

FLINT TOWN COUNCIL

The Minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Flint Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Flint on Monday the 19th June, 2017.

PRESENT: The Town Mayor Councillor Mrs. V. Perfect, in the chair
The Deputy Town Mayor Councillor D.L. Cox, J.P.

Councillors: S. Collings, Mrs. J. Cunningham,
P. Cunningham, Mrs. N. Davies, J. Johnson,
M/s R. Johnson Mrs. L.B Jones, S.K. License,
M.W. Moore, Miss S.M.Moore, Mrs. M. Perfect,
I.B.Roberts.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: NONE

IN ATTENDANCE: J.A. Loveridge, Town Clerk.
Mrs. S.C. Williams, P.A. to the Clerk.

PRAYERS:

Before the meeting was opened, The Reverend David Yeo Poulton led all Members in prayer.

49.

MINUTES:

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual meeting of the Flint Town Council held on Wednesday 17th May, 2017, be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor Councillor Mrs. V. Perfect.

50.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEES:

The Minutes of the following committees were submitted for approval and adoption.

1. Town Hall Management Committee:

Meeting held on Monday the 12th June, 2017.

2. Town Planning Committee:

Meeting held on Monday the. 12th June 2017.

3. General Purposes Committee:

Meeting held on Monday the 12th June 2017.

4. Finance and Policy Committee:

Meeting held on Monday the 12th June 2017.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of each of the above Committees be approved and adopted.

51.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CO-OPTION SELECTION PANEL

The Town Mayor confirmed that the selection panel had met that afternoon under her chairmanship and that Councillors L.B.Jones and J Johnson as the chairs of the Town Hall Management Committee and the Town Planning Committee respectively had presented their apologies. The panel remained quorate and comprised herself, the deputy Mayor and councillors P .Cunningham and M.W. Moore. The panel selected 4 questions from a selection proposed by the Town Clerk to ask each of the four applicants for the vacancies available and proceeded to interview, asking each of them the same questions in the same order in the presence of the Town Clerk. Having considered the responses the Panel reached a unanimous decision as to the identity of the three successful candidates and the seats that they would be recommended for co-option to. That decision was put in writing and signed by all members of the panel and the Town Mayor read out the document as the recommendation of the panel and upon receiving this report it was:

RESOLVED:

That the Town Mayor's detailed report be received and that the Unanimous recommendations of the Selection Panel be approved and Adopted as the Town Councils decision on co-option

And that:

The Reverend Brain Harvey be co-opted to the Coles Hill Ward

And that:

Ms M. Buckley and Mr M .Evans be co-opted to the Trelawny Ward

And that:

all three new councillors be invited to complete their Declarations of Acceptance of Office with the Town Clerk and attend the Council Committees scheduled for the 3rd July.

52.

Presentation by the North Wales Police Community Engagement Team:

Sergeant Alison Sharp introduced herself and explained her role as the District Support Sergeant covering the Town of Flint. She outlined the approach of the Community

Engagement Team and in particular she explained that all incidents of concern that fell short of emergencies should be reported to the police using the non-emergency number 101. The reason for this was that with finite resources available to the team the deployment of officers would be prioritised by analysis of the areas of greatest concern. In simple terms if 20 calls were received the issue may demand greater priority than if only one call was received. Whilst her team would always be willing to receive and welcome contact from Councillors and valued the links that they had with their communities she stressed that Councillors should always ask their constituents to report issues direct to the police on 101 non-emergency number as well as to the Councillor so that the statistical basis of the targeting of resources was maintained. She also explained the problems areas in and around the area of the Town with particular reference to alcohol elated issues on the foreshore. This resulted in a series of questions from members and a general discussion of the nature of the problem and limitations on the ability to deal with such open air drinking unless it was actually in progress when detected by the Police rather than reported after the event. After some discussion when Sergeant Sharp undertook to let members have details of the team available to her and to keep the issue of anti-social drinking under review it was:

RESOLVED:

That the presentation be received and that Sergeant Sharp be welcomed to the Town Council and thanked both for her attendance and the information she had provided and the proposed actions that she had outlined.

53.

Presentation by a Representative of the Hollins Murray Group

Mr Lee Shaw of HOW Planning LLP the Planning advisors to the Hollins Murray group in relation to the proposed application at the Retail Park introduced himself and explained the nature of his Client's proposals for development . He circulated additional visual material to assist members in understanding the nature and detail of the proposals. He outlined the new store units that were proposed both those where tenants had been identified and also the speculative units. He then agreed to take questions from members as a result of which it became clear that the proposed Iceland development in the current form was of an entirely different nature to the current operation on Church Street and that it was hoped that whilst there may be elements of overlap the warehousing nature of the expanded range available at the proposed new store would complement the existing provision rather than compete with it. A general discussion then ensued about the safety of the park and the footways in particular in the area adjacent to the Pavilion. It was recognised that the original planning permission had assumed that the public using the retail park would be happy to cross the roadway from the Pavilion to the other side and travelling on that other side before crossing the roadway once again to access the Argos area of the park. In practice this had never worked and there was now a dangerous situation of pedestrians walking in the road way which would be made worse by these current proposals. Even though the land adjacent to the Pavilion was in the ownership of Flintshire County Council it would make excellent sense in the interests of Public Safety for a footway to be provided on it. Mr Shaw accepted the sense of the meeting and undertook to report back on this issue to his clients. In similar vein members were concerned at the lack of seating provision in what would clearly become a very busy retail

area, again Mr Shaw noted these comments. Finally members noted that the grounds maintenance of the site had fallen to a very low standard and that the visual amenity of the area had suffered. They expressed the hope that there would be a significant improvement with the new scheme given the density of traffic and increased usage. After further detailed discussion it was:-

RESOLVED: -

That Mr Lee Shaw be thanked for his attendance and presentation and his answers to members questions and that the proposed development be cautiously welcomed subject to a satisfactory solution being found to the matters of public safety, convenience and the visual amenity of the development as a whole.

54.

ACCOUNTS 2016-2017

The Town Clerk reported that he had now redrawn the accounts for 2016-2017 upon the income and expenditure basis required by the external auditor rather than the receipts and payments basis previously reported. This had entailed redrawing the accounts for 2015-2016 on the same basis to give meaningful comparisons between years. In practice however the whilst individual sums had changed the underlying nature of the accounts remained as had been explained to and understood by members throughout the year. He provided a number of examples of the headline changes in figures to compare and contrast with the previous figures by way of illustration .Whilst changing the figures forming the basis of the Annual Return the underlying explanation and assurances to be tendered had not changed and the Council's internal Auditor had noted this and had updated their report accordingly. The Town Clerk therefore asked members to note the recast accounts and authorise the signing of the Annual return by himself and the Town Mayor and for the appropriate documents to be submitted to the External Auditor.

RESOLVED:

That the redrawn accounts be received and noted and the report of the Town Clerk and that of the internal auditor be accepted and that the Town Mayor and The Town Clerk be authorised to sign and submit the Annual Return to the External Auditor and report back on progress.

