

CONNAH'S QUAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held Wednesday, 7 April 2010

Present: (Attendance Register)

Councillor D. Barratt (Chair) presiding

Councillors Mrs. P. M. Attridge, J. B. Attridge, J. B. Bone, A. I. Dunbar, Carol Granger, W. Hastings, R. V. Hill, R. P. MacFarlane, E. W. Owen, A. J. Roberts, A. P. Shotton, P. Wainwright. Mr. Gary Feather (Clerk & Financial Officer)
Mrs. S. Wilson (Administrative Officer)

330. NOTICE OF MEETING

The notice of meeting was taken as read.

331. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Mrs. E. M. Barratt, D. M. Birch, Mrs. Y. Birch, K. Kelly, P. Kindlin, R. V. Williams & I. R. Smith.

332. POLICE CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS (294)

The Chair welcomed CBM Paul Williams and CBM Tim Barnett to the meeting.

CBM Paul Williams and CBM Tim Barnett reported back on items previously discussed at the 3 March 2010 Meeting:-

- (a) Howard Street – Councillor Mrs P. Attridge had concerns over an address within Howard Street. CBM Williams informed Councillors that a joint visit has taken place by the Police and the Housing Officer (Julie Gorman), the occupant has been spoken to at length regarding the worries over who is residing at the address and the concerns over how the address is being used. Support agencies have been involved. The occupant is now working closely with the Police, this will continue to be monitored with regular visits to this address.
- (b) Connah's Quay High School – following Councillor Mrs Y. Birch's concerns over dog owners walking their dogs in the school fields CBM Williams reported this has been monitored over the Easter weekend and Easter holidays and several dog walkers have been asked to leave the premises. The caretaker of the school has been informed of the dog walkers and will contact the Police should he see any dog walkers on the school fields.
- (c) Yellow Cards – Councillor A. J. Roberts queried the issue of 'yellow cards'. CBM Williams provided a handout explaining the issue of 'yellow cards' and a flowchart the Police follow after issuing two 'yellow cards'.
- (d) Richmond Road – following Councillor A. J. Roberts's concerns CBM Williams informed Councillors that patrols regarding youths congregating on the park behind Richmond Road have been done. Two mini mopeds have been seized from this area and youths have been requested to move on from the park. This area will continue to be monitored.

- (e) Chapel Street Area – Councillor R. V. Hill reported concerns over drug users congregating within the area of Chapel Street. CBM Williams reported Police are monitoring this area, two warrants have been issued, one positive and one negative. CBM Williams informed Councillors residents within the Pen-Y-Llan area do contact the Police regarding any activity and these calls are dealt with.
- (f) Mold Road – Councillor W. Hastings reported an accident outside Custom House School regarding a young girl. CBM Williams reported this was an isolated incident and the driver of the vehicle was driving with care and did stop which avoided a serious accident. CBM Williams reported Petra (School Liaison Officer) will liaise with the schools after the Easter holidays for Road Safety Awareness to be carried out in schools. Patrols prior to the school break have been carried out with regards to the parking and have been addressed.

CBM Williams reported on other updates:

- (i) Mobile CCTV unit has now returned to Cae Llys area, this will continue to be monitored, if no further calls regarding anti-social behaviour in this area are reported within the next couple of weeks the camera location will be reviewed.

N.B. Councillor A. P. Shotton arrived at this juncture.

- (ii) Operation Lubricant – Deeside Police have received several calls recently regarding the areas of: Central Park, St. David’s Drive, Pinewood Avenue and Red Hall with regards to Youths being rowdy, underage drinking and causing damage. The behaviour of these youths is intimidating for residents of these areas. This operation is currently live and on-going.
- (iii) Operation Boredom – There has been a noticeable increase in the amount of fires in the area of Wepre Park. Also several bin fires and small fires lit which could cause damage to retail premises if they had not been extinguished. This operation is on-going.
- (iv) Warrants – There have been four warrants carried out in the Garden City area. Three have been positive, also one warrant in Shotton which was positive and three in Connah’s Quay where two were positive, these have been carried out over the past month, all under the misuse of drug’s act.
- (v) Community Gardens – A key to the gardens has been received and is being used. Youths are still congregating on the car park and surrounding Brook Road area, these youths have been taken home and parents spoken to regarding behaviour.
- (vi) Cycle Riding – CBM Williams requested if possible Connah’s Quay Town Council write to Flintshire County Council Highways requesting signage of ‘no cycling on footpaths’.
- (vii) Dog Bins – Councillor Carol Granger has made enquires to residents regarding a dog bin in Llwyni Drive and all residents are in favour.

The following matters were raised by Councillors and discussed:-

- (a) Councillor Mrs P. Attridge and A. P. Shotton reported the opening of rubbish bags and scattering of rubbish in Howard Street. CBM Williams is aware of this situation

as Deeside Police have been finding rubbish in Central Park area, the rubbish has been taken from the Spar/Post Office. This is being monitored by Deeside Police as they think the culprits are after confidential information from the post office. The manageress of the Spar has been spoken to and she has now padlocked the rubbish bins. This will continue to be monitored.

- (b) Councillor J. B. Attridge passed his thanks to Deeside Police which he had received from residents concerning Isabella Court and Pinewood Avenue. Councillor J. B. Attridge informed CBM Williams elderly residents are frightened with youths gathering outside the Chip Shop. Councillor J. B. Attridge requested high visibility of Police presence in this area to reassure residents.
- (c) Councillor D. Barratt thanked CBM Williams for the mobile CCTV unit in the Cae Lllys area and due to this no more phone calls regarding anti-social behaviour have been received.
- (d) Councillor A. J. Roberts has had reports from a resident Mr Walker from Mill Lane in regard to empty vodka bottles left in Mill Lane. Mr Walker is concerned for his safety. CBM Williams will ensure this is monitored and Deeside Police will speak with Mr Walker to reassure him of his safety.
- (e) CBM Williams reported to Councillors regarding a once a month event “Revive” for youngsters which is held in the Albion Club. The first event was two weeks ago. One 15 year old youth was arrested, no other problems occurred on this night but local residents are concerned with what happened when the “Revive” nights were held at Shotton Lane Club with rowdy behaviour, underage drinking and anti-social behaviour. The Police are monitoring.
- (f) Councillor R. V. Hill queried the staffing levels of CBM’s within Connah’s Quay. As promised there should be four CBM’s and currently Connah’s Quay have three, with one on maternity leave leaving only two to deal with issues. Councillor R. V. Hill enquired if anything could be done from the Town Council to ensure Connah’s Quay have the promised number. CBM Williams explained if more CBM’s were needed the staff would be taken from the incident room at Deeside Police Station, no increase would be made to staffing numbers. Councillor R. V. Hill stated there should be one CBM to every ward. CBM Williams will ask the Inspector.
- (g) Councillor W. Hastings reported an incident at Dee Road with grit thrown at windows and a brick thrown at windows in Thornfield Road, residents are having rubbish thrown in their garden. CBM Williams replied this is being monitored by PCSO Danny Hughes.
- (h) Councillor E. Owen reported dog fouling in the alleyway near the Halfway House and at the children’s play area. CBM Williams will get this monitored.
- (i) Councillor A. I. Dunbar reported smashed bottles at Mill Lane, Somerfield car park and Thornfield Avenue. CBM Williams informed Councillors PCSO Danny Hughes is monitoring this situation and tickets will be issued for any anti-social behaviour.
- (j) Councillor E. Owen reported a silver car has been issuing cans of beer from the back of the car at Somerfield car park. CBM Williams reported the police will look into this.

The Chair thanked CBM Paul Williams and CBM Tim Barnett for their valuable assistance.

333. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declaration of interest was received.

PLANNING COMMITTEE – 07/04/10

Councillor A. I. Dunbar (Chair) presiding

334. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held 3 March 2010 were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

335. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- (a) 047281 31 Halkyn View, Connah's Quay
Proposed erection of single storey extension to rear of dwelling and moving of existing sectional garage.
- (b) 047312 11 Camrose Close, Connah's Quay
Proposed erection of a two storey extension to the rear.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to the Head of Planning Services informing him that the Town Council has no objection in respect of applications (a) and (b).

336. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

The Clerk submitted Notification of Planning Decisions (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda):- 046804, 046857, 046933, 047124, 047142.

RECOMMENDED:

That the notification be received.

337. TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED)
SECTION 78 APPEAL – 116-118 CHURCH STREET, CONNAH'S QUAY

The Clerk submitted letter dated 25 March 2010 from Head of Planning Services, Flintshire County Council (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:

That the notification be received.

338. TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED)
SECTION 78 APPEAL – 3 LON LLWYNI, CONNAH’S QUAY

The Clerk submitted Appeal Decision received 8 March 2010 from Geraint Rees, Inspector, The Planning Inspectorate, Cardiff (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:

That the appeal decision be received.

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

The Clerk submitted the following (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

(a) Carriageway Surfacing

Letter dated 19 March 2010 from Head of Highways and Transportation, Flintshire County Council regarding the overwhelming amount of potholes and how and when repairs have been dealt with.

Councillors enquired to where these potholes have been repaired as the roads are still in the same state. Councillors complained about various roads in Connah’s Quay that require surfacing. Councillor E. Owen stated St. Marks Avenue requires surfacing, Councillors J. B. Bone and P. Wainwright complained about the amount of potholes in Wepre Lane and Wepre Drive, during the bad weather these roads did not seem to be gritted properly, thus causing so many potholes. Councillor W. Hastings stated many roads in Connah’s Quay are in a bad state with potholes. Councillor R. V. Hill complained the road to the car park on Fron Road requires surfacing and has been in a bad state for a while.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter be received.

(b) Overhanging hedges

Councillor R. V. Hill reported overhanging hedges from a house on the corner of Hall Lane/Mold Road which is causing people to walk on the road instead of the pavement.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to Flintshire County Council.

(c) Clear-up of Highways

Councillor A. J. Roberts reported footpaths/alleyways that require clearing-up, Quay Lane along cycle track, Wepre Farm footpath, these should be cleared up on a monthly basis.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk arranges for these areas to be cleared.

(d) Barriers

Councillor J. B. Attridge informed Councillors of the lack of barriers outside Custom House Lane School. Flintshire County Council have carried out a site inspection and

are refusing to erect these barriers. Councillor J. B. Attridge requests support from the Town Council in getting these barriers in place for the safety of the school children.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to Flintshire County Council.

(e) **Parking Lines**

Councillor W. Hastings informed Councillors of safety issues in front of the bus stop near to Custom House Lane School, 'no parking' lines should be marked to stop cars parking.

RECOMMENDED:

The Clerk writes to the local MP requesting his support in this matter.

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 07/04/10

Councillor A. J. Roberts (Chair) presiding

340. MINUTES

The minutes of Meeting held 3 March 2010 were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

341. FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

- (a) Statement of Cumulative Income & Expenditure for the month of February 2010.
- (b) Consolidated Cash Summary for the period ended February 2010.
- (c) Statement of Imprest Account Payments during the month of February 2010.

RECOMMENDED:

That the reports be received.

342. NORTH WALES POLICE STAFFING LEVELS – CONNAH'S QUAY

The Clerk submitted letter dated 3 March 2010 from R Purdie, Chief Superintendent, Divisional Commander, North Wales Police, (copy forwarded to Councillors with Agenda), Councillors stated this letter does not explain why Connah's Quay have not got the agreed number of CBM's.

RECOMMENDED:

The Clerk writes to R. Purdie, Chief Superintendent requesting Connah's Quay has 4 CBM's as agreed.

343. REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR FLINTSHIRE

The Clerk submitted letter dated 4 March 2010 from Colin Everett, Chief Executive, Flintshire County Council, together with outline response to the Local Government

Boundary Commission for Wales (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) explaining the draft proposals for submission. Councillors discussed the proposals for Connah's Quay Town Council and agreed to amalgamate Wepre Ward. The Town Council would then become Central Ward, Golftyn Ward and Wepre Ward, having 7 Councillors per Ward and 2 County Councillors per Ward.

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter and outline response be received and the Clerk writes to Flintshire County Council with the agreed proposals.

344. REVIEW OF COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCES REGULATIONS

The Clerk submitted e-mail dated 15 March 2010 Democracy Team, Local Government Policy Division W.A.G (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:

That the e-mail be received.

345. WELSH EYE CARE INITIATIVE

The Clerk submitted letter dated 18 March 2010 from Carl Sargeant AM, Alyn and Deeside Constituency, National Assembly for Wales, together with letter from Edwina Hart, Minister for Health and Social Services, WAG, (copies forwarded to Councillors with Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:

That the letter be received.

346. POLICE AUTHORITY COMMUNITY FORUM FOR FLINTSHIRE

The Clerk submitted invite from Kelvin Dent, Chief Executive, North Wales Police Authority, (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) for Police Authority Community Forum for Flintshire on 11 May 2010.

RECOMMENDED:

That the invite be received.

347. NORTH WALES RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT PROJECT

The Clerk submitted leaflet (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda) which contains details of the Outline Business Case (OBC) for support in North Wales. Councillors discussed the matter of an Energy-from-Waste Plant at Deeside Industrial Park and have concerns over the current situation of already having 3 power stations in the Deeside area. Councillor R. V. Hill explained about an article in the Daily Post newspaper regarding Janet Williams petitioning for no Incineration Plants in Wrexham. Councillor R. V. Hill expressed concern over the traffic congestion we currently have without more vehicles travelling to Deeside Industrial Park should the weather be extreme and the bridge closed. Councillor A. P. Shotton stated residents need to be aware of what is proposed for the area and get their feedback. Councillor W. Hastings explained Janet Williams Wrexham campaigned for no Incineration Plants in Wrexham due to health risks that could be caused through air pollution from these Plants. Councillors agree there is no need for an Incineration (Energy-from-Waste) Plant in Deeside.

RECOMMENDED:

That the leaflet be received and Clerk writes to Deeside's neighbours – Neston, Burton, Ellesmere Port Town Councils in support of rejecting an Energy-from-Waste Plant at Deeside. The Clerk writes to Zero Waste Alliance raising this issue and to North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Project stating the Councillors concerns. The Clerk invites Councillor Arnold Woolley, Executive Member, Flintshire Council County to a meeting for Connah's Quay Town Councillors to explain their concerns.

348. PROMOTING HOME FIRE SAFETY IN OUR COMMUNITIES

The clerk submitted invite from Firebrake Wales, The Welsh Fire Safety Charity, together with booking form, (copies forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:

That the invite be received.

349. CONNAH'S QUAY PUBLIC TOILETS

The clerk submitted update in regard to the public toilets. Councillor R. V. Hill stated people are suffering, especially the older population, as this is a health and safety problem. Councillor J. B. Attridge is disappointed with the lack of communication Connah's Quay Town Council has received in regard to the new toilets, still nothing has been done. Councillors unsure as to whom to contact next to get any progress done and suggested the media may help.

RECOMMENDED:

That the update is received and the Clerk writes to the Chief Executive, Flintshire County Council.

350. COMMUNITY AWARDS

Nominations for the Community Awards were received. Councillor R. V. Hill proposed Mr Les Whitehead who is Governor of Bryn Deva School, he is a founder member of the Town Council and is extremely helpful with the local church. Councillor P. Attridge proposed Anne Williams who is Chair of MENCAP, Deeside, for over 25 years, she spends her time organising outings, helping families and organising other events. Councillor A. J. Roberts proposed Mrs Freda McDonald who is a founder member of the Town Council she spends considerably a lot of time helping out with the pensioners.

RECOMMENDED:

Councillors agreed all three nominations.

351. ETIQUETTE AND PROTOCOL

RECOMMENDED:

Councillors proposed the following for the various Civic arrangements.

Full Council Meetings 1. Chair, Clerk & Clergy to parade through the middle of members at the start and end of the meeting. All to be standing.
2. Members to stand when speaking and addressing the Chair.
3. Dress code to be smart and where appropriate a tie.

Civic Ball 1. Chair and guests will parade in and take their seats at the top table
2. A M.C. or Clerk will officiate.
3. The Chair will propose a toast.
4. Chair and Consort to start the dancing (where appropriate).
5. Chair and Vice-Chair of Recreation and Entertainment Committee to assist in the organisation.
6. The top table will include the Chair , Vice-Chair, Clerk, M.P., A.M. & Lords with their guests.

Civic Parade 1. As per sheet maintained on file.

Council A.G.M. 1. Retiring Chair to present any Community Awards.
2. The Chair to present two main charity cheques before electing New Chair.
3. The refreshments will be in the Council Chamber.

Invites 1. A list is to be maintained of all ex-councillors or their partners
2. Invitations from the above list to Civic Ball, Civic parade, A.G.M. and Achievement Awards.
3. Invitations to all Community Award recipients to Civic Ball, Civic Parade and Community Awards.

352. ROAD CONGESTION – SHOTTON

The Clerk addressed the Councillors with an update with the road congestion in Shotton, e-mails have been sent to the consultants Atkins and as yet no response has been received. Councillor P. Shotton reported the road congestion should be made a priority in Shotton with 6 million for funding this should be achievable. The road congestion is getting bad publicity with Councillor Tony Sharps saying this problem will never be sorted. Councillor R. V. Hill and Councillor P. Wainwright feel the timing of lights need to be synchronized to ensure the smooth flowing of traffic.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to Atkins inviting him to a Town Council meeting.

353. PRE-FINAL ACCOUNTS

(i) Appointment of Internal Auditor

RECOMMENDED:

That Mr. Rhodri Hampton-Jones, Compacc, Compete Accountancy Services is re-appointed as the Internal Auditor.

(ii) Assurances

RECOMMENDED:

That the Chair & Vice-Chair of Finance & General Purposes Committee Together with the Chair of the Council be appointed on the Committee.

(iii) Governance & Financial Management Checklist

RECOMMENDED:

The panel to review and submit a report

354. NOTIFICATION OF REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

To notify Councillors that the Clerk has replied to letters received from the following:

- (a) Nightingale House Hospice
- (b) Chair Flintshire Diabetes Voluntary Group

RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE – 07/04/10

Councillor B. Attridge (Vice-Chair) presiding

355. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held 3 February 2010 were received, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

356. 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 month of February 2010.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Statements be received.

- (b) Community Centre Activity/Profitability Statements
for the month of February 2010.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Statements be received.

357. 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 events:-

COMMUNITY CENTRE – FINANCIAL YEAR 2010/2011

Diabetes Clinic Trust Fund

Charity Dance to be held on

Friday, 17 December 2010

WAIVER.

358. CIVIC HALL

The Clerk informed Councillors that a visit to the new Town Council Offices will take place on Friday 16th April 2010.

RECOMMENDED:

That the information is received.