Cheque No.	Expenditure Powers
Urdd Gobaith	1,000.00	101728	Loc.Govt.2000 (S.2)
Clr. C.P. Owens	300.00	101729	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Clr. C.P. Owens	62.36	101730	Loc.Govt.(MP)Act.1976(S.19)
HCI Data Ltd.	83.70	101731	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Clr. M.A. Reece	17.99	101732	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.111)
Flintshire Optic Youth Exchange	100.00	101733	Loc.Govt.2000 (S.2)
Mr. G. Roberts	895.87	101734	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)
H.M. Revenue & Customs	144.46	101735	Loc.Govt.Act 1972 (S.112)

Note: Councillor C.P. Owens declared a personal interest in this item and left the meeting whilst it was being discussed.

23. STREETSCENE SUPERVISOR FOR BAGILLT AREA

Members were advised that changes were being made to staffing in the Streetscene structure and, as a result, Mr. John Williams would be transferred from Bagillt Supervisor to a new role in Waste Collection in July. There would be a reduction in supervisors with larger areas of responsibility. Mr. Williams would attend the July

meeting, which was his next scheduled visit, to update Members on issues since he last attended in January.

Councillor M.A. Reece made reference to his meeting with a person who would be the charge hand for the Bagillt area, once the change came into effect. In relation to waste issues, Councillor C. Williams indicated that, as where he lived could not be served by wheelie bins, they were entitled to receive appropriate plastic sacks from the Council but, he was experiencing difficulties recently renewing this supply, which they would normally drop off, despite a number of reminders. Councillor A. Griffiths made reference to the damage to one of his plastic bins, which he had drawn to the attention of the County Council on a number of occasions, and had been advised of difficulties regarding getting a replacement.

24. STREET FURNITURE RISK ASSESSMENT 2015

The Clerk reported to the meeting on progress concerning the repairs notified at the last meeting. Despite Councillor M.A. Reece giving local contractors reminders, concerning the need to submit a quotation in relation to the repair required to the roof of the stone shelter at Boot End, none had been received, but the Clerk was able to report on one received from the contractor who had repaired the roof of another shelter in 2014, as well as installing seating. The quotation was for a sum of £560, and this included cleaning all rubbish and debris from the roof before removing damaged sheets and rotten plywood, replacing with external plywood, galvanised corrugated sheets, barge and fascia board. There would also be the replacement of wooden supports to the roof and any necessary painting, to also include the public bench which was adjacent to the shelter.

RESOLVED :

That the quotation received from the Gatemaker be approved.

25. BAGILLT FORESHORE

Reference was made by Councillor J. Williams to a recent meeting of Friends of the Foreshore, and to the previously reported leaflets issue, which did not seem to recognise that the foreshore was not just the Bettisfield area. In relation to the introduction of natterjack toads on the foreshore, Councillor B.T. Doleman made reference to an information event which had been arranged to be held at the Community Library, but due to the fact that there had been both inadequate and inaccurate publicity concerning the event, no one had turned up. In relation to the natterjack toads, Councillor J. Williams indicated that Members would soon be aware of where such an area was when they had established due to the loud croaking they made.

26. COMMUNITY AWARDS

The Clerk reported that, once again, both Schools wanted to be involved in the presenting of an engraved shield to a pupil selected by them at the end of the Summer term. One of the Schools had already advised of the chosen pupil and, once he had received a name from the other School, he would arrange for the shields to be engraved and make arrangements concerning presentation with the Chairman and/or another Member, as necessary.

27. PLAY AREA UPGRADING 2015/16 – MATCH FUNDING

The meeting considered a letter received from Flintshire County Council, copies of which had been previously circulated. The letter set out the criteria for determining which play areas should be chosen, and also advised that the approval of any proposed scheme would be based on a maximum contribution of £10,000 from Flintshire and would be confined to those play areas which are identified as red or amber. As far as Bagillt was concerned, none were ranked as red, but there were a number ranked low amber, of which the Manor Estate was most in need of an investment. Councillor R.K. Jones, who was unfortunately unable to be at the meeting tonight, requested the Council to consider putting forward the Manor Estate Play Area for improvement, as for this financial year it was the turn of the East Ward. The Clerk confirmed that the Council had put £10,000 in the budget for this financial year for such a scheme.

RESOLVED :

That Flintshire County Council be advised the Council wish to once again participate in the match funding scheme, and that for 2015/16 they would put forward a sum of £10,000, for the Manor Estate play area.

28. MEMBERS' ITEMS

a. Footpath – Merllyn Lane

Councillor A. Griffiths made reference to the fact that this footpath had now been closed for a considerable period, since receiving a significant upgrade, and had been closed due to a problem with a boundary wall. As a result of non-use and no maintenance during this time the area was once again overgrown and he requested that representations be made to the County Council as to what was happening.

RESOLVED :

That the Clerk make representations to Flintshire County Council accordingly.

b. Footpath No. 10 – Blockage

Councillor B.T. Doleman requested that a letter be forwarded to Flintshire County Council for an update concerning the blockage to usage of this footpath, which was on the Definitive Map.

RESOLVED :

That representations be made to Flintshire County Council accordingly.

c. Raised Beds

Councillor M.A. Reece gave an update to the meeting concerning containers which had been located and not used by the County Council. Five of these had been brought to the Bagillt area and he also referred to their locations. They did require that the existing weeds be removed and to be re-planted and also for the outside of the containers to be re-painted. Councillor Reece requested the support of the Council in meeting the cost of the re-painting. Councillors G. Hotchkiss, C.R. Williams and T. Renshaw indicated that they would assist Councillor Reece in having these containers re-painted if the Council agreed to meet the cost of the materials.

RESOLVED :

That the Council meet the cost of painting materials required to bring the containers up to the required standard.

d. Dog Bin, Boot End

Councillor M.A. Reece indicated that, following a request from a local resident, he had held a site meeting with the Streetscene Supervisor in the vicinity of Lyons Den Fitness Centre, where it had been agreed to site the dog bin, which had now been installed.

e. Broadband Update

Councillor M.A. Reece had been in contact with Flintshire County Council concerning this issue and had sent a copy of the e-mail received to the Clerk, who read the contents out to the meeting. Apparently, after checking with BT, the situation for availability of superfast broadband was different for premises, even within one area. Bagillt was served by both the Holywell and Flint exchanges, and both had been enabled for superfast broadband, with the first cabinets in this area live and accepting.

When fibre was brought to an exchange it was not possible to upgrade all parts of the area at the same time. In addition, some cabinets may be

installed without problems, whilst others encountered unforeseen issues. Also fibre to the premises may be scheduled for parts of the area and this was usually done at a later date in the programme, as this method was far more complex to deploy. Details were given of a website address for anyone wishing to register their interest in relation to the website.

Councillor C.P. Owens felt that the reply from the County Council could have been more helpful and that BT could have been more proactive, given the Welsh Government funding that had been made available. Councillor C.R. Williams indicated that his son, who lived in the village, was on this new system, whilst Councillor T. Renshaw indicated that properties in the Manor Estate were connected, but the businesses on the industrial estate across the road were not, when it would have been thought that they were more important to have been included first.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Member	Item	Minute No. Refers
Councillor Mrs. D.J. Williams	Planning application 053735	21(a)
Councillor C. Williams	Planning application 053735	21(a)
Councillor C.P. Owens	Payment for Website Maintenance	22

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Chairman