

HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF TREFFYNNON

Minutes of the meeting of Holywell Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Bank Place Offices, Holywell on Tuesday 21 September 2010 at 6.30pm.

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PRESENT: Councillor P.J. Curtis (Mayor).

Councillors: S.R. Baker, Mrs. R. Dolphin (for minutes 53 to 72), J. Griffiths, Mrs. M. Jabbitt, J.M. Johnson, B.P. Lambert (for minutes 53 to 58), M. Mills, E.B. Palmer, H.G. Roberts, K. Roberts, B. Scragg, R. Spain, Mrs. S.E. Wallbanks and P.A. York.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors Mrs. K. Davies and L. Thorley.

IN ATTENDANCE: D.C. Pierce (Clerk), and M. Roberts (Town Centre Manager) for minutes 53 to 61.

53. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – MEMBERS’ CODE OF CONDUCT

None received.

54. WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Mrs. M. Jabbitt back to the Council Chamber following her period of absence.

55. CONDOLENCES

Members noted with sadness the passing on 5 August 2010 of Ken Caithness, formerly of Brynford Road, Holywell and acknowledged his local government service to the former Holywell Urban District and Delyn Borough Councils.

56. ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS 2010

The Mayor referred to Holywell’s win, for the third year in a row, in the Wales in Bloom Competition (Small Towns Category). He showed the slate plaque and certificate which had been collected by Councillors J. Griffiths (Vice-Chairman – Wales in Bloom Sub-Committee) and M. Mills at the recent awards ceremony held at Cemaes Bay.

It was noted that the presentation event for the Flintshire County Environmental Competitions would be held on 24 September. The Town Council would be represented by Councillors E.B. Palmer (Chairman – Wales in Bloom Sub-Committee), J. Griffiths and M. Mills.

Councillor Palmer thanked everyone who had helped to ensure continued success for the town. Discussion took place on the possibility of appropriately recording these and other achievements on signage leading into the town. Also, regarding obtaining Green Flag status – the national standard for parks and green spaces in the UK, for the County's 'flagship' Fron Park.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Town Council records its appreciation for all the hard work put in towards this year's environmental achievements.
- (2) That Flintshire County Council be requested to consider whether reference to the town's achievements can be included on signage leading into the town, as it is in other similar places in England and Wales.
- (3) That the attention of the County's Head of Leisure Services be drawn to the eligibility of Fron Park for a Green Flag Award and he be requested to consider submitting an entry for the award.

57. MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor reported on his civic and other engagements since the last meeting.

The Ffin Welsh and Anglo Welsh Folk Festival on 24 July had been a success attracting around 1,000 people to the town centre; on the 25<sup>th</sup> he had attended an event at Greenfield Dock and had been impressed with the work undertaken there.

August started with a visit on the 5<sup>th</sup>, to Glasdir Fishery Centre, Pentre Halkyn, to see a scheme that was helping people with sight and hearing loss to enjoy fishing; the Greenfield Gardening Club's annual competition on the 14<sup>th</sup> had once again been a huge success – it had been heartening to see so many

youngsters at the event; on the 15<sup>th</sup> the Mayor had attended, with the Chairman of Flintshire County Council, a 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for great-grandmother, Betty Joinson of Gorsedd; the town tour and visit to Treetops Caravan Park had taken place on the 20<sup>th</sup>. The following day was Llanasa's Scarecrow Festival which provided for some imaginative work and a good all-round family event.

More recently, on 12 September, he had attended the Civic Service of the Town Mayor of Mold.

The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor for standing in for him at certain events. These had been at the Civic Sunday Services of the Mayors of Prestatyn and St. Asaph. The Deputy Mayor also reported on his attendance at the Holway Fun Day.

58. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the minutes of the following meetings be approved and signed as a correct record by the Mayor/Chairman of the relevant Sub-Committee as appropriate:

Council Meeting held on 20 July 2010;  
Council Offices Sub-Committee held on 25 August 2010.

- (2) That the resolutions of the Council Offices Sub-Committee at the above meeting be supported/ approved.

(Note: Councillor B.P. Lambert left the meeting at this point).

59. PLANNING

59.1. Planning Applications determined by the Mayor and Clerk during the recess period

<b>No.</b>	<b>Brief Description and Determination</b>
047716	Notification to fell 3 no. Lime and 3 no. Sycamore trees within Holywell Conservation Area – Land adjacent to St. Winefride's Visitor Centre, Holywell: for The Greenfield Valley Trust Ltd.

**No objection.**

047720           Erection of a bungalow – Land side of Pine Lodge, Strand Walk, Holywell: for Mr. P. Sajko.

**No objection.**

047738           Erection of a two storey extension to provide ‘granny’ flat to include new ground floor bedroom, first floor lounge, new bathroom over existing and extension of existing dining room – Isfryn, Bryn Celyn, Holywell: for Mrs. C.A. Johnson.

**No objection.**

047752           Retrospective application for the erection of a building for storage – Land side of Fron Deg, Bryn Celyn, Holywell: for Mr. M. Grundy.

**Objection, because of the environmental impact of the proposal on residential amenity arising from usage of the site. The Town Council also expresses its concern at the retrospective nature of this application.**

047822           Resubmission of application ref: 047388 for the alteration and sub-division of existing shop premises and change of use to the rear half of the building from A1 to A3 – 61 High Street, Holywell: for Mr. B. Collins.

**Objection for the following reasons:**

- 1)     The town centre already has 8 takeaways; 5 businesses providing takeaway food and sit-in meals; and 3 businesses providing sit-in meals. The provision of an additional hot food takeaway service, albeit in the rear half of the building, will add to this intensity and have a detrimental effect on the character and appearance of the area.**
  
- 2)     In the absence of private customer parking and although there is a public car park nearby, there is potential for traffic conflict, environmental, public nuisance and safety issues arising from the movement to, from and within the premises.**

047843           Alterations to the rear garden comprising excavation works and formation of gabion retaining wall – Londis

Supermarket, Holway Road, Holywell: for Mr. Paramjit S. Bagri.

**No objection.**

RESOLVED:

That the action of the Mayor and Clerk be approved.

59.2. New Planning Applications

Consideration was given to applications forwarded to the Town Council as part of the County's planning consultation process.

RESOLVED:

That the following responses be submitted to the Flintshire County Planning Authority.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Proposal</b>
047799	Erection of a detached 3 bedroom dwelling – The Old Post Office, Greenfield Road, Greenfield, Holywell: for Mr. C. Dive.

**Objection on traffic/highway safety grounds taking into account the proposed access arrangements in relation to the very busy A548 Mostyn Road at this location.**

047885	Erection of one bedroom dwelling above and incorporating existing garage – 7 Gwel Afon, Holway Road, Holywell: for Mr. D. Davies.
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**Objection, on grounds of impact on the visual amenities, character and appearance of the area having regard to the distance of the proposed development from neighbouring properties.**

047890	Substitution of housetype at plots 24 and 31 – Plots 24 & 31 The Ridgeway, Holywell: for Anwyl Construction Co. Ltd.
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**No objection.**

047891 Substitution of housetype at plots 32-34 – Plots 32 to 34 The Ridgeway, Holywell: for Anwyl Construction Co. Ltd.

**Deferred, pending clarification on the nature of this proposal.**

047903 Application for prior notification of agricultural development – erection of a hay barn – Brynford Hall Farm, Brynford, Holywell: for Mr. D. Pierce.

**No objection (prior approval not required for this type of application).**

(Note: Councillor H.G. Roberts did not vote on the above five applications).

59.3. Site at Dollar Park, Bagillt Road, Holywell – Notice of Appeal

It was noted that an Appeal had been made to the National Assembly for Wales against the County Council for the refusal of planning permission in respect of the revised Application 046832 (Change of use to residential Caravan Site for 6 no. Gypsy Families ..... The Public Inquiry was due to start on 23 November.

The County Council's application for an injunction to secure the removal of the unauthorised gypsy site would continue in the meantime.

59.4. Flintshire County Council's Planning Enforcement Section

The Clerk reported that there would be an introduction to the County Council's Planning Enforcement Section at the Town Council's November meeting.

60. ACCOUNTS

60.1. Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED:

That payment of the following accounts be approved, the necessary audit checks having been undertaken in accordance with the requirement of the Audit Sub-Committee.

<u>Voucher</u>	£
4641 Kassidy's Tea Rooms – light Refreshments – ‘999 Day’	230.00^^
4642 Holywell Town F.C. – Donation	500.00^^
4643 Fron Park B.C. (Waterhouse Cup) – Donation	250.00^^
4644 Greenfield Ghetto Drama Group – Donation	300.00^^
4645 Deeside College – Plant food (Northop Nurseries)	46.88^^
4646 JDH Business Services Ltd – Internal Audit Fees y/e 31/3/10	239.39^^
4647 Chubb Security Ltd – Contract 1/9/10-31/8/11 – Council Offices	749.26****
4648 W. Bevan & Sons Ltd – cleaning materials – Council Offices	23.55****
4649 C.M. Scott Jewellers – Engraving on WIB School Shield	11.15^^
4650 Delyn Press – Office Stationery	129.25^
4651 British Telecom – 3629 2204 – Broadband	105.75****
4652 British Telecom – 8118 4276 – Alarm	65.35****
4653 British Telecom – 8121 8884 – Land Line	55.15****
4654 Treetops – Minor tree maintenance – Woodland, Halkyn Road	75.00<
4655 Impact Communications – Town Centre Management – July/999 licence reimbursement	1321.00**
4656 ScottishPower – Electricity – Council Offices	135.62****
4657 D.C. Pierce – Salary – August	977.28***
4658 Mrs. M. Reed – Secretarial Expenses August	40.00***
4659 Mrs. M. Edwards – Wages to 7/8/10	260.70***
4660 HMRC (Inland Revenue) PAYE/ National Insurance – August	544.19***
4661 G. Evans – Watering of floral displays – July/August	400.00^^
4662 Viking Direct – Photocopy paper	73.62****
4663 British Gas Business – Gas – Council Offices	376.55****
4664 Copywrite Systems – Office Photocopier Charges 11/2-17/8/10	117.50****

4665	Public Works Loan Board – Loan Payment – Council Offices	2607.68****
4666	Impact Communications – Town Centre Management – August	1300.00**
4667	Cllr. P.A. York – Travelling August (Deputising for Mayor)	12.00*
4668	Cllr. P.A. York – Travelling Sept. (Deputising for Mayor)	24.00*
4669	D.C. Pierce – Salary – September	977.48****
4670	Mrs. M. Reed – Secretarial Expenses September	40.00***
4671	Mrs. M. Edwards –Wages to 11/9/10	296.40***
4672	HMRC (Inland Revenue) PAYE/ National Insurance – September	501.99***
4673	G. Evans – Watering of floral displays – August/September	400.00^^
4674	Flintshire County Council – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Instalment Rates – Council Offices	1411.05****
		14597.79

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
- \*^ Local Government Act 1972 S.140
- \*\*^ 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 S.174
- ^^^\* Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 S.4
- < Local Government Act 1972 S.124
- # Local Government Act 1972 S.142
- ## Representation of the People Act 1983 S.34

60.2. Income Received

Members received the schedule of income, circulated with the agenda, regarding income between 1 July and 31 August 2010.

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

Members were presented with the Town Centre Manager's report for July/August. The report gave an overview of developments and his work since the last meeting. A request had been received for a copy of the report from one of the Assembly's Regional Members for North Wales.

It was noted that the Summer issue of the Holywell Business News had been published and circulated accordingly.

Two Members referred to certain concerns which had been expressed to them regarding the selection and use of a single food outlet to provide light lunchtime refreshments at the 999 Emergency Services Day. The Town Centre Manager undertook to inform the Police, as the event's co-ordinators, of these concerns especially as similar arrangements had been suggested for the future.

There were no further developments to report in respect of the former Woolworths store. The Town Centre Manager also undertook to continue with his efforts to find a new occupant as well as making representations to Flintshire County Council to seek an improvement in the condition of some of the buildings on the High Street.

Friday 26 November had now been agreed as the date for the Christmas lights switch-on event and associated attractions. The task of organising the event had already begun.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Town Centre Manager's report be received with thanks.
- (2) That the North Wales Regional Members of the National Assembly for Wales be added to the circulation list to receive a copy of the Town Centre Manager's report.

62. STANDARDS CONFERENCE WALES : 14 OCTOBER 2010 – CARDIFF CITY HALL

It was reported that the nomination of Councillor P.A. York, by the Mayor and Clerk during the recess period, for inclusion again this year in the County Council's Conference delegation, had been accepted.

RESOLVED:

That the action of the Mayor and Clerk be noted and approved.

63. CONSULTATION – PROPOSED LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE

Consideration was given to responding to this consultation. It was noted that a Special meeting of the North Wales Association of Town and Larger Community Councils (NWATLCCs) was being held on 24 September 2010. Councillor B. Scragg indicated that he hoped to be able to attend the meeting on behalf of the Town Council.

Members considered it important to ensure that adequate resources were available to Town and Community Councils in respect of any additional powers proposed.

RESOLVED:

That the Town Council's views be conveyed at the NWATLCC meeting, for inclusion in the collective response if possible.

64. REVIEW OF THE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY OF FLINTSHIRE – FURTHER DRAFT PROPOSALS

The Clerk informed Members that the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales (LGBCW) had published its further draft proposals and was inviting comments on them. A copy of the Town Council's last decision regarding the Review together with the current electoral arrangements and the Commission's proposed membership, after considering earlier representations, were circulated.

The following arrangements were noted:-

Existing – 4 single member electoral divisions;

LGBCW 1<sup>st</sup> Proposal – 1 multi-member division with 3 members;

LGBCW 2<sup>nd</sup> Proposal – 2 multi-member divisions with 2 members each.

A Member referred to the meeting of Group Leaders that afternoon at County Hall and reported that a Special Meeting of the County Council was to be held to agree the County's final response.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the LGBCW's proposal in respect of the County's Member representation (reverting to the existing total of 4 members) be noted and welcomed.
- (2) That LGBCW be informed that the Town Council opposes the latest multi-member proposal. Also, that it firmly maintains the view that, to ensure continued effective and convenient local government for the area, the existing 4 single member electoral divisions should be retained pending further review once the Flintshire County Council has had the opportunity to look at the community's warding structures, which form the foundation/building blocks for the County's electoral divisions.

65. CONSULTATION – FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S LICENSING POLICY 2011-13

Consideration was given to making observations in response to this consultation. The broad principles of the legislation appeared to be well reflected in the County's current policy which, together with the general updating proposed, seemed to provide the necessary foundation for the Licensing Policy 2011-13.

RESOLVED:

That the County's Head of Public Protection be informed that the Town Council considers that enforcement is an important part of Licensing Policy and, accordingly, adequate resources should be provided to support policy implementation.

66. NORTH WALES POLICE AUTHORITY – REVIEWING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN POLICING

Members received and noted the letter from the new Chief Executive of the North Wales Police Authority (Tal Michael) cancelling the September Police Authority and Community Forum meetings (PACFs).

Consideration was also given to a request for suggestions on how community/public engagement in policing could be improved.

RESOLVED:

That the North Wales Police Authority be informed that, in the Town Council's view, the following points should be kept in mind when engaging with the public:-

- a) if future meetings are being arranged, venues should be places which are easily accessible by the public;
- b) ensure clarity when explaining the purpose of a meeting or consultation and what is being sought;
- c) be ready to listen to the views expressed.

67. PROVISION OF A WHEELED – SPORTS FACILITY : HOLYWELL

This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of Councillor E.B. Palmer. Reference was made to this long-standing issue, for which there appeared to be growing demand. The practice bowling green at Fron Park had been suggested as a suitable site and it was felt important that the Town Council should take the lead in seeking to move matters forward with the County Council.

The Mayor referred to the proposed presentation to the next meeting by the Holywell Skate and Bike Club.

RESOLVED:

That further consideration of this matter be deferred until after the presentation to the next meeting of the Council.

68. TRANSFER TO THE COUNCIL OF WOODLAND ON THE WEST SIDE OF HALKYN ROAD, HOLYWELL – UPDATE

The Clerk reported that the transaction was now completed. The title deeds were held by the Solicitors (Griffiths & Hughes Parry of Holywell) and could be obtained at any time.

Members also noted that a reply was awaited from Holywell Communities First in respect of the Draft Management Agreement and Work Plan for the land.

69. REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE – UPDATE

Members noted the Clerk's report that tenders had been invited for the new website – closing date noon on 7 October 2010. The Town Centre Sub-Committee would be convened in due course to consider submitted tenders etc.

70. COUNCIL NOMINATION FOR THE HOLYWELL COMMUNITIES FIRST PARTNERSHIP BOARD

RESOLVED:

That Councillor P.J. Curtis be nominated to represent the Town Council on the new Holywell Communities First Partnership Board.

71. ONE VOICE WALES : SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP OFFER 2010-11

Consideration was given to a letter from the Chief Executive of One Voice Wales offering a reduced cost for half year membership from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 in the sum of £395.68. The Council had previously decided to consider full membership at its precept setting meeting in February 2011.

The current cost of one year's membership was £977.

RESOLVED:

That a decision on membership of One Voice Wales be deferred until the precept setting meeting.

72. SUGGESTED CIVIC HONOUR – JONATHAN PRYCE CBE

Further consideration was given to this matter. It was noted that the Town Centre Manager was compiling a list of well known people with a Holywell connection and places and buildings of interest for consideration by the Holywell Town Centre Partnership as part of a possible town centre plaque scheme and/or heritage/historic trail.

Additional information had been submitted by a local resident supporting individual recognition of Jonathan Pryce, such as, for example, a captioned framed photograph in the town's library. A copy of the information sheet was circulated at the meeting. Members felt that, whilst the suggestion had merit, it would be better to await the outcome of the commemorative scheme to be considered by the Partnership.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the existing and additional information received regarding Jonathan Pryce be noted but that no further action be taken at the present time, other than including his name on the list being prepared for consideration as part of a commemorative scheme to be undertaken by the Holywell Town Centre Partnership.
- (2) That the name of Emlyn Williams of Pen-y-ffordd, Mostyn (actor and writer) who attended the then Holywell Grammar School be added to the list referred to in (1) above.
- (3) That any other suitable names be forwarded to the Clerk as soon as possible.

(Note: Councillor Mrs. R. Dolphin left the meeting at this point).

73. REPORT(S) ETC. RECEIVED

Members were informed that the following items had been received and unless otherwise circulated\*, were available for perusal from the Clerk.

- (a) Local Government Partnership Scheme Annual Report 2009-10;
- (b) Flintshire County Council's CCTV Incident Statistics – 1 April to 30 June 2010 – Holywell;
- (c) Family Information Service Flintshire – Leaflet\*;
- (d) Your Community/Your Council – News from Flintshire County Council – September 2010;
- (e) Agenda for the Special Meeting of the North Wales Association of Town and Larger Community Councils – 24 September;
- (f) Greenfield Valley Trust Ltd – Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements y/e 31 December 2009;
- (g) Countryside Council for Wales : Funding Newsletter August 2010\*;

- (h) Heritage in Wales: Issue 46 – Summer 2010;
- (i) Flintshire NEWCIS News for Carers: Issue 85 – Autumn 2010;
- (j) Transition Holywell & District – Newsletter July/August 2010\*;
- (k) St. Kentigern Hospice Newsletter – Autumn 2010.

74. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

No reports were received.

With the agreement of the Mayor and for information purposes, Councillor J. Griffiths reported on the background to and the successful outcome of a long-standing matter relating to the damaged headstone of Guardsman David Roberts (Holywell) of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, the Welsh Guards, who was killed in Northern Ireland in 1973. With the assistance of the Royal British Legion (Ysceifiog, Nannerch and District) and the War Graves Commission, the installation of a replacement headstone was now in hand.

In addition, it was understood that the family of Guardsman Roberts was eligible for the new Queen's Award known as the Elizabeth Cross. This honour, in the Queen's name, was presented to the families of members of the armed forces killed in action or as a result of a terrorist attack since the end of World War II.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Ysceifiog, Nannerch and District Branch of the Royal British Legion be thanked for its assistance in helping to bring this matter to a successful conclusion and that the appreciation of the family of Guardsman Roberts be passed on at the same time.
- (2) That the family of Guardsman Roberts be informed that the Council welcomes the news regarding the replacement headstone. Also, the award of the Elizabeth Cross as a very special and fitting tribute to their son.

75. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED:

That by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item (minute 75.1.) under

the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended.

75.1. Former Courthouse, Holywell - Update

Members had before them a copy of minute CO8. including the decision of the Council Offices Sub-Committee at its last meeting.

The Clerk reported:

- (a) on the responses received by the Town Centre Manager about the demand for office accommodation in Holywell;
- (b) that Flintshire County Council had been approached regarding any interest it may have in obtaining additional town centre office/other accommodation;
- (c) that informal enquiries had been made regarding a possible exchange eg Old Courthouse/Bank Place Offices;
- (d) that Tesco had been approached regarding a possible interest in Bank Place Offices.
- (e) on the outcome of his enquiries with the Council's insurers in respect of Bank Place Offices; and
- (f) on the figures received from the Valuation Office Agency in respect of Nos. 12-14 Bank Place.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the information be received and the current position noted.
- (2) That the Council Offices Sub-Committee be thanked for its work to date and that it submits further recommendations at the earliest opportunity.
- (3) That the Council's appreciation be recorded for the work undertaken by all of its appointed Sub-Committees.

76. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Mayor closed the meeting at 8.05pm.

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Mayor