

BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of meeting the BAGILLT COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in BAGILLT COMMUNITY LIBRARY on Wednesday 11th January 2023.

PRESENT: Councillor C. P. Owens (Chairman)

COUNCILLORS: R. Davies, B. Gittins, A. Griffiths, J. Humphreys, 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 and Mrs. S. L. Jones.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. L. Wood (Clerk) and Members of the Public.

98. PUBLIC ENQUIRY ITEM

Members of the Public were present and asked to speak on Agenda Item 5 – Streetscene.

99. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor C.P Owens declared a personal interest relating to Accounts for Payment (Minute 107).

Councillor Mrs. W. Owens declared a personal interest relating to for Payment (Minute 107).

100. POLICING MATTERS

The Chairman shared a response from the Chief Inspector Mr. S. Roberts following a letter sent from the Council in November addressing a number of concerns and issues including the CCTV cameras in the village.

Councillor Ms. A. Locker said she was concerned at the comments in the response letter which said no crimes had been reported in Bagillt, when she personally had reported a matter and the Police had attended.

The Chairman also reported he attended the CA/ALM meeting at Connah's Quay Police station on the 15th December and the issues were discussed and the Chief Inspector said he was disappointed that the Council had agreed to cease maintaining the CCTV Cameras in the village, as they had proved to be very useful with a number of investigations.

The Chairman also raised traffic management issues throughout the village.

Councillor K. Rush reported that both he and Councillor R. Davies had been informed of a caravan parked and advertised for sale near the old Royal Oak junction of the High Street and the A548, which is a nature area. Also, another caravan is parked on the grass verge opposite the old Canton yard depot Junction.

Both Councillors had been in touch with the Flintshire Enforcement office but had been advised there is nothing Enforcement can do, so proposed this is reported to the Police.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will report the parked caravans to the Police.

101. STREETSCENCE

Mr. T. Cartwright, Flintshire Street scene was unable to attend the meeting and asked any issues were reported via the Clerk.

A member of the public reported that the bench on the grassed area opposite the Boot and Ship public house is extremely damaged and needs removing as it is a health and safety issue. Also, the area needs a litter bin installing. Councillor B. Gittins added the bench needs to be decommissioned and replaced as a matter of urgency. The Community Library area would also benefit from a litter bin.

Councillor A. Griffiths reported that the entrance to Wern play area is extremely muddy and is a slip hazard as well as difficult for wheel chair users to enter the play area. Councillor Miss. T. Strong added she had previously asked for improved disabled access to this play area.

Councillor R. Davies provided an update and said plans are in place for improvements to be made for disabled access at the play area but has no timescale.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will report issues to Mr. T. Cartwright.

102. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held 9th November, 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

103. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman reported the Bowling Club had sent him three quotations for preparing the land as the Council had previously agreed to financially support the club once all the Lease paperwork was signed by the bowling club. The quotations were shared and the bowling clubs preferred contractor had quoted £1059.43. Clarification will be sought as to the signing of the lease and this will be reported back to the next Council meeting.

The Chairman also reported that he had received an offer from a local business to donate the monies spent on the hanging baskets that unfortunately were not put up in the village, to replenish the public money. It was also asked said they would like the money to be used to purchase flowers for the village this year.

Following this, the Chairman sought advice from the Legal Officer at Flintshire County Council, as the donation offer was received from a local business who is currently awaiting a decision from the Flintshire Planning Department regarding retrospective planning permission.

The advice given was that the Council could either defer the decision of accepting the offer or not until after the business had received the planning decision or the Council could refuse the donation at this time.

Councillor A. Griffiths proposed the Council refuses the financial donation.

Councillor J. Humphreys proposed an amendment to the proposal and said the Council should defer the decision until after the planning decision has been made, as the Council should not tether relationships with potential new businesses in the village.

The Chairman took the proposal and amendment to the vote and the majority of the Council agreed to refuse the financial donation, therefore the amendment was not supported.

Councillor Miss. T. Strong said this situation has been an embarrassment for her personally and will speak to the Clerk with regards to reimbursing the Council with the monies spent and hope that this matter is now closed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will write to the local business to thank them for the financial offer and explain at this moment in time, the Council are refusing the donation.

104. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Councillor R. Davies expressed his thanks to M. Beck Site Services for providing the Bagillt Community Volunteers with high vis vests and also thanks to Flintshire Streetscene for providing litter picking equipment. A big thanks to all the volunteers and most recently the help from the Forgotten Riders.

Councillor R. Davies reported that the two glass recycling bins that had been removed in December 2022 from the Stag Public House / High Street car park. The plastic recycling was overflowing due to fly tipping. It was reported to the Flintshire Cleansing Officer but to no avail, so an email was sent to Mr. K. Edwards, the Manager of the team and it was emptied and removed within two hours. Only the clothing recycling cabinets remain.

The Conifer trees opposite Reeces Terrace/High Street will be removed as confirmed by Mr. S. Tulley, Flintshire Highways.

By the Library, there is a sink hole, the pavement has sunk, this has been reported and an Inspector will be attending tomorrow.

Councillor K. Rush reported that yellow lines on the road by Ysgol Glan Aber has been successfully granted. There is an advert out for contractors, then there will be a three week consultation period before works commence. This will improve parking and the safety of the children.

RESOLVED: That the reports be noted.

105. INTIMIDATORY BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS COUNCILLORS

Councillor Ms. A. Locker reported that following a recent planning application to which she and a number of neighbouring residents objected too, the co-owner of the land visited her neighbour and herself and attempted to try to intimidate them, making threats they will sell the land.

Councillor Ms. A. Locker also raised concerns that in relation to the Flintshire planning portal, when a Councillor or resident comments on a planning applications, although the name is held confidentially their home address is displayed on the planning portal, this may prevent anyone making comments in case this leads to intimidation or threats.

Councillors agreed that this portal does not provide adequate protection for Councillors and residents and proposed we write to Mr. M. Parry-Davies, Flintshire Planning Officer to share these concerns.

Councillor Ms. A. Locker also reported there are a group of youths who are dressed in dark clothing with covered faces walking the village and congregating causing concern to some residents, who feel intimidated by this group.

Councillor Ms. A. Locker proposed the Police are informed of the issues she has raised.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will write to Mr. M. Parry-Davies, Flintshire Planning Officer to share these concerns relating to the Flintshire Planning Portal and will write to the Police regarding issues raised.

106. PLANNING

The Clerk reported she had attended planning portal training at Flintshire County Council and it was a very informative training session and advised all members to set up a 'My Account' as this enables Councillors and residents to view a lot more information on planning applications.

a. Applications for Consideration

App No	Location	Detail
FUL/000810/22	MITA (UK) Ltd, Unit 1, Manor Park Industrial Estate, Bagillt, Flint, CH6 5UY	Installation of boundary fencing

RESOLVED: That the Council support the application and the Clerk will inform Flintshire Planning department accordingly.

107. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

December 2022

Voucher No	Name	Details	£
63	Mrs. L. Wood, Clerk	Clerks Salary & Expenses	1088.74
64	HM Revenues & Customs	Tax & NI Clerks Salary	400.74
65	Clwyd Pension Fund	Employers & Employees' Pension Contribution for Clerk	331.00
66	Opus Energy	Library Electricity	23.21

67	AVOW	Payroll Services	37.74
68	Holywell Garden Centre	Remembrance Sunday Poppies and Soldiers, take up and take down	200.00
69	Holywell Garden Centre	Supply of 6 x xmas trees	120.00
70	Bagillt Web Design	Accessibility works / issues	308.75
71	Cllr. C. P. Owens, Chairman	Chairman Fund – purchase of printer from the Community Library	69.99
72	SLCC	Annual Membership	146.00
	HSBC	Bank Charges	5.00

January 2023

Voucher No	Name	Details	£
73	Mrs. L. Wood, Clerk	Clerks Salary & Expenses	760.43
74	HM Revenues & Customs	Tax & NI - Clerks Salary	205.68
75	Clwyd Pension Fund	Employers & Employees' Pension Contribution for Clerk	220.53
76	Opus Energy	Community Library Electricity	25.03
77	Full Circle Security	Annual Maintenance – Stag Inn	314.70
78	Full Circle Security	Annual Maintenance – Gadlys Lane	314.70
79	Viking	Printer Inks	22.90
80	Mega Electrical	Xmas Lights x 6 annual charge	2454.00
81	All Electric	Chairman's Fund – Lighting in Community Library	364.36
82	Flint Town Council	Printing services	19.80
	HSBC	Bank Charges	5.00

RESOLVED: That the above-mentioned accounts be paid.

108. ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2023/24

The meeting considered a report of the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer on Estimates for 2023/24, which was prepared in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman and taking into consideration the decisions that were made at the November meeting. See Appendix A.

The report indicated no increase or decrease in the precept if the proposals, as submitted, were approved.

RESOLVED: That a precept of £45,720.00 be made on Flintshire County Council for 2023/24, which equated to a Band D charge of £31.08, the same figure as the last financial year and the attached report is agreed and approved.

109. INVESTEMENTS STRATEGY 2023/24

The meeting considered the report, 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. See Appendix B.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Investment Strategy was approved and adopted.

110. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

a. Budget Monitoring Report

The meeting considered the Budget Monitoring report and Bank reconciliation statement for the second quarter to 31st December 2022. See Appendix C.

RESOLVED: That the financial information be noted 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: Councillor C. P. Owens reviewed a selection of invoices and payment receipts which were certified as correct.

111. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Council considered an application for Financial Assistance, which was deferred at the last meeting pending additional information.

NOTE: Councillor R. Davies abstained from the vote

RESOLVED:

1. That in accordance with Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, the following donations be agreed for this financial year:

Voucher No	Name	£
83	Busy Little Rascals	200.00

112. YOUTH FORUM

Councillor J. Humphreys reported he had spoken to Mr. M. Hayes, Flintshire Education & Youth Officer about setting up a Youth Forum and Mr. M. Hayes was very pleased that the Council were considering this and suggested a meeting with his colleague to discuss this matter further.

RESOLVED: That Councillor J. Humphreys will attend a meeting with the Education & Youth Officer and report back to the next Council meeting.

113. YOUTH SHELTERS

Councillor Miss. T. Strong asked for this item to be deferred until next month until more information and quotations has been obtained.

Councillor Ms. A. Locker said would an indoor location be a preferred space, not a Youth Club but a local hall where the youths could meet.

Councillor J. Humphreys added he had spoken to a number of local youths and they do like the idea of the Youth Shelters and would want two in different locations in the village.

RESOLVED: That Youth Shelter item will be included on the February agenda.

114. ONE WAY TRAFFIC

Councillor Ms. A. Locker proposed the Council approaches Flintshire Highways to ask if Merllyn Lane, past the Wern and down towards the Blossoms public house could be made a one way traffic system. Merllyn Lane is extremely narrow and it is very difficult for two cars to pass, especially with parked cars. Councillors agreed.

Councillor C. Williams said some years ago he had site visits with Flintshire Highways to request a one way system be put in place in Tyddyn Messham due to a number of accidents and a fatality but the due to budget constraints and the scoring on the matrix system, the request was refused.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will write to Flintshire Highways to ask that Merllyn Lane, past the Wern and down towards the Blossoms Public House is considered to be made into a one way traffic system.

115. AUTHORITY FOR ACTION DURING RECESS PERIOD

RESOLVED: To note the actions of the Chairman and Vice Chairman on agenda item 12 – Accounts.

116. CORRESPONDENCE & CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk reported that Ysgol Glan Aber had responded to the letter the Council sent asking for a meeting with the Head teacher to see how the Council can better work together with the School for the benefit of the children and residents. It had been previously agreed Councillors J. Humphreys, Ms. A. Locker and Miss. T. Strong would attend.

The Clerk will respond to the Head teacher to arrange a mutually convenient meeting date and time; the Councillors will then report back to the next meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk's Report is noted and a letter will be sent to Ysgol Glan Aber to arrange a meeting.

117. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Councillor A. Griffiths shared concerns that the Council had paid an external business, which was co-owned by a sitting Councillor to erect the lamp post poppies and soldiers in the village and paid a sum of £200.

Councillor B. Gittins responded that as a co-owner of the business, he was asked by the Council to provide this service and the business donated £100 to the Royal British Legion.

The Clerk also reminded the Council that due to the Councillors who previously helped erect the poppies and soldiers in the village being unable to do this, consultation was sought by the Chairman and Vice Chairman who authorised the services of the business and the expenditure.

Councillor A. Griffiths made a comment regarding other Councillors benefiting from the payment. Councillors R. Davies and J. Humphreys confirmed they had assisted but received no payment for their help. The discussions became heated and the Chairman intervened to keep order.

RESOLVED: Noted.

118. COMMUNITY CENTRE

Councillor J. Humphreys reported he had spoken the Community Centre Association and the conversation was very negative but details were asked to be kept confidential.

RESOLVED: Noted.

119. MEETING VENUE

Councillor B. Gittins proposed that the February meeting be moved to a larger venue in the village, such as the Community Centre in view of the public interest in the Christmas Lights item which will be

included on the February agenda. The current Council meeting venue, the Community Library only has a maximum capacity of 25.

Councillor C. Williams said only one member of the public can speak on an agenda item so a representative could attend.

Councillor Mrs. W. Owens proposed an amendment, if there is a lot of public interest, could the interested parties call a public meeting and Councillor B. Gittins bring all the proposals back to the next Council meeting for consideration.

The Chairman took the proposal and amendment to the vote and the majority of the Council agreed not to change the meeting venue and suggested the interested parties call a public meeting, therefore the first proposal was not supported.

RESOLVED: That Councillor B. Gittins will report the agreed proposals from the public meeting back to a Council Meeting.

120. URGENT WARD MATTERS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Councillor Miss. T. Strong asked for the following items to be included on the next agenda: Facebook, Dog Run and Youth Shelters.

Councillor J. Humphreys asked for Youth Forum to be included on the next agenda.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk will place these items on the February agenda.

Date of Council Meeting	Wednesday 11th January 2023
..... Chairman	