

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CAERWYS TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7-30P.M. AT THE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE, SOUTH STREET, CAERWYS.

PRESENT

Councillor James Falshaw, Town Mayor
Councillor Mrs Lynette Edwards, Deputy Town Mayor
Councillor E Vincent Frost
Councillor Jonathan Duggan-Keen
Councillor Michael Moriarty
Councillor R Phillip Parry
Councillor Ms Helen Priestly
Councillor Jonathan Webb
Councillor Stephen G Wilson.

1.70/13 APOLOGIES

Councillor David Knights
Councillor Louise Carus

Bereavements.

Members stood in silence in memory of Mr Darcy Huntris of Shotton formerly of Caerwys,

2. 71/13 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16TH JULY 2013

The Minutes were approved as correct by Councillor M Moriarty and seconded by Councillor Mrs Lynette Edwards subject to the following amendments:-.

1c Planning Application Number should read 050880 not 050169
Page 4 paragraph 6 should read have requested that the Town Council confirm or otherwise.
Page 4 (f) should read The Royal Welsh Regiment.
Page 5 paragraph 1 The sighting data
6b on a more thorough basis

3. 72/13 MATTERS ARISING

Page 5 National and Local Standing Orders- The Clerk reported that she had been informed by JDH the Internal Auditor for the Council that the Standing Orders, Risk Assessments etc should be updated annually during the month of February.

Reported that Planning Application Number 050880 Construction of a Public House, creation of parking and turning areas cycle store and means of access on land adjacent to the east of McDonalds at Lloc – appeal was held on the 10th August 2013 and the application was dismissed.

4. 73/13 TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Falshaw reported that he had attended the following :-

Saturday 27th July 2013 Flint Royal Welsh Regiment Parade. Sunday 28th July Rhyl Town Council Civic Service. Saturday 3rd August 2013 National Eisteddfod of Wales at Denbigh accompanied by the Clerk. Wednesday 24th August 2013 Coffee Morning St Michael's Church, Caerwys. Sunday 8th August 2013 Councillor John Owen Civic Service, St Asaph City Council.

5. 74/13 TO RECEIVE THE TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

Councillor Falshaw read out Mrs Elizabeth Snowden's Notice of terminating her employment as Clerk/Financial Officer to take effect from the 31st December 2013.

Councillor Falshaw reported that he had accompanied PCSO Rob Hill and Councillor Jonathan Duggan-Keen in carrying out an Environmental Assessment in and around the town and reported on the following:-1. Road surface and road markings outside Ysgol yr Esgob to be renewed. 2. Salt Bin to be replaced on the Pen y Cefn Road, 3. Renewal line markings, No Parking at the Entry to the Caerwys Memorial Institute Playing Field. 4. Marian Lucy Common opposite "Bodlondeb" dead Ash Tree, Flintshire County Council attending to the complaint. Bryn Aur,- Street Name Sign receiving attention. Offensive smells from the pig farm.

6. 75/13 CORRESPONDENCE/CLERKS REPORT

(a) Clerk's Report.

(b) Local Councils in Wales Annual Return-year ending 31st March 2013.

The following correspondence received :-

1. Flintshire County Council -Results of the Environmental Competitions 2013.
2. Flintshire County Council "Code of Conduct for Members of Town and Community Councils" Meeting on Thursday 7th November 2013 at 6-0p.m. Council Chamber, Flint Town Council.
3. Betsi Cadwaladar University Health Board -Opportunities to Champion Patient's Rights in North Wales. Invitation to serve as a member of the Community Health Council. Information received.
4. Flintshire County Council Joanne Pierce will be serving the County Forum Meetings and Trevor Jones Policy and Performance Support Officer will be providing admin support during the next twelve months due to Louise Mackie being on Maternity Leave.
5. Flintshire County Council -Joint Meeting with Flintshire Standards Committee and Town/Community Councils will be held on Monday 14th October 2013 at 6-30p.m. Council Chamber, Connah's Quay Town Council Offices, Fron Road. Connah's Quay.
6. Flintshire County Council -Civil Parking Enforcement- from the 1st October 2013 Flintshire County Council will be taking over the responsibility from North Wales Police for parking enforcement throughout the County. Explanatory leaflets available from County Hall.
7. Flintshire Development Plan - Consultation on Draft Delivery Plan.. Councillor J Duggan-Keen agreed to complete the questionnaire on behalf of the Town Council.
8. The Clerk read out an E Mail from Councillor Moriarty who had received a complaint from Mr Berwyn Roberts, 5 Lon yr Ysgol, Caerwys, regarding the use of the road on the estate where he resides by a Department of Transport Centre to conduct a driving test on an agricultural tractor for a sixteen year old youth. Concerns expressed that this location could be dangerous as the primary school is situated on this road.
Agreed that the Clerk bring this matter to the attention of the Farmers Union of Wales at Ruthin and the Test Station at Rhyl.
9. Invitation for a representative from the Town Council to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Flintshire Voluntary Council on Thursday 26th September 2013 at 7-0p.m. at Coleg Cambria, Deeside Campus. Kelsterton Road, Connah's Quay.
10. The Clerk reported on the following :-
 - (a) Town Council Notice Boards in Afonwen and Pen y Cefn require attention. Councillor Falshaw reported that the Notice Board in the centre of the town was also in need of attention and that he would attend to the three. Notice Boards
 - (b) Clerk reported that she and Councillor Parry had gone through the documents in the both boxes property of the Town Council, there were some old Council Minutes found. Agreed that the Clerk arrange for the Minutes to be taken to the Record Office at Hawarden.

11. The Clerk enquired if she be allowed to purchase the Town Council's Computer and Printer. Members agreed to the request. The Clerk to pay a nominal sum of money.
 - 12 Land at Pen y Cefn – Reported that the Clerk had enquired with Mrs Nesta Davies, Solicitor, Llewellyn Jones, Mold what the position is regarding the sale of this land. Mrs Davies had been unable to contact Mr Sass is solicitor due to holidays. Agreed that the Clerk send a letter requesting that Mrs Davies contact Mr Sass Solicitors to find out what his intentions are in respect of purchasing the land, and to inform him that if he does not wish to proceed with the sale, the Town Council will be arranging for the land to be sold on the open market.
- (b) Local Council's Annual Return for the year ending 31st March 2013. The Clerk reported that Hacker Young the External Auditor intends to issue an unqualified audit certificate and report.

1. The Clerk to insert the name of the Council at the top of Section 1.
2. Hacker Young request copies of the Town Council's Bank Statements for year ending 31st March 2013.

Members unanimously approved the Annual Returns. The Town Mayor and the Clerk signed Section 3 of the document.

7. 76/13 REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Councillor M/s Helen Priestly reported that she had attended the School Governor's Meeting at Ysgol yr Esgob a new member of staff has been appointed and will take up duties at the beginning of the January 2014 term.

Councillor Priestly reported that she had attended a meeting of the Flintshire Access Forum at County Hall Mold . Among the items discussed were the possible provision of walks for people with special needs i.e. people who are wheelchair bound, or are dependent on using scooters. limited mobility.

Councillor Moriarty suggested that the Caerwys Historical Society when they come to organise the town trail give consideration to the requirements of wheelchair users and people with special needs.

Councillor Jonathan Webb reported that he had attended the Annual General Meeting of the North Wales Association of Town and Larger Councils. The Association has now changed their name to the "North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils."

8. 77/13 STREET LIGHTING FAULTY/OUT OF ORDER

Reported that the Clerk had informed DEECO LIGHTING that the light opposite the Town's Notice Board was faulty. Councillor Phillip Parry reported that the light at the bottom of the steps in St Michael's Drive was out of order

9. 78/13 TRAFFIC SURVEY NORTH STREET

In the absence of Councillor Carus members agreed to defer this item.. The Clerk to arrange for Councillor Carus to receive a copy of the traffic survey which was carried out by Flintshire County Council in February 2013.

10. 79/13 PLANNING APPLICATIONS/DECISIONS

The following application was received :-

Planning Application Number 051157 – Erection of a new detached garage at the Old School House., High Street, Caerwys.

No observations with the application in principal. Concerns when vehicles emerge out of the garage on to the Pen y Cefn Road as visibility restricted to the south. Stone cladding of the wall to match the boundary wall of the church which is a listed Grade 2 building and within a conservation area.

Councillor Stephen Wilson, Chairman of the Planning Committee declared an interest and left the Chamber during discussion and signed the Members Code of Conduct Form.

Flintshire County Council refused the following application Number 050880 Erection of anemometer mast (up to 80 m in height) for the temporary period of three years Land at Ffridd y Garregwen, Caerwys.

11. 80/13 APPOINTMENT OF TOWN CLERK/FINANCIAL OFFICER

Members agreed to arrange a Special Meeting to discuss the appointment of a Clerk/Financial Officer. Meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th September 2013 at 7-30p.m. at Caerwys Town Hall.

12. 81/13 REVIEW OF SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICES

Councillor Moriarty reported that Flintshire County Council are currently holding a consultation in respect of subsidized bus services within the County. The consultation period will terminate shortly and will affect bus routes that cover Caerwys.

Flintshire County Council has no mandatory obligation to fund any public transport services, however it does have powers under the Transport Act of 1985 & 2008 to enter into agreements with public transport operators to provide subsidies for services that are not available commercially. Usually these are ones for rural areas, early morning and evening, Sundays, Bank Holidays and some school services.

Due to the Welsh Assembly Government cutting funds for subsidized bus services received by the County Council this has led to a reported reduction amounting to £224,000-00 in the budget for such provision by the County. As a result Flintshire County Council has carried out an assessment that has resulted in draft proposals being put forward to Members of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

From the assessment made by County Hall on subsidized bus services Route 14 Mold-Caerwys-Denbigh and Route 14A, Afonwen-Caerwys-Gorsedd-Carmel-Holywell- Holywell High School are under threat to be axed or reduced.

Options for Route 14 include reduced frequency during daytime and being demand responsive to rural settlements.

Route 14A option is to consider withdrawing the service and to replace it with a school minibus.

Councillor Moriarty proposed that in the light of proposals as to the future bus services serving this community and that Caerwys Town Council had not received an invitation to participate in any consultation process he recommended to members that objections to these threats be communicated to Flintshire County Council immediately. Members unanimously agreed.

The following objections to be sent to Mr Carl Longland , Director of the Environment :-

1. Caerwys is located between the key towns of Holywell, Mold and Denbigh where these services and facilities are located. Access to these towns would be denied to residents who rely upon public transport to reach them.

2. Not all children from the community attend Holywell High School. Some receive their education in Mold and Denbigh and will require provision of public transport.
3. The health and wellbeing of residents within the community who do not have access to public transport and have to travel to key towns and even further afield to receive appropriate health care, will be adversely impacted.
4. To withdraw either Route 14 or 14A would result in having to make use of circuitous bus routes incorporating bus charges to reach key towns. This would incur additional expense and time for passengers. Withdrawal of both routes would isolate Caerwys and contribute to deprivation within the community.
5. Loss or reduction of bus services would highlight even further social inequality between the poor and those able to afford private vehicles. Likewise no consideration appears to have been given to those who are unable to drive for one reason or another, e.g. health, age, driving disqualification, etc.
6. Withdrawal or reduction of current bus services within the Caerwys community area would necessitate increased usage of private vehicles with resultant increase of carbon dioxide emissions.
7. Yet again as a rural community, Caerwys is being treated as a soft target when decisions are made as to loss or reduction of services and facilities. Little thought is shown for the community's essential needs or to the stark fact that it is becoming increasingly difficult to reside in a rural community unless one is financially well off.

13. 82/13 CORRESPONDENCE RE OLD COURT HOUSE

Councillor Moriarty requested that if members of this Council receive any correspondence from Mrs Maitland Jones the owner of the Old Court House they should be sent direct to Mr Jerry Spencer, Conservation and Design Officer, at Flintshire County Council.

14. 83/13 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Approval received for the payment of the following :-

	COST	VAT	TOTAL	CHQ NO
1. Deeco Lighting, Mold	£384-00	£76-00	£460-00	771
2. Scottish Power, Glasgow	£246-81	£49-36	£296-17	772
3. Canda Copying (rental)	£ 46-00	£9-20	£ 55-20	773
4. North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils (Annual Sub)			£ 25-00	774
5. Clerk's Salary including backdated pay (from 1/4/13)				775
6. E E Snowden (Clerk's Expenses)				776

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

1. Cor Meibion Caerwys			£100-00	777
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2. Marie Curie Cancer Care	£ 25-00	778
3. Shelter Cymru	£ 25-00	779
4 HAFAN Cymru, Carmarthen	No grant.	

PAYMENTS MADE DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2013

1. Scottish Power, Glasgow	£246-81	£49-36	£296-17	766
2. Caerwys Memorial Institute (5 months rental)			£100-00	769
3. Information Commissioner's Office Wilmslow (Annual Subscription)			£ 35-00	770
4. E E Snowden Clerk's Salary				767
5. E E Snowden (Clerk's Expenses)				768