

## **CONNAH'S QUAY TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday, 4 November 2009**

Present: (Attendance Register)

Councillor D Barratt (Chair) presiding

Councillors Mrs. P. Attridge, Mrs. E. M. Barratt, J. B. Bone, A. I. Dunbar, Carol Granger, W. Hastings, R. V. Hill, E. W. Owen, A. J. Roberts, I. R. Smith & P. J. Wainwright.

Mr. Gary Feather (Clerk & Financial Officer)

Mrs. E. M. Hyde (Senior Administrative Officer)

#### **153. NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice of meeting was taken as read.

#### **154. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors J. B. Attridge, Mrs. Y. R. Birch, D. M. Birch, K. Kelly, P. Kindlin, R. P. MacFarlane, A. P. Shotton & R. V. Williams.

#### **155. POLICE CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS (121)**

The Chair welcomes PCSO Sian Atkinson to the meeting

PCSO Atkinson reported back on items previously discussed at the 2 September 2009 meeting:-

- (a) Fly Tipping in Thornfield Avenue – PCSO Atkinson reported that the situation is being monitored.
- (b) Youths congregating in Mill Lane – PCSO Atkinson informed Councillors that this area has been subject to high levels of anti-social behaviour. It is being monitored and operations have been carried out, when youths are gathering their details are taken and they are asked to move on. The Police will continue to conduct patrols.
- (c) Neighbourhood Police Panel - e-mail – PCSO Atkinson reminded Councillors that if they are not receiving updates they should send the Police their e-mail address.
- (d) Youths drinking at the Derwen Deg and Hillside Park – PCSO Atkinson reported that efforts are being made to patrol the area and if any youths are caught their drinks will be poured away.

The following matters were raised by Councillors and discussed:-

- (i) Councillor D. Barratt informed PCSO Atkinson that people are having difficulty contacting the Police.  
PCSO Atkinson will inform Inspector Mark Hughes but she explained to Councillors that if she is unable to answer her phone, messages are transferred so that queries can be answered.

- (ii) Councillor A. I. Dunbar expressed concern that the youths have been moved on from Mill Lane only to congregate at Somerfield car park and the Community Gardens. Not only local youths but also foreign youths are gathering and numerous complaints have been received from residents in Brook Road. Councillor Dunbar asked if something could be done. PCSO Atkinson informed Councillors that CBM Andy Skyner was looking into this matter and trying to get a “Dispersal Order”, they are also patrolling the area. They have not received as many complaints during the last week but they are keeping an eye on the situation.
- (iii) Councillor R. V. Hill expressed concern that some people who are riding bikes have no lights and they are also wearing dark clothing. Councillor Hill requested that the Police please monitor.
- (iv) Councillor R. V. Hill has concerns over the number of CBM’s in Connah’s Quay and feels they should be up to full strength. PCSO Atkinson informed Councillors that she would pass this on to the Inspector. Another CBM (Claire Roberts) has been appointed and is at present on maternity leave. She should take up her duties in late March or early April. Letter to be sent to the Inspector re the Town Council’s concerns in the reduction of numbers.
- (v) Councillor Mrs. E. M. Barratt expressed concern over the situation in Wepre Park, Llwyni Drive and Cae Llys Close. There has been a lot of action in the park lately and she is getting offensive phone calls. She enquired how it was being patrolled and how often? PCSO Atkinson stated that she and PCSO Danny Hughes patrolled the area in dark clothing when on lates last week. The response car is also looking around. The Police have spoken to the security about the gates being open at night and will speak to them again. The Police have a set of keys for the Park. PCSO Atkinson stated that the situation in Llwyni Drive is under control but she will speak to the Inspector.
- (vi) Councillor P. J. Wainwright enquired if the flashing 30 MPH sign on Mold Road is fixed or if it could be moved because he feels one is needed on Wepre Lane. Councillor D. Barratt stated that it is fixed and they can only be fixed in certain areas. Councillor Mrs. E. M Barratt stated that they could only be put going in and out of rural areas. Councillors asked if the Clerk would write to Flintshire County Council to ascertain if a sign could be placed in Wepre Lane.
- (vii) Councillor P. J. Wainwright informed Councillors that recently there has been a lot of dog fouling in the area, particularly in Halkyn View, he has received a lot of complaints but nobody has seen who is responsible. The suspicion is that somebody is taking their dog out late at night or very early in the morning. PCSO Atkinson replied that the Police will shortly have the power to deal with this kind of situation and they will patrol and issue fines when necessary.
- (viii) Councillor W. Hastings confirmed Councillor A. I. Dunbar’s statement concerning youths gathering on Somerfield Car Park, some on bikes. He also stated that he was pleased about the lack of disturbance on the run up to Bonfire Night.

- (ix) Councillor J. B. Bone would like to add his support to Councillor Mrs. E. M. Barratt's comments regarding Llwyni Drive and Cae Llys Close. There have been incidents and Councillors need to be kept in the loop on these issues.
- (x) Councillor E. W. Owen thanked the Police for all they have done in the Golftyn Ward.
- (xi) Councillor D. Barratt informed Councillors that he had spoken to the Chief Superintendent of East Division, Ruth Purdy and she informed him that she will get more things done in Llwyni Drive and Cae Llys Close.

The Clerk brought to the attention of the Councillors and PCSO Atkinson the new "No Drinking" signs he had brought to the meeting and informed them that they will be put up in places like Wepre Park and they will go up in the next few weeks. Councillor A. J. Roberts reminded Councillors of all the problems there have been at the Community Gardens but raised the question as to where the youths are to go and what are they to do? He stated that there was nothing for the 16 to 18 year olds because they are too old for youth clubs and not old enough for pubs etc. He requested that a letter be written to Flintshire County Council asking what they can do about this situation. He would also like a letter to go to Inspector Mark Hughes, the Chief Executive and Leader of Flintshire County Council. He also feels that another problem is the fact that we do not have a full time youth leader.

The Chair thanked PCSO Sian Atkinson for her valuable assistance.

#### 156. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declaration of interest were received.

### **PLANNING COMMITTEE – 04/11/09**

Councillor A. I. Dunbar (Chair) presiding

#### 157. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held 29 September & 7 October were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### 158. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- (a) 046816            18 Golftyn Drive, Connah's Quay  
Proposed erection of conservatory at rear of dwelling.

#### **RECOMMENDED:**

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

159. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

The Clerk submitted Notification of Planning Decisions (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda):- 046466, 046575, 046680, 046458.

RECOMMENDED:-

That the notification be received.

160. TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 – SECTION 78 APPEAL

- (a) The clerk submitted letter dated 5 October 2009 from Andrew Farrow, Head of Planning, Flintshire County Council re: appeal, Orchid Environmental Ltd. (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda). The Town Council had no objection to this application.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter be received.

- (b) The Clerk submitted letter dated 5 October from Andrew Farrow, Head of Planning, Flintshire County Council re: Appeal, Mr S Smith, 153 Dee Road (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda). The Town Council objected to this application. Councillors stated that this started as a granny annex and felt that if this is accepted it would set a precedent, also other applications of this nature in Dee Road have been refused.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter be received.

161. ROADS & FOOTWAYS  
ITEMS OF COMPLAINT/REPORT FROM COUNCILLORS

- (a) Clearing Alleyways in Connah's Quay  
The Clerk submitted the following (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).
- (i) Letter dated 13 October 2009 from Carl Sargeant AM Alyn & Deeside Constituency, National Assembly for Wales to Mr A E Green together with his letter also dated 13 October 2009 to Mr J Wright and letter dated 10 October 2009 from A E Green to Mr Carl Sargeant AM.
- (ii) Letter dated 15 October 2009 from Carl Sargeant AM, Alyn & Deeside Constituency, National Assembly for Wales together with copy letter dated 14 October 2009 from E Green.

Councillors stated that when Flintshire County Council had been asked about this alleyway they said that as it is privately owned they will not tarmac it. Councillors felt this to be an environmental matter and it should be passed on to Flintshire County Council. Councillor E. W. Owen enquired if Councillors could request an EVA in the area.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letters be received, and that a letter be written to Carl Sargeant AM informing him that he should write to Flintshire County Council about these complaints.

(b) Dee Road Barriers

Councillor W. Hastings enquired about complaints from residents at the bottom of Dee Road that the barriers that have recently been placed there are a safety hazard. Councillor Mrs P. M. Attridge stated that residents could gain access from Breeze Hill.

RECOMMENDED:

That there is no cause for the barriers to be removed.

(c) The Orchards – Overhanging Hawthorn Hedge

Councillor P. J. Wainwright reported that he had received complaints regarding an overhanging hawthorn hedge at the Orchards, Connah's Quay by the Wepre Inn.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to Flintshire County Council.

(d) Halkyn View – Dog Fouling

Councillor P. J. Wainwright has received numerous complaints about dog fouling in Halkyn View. Residents have requested a red dog bin but nobody wants it outside their house. He also brought to Councillors attention that there is no signage on the street lampposts saying about dog fouling and he requested that signs be put up.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk arrange for the signs to be put up.

(e) Mill Lane/Hall Lane to Uplands Avenue

Councillor R. V. Hill requested that the hedges in Mill Lane be cut and also the paths and alleyways from Hall Lane to Uplands Avenue are breaking up and the hedges need cutting back.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk arrange for the hedges in Mill Lane to be cut and that he writes to Flintshire County Council with regard to Hall Lane to Uplands Avenue.

(f) Alleyway between Dee Road & Fron Road & small roundabout on Mold Road

Councillor A. J. Roberts brought to Councillors attention the state of the hedges in the alleyway between 67 and 69 Dee Road. He also enquired if any more had been heard about the small roundabout in Mold Road and was curious as to why the yellow lines had been renewed everywhere except Golftyn.

Councillor R. V. Hill reminded Councillors that the Scrutiny Committee had been contacted with regard to the small roundabout.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to the Director of Highways, Flintshire County Council.  
That the Clerk also writes to Mr Robert Robins, Scrutiny Committee.

(g) Overgrown trees – Llwyni

Councillor D. Barratt has received complaints regarding overgrown trees by the Llwyni Stores and the zebra crossing, on the left.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes accordingly.

(h) Dog bin – Howard Street

Councillor Mrs. P. M. Attridge informed Councillors that she has a dog bin outside her house in Howard Street and it is being used, the street is now fairly clear of dog fouling.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to Flintshire County Council enquiring as to when the dog bins are emptied.

(i) Hedges - Morley Avenue/Dee Road

Councillor A. I. Dunbar informed Councillors that the hedge on the corner of Morley Avenue and Dee Road needs cutting.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to Flintshire County Council accordingly.

162. REGENERATION GRANT – HEALTH RESOURCE CENTRE

Councillor A. J. Roberts informed Councillors that Councillor R. V. Hill wished to speak.

Councillor R. V. Hill informed Councillors that during the last few days there has been a problem, the Town Council has been trying to put in for regeneration money for a linkway between the precinct and the new medical centre. They have been met with barriers and no assistance. There is a meeting next week but project money had to be applied for by today (4/11/09). An application was put in and it has been turned down. Flintshire County Council want a consultation in Connah's Quay but Connah's Quay Town Council is of the opinion that the money would be better spent putting in a linkway. It now appears that after speaking to Officers they strongly advise us that this would stop us getting a grant. They want a master plan, once again Flintshire County Council are digging their heels in. When it was agreed that the Resource Centre be built, it was recommended that a linkway was put in. Councillor A. I. Dunbar asked that if they have turned it down, have they said what they are going to spend the money on?

Councillor A. J. Roberts requested that this item be placed on the Agenda for the Policy & Resources Committee on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2009 and that a letter should be written to the Welsh Assembly because it is capital money sitting in Flintshire. He also said that we need a master plan to show them.

Councillor R. V. Hill stated that Claire Madden says that we do not meet the criteria.

Councillor R. V. Hill also informed Councillors that the other Town Councils, apart from Buckley and Holywell has an officer paid for by Flintshire County Council, £28,000.00 being set aside for administration. Connah's Quay Town Council are using our Town Centre Manager.

Councillor A. J. Roberts stated that this matter should go back to the Welsh Assembly. Discussion ensued.

The Clerk stated that when a meeting was attended of the Town Action Partnership it was agreed, as a body (doctors, Agents for the present owners of the Boathouse and Dentists), that this money is channelled through to a linkway. There was a consensus of agreement; there was no indication that there was a need for a master plan to support it.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to County Councillors in Connah's Quay putting them in the picture and that this item be placed on the Agenda for the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting. That the Clerk also writes to the Welsh Assembly Government.

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 04/11/09

Councillor A. J. Roberts (Chair) presiding

163. MINUTES

The minutes of Meeting held 7 October 2009 were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

164. FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

- (a) Statement of Cumulative Income & Expenditure for the month of September 2009.
- (b) Consolidated Cash Summary for the period ended September 2009.
- (c) Statement of Imprest Account Payments during the month of September 2009.
- and (d) External Audit – Completion 2008/09 Accounts – letter and notices.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Reports be received.

165. CCTV CAMERAS – STATISTICAL INFORMATION

The Clerk submitted letter dated 9 October 2009 from Sherryl Burrows, CCTV Manager, Flintshire County Council, which stated that quarterly data for the period July 2009 to September 2009 relating to incidents in the Connah's Quay area, which have been observed and recorded through the CCTV Control Room, was enclosed.

This data is available at the Office.

Councillor A. J. Roberts stated that we cannot publicise the data but if any Councillor wishes to view the information they can do so at the Office.

The Clerk stated that there is now evidence for cameras to be placed in Wepre Park.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter and data be received.

166. HOUSING NEWS

The Clerk submitted letter dated 8 October 2009 from Debbie Davies, Tenant Participation Officer, Flintshire County Council together with Autumn 2009 Housing News, which will be delivered to tenants at the end of the month. She also enquires if Councillors would like to see any particular topics covered in future editions. (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter and Autumn 2009 Housing News be received.

167. VICTIM SUPPORT CYMRU

The Clerk submitted letter dated 5 October 2009 from Jon Trew, Partnership and Funding Manager for Victim Support Cymru (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) detailing the support they are currently offering to victims and witnesses of crime in this area and requesting a donation.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes offering to make its Civic Hall available, without hire charge to enable them to hold a fund-raising event.

168. URDD GOBAITH CYMRU

The Clerk submitted letter dated 21 September 2009 from Aled Sion, Director for the Eisteddfod and the Arts, which states that the Urdd National Eisteddfod 2011 will be held in Swansea and asks for a contribution to assist in its success. (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes offering to make its Civic Hall available, without hire charge to enable them to hold a fund-raising event.

169. NORTH WALES NEUROSCIENCE REVIEW

The Clerk submitted letter received on 27 October 2009 from Mrs Sandy Mewies AM stating that the Implementation Group's recommendations include better access to a wider range of excellent high quality neuroscience services locally and at the main specialist unit at the Walton Centre (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda). North Wales Neurosciences Review is available at the Office.

Councillors, whilst happy to receive this information would still like to see the Maelor or Glan Clwyd Hospitals being used.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter and Review be received and the Clerk writes thanking her for keeping in touch.

170. PCSOs TAKE LEAD IN FIGHT AGAINST DOG FOULING

The Clerk submitted copy of newspaper article dated 26 October 2009 (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda), which states that Police Community Support Officers in Flintshire will be able to issue fines for dog fouling by the end of the year. Offending pet owners will be hit with a £25 fixed penalty notice rising to £75 if it is not paid within a fortnight.

RECOMMENDED:

That the newspaper article be received

171. CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU UPDATE

The Clerk submitted e-mail dated 23 October 2009 from FLVC giving updates on addresses and telephone numbers (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda). Councillors were pleased to see these premises being open more often.

RECOMMENDED:

That the e-mail be received.

172. NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION OF TOWN & LARGER COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Councillor Carol Granger informed Councillors that the meeting was held in Welshpool and there was a presentation to John Roberts, the retiring secretary. She gave a comprehensive report. She also informed Councillors that the Welsh Assembly is planning to review a tier of County Council and give more responsibility to Town and Community Councils. It was also noted that some Community Councils have been just co-opting people on to the Council instead of going through the correct procedure.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Report be received.

173. VALUATION OFFICE AGENCY

The Clerk submitted letter dated October 2009, which deals with the amount of business rates applicable for the Office together with e-mail stating that rate bills are calculated by multiplying the rateable value of a property by a multiplier, currently 0.489. The Welsh Assembly Government has now announced that the multiplier for 2010 has been provisionally set at 0.409 (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter and e-mail be received.

174. LAND AT HIGHVALE

The Clerk submitted letter and documents dated 19 October 2009 from Michael Cunnah, Cyril Jones & Co., Solicitors (copy letter forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda, documents available at the Office), which stated that the land at Highvale has now been registered in the Town Council's name.

Councillors were pleased and Councillor A. J. Roberts noted that this has been going on since Alyn & Deeside days.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter and documents be received.

175. COUNTY FORUM

No Councillors were able to attend.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk and a Councillor attend the next meeting in March 2010.

176. AREA RENEWAL IN DEESIDE

The Clerk submitted letter dated 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009 from P Bryon, Renewal Area Project Lead, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda), which stated that the Council is in the early stages of assessing the potential for declaring a renewal area in Deeside. The letter also states that a renewal area focuses large-scale investment over and up to a ten year period for the improvement of living conditions in the area and encompasses improvements to housing, the local environment as well as supporting improvements in health and economic regeneration.

Councillor A. I. Dunbar informed Councillors that people were annoyed and upset, there was no information and they did not understand what it was about, these people are private house holders. One thousand houses are to be surveyed with regard to boilers, damp etc.; these will be private houses of a certain age. There is 10 million available to upgrade houses in Flintshire. Letters are genuine and it is proposed by the Welsh Assembly.

Councillor R. V. Hill informed Councillors that he believed somebody was going to give Councillors a talk but it would have been helpful if this had happened first.

Councillor D. Barratt informed Councillors that there was a meeting about three weeks ago and since then Paul Bryon had been down here to see the area. He has a copy of the form of internal survey and will make a copy available to Councillors.

Councillor E. W. Owen told Councillors that it was for Queensferry, Shotton and Connah's Quay only. It is an environmental audit for the area.

Councillor A. J. Roberts enquired as to the criteria for people to make a claim.

The Clerk told Councillors that a consultation meeting is being held in the Civic Hall for Shotton residents and he suggests that any Councillor who wants information should go.

The meeting is on Monday, 30 November 2009 at the Civic Hall, it is a drop in and the Hall is booked from 2.00p.m. to 9.00p.m.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter is received and Mr Paul Bryon be asked to attend a Town Council meeting.

RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE – 04/11/09

Councillor A. J. Roberts (Chair of Finance & General Purposes Committee)  
remained in the Chair  
as neither the Chair nor Vice-Chair were in attendance

177. MINUTES

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

178. MONITORING OF ACTIVITY/PROFITABILITY

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

- (a) Civic Hall Activity/Profitability Statements  
for the months of September 2009.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Statements be received.

- (b) Community Centre Activity/Profitability Statements  
for the months of September 2009.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Statements be received with the alteration of the function held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2009 to concession.

179. 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 events:-

CIVIC HALL – FINANCIAL YEAR 2009/2010

Clwyd-Flint Federation of Women's Institutes  
Dance Day to be held on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009  
WAIVER

180. FRAUDULENT BANK NOTES

The Clerk reported to Councillors that it is thought the fake £20.00 notes may have been passed at the Shotton Boxing Club match against Liverpool at the Civic Hall on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009. The Clerk informed Councillors that a new scam is to rub the notes with sunscreen oil because it contains an UV inhibitor and he stated that the notes were very good. Councillor A. J. Roberts thanked the staff.

Councillor R. V. Hill enquired if the office had a note detector.

Councillor Mrs. E. M. Barratt enquired if we had insurance that would cover it. The Clerk replied no but if somebody is caught we can make a claim.

RECOMMENDED:

That the report be received.

181. ERECTION OF FESTIVE ILLUMINATION EQUIPMENT 2009-2010

The Clerk submitted letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 from Alan Pugh, Head of Neighbourhood Area Services, Environment Directorate, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) which stated that the recent application to erect festive illumination within the highway has been granted.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter be received.

182. REPORT ON SUMMER PLAYScheme

The Clerk submitted report on the 2009 programme (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).  
Councillors were pleased to note a 5% increase.

RECOMMENDED:

That the report be received.

183. GAP – CONNAH'S QUAY FOOTBALL CLUB

The Clerk submitted letter dated 11 September 2009 (copy received on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2009) from Mr John Grey, Chair, Management Committee (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) which included an invitation to attend their Principality Premier League match on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

Councillors were reminded that if they went to a free football match it would need to be declared.

The Clerk informed Councillors that a light refreshment is available afterwards.

RECOMMENDED:

That any Councillors wishing to attend contact the Office.