

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT GRESFORD METHODIST CHURCH HALL ON 6th April 2017

Members Present

Councillors A. Bailey, M Harriman, J Holmes, J. Dutton, J. Jones, B Watson, B Blackmore, J. Hughes G. Frank-Keyes, M. J. Edwards, M. Lightwood, J. Macdonald

Chair: Councillor S. Cleaver

Clerk: Serena Baxter

Apologies given and accepted: Councillor M. Lloyd-Roberts

667. 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.

668. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the Public were present.

669. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 2nd March 2017 were agreed as a true record. (proposed by Councillor A. Bailey and seconded by Councillor Holmes)

670. POLICE REPORT:

PCSO Lisa Davies was unable to attend the meeting but sent a report on instances of crime within the Gresford and Marford areas for the month of February and this was considered and noted.

671. MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- i. **Car Parking Rofft school-** The Clerk advised on the current position and that a Traffic Regulation Order had been sent out by WCBC to residents to consult on the proposals. However, it had been raised with WCBC that the proposals being consulted on were not as previously agreed with Gresford Community Council at the meeting in November. Councillor Edwards reported on his discussion with WCBC on this matter. **ACTION: Clerk to continue to liaise with WCBC and to ensure through the issue of a formal objection to the proposal that they are aware that Gresford Community Council wish for the area proposed to have yellow lines be scaled back to that agreed on the plan previously submitted by WCBC at the November 2017 meeting.**
- ii. **7 Chester Road:** Councillor Cleaver reported on the outcome of a site meeting she attended with the owner of the land, David Williams of WCBC, and Councillors Bailey and Harriman. Some clearance had been carried out and an undertaking was given to clear the area. Councillor Cleaver is to keep in contact with the owner during the near future concerning progress on the site clearance. A discussion took place and a query was raised about the possible compulsory purchase of the land. Councillor Blackmore outlined progress in the complaint she is taking forward on the matter with WCBC as a resident, concerning the safety of the site.
- iii. **Tree by Texaco Garage:** The Clerk advised WCBC have informed that the bollard had now been put in place. Councillor Holmes advised it was in the wrong place as cars could still park there. **Action: Clerk to take up again with WCBC.**
- iv. **Clappers Lane:** The Clerk advised on the response received from WCBC about the issue of the blocked gullies and flooding that had been reported to Highways. WCBC had stated they were awaiting a below ground survey but had done some clearance of the drains. Councillors Dutton and Macdonald reported the area is still flooding after heavy rain. **Action: Clerk to continue to liaise with WCBC Highways on this matter.**

- v. **Additional lighting requested Pont Y Capel Lane:** The Clerk and Councillors Macdonald and Dutton reported on a site meeting that had taken place with Paul Rogers of WCBC Lighting, to take forward the matter of additional lighting for Pont Y Capel Lane. Mr Rogers is to explore with Scottish Power the feasibility of additional lighting and live cabling to existing poles. The matter is ongoing.
- vi. **Dog waste bins at Marford:** A discussion took place concerning this matter and the issue of provision of additional bins and responsibility for bin clearance. The Clerk advised on the response received from North Wales Wildlife Trust. **Action: Clerk to ask WCBC if they will site additional bins at the Maes Y Pant and Pant Lane entrances. Response to be sent to NWW Trust with a suggestion that they remove the existing bin if there is no-one to collect.**

672. High Street Gresford: The Clerk advised of her discussion with Mr Lloyd of WCBC, concerning progress on costings for signage including flashing lights. The current situation is that the matter is on hold at WCBC until the start of the new financial year due to budget pressures. A discussion had also taken place with the Council's Conservation Officer concerning the request previously made for her to attend a meeting. Several issues were suggested by Councillors as needing information and clarification concerning the Conservation area, and it was agreed that a site meeting should be held with members of the General Amenities Committee to take this forward.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Conservation Officer to arrange a site meeting, and to continue to liaise with WCBC over progress on signage.

673. Election Matters: The Clerk updated the meeting on communications received from WCBC Electoral Department. A discussion took place. Councillor Watson explained her decision not to stand on this occasion. Councillor Edwards offered thanks to Councillor Watson for her work undertaken as Community Councillor and this was echoed by the Chair.

674. Requirement to register with the Information Commissioner's Office: The Clerk advised Councillors on information received from WCBC's Information Officer at the Town and Community Council Forum, and the fact that the legislation is to change which will necessitate a Policy and registration to ensure compliance. Registration with the Commissioner's office will cost £35. **Expenditure Approved. Action: Clerk to make the necessary arrangements to comply.**

675. Community Agents Initiative: The Clerk outlined communications received from an officer at WCBC concerning the Community Agent Initiative. A discussion took place. It was resolved to invite the Officer to a future meeting of the Council to gain more information. **Action: Clerk to arrange.**

676. Task and Finish Groups

- i. Allotments Task and Finish Group. No further meeting of the group has taken place. The Clerk reported on a communication received from the University of Wales. A discussion took place. It was suggested that in the event of a valuation being required that we seek the advice of One Voice Wales in how to take the matter forward. **Action: Clerk**
- ii. Telephone Kiosk Task and Finish Group. Councillor J Jones advised on the current position and further discussion with BT, and on further initiatives that had been taken forward by other villages. *(Councillor Harriman left the meeting).* **Action: To consult with the residents who live in the vicinity of the telephone box. -Councillor J Jones.**
- iii. Youth Working Group. Councillor Blackmore advised on the workshop that had taken place. Representatives of 43 groups had attended and the outcome generally was positive. An update had been received from Donna Dickenson of WCBC which Councillor Jones had drafted a response to. Rossett Community Council have indicated that they would wish to work closely with Gresford Community Council in this area.

677. REPORTS

- i) **Wrexham County Borough Council:** Councillor Bailey advised that a protocol had been drawn up and approved concerning the event of the death of a senior person. Proposals had been received concerning reorganisation, and a white paper had been circulated and workshops to be held.
- ii) **Gresford Trust:** Councillor Dutton reported that refurbishment is underway, assisted by the grant received from the Community Council. Items have been ordered and remedial work concerning the fabric of the building has been identified. The AGM will be held on the 18th May.
- iii) **IMAGE:** Councillor Cleaver reported that Tidy Up Sunday had been held and a tree that had been damaged in a recent storm had been removed and tubs replanted. Councillor Bailey advised that an article is to be put in Essentials magazine advertising the Scarecrow Trail. This will commence on the 1st August with a limit set of 40. The SPAR have agreed to the use of their guttering at the rear of the store, for the filling of water butts which can be used for the planters.
- iv) **Maes Y Pant:** Councillor Edwards had previously circulated a report and highlighted the issue that signage put up warning dogs be kept on leads while work was being carried out had in some cases been ignored which gave rise to Health and Safety issues. This is to be reviewed in future and areas may have to be closed to dog walking for a temporary period for that reason if future work occurs.
- v) **Website:** Councillor Cleaver advised that the website had received 1079 unique visitors in March.
- vi) **Library:** Councillor Jones advised that the average footfall has risen and presented a graph. The indication was that 900 children had used the library in a twelve-month period.
- vii) **Borras Quarry:** Councillor Edwards advised that a meeting of the Tarmac Liaison committee had taken place and a plan had been presented of where future working will take place. The new Council will be invited to look at the archaeology in late May.

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

- i. *P/2017 / 2017/0192:* - Two storey extension to form enlarged kitchen with bedroom above- 4 The Woodlands Chester Road Gresford. Wrexham: **No observations to make**
- ii. *P/2017/ 0153:* - Extensions and Alterations to existing bungalow to create two storey dwelling. - 60 Hillock Lane, Gresford, Wrexham. **No observations to make**
- iii. *P/2017/0194:* - Side Dormer Extension – 17 Meadows View, Marford. **No observations to make**
- iv. *P/2017/0242:-* Fell 2 Lime Trees (TPO WCBC No 20) on field adjacent to private drive north of Pikey House, Off Pikey Lane. Clapper Farm, Pont Y Capel Lane, Gresford, Wrexham. **No observations to make as the work is based on the recommendation of the tree officer.** *(Councillor Dutton declared an interest and took no part in the discussion)*

679. FINANCE

- i. The Following items were approved for Payment:

Date	Payment to	Cheque Number	Reason	Amount £
6.4.17	M Jones	202368	NJC Salary	
6.4.17	Encore	202369	Office Printer payment	39.60
6.4.17	AVOW	202370	Annual Membership	10.00
6.4.17	Steve Pugh	202371	Grave digging services	410.00
6.4.17	One Voice Wales	202372	Training	105.00
6.4.17	SLCC	202373	Purchase of book	76.60

6.4.17	WCBC	202374	Non Domestic rates Cemetery	636.23
6.4.17	Scottish power	202375	Lighting Supply February	777.77
6.4.17	One Voice Wales	202376	Annual membership	760.00
6.4.17	Steve Pugh	202377	Grave digging services	250.00
6.4.17	SLCC	202378	Training	300.00
6.4.17	SLCC	202379	Online Training	118.80
6.4.17	NALC	202380	Purchase of book	19.99
6.4.17	Serena Baxter	202381	NJC Salary	
6.4.17	HMRC	202382	Monthly due payment	
6.4.17	Gresford Methodist Church	202383	Hire of rooms	56.00

- ii. Financial Position Statement Report to end March 2017: The Clerk presented a report on the end of financial year position statement. This was considered and was noted by the Council.
- iii. Reporting of expense incurred and Retrospective Approval required for urgent repair to ‘Leg Splitters’ on Cradle swings at Allington Park (£112.62): The Clerk reported to Council on the circumstances around the recent need to authorise an urgent repair to equipment at Allington Park. This was noted by Council and the **expenditure approved in retrospect**.

680. Member’s urgent announcements and requests for future meeting items.

- i. Suggested signage for Gresford Lake area. Councillor Cleaver advised that it had been suggested that signage should be provided at the lake to advise people on what should not be fed to the ducks. It was suggested that an item be put in essentials magazine and on the website.
- ii. Councillor Blackmore reminded the Council that this would be the last meeting of Councillors Andrew Bailey and Mike Edwards in their role as County Councillors. The Chair and the Council unanimously thanked the two Councillors for their dedication and hard work on behalf of the Communities of Gresford and Marford.

681. ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE

Items of Correspondence were tabled in a report from the Clerk, as received by the Council for the month of March, and these were **noted**.

682.. DATE, VENUE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING. AGREED: The next meeting of the Council will be the Annual General Meeting to be held on the 11th May 2017 at 7.15p.m. at the Gresford Memorial Trust Hall.

COUNCILLOR S Cleaver

CHAIR

Date.....