

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT GRESFORD METHODIST CHURCH HALL ON 12th May 2016.

Members Present

Councillors A. Bailey, B. Blackmore, J. Dutton, Julie Hughes, M. J. Edwards(part), , M Harriman, M. Lightwood, J. MacDonald, B. Watson, M. Perry, J Holmes, F Lloyd-Roberts

Chair: Councillors M Perry and S Cleaver

Apologies: Councillor G. Frank-Keyes

Clerk: Serena Baxter and M Paddock (advisory)

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.

522. ELECTION OF CHAIR

It was proposed by Councillor J Dutton and seconded by Councillor M Harriman and unanimously ***resolved that Councillor Susan Cleaver be elected Chair of the Council for the ensuing year.*** Councillor Cleaver thanked the members for the honour of electing her as Chair and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and undertook to observe the Code of Conduct. Councillor Perry as outgoing Chair thanked members for supporting him as Chair over the past two years. Councillor Cleaver then formally welcomed Serena Baxter on her appointment as Clerk to the Council, and to Julie Hughes on her appointment to the Council as Councillor.

523. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

This item was deferred due to a lack of nomination for discussion to the next meeting 2nd June 2016.

Action: to discuss and elect the position of Vice Chair at the next meeting.

524. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 7th April 2016 were agreed and signed by the Chair. Members confirmed that they would like to continue to have Agendas and Minutes sent out by post.

525. POLICE REPORT

There were no Police officers present to give a report.

526. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the Public present at the meeting.

527. PROPOSALS FOR THE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES (TITLES AND TERMS OF REFERENCE)

AGREED: It was agreed that:

- The name of sub-committees be changed to Committees.

- The title of the Play Area sub-committee be changed to General Amenities Committee and to include management of the Lake.
- The Risk Assessment sub –committee to be discontinued and these tasks to be included within the work of the General Amenities Committee
- The Tendering sub-committee to be discontinued and the tasks to be included within the work of the Finance Committee.

ACTION: All Committees to agree as their first task their Terms of Reference.

528. APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

AGREED: The following committees and membership were agreed:

Cemetery Committee: Councillors A Bailey, M Lightwood, M Harriman, F Lloyd- Roberts, B. Blackmore

General Amenities Committee: Councillors A Bailey, J Dutton, M Edwards, J Macdonald, B Watson, B Blackmore

Lighting Committee: Councillors J Dutton, G Frank-Keyes, J Holmes, J Hughes, M Edwards

Finance and Tendering Committee: Councillors S Cleaver, M Harriman, M Edwards, J Holmes, B Watson, J Macdonald.

It was agreed that the functions of the former Risk Assessment Committee would be undertaken by the General Amenities committee.

The following initial dates of the following Committees were agreed:

Finance Committee - 26th May at 6pm

Cemetery Committee - 26th May at 4pm.

General Amenities Committee -1st June at 6pm

529. DATES, VENUES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS

It was proposed that the Council agree to meet in one place only and that place to be the Gresford Memorial Trust Hall. A discussion took place. A counter proposal was raised to defer this item and have further discussion at the next meeting, allowing those not present at this time to consider the matter.

ACTION: To defer this item and discuss in full at the next meeting on the 2nd June

AGREED: The dates of future meetings circulated were agreed.

A discussion took place about the issue of a meeting to set the Precept. M Paddock advised that WCBC like to have an indication of the Precept by the end of December. It was agreed that the December Meeting would look at and agree the Precept.

A discussion also took place to consider the need for a meeting to be held on the first Thursday in August to ensure that any Planning items are considered in a timely way.

AGREED: to include a General meeting in August with the one item concerning Planning matters.

530. MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

No 7 Chester Road.- The rubbish is still there and Planning have been told. It was proposed a letter to be sent to the Planning department to state that the site is an affront to the visual amenity of the Village.

AGREED: A letter to be sent to Planning department highlighting the issue and requesting them to act.(Clerk to action)

Website- S Cleaver reported the website has received 1163 unique visits over the past month, and the most popular pages visited have been Councillors, Minutes and the Village Diary. New items have included photos of the Planters and acknowledging the contribution of the Community Council and Keep Wales Tidy. It was stated there have been positive comments about the planters and the seats have been used. A link was requested between the Community Council website and the Gresford Trust website.

Village Car Parking- following on from the previous meeting, Councillor Bailey will speak to the Council about the matter and the concerns raised in particular the health and safety issues. A site meeting will be convened with members of the General Amenities Committee present to put forward their information and views. The main concerns are safeguarding the public and the uneven surface and line painting.

ACTIONS: Councillor Bailey to speak with the Council. A site meeting to be convened.

Legacy funding for the Lake: The Clerk reported she had looked into the matter of how the money could be split. A discussion took place concerning proposals for the notice board.

ACTION: Clerk to look into further and prepare a briefing note for the General Amenities Committee

Vacancy: The Council noted that there will be a vacancy arising due to the resignation of Councillor Mark Perry. Although there has been an advertised vacancy process undertaken very recently, the advice from the electoral department is that the proper process must again be followed and the Vacancy notified to the electorate in the appropriate manner, and if no response is received within the timescale then a further notice advising of co-option.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Electoral and instigate the process.

531. REPORTS

Wrexham County Borough Council

New Mayor- Councillor Bailey advised the new Mayor is Councillor John Pritchard of Marchwiell and the Deputy Mayor is Councillor McCann of Gwersyllt.

Refugees- Wrexham Council has agreed to assist five Syrian families.

Councillor Edwards reported that improvements to Schools are being considered.

The issue of Kingdom Leisure was mentioned and their progress on dog fouling. It had been suggested that their staff were aggressive.

Gresford Trust

J Dutton reported that the CCTV has been a very useful addition and the quality of the pictures has allowed Police to identify vandals. The AGM of the Trust is on the 18th May and new trustees are required. A meeting is also to be held to discuss the organisation of the Village Festival.

IMAGE

Eight trees have been planted and the planters sited. The AGM will be held in June.

JD advised that the Notice Board proposed has been costed at £685, constructed in stronger plastic with their artwork, or a lesser price of £565

AGREED: The General Amenities Committee together with representatives from IMAGE to work as a group to form a proposal and also to consider the provision of a commemorative plaque.

MAES Y PANT- There will be a coffee morning and Plant Sale on May 21st to raise funds.

532. TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED)

P/2016/0330- Application for Lawful Development Certificate for existing Use of Vacant Property (Formerly known as Caia Farm Cottage) as a Dwelling Houses (Use Class C3), Caia Farm, Old Wrexham Road, Gresford.

No Comments

P/2016/0399- Application for Rear Conservatory extension at The Gables, 3 Min Y Dyffryn, Gresford. **No Comments**

P/2016/0392- Application for Erection of Seated Spectator Stand, Playing Field off High Street, Gresford. A number of concerns were raised including proximity to residents and impact of noise, parking issues arising and the height and design of the stand being out of keeping with the general area.

AGREED: Objections to the Stand on these grounds will be relayed to the Planning department. (Clerk.)

P/2016/0379- Erection of One New Canopy within the Plant, Bins and Cages area, and One New Satellite Dish, fixed to the North- East Elevation, from The Co-Operative Retail Services Ltd, Marford Hill, Marford, Wrexham.

No Comments

P/2016/0407- Erection of three Storey Dwelling, Quarry View, Pant Lane, Gresford, Wrexham. **No Comments**

533. FINANCE

The Following items were approved for Payment:

Came and Company (Insurers)	£2,434.09
Encore Office systems	£39.60
One Voice Wales	£35.00
Mr S Pugh	£605.00
Wrexham County Borough Council	£2,161.86
Scottish Power	£858.34
Scottish Power	£830.95
JDH Business Services	£424.80
M Paddock	£2,402.00
Dee Valley Water	£9.26
M Paddock	NJC Salary Rates
M Jones	NJC Salary Rates
S Baxter	NJC Salary Rates
HM Revenue & Customs, NI and Tax	PAYE rates

A copy of the Internal Audit report received from JDH Business was received. There were four points noted on page 4 of the report and the comment concerning invoices was approved.

AGREED: The report will be considered by the Finance Committee and any outstanding action points arising to be agreed at meeting on the 2nd June.

534. ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE

- i. Wrexham County Borough Council: Variation to licensable activity under the Licensing Act 2003- Toad Hall, 4 Lakeside Close, Gresford, Wrexham, LL12 8 PG. Clerk advised this is now on hold from licensing side.
- ii. Parking on Wynnstay Lane and around the Rofft School (E-mail from Councillor Watson). A discussion took place about the difficulties experienced by local residents and about Health and Safety concerns arising from parking issues around the Rofft school and that these are exacerbated around dropping off and picking up times in the morning and afternoon.

ACTION: Letter will be sent to the WCBC Education department concerning the matter. (Clerk)

- iii. Gresford Trust AGM 18th May 2016 and appointment of 3 independent representatives.

AGREED: S Cleaver and J Macdonald to represent the Community Council.

- iv. Allington Park- Gates (E-mail from Councillor Holmes).Response received from WCBC that the gates have been inspected and no fault found.

AGREED: To be considered further by the General Amenities Committee

- v. Street Lighting- Column 9, The Green. Advised that Insurance claim in progress following the damage caused. WCBC are trying to source a supplier for the Russell column and Victorian lantern as replacement, but this would be more expensive than a standard column.

AGREED: to instruct WCBC to purchase a Russell column and Victorian lantern as replacement, when one is sourced.

- vi. Notification from One Voice Wales- Local Government Ethical Framework
- The Local Government(Standards Committees, Investigations, Dispensations and Referral)Wales)(Amendment)Regulations 2016
 - Model Code of Conduct for members and Co-opted Members with voting rights) E-mail from Welsh Government, e-mailed to Members on 26th April)

AGREED: The item was noted and the Code of Conduct as set out was adopted.

- vii. Notice of advertisement of the annual audit for the year ended 31st March 2016 received from Grant Thornton UK LLP on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales.

Clerk and MP advised that the return is to be prepared for external Auditors as in previous years.

- viii. Applications for Grants from the Community Council:

- a) Gresford Retirement Club
- b) Gresford Recreation Club
- c) Tenovous Cancer Care
- d) Gresford Athletic FC
- e) Home-Start County Borough of Wrexham
- f) Gresford Pre-School Playgroup.

AGREED: The above applications to be considered by the Finance Committee.

- ix. Invitation to the Annual General Meeting of Wrexham County Borough Council, Tuesday 17th May 2016 (reply required 13th May 2016)

The item was considered but resolved that no attendees would be present.

- x. Craig Emery Manager of the Co-operative store in Marford.

The item was noted.

- xi. Issue at Gresford Cemetery- E-Mail from Cemeteries Assistant.

The issue arising was noted.

AGREED: The issue would be taken forward by the Cemetery Committee.

535. DISPOSAL AND PURCHASE OF THE CLERKS COMPUTER.

AGREED: Due to the age of the existing asset it would be pertinent to purchase a more up to date laptop for the new Clerk and to dispose of the old computer appropriately. It was further agreed that if the outgoing Clerk wished to retain the existing computer and monitor he could do so providing the data was removed appropriately.

536. DATE, VENUE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING.

AGREED: The next meeting to be held on the 2nd June at 7.15 pm at the Gresford Memorial Hall.

537. ADDITIONAL ITEM. Councillor Cleaver on behalf of the Council extended her warm good wishes and thanks to the outgoing Clerk Maurice Paddock for his sterling work in supporting the Council over the past seventeen years. Councillors joined her in echoing their good wishes and thanks.

**COUNCILLOR S CLEAVER
CHAIR**

Chair.....

Date.....