

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT GRESFORD TRUST MEMORIAL HALL ON 6th July 2017

Members Present

Councillors A. Bailey, M. Harriman, J. Dutton, B. Blackmore, I. Lewis, M. Wilde, J. Hobbley, M. Lightwood, M. J. Edwards, J. Blackmore, A. Atkinson

Chair: Councillor B Blackmore

Clerk: Serena Baxter

Apologies given and accepted: Councillor J Holmes, R.Gilmartin, S.Atherton,

37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

38. 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.

39. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No Members of the Public were present.

40. POLICE REPORT: PCSO's Lana Lightwood and James Hulme attended the meeting. The report on crime was presented with items highlighted as: 2 incidents of theft in Gresford and Marford, 3 instances of shoplifting in Marford, 1 instance of making of without payment in Gresford, and 8 instances of anti-social behaviour in Gresford and Marford. Details were presented to members and a discussion took place. Councillor Atkinson requested a patrol at the skate park in Gresford in view of the incident there. The PCSO's confirmed that the Police would have to pay for the extraction of information from the CCTV camera. Councillor Edwards raised the issue of ongoing parking matters on double yellow lines near the Co-op store in Marford, causing a hazard.

41. Talk by Community Agents Development Officer. Mr Nigel Davies of WCBC/AVOW attended the meeting and gave a presentation to members on the roll out of Community Agents across the borough. There are 8 covering 9 areas at present. Rossett are currently looking to recruit a community Agent. He confirmed that WCBC draw down the funding for Community Agents and pass it to the relevant Community Council who then are responsible for paying the worker. The project aims to help people in the Community who are socially isolated and suffering depression. There are links with GP surgeries in terms of referrals to the scheme. There is no cost as such to the Community Council but they would need to enter a contract with WCBC. It is the Clerk's role to manage the agent. the employer is the Community Council. An element would be paid to fund the Clerk's additional time in managing the person. WCBC would give assistance with recruitment. Concern was voiced around Employment obligations should the scheme end. Mr Davies was thanked for his presentation and left the meeting. A further discussion took place and it was agreed to have a further discussion on the matter at the next full meeting , with a view to passing the matter to General Amenities committee to take forward in future.

42. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 1st June 2017 were agreed as a true record, proposed by Councillor Bailey and seconded by Councillor Harriman.

43. MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- i. **Car Parking Rofft school-** The Clerk referred to her report and advised that the site meeting had taken place with Mr Darren Green of WCBC who had since confirmed that the parking restrictions are to go ahead as discussed and that it is hoped to have these in place by the start of the new school term. **Agreed: To notify Rofft School by letter and parents via Essentials. Action: Clerk.**

- ii. **7 Chester Road:** The Clerk highlighted the contents of a response received from Wrexham Council . A discussion took place. Councillor Atkinson highlighted his discussions on the matter. Councillor Harriman stated that the S215 Notice is not temporary as the letter suggests. Councillor Bailey thanked Councillor Atkinson for his work on the matter and observed that Planning Permission on the site is due for renewal. Councillor Blackmore highlighted the response she has had from WCBC to her complaint made as a resident of the village, and how she intends to take this forward. Councillor Atkinson confirmed his intention to keep a close contact with WCBC concerning this issue. **Action: Clerk to write a letter to WCBC in response, concerning the S215 Notice and Compulsory purchase order and to liaise with Councillor Harriman.**
 - iii. **Clappers Lane:** The Clerk referred to her report to update members on this matter. **Action: Clerk to continue to liaise with WCBC Highways on this.**
 - iv. **Additional lighting requested Pont Y Capel Lane:** Councillor Dutton declared an interest in the matter. The Clerk referred to her report and the costs received from Mr Rogers at WCBC which have now been revised to include the additional costs from Scottish Power. It was stated that there is insufficient budget for new lights. Councillor Harriman highlighted an item from the larger Councils conference which was a consortium among Councils for provision of lighting through a revised contract. Councillor Hobbley stated there was an opportunity to save money through a revised contract. **Action: Clerk to obtain further information on this and for these to go as separate items to a future Agenda for further consideration.**
 - v. **Dog waste bins at Marford:** The Clerk referred to her report updating on discussions with WCBC and North Wales Wildlife Trust. A discussion took place. Councillor Bailey proposed a second bin at Maes Y Pant, and a bin at Springfield lane. This was seconded by Councillor Lewis. **ACTION: Clerk to undertake purchase of 2 additional bins to the nearest specification to existing bins, to Springfield lane and Maes y Pant.**
 - vi. **Parking at the Co-op:** The Clerk advised on her actions following the last meeting. A response is awaited from North Wales Police and a response received from New River Retail.
 - vii. **Pistyll Hill Traffic matter.** The Clerk relayed advice received from WCBC Highways Officers concerning the installation of a 30mph limit in the area, and the outcome of the traffic survey recently carried out. Councillor Harriman explained the discussions held at the meeting and a discussion took place about the feasibility and cost of putting speed limits in the area and the effectiveness and implications. Action: Clerk to refer matter to Councillor Gilmartin.
- 44. HIGH STREET GRESFORD:** The Clerk referred to her report and advised that Mr Lloyd of WCBC has stated he has now passed the matter to a contractor and is awaiting costs. **ACTION: Clerk will continue to pursue with WCBC**
- 45. REQUEST TO USE ALLINGTON PARK FOR (SMALLER) VILLAGE FESTIVAL:** Councillor Dutton explained the issues that had arisen which had meant that the festival could not go ahead as originally planned. The Clerk relayed the response from the Insurers concerning liability, and that it would seem that organisers of the Festival should be responsible for obtaining adequate insurance to cover the days event. A discussion took place, concerning the involvement of IMAGE and the likely extent of the festival as planned. Councillor Bailey abstained from discussion as a member of IMAGE. Following discussion, the following action was proposed by Councillor Atkinson and seconded by Councillor Lewis and **AGREED:** The original grant sum made available to the Village Festival committee shall be returned and the amount of £200 and no more than £500 shall be made available to IMAGE . The Chair and Councillors Lewis, Wilde, Atkinson and Bailey shall meet with IMAGE to determine to what purpose the money will be put. The Chair is delegated to make the decision on behalf of the Council as to how much money shall be forwarded to IMAGE for the purpose of the festival (as outlined above)
- 46. APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE TO REDUCE OVERHANGING TREES AT ROFFT PLAY AREA :** The Clerk relayed the advice of WCBC and it was **AGREED** that the trees should be reduced at the cost of £188.75 as stated.

47. WEBSITE- DECISION SOUGHT AS TO FUTURE DEVELOPMENT: A discussion took place about the Community Councils' website. Councillor Harriman advised the Council of presentations made recently at the Larger Council's conference concerning accessibility of information to the wider public and about the use of technology, smartphones, and twitter, to better engage with the electorate. Examples of good practice had been looked at and the use of cemetery recording systems as part of an overall delivery package. It was **agreed that Councillor Harriman would do a report on the matter and the Finance Committee to receive further information on this and bring recommendations to a future meeting of the Council.**

48. ROAD BY TEXACO GARAGE- CONCERN RAISED BY RESIDENT: Councillor Atkinson introduced an issue that had been raised by a resident. It was stated that a traffic plan covering Church Green, the High Street, Chester road and other areas needs to be drawn together. points were raised concerning traffic matters in Marford. It was stated that any consideration of Chester road needs to consider its whole length and not just a part. Agreed: Councillor Atkinson to take forward a small meeting of interested members, comprising Councillors Lewis, Hobbley, Bailey and Atkinson.

49. COMMITTEES Finance Committee:

- i. Minutes of meeting held 22nd June 2017: The minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee held on 22nd June 2017 were noted.
- ii. Progress on Standing Orders: The Clerk explained that the Draft Standing Orders had been prepared but required Members to join her for a meeting to look through them before recommending adoption to Full Council. The following members agreed to take part in such a meeting: Councillors M J Edwards, B Blackmore and A. Atkinson.

50. TASK AND FINISH GROUPS

- i. **Allotments.** The Clerk outlined the current position with regard to the Allotments and that the delay was in awaiting a firm response from the University of Wales. It was stated that the appointment of a legal representative could be explored in the meantime, and Councillor Harriman suggested that WCBC be approached to see if they could give any assistance with conveyancing.
- ii. **Telephone Kiosk:** Councillor Blackmore reported on the current status of the purchase of the telephone box. It is now the property of the Community Council. Councillor Edwards explained the supportive letter given by Friends of Alyn Family Doctors. Councillor J Blackmore outlined her findings from a survey of defibrillators in the local area. A discussion took place and it was **AGREED** that the telephone kiosk be left in its current location
- iii. **Youth Working Party:** Councillor Blackmore relayed the findings from work carried out by the group, and that the best way to move forward is for the information to be put on a good website with appropriate links. Jan Jones as part of the group will design a page

51. REPORTS

- i. **Wrexham County Borough Council:** Councillor Atkinson reported that he had had a positive meeting with Kingdom. He had also met with Virgin Media over the co-ordination of roadworks. Environmental money had been made available for improvements to paths and the environment concerning the Council housing areas, which came from the Housing Revenue Account. Through discussion with Streetscene the road cushion that had been identified as being removed will be replaced.
- ii. **IMAGE:** Councillor Bailey presented a written report to the meeting on progress with the Scarecrow Trail and the AGM.
- iii. **Maes Y Pant:** Councillor Edwards presented a written report to the meeting, including issues of anti-social behaviour.
- iv. **Website:** The Clerk reported 232 unique visitors to the website in June and early July.
- v. **Library:** Councillor Bailey reported on the latest development with the library and footfall and usage.

- vi. **Feedback from Town and Community Council Forum:** The Clerk referred to her report in feeding back from the meeting recently held, where there had been presentations concerning Emergency Planning, Streetscene and powers concerning dog fouling, Communications between WCBC and Community Councils and the review of PCSO's liaison and involvement with Community Councils.

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

- i. *P/2017 / 2017/0472* :- Silver Birch (Adjacent to Bramblewood) (Reduce Crown by 3 Metres and removal of dead branches (protected by Tree Preservation Order No. WCBC 125.Bramblewood, Hillock Lane, Gresford, Wrexham. **The advice of the Arboricultural Officer is accepted.**
- ii. *iP/2017/ 0460*: - Two Storey Side and Single Storey Rear Extension Wynford, 64 Wynnstay Lane, Marford, Wrexham. **Concern was raised that the design of the frontage needs to be sensitive to surrounding dwellings and to 'fit in and not look out of place. The room and size is otherwise appropriate.**
- iii. *P/2017/0434*: - Erection of outbuilding (in retrospect). 43 Bodwyn Crescent, Gresford, Wrexham.- **No objections were raised**
- iv. *P/2017/0524* :- Single Storey rear extension and Erection of new Garage with Rear office area Bryn Hyfryd, Marford Hill, Marford.- **No issues or objections were raised.**

53. FINANCE

- i. The Following items were approved for Payment:

Date	Payment to	Cheque Number	Reason	Amount £
7.6.17	BT	202406	Purchase of telephone kiosk	1.00
7.6.17	WCBC	202407	Application for planning permission	95.00
6.7.17	Came and Company	202408	Annual Insurance payment	2015.92
6.7.17	One Voice Wales	202409	Training 3 Councillors	120.00
6.7.17	Gresford Methodist Church Hall	202410	Hire of room	15.00
6.7.17	WCBC	202411	Repair to Safety Surface	40.46
6.7.17	SLCC	202412	Fee to attend conference	82.80
6.7.17	WCBC	202413	Replacement to swing basket	61.73
6.7.17	WCBC	202414	Half yearly fee for inspection play areas	2884.20
6.7.17	Scottish Power	202415	Lighting supply to end of May	861.71
6.7.17	Steve Pugh	202416	Gravedigging services	250.00
6.7.17	Gresford Methodist Church Hall	202417	Hire of rooms to end of year	183.00
6.7.17	Michelle Jones	202418	Salary as per NJC	
6.7.17	S Baxter	202419	Salary as per NJC	
6.7.17	HMRC	202420	Payment due	
6.7.17	Steve Pugh	202421	Gravedigging services	275.00
6.7.17	STC	202422	Tree Cutting	216.00
6.7.17	N.Route	202423	Grass cutting June 17	625.00

