CONNAH’S QUAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Meetings held Wednesday, 3 June 2009

Present: (Attendance Register)
Councillor K. Kelly (Vice-Chair) presiding

Mr. Gary Feather (Clerk & Financial Officer)
Mrs. E. M. Hyde (Administrative Officer)

Councillors held one minute’s silent tribute to Jordan Baker who tragically lost his life on Sunday, 31st May 2009 in the River Dee.

Councillor A. J. Roberts, supported by all other Councillors, felt that a bravery award should go to Mr. Nick Brown who tried to rescue Jordan and rescued his brother Lewis. Councillors also paid tribute to the emergency services and members of the public, without whom there could have been a further tragedy.

05. NOTICE OF MEETING

The notice of meeting was taken as read.

06. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors J. B. Attridge, D. Barratt, Mrs. E. M. Barratt, A. P. Shotton, I. R. Smith & R. V. Williams.

07. POLICE CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS (351)

The Chair welcomed CBM Paul Williams to the meeting.

CBM Williams reported back on items previously discussed at the 6 May 2009 meeting:

(a) Speeding on Primrose Street & Howard Street – CBM Paul Williams is still monitoring. He also reported back on the inconsiderate parking of a white van, which is creating a traffic hazard because mothers with prams and people in wheelchairs cannot be seen when crossing the road. He has been to the address given and spoken to the man but he is not breaking the law. The Police have now sent a letter to the owners of this vehicle in an attempt to get it moved.

(b) Recent instances of arson – this has taken place over the last couple of months and some 13 fires have been started but the Police now have an action plan in place. North Wales Police together with the Arson Reduction Team are in the process of visiting schools to speak to students because they believe it is secondary age children who are causing the fires.
(c) Damage to Community Gardens & Allotments – the Police have monitored and have spoken to several youths, they have seen where they are playing and have also spoken to their parents. They noted that there is nowhere for the children to go.

(d) Speeding at Normanby Drive – CBM Williams stated that the survey is not completed but once that is done they will have a better picture, it should be completed over the weekend.

(e) Cars gaining access from Richmond Road and down to Fron Road – Councillor A. J. Roberts enquired whether rocks could be placed by the garages in Richmond Road, in order to stop this happening and he requested CBM Williams’ support. CBM Williams will send a letter of support to Flintshire County Council.

The following matters were raised by Councillors and discussed:-

(i) Councillor P. M. Attridge, on behalf of Councillor J. B. Attridge stated that cars are parking on the zigzag lines outside Dee Road School and feels that it is an accident waiting to happen.

(ii) Councillor A. I. Dunbar referred to complaints from the shops concerning MPP Taxis at Richmond Road, they are parking both sides of the road. He also referred to the problem at the Community Gardens and stated that, the council were promised by Inspector D. Waring that a CCTV camera and lights would be installed and enquired how this was progressing.

(iii) Councillor A. J. Roberts expressed concern over the vandalism at one of the schools and enquired if this was a one off case or if it is becoming normal. CBM Williams was happy to say it was a one off.

(iv) Councillor R P MacFarlane referred to Hamilton Road, a family who have moved in are causing a lot of anti-social behaviour and making other people’s lives a living hell. Flintshire County Council has powers to evict but need evidence. Whilst they are collecting evidence, they will also be reliant on evidence from the Police and enquired if they make a report that can be used to help. CBM Williams stated that every time a telephone call comes through it generates a job, which gives a date, time, persons involved and Police Officers involved, which creates a paper trail. If the people involved ring every time that it happens Police Officers will have to respond. The telephone number is 08456071002 or 101.

N.B. Councillor P. Kindlin entered the meeting at this juncture.

(v) Councillor R. V. Hill expressed concern with regard to pensioners that had been visited by some Irish sounding persons trying to persuade them that their guttering needed replacing. CBM Williams indicated that they need to know when they are in the area and would people please ring the Police.

(vi) Councillor W. Hastings reported to the Councillors that a motorist had told him that he had to brake sharply to avoid children at the bottom of Dee Road coming from the direction of the Custom House Public House. The motorist expressed concern that there was no barrier to deter children from rushing across the road.
CBM Williams asked Councillor Hastings if he had more details and was informed that there were three children on bikes and they were below the age of 10. They were primary school children. CBM Williams will monitor and also speak to Sue Holmes to see if she can help.

The Chair thanked CBM Williams for his valuable assistance.

08. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Councillor W. Hastings declared an interest in item 26 – Flintshire NEWCIS for Carers

09. NEW ISSUE – ART PROJECT
Councillor R. V. Hill pointed out that two items had been brought to his attention that needed action. A piece of art to reflect the town is to be placed at the St. Modwens/ new Morris site. An amount of £20,000 (Section 106) has been put aside in this connection and Councillor R. V. Williams has agreed to come up with some ideas. A Councillor needs to be appointed to sit on the Committee for the Art Project.
Councillors agreed that Councillor R. V. Hill be appointed. Another piece of art is to be erected at the new Medical Centre in Fron Road and in this connection Councillor R. V. Hill and Councillor A. I. Dunbar were appointed to the appropriate Committee.

RECOMMENDED:
That the Clerk forwards the above names to Flintshire County Council.

PLANNING COMMITTEE – 3/6/09
Councillor A.I. Dunbar (Chair) presiding

10. MINUTES
The Minutes of the Meeting held 28 April & 6 May 2009 were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS
046304  35 Tecwyn Drive, Connah’s Quay
Proposed erection of porch to front

RECOMMENDED:
That the Clerk writes to the Head of Planning Services informing him that the Town Council has no objection to this application.

12. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS
The Clerk submitted Notification of Planning Decision (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda):- 046066.

RECOMMENDED:
That the Notification be received.

13. **TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1990 (AS AMENDED)
SECTION 78 APPEAL – OLD FIRE STATION, CHURCH STREET,
CONNAH’S QUAY**

The Clerk submitted letter dated 6 May 2009 from Head of Planning Services, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) which stated that an Inspector has been appointed by the Secretary of State to determine the appeal. The Hearing Date is Tuesday 7th July 2009, commencing at 10.00 a.m. in St. Mark’s Church Hall, Church Street, Connah’s Quay.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the letter be received.

14. **TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1990 (AS AMENDED)
SECTION 78 APPEAL – SITE AT SWAN HOTEL, CHURCH STREET
CONNAH’S QUAY**

The Clerk submitted letter dated 1st May 2009 from Head of Planning Services, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) informing Councillors that an appeal has been made to the National Assembly for Wales and that any comments must be made within 6 weeks of the appeal starting date (27/04/09) by 8th June 2009. Councillor R. P. Macfarlane informed Councillors that Flintshire County Council has published its findings and asked if the Clerk would check to see if the Council’s objection to over development of the site has changed. The Clerk stated that he had not come across anything. Councillor A. I. Dunbar stated that the Council’s objection still stands.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the letter be received.

15. **FLINTSHIRE UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN (UDP)
RECEIPT OF INSPECTOR’S REPORT**

The Clerk submitted letter dated 20 May 2009 from Head of Planning Services, Flintshire County Council, together with copy extracts from Report (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) advising Councillors that the Inspector’s recommendations on all objections will be delivered to Flintshire County Council on Friday, 15 May 2009. Copies of the Report will be available for inspection. The Clerk advised that it is being considered that up to 740 houses are to be built in Connah’s Quay and it is up to Flintshire County Council to make sure that adequate systems are in place before any decision is given. The present systems cannot cope with that amount of houses.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the Councillors await the Inspector’s recommendations.
16. **ROADS & FOOTWAYS**

**ITEMS OF COMPLAINT/REPORT FROM COUNCILLORS**

(a) **Alleyway at side of 136 High Street, Connah’s Quay**

The Clerk submitted letter dated 21st May 2009 from Carl Sargeant AM (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) informing Councillors of the state of the alleyway.

Councillor A. I. Dunbar stated that he could not understand why Carl Sargeant AM has written to the Town Council as he should have written to Flintshire County Council. Councillor A. J. Roberts suggested he writes to the Probation Service.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the Clerk writes to the Carl Sargeant accordingly.

(b) **Wepre Hall Crescent**

Councillor W. Hastings stated that there is a loose manhole cover, as a result of a break up of the pavement, at the entrance to Wepre Hall Crescent/Thornfield Avenue. It is no longer secure. Councillor A. I. Dunbar has informed the Police. Councillor R. V. Hill enquired as to who owned the land.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That Councillor Hastings’ report is received.

(c) **Pennant Street**

Councillor W. Hastings informed Councillors that a number of people have complained about a hedge at the end of Pennant Street, where there is also a ‘Give Way’ sign and there is approximately a 2 foot clearance for people with pushchairs to pass. He enquired how much clearance there should be. The Clerk agreed that it is a narrow pavement.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the Clerk ascertains what the clearance should be.

(d) **Salvation Army, Dee Road**

Councillor W. Hastings enquired as to whether there was a case for putting a barrier alongside the Salvation Army. The Clerk informed him that the footway was private land. Councillor A. J. Roberts said that the barrier would be on Flintshire County Council’s land and it would be for the safety of children.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the Clerk writes to Director of Environment & Regeneration accordingly.

(e) **Henley Avenue**

Councillor R. V. Hill stated that a house on Henley Avenue, possibly number 10 is in a state of disrepair. There is a pine tree at the bottom of the garden that is overgrown and causing problems – can it be cut down? The house is empty and so there is a problem in gaining access.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the Clerk contacts Planning Enforcement – Flintshire County Council.
(f)  **Dodd’s Drive/Pennant Street**  
Councillor Mrs. P. M. Attridge expressed concern over an alleyway between Dodd’s Drive and Pennant Street. Trees are overgrown and the branches are reaching right over the alleyway causing it to be quite dark.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the Clerk writes to Highways.

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**FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 3/6/09**  
Councillor A.J. Roberts (Chair) presiding

17. **MINUTES**  
The Minutes of Meeting held 6 May 2009 were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

18. **FINANCIAL REPORTS**  
The Clerk submitted the following (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda):

(a)  Statement of Cumulative Income & Expenditure for the month of April 2009.
(b)  Consolidated Cash Summary for the period ended April 2009.
(c)  Statement of Imprest Account Payments during the month of April 2009.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the Reports be received.

19. **NEW CEMETERY DEVELOPMENT (327)**

(a)  The Clerk submitted letter dated 20 May 2009 from Carl Longland, Director of Environment, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) in reply to the Clerk’s letter in connection with highway approach to the new cemetery and bus stop request. He has forwarded this letter on to Dave Faulkner, the Council’s Head of Highways and Transportation for his response.

Councillors felt that they should persist with regard to a bus stop and a 30 mph speed limit. Councillor D. Birch suggested that the Clerk should write to Arrive Alive to engage their support.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the letter be received, we await a reply from Mr Dave Faulkner and the Clerk writes to Arrive Alive.

(b)  The Clerk submitted letter from Mark Tami MP enclosing copy letter dated 26 May 2009 which he had sent to Mr Colin Everett, Chief Executive, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) with regard to a request from Connah’s Quay Town Council to have the speed limit reduced in the
vicinity of the new cemetery site, and giving his support to this request

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter be received.

20. MANAGING THE SAFETY OF BURIAL GROUNDS MEMORIALS (367)

The Clerk submitted letter dated 21 May 2009 from Pearl Trinick, Administration & Cemeteries Manager, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) stating that some memorial stones look unstable and giving the criteria for their safety, that Legal responsibilities state that the Authority undertakes Memorial inspections on a three-year rolling programme and that whilst the maintenance is the responsibility of the grave owner, the Authority has a duty to ensure they are safe places to work and visit.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter be received.

21. REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY OF FLINTSHIRE (365)

The Clerk submitted letter dated 14 May 2009 from Mr S R Halsall, Deputy Secretary, Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales (copy forwarded to the Councillors with the Agenda) which stated that the community boundary changes are a matter for Flintshire County Council and not the Commission. He also stated that the Council’s comments have been noted and will be considered by the Commission along with other representations received when the commission prepare their Draft Proposals.

Councillor A. J. Roberts expressed his concern that the Council had informed the Commission as requested and now were being told to inform Flintshire County Council. Councillor Carol Granger felt that the letter was confusing because in the second paragraph the Council were being informed that such changes were a matter for Flintshire County Council and yet in the final paragraph it states that the Council’s comments have been noted and will be considered by the Commission.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to Flintshire County Council, sending a copy of the letter that was addressed to the Commission.

22. CONNAH’S QUAY PRIMARY CARE RESOURCE CENTRE

The Clerk submitted letter dated 15 May 2009 from Mark Tuson, Contracts Manager, Allenbuild (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) in which he apologised for any inconvenience that may be caused over the next 12 months in association with the works.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter and notice be received.

23. FLINTSHIRE YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICE PROFESSIONAL YOUTH WORK TRAINING PROGRAMME
The Clerk submitted leaflet dated April 2009 –Easter 2010 (copy not amenable to photocopying but is available for Councillors inspection at the office). Councillors discussed whether it will encourage them to have an extra youth worker in Connah’s Quay. Councillor R. V. Hill suggested that the Clerk write to Councillor N. Steele Mortimer for a report as to the present position.

RECOMMENDED:
That the Clerk writes to Councillor Steele Mortimer, Executive Member for Education, Flintshire County Council.

24. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY FORUM
The Clerk submitted letter dated 8 May 2009 from Mr Colin Everett, Chief Executive, Flintshire County Council together with copy of the notes and action matrix for the last meeting together with a note on the Council’s current Public Consultation on Dog Control Orders (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) inviting the Chair and Clerk to attend meetings of the County Forum.

RECOMMENDED:
That the Clerk, Chair and Vice-Chair attend and that Councillors suggest items for inclusion on the Agenda.

25. CLWYD COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL
SERVING THE PEOPLE OF DENBIGHSHIRE, FLINTSHIRE & WREXHAM
The Clerk submitted Annual Report 2008-2009 (copy not amenable to photocopying but is available for inspection at the office)

RECOMMENDED:
That the Report be received.

26. THANKS AND APPRECIATION
The Clerk submitted letter received from Mrs Gwenan McAndrew (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) in which she thanked Connah’s Quay Town Council for the honour that was given to her – that of a plaque for services to the community.

RECOMMENDED:
That the letter be received

27. YOUNG DRIVERS – IMPROVE YOUR DRIVING SKILLS!
The Clerk submitted letter from Mr Barry J. Jones, Publicity Manager, Chester & East Clwyd Advanced Motorists together with poster (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) which offers to refund the fees of any driver under the age of 25 who gains full membership of the Institute of Advanced Motorists by passing the Advanced Driving Test. They are able to offer a place to a young person in this area. Councillors discussed and felt that this should be promoted.

RECOMMENDED:
That the letter be received and the Clerk place this item on the web site and School Governors and Deeside College should also be informed.

28. PRIMROSE STREET
The Clerk submitted e-mail dated 15 May 2009 from Kevin Edwards, Flintshire County Council together with copy letter he had forwarded to Owners/Occupiers (copy forwarded Councillors with the Agenda) which stated concerns over household waste being put out at the rear of the properties and requesting black sacks should be placed in the front for collection.

RECOMMENDED:
That the e-mail and copy letter be received.

29. FLINTSHIRE TOURISM NEWS
The Clerk submitted letter dated 21 May 2009 from David Evans, Tourism Manager, Flintshire County Council together with Issue 1/Spring 2009 (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).
Councillor K. Kelly enquired if there was any literature in this connection that could be placed in the office.

RECOMMENDED:
That the letter be received and the Clerk obtains additional copies of the above together with other publications, for example – walks in Flintshire.

30. LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH
The Clerk submitted letter dated 15 May 2009 from Matt Short, Bikeathon Coordinator Leukaemia Research Fund (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda)

RECOMMENDED:
That the letter be received.

31. FLINTSHIRE NEWCIS FOR CARERS
The Clerk submitted Summer 09/Issue No 80 from North East Carer Information Service (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).
The Clerk informed Councillors that NEWCIS run a number of events to make the public aware.

RECOMMENDED:
That the Summer 09/Issue No 80 be received.

32. CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE’S PARTNERSHIP UPDATE
The Clerk submitted information dated 7 May 2009 from Flintshire’s Children & Young People’s Partnership (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:
That the correspondence be received.

33. SWINE FLU INFORMATION

The Clerk submitted leaflet “Important Information about Swine Flu” (copy not amenable to photocopying but is available for Councillors inspection at the office).

RECOMMENDED:
That the leaflet be received.

34. FRIENDS OF FLINTSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The Clerk submitted letter dated 21 May 2009 together with Newsletter 3 – April 2009 (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) inviting Councillors to their AGM.

RECOMMENDED:
That the letter and Newsletter be received and any Councillors wishing to attend should notify Flintshire Citizens Advice Bureau.

RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE 3/6/09
Councillor D.M. Birch (Chair) presiding

35. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held 6 May 2009 were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

36. MONITORING OF ACTIVITY/PROFITABILITY

The Clerk submitted the following Statements (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda):

(a) Civic Hall Activity/Profitability Statement for the month of April 2009.

RECOMMENDED:
That the Statement be received.
Councillor A. J. Roberts congratulated the Clerk and all concerned.
It has been a very good month.

(b) Community Centre Activity/Profitability Statement for the month of April 2009.

RECOMMENDED:
That the Statements be received.

37. WAIVER/REDUCTION OF HIRE CHARGES
RECOMMENDED:

Ratification of the actions of the Chair and the Vice-Chair of this Committee in waiving/reducing the hire charge in respect of the following event:-

CIVIC HALL – FINANCIAL YEAR 2009/2010

(a) Flintshire County Council – Community Services
   Band Concert to be held on Friday 10 July 2009
   \textbf{WAIVER}.

(b) Deeside Police
   Neighbourhood Forum Meeting to be held Thursday, 20 August 2009
   \textbf{WAIVER}.

(c) Deeside Special Needs Swimming Club
   Presentation/Disco to be held Saturday, 7 November 2009
   \textbf{WAIVER}.

COMMUNITY CENTRE – FINANCIAL YEAR 2009/2010

(d) Deeside Police
   Neighbourhood Forum Meeting to be held Thursday, 6 August 2009
   \textbf{WAIVER}.

38. ENVIRONMENTAL COMPETITIONS 2009

To receive letter dated 4 May 2009 together with details from E. Snowden, Organiser, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) stating that they are once again having a best kept village/town competition.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter be received.

39. ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk gave an update report on the Allotments (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) in order to have his actions approved. The Clerk also confirmed that the plots on the North site would be managed by Connah’s Quay Town Council.

RECOMMENDED:

That the report be received.