

Mrs L. WOOD CLERC / CLERK

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# COMMUNITY COUNCIL

12 LLYS PANT DERW, CONNAH'S QUAY, DEESIDE, CH5 4OY

Hello and welcome to all of our residents.

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, introduced as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year, that a community council must prepare and publish a report (an "annual report") about the council's priorities, activities and achievements during that year.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

There are 14 members on Bagillt Community Council. Councillors are office holders who sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office upon their election or appointment - they are therefore part of the local government structure of Wales. Although they carry out many community activities on a voluntary basis, they are not volunteers.

At the head of the Council is the Chair, who is elected annually from amongst its serving Councillors. The Chairwoman for 2023/24 was Councillor A. Locker and the Vice-Chairman was Councillor A. Griffiths.

### Your Community Councillors for the Year 2023/24 were as follows:

EAST	WEST
R. Davies	B.T. Doleman
A. Griffiths	J. Humphreys
B. Gittins	S. Jones
T. Strong	C.P. Owens
K. Rush	W. Owens
C. Williams	A. Locker
D.J. Williams	Y. Rush

#### STAFF

The Council is supported by the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Mrs. L. Wood, who is employed on a part time basis.

The Clerk can be contacted by e-mail: <u>clerk@bagilltcommunitycouncil.gov.uk</u> or in writing: 12 Llys Pant Derw, Connah's Quay, CH5 4QY or phone: 0785 6597165.

### MEETING

We meet formally on the second Wednesday evening of the month at 7pm.

Under new Government legislation, all meetings are Hybrid. The physical venue is the Community Library, Gadlys Lane, Bagillt, CH6 6EQ, or anyone can attend remotely via Zoom by contacting the Clerk to request the meeting ID at least three working days prior to the meeting.

Anyone is welcome to observe and there is an opportunity at the start for public questions on agenda on items, but it is a working meeting rather than a public presentation.

### WEBSITE

Information about the Community Council including the agenda for meetings, policies and minutes are available on the Council's website: <u>http://www.bagilltcommunitycouncil.gov.uk</u>

### YOUR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Bagillt Community Council has a number of broad ranging responsibilities and powers which, dependent on finance and other resources, enable the development and improvement of facilities and services to residents and also visitors to the community.

The Council works in partnership with a number of other organisations, community groups and the community to try to ensure the best for Bagillt residents and the maintenance of services.

The Council also works on behalf of local people to request that Flintshire County Council and other statutory bodies meet their duties and responsibilities in a way which satisfies the needs of Bagillt residents.

The Council considers and responds to planning applications and considers and responds to a number of consultations by statutory bodies on a national and local level and always considers how decisions affect people in the area.

### **BUDGET/PRECEPT**

The total forecast expenditure for 2023/24 for the Community Council was ££47,990.00. Together with the estimated VAT paid for goods and services that the Council reclaims annually and some monies taken from the balances, the precept requirement was for 2023/24 was £45,720.00.

The precept which is set annually and presented to Flintshire County Council in January for the following financial year. The precept is collected on behalf of the Community Council by Flintshire County Council and is the only source of tax revenue available to Town and Community Councils.

The process of deciding on the level of precept by Bagillt Community Council includes the preparation of a draft budget on the basis of the financial situation of the Community Council by considering the likely costs, plans for projects, setting an amount for contributions - within the guidelines published annually - and any other financial matters.

### ACCOUNTABILITY

The Community Council has adopted a member's code of conduct and a register of interests is kept. Each councillor has to declare any interest they have in items to be discussed at the start of each meeting and these are noted in the minutes. Each year an Internal and External Audit is undertaken. The Internal Audit was completed by JDH Business Services Ltd and the External Audit undertaken by Audit Wales.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS 2023/24**

#### **Summer Play Scheme**

The Community Council annually supports a number of Summer Play Schemes within the village. The scheme is professionally run by Flintshire County Council and the Community Council provides funding to the County Council on an annual basis so that the scheme can run each year.

#### Match Funding Scheme Improvements to Children's Play Areas

The Council participates in an annual match fund scheme with Flintshire County Council and Aura to upgrade those local play areas most in need of development. This year, the Council committed to £10,000 match funding at Victoria Road play area.

#### **Financial Assistance**

The Council sets a budget annually to be able to offer financial assistance to local groups and organisations. Applications are usually considered in October and February. This year we donated a total sum of £2,790.00.

The Council formulated a policy whereby, in the main, financial support is confined to local organisations etc (that have a bank balance of £1,000 of less). Financial support to outside organisations and events etc., shall be considered when residents of the Council's area are participating or there is direct benefit to the community.

#### Police

The Council continues has regular involvement with North Wales Police to discuss on issues that impact on the area.

#### **Christmas Lighting**

The Council continue to support and maintain the six Christmas Trees and lights throughout the village.

## ASPIRATIONS OVER THE FORTHCOMING YEAR

- · Continue to serve the local community and its residents
- Continue to review the financial position of the Council
- Consider the social, economic, and environmental aspects of the Council's projects and key priorities.

• Ensure council decisions are taken legally and review all policies including code of conduct, standing orders and financial regulations.

#### The Annual Report was approved by Council at its meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024.