

HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF TREFFYNNON

Minutes of the Meeting of Holywell Town Council held in the Main Hall, St. Peter's Church, Rosehill, Holywell on Tuesday 15 December 2015 at 6pm.

PRESENT: Councillor P.J. McGarry (Mayor).
Councillors: Mrs. M. Auty, P.J. Curtis, Mrs. R. Dolphin, E.B. Palmer,
Mrs. M.D. Phelan, H.G. Roberts (for minutes 113 to 115), B.Scragg, Mrs. S.E.
Wallbanks, E. Watkinson and P.A. York.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors Mrs. K.
Davies, J. Griffiths and J.M. Johnson.

IN ATTENDANCE: D.C. Pierce (Clerk) and M.G. Fearnley (Community
Engagement Officer).

113. PRESENTATION BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S
COMMUNITY ENDEAVOUR AWARDS, 2015 – GREENFIELD;
HOLYWELL CENTRAL; HOLYWELL EAST; AND HOLYWELL WEST
WARDS + UNDER 18 AWARD

The Mayor welcomed the award nominees to the meeting and explained the background to the awards. Each of the nominees received a short introduction from a Member of the Council.

A Christmas Hamper/Sporting Event Voucher* and a framed Award Certificate was presented by the Mayor to the winners, as follows:

| <u>Ward</u> | <u>Recipient(s)</u> |
|------------------|---|
| Greenfield | Kerry Naughton |
| Holywell Central | Geoffrey Evans, collected on his behalf by his mother, Tracey Foster. |
| Holywell East | Timothy and Jenny Jones, jointly |
| Holywell West | Cathy Watton |
| <u>Under 18</u> | |
| Greenfield | Serin Jones* |

114. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

None.

115. PRESENTATIONS – LONG SERVICE AWARDS

On behalf of the Town Council, the Mayor presented an inscribed gift to Holywell Town and Flintshire County Councillor H. Gareth Roberts in appreciation of 50 years commitment and contribution to public life (2014).

The Mayor reported that, earlier that day, he had visited Town Councillor Mrs. Karin Davies at Holywell Community Hospital and had also presented her with a inscribed gift on behalf of the Authority in similar appreciation of her long service. She was first elected to the Town Council in December, 1975.

The Clerk reported that the press had been informed accordingly.

116. FLINTSHIRE NORTH POLICING UPDATE

PCSO Matthew Griffiths (Mostyn) attended for this item on behalf of Sergeant Mike Wilson. In response to Members' enquiries he reported no recent incidents at the Fron Park Skate Park nor any specific matters to be drawn to the Council's attention.

Councillor P.J. Curtis took the opportunity to update Members on a recent meeting at County Hall attended by the North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner including a summary of the issues covered during the presentation.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That PCSO Griffiths be thanked for his attendance at the meeting.
- (2) That Sergeant Mike Wilson be requested to update Members at the next meeting in relation to the process of dealing with incidents of domestic abuse reported to the Police.

117. ABSENCE OF MEMBER FROM MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL ETC.

The Mayor referred to the continuing absence from meetings of Councillor Mrs. K. Davies, whose last recorded attendance was in July 2015. Councillor Mrs. Davies was recovering from a heart operation and the matter of excusing her from attending meetings because of her ill-health and ongoing treatment required Members' attention.

The Council considered the situation having regard to the relevant provisions of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 – ceasing to be a Member of a local authority after six consecutive months' absence from meetings, unless the Council had approved the absence beforehand.

RESOLVED:

That the absence of Councillor Mrs. K. Davies from meetings on health grounds be approved and that, if required, this decision be reviewed by the Council at its Annual Meeting in May 2016.

118. MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor reported on his engagements as follows:-

Holywell Air Cadets – “Passing Out” Parade;
Holywell High School – Christmas Fete;
Holywell Town Council – Christmas Lights Switch-on.

He looked forward to joining other Council Members at the High Street Information Stand on 19 December, co-ordinated by Councillor Mrs. M.D. Phelan. On Christmas Day, together with the Mayoress, he proposed to attend/assist volunteers at the Community Christmas Dinner at St. Peter's Church and if possible also attend at Holywell Community Hospital.

The Mayor thanked Councillor E.B. Palmer for standing in for him at the Holywell Autumn Club's Christmas Dinner on 14 December. It was with regret that he could not attend and also an unforeseen work issue had meant that he was unable to attend the Autumn Club's end of year meeting on 8 December.

Members were also thanked for their annual contributions in lieu of Christmas cards. The final amount collected would be forwarded to St. Kentigern's Hospice.

In closing, he wished all present an enjoyable Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk inform the Holywell Autumn Club of the unavoidable circumstances relating to the Mayor's absence from the Club's 8 December meeting.

119. MINUTES

119.1. General

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the following meetings be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor and Vice-Chairman of the Audit Sub-Committee (in the absence of the Chairman).

Council meeting held on 17 November 2015;
#Audit Sub-Committee held on 2 December 2015

#(minutes emailed to Members prior to and also
circulated at the Council meeting).

119.2. Audit Sub-Committee held on 2 December 2015

The Vice-Chairman of the Sub-Committee summarised the issues covered at the meeting and the decisions taken.

RESOLVED:

That the resolutions of the above meeting be supported and approved.

120. PLANNING

120.1. Planning Application determined by the Clerk, in consultation with the Mayor, following receipt of more information from the Planning Case Officer

| No. | Proposal |
|------------|--|
| 054265 | Proposed erection of a storage building – Hillcrest Garage, Halkyn Road, Holywell for Mr. R. Thomas. |

No objection, provided there are no adverse highway implications.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk's action, in consultation with the Mayor, be approved.

120.2. New Planning Applications

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

RESOLVED:

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

| No. | Proposal |
|------------|--|
| 052922 | Erection of 1no. wind turbine (78m to tip) and ancillary infrastructure and access – Kingspan Ltd, 2-4 Greenfield Business Park, 2 Bagillt Road, Holywell: for Kingspan Ltd. |

Deferred until the next Council meeting on 19 January 2016; in the meantime, further contact be made with the Planning Case Officer for more information.

054594 Change of use from a guest house to a small group residential children's home – Gerddi Beuno, Whitford Street, Holywell: for Mr. James O'Leary.

Supported, subject to the proposal being in accordance with national guidelines, incorporating safeguards for the welfare of residents and that any identified highway/traffic management issues relating to the proposed change of use are satisfactorily resolved.

054642 Erection of 6no. apartments with associated car parking and formation of new vehicular access – 1 Stamford Cottages, Halkyn Road, Holywell: for Mr. Damian Davies.

Deferred, until the next Council meeting on 19 January 2016; in the meantime, further contact be made with the Planning Case Officer for his comments on the Town Council's observations on the previous, similarly worded application (054102) and on how the present proposal has changed in the light of the pre-application discussion; The Clerk, in consultation with the Mayor, be authorised to respond on behalf of the Authority should the Town Council's observations be required before its January meeting.

121 ACCOUNTS

121.1. Accounts for Payment

RESOLVED:

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

| <u>Voucher</u> | £ |
|---|-------------|
| 5943 Wasteater: Trade Refuse bags Collection to 31/10/15 | 10.80**** |
| 5944 Flintshire CC – Building, Cleaning Charges: 12/13 Bank Place Offices – July to September | 174.89**** |
| 5945 Flintshire CC – Contribution towards Summer County Playscheme Programme 2015 | 5,680.00^^* |
| 5946 Jolora – CMS Website Upgrade (Expression Engine Wordpress) 50% Initial payment | 800.00^^ |
| 5947 Holywell Autumn Club – Donation | |

| | | |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------|
| | (Christmas charitable activities) | 300.00 ^{^^} |
| 5948 | British Gas – Supplies – Bank Place Offices | 239.03 ^{****} |
| 5949 | Specimen Trees – Permanent Christmas Tree for Tower Gardens | 420.00 ^{^^} |
| 5950 | Stages 2 U: Mobile Stage Hire – Christmas Lights switch-on 27/11/15 | 475.00 ^{^^} |
| 5951 | The Music Mine Studios – Provision of Sound Engineering Services at switch-on | 200.00 ^{^^} |
| 5952 | Heather Marie FVE – Entertainment at switch-on | 275.00 ^{^^} |
| 5953 | ICR Group: Christmas Lights – Part 1 work to switch-on | 17,904.26 ^{^^} |
| 5954 | Festival Fireworks – display at switch-on | 1,000.00 ^{^^} |
| 5955 | NWN Media Ltd: Adverts – Christmas switch-on | 240.00 ^{^^} |
| 5956 | Trinity Mirror Publishing Ltd: Adverts – Christmas switch-on | 184.80 ^{^^} |
| 5957 | Copyrite Systems – Copier charges 14/8/15-13/11/15 | 246.86 ^{****} |
| 5958 | Society of Local Council Clerks – Annual Sub 2016 | 187.00 ^{^^^} |
| 5959 | D.C. Pierce – Salary – December | 1594.66 ^{***} |
| 5960 | M.G. Fearnley – Salary –December | 1179.27 ^{***} |
| 5961 | Mrs. M. Reed – Secretarial Expenses – December | 48.00 ^{***} |
| 5962 | HMRC (Inland Revenue) – PAYE/ Nat Ins – December | 940.73 ^{***} |
| 5963 ^{D/D} | British Telecom – Business Bill 07436273793 November | 14.84 ^{****} |
| 5964 ^{D/D} | British Telecom – Business Bill to November | 116.43 ^{****} |
| | | <hr/> 32,231.57 <hr/> |

Powers to make payments:-

- * The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) Regulations for the remuneration of members and co-opted members of relevant authorities – Part 5 Community/Town Councils)
- // Local Government Act 1948 S.33
- ** Local Government Act 1972 S.137
- *** Local Government Act 1972 S.112, 151
- **** Local Government Act 1972 S.133
- ^ Local Government Act 1972 S.111
- ^^ Local Government Act 1972 S.144, 145

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|-------|---|
| ^^^ | Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 S.19 |
| ^^^ | Local Government Act 1972 S.143 |
| *^ | Local Government Act 1972 S.140 |
| **^ | Local Government Act 1972 S.176 |
| **^^ | Local Government Act 1972 S.13 |
| **^^* | Local Government Act 1972 S.34 |
| **^* | Local Government (Misc. Provisions) Act 1953 S.4 |
| ^^** | Local Government Act 1972 S.174 |
| ^^^* | Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 S.4 |
| < | Local Government Act 1972 S.124 |
| # | Local Government Act 1972 S.142 |
| ## | Representation of the People Act 1983 S.34 |

121.2. Income Received

Members received the schedule of income, circulated with the agenda, regarding income between 1 and 30 November 2015.

122. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT 18/11/15 – 15/12/15

The Community Engagement Officer (CEO) presented his report covering the above period.

Members noted that the 2016 Cadi Ha event would be held on Saturday, 7 May between 10am and 3pm. Details of the Draft Programme were included in the CEO's report as well as a request for further ideas from Members, if possible before the proposed next meeting of the local Sub-Group meeting on 15 January.

The Council organised Christmas switch-on event had gone as well as it could despite atrocious weather. Public attendance had nevertheless been very good with some positive feedback afterwards. There were also special thanks in the report to the activity providers and to those Councillors who were able to attend, particularly Councillors E.B. Palmer and B. Scragg, for their hard work. Members expressed their thanks to the CEO and all who had been involved in ensuring the event's continued success. The Town Centre Sub-Committee and/or Events Working Group would be reviewing arrangements for next year's event.

The CEO reminded Members of the Santa Stroll event organised for 19 December from Greenfield to the town centre, via the Valley path. It was hoped that the weather would improve by the weekend event as the activities arranged for the previous two Saturdays had to be cancelled because of bad weather.

Members were very pleased to hear of the continued progress in respect of the Holywell Leisure Centre and Adjacent Facilities Community

Asset Transfer. A meeting was to be arranged with representatives from “Splash Magic” and Connah’s Quay Swimming Pool who were involved with similar schemes. Between 1,000 and 1,500 public questionnaires relating to the Centre had been returned indicating preferences for the future operation of the Centre. The Town Council may be approached to appoint a representative on either the Centre’s Working or Reference Group. The next meeting was scheduled for 6 January.

RESOLVED:

That the CEO’s report be received with thanks.

123. DRAFT LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) BILL

Members were informed that the Minister for Public Services had published for consultation the above Draft Bill which set out the Welsh Government’s detailed proposals for the reform of Local Government in Wales. The link to the consultation, which closed on 15 February 2016, had been circulated to all Members.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Audit Sub-Committee be requested to formulate a response to the consultation, on behalf of the Council.
- (2) That all Councillors be invited to forward any comments they may have to the Clerk and/or attend the Sub-Committee meeting in (1) above, should they wish to submit comments for consideration.

124. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL : STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY REVIEW – CONSULTATION

Consideration was given to responding to the above consultation, details of which had been circulated to Members with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

That the Draft Policy for 2016-2020 be noted.

125. COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER SCHEME – UPDATE

In addition to the information contained in the Community Engagement Officer’s report, the Clerk reported that the Council’s Expressions of Interest in respect of the public conveniences in Holywell had been acknowledged by the FLVC. Further communication was expected in due course.

RESOLVED:

That the position be noted.

126. CONTRACT WORK AT COUNCIL OFFICES: 14 BANK PLACE, HOLYWELL – UPDATE

The Clerk reported that work had started and good progress made, with a first stage payment authorised by the Contract Administrator.

A number of matters had arisen on which decisions were required and it was intended to arrange a meeting of the Council Offices Sub-Committee early in the New Year to deal with these.

RESOLVED:

That the information be noted.

127. CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING FOR TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS: 26 JANUARY 2016 AT 6PM IN THE CYMAU COMMUNITY CENTRE, CYMAU, WREXHAM, LL11 5EP - HOSTED BY THE MONITORING OFFICER, FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RESOLVED:

That the invitation to be represented at the above training evening be received.

128. DIARY DATE – BUDGET MEETING 2016/17

Members noted that the meeting of the Council's Finance (Budget) Committee was scheduled to be held on Thursday, 28 January 2016 at 6.30pm (venue to be confirmed).

129. REPORT(S) ETC RECEIVED

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

- (a) Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales – Individual consultation on Policing priorities*;
- (b) Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales – Newsletter*;
- (c) Community Health Council: Women's and Maternity Consultation – Update re. CHC's response*;
- (d) The Five Villages Chronicle: Issue No. 116 Winter (December) 2015.

130. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

Councillor Mrs. M.D. Phelan reported on a well-attended Christmas Fair at the Junior School.

Councillor P.A. York reported on his recent visit with other appointed Council Members, to Holywell High School and to the tour of the site arranged by Galliford Try, contractors. Work was reported to be on schedule for a completion date of September 2016.

Councillor Mrs. M. Auty reported on the recent 'Save our Services' (Financial Challenges) meeting arranged by the County Council and on matters discussed.

131. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillors P.J. Curtis and Mrs. R. Dolphin reported on the budget situation at County Hall and to increasing difficulties in securing resources and support for local services.

132. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Mayor closed the meeting at 8.05pm.

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Mayor