

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT  
GRESFORD MEMORIAL HALL ON 5th NOVEMBER 2009**

**Members Present**

Councillors A C Bailey, Mrs B L Blackmore, Mrs J Dutton, M J Edwards, M Harriman M Hughes, Mrs S Layhe, Mrs J MacDonald, M Pritchard, Mrs H Williams and R H Willis

**Apology for Absence**

Apologies received from Councillors, C Hollway, J L Jones, Mrs M Lightwood, CBM WPC 2566 Nicola Gaskell and PCSO 2850 Scott Noble were accepted.

**196 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**197 VARIATION OF AGENDA**

*In accordance with Standing Order 16 it was resolved that the order of business be varied on the grounds of urgency.*

**198 PLANNING DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION TO COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

Mr Bob Dewey, Principal Planning Officer gave an overview of how the planning system operated and how community councils may play a part in the process. He answered the questions of members. Mr Dewey was thanked for his attendance.

**199 POLICE REPORT**

Matters of concern were discussed including crime statistics.

**200 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Members of the public were present and commented upon Allington Park Children's Play Area and the TEMPS out of school club accommodation at the Roft School.

**201 ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**Allington Park and Marford Children's Play Areas**

The report of the Play Areas Sub-Committee meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> October was considered, together with possible solutions including lottery funding, public consultations and the assistance of a lady from Kinnerton who had recently undertaken a similar project.

*The Council decided to hold a further meeting of the Play Areas Sub-Committee on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> November, to consult various companies who provide equipment and expertise; the Clerk of the Council was authorise the to consult the lady from Kinnerton and investigate the power to co-opt persons onto the sub-committee..*

**Tidy Towns 2009 – 2010**

It was noted that winter plants had been purchased for £495.00, but that nothing further had been heard from the Environment Department of Wrexham CBC since the meeting in July 2009.

**Christmas tree and Decorations**

It was reported that Wrexham CBC's Lighting Contractor could provide a pit to enable power to be obtained from a nearby lighting column at an estimated cost of £450.00.

Councillor Blackmore reported that arrangements were in hand for Carol Singing on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December.

***The Council resolved to meet the cost of providing the pit by Wrexham's Lighting Contractor from resources set aside in the precept.***

#### **Gresford Community Council Web Site**

Councillors S Layhe and H Williams would consider the Community Council's Web Site.

#### **202 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY:**

***It was also resolved to donate £50.00 to the Gresford Royal British Legion for the purchase of a wreath.***

#### **203 BALANCES AT YEAR END ON 31<sup>ST</sup> March 2009:**

As recommended in the Internal Audit Report, 2008-09 the Council reviewed the level of reserves and those that were ear-marked for future expenditure.

***The Council accepted the details of Ear Marked Reserves provided by the Clerk of the Council and also authorised the purchase a desk top computer facility in the estimated sum of £767.18 after further consultation with Councillor M Pritchard.***

#### **204 REPORTS**

**Councillor Mrs B Blackmore** reported that a professional had recently reviewed the condition of Marford Community Centre and concluded that it should be re-built.

**Councillor M J Edwards** reported on likely cuts in Wrexham's services next year, Salt supplies for the winter, common village greens and Flood Risk Wales. As a result of the last item, members considered that further information should be obtained on the arrangements for disposing of surplus water from the lake in High Street.

**Councillor A C Bailey** reported that the next meeting of IMAGE was on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

**Councillor J Dutton** reported on the concerns she and others had over the expenditure on the Youth Club building. It was agreed that these concerns should be address through Mr Jim Mackenzie and the Management Committee.

#### **205 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/2009/0785 – Single storey extension, 33 Mayflower Drive, Marford – ***No representations***

P/2009/0798 – Second floor extension to provide bedroom and ensuite above existing, 18 Woodlands Road, Marford – ***No representations***

P/2009/0799 – Existing flat and shop to be converted and extended to provide 2 one bedroom flats and shop, Former Cottage Antiques, High Street, Gresford  
***It was resolved to make the following representations***

***There was a need to provide a footpath or pavement on the High Street side of the site to improve the safety of pedestrians at this busy road junction***

***There appeared to be inadequate spaces for car parking***

***No provisions seems to be available within the site for storage bins which are required by the local authority nowadays***

***Having regard to the history of the site, it was difficult to justify flats, as the site had not been used for many years***

***Any access to the site should not be too near to the Traffic lights in the interests of pedestrian safety***

***Efforts must be made to retain the existing trees or replant with trees of similar species.***

P/2009/0801 – 3 No. velux windows to front elevation and 1 No. window to ground floor front elevation (in retrospect), replacement ground and first floor window to dining and bedroom to rear elevation, Little Elms, Vicarage Lane, Gresford – ***No representations***

P/2009/0818 – Alteration and extension to provide larger living accommodation, Hillside, Marford Hill, Marford – ***No representations***

P/2009/0819 – Single storey front extension to provide utility room off existing kitchen and larger bedroom with en-suite, 31 Marford Hill, Marford – ***No representations***

P/2009/0837 – Front porch extension, 2 Pikey cottages, Pikey Lane, Gresford – ***No representations***

P/2009/0853 – Erection of wall to front over 1m in height (in retrospect), 5 Chestnut Close, Gresford – ***No representations***

P/2009/0861 – Introduction of 2 new dormer windows to previously approved scheme, The Elms Lodge, Vicarage Lane, Gresford – ***No representations***

Appeal Against enforcement Notice – Chand Restaurant, 23B Chester Road, Gresford

P/2009/0889 – Change of Use from Retail to Vehicle Sales, Repairs and Car Wash, 82 Chester Road, Gresford

***It was resolved to make the following representations***

***Adequate provision should be made within the site to accommodate the cars of visitors and staff***

***The car washing facilities should be refused on the grounds of the increased noise levels likely to be generated by such a facility, which would be seriously detrimental to the nearby residents of this highly residential area***

## 205 FINANCE

The following items were approved for payment

Allianz Insurance plc, Additional Premium	£85.53
Gresford Youth Club, financial assistance	£2,000.00
Ms M Williams, Refund – Works at the Lake	£12.74
Ellisonmarketing, hosting for website & email support x 12 months	£235.00
Mr S A Pugh, Grave making	£75.00
Scottishpower plc, Unmetered Supplies	£824.30
Mr S A Pugh, Grave making	£75.00
Mr C A Route, 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
Erlas Garden Project, Plants and compost	£495.00
Gresford Royal British Legion, Wreath	£50.00

## 206 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Are We Being Served

After consideration of the e-mail from the Chief Executive of One Voice Wales, ***the Council resolved that it was extremely concerned about the implications that these recommendations will have on Community Councils with limited financial and staff resources as the recommendations if implement would divert these limited resources away from the provision of front line services.***

Funding for TEMPS Out-of-School Club Accommodation the Community Council considered a letter from the Chairperson seeking a loan to assist in the provision of more suitable accommodation for the Club (Councillors Mrs B Blackmore and M J Edwards declared personal non pecuniary interests in this application and took no further part in the discussion or voting thereon)

***The Council decided that it required information regarding the proposals and whether the school/LEA supported the proposals and would to contribute financially.***

Wrexham Town and Community Council Forum – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 p.m – Councillors A C Bailey, M J Edwards and M Harriman would make every effort to attend

Invitation – Afternoon Tea with the Vice-Chancellor of Bangor University, Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> November – Councillor Mrs M Lightwood and friend were appointed to attend

Community Award Darland School (Councillors A C Bailey and Mrs B Blackmore declared personal non pecuniary interests in this matter and took no further part in the discussion or voting thereon) - ***The Council resolved to make a financial contribution of £50.00 to the Award***

**207 DATE, VENUE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held at Marford Community Centre on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2009 at 7.15 pm

**208 National Salary Award 2009 – 2010**

**It was resolved pursuant to Paragraph 1 of Part I of sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) that the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for consideration of this item on the grounds that if members of the public were present there might be disclosed to them exempt information**

A joint circular from NALC, One Voice Wales and Society of Local Council Clerks was received and would be implemented in accordance with Council's policy.

**COUNCILLOR R H WILLIS  
CHAIRMAN**

.....**Presiding Chairman**

.....**Date**