

MINUTES of a MEETING
of the
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
held in the
Council Chamber, BUCKLEY
on
Tuesday 24th October 2017

PRESENT

Councillor A Woolley - in the Chair

Cllr V E Blondak	Cllr R B Jones	Cllr C M Preece
Cllr C A Ellis	Cllr M J Peers	Cllr M P Teire
Cllr D Ellis	Cllr S Peers	Cllr J F Thornton
Cllr E J Hutchinson	Cllr I Peters	Cllr A G Williams
Cllr H D Hutchinson	Cllr N Phillips	

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr M B Wright – Town Clerk & Financial Officer
Mrs L George – Office Administrator
Mrs T J Reece – Office Administrator
Mr A White – Town Centre Manager & Technical Officer

16814- APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence and reasons were received and approved from Councillors N A Cropper (illness), J S Jones (family commitments), W A Lewis (family commitments) and E L Preece (work commitments).

16815- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

One Declaration of Interest was made in relation to Agenda item 7 – The Royal British Legion – Buckley Branch – Remembrance Day Service and Parade – Sunday 12th November 2017, by Councillor A Woolley. It was –

Resolved – that the Declaration of Interest was noted.

16816- MINUTES

Resolved - that the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 26th September 2017, as now submitted, be signed by the Committee Chair.

16817- TOWN CENTRE MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

The Committee received and considered the Town Centre Manager's monthly report for October 2017. The report dealt mainly with the forthcoming Firework Display on 5th November 2017 and the Christmas Lights Switch-On Day of 25th November 2017. It was -

Resolved – that the Town Centre Manager be thanked for his report and it be received, noted and approved.

16818- ANNUAL FIREWORK DISPLAY

The Committee received and considered a report advising that the annual Firework Display would take place on 5th November 2017 and that donations received on the night would be split evenly between North Wales Fire Service's chosen charities and the Town Mayor's charities. The Town Centre Manager also advised the Committee that a most constructive meeting had taken place between the Fireworks Contractor and the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service (Buckley Crew). There would be joint working on the evening of the event. It was also stated that instead of fire baskets, small skips would be used, the owner of which had confirmed their agreement to fires being placed in them. It was –

Resolved – that the report be received and noted and that Members be encouraged to act as volunteers on 5th November 2017 and contact the Town Centre Manager in advance of the evening.

16819- CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

The Committee received and considered a report that advised that the Christmas Lights Switch-On would be on Saturday 25th November 2017. The Town Centre Manager requested assistance throughout the day from Members. The Town Centre Manager also confirmed that a Santa Dash would be held on the day. It was –

Resolved – that the report be received and noted and that those Members who were available and willing to assist during the day of 25th November 2017 be requested to contact the Town Centre Manager in advance of the day.

**16820- THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – BUCKLEY BRANCH –
REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE AND PARADE –
SUNDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2017**

The Committee received a report from the Clerk providing details of the arrangements for the Remembrance Day Parade due to be held on Sunday 12th November 2017 and also for the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Cenotaph on 11th November 2017. Members were advised that they were invited to attend both events. The Committee was requested to advise Members to place the dates and times of the events in their diaries. It was –

Resolved – that the report from the Clerk be received and noted and Members be requested to note the dates and times of the Remembrance Day Parade and Service, the Armistice Day Service and to make every effort to attend.

16821- GOVERNOR FOR SOUTHDOWN CP SCHOOL

The Committee received and considered email correspondence from Rev Martin Batchelor with regard to the need for a Minor Authority Governor at Southdown School following the resignation of ex Councillor J J M Woolley. Upon

requesting nominations for the position, the names of Councillor V E Blondek and Councillor M P Teire were moved and seconded. Upon the vote being taken, it was –

Resolved – that Councillor M P Teire be appointed by the Town Council as its Minor Authority Governor on the Governing Body of Southdown CP School and that the Rev Martin Batchelor be advised and contact details for Councillor Teire be provided.

16822- REVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL SECTOR

The Committee received and considered a report from the Clerk, which enclosed an email sent on behalf of the Independent Review Panel set up by the Welsh Assembly Government. The Panel had been established to consider the future role of Community and Town Councils. The Panel requested engagement in the process by as many Town and Community Councils as possible and initially asked four high level questions. The Clerk requested whether or not the Committee wished to create a Working Group to liaise with the Independent Review Panel and report back at regular intervals to the Committee. It was, however –

Resolved – that the Clerk be instructed to request each individual Member to supply answers to the four high level questions put by the Independent Review Panel and prepare a consolidated report of the answers received to be placed before the next meeting of this Committee for its further consideration of the setting up of a Working Group.

16823- FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENTS 2017

The Committee considered information provided by Flintshire County Council that it was holding a series of Public Engagement Meetings on its future proposals in the light of the continued constraints applied to public finances. The Public Engagement Meeting in Buckley would be held in Mountain Lane School on 8th November 2017. The information from Flintshire County Council stated that six delegates from the Town Council were invited. Those invitations did not include those Members who were also County Councillors as they had received separate invitations. In answer to a query from the Clerk, Flintshire County Council had confirmed that should more than six “Town Councillors” wish to attend they could do so as members of the public. To attend the meeting Members had to register with Flintshire County Council. The Committee felt that having to register in advance may have put a number of members of the public off attending the meeting. It was therefore –

Resolved – that the Clerk be instructed to inform Flintshire County Council that Members had been advised to register in advance of the meeting, however, there should be the facility for people to register on arrival at the meeting to increase potential attendance at the meeting.

16824- ITEMS TABLED FOR MEMBERS' PERUSAL

The following items were tabled for Members' perusal:-

1. Wrexham- Bidston Rail Users' Association – September 2017 Newsletter.
2. Citizens Advice Flintshire – Universal Credit.
3. The Independent Remuneration Panel draft Annual Report 2018.
4. Welsh Tax Policy Report – Autumn 2017 – Gov.Wales.

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

CHAIR