

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT MARFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE ON 7th JUNE 2012

Members Present

Councillors A C Bailey, Mrs J Dutton, M J Edwards, M Harriman, Mrs M Lightwood, and Mrs B Watson.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor M J Edwards gave notice of his intention to make a declaration of interest if necessary at the appropriate time.

In Attendance

PCSO 2118 Wendy Harris.

Apologies

Mrs B Blackmore, Councillors Mrs J MacDonald and M Pritchard

19 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th May 2012 were confirmed and signed by the Presiding Chairman.

20 POLICE REPORT

The Crime Report for May 2012 was circulated and discussed at length.

21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public wished to address the Council.

22 ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Councillor Mrs B Blackmore

The Clerk of the Council reported that Mrs Blackmore had now signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and to observe the Code of Conduct.

Filling of vacancies – Co-option of Members

Details of the three persons who had indicated their interest in being co-opted onto the Community Council were received.

The Council resolved to co-opt Mrs Janet Holmes and Mr Mark Perry (Gresford East Ward) and Mr Graham Peake (Marford & Hoseley Ward) onto the Community Council. The remaining two vacancies would be filled by Mrs Sue Cleaver (Gresford West Ward) and re-advertising the remaining vacancy in Marford & Hoseley Ward.

Speeding on Marford Hill and Colliers Park, Chester Road

Replies were received from Wrexham Council and after consideration ***the Council resolved to request further information regarding the criteria used and the costs of putting similar signs on Llay New Road, Rhosddu and Wrexham Road, Marchwiell and the number of traffic accidents at these two locations***

Parking in the vicinity of Rofft School, Marford

It was noted that there had been some improvement and the situation would be monitored.

Appointment of Sub-Committees

This item was further deferred pending the filling of the vacancies.

Heating System, All Saints Church (Application for financial assistance outstanding)

This item was deferred for one more month.

CCTV Equipment

It was noted that the work required for timing the lights and maintaining a supply to the camera had now been completed.

101 Telephone Service

Members suggested that statistics on the use of this service could be a useful guide. The matter was ongoing.

Village Improvements

It was noted that a presentation maybe made to the meeting of the Council on 5th July

Oak Tree at the Junction of Chester Road and Clapper Lane

It was noted that the Council was waiting for alternative design suggestions.

Swings for children with Special Needs

The Clerk reported that Mr Ray Parry had investigated the possibility of providing a swing for children with special needs and had concluded that there was no room available in Allington Park Play Area to accommodate an additional swing. One could be provided in the Marford Play Area but the mounds and some other equipment would have to be removed and the area re-designed.

It was decided to ask Wrexham Council if one could be provided on their play area at Parsonage Close, Newtown.

Draft Annual Return 2012

In accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations (as amended) the draft Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2012 together with the Annual Internal Audit report were received.

Members commented that they found the photocopy of the Return difficult to read as it was printed in coloured sections and not black and white. The Members asked that their comments be passed onto UHY Hacker Young and the Wales Audit Office seeking changes to the Return to make it more user-friendly.

The Council approved the draft Annual Return and the Chair signed Page 1 where indicated;

The Council also approved the Internal Auditor's Report

Standards Committee – Grant of Dispensation expiring on 9th July 2012

The Clerk of the Council was instructed to apply for a dispensation for those Members of the Community Council, to speak and vote on items arising at Council meetings relating to Gresford and District War Memorial Trust before the present dispensation expired on 9th July 2012.

23 REPORTS

Councillor A C Bailey reported that he was settling in to the duties of County Councillor following his recent election and on the activities of IMAGE who now had a new Secretary.

Councillor M J Edwards reported on Tourism and the revised Warden Services.

Councillor Mrs J Dutton reported on Gresford Trust matters and on her recent experiences of parking at the Doctors' surgery.

24 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/2012/0350 – Demolition of Existing Retail and Residential Dwelling and Erection of Two Storey Bar and Restaurant Unit with 2 Two Bedroom flats on Third Floor, 7 Chester Road, Gresford - **Gresford Community Council had serious concerns regarding this proposal, namely**

There appeared to be misleading information in the application relating to vehicles and parking which should be looked into;

The proposed three storey part of the building would be out of keeping with the character of this area and would result in the loss of privacy for the nearby residential occupiers;

Limited parking already existed for residents and visitors on exceedingly narrow streets which were incapable of being widened at reasonable cost and the increased traffic - pedestrian, cars and delivery vehicles resulting from this proposal would exacerbate these problems;

The change of use to licensed premises would result in increased noise nuisance and traffic movements at all times of the day night and would result in loss of amenity to residents;

There would be increased dangers at a busy road junction controlled by traffic lights.

P/2012/0353 – First Floor Rear Extension, 1 Pikey cottages, Pikey Lane, Gresford – **No representations**

P/2012/0365 – Development in adjoining Community - Change of use from Office/Workshop to Open Minds Training and Therapy Centre, Unit 1 Former ROC Office, Borrass Road, Borrass, - **Gresford Community Council considered that this site was not suitable as a training centre as there was insufficient parking within the site and ingress and egress was dangerous; there was no public transport; pedestrian access was along heavily used roads without pavements and street lights. The site had been used for similar purposes in the past but this was the 21st century when it was expected that such amenities should be provided. It was not the 1940's and 1950's when this facility was used by the Royal Observer Corps.**

P/2012/0367 – Single Storey rear extension – 30 Wynnstay Lane, Marford – **No representations**

P/2012/0374 – demolition of Existing Bathroom extension and outbuilding and Construction of Living Room extension, New Pitched Roof to Front Porch and Internal Alterations, 20 Claypit lane, Gresford – **No representations**

25 FINANCE

The following items were approved for payment

P & W Maintenance Ltd., Quarterly Grounds Maintenance	£59.53
JDH Business Services Ltd., Internal Audit Fee for 2011-12	£444.00
Mr Steve Pugh, Grave Making	£475.00
Mrs M Jones, Salary	NJC Rates
Came & Co., Insurance Premium	£2,490.13
Encore Office Systems. Photocopy Charges & Toner	£94.80
D&A Systems Ltd., Installation of lighting timer	£283.20
Maurice Paddock, Salary	NJC Rates
HM Revenue and Customs, NI and Tax	PAYE Rates

26 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Promoting Local Democracy – Welsh Government White Paper

Invitation to a 2day Community Renewable Energy Course Level 2 (NCFE accredited) on 28th – 29th June 2012 at Glyndwr University, Wrexham

Marford & Gresford Albion proposed to carry out earthwork and re-seeding on Allington Park football field and requested financial support – Deferred until the next meeting.

27 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING: It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held at Gresford Memorial Hall on Thursday 5th July 2012 at 7.15 p.m. It was also agreed provisionally that there would be a meeting on 2nd August at Marford Community Centre to consider planning application which maybe received.

**COUNCILLOR MRS P M LIGHTWOOD
CHAIRMAN**

Presiding Chairman.....

Date.....