

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT MARFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE ON 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2013**

### **Members Present**

Councillors A Bailey, Mrs B Blackmore, Mrs J D Dutton, M J Edwards, Mrs J Holmes, Mrs J MacDonald, M L Roberts and Mrs B Watson.

### **Apologies for absence**

Councillors Mrs S Cleaver, M Harriman, Mrs P M Lightwood, G Peake, M Perry and PCSO3037 Daniel George

### **In Attendance**

PCS02118 Wendy Harris

### **Declarations of Interest**

Members were reminded that they must declare the existence and nature of any personal and or prejudicial interest on the form provided for this purpose. Councillor M J Edwards indicated his intention to make a declaration at the appropriate time.

### **160 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2013 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman after noting that the next meeting of the Town and Community Councils Forum would now be held on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2013.

### **161 POLICE REPORT**

The Crime Statistics for June 2013 were received and discussed.

### **162 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No member of the public was present.

### **163 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

#### **Gresford Young Peoples Centre (Youth Club)**

As no reply had been received from the County Borough Council, the Clerk was instructed to press for this information.

#### **Youth and Play Services**

The draft advertisement was received from the Youth Officer and members found various typographical and other grammatical errors with which they disagreed. Accordingly, Mrs J Dutton agreed to discuss the poster with the Youth Officer and have an alternative prepared and printed.

#### **Village Improvements**

It was noted that the Sub-Group had met and discussed the findings of the Landscape Architects. The position was fully discussed.

#### **Community Council Website**

The present position was noted.

### **Carving of Oak Tree**

A firm of Engineers from Shrewsbury had submitted details of the cost of the services they could provide to the Clerk. The name and telephone number of another firm of Structural Engineers was provided to the Clerk and further enquiries would continue in order to satisfy the requirements of the Highway Authority.

### **Goal Post at Marford Play Area**

It was reported that the local football club could not help as they obtained the assistance of a grounds maintenance company with rolling and other maintenance work. This company had been approached and provided a report and costings on work required to reinstate the ground at Marford Play Area to a condition suitable for playing football. Members were of the opinion that his cost should be recovered from Dwr Cymru.

***Accordingly the Clerk of the Council was instructed to pursue the matter with them. It was also agreed that in the interest of safety the goal posts should be removed from the site until they could be re-erected.***

### **Christmas Tree 2013**

Green`n Things may be prepared to provide lights for this year`s Christmas Tree. However, other enquiries would be made by members in order that the matter could be discussed at the meeting in September.

### **Gresford Cemetery**

The Sub-Committee had met and looked at the difficulties with Plot 105. Accordingly the Sub-Committee had authorised the Clerk to accept the Insurers` Solicitors` advice.

The revised charges prepared by the Cemetery Assistant and based on the current charges of Wrexham Council were approved, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2013.

### **164 REPORTS**

**Councillor M J Edwards** reported on the Red Lion Public House site and from early indications the applicants were likely to appeal against the refusal; also that a Working Group had been set up regarding the future of Marford Community Centre with the appointment of a Chairman and Secretary.

**Councillor A Bailey** reported that Council House Rent Arrears were on the increase; Welsh Housing Standards had been discussed; he had others had met the Older Persons Commissioner for Wales.

**Councillor Mrs J D Dutton** reported on the issues she had raised with Lesley Griffiths AM recently; she also urged the Clerk to obtain a reply from the Highway Authority regarding the control of HGV`s and other traffic using Clapper Lane and Pont-y-Capel Lane to obtain vehicular access to Llay and to press for a weight restriction order on Springfield Lane/Bottom Road.

### **165 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/2013/0370 – Remove seven Leylandii protected by Marford Conservation Area, Springfield, Springfield Lane, Marford – **No comments**

P/2013/0390 – Prune back one branch shown in submitted photograph by 6- 8 meters from one beech tree (T8) and remove lowest branch growing over driveway from one beech (T7), Wineberry House, 85 Wynnstay Lane, Marford. – **No comments**

## **166 FINANCE**

### ***The following items were approved for payment:***

Mr C Thomas, Repairs to seat in Allington Park	£260.00
Mr C A Route, Grounds Maintenance and Cemetery work	£545.00
Mrs M Jones, Salary and Postage	NJC rates
Scottish Power, Unmetered Supplies	£625.31
Wrexham CBC:	
Annual Play Area Inspection	£83.00
Trade Waste Charges	£581.25
P & W Maintenance Ltd, Quarterly Ground Maintenance	£59.53
One Voice Wales, Fees for Annual Conference and AGM	£65.00
Wrexham CBC, Play Workers for August	£714.00
Maurice Paddock, Salary	NJC rates
HM Revenue & Customs, NI and Tax	PAYE rates
Mr B and Mrs G Smith, Repurchase of Burial Rights	£258.00

## **167 CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence that had been received and available for members was noted or otherwise dealt with as follows:

Resignation – The Chairman reported that she had received the resignation of Councillor M Pritchard. The resignation was noted with regret and the Clerk was instructed to wish him all the very best on the Council's behalf and to take the appropriate action to fill this vacancy.

Application for Financial Assistance – Marford Community Centre - (Councillor B Blackmore and M J Edwards declared interests in this matter as members of the Management Committee and left the room whilst it was discussed).

***The application was discussed in depth and in view of the length of time the Council had been sitting it was resolved to adjourn for ten minutes.***

***After the adjournment it was resolved to approve the application in principle; to press the County Borough Council via the Officers of the management committee and working group for a copy of the Structural Report on the condition of the building in order that the issues could be fully considered at the special meeting of the Community Council on 1<sup>st</sup> August.***

Revised Audit Fees from UHY Hacker Young

Invitation for two representatives to accompany the Mayor on his Civic Visit to St Giles Parish Church

Ombudsman`s Annual Report 2012 – 2013

The Voice – Latest edition from One Voice Wales

**168 AUGUST RECESS 2013**

As the Council had previously decided not to hold a meeting during the month of August, the Clerk of the Council was authorised to determine any urgent matters in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. However, at this time it appeared likely that there would be a meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2013 to discuss Planning Applications, Gresford Youth Club, Marford Community Centre and the condition of the entrance to Allington Park near to Balmuir Garage, Chester Road.

**169 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING:** It was confirmed that there would be a meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2013 at Gresford Memorial Hall 7.15 p.m.

**COUNCILLOR MRS J MACDONALD  
CHAIRMAN**

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