256. NOTICE OF MEETING

The notice of meeting was taken as read.

257. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Mrs. E.M. Barratt, D. Barratt, Mrs Y.R. Birch, C. Granger, J.B. Bone, A.P. Shotton, R.P. MacFarlane and R.V. Williams.

258. CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(i) The Chester Chronicle had been in contact stating that the Peter McFerran Appeal for a Special Baby Unit had now reached its target and Councillors are invited to attend the Official Opening at 11.30 a.m. on Friday 20 February 2009 at the Countess of Chester Hospital.

(ii) A Forum is to be held at the Civic Hall on Friday 20 February 2009 and “The Future of Medical Services” will be an item on the agenda for discussion and it is hoped that Carl Sargeant AM will be attending.

The Clerk referred to the CHC Document which had now been received and stated that it will be included on the Agenda for the March meeting of this Committee.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Chair’s announcements be received.

259. POLICE CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS (47)

The Chair welcomed Sergeant Iwan Jones and CBM Andy Skyner to the meeting.

Sergeant Jones conveyed Inspector Darren Wareing’s apologies due to attendance at another meeting.

Sergeant Jones and CBM Skyner reported back on items previously discussed at the 7 February 2009 meeting:-

(a) Anti-social behaviour at Thornfield Avenue – This area has been closely monitored and no pattern is emerging the CCTV suite has been made aware of the problems. Youths have been spoken to and no alcohol has been seized. The area will continue to be monitored.
(b) Breakdown of crime statistics in Connah’s Quay – The Clerk had previously circulated Inspector Darren Wareing’s letter dated 3 February 2009 which stated that he is unable to provide crime hot spots due to the nature and locality of some of the crimes and the possibility that individuals and witnesses could be easily identified. Councillor A.J. Roberts informed Sergeant Jones that these statistics were not asked for what the Councillors wanted was just crimes in Connah’s Quay. Sergeant Jones informed Councillors that the only statistics available are on the Internet and that is all they can provide. The Clerk was asked to obtain this information and provide copies for the Councillors.

(c) Anti-social behaviour in the Golfyn Ward – Youths have been approached and engaged with by the owners of the Albion Club who have agreed to keep the Police informed of any developments.

The following matters were raised by Councillors and discussed:-

(i) Councillor A.I. Dunbar stated that he was grateful for the attention given to Thornfield Avenue and the residents are also happy but now the youths appear to have moved to Richmond Road, three or four wing mirrors have been broken and youths are congregating by the garages at the end of Richmond Road at all hours and would be grateful if this could be included in an operation similar to Thornfield Avenue which was so successful.

(ii) Councillor D.M. Birch thanked Officers for the attention given to the Hillside Avenue area. He further asked if Officers could provide for the next meeting of this Committee details of how much trouble occurs on non-youth club nights from Monday to Friday which could perhaps strengthen the Town Council’s case for a full-time youth worker.

(iii) Councillor A.J. Roberts reported 20/30 youths had congregated at the swings on Fron Road play area a week last Friday they appear to moving down the backs having been moved on from Thornfield Avenue etc following which the area was littered with bottles and cans. Sergeant Jones noted.

(iv) Councillor W. Hastings enquired whether there had been anymore reports of fires in Broadoak Woods – nothing had been received. Councillor R.V. Hill reported that youths of between 12-14 yr olds are congregating at these woods.

(v) Councillor E.W. Owen reported a drinking den at the play area at Dunbar Close and asked for police presence in this area.

(vi) Councillor E.W. Owen reported instances of speeding on Kelsterton Lane, especially on the way to and from the College and during lunch time and expressed his concern that there is no speed limit on this lane which is very narrow and residents are fearful to go for a walk as it is unsafe. Sergeant Jones stated that he is aware that there is no restricted speed limit on this lane and is in contact with the County Council’s Highways Department who are looking into the matter.
(vii) Councillor R.V. Hill reported incidents of youths causing damage to cars and gardens in Normanby Drive at about 2 – 4 am which has resulted in £3/£4000.00 of damage done, the post box was damaged and cars have been walked over. Officers reported on a recent Crime Reduction Operation which is stopping youths, filming them and filling in account forms and if criminal damage is reported in that area these youths are taken home and their parents and shown the film. Sergeant Jones urged Councillors to ask the public to report any instances of anti-social behaviour which will enable Officers to collate the data and then they will know where the hot spots are and can be targeted.

(viii) Councillor A.J. Roberts enquired whether dispersal orders can be obtained. A dispersal order can only be obtained at the highest level i.e. when an area has gone so bad and large numbers of youths are congregating and an order could take at least 8 months to obtain - Connah’s Quay is on the lowest level.

The Chair thanked Sergeant Jones and CMB Skyner for their valuable assistance.

N.B. Councillor E.W. Owen left the meeting at this juncture.

260. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Councillor J.B. Attridge declared an interest in Item 6 – Planning Applications.

PLANNING COMMITTEE – 4/2/09
Councillor A.I. Dunbar (Chair) presiding

261. MINUTES
The Minutes of the Meeting held 7 January 2009 were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

262. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(i) 045900 Land at Kelsterton Farm, Kelsterton Road, Connah’s Quay
Full planning application for the use of the land as a cemetery including access improvements, site layout, internal roads, parking areas, drainage scheme and hard and soft landscaping

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

(ii) 045759 Swan Hotel, Church Street, Connah’s Quay
Proposed conversion of existing building into 6 apartments including alterations to roof

RECOMMENDED:
That the Clerk writes to the Acting Head of Planning Services informing him that the Town Council reiterates its previous objection to this application ie:-

(i) roof line would not be in character with neighbouring properties.
(ii) not sufficient parking ie. 1.5 per dwelling – 9 would not meet standards.
(iii) overdevelopment of the site.

263. **PLANNING APPLICATION – SITE VISIT**

Due to the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair of this Committee at the site visits Councillor J.B. Attridge in his capacity as a County Councillor reported that he had been in attendance and following a meeting that afternoon of the Planning Committee both the following applications had been refused:-

(i) 045248 – 3 Lon Llwyyni, Connah’s Quay
    Proposed extension to side of dwelling and internal alterations.

(ii) 045667 – Fron Bach, Oakenholt Lane, Connah’s Quay
    Proposed conversion of existing stable block into single storey residential unit with revised vehicular access.

Councillor J.B. Attridge suggested that in the event that the Chair, Vice-Chair or any Ward Members cannot attend due to other commitments then the Clerk attend in their absence.

**RECOMMENDED:**

(a) That Councillor Attridge’s report be received.

(b) That the Clerk attend Site Visits in the absence of Councillors.

264. **NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS**

The Clerk submitted Notification of Planning Decisions (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda):- 045651, 045703, 045428, 045511, 045769, 044672, 045812, 045778, 045529 and 045749.

Councillor D. Birch referred to Planning Decision 045511, Merllyn House, Golftyn Lane, Connah’s Quay and to the fact that this building has already been erected.

**RECOMMENDED:**

That the Notifications be received and the Clerk write to the Acting Head of Planning Services accordingly.

265. **ROADS & FOOTWAYS**

(a) B5129 – Traffic Congestion (226(ii))

The Clerk submitted letter dated 5 January 2009 from Carl Sargeant AM together with reply from Dave Faulkner, Chief Highways & Transportation Engineer, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) which stated that that they intend to deal with the congestion one way or
another which will include formal procedures and consultations which must be followed to achieve a radical solution.

RECOMMENDED:
That the letters be received.

(b)  **A494 Road Improvement Scheme & Congestion along the Deeside Strip**
The Clerk submitted copy letter dated 26 January 2009 addressed to Colin Everett, Chief Executive, Flintshire County Council from Mark Tami MP supporting the Town Council in their request for assistance to alleviate the traffic congestion along the Deeside strip.

RECOMMENDED:
That the letter be received.

(c)  **Street Works Licences – Street Lighting**
The Clerk submitted letter dated 15 January 2009 from the Chief Highways & Transportation Engineer, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) giving detailed information regarding the legal requirement for anyone carrying out street works in the highway who is not by definition a utility.

RECOMMENDED:
That the letter be received.

(d)  (i)  **Footway Englefield Avenue & Pinewood Avenue (128©)**
(ii)  **Brookdale Avenue side of Broadway (128d)**
(iii)  **Wild Rose Bush (128(e))**
(iv)  **Fron Road/Market cars gaining access**

RECOMMENDED:
That item (ii) and (ii) be received.

Councillor J.B. Attridge referred to item (i) which stated that there is no intention of adopting any other part of these paths at present and stated that if this is the case then this footway should be closed as it is in a dangerous condition, tree roots are making this footway hazardous and on Health and Safety issues it should be closed.

RECOMMENDED:
That the Clerk write to Mr Alan Pugh, Head of Neighbourhood Area Services, Environment Directorate, Flintshire County Council accordingly.

Councillor A.J. Roberts referred to item (iv) and stated that cars are still gaining access and referred to this dangerous practice where children are playing nearby and suggested that Mr D Faulkner visits this area. The Clerk stated that he would speak to Neil Hickey at the Highways Department and would show him the point of access.

RECOMMENDED:
That the Clerk contact Neil Hickey accordingly.
(e) **Cold Weather – Gritting Schedules (226(d))**
The Clerk submitted letter dated 21 January 2009 from Dave Faulkner, Head of Highways & Transportation, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) which stated that due to the long spells of cold weather they had currently used more salt that normal but have not changed their response to the winter conditions.

**RECOMMENDED:**
That the letter be received.

(f) **Golftyn Lane – Carriageway Repairs (226(g))**
The Clerk submitted letter dated 21 January from Dave Faulkner, Head of Highways & Transportation, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) which stated that this will be programmed and prioritised with other works.

Councillor J.B. Attridge stated that this item had been brought up month by month and still nothing has been done and needs to be acting on as a matter of urgency. Councillor D. Birch stated that it is getting worse and perhaps if he were to meet a representative of the Highways Department he could show them were the broken drain is which is causing all the problems.

**RECOMMENDED:**
That the Clerk make arrangements accordingly.

(g) **Flintshire County Council – Road Traffic Regulation Act 10984 – Section 14(2) Temporary Prohibition of Through Traffic at Connah’s Quay**
The Clerk submitted Notice dated 13 January 2009 from Carl Longland, Director of Environment, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) giving notification of closure of Dock Road from 23 January to 26 January 2009.

Councillor J.B. Attridge asked that the Clerk write to Mr Longland asking that in future the Town Council be given sufficient notice before the closure not to receive the Notice after the work had been completed.

**RECOMMENDED:**
That the Notice be received and the Clerk write accordingly to Mr Longland.

**ITEMS OF COMPLAINT/REPORT FROM COUNCILLORS**

(h) **Inconsiderate Parking**
Councillor W. Hastings reported a problem at the Bus Stop in front of St. David’s Church on Mold Road, parked cars are making it difficult for members of the public to board the bus. The adjacent school has clear markings on the road and wondered if markings could also be placed outside the bus stop for the buses to park when picking up the public.

**RECOMMENDED:**
That the Clerk writes to the Local Member for his support.

N.B. Councillor E.W. Owen returned to the meeting at this juncture.

(i) **Pot Holes in Carriageway**
Councillor I.R. Smith reported a large pothole in the carriageway Lower Brook Street which needs attention.
Councillor R.V. Hill also reported large pot holes at Hall Lane, Ffordd Newydd, Ffordd Llanarth, Morley Avenue and Richmond Road.

**RECOMMENDED:**
That the Clerk writes accordingly to the Director of Highways.

**FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 4/2/09**
Councillor A.J. Roberts (Chair) presiding

266. **MINUTES**
The Minutes of Meeting held 7 January 2009 were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

267. **FINANCIAL REPORTS**
The Clerk submitted the following (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda):-
(a) Statement of Cumulative Income & Expenditure for the month of December 2008.
(b) Consolidated Cash Summary for the period ended December 2008.
(c) Statement of Imprest Account Payments during the month of December 2008.

**RECOMMENDED:**
That the Reports be received.

268. **CCTV MONITORING & CO-ORDINATING**
The Clerk submitted letter dated 13 January 2009 from Ian Budd, Director of Lifelong Learning, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) that stated that the County Council is currently reviewing the Council’s CCTV monitoring service with a view to introducing developments in the near future to increase the standard of monitoring. The Town Council’s comments have been noted and will be given consideration during the review process.
Councillor J.B. Attridge referred to the Town Council’s request some months ago to visit the CCTV suite and asked that Mr Budd be contacted to find out when the Town Council would be able to attend.

**RECOMMENDED:**
That the Clerk makes arrangements (copy to be circulated to Councillors) for the visit and for transport to and from the CCTV suite.
269. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY FORUM

The Clerk submitted letter dated 20 January 2009 together with proforma from Peter Kane, Principal Policy & Business Performance Officer, Flintshire County Council (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) requesting suggested topics for future meetings.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk write to Mr Kane with the following suggestions:-

(i) Meetings should be held 4 times yearly.
(ii) Dog Fouling Enforcement
(iii) Chief Executive – acknowledgement of correspondence to be received within five working days.

270. ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2009

RECOMMENDED:

That the Achievement Awards be held on Friday 3 July 2009.

271. YOUTH LEADER – CONNAH’S QUAY HIGH SCHOOL (234)

Councillor R.V. Hill reported that he had been informed that the post of full time youth leader would be going out to tender and urged Councillors to keep up the pressure.
Councillor J.B. Attridge in his capacity as a County Councillor reported that £40,000.00 has been taken out of the Budget and requested that another letter should be forwarded to the Leader and Chief Executive to have a re-think about the need for a fulltime youth leader at the High School.

RECOMMENDED:

That the reports be received and the Clerk write accordingly.

272. CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Clerk submitted letter dated 14 January 2009 from Angela Loftus, forward Planning and Economic Development Manager, on be half of the Joint LDF Working Group for Cheshire West and Chester (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) together with Draft Statement of Community Involvement (copy not amenable to photocopying but was made available for Councillors inspection at the office).

RECOMMENDED:

That the correspondence be received.

273. NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION OF TOWN COUNCILS

Councillor R.V. Hill reported that he had attended the meeting of the Association on Friday 23 January 2009 which had been most interesting and informative especially the item on Keep Wales Tidy Scheme which had been run at Abergaveney when a 5p voucher had been given in return of cans/bottles and over the 8 weeks 21000 bottles had been returned at a cost of £16,000.00 of which £10.500 were operating costs and £4500.00 deposit refunds. This Welsh Assembly is now looking into this scheme.
He further reported that the President of the Association had resigned and Mr Alan Guinn had been appointed in his place.

RECOMMENDED:
That the report be received.

274. LLWYN JOINT CONSULTATIVE BOARD
The Clerk submitted the following (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda):

(i) Letter dated 13 January 2009 from Tom Woodall, Acting Head of Countryside Service, Flintshire County Council.
(ii) Agenda re: meeting 12 February 2009 to be held at the Civic Hall.
(iii) Minutes of Meeting held 20 October 2005.

Councillor J.B. Attridge referred to the Minutes that stated that there is a balance of £22,750.48 in the Board’s account that could have be used for the benefit of the community living in the area and urged the Town Council’s appointed representatives, Councillors A.I. Dunbar and K. Kelly to bring up this matter for discussion.

Councillor A.I. Dunbar reported that the venue had been changed from the Civic Hall to Wepre Park Visitors Centre.

RECOMMENDED:
That the correspondence be received.

275. ESTABLISHING THE NEW NHS IN WALES (236)
Nothing to report.

276. FLINTSHIRE VOLUNTARY SERVICES COUNCIL
The Clerk submitted e-mail dated 19 January 2009 from Sue Williams re: Staff Volunteers (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:
That the e-mail be received.

277. GOVERNANCE – ACCOUNTABILITY FOR LOCAL COUNCILS
The Clerk submitted the following (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda):

(i) Report from Clerk (Nov. 2004).

The Clerk further reported on the implications of the Guide (158 pages).

RECOMMENDED:
That the Clerk’s report and Extract be received.
278. MINUTES
The Minutes of the Meeting held 7 January 2009 were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

279. 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 December 2008.
RECOMMENDED:
That the Statement be received subject to the staff ratios per event being discussed with the Civic Hall Supervisor.

(b) Community Centre Activity/Profitability Statement
for the month of December 2008.
RECOMMENDED:
That the Statements be received.

280. WAIVER/REDUCTION OF HIRE CHARGES
RECOMMENDED:
Ratification of the action 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
Flintshire District Scouts
AGM to be held Wednesday 20 May 2009
WAIVER.

281. PERFORMING RIGHT SOCIETY – SPREADSHEET
The Clerk submitted copy spreadsheet together with copy of the Tariff re: Public Use of Sound Recordings (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

The Chair of the Committee stated that over the next 12 months he would look into the possibility of recovering the payments from the hirers of the Civic Hall.

RECOMMENDED:
That the correspondence be received.
FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL’S LEISURE SERVICES STRATEGY

The Clerk submitted letter dated 23 January 2009 from Mike Hornby, Head of Leisure Services, Flintshire County council (copy forwarded to members with the Agenda) together with Draft Version – “A Vision for Flintshire’s Leisure Facilities, Play Development Unit & Public Open Spaces 2008-13” (copy not amenable to photocopying but was made available for Councillors inspection at the office).

The Clerk reported that he had asked for figures operated by the School and Sports Centre Management Committee with regard to dual use of sites these would be forwarded once the Sports Centre Management Committee had met on 13 February 2009.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter and draft be received.

SUMMER PLAYSCHEME – QUAY PLAY 2009
CARE & SOCIAL SERVICES INSPECTORATE WALES
CHILDREN ACT 1989 (as amended by the Care Standards Act 2000)
INSPECTION REPORT – OPEN ACCESS PLAYSCHEME – QUAYPLAY

The Chair reported on the recent meeting held with representatives of the Flintshire’s Leisure Services Department when it had been agreed subject to confirmation by letter of costs.

RECOMMENDED:

(i) That the Town Council’s contribution of £7106.90 in respect of providing QuayPlay 2009 be confirmed.

(ii) That the Clerk informs Mrs J Roberts that details of costs etc are required by the end of November 2009 in time for consideration for next year’s Budget.

(iii) Questionnaire to be sent to all schools asking the children what they would like included in this year’s activity programme.