

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT
MARFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE ON 1st MAY 2014**

Members Present

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

Apologies

Councillor Mrs B Blackmore, Mrs M Lightwood, G Peake, Mrs B Watson and PCSO 2118 Wendy Harris

In Attendance

PCSO 3465 Jade Andrews

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.

264 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously resolved that Councillor Mrs B Blackmore be elected Chairman of the Community Council for the ensuing year.

Councillor Mrs J MacDonald was thanked for her hard work as Chairman during the past year.

265 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously resolved that Councillor M Perry be appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. It was also resolved that in the absence of the Chairman, Councillor Perry be appointed to preside over the meeting.

Presiding Chairman

In the absence of the Chairman the Vice Chairman presided over the meeting.

266 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd April 2014 were received, approved and signed by the Presiding Chairman.

267 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One member of the public was present but did not wish to address the Council.

268 POLICE REPORT

Crime statistics for April 2014 were circulated and discussed.

269 VARYING THE AGENDA

In accordance with Standing Orders the Agenda was varied to discuss the Youth Service and Marford Community Centre.

270 YOUTH SERVICE

Three officers from the Youth Services were in attendance and presented the Detached Youth Work Project Progress report for 2014. It was noted that the contact figures with young people was down for the past twelve months, but there had been over 400 contacts

with young people on the streets of Gresford and Marford. Also 8–10 young people had participated in various outdoor activities.

The Youth Officers answered the questions of members regarding communication with young people, use of social media, use of Rossett as a centre and the proposed investigation of community hall and centre in Gresford for this purpose.

The Officers were thanked for their report.

271 MARFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE

It was reported that at present the handover date was expected to be 1st August 2014. A bank account was in the process of being opened and negotiations were taking place for caretakers under the TUPE Regulations. It was agreed that three members of the Community Council would serve on the new management committee.

It was resolved to express the Community Council's concern with the apparent lack of activity on the transfer of this function to the new management committee and they should be encouraged to treat the situation with more urgency.

The representative of the new management structure was thanked for her attendance and the progress report.

272 MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Gresford & District Community Library

It was reported that the number of volunteers was growing and work was in hand to reopen the Library under the new management structure in May 2014.

7 Chester Road, Gresford

Members were urged to take photographs in order to build up a portfolio of evidence to show the present use of the site. ***It was also resolved that the Chief Planning Officer be asked for a report on the meeting the Planning Officers were having with the developer as indicated in the Chief Planning Officer's earlier letters and email.***

Community Council Website

Councillor Cleaver reported that there were 1,861 unique visits to the site since the last meeting. The opening pages had been translated into the Welsh language. ***The Council resolved that details of the Website should be included in the Essentials Magazine to make voluntary groups in the community more aware of the Website.***

Street Lighting Column at Pistyll Hill, Marford

A reply had not yet been received from Scottishpower and therefore this would be included on the Agenda for the next meeting.

273 APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES

It was resolved that the following sub-committees comprising the relevant members be appointed for the ensuing year:-

Cemetery Sub-Committee – Councillors A Bailey, B Blackmore, M Harriman, M Perry and M L Roberts

Play Area Sub-Committee – Councillors A Bailey, J Dutton, M J Edwards, J MacDonald and B Watson

Lighting Sub-Committee - Councillors J Dutton, M J Edwards, G Frank-Keyes, J Holmes and G Peake

Risk Assessment Sub-Committee – Councillors A Bailey, B Blackmore, J Dutton and M Perry

Community Council's Website Working Group - Councillors S Cleaver, J Holmes and B Watson

Marford Community Centre Sub-Committee - In view of the changing circumstances it was agreed not to reappoint this sub-committee.

Tendering Sub-Committee - It was agreed to include an item on the Agenda for the next meeting to discuss this matter.

274 REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES

It was resolved that the following representatives be appointed to serve on the following outside bodies for the ensuing year:-

Gresford & District War Memorial Trust – Councillors J MacDonald, G Peake and M Perry.

Marford Community Centre Working Group – Councillors B Blackmore, M J Edwards and M Harriman with B Watson as a deputy substituting when required.

275 DATES, VENUES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS

It was resolved that meetings for the ensuing year be held alternately at Gresford Memorial Hall and Marford Community Centre on the first Thursday of each month at 7.15 pm, except August, which would be on a date approved by the Chairman subject to the number of planning applications or other business requiring the Council's urgent attention and on 8th January 2015 and 14th May 2015 (Annual Meeting).

276 REPORTS

Councillor S Cleaver reported on her attendance at the AGM of Wrexham Area Civil Society.

Councillor Bailey reported that land at Parsonage Close and other sites were being considered for inclusion in the new Local Plan for affordable housing.

Councillor M J Edwards reported on training for County Councillors on web casting of the meetings but this was not going out live at this time.

Councillor G Frank-Keyes reported that IMAGE has applied for Government Grants under the current Tidy Towns Initiative and outlined the proposals for improvements to Gresford Village included in the application; a decision was expected in July/August 2014; and that the contract for work on the Drinking Fountain had been let.

Councillor Mrs J Holmes reported on the work of the Trust including the WW1 Celebrations.

Councillor J Dutton referred to the recent letter from the Highways Department asking for Councillors to monitor heavy goods vehicles using Clapper Lane and Griffin Hill. Both she and Councillor Roberts considered it was not practical and unsafe for Councillors and untrained persons to carry out such monitoring. ***It was resolved that the Clerk of the Council be instructed to inform the Highways Department of this decision.*** Councillor Dutton also reported that there were too many male ducks on the lake in High Street and efforts should be made to reduce numbers.

Councillor M Harriman asked for an item to be included on the Agenda for the next meeting to enable a discussion to take place for funding/council tax arising from the new situation caused by the devolution of services by the Unitary Authority.

277 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/2014/0173 – Listed Building Consent for amendment to Planning Code P/2007/1397 to include internal alterations, new windows and roof lights, Cedar Hall, The Green, Gresford - **No Observations**

P2014/0199 – Rear flat roof dormer extension and conversion of loft to incorporate 2 bedrooms and family bathroom and installation of 2 velux windows to front 6 Redland Close, Gresford - **No Observations**

P/2014/0203 – Proposed garage extension and conversion to ancillary domestic accommodation 2 Green Pastures, Pont y Capel Lane, Gresford - **No Observations**

P/2014/0210 – Conversion of detached double garage into “Granny Annexe” with link extension to main House, Highfield House, Old Wrexham Road, Gresford- **No Observations**

P/2014/0211 – Fell to ground level one horse chestnut tree protected by TPO DCC No 20 1953, land adjacent to Min y Dyffryn, Gresford - **No Observations**

P2014/0224 – Alterations and two storey extension to dwelling including integral double garage, Sunnyridge, Sunnyridge Avenue, Marford - **No Observations**

P/2014/0242 – Erection of 3 bedroom bungalow and garage, Plot 18 Quarry Brow, Gresford – Councillors Bailey and Edwards declared interests in this application and left the meeting whilst it was discussed - **No Observations**

278 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2013-2014

The draft Statement of Accounts to 31st March 2014 was received and noted.

279 FINANCE

The following items were approved for payment:

Mr C A Route, Grounds Maintenance and Cemetery work	£545.00
Wrexham CBC – Quarterly Maintenance – Lighting	£1,307.01
Scottishpower plc, Unmetered supplies	£858.70
SLCC Enterprises Ltd – Training Seminar	£141.60
IMAGE – Drinking Fountain	£7,500.00
Gresford Athletic Football Club – Financial Assistance	£400.00
Ffion Gwen Williams – Translation Services	£87.30
Dee Valley Water – Water Charges	£13.32
Mrs M Jones, Salary	NJC rates
Maurice Paddock, Salary	NJC rates
HM Revenue & Customs, NI and Tax	PAYE rates

280 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Annual Return and basic Audit for year ending 31st March 2014 – UHY Hacker Young had fixed 31st May 2014 for completion of the Annual Return – ***It was resolved that the Chairman be authorised to sign the draft return when received from JDH Business Services.***

Annual Meeting of Wrexham County Borough Council, Tuesday, 20th May 2014.

Wrexham Town & Community Council Forum – The Agenda for the next meeting of the Forum would be considered at the next meeting of the Community Council.

281 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING: It was confirmed that the next meeting would be the Annual Meeting and held on Thursday, 5th June 2014 at 7.15 p.m. at Gresford Memorial Hall.

**COUNCILLOR M PERRY
PRESIDING CHAIRMAN**

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