

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT
MARFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE ON 5th DECEMBER 2013**

Members Present

Councillors A Bailey, Mrs B Blackmore, Mrs S Cleaver, Mrs J D Dutton, M J Edwards, G Frank-Keyes, M Harriman, Mrs J Holmes, Mrs J MacDonald, G Peake, M Perry and M L Roberts.

Apologies

Councillors Mrs M Lightwood and Mrs B Watson

Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of any personal and or prejudicial interest on the form provided for this purpose. No Declarations were received at this time.

211 WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Graham Frank-Keyes to his first meeting.

212 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2013 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman after hearing the observations of Councillor Dutton and adding the word “grants” before the words “compensation from the proceeds of crime”.

213 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One member of the public was present, Mrs Denise Nicholls who addressed the Council on her concerns regarding the application for the drilling of exploration bore holes to remove coal in Borrass Road, Commonwood, Holt and the effects that such works may have on the environment. A number of questions had been identified in discussion.

Accordingly, the Council resolved to raise these questions with the planning authority and the applicant.

The Council also resolved that in the light of this new information to express its concerns on the planning application and ask whether Wrexham County Borough Council's Planning Department had the necessary expertise to monitor this proposal.

The Council also asked what plans that Authority had to upgrade the Lane to handle the additional traffic and to seek clarification on the following points

precise access to the site;

how the bunding was to be stabilised; and

whether there would be regular monitoring of water levels and where and how would water for the proposal would be stored for use in connection with the exploration and drilling operations.

214 BUDGET 2014 – 15

Details of the income and expenditure to 31st December 2013 were received, together with the draft budget for 2014-15.

The Council resolved:

1. **To approve the Budget for 2014 – 15**
2. **That the Play Area at Newtown should not be taken over by the Community Council if the proposals of the County Borough Council are brought into effect.**
3. **To note that the negotiations regarding Marford Community Centre were ongoing and representatives of the working group had been invited to report to the Community Council at its meeting on 9th January 2014.**
4. **That the Council's expenditure on new lights be limited to £3,000 in 2014-2015 irrespective of what is committed for spending on new lights the financial year 2013-2014.**
5. **That any proposed holiday Playschemes for 2014 be not supported financially.**
6. **That the meeting proposed for Monday, 9th December 2013 regarding Youth provision in Gresford and Marford be considered at the next meeting of the Community Council.**
7. **That the Terms and Conditions of Service of the Clerk of the Council be reviewed early in 2014.**
8. **To levy a precept of £74,600 for the Financial Year Ending 31st March 2015**
9. **To review the budget on a quarterly basis**

215 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Details of planning applications received from the Head of Community Well-being and Development were available for Members and dealt with as follows:

P/2013/0762 – Prune back crown over garden by 2.5 metres lateral length from two sycamores (T1 and T3) and prune back crown over garden by 3.5 metres lateral length from one oak (T2) (tree protected by TPO WCBC No 83) Chartwood, Pant Lane, Gresford – **The Council was content with the proposal provided that Wrexham Council's Arboricultural Officer approved.**

P/2013/0771 – Erection of five bedroom dwelling with double garage, land adjoining and to the south of Baldrumma, 87 Wynnstay Lane, Marford – **The Council resolved to express its concerns that the proposed dwelling would be closer to Hudson Hill than the present bungalow, and may lead to the cutting down of trees; as this development was on a prominent corner in a rural area it should not impact upon the rural aspect of the area.**

P/2013/0786 – Fell to ground level 1 ash (T3), 1 horse chestnut (T4) and 4 sycamores (T6, T9, T11 and (T12) protected by TPO WCBC No 83 Marford Wood rear of Woodridge Avenue, Marford – **The Council was content with the proposal provided that Wrexham Council's Arboricultural Officer approved.**

P/2013/0799 – First floor extension including raising height of roof level to provide bedrooms, shower room and ground floor front porch extension, Longmynd, 43 Stancliffe Avenue, Marford – **The Council had no observations at this stage.**

P/2013/0806 – Change of Use from Dwelling to Residential Institution for the provision for accommodation for 6 adult service users together with two Carers at all times, Tethers End, Village Walks, Marford – **The Council resolved to express its**

concern that the extra traffic generated by this proposal would exacerbate the existing situation at the busy dangerous junction of village Walks and Marford Hill.

P/2013/0816 – Vary condition No 4 of Planning Permission Code GRE 13679 to allow the felling of one Poplar Tree, 41 Wynnstay Lane, Marford - **The Council was content with the proposal provided that Wrexham Council's Arboricultural Officer approved**

216 FINANCE

The following items were approved for payment:

Maes-y-Pant Action Group – Financial Assistance for access to site	£7,000.00
Gresford Village Bowling Club – Grant Aid for upkeep of Greens	£1,000.00
Mr C A Route, Grounds Maintenance and Cemetery work	£545.00
Scottish Power, Unmetered Supplies	£858.70
Wrexham CBC – Lighting Repairs	£1,250.20
Mr Steve Pugh – Grave Making	£375.00
Phil Benfield & Sons – Removal of Tree in High Street	£250.00
Mr C D Lightwood – Construction of Path and Edging at Allington Park	£3,960.00
P & W Maintenance Ltd – Quarterly Grounds Maintenance	£59.53
Encore Office Systems – Photocopying Services	£87.60
Society of Local Council Clerks – Annual Subscription	£129.00
DSW Ltd – Repairs to CCTV Camera Equipment	£126.00
Vivid for Design – Christmas Tree	£120.00
Jones Lighting Ltd – Installation of Christmas Tree Lights	£741.90
Mrs M Jones, Salary	NJC rates
Maurice Paddock, Salary	NJC rates
HM Revenue & Customs, NI and Tax	PAYE rates

217 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING: It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 9th January 2014 at 7.15 p.m. at Gresford Memorial Hall.

**COUNCILLOR MRS J MACDONALD
CHAIRMAN**

Presiding Chairman.....Date.....