

HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF TREFFYNNON

Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Holywell Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Bank Place Offices, Holywell on Tuesday 18 September 2007.

PRESENT: Councillor E.B. Palmer (Mayor).

Councillors: S.R. Baker, P.J. Curtis, Mrs. R. Dolphin, J. Griffiths, Mrs. E. Humphreys, D.W. Jones, P. Jones, B.P. Lambert, H.G. Roberts and A.D. Williams.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors Mrs. K. Davies, G.I. Lloyd, J. Neen, R.A. Roberts, D.R. Wilkes and P.A. York.

IN ATTENDANCE: J.A. Jones (Clerk), M. Roberts (Town Centre Manager).

42. POLICE MATTERS

The Mayor welcomed Inspector Neil Maxwell who introduced the new Holywell Police team of Cath McHarrie, Mike Davies and Phil Rushbie. Inspector Maxwell advised that Cath McHarrie covered the Strand area and shared the High Street; Phil Rusbie was the PCSO for Greenfield and Mike Davies covered the Holway Estate.

Inspector Maxwell advised that in addition to introducing the team to the Council he was requesting the Council's support in tackling the problem of graffiti and the lack of cleaning/weeding works particularly in the town centre. He suggested that the Council write to Flintshire County Council requesting them to tidy up the town as he considered that if this was not done it could lead to worse anti-social behaviour etc. Inspector Maxwell referred to PC McHarrie's role in fighting the graffiti problem and indicated that she had spent hours and hours on this work and he further advised that six people had been arrested.

Members indicated their full support to the police in tackling this problem and there were suggestions that people knew who was causing the damage. Several Members highlighted problem areas in the town including the side of the Somerfield Store backing onto Penyball Street.

Inspector Maxwell advised that PC Mike Davies would liaise with Councillor Alan Williams on this particular issue.

Reference was made to the positioning of the CCTV camera on the Holway Estate and the need to turn them around to avoid black spots which local youths were aware of. Inspector Maxwell advised that this had been pursued many times including during the previous Inspector's time in

Holywell but had not been able to persuade Flintshire County Council to take the necessary action.

The Mayor thanked Inspector Maxwell and his team for coming to the meeting and Inspector Maxwell in turn thanked the Council for allowing him to attend.

Members raised other issues of concern including the Post Office Lane area and the staffing of the police station.

Inspector Maxwell advised that there was no counter staff at Holywell Police Station and there were ten Community Beat Managers working from there. He was trying to get counter staff but at the moment there was one person based in Flint covering three stations.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Clerk write to the appropriate Director requesting appropriate works to be carried out to the positioning of the CCTV cameras and street lights on the Holway Estate.
- (2) That the Clerk write to the appropriate Director requesting that attention be given to the cleanliness and removal of weeds in Holywell Town Centre.

43. MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor expressed extreme concern regarding letters which had appeared in the local press complaining of various issues connected with the Tesco development. He could not understand why the press had printed the same letters on four consecutive weeks. The Mayor indicated that these letters expressed the view of a handful of people and in his view the vast majority supported the development.

He advised that he had attended the David Lloyd Memorial Concert at the National Eisteddfod and congratulated the organisers of the Eisteddfod.

The Mayor reminded Members of the ATC's Presentation Night scheduled to be held on 26th September 2007 and also of his Civic Sunday which would be held at Holy Trinity Church, Greenfield on Sunday 30 September 2007.

44. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the proceedings of the Council Meeting held on 17 July 2007 be approved as a correct record.

45. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

45.1. Planning Applications Determined by the Mayor and Clerk during the Recess Period

- 043580 Remove existing interview room, form new DDA compliant level access by forming new entrance door to rear, internal ramp with associated balustrade and handrails, reposition heater and external railings and gates to suit new access – HSBC 17 High Street, Holywell
No objections provided the proposal complies with Conservation area policies.
- 043655 Erection of hoardings and site development board – Tesco, Ffordd St. Gregoire, Holywell.
Supported provided the proposal complies with planning policies.
- 043673 Two storey side extension – 59 Wood Lane, Penymaes, Holywell.
No objections provided there would be no detriment to the visual amenities of neighbouring properties.
- 043670 Installation of 1 No. automated teller machine – HSBC 17 High Street, Holywell.
No objections provided the proposal complies with Conservation area policies. There is some concern, however, that this area is often congested with cars hemming in a very narrow footpath adjacent to the proposed location and could represent a security risk to users
- 043236 Outline – erection of 2 no. dwellings – Land side of Arfryn, Penyball, Holywell
No objections.
- 043497 Variation of house type on plots 32,33,34 and 35 – Anwyl Construction Co. Ltd – land Off The Ridgeway, Holywell.
No objections provided there would be no detriment to the visual amenities of neighbouring properties.
- 043551 To retain ‘as built’ roof configuration, to construct retaining wall along road frontage, to construct conservatory and patio area to north elevation – Ness View, The Beeches, Milwr, Holywell.
No objections.

- 043578 Listed Building Application – Remove existing interview room, form new DDA compliant level access by forming new entrance door to rear, internal ramp with associated balustrade and handrails, reposition heater and external railings and gates to suit new access – HSBC 17 High Street, Holywell.
No objections provided the proposal complies with planning policies.
- 043613 Variation of detail of approved proposal ref. 034158 – First floor storage and windows to end elevations plus roof lights – The Mount, Penymaes Road, Holywell.
No objections provided there would be no detriment to the visual amenities of neighbouring properties.
- 043666 Installation of 1 No. Automated Teller Machine (ATM) – HSBC, 17 High Street, Holywell
No objections provided the proposal complies with Conservation area policies. There is some concern, however, that this area is often congested with cars hemming in a very narrow footpath adjacent to the proposed location and could represent a security risk to users.
- 043742 Erection of a single storey side extension to form study and wc shower area – 82 Wood Lane, Penymaes, Holywell.
No objections provided there would be no detriment to the visual amenities of neighbouring properties.
- 043750 Erection of a Conservatory to the rear – Cysgod y Bryn, Whitford Street, Holywell
No objections provided there would be no detriment to the visual amenities of neighbouring properties.
- 043797 Side extension above existing garage – 8 Cae Gwenith, Greenfield, Holywell.
No objections
- 043829 Reinstate two windows to the side of the property (resubmission of application ref:043509) – Former Town Hall, High Street, Holywell.
No objections provided the proposal complies with conservation policies.

RESOLVED:

That the action of the Mayor and Clerk be approved.

45.2. Planning Applications

043752 First Floor Extension above Garage – Fron Deg, Bryn Celyn, Holywell
No objections provided the proposal complies with planning policy but there is concern as the site leads onto a very busy road which has a history of accidents particularly towards the Greenfield area.

043855 Erection of 10 No. industrial starter units and 2 No. industrial hybrid units – land at Englefield Farm, Greenfield
Mayor and Clerk to determine following the receipt of further information.

043734 Handling of house types on plots 5, 6, 7 and 9 Anwyl Construction Co. Ltd – land off The Ridgeway, Holywell
Welcomed.

043800 Conversion of double garage to dwelling – 16 Coleshill Street, Holywell
No objections provided the proposal complies with planning policy.

043924 Fell 1 No. Sycamore – land west of Holway Court, Holywell
Members were of the view that if the tree was sound and safe then it should be saved. If it was not sound and was dangerous, then they had no objections to the proposal.

46. ACCOUNTS

46.1. Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED:

That the following accounts be passed for payment:-

Voucher

3981	Fron Park Bowling Club – Donation	250.00**
3982	Mr. G. Evans – Watering of Floral Displays – July	400.00*^^^
3983	SCH – Parts for Watering Machine	184.06****

3984	Mrs. M. Edwards – Wages to 21/07/07	180.96***
3985	Mr. B. Edgeley – Repairs to Watering Machine	30.00****
3986	J.A. Jones – Salary – August	1,069.98***
3987	Mrs. M. Reed – Secretarial Expenses – August	39.00***
3988	Inland Revenue – PAYE/Nat. Ins – August	661.21***
3989	North Wales Association of Town Councils – Subscription	35.00^^^
3990	Village of Greenfield Residents’ Association – Donation	200.00**
3991	Holywell Town Juniors Football Club – Donation	300.00**
3992	Mr. G. Evans – Watering of Floral Displays – August	400.00*^^
3993	Michael Richards – Street Entertainment	50.00*^^
3994	J.A. Jones – Battery and Charger for Watering Machine	84.98*^^
3995	Medwyn Roberts – Puncture Repair Watering Machine	7.00*^^
3996	British Gas Business – Gas Supplies – Council Offices	115.38****
3997	Mrs. M. Edwards – Wages to 18/08/07	180.96***
3998	ScottishPower – Electricity – Council Offices	72.16****
3999	J.A. Jones – Telephone	18.64****
4000	W. Bevan & Sons Ltd – Feed for Floral Displays	30.93*^^
4001	Impact Communications – Town Centre Management	1,300.00**
4002	JDH Business Services Ltd - Internal Audit Fee	232.42^
4003	North Wales Tourism – Distribution of Holywell Guide	399.50^^
4004	British Telecommunications – 3629 2204	133.33****
4005	J.M. Welding – New Brackets – Wales in Bloom	188.00*^^
4006	Chubb Electronic Security Ltd – Alarm Contract	647.82****
4007	Trinity Mirror N. West and N. Wales Ltd – Advertisement	322.24^^
4008	Trinity Mirror N. West and N. Wales Ltd – Advertisement	161.62^^
4009	Cllr J. Griffiths – Travel	17.96*

4010	Impact Communications – Town Centre Management	1,300.20**
4011	Public Works Loan Board – Loan Payment	2,607.70***^^
4012	Flintshire County Council – Non Domestic Rates 2 nd Instalment	1,948.80****
4013	Viking Direct – Stationery	123.94^
4014	Mrs. M. Reed – Secretarial Expenses September	39.00***
4015	J.A. Jones – Salary – September	1,069.76***
4016	Inland Revenue – PAYE/Nat. Ins. September	661.43***
4017	North Wales Newspapers Ltd – Advertisement	<u>299.81</u> ^^ 15,764.79

Powers to make payments:-

- * The Local Authorities (Allowances for Members of Community Councils)(Wales) Regulations 2003
- ** Local Government Act 1972 S.137
- *** Local Government Act 1972 S.112, 151
- **** Local Government Act 1972 S.133
- ^ Local Government Act 1972 S.111
- ^^ Local Government Act 1972 S.144, 145
- ^^^ Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 S.19
- ^^^ Local Government Act 1972 S.143, 111
- *^ Local Government Act 1972 S.140, 111
- **^ Local Government Act 1972 S.176
- **^^ Local Government Act 1972 S.13
- *^^ Local Government Act 1972 S.34
- **^* Local Government (Misc. Provisions) Act 1953
- ^^** Local Government Act 1972 S174
- ^^^* Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 S19
- # Local Government Act 1972 S.142

46.2. Income Received

Members received the schedule of income circulated with the agenda.

46.3. Audit of Accounts 2006/7

Members considered the Internal Auditor's report, circulated with the agenda and noted that the Clerk would be implementing recommendations contained therein.

47. TOWN CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT – JULY/AUGUST

Members received the Town Centre Manager's Report for July and August and Members referred to several issues including the current situation regarding empty shops and the distribution of the Holywell Tourism Leaflet at the National Eisteddfod.

The Town Centre Manager advised that the empty shops in the town were too small as most of the enquiries were from businesses which required larger premises.

There was concern that the Hotel Victoria was still empty but this appeared to be as a result of Flintshire County Council's Licensing Committee refusing licences because of previous bad history of the building.

48. LOCAL VISION, PREPARING COMMUNITY STRATEGIES – REVISED COMMUNITY STRATEGY GUIDANCE

RESOLVED:

That a group of Members consisting of the Mayor, Councillors S.R. Baker, P.J. Curtis and J. Griffiths and the Clerk meet to consider the document and report to a future meeting.

49. COMMUNITY BEAT MANAGER

Members received a letter from North Wales Police advising that PC 436 Kevin Jones was retiring on 3 August 2007 and would be replaced by PC 2243 David Schofeld as the new Community Beat Manager for the area.

50. NEW POWERS UNDER THE CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACT 2005

Members considered a letter from the County Legal and Democratic Services Officer, Flintshire County Council advising that the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 introduced new provisions in relation to the control of litter and dogs. These provisions enabled Town and Community Councils to assume powers under the Act.

The County Legal and Democratic Services Officer indicated that the Council's views were required to avoid duplication.

Members were keen to ensure that this legislation be enforced.

RESOLVED:

That further information be obtained from Flintshire County Council.

51. THE REVIEW OF POLICING DISTRICTS AND PARKING PLACES (PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS) REGULATIONS 2000

Members considered a letter from the Electoral Registration Officer, Flintshire County Council advising that the four yearly Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places was being carried out. Details of the draft proposals and schedule of polling districts and polling district boundaries were circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

That the Town Council accept the proposals for Greenfield and Holywell, which did not involve any change to the current situation.

52. IDENTIFYING PATHS FOR IMPROVEMENT FOR 2007-2010

Members received a letter from Groundwork Wrexham and Flintshire circulated with the agenda. Groundwork wished to know which rights of way path routes, particularly ones that formed circular routes and ideally had opportunities for better access i.e. access for all, required improvements as a priority. Groundwork indicated that they had secured some funding for access work with a view to finding further funding as required.

53. FLINTSHIRE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPETITIONS 2007

Councillor John Griffiths reported that Holywell had been awarded joint first place in the Best Kept Town/Community in Flintshire with a popular of over 5000. He had attended the presentation ceremony at County Hall and had received, on behalf of the Council, a cheque for £100 and a certificate which he would present to the Mayor at the next meeting.

Several Members congratulated Councillor Griffiths in his capacity as Chairman of the Wales in Bloom Sub-Committee for the hard work he and the Sub-Committee had put in.

54. REPORTS RECEIVED

Members were informed that the following reports had been received and were available for perusal:

- (a) Chief Constable's Annual Report to the North Wales Police Authority.
- (b) North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority's Risk Reduction Action Plan 2008-9.

- (c) A Shared Community – Consultation on Relationship Building measures and Charters for Unitary Authority and Community and Town Councils.

55. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – CONSULTATION ON ALLOCATIONS POLICY

Members considered the policy document circulated at the meeting and were advised that this was based on, and had to conform to, Welsh Assembly Government’s policies.

Several Members commented on the document and indicated that there were some areas they were not in agreement with but the document had to comply with Welsh Assembly policy.

56. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED:

That, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, the press and public be excluded for agenda item No. 11 – Applications for Financial Assistance.

57. APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members considered an application for financial assistance, which would be an annual commitment, from the Business Crime Coordinator, North Wales Police towards the maintenance of the radios used by businesses in the Town Centre in connection with the Flintshire Radio Link Scheme operating in town centres.

Members considered that more information was required, particularly how much funding was involved and whether or not businesses in the town would be making contributions.

RESOLVED:

That the Council agree, in principle, and the Clerk obtain further information on costings etc.

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Mayor

