

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT
GRESFORD MEMORIAL HALL ON 6th MARCH 2014**

Members Present

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

Apologies

Councillors Mrs J D Dutton and Mrs M Lightwood

In Attendance

PCSO 2118 Wendy Harris

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. Councillors A Bailey, Mrs S Cleaver, M Perry and M L Roberts indicated their intention to declare personal and/or prejudicial interests at the appropriate time.

Bereavement

The Council stood in silence in memory of Mr Len Thomas, a member of the former Marford Community Council who died on 13th February 2014.

241 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd February 2014 were received and amended. The Minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

242 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Six members of the public were present to discuss Gresford Library Service.

243 POLICE REPORT

Crime statistics for February 2014 were circulated and discussed.

It was agreed to arrange for another Bike Marking event to take place soon. In the absence of Councillor Lightwood the Clerk reported on the complaint she had made to him regarding a vehicle being inappropriately parked near the flats at Newtown.

244 VARYING THE AGENDA

In accordance with Standing Orders the Agenda was varied to discuss Gresford Library Service at this point.

245 GRESFORD LIBRARY SERVICE

Mr Tim Dillon and Councillor Bailey reported on the work carried out in a very short space of time to agree an alternative working model for Gresford Library Service. This had now been passed to Wrexham Council and further meetings were expected next week.

(Councillors A Bailey and M L Roberts declared personal and/or prejudicial interests in this item and left the meeting whilst it was discussed)

The Council resolved to make finance available to the company to be set up shortly to run Gresford & District Community Library as a social enterprise in the sum of £7,284 plus the cost of the building survey on the present library building, to be paid in installments agreed between the Company's Treasurer and the Clerk of the Community Council. It was also asked that the Company should make monthly reports to the Community Council.

246 MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Marford Community Centre

It was noted that the terms of the lease had been agreed effective from 1st August 2014. Various grant funding sources were also being pursued.

Youth Service

No report had been received. The annual report from the Detached Youth Workers was expected shortly.

Community Council Website

Councillor Cleaver reported that 1,787 unique visits were made to the site since our last meeting. A letter had been received by Councillor Mark Perry from Mrs F Massey who considered that in the interest of democracy and complete transparency that if any member of the Community Council was a member of a Political Party then this should be indicated by their names on the Website. This was not approved.

The Clerk of the Council was instructed to send an appropriate reply to Mrs Massey reflecting the Council's views.

Stones at the Lakeside

The Clerk was instructed to pursue this matter with the contractor who was endeavoring to source suitable material.

Street Lighting at Pistyll Hill, Marford

The Clerk of the Council reported that contrary to his information, the owner of the tree which had damaged this column was a different resident. ***The Clerk of the Council was instructed to make further efforts to recover the costs from the new alleged owner of the tree and also to raise with Schneider Electric, why the cost of providing the service to the new column was so high in view of the fact that the electricity supply was previously provided at this column.***

247 REPORTS

Councillor Bailey circulated details of the Council Tax for 2014-2015 determined by Wrexham Council; also on the successful Coffee Morning held by MyPAG.

Councillor M J Edwards reported that the application for drilling the exploration bore holes had been deferred at a recent meeting of the Planning Committee.

Councillor Mrs J Holmes reported that the Trust's application for a refurbished Kitchen at the Memorial Hall had been submitted.

Councillor G Frank-Keyes reported that a contractor had been engaged by IMAGE to refurbish the drinking fountain, and also that a working week-end was being arranged by members to spruce up the various flower containers.

248 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/2014/0067 – Two Storey Side extension comprising Kitchen & Utility with Bedroom over 13 Gorse Crescent, Marford – **No comments.**

P/2014/0094 (Councillor Mrs S Cleaver declared a person interest in this application and left the meeting whilst it was discussed) – Outline application to erect single detached dwelling, Fairfield Farm, Barkers Lane, Borrass – **No comments.**

P/2014/0105 – Single Storey Kitchen extension to side of property with additional room over and insertion of new dormer window to rear, Burton Lodge, Burton Rise, Gresford – **No comments.**

249 FINANCE

The following items were approved for payment:

Mr C A Route, Grounds Maintenance and Cemetery work	£545.00
Mr Steve Pugh – Grave Making	£75.00
Wrexham CBC – Second Instalment, Young People Inclusion Service	£2,216.50
P & W Contracting, Quarterly Grounds Maintenance	£59.53
Malcolm Lane & Son Ltd - 3 No. PETG Sheets	£462.00
Scottishpower plc, Unmetered supplies	£858.70
Mr C Jacobson, Treesrus - Crownwork to trees on Allington Park	£200.00
AVOW – Membership Renewal 2014-2015	£10.00
Mr J Dutton – One Betula Jacque montii tree	£47.40
Home Start, Wrexham – Donation	£100.00
Wales Air Ambulance – Donation	£100.00
Marie Curie Nurses – Donation	£100.00
Family Friends 5`s to 11`s – Donation	£60.00
Llangollen Musical Eisteddfod – Donation	£100.00
North Wales Deaf Association – Donation	£50.00
Macmillan Cancer Support – Donation	£150.00
Nightingale House Hospice – Donation	£300.00
Gresford Retirement Club – Donation	£100.00
Gresford Cricket Club – Donation	£500.00
Mrs M Jones, Salary	NJC rates
Maurice Paddock, Salary	NJC rates
HM Revenue & Customs, NI and Tax	PAYE rates

250 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Gresford United Charities – ***It was resolved to fill the two vacancies by the appointment of Mrs B Blackmore and M J Edwards.***

Gresford Athletic FC – Application for Financial Assistance (Councillor M Perry declared a person and or prejudicial interest in this application and left the meeting whilst it was discussed)

Deferred to obtain the current statement of accounts and an explanation of their policy for the maintenance of the grounds and the other work required to the pitch and metal posts.

Gresford Retirement Club – Noted as this application had been dealt with at the last meeting.

One Voice Wales – Membership 2014-15

It was resolved to continue the membership of this organisation.

Wrexham Town & Community Councils Forum, 20th March 2014. – Councillor M Perry, A Bailey and Mrs B Watson agreed to attend.

Joint SLCC/OVW Conference – ***The Council agreed that Councillor M Harriman and the Clerk attend this Conference on Effective Governance and Accountability at Llandudno on 15th March 2014.***

Wrexham and Flintshire Employment Land Review – A Letter was received reporting that Wrexham and Flintshire Council had commissioned BE Group to undertake an employment land review for the two counties. This was required to provide an updated evidence base for the Local Development Plan. As part of the review the Group were seeking the views of Town/Community Councils regarding supply/need for employment sites and premises they wished to see redeveloped and/or which could provide more local employment opportunities and other sites which could be included in this review.

After hearing the observations of Councillor Bailey the Council resolved to suggest the site at 7 Chester Road and Allington Hall should be included in the Review.

251 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING: It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 3rd April 2014 at 7.15 p.m. at Marford Community Centre.

**COUNCILLOR MRS J MACDONALD
CHAIRMAN**

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