

**MINUTES of a MEETING
of the
BUCKLEY TOWN COUNCIL
held via Zoom
on
Tuesday 8th December 2020**

PRESENT

Councillor A Woolley (Town Mayor) - in the Chair

Cllr V E Blondek	Cllr H D Hutchinson	Cllr N Phillips
Cllr C A Ellis	Cllr J S Jones	Cllr C M Preece
Cllr D Ellis	Cllr R B Jones	Cllr E L Preece
Cllr L G Fox	Cllr M J Peers	Cllr P G Shone
Cllr I D Howes	Cllr I Peters	Cllr A G Williams
Cllr E J Hutchinson		

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M B Wright – Town Clerk & Financial Officer
Mrs L George – Personal Assistant
Mrs T J Reece – Personal Assistant
Mr A J White – Town Events Organiser & Town Centre Support Provider
Mr D M Wright – Zoom Meeting Administrator

18087- APOLOGIES

An apology for absence and reason was received and approved from Councillor J F Thornton (unable to join the meeting due to lack of internet).

18088- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were made in relation to this Agenda. It was –

Resolved – that no Declarations of Interest were noted.

18089- PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Clerk reported that no questions had been received. It was –

Resolved – that the Clerk's report be received and noted.

18090- MINUTES

Resolved – that the minutes of the Meeting of the Buckley Town Council held via Zoom on 24th November 2020, as now submitted, be approved, adopted and signed as a correct record.

18091- MAYORAL AND COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor made the following announcements:-

1. A letter had been forwarded by the Clerk to Mr and Mrs Robinson to thank them for the kind donation of the Christmas Tree in the town centre.
2. The Mayor and Mayoress had had great pleasure in opening the Mental Health Counselling Hub in the Old Library Building on Wednesday 2nd December 2020. The Mayor hoped that the facility would provide another successful service, funded by the Town Council, to the people of Buckley.
3. The Mayor reported that the Working Group set up jointly by Flintshire County Council and Buckley Town Council to look into the Regeneration of the town centre, was making an application under the Green Recovery Circular Economy Fund 2020-21. The application would be for a substantial sum of money and would be targeted at a specific area of regeneration in the town centre. Councillor R B Jones elaborated stating that an application was being made for £350,000 from the fund, which would enable Flintshire Refurb to open a facility in the town centre that would provide repairs to electrical components and furniture for resale in Buckley. The facility would also house a café. It was also hoped that there would be the ability to teach people new skills and help people back into work. Councillor Jones concluded by stating that there should be a news release the following day.
4. Councillor Louis Fox was invited to make a personal statement. Councillor Fox advised Members that after protracted thoughts and reflections, he felt that he had to change political allegiance and was therefore making the announcement.
5. The Mayor on behalf of himself and the Mayoress wished all Members, Staff and their families as Happy a Christmas as possible and a Prosperous New Year.

18092- MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

Moved by Cllr J S Jones

Seconded by Cllr V E Blondek and it was -

Resolved – that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Highways and Leisure Committee held on 24th November 2020, as now submitted, be approved and adopted.

18093- MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Moved by Cllr M J Peers

Seconded by Cllr P G Shone and it was –

Resolved – that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 24th November 2020, as now submitted, be approved and adopted.

18094- MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Moved by Cllr N Phillips

Seconded by Cllr V E Blondak and it was –

Resolved – that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & Economic Development Committee held on 24th November 2020, as now submitted, be approved and adopted.

18095- MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Moved by Cllr H D Hutchinson

Seconded by Cllr D Ellis and it was –

Resolved – that the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 24th November 2020, as now submitted, be approved and adopted.

CHAIR

**MINUTES of a MEETING
of the
PLANNING COMMITTEE
held via Zoom
on
Tuesday 8th December 2020**

PRESENT

Councillor M J Peers - in the Chair

Cllr V E Bloudek	Cllr H D Hutchinson	Cllr C M Preece
Cllr C A Ellis	Cllr J S Jones	Cllr E L Preece
Cllr D Ellis	Cllr R B Jones	Cllr P G Shone
Cllr L G Fox	Cllr I Peters	Cllr A G Williams
Cllr I D Howes	Cllr N Phillips	Cllr A Woolley
Cllr E J Hutchinson		

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M B Wright – Town Clerk & Financial Officer
Mrs L George – Personal Assistant
Mrs T J Reece – Personal Assistant
Mr A J White – Town Events Organiser & Town Centre Support Provider
Mr D M Wright – Zoom Meeting Administrator

18096- APOLOGIES

An apology for absence and reason was received and approved from Councillor J F Thornton (unable to join the meeting due to lack of internet).

18097- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest were expressed in relation to Agenda item 4(b) – Planning Application 062012. Those declaring an interest were Councillors L G Fox, E J Hutchinson and N Phillips. It was –

Resolved – that the declarations be received and noted and that the Members concerned be requested to complete the Declaration of Interest forms.

18098- MINUTES

Resolved - that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning Committee held on 24th November 2020, as now submitted, be signed by the Committee Chair.

18099- PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved - (i) that the Town Clerk be authorised to convey to Flintshire County Council the Town Council's observations, as under (listed on the Agenda 4(a)), in respect of applications for development under the provisions of the relevant Town and Country Planning and Building Regulations legislation, namely:-

<u>Plan No.</u>	<u>Location, Applicant and proposed Development</u>	<u>Observations</u>
062101	6 Bryn Awelon Mr & Mrs C Stubbins & E Cleary Proposed extension and alterations to dwelling	No observations

(ii) With regard to Agenda item 4(b) the Committee noted the following applications were dealt with in consultation with local Ward Members in view of the time limit for observations:-

<u>Plan No.</u>	<u>Location, Applicant and Proposed Development</u>	<u>Observations</u>
062012	Westwood Community Primary School, Padeswood Road North Senior Manager – Children & Workforce, Flintshire County Council New standalone building to provide early years and wraparound childcare facility with additional site improvement works	No observations
062073	Fouroaks, Alltami Road, Alltami Mr Gareth Evans Single storey rear extension	No observations

18100– PLANNING APPEALS

There were no Planning Appeals notified to the Town Council by Flintshire County Council in sufficient time to be included with the Agenda.

Resolved – that the report be received and noted.

18101- PLANNING APPLICATION DECISIONS

The Committee received the monthly update of planning decisions that had been notified to this Council by Flintshire County Council, Members noted that the spreadsheet also enclosed the reasons for any refusals.

Resolved – that the monthly update of Planning Decisions be received and noted.

CHAIR

**MINUTES of a MEETING
of the
FINANCE AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
held via Zoom
on
Tuesday 8th December 2020**

PRESENT

Councillor N Phillips – in the Chair

Cllr V E Blondak	Cllr H D Hutchinson	Cllr C M Preece
Cllr C A Ellis	Cllr J S Jones	Cllr E L Preece
Cllr D Ellis	Cllr R B Jones	Cllr P G Shone
Cllr L G Fox	Cllr M J Peers	Cllr A G Williams
Cllr I D Howes	Cllr I Peters	Cllr A Woolley
Cllr E J Hutchinson		

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M B Wright – Town Clerk & Financial Officer
Mrs L George – Personal Assistant
Mrs T J Reece – Personal Assistant
Mr A J White – Town Events Organiser & Town Centre Support Provider
Mr D M Wright – Zoom Meeting Administrator

18102- APOLOGIES

An apology for absence and reason was received and approved from Councillor J F Thornton (unable to join the meeting due to lack of internet).

18103- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were made in relation to this Agenda. It was –

Resolved – that no Declarations of Interest were noted.

18104- MINUTES

Resolved - that the minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and Economic Development Committee held on 24th November 2020, as now submitted, be signed by the Committee Chair.

**18105- MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE
(GRANTS) HELD ON 17th NOVEMBER 2020**

The Committee received the minutes of the Finance Sub-Committee (Grants) held on 17th November 2020, the Sub-Committee had been convened to consider the requests for

Financial Assistance for 2020/21. Upon those Members who had attended the Sub-Committee approving the minutes as a correct record, it was –

Resolved – that the Committee received, noted and approved the minutes, approved the payments as listed in the minutes and acknowledged that the payments were included in the Payment Schedule listed as Agenda item 5 of the Committee meeting.

18106-ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved - (i) that the accounts numbered 12196 – 12231 (inclusive as detailed in the Schedule of Accounts Number 516 dated 8th December 2020 [a copy of which had been distributed to all Members] and amounting in total to the sum of £29,015.43) be approved for payment and the Town Clerk be authorised to make the necessary arrangements to ensure that the payments were properly actioned through the Council's Bank Current Account in accordance with the Council's Internal Financial Controls.

(ii) that the expenditure be authorised in accordance with powers contained within the relevant local government acts and as identified and described within Appendix 1 of the NALC advice 'Governance and Accountability in Local Councils in England and Wales, a Practitioners' Guide' as revised and amended.

18107- BANK RECONCILIATION

The Committee received the monthly Bank Reconciliation as at 30th November 2020. Members had received a copy of the above document immediately following the end of the month. It was –

Resolved – that the Bank Reconciliation as at 30th November 2020 be received, noted and approved.

18108- CCTV SYSTEM – COUNCIL OFFICES

Members were reminded that at the meeting of this Committee held on 24th November 2020 it had been suggested that CCTV should be installed on certain exterior areas of the Council buildings, this was due to the vandalism that had occurred to the Communications Vehicle which was parked in the Council car park. The Clerk provided the Committee with a quotation for PTZ cameras to be used to monitor Mold Road and the top part of the car park together with coverage of the main area of the car park. A static camera would also be installed to cover the enclosed courtyard. In answer to questions raised, the Clerk confirmed that he would obtain the maximum amount of periodic cover available, that the cameras would operate at night and that the cameras would be of high enough resolution to be used if any reference to North Wales Police was required. Upon the Clerk's assurance, it was –

Resolved – that the quotation be accepted in the value of £1,300 plus VAT and that the cameras be installed and operational before Christmas 2020 if possible.

18109- GAS AND ELECTRIC SUPPLY TO THE TOWN COUNCIL BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Committee received and considered a report from the Clerk which advised that since 2017 the gas and electric to both the Council Offices and the Public Conveniences had been supplied by Total Gas and Power who had been the cheapest when the last comparison exercise was conducted. The Clerk advised the Committee that he had previously informed the Members that the Committee had approved an extension to maintain the unit rates and standing charges to 30th June 2023. The Clerk advised the Committee that he had, in discussion with Total Gas and Power, arranged for a further extension to take the same unit charges and standing charges to a closing date of 31st December 2025. The Clerk stated that before approving the extension, he had contacted both the Mayor and the Vice Chair of this Committee who had given their approval for the extension. It was –

Resolved – that the Clerk's report be received and noted and that the extension be accepted for the current unit charge and standing charge for gas and electric for both the Council Offices and the Public Conveniences with Total Gas and Power.

18110- RENEWAL OF A ONE YEAR FIXED TERM DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

The Clerk advised the Committee that upon the maturing of a High Interest Deposit Account with Lloyds Bank Limited on 30th November 2020 the Clerk had checked interest rates with the major High Street Banks and had renewed the High Interest Deposit Account for a further year with Lloyds Bank at an interest rate of 0.1%, this being the highest rate he could find. It was –

Resolved – that the Clerk's report and actions be received, noted and approved and that for future renewals of High Interest Deposit Accounts, the Clerk would provide a report prior to the maturing of the relevant account.

CHAIR

**MINUTES of a MEETING
of the
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
held via Zoom
on
Tuesday 8th December 2020**

PRESENT

Councillor H D Hutchinson - in the Chair

Cllr V E Blondek	Cllr J S Jones	Cllr C M Preece
Cllr C A Ellis	Cllr R B Jones	Cllr E L Preece
Cllr D Ellis	Cllr M J Peers	Cllr P G Shone
Cllr L G Fox	Cllr I Peters	Cllr A G Williams
Cllr I D Howes	Cllr N Phillips	Cllr A Woolley
Cllr E J Hutchinson		

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M B Wright – Town Clerk & Financial Officer
Mrs L George – Personal Assistant
Mrs T J Reece – Personal Assistant
Mr A J White – Town Events Organiser & Town Centre Support Provider
Mr D M Wright – Zoom Meeting Administrator

18111- APOLOGIES

An apology for absence and reason was received and approved from Councillor J F Thornton (unable to join the meeting due to lack of internet).

18112- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were made in relation to this Agenda. It was –

Resolved – that no Declarations of Interest were noted.

18113- MINUTES

Resolved - that the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 24th November 2020, as now submitted, be signed by the Committee Chair.

18114- TOWN EVENTS ORGANISER AND TOWN CENTRE SUPPORT PROVIDER'S MONTHLY REPORT

The Committee received and considered the Town Events Organiser and Town Centre Support Provider's monthly report for November 2020. During the ensuing debate updates were provided in relation to the amount of vandalism to the Communication Vehicle and the fact that it had now been scrapped. Reference was also made to a letter of thanks being forwarded to Mr and Mrs Robinson of Mynydd Isa for the kind donation of

the town centre Christmas tree. It was suggested that Mr and Mrs Robinson be provided with a donation in order for them to plant a replacement tree in their garden. The Clerk advised the Committee that a letter of thanks and appreciation had already been forwarded to Mr and Mrs Robinson. It was -

Resolved – that the Town Events Organiser and Town Centre Support Provider’s report be received and noted and that Mr and Mrs Robinson be informed that the Council would wish them to receive a donation towards a replacement tree to the value of £20 to £30, the Clerk to advise them accordingly.

18115- POLICE PRESENCE IN BUCKLEY

The Committee received and considered a report from the Clerk, which attached correspondence between himself and North Wales Police with regard to the vandalism to the Council’s Communication Vehicle and the Police response to that vandalism. In the Clerk’s email to North Wales Police the following question was asked “Could you please advise me in percentage terms out of 168 hours per week, how many hours is there a Police presence in Buckley?”. The Committee viewed the North Wales Police response to that question, which stated “Whilst I am unable to provide an exact percentage of times that patrols are in specific ward areas, I can confirm that Buckley is an integral part of the proactive patrol plan for South Flintshire and unlike other areas, benefits from further additional resources, due to having a joint Police/Fire Station”. The Committee felt that that response did not address the Clerk’s question and it was –

Resolved – that the Clerk’s report and enclosed correspondence be received and noted and that the Clerk be instructed to write to North Wales Police to request a more detailed answer to the questions raised.

18116- BARONESS FOX OF BUCKLEY

The Committee received and considered a report from the Clerk, which enclosed correspondence between himself and the Prime Minister and also the Garter Principal, King of Arms. The correspondence related to the Town Council’s concerns with regard to the Peerage of an individual who had taken the name of Buckley as part of that Peerage. The Council disassociated itself with the name of its town being used by an individual the Town Council felt was an inappropriate individual.

During the ensuing debate, a mover and seconder was identified for a letter to be forwarded to Mr Mark Tami MP to ask for his assistance in raising the matter in Parliament. The Clerk stated that he felt there was no useful purpose being served in continuing with correspondence on the matter. An amendment was put forward that the Garter Principal, King of Arms should be thanked for his letter, particularly in respect of the task he had to undertake, the time constraints under which he operated and the fact that Buckley was the first town that he had had any complaint from. The letter to conclude that it was hoped and appreciated that the passion and concern of the Council had been noted. Upon the vote on the amendment, it was carried with the casting vote of the Chair. When the vote was taken as to the substantive motion, that which the amendment had now become, it was defeated. The Clerk, therefore, recommended to the Committee that the original motion should be voted upon, the Committee accepted this and it was –

Resolved – that a letter be forwarded to Mr Mark Tami MP to seek his assistance in raising the matter in Parliament and a letter along the same lines as detailed above to be sent to the Garter Principal, King of Arms in response to his letter of 26th November 2020.

18117- UPDATE ON THE OLD BUCKLEY BATHS BUILDING PROJECT

The Committee received a presentation from Mr M J Peers a Director of the Old Buckley Baths Community Hall Limited with regard to the progress made so far in bringing the Old Baths Building back into community use. Mr Peers commenced by explaining to the Committee that Cadwyn Clwyd were funding a Feasibility Study into the future of the Old Baths Building and a report had been produced showing plans of the proposed potential development. Mr Peers advised all Members that they should treat the presentation he was making as confidential and should treat the report and plans in the same manner. It was therefore –

Resolved – that the presentation be received and noted and that Members present should regard the paperwork they had and the presentation, as confidential.

18118- BY-ELECTION

The Committee was reminded that at its meeting held on 24th November 2020 it had resolved with regard to the above, that the “...County Council be informed that poll card letters would be required and that the proposed election date should be 4th March 2021”. The Clerk provided the Committee with email correspondence from the Team Leader – Democratic Services, Flintshire County Council, which was in response to the Clerk’s email of 25th November 2020, in the Flintshire County Council email, the Town Council was advised that the election date would be 25th February 2021. It was –

Resolved – that the Clerk’s report and enclosed correspondence be received and noted.

18119- CHRISTMAS OFFICE CLOSURE

The Committee was advised that the offices would be closed from 1.30pm on 24th December 2020 until 8.30am on 4th January 2021. The Committee was also advised that subject to the Covid situation, the Staff may be working from home at any time. It was –

Resolved – that the Clerk’s report be received, noted and approved.

CHAIR

**MINUTES of a MEETING
of the
HIGHWAYS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE
held via Zoom
on
Tuesday 8th December 2020**

PRESENT

Councillor J S Jones – in the Chair

Cllr V E Blondek	Cllr H D Hutchinson	Cllr C M Preece
Cllr C A Ellis	Cllr R B Jones	Cllr E L Preece
Cllr D Ellis	Cllr M J Peers	Cllr P G Shone
Cllr L G Fox	Cllr I Peters	Cllr A G Williams
Cllr I D Howes	Cllr N Phillips	Cllr A Woolley
Cllr E J Hutchinson		

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M B Wright – Town Clerk & Financial Officer
Mrs L George – Personal Assistant
Mrs T J Reece – Personal Assistant
Mr A J White – Town Events Organiser & Town Centre Support Provider
Mr D M Wright – Zoom Meeting Administrator

18120- APOLOGIES

An apology for absence and reason was received and approved from Councillor J F Thornton (unable to join the meeting due to lack of internet).

18121- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were made in relation to this Agenda. It was –

Resolved – that no Declarations of Interest were noted.

18122- MINUTES

Resolved - that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Highways and Leisure Committee held on 24th November 2020, as now submitted, be signed by the Committee Chair.

18123- ITEMS TABLED FOR MEMBERS' PERUSAL

The following items were tabled for Members' perusal:-

1. Play Wales – Publications – New Research – what children say about play in Wales.
2. Play Wales e-bulletin.

Resolved – that the items tabled for Members' perusal be received and noted.

CHAIR

SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH BUCKLEY TOWN COUNCIL'S
CODE OF CONDUCT

BUCKLEY TOWN COUNCIL

8th December 2020

MEMBER	ITEM	PERSONAL	PREJUDICIAL	MIN. NO. REFERS
Cllr L G Fox	Planning Committee Agenda item 4(b) Planning Applications – Plan No. 062012	*	*	18099
	Trustee and Treasurer of the Play Group at the Westwood Centre			
Cllr E J Hutchinson	Planning Committee Agenda item 4(b) Planning Applications – Plan No. 062012	*		18099
	Governor at Westwood CP School			
Cllr N Phillips	Planning Committee Agenda item 4(b) Planning Applications – Plan No. 062012	*		18099
	Governor at Westwood CP School			