

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT  
GRESFORD METHODIST CHURCH ON 7<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016**

**Members Present**

Councillors A Bailey, Mrs S Cleaver, M J Edwards, G Frank-Keyes, M Harriman, Mrs J Holmes, M Perry, M L Roberts and Mrs B Watson.

**In Attendance**

PCSO Lisa Davies

**Apologies**

Councillors Mrs B Blackmore, Mrs J Dutton, Mrs M Lightwood and Mrs J MacDonald.

**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.

**477 BEREAVEMENT**

It was with great sadness that the Chairman reported on the early death of Councillor Graham Peake. Graham was a long-serving Councillor, quietly spoken, caring and whilst not having a great deal to say, his input was always extremely valuable. The Council's loss was heaven's gain.

The Council stood in silent tribute to the memory of Graham.

**478 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**479 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present.

**480 POLICE REPORT**

Crime statistics for November and December were received and discussed.

**481 ONGOING MATTERS**

**7 Chester Road, Gresford**

Members noted that there had been no improvement to the condition of the site.

**Gresford & District Community Library**

The footfall of users remained fairly constant at 398. Fundraising was proceeding and there would be a Valentine's Day Raffle to be drawn on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

**Community Council's Website**

There had been 818 unique visits during the month.

**Village (Gresford) Car Parking**

The continuing problems were caused mainly by inconsiderate driving and parking and remained of great concern for the safety of residents. Efforts were being made to establish who owned the access to The Nurseries.

### **School Crossing Patrol at All Saints School**

No one had been appointed to the post and it would be readvertised.

### **Finance Task and Finish Group**

The Council decided that this group should meet on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 6.00 pm at Gresford Memorial Hall.

## **482 REPORTS**

### **Wrexham County Borough Council**

Councillors A Bailey and M Edwards reported on the recently published draft Local Government Bill for Wales which would have considerable impact on Community Councils post 2020; the budget setting and the assessment of the `Reshaping Services` was continuing. Other matters included PCSO`s, use of Speed Guns and Dog Fouling. Councillor Bailey also commented on the increasing practice of HGV`s attempting to turn down High Street and this may be due to the presence of the Warning Notice near the junction of Clapper Lane and Chester Road

### **Maes-y-Pant**

Councillor M Edwards reported that there was continuing need for more volunteers to get involved.

### **IMAGE**

It was reported that at the last meeting they had discussed the need for Information Boards by the Lake. The Council agreed that a group should be set up involving the Council`s Play Area Sub-Committee to look at such problems and issues near the lake. Concern was also being expressed about the increasing use of banners around the Community and one specific location had been referred to the Planning Enforcement Officers.

### **Training of Community Councillors**

Councillor Mrs S Cleaver reported on her attendance at the Training Course arranged by One Voice Wales held at Mold on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015 on Local Government Finance, and circulated notes relating to the course.

### **Gresford Trust**

The programme of alterations and improvements was progressing. However some concern was being experienced by behaviour of youths who were disturbing other groups using the Memorial Hall.

### **Gresford Cemetery**

The Cemetery Administrative Assistant had obtained three quotations for resurfacing part of the car park. This would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

## **483 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (As Amended)**

Details of Planning Applications received from the Head of Community Wellbeing and Development were available and dealt with as follows:

P/2015/0884 - Application for Non Material Amendment to Planning Permission  
P/2015/0220 To Allow Removal Of External Single Door And Addition Of External Chimney, Pant Cottage Pant Lane Gresford Wrexham - **No comments**

P/2015/0921 – Works to 2 No Trees – Gage (T”) Light Pruning up to approximately 1.5m to reduce end loading of fruit bearing limbs, aiming to maintain the Natural balance and shape of the tree. Beech Tree (T£) compete crown reduction of 2 – 3 m in line with previous pruning approximately 7 years ago to avoid branches touching neighbouring property whilst maintaining the natural balance and shape of the tree. No branches of more than 70mm diameter will be removed. (Trees protected by TPO WCBC No 7), Kingsley, Pant Lane, Gresford **No comments provided the views of the Council’s Arboricultural Officer were considered.**

P/2015/0926- Non Material Amendment To Planning Permission P/2014/0616 To Provide 2 No Additional Non-Opening Obscure Glazed Windows To First Floor Balcony Area And Use Of 'blue' Brick For Front Elevation, 18 Woodridge Avenue Marford Wrexham - **No comments**

P/2015/0934 - Approval of Details Reserved By Conditions Imposed Under Planning Permission P/2015/013313 - Surface Water Run Off 15 - Contamination 18 - Drainage 19 - Boundary Treatment, Former ATS Tyre Depot, Marford Hill, Marford - **No comments**

#### 484 FINANCE

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Scottishpower – Quarterly Electricity Supply	£833.04
Mr C A Route – Grounds Maintenance	£170.00
Cemetery Maintenance	£375.00
	£120.00
Mr S Pugh – Grave Making	£80.00
Mr G Jones – Repairs to Fence	£50.00
Mr C B Lightwood – Removal of Post	£60.00
Councillor Mrs S Cleaver – Mileage - Training Course and Christmas Tree	
Decorations	£40.47
CU Fosco Lighting – Two Mahogany Benches	£2,995.20
C & S Services – Removal of Inert Waste	£1,590.00
One Voice Wales – Training Course Fee	£35.00
Gresford Methodist Church – Hire of Room	£112.00
Mrs M Jones - Salary	NJC rates
Maurice Paddock - Salary	NJC rates
HM Revenue & Customs, NI and Tax	PAYE rates

#### 485 ELECTRONIC CONSULTATION ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

An email had been received from the Planning Officer regarding the need for Wrexham Council to reduce their costs in connection with planning applications. One way to achieve this, in their opinion, was by electronic consultation with Community Councils.

Members pointed out that Gresford’s situation was problematical in view of the policy of alternate venues for meetings and other issues.

***The Council resolved to reply to the email and ask what financial and technical assistance the County Borough Council would be prepared to provide to facilitate this proposed change in their working practices.***

**486 RETIREMENT OF THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman had earlier this evening received a letter from Maurice Paddock giving notice of his intention to retire as Clerk of the Community Council with effect from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016. The retirement was received with regret and referred to the Finance Task and Finish Group for detailed consideration.

**487 FILLING OF CASUAL VACANCY**

The Chairman asked for this matter to be considered at the next meeting.

**488 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING:** The next Ordinary Meeting would be held at Gresford Memorial Hall on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7.15 pm.

**COUNCILLOR M PERRY  
CHAIRMAN**

**Chairman.....**

**Date.....**