

HOLYWELL TOWN COUNCIL

CYNGOR TREF TREFFYNNON

Minutes of the Meeting of Holywell Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Bank Place Offices, Holywell on Tuesday, 17 January 2017 at 6.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillor J.M. Johnson (Mayor).
Councillors: Mrs. K. Davies, Mrs. R. Dolphin, E.B. Palmer,
Mrs. M.D. Phelan, K. Roberts, B. Scragg, Mrs. S.E. Wallbanks, E. Watkinson
and P.A. York.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors Mrs. M. Auty,
P.J. Curtis, J. Griffiths, P.J. McGarry, H.G. Roberts and L. Thorley.

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

125. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

No declarations were made.

126. PRESENTATION – COMMUNITIES FIRST (CF)

Sharon Jones (SJ), Communities First Cluster Delivery Manager,
attended for this item to give an overview of the present position in respect of
Communities First and to answer Members' questions.

Members were reminded that Communities First was a Welsh
Government Community Focused Tackling Poverty Programme, launched in
2001, supporting the most disadvantaged people in the most deprived areas
of Wales with the aim of contributing to alleviating persistent poverty.
However, more recently, Welsh Government Communities Secretary – Carl
Sargeant, in reviewing the programme, had indicated that he was minded to
phase out the Programme while establishing a new approach to meet the
challenges of the future.

With that in mind, SJ referred to the uncertainty that existed within the
service at the present time both for staff and ongoing work in the County's CF
areas including the Holywell community in relation to supporting job clubs
and the dementia café to name a few. Particular County-wide achievements
during 2016 had included the Dragon's Den Cymru event, Flintshire
Enterprise Club, "Sky's the Limit" project and the LIFT programme.

Future planning was unfortunately "on hold" until Welsh Government
had announced its plan for CF across Wales.

In supporting CF within its area, Members felt that this support should also be communicated to Welsh Government direct.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Council records its thanks to Sharon Jones for her attendance at the meeting and that its long-standing support for the County's CF programme and for the future of CF be made known to the First Minister, the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children and the AM for Delyn, with a copy sent to the Rt. Hon. David Hanson MP for Delyn, in the hope that its good work can be continued in the best interests of the people of the area.
- (2) That the Council be updated on the CF situation when the Welsh Government announcement has been made.

127. FLINTSHIRE NORTH POLICING UPDATE

The meeting was attended by PC 2046 Scott Mallin and PCSO 2600 Phillip Rushby. Members were updated on the matters that had received attention since the last meeting and discussed local issues with the officers. The appointment of a civilian to undertake speed checks in part of the community was noted.

The Clerk reported on the recent appointment of new District Inspector Andy Griffiths who proposed to attend the Council's next meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the officers be thanked for their attendance at the meeting.

128. MINUTES

128.1. General

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the following meetings be approved and signed as a correct record by the Mayor/Chairman of the appointed Sub-Committee.

Council Meeting held on 20 December 2016;
Town Centre Sub-Committee held on 11 January 2017.

128.2. Meeting held on 11 January 2017

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the resolutions of the Town Centre Sub-Committee at the above meeting be supported and approved.
- (2) That an iBeacon Working Group of up to 6 persons be formed and that the Mayor and Councillor E.B. Palmer be appointed as the Council's representatives on the Group.

129. PLANNING

129.1. New Planning Applications

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

RESOLVED:

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

No	Proposal
056263	Outline application for the erection of 1no.bungalow – Land rear of 2 Bryn Awel, Whitford Street, Holywell: for Ms. Julie Nixon.

No objection, subject to planning criteria being satisfied in particular in relation to access and there being no detriment to the visual amenities of neighbouring properties.

056285	Erection of 1no. dwelling - Milwr Farmhouse, Milwr Road, Holywell: for Mr. R. Pierce. AMENDMENTS AND/OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.
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No objection, provided that earlier Planning Appeal conditions are met.

056355	Single storey rear extension – 15 Cairnton Crescent, Greenfield, Holywell: for Mr. Jason Vaughan.
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No objection.

130. ACCOUNTS

130.1. 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>	£
6273 St. John Cymru-Wales-Ambulance/ First aid post and cover for town centre events 2016	600.00 ^{^^}
6274 Mrs. P. White (Stages2U)-Mobile stage hire Christmas lights switch-on 25/11/16	500.00 ^{^^}
6275 Sian Jones: Translation Service -Work during 2016	52.80 ^{***}
6276 C.M. Scott Jewellers: Shield engraving-Best Christmas shop window (2016)	13.30 ^{^^}
6277 Computer Technical Solutions: Windows10 upgrade Laptop – Community Engagement Officer	60.00 ^{****}
6278 M.G. Fearnley-Travelling 15/7/16-14/10/16	81.00 ^{***}
6279 Holywell Autumn Club – Donation (Christmas charitable activities)	300.00 ^{^^}
6280 Flintshire CC-Electrical supply works Tower Gardens at site of permanent Christmas tree	1,402.36 ^{^^}
6281 Holywell PCC-Light refreshments following Mayor's Civic Service 16/10/16	180.00 ^{^^}
6282 Holywell PCC-Hire of Church for Council meeting 20/12/16(£50); Light refreshments (£75, to be reimbursed by the Mayor)	125.00 ^{****}
6283 D.C. Pierce-Salary-January	1,610.40 ^{***}
6284 M.G. Fearnley-Salary-January	1,216.58 ^{***}
6285 Mrs. M. Reed-Secretarial Expenses - January	48.00 ^{***}
6286 HMRC(Inland Revenue)-PAYE/ Nat Ins-January	972.85 ^{***}
6287 _{D/D} British Telecom-Business Bill 7436273793 to December	25.75 ^{****}

6288 _{D/D} British Telecom-Business Bill to November	131.94****
6289 _{D/D} Opus energy-Gas Bank Place offices to 9/12/16	352.44****
6290 _{D/D} npower - Electricity to 18/11/16 14 Bank Place	30.36****
6291 _{D/D} :npower-Electricity to 18/11/16 12/13Bank Place	107.42****
	7,810.20

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
- ^^^ 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

130.2 Income Received

Members received the schedule of income, circulated with the agenda, regarding income between 1 and 31 December 2016.

131. MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor reported on his Christmas Day visit, with Holywell Central Councillor Peter Curtis – Flintshire County Council Chairman, to see patients at Holywell Community Hospital. Later, he called at St. Peter's Church and helped with the annual Community Christmas Dinner. Attendance at this event had been growing year after year.

He also mentioned his forthcoming St. David's Day Charity Event at the Stamford Gate, Holywell on Saturday evening 4 March. Tickets at £25, including a 3-course dinner and entertainment, were available from the Clerk.

A Member referred to the welcomed attendance by the Mayor, from time to time in previous years, at Llys Emlyn-Williams (supported housing for single homeless people aged between 16 and 25) and recommended a visit if time permitted within the Mayor's normally busy schedule.

132. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT – 21/12/16 – 17/01/17

Members had before them for consideration the report of the Community Engagement Officer (CEO) covering the above period. Members raised items within the report for clarification and/or additional information.

The CEO referred to proposed future arrangements for judging the Best Christmas Shop Window where the winner would become the judge in the following year's competition.

Members commended the Town Centre Business Draw initiative where a person would be given a lucky number entry ticket each time £10 was spent at any participating businesses during January and February 2017. Prizes (donated by local town centre business) would be drawn at the Holywell 'Welsh Day' event on Saturday, 4 March.

Members also noted the proposed purchase via the Rotary Club of a defibrillator that would be supported by a well-trained response team from local traders in the town. It was agreed that this would be a good asset for the town.

The CEO drew attention to the item regarding the future of St. James's Church, Holywell reported at the December meeting. He had been asked to help with the setting up of an initial meeting(s) of the task/steering group and explore the availability of grants etc to develop and take forward an agreed vision for the Church. The Council's views were sought.

In response to the CEO's request for project ideas to consider and report back for priority setting etc as part of the Council's "Planning for the Future", Members referred to its recently agreed tourism/regeneration priorities which should be worked through accordingly to begin with.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the CEO's report be received with thanks.
- (2) That the proposed future judging arrangements in respect of the Best Christmas Shop Window competition be noted and agreed.

- (3) That the Council supports the retention of St. James's Church, suitably restored.
- (4) That the request for the CEO's temporary assistance to the task/steering group of St. James's Church be agreed subject to time permitting having regard to his Council duties and other priorities.

133. NATWEST BANK CLOSURE, HIGH STREET, HOLYWELL

Members had before them details of the outcome of the meeting between The Rt. Hon. David Hanson MP and Michael German, North Wales Customer Distribution Manager for NatWest, to discuss the proposed closure.

Some of the concessions agreed by the bank included, although the times set may need to be altered:-

- Customers will be able to continue to bank using the Post Office in Holywell;
- A new mobile bank will visit Holywell once a week – Wednesday, 09.30-11.30 from June 2017 for 12 months (review June 2018 or earlier);
- A Community Banker will support one day per week to help with meeting customers' product needs – from June 2017 for 12 months (review June 2018 or earlier);
- A continuation of NatWest Business Growth Enabler in the area; and
- A Digital Expert will be available in branch from January 2017 to June 2017 to help customers learn the other ways to bank.

Also circulated was a copy of a letter from a local resident seeking support to reverse the bank's decision.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the concessions referred to by the MP be noted and welcomed.
- (2) That the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor and Councillor E.B. Palmer, be appointed to meet Mr Michael German to further discuss the planned closure and the reported concessions.
- (3) That the Council's representatives take the concession information to their forthcoming meeting with Mr. German and seek further concessions or a reversal of the closure decision.

134. PLAY SURVEY 2010 AND PLAY UNIT ASSESSMENT 2016

The above schedule from the County Council was considered in readiness for the County's partnership/match funding announcement for the current financial year, expected before the end of January.

Members discussed priorities as well as those play areas where improvements had been undertaken in recent years.

RESOLVED:

That, if possible, the matter be resolved between Ward Members or otherwise referred to the Finance (Budget) Meeting on 26 January, for determination.

135. NEW COLLECTOR OF WASTE FROM THE COUNCIL'S BANK PLACE OFFICES, HOLYWELL

The Clerk reported that on 2 January 2017, Veolia ES (UK) Ltd, Ellesmere Port had acquired Wasteater's commercial trade business (waste collectors formerly servicing the Council's Bank Place Offices). No review of current charges was proposed within the next 12 months.

RESOLVED:

That the position be noted.

136. NORTH AND MID WALES ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (NMWALC) QUARTERLY MEETING ON FRIDAY, 20 JANUARY 2017 AT COLWYN BAY

Members noted the agenda for the forthcoming (NMWALC) meeting. No issues were raised for discussion at the meeting. Councillors Mrs. K. Davies and Mrs. M.D. Phelan indicated their intention to attend.

RESOLVED:

That the information be received.

137. REMINDER DATE – BUDGET MEETING

Members noted that the meeting of the Finance (Budget) Committee would take place on Thursday, 26 January 2017 at 6.30 pm at the Council's Bank Place Offices.

138. 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) Welsh Government – publicity for local government elections 4/5/17;

- (b) High Sheriff of Clwyd Community Awards 2017 – Nominations invitation*;
- (c) North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils: Agenda for Quarterly Meeting 20 January 2017 (Colwyn Bay) and accompanying minutes;
- (d) Wales & West Housing: Proposals for Extra Care Scheme in Holywell Drop-in session 12/1/17*;
- (e) Citizens Advice Flintshire: Annual Report 2015/16;
- (f) Holywell Autumn Club – Letter of thanks/appreciation and annual report*.

139. CO-OPERATIVE AGREEMENT – HOLYWELL LEISURE CENTRE GROUP

This item, although not on the agenda, was accepted by the Mayor for consideration as an early decision was sought on acceptance of terms.

The Clerk reported that the Draft Co-operative Agreement in respect of the Holywell Leisure Centre had been received. The Town Council was listed as one of the parties, with Flintshire County Council and Holywell Leisure Centre Group. The intended operative date of the Agreement was from 1 March 2017, this being the proposed operative asset transfer date to the Group.

The Clerk sought the Council's agreement to seek independent legal advice to ensure that the Town Council's interests were safeguarded and referred to past arrangements relating to the transfer of the Woodland off Halkyn Road, Holywell to the Council, where local solicitors Griffiths and Hughes Parry had been engaged to act for the Council.

RESOLVED:

That legal advice on the Draft Agreement be sought from Griffiths & Hughes Parry, Solicitors of Holywell.

140. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

The Mayor and Councillor E.B. Palmer reported on the following:-

- Joint Informal Meeting with County Council Members/officers - with matters to be reported to and considered at the Town Council's Finance (Budget) meeting on 26 January.
- Community Engagement Meeting - further developing the Council's links with the community. Reasonably well attended. Broad agreement for the Council to increase its precept to financially support the Holywell Leisure Centre Group. Next meeting proposed after the next May's local elections and before the Summer recess if possible.
- Meeting of Ysceifiog Community Council - where setting up closer working links between local communities was supported.

141. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

None.

142. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Mayor closed the meeting at 7.30pm.

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Mayor