

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT MARFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE ON 1st OCTOBER 2009

Members Present

Councillors A C Bailey, Mrs B L Blackmore, Mrs J Dutton, C Hollway, M Hughes, J L Jones, Mrs M Lightwood and Mrs J MacDonald.

CBM WPC 2566 Nicola Gaskell was in attendance.

Presiding Chairman

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

Apology for Absence

Apologies received from Councillors M J Edwards, M Harriman, Mrs S Layhe, M Pritchard Mrs H Williams and R H Willis were accepted.

187 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2009 were confirmed and signed by the presiding Chairman.

188 POLICE REPORT

Matters of concern were discussed including crime statistics, lighting at the MUGA and rats seen near the vacant shop at the junction of Chester Road and High Street.

189 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public were present and commented upon Allington Park Children's Play Area, Gresford Youth Club and the provision of a play scheme in October.

190 ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Gresford Youth club

A report by the Detached Youth Workers and young people using the club was received and after discussion was accepted. ***The Community Council resolved to make the financial contribution of £2,000 towards improving the youth club premises.***

Clappers Lane, Gresford

A reply from the Principal Traffic Engineer regarding the deteriorating condition of the traffic calming humps on Clapper Lane was received and noted.

Tidy Towns 2009 – 2010

It was noted that IMAGE had set up a sub group to pursue these proposals.

Gresford Community Council Web Site

It was noted that the web site was now up to date.

Provision of Play Schemes

It was evident from comments made earlier this evening, that there was a need for play provision in the Community of Gresford during school holidays. (Councillor Mrs B Blackmore declared personal non pecuniary interests in this applications and took no further part in the discussion or voting thereon)

Accordingly the Community Council resolved to provide £250.00 funding for a trial scheme during the half term holiday in October 2009.

Allington Park and Marford Children's Play Areas

This item had been included on the agenda at the request of Councillor J Dutton who was of the opinion that the play areas were in need of refurbishment. Members of the public had spoken earlier in support of refurbishment. The Clerk of the Council also reported that part of the wooden fence surrounding Allington Park had recently been vandalised.

The Council resolved to ask the Play Areas Sub-Committee to visit the site and report thereon

That the vacancy on the sub-committee was filled by the appointment of Councillor C Hollway

That the lower quotations submitted by Achnashean Fencing Ltd to replace approximately 9 metres of fencing in the sum of £550.00 for bow top fencing and repairs to the gate in the sum of £80.00 be accepted.

191 REPORTS

Councillor Mrs B Blackmore reported on Youth Services, the former Antiques Shop and the Open Day at Darland School on 15th October.

Councillor A C Bailey reported that the next meeting of IMAGE was on 12th October.

Councillor J Dutton reported that following the success of the 60th anniversary celebrations, the Trust was planning a similar event on 30th August; and on the official opening of the new Bowls Pavilion.

192 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/2009/0718 - Change of use to provide retail convenience store including internal & external alterations, ancillary storage/office staff rest room/toilet & three office units, 82 Chester Road, Gresford. ***The Community Council had the following concerns which the Chief Planning Officer should have regarding to when determining the application, namely***

The site of the proposal was outside the present limits of the shopping area for Gresford

There was inadequate parking facilities on the site for staff, shoppers and delivery vehicles

If delivery of goods took place at unsocial hours, there would be considerable nuisance to those living in the nearby residential area

Access to the site was very poor and the increased in traffic on this busy road would lead to hazardous traffic conditions and dangers for all road users, vehicular and pedestrian

If this proposal was permitted the bus stop, which was extensively used by school children and others, would need to be relocated and would therefore cause considerable be disruption to the lives of school children and increase the risk of serious accidents at a time when traffic would also be increasing as a result of this development.

Considerable local opposition existed towards the proposal.

P/2009/0732 – Change of use of land to use Class B1 (Business), renewal of unexpired outline permission Code P/2006/0755, Blue Bell Lane/Wilderness Lane, Gresford **The Community Council was very concerned about access from the site at this very busy junction and whilst access may not be directly onto the roundabout any additional traffic generated by this proposal could lead to accidents and increased dangers to road users. The Council considers that the Highways Department should have a close look at the application.**

P/2009/0738 – Single storey extension to side and rear t form Garage, kitchen and Utility Room, 2 Woodlands Road, Marford – **No representations**

P/2009/742 - Prune back second lowest branch on south east to edge of crown (within a conservation area), Holly Cottage, Marford Hill, Marford. **The Community Council had no objection to this proposal if Council's Arboricultural Officer was satisfied that the work was necessary.**

P/2009/0746 – Revised dwelling (previously granted under Code No. P/2001/11587) (in retrospect), Marford Rise, Sunnyside Avenue, Marford – **No representations**

P/2009/0791 – Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an existing use or operation – Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use of Agricultural access from Homestead field onto Llan-y-pwll Link Road, The Homestead Field (2315) adjacent to Llan-y-pwll Ling Road, Wrexham. **The Community Council noted the application as it had no precise knowledge of whether what was described had existed at the site.**

193 FINANCE

The following items were approved for payment

Gresford Cricket Club, financial assistance	£75.00
The North Wales Wildlife Trust, financial assistance	£800.00
Greens 'n things, purchase of wreath	£30.00
Encore Office Systems, Photocopier services	£41.40
Mr C A Route, Two months Grass Cutting and maintenance of cemetery	£545.00
Mrs M Jones, Salary and expenses	NJC Rates
Clerk of the Council, Salary October 2009	NJC Rates
HM Revenue and Customs, Income Tax and Employers NI	PAYE Rates

194 CORRESPONDENCE

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

An application for Financial Assistance was received towards the 100 year anniversary of Gresford & Marford Rainbows, Brownies & Guides (Councillors Mrs B Blackmore declared personal non pecuniary interests in this applications and took no further part in the discussion or voting thereon) ***The Council resolved to give financial assistance towards the anniversary in the sum of £100.00.***

Application for Inclusion in the Pharmaceutical List by Boots the Chemists Ltd at Unit 1, Plas Coch Retail Park, Plas Coch Road, Wrexham

Gwalia Promotions – Concert for Nightingale House Hospice on 6th November

Digital Switchover Help Scheme

Supporting Community Enterprise Newsletter

Local Government Partnership Scheme Annual Report 2008-09

Wrexham Local Health Board Annual Report 2008-09

195 DATE, VENUE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING: It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held at Gresford Memorial Hall on Thursday, 5th November 2009 at 7.15 pm

**COUNCILLOR J L JONES
PRESIDING CHAIRMAN**

.....**Presiding Chairman**

.....**Date**