



CONNAH'S QUAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held in Person and Hybrid - Wednesday 8 January 2025

Present: (Attendance Register)

Councillor D. Owen (Vice-Chair) presiding

Councillors, B. Crease, A. I. Dunbar, A. Dunbobbin, E. S. Faulkner, A. Hughes, E. Loughnane, R. Mansell, A. Manship, D. Richardson, I. R. Smith & A. S. Wren.

Mrs S. Wilson (Clerk)

Mrs H. M Goldsmith (Administrative Officer)

1 member of the public

176. NOTICE OF MEETING

The notice of meeting was received.

177. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors, D. Addaway, J. B. Attridge, L. Attridge, W. Catterall, G. A. Faulkner, A. R. Owen, V. Roberts & P. Shotton.

178. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor A. S. Wren declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in Item 21 Mill Lane Allotments

Councillor B. Crease declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in Item 21 – Mill Lane Allotments

Councillor D. Richardson declared a Personal Interest in Item 10 – Planning Applications

Councillor A. Dunbobbin declared a Personal Interest in Item 5 – Police Consultative

179. COMMITTEE REPORTS ETC

(a) Consultative Meeting – 4 December 2024

(b) Planning Committee – 4 December 2024

(c) Finance & General Purposes Committee – 4 December 2024

(d) Recreation & Entertainments Committee – 4 December 2024

(e) Regeneration Committee – 4 December 2024

(f) Declarations of Interest – 4 December 2024

RECOMMENDED:

That reports (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) be approved and adopted as a correct and accurate record.



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180. POLICE CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

The Police were invited but did not attend due to a local incident.

All questions provided to PCSO Gemma Wilde by the Councillors will be responded and the Clerk will forward to Councillors.

181. CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL UPDATE

No update was available.

182. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair invited Members of the public to address the Council on any item that appeared on the Agenda.

Confirmed 5 February 2025

Presiding Chair

PLANNING COMMITTEE – 08/01/25

Councillor A. S. Wren (Chair) presiding

183. MINUTES

The Minutes of Meeting held 4 December 2024 were received and approved as correct records and signed by the Chair.

184. NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING DECISIONS

The Clerk submitted notification of planning decisions for the month of December 2024 (copy given to Councillors at the meeting).

185. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Golftyn Ward

FUL/000972/24 – Coleg Cambria, Kelsterton Road, Connah's Quay.

New all weather pitch and associated fencing and lighting.



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Councillors raised concerns regarding the removal of hedges and trees, flooding, lighting and noise issues affecting neighbouring properties.

The Chair of Planning informed Councillors that the date of comments had passed but asked that this application to be discussed by Council and comments minuted.

RECOMMENDED:

The Town Council objects to this planning application due to concerns over flooding, lighting and noise.

Golftyn Ward

FUL/001013/24 – Land at Fair Oaks Drive, Connah's Quay.

Erection of 2 no. semi-detached dwellings.

Central Ward

FUL/001017/24 – 4 Cable Street, Connah's Quay.

Retrospective application for the construction of 2 no. 1 bedroom flats following planning permissions 054970, 060636 and DET/000073/24

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk writes to Planning Flintshire County Council informing them that the Town Council has no objections provided they follow planning policy.

Confirmed 5 February 2025

Presiding Chair

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – 08/01/25

Councillor D. Owen (Vice-Chair) presiding

186. MINUTES

The Minutes of Meeting held 4 December 2024 were received and approved as correct records and signed by the Chair.



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187. FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

- (a) Summary of Income/Expenditure by Budget Heading – November 2024
- (b) Cash & Investment Reconciliation – November 2024
- (c) Statement of Imprest Account – November 2024
- (d) List of payments General Account – November 2024 & December 2024
- (e) List payments General Account – For the Chair of Finance and General Purposes to have delegated authority in approving the accounts for January 2025.
- (f) Bank Reconciliation – Chairs Account – November 2024
- (g) Bank Reconciliation – Petty Cash Office – November 2024

RECOMMENDED:

All were in favour that reports (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) & (g) be agreed.

That report (c) Imprest Account November be £7,726.58 be agreed that report (d) General Account for November be £65,672.55 and December be £50,859.26, (e) that delegated authority be given to the Chair of Finance & General Purposes to authorise payment of the accounts for the month of January and a copy be available to Council at the next meeting.

188. SPECIAL FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES MEETING - BUDGET

To agree the date of the 22nd January for the meeting.

RECOMMENDED:

That the date of the 22nd January at 6.30pm be agreed.

189. MEMBERS PANEL - STAFFING

To agree the date of 27th January for the meeting.

Councillors R. Mansell and B. Crease requested to attend the meeting as observers and Councillor E. S Faulkner be substitute if Councillor W. Catterall can not attend.

This was agreed by Members.

RECOMMENDED:

That the date of 27th January at 10.00am be agreed.



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190. POLICIES

The Clerk submitted the below policies (copied forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda):-

a) Health and Safety

Councillor I. R. Smith suggested that the contents of all First Aid Boxes should be checked for dates each month and replenished as required.

b) Dignity at Work

c) Reserves Policy

d) Social Media

RECOMMENDED:

That the above policies are approved.

191. NETCENTRIX

The Clerk submitted an update from Netcentrix regarding Reason for Outage (RFO) (Copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:

That the update be received.

192. A494 RIVER DEE BRIDGE CONSULTATION

The clerk submitted an email from Sasanka Fernando, Project Director – Transport and Digital Connectivity, Welsh Government regarding public consultation (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).

RECOMMENDED:

That the email be received.

193. WREXHAM TO BIDSTON RAIL USERS ASSOCIATION

Councillor Loughnane as the Council's representative attended a meeting of the Wrexham-Bidston Rail Users Association.

Councillor Loughnane gave a verbal update.

Timetables for the line have been improved from 1 hour services to 45 minutes, with looking to improve even further to 30 minute service. This is in each direction.

There are plans for 'buy before you travel' on all Transport for Wales the same as Merseyrail. No date had been given for this as yet.



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Another improvement that has been made is the opening/closing of the doors. This has seen a saving of 40 seconds at each station. Further improvements are hoped to be achieved on this.

The Chair thanked Councillor Loughnane for the report

RECOMMENDED:

That the verbal report be received.

194. Christmas Tree

The Clerk submitted an email from Councillor I. R. Smith in reference to a complaint regarding the Town Council Christmas Tree barrier (copy submitted to Councillors with the Agenda).

A recommendation was suggested that a different type of barrier be erected.

Members proposed that this be an agenda item for October meeting under festive lighting.

RECOMMENDED:

That the email be received and further discussions take place at a later date.

Confirmed 5 February 2025

Presiding Chair

RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE – 08/01/25

Councillor A. Manship (Chair) presiding

195. MINUTES

The Minutes of Meeting held 4 December 2024 were received and approved as correct records and signed by the Chair.

Councillor A. Wren and B. Crease left the meeting before the next agenda item.

196. MILL LANE ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk submitted a letter re plots 9b and 10 from Mr G Sumner (copy forwarded to Councillors with the Agenda).



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Councillor A. I. Dunbar enquired about the difference between the 2 raised beds. It was explained that 1 is for community/non profit organisation and 1 for a lesser abled person.

He enquired if the son of the person requiring this plot is on the waiting list. The response was the son is not on the waiting list but the next of kin who already has a plot could benefit from the lesser abled plot.

Council discussed in great depth the allocation of both plots as per letter request. Council proposed that as per the Terms and Conditions in the Allotment Tenancy Agreement, Item 26.1 *In the event of the death of a tenant, the tenancy shall end either **six months** after the date of the death of the tenant or at the end of the current agreement whichever is soonest. The deceased tenant's next-of-kin will be offered to transfer the tenancy subject to them meeting the criteria outlined in clause 1.* and that this should be adhered to.

Council agreed that as per Item 1.4 *The Town Council will not allow a Tenant to have more than one allotment plot where a waiting list for a plot exists.*

The proposal was voted and agreed. The current plot holder to be given the option to stay on his current plot or move to his late wife's plot. As there is a waiting list the surrendered plot will be offered to the next person on the waiting list and not to his son. A vote was taken and all were in favour of this proposal.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Clerk write to Mr Sumner, plot holder with the Council's decision.

Councillor A. Wren and Councillor B Crease returned for the next agenda item.

Confirmed 5 February 2025

Presiding Chair

REGENERATION COMMITTEE – 08/01/25

Councillor A. Manship (Chair) presiding.



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197. KATHLEEN & MAY HERITAGE CENTRE

(1) To receive a verbal update on the project works at the Kathleen & May Heritage Centre.

The Clerk asked Councillor Debbie Owen to give Council an update on the progress.

Councillor Owen explained that various works had been undertaken, she explained that all Councillors are welcome to visit the Centre. The target date for the venue to be available for hire is late Feb/early March.

(2) To agree that the Chair of Finance & General Purposes to have delegated authority for payments of invoices relating to the Kathleen & May. A copy of all payments will be forwarded to Council at the next meeting.

Members asked if the Grant money had been received.

The Clerk informed Council that some Grant money had been received but was waiting for more from Flintshire County Council.

It was agreed that the Chair of Finance and General Purposes have delegated authority in authorisation of payment of invoices relating to the Grant money.

(3) To agree a date for reviewing the 'Tenancy at Will'

Councillor Crease suggested that this be reviewed at the Town Council Meeting in December.

Councillor Richardson proposed that the review takes place at the October Town Council Meeting and a decision made at December.

It was suggested a sub-committee for the Kathleen & May be formed. Council agree to discuss issues and recommendations as part of Members Panel rather than form a sub-committee.

A 'friends of' group will still be set up on the near future.

RECOMMENDED:

That the update be received and the Tenancy at Will be reviewed at the Town Council Meeting in October for a decision at the December meeting.

Confirmed 5 February 2025

Presiding Chair

Meeting commenced at 6.30pm and ended at 8.20pm