

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT
GRESFORD MEMORIAL HALL ON 2nd APRIL 2009**

Members Present

Councillors A C Bailey, Mrs J Dutton, M J Edwards, M Harriman, J L Jones, Mrs S Layhe, Mrs M Lightwood Mrs J MacDonald H Sharp and R H Willis .

PCSO 2850 Scott Noble and PCSO 2861 Rhys Rushby were in attendance.

Apology for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs B L Blackmore and Mrs H Williams and accepted.

Bereavement

The Council were extremely sorry to hear of the premature death of Mr Martin Ducey and conveyed their wishes to his widow and family.

124 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of that meeting held on 5th March 2009 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

125 POLICE REPORT

Matters of concern, including the matter of fires and litter in the quarry, were discussed.

126 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present

**127 PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME PHASE 1 –
GRESFORD SHOPS**

Representatives of Groundwork were present to discuss the report. Mr Colin Simpson of the Transportation and Highways Department was also present. Various items of concern raised by members were discussed with the Officers.

The Council agreed that IMAGE should look into ways and means of implementing the report, including the setting up of focus groups.

128 ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Dangerous condition of road and pavements, Winchester Way

A letter had been sent to the Highways Department following the last meeting

Dangerous parking at the junction of Newtown (Orchard View) and Chester Road

A reply from the Principal Traffic engineer was received and noted.

As the reply was unsatisfactory to the Council, it was resolved to seek the assistance of the local Assembly Members to find an acceptable solution to the situation.

Reinstatement of Re-cycling at the Plough Inn and introduction of a residents/community parking scheme

The Clerk of the Council reported on his discussions with the Area Sales Manager for the Brewery and the Landlady of the Plough Public House. It was noted that under the new terms for the management of the pub the management of the car park was the sole responsibility of the Landlady. ***It was agreed that Councillors Jen Dutton, Beryl Blackmore and Jan MacDonald should discuss the issues with the landlady; that Councillor Sharp should place a note in the publication "Essentiallyours" on behalf of IMAGE and the Clerk of the Council would ask One Voice Wales what powers were available to the Community Council to resolve the various parking and traffic issues.***

Christmas Tree & Decorations – Budget for 2009 – 2010

It was confirmed that the Community Council had a budget of £500.00 to cover this expenditure

Tidy Towns Initiative 2009 – Land at the junction of clapper Lane and Chester Road

The flowers were not successfully growing at the location and the Gas Company had again investigated the gas leak. In these circumstances, it maybe necessary to remove any contaminated soil and the pavers to improve the location in time for 2009 season.

Sheaves

Further discussions were to take place regarding concept sketches.

Investment Strategy

The strategy prepared on the advice of the Welsh Assembly Government was approved for 2009 -2010 financial year.

Proposed extraction of fish from Gresford Lake

The Clerk of the Council reported that the North Wales Fisheries Officer of the Environment Agency recommended that if there was no evidence of distress or disease among the fish (that usually manifested by a significant number of dead fish) it was not necessary or advisable to remove stock. Natural selection should maintain the appropriate numbers of fish that the lake could sustain.

It as agreed to take no further action.

Gresford Cemetery

There had been no response from Funeral Directors that the toilets were required and accordingly the Cemetery Sub-Committee was asked to have another look at the building with a view to closing the toilets or cleaning them.

SLA Detached Youth Workers Gresford

It was noted that the Team had been invited to attend the Council meeting on 7th May by which time it was expected that a new SLA for 2009 -2010 would be available.

Street Lighting

For the purpose of clarification, it was noted that at the recommendation of the Lighting Sub-committee to take no action regarding the lighting of Sunnyridge Avenue having regard to the advice from One Voice Wales and the Society of Local Council Clerks and conditions in the area had been adopted by the Community Council.

129 REPORTS

Councillor M J Edwards reported on budget over-spending at Wrexham CBC and on scrutiny of the crime partnership arrangements.

Councillor A C Bailey reported that the next meeting of IMAGE was meeting on 6th April and on the position at Darland School following retirement of the Head Teacher.

Councillor J Dutton reported that arrangements to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Gresford Trust on 31st August were in hand. Also, that Gresford Athletic AFC would be requesting financial assistance at the next meeting.

130 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Details of planning applications received from the Chief Planning Officer that were available for Members prior to the meeting, were dealt with as follows:

P/2009/0168 – Single storey front extension including insertion of new windows, 17 Stancliffe Avenue, Marford – **No representations**

P/2009/0210 – Extension to rear of existing dwelling, 49 Bodwyn Crescent, Gresford – **No representations**

P/2009/0217 – Alterations and extension, 1 Yew Tree court, Pant Lane, Gresford – **No representations**

It was also decided to call the Chief Planning Officer's attention to the sale of motor vehicles from the site of the former KayBee showroom, Chester Road which maybe in contravention of the current planning land use.

131 FINANCE

The following items were approved for payment

All Saints School – Craft Club, financial assistance	£50.00
All Saints School – Gardening Club, financial assistance	£50.00
Alzheimer's Society, Wrexham, financial assistance	£50.00
British Red Cross, Wales Area, financial assistance	£50.00
Groundwork Wrexham & Flintshire, Consultations	£1,837.50
Ellison Marketing, Website Maintenance	£705.00
Encore Office Systems, Photocopy charges	£41.40
Wrexham County Borough Council	
Business Rate for Gresford Cemetery	£452.32
Youth Work SLA 01.01.08 – 31.03.09	£2,117.50
Lighting Additional work 01.10.08 – 30.11.08	£1,008.97
Lighting Additional work 01.12.08 – 31.12.08	£1,051.59
Quarterly Lighting maintenance 01.01.09 – 31.03.09	£1,481.25
Mr C A Route, Grass Cutting and maintenance of cemetery	£545.00

Clerk of the Council, Salary April 2009	NJC Rates
Sundry Expenditure, 01.04.08 – 31.03.09	£224.37
Postages, 01.04.08 – 31.03.09	£188.79
HM Revenue and Customs, Income Tax and Employers NI April 2009	PAYE Rates
Mrs J Holmes, keys for dismountable barrier	£16.00

132 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Resignation of Councillor Stephanie Freeman from the Community Council

Application for Financial Assistance 2008 -09 – Late Applications for Financial Assistance 2008 -09 – Family Friends for 5’s to 11’s (Councillor A C Bailey declared a personal non pecuniary interest in this matter and took no further part in the discussion or voting thereon) - **Resolved to give assistance of £25.00**; and Wrexham & District PHAB Club - **Resolved to give assistance of £25.00**

Wrexham Draft Parks Strategy Consultation

Consultation on Local Planning Guidance Note 29 – A Design Guide for Developers and Architects when Designing Residential Development

Marford Play Area – Letter from Mulcair Ltd on behalf of Costain Construction proposing to use part of the land for to accommodate the following until 15th may:-

- 1 x 20ft x 8ft office (Note the office and canteen would be stacked on top of each other)
- 1 x 20ft x 8ft canteen
- 1 x 20ft x 8ft container store
- 1 x Generator unit
- 1 x Toilet Unit

On completion of the works, the field will be reinstated and grass seeded or turfed.

The Community Council saw no objections and proposed to give the go ahead provided Wrexham Council also had no objections.

133 DATE, VENUE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: It was confirmed that the Annual Meeting would be held at Marford Community Centre on Thursday, 7th May 2009 at 7.15 p.m.

**COUNCILLOR MRS JEN DUTTON
CHAIRMAN**

.....Chairman
.....Date