

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT GRESFORD METHODIST CHURCH HALL ON 5th October 2017

Members Present

Councillors A. Bailey, M. Harriman, B. Blackmore, M. Wilde, J. Hobbley , J. Blackmore, A. Atkinson, J Holmes, R.Gilmartin, S.Atherton, M. J. Edwards, J. Dutton

Chair: Councillor B Blackmore

Clerk: Serena Baxter

Apologies given and accepted: Councillors, I. Lewis M. Lightwood,

80. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

81. 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.

82. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No Members of the Public were present.

83. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the meeting held on the 7th September were agreed and approved as a true record.

84. POLICE REPORT: PCSO Lana Kelleher-Lightwood attended the meeting and presented a report on reported crime in Gresford and Marford areas for the month of September. This included, in Gresford, two incidents of making off without payment at the garage, two incidents of criminal damage, including a broken window at Parsonage Close, the theft of tools from a van, and two incidents of youths throwing stones and causing a nuisance at the Memorial hall. In Marford, there was one incident of a theft of electric fencing, an incident of burglary at a house in Blackthorne Close, and criminal damage to windows on Marford Hill. the PCSO was thanked for her report.

85. COMMUNITY POLICING: Councillor Dutton raised a number of concerns regarding Anti-Social behaviour. Councillor Dutton explained that there was concern of residents not knowing a local PCSO and the PCSO not knowing the area and lack of confidence. There was a need to use the local knowledge to catch young people misbehaving early before behaviour became embedded. PCSO Lightwood responded by explaining how the Policing works from the Gresford station and that it has recently been more focused on specific issues arising and prevention, for example there is a plan for the PCSO's to contact secondary schools concerning arson. The Clerk fed back comments received from Sergeant Katy Davies in response to some of the concerns that had been raised by the Chair of MYPAG in a recent communication. Councillor Hobbley stated that he appreciated the increased policing following the recent burglaries and he requested that this be sustained with the approach of Bonfire night and Halloween, as there was a need for high visibility that week. Councillor Harriman suggested that people are losing faith in the police service and highlighted the fact that the 101 number was under resourced as an issue. The Clerk confirmed that she had written to the Police and Crime Commissioner on this point following the last meeting. The PCSO advised that it is possible to report online on the North Wales Police website. Councillor Holmes stated that this needs to be publicised as there is a danger of people giving up on reporting a crime if they feel their call is not being answered. Councillor Blackmore thanked the PCSO for her contribution, and advised on a positive note that grant money applied for has been approved for the schools for developing games and this has come from North Wales Police.

86. PRESENTATION BY CADWYN CLWYD: Sarah Jones of Cadwyn Clwyd attended the meeting and gave a resume of the Project run by Cadwyn Clwyd to utilise BT telephone kiosks for Community Information points and defibrillators in the North Wales area. She advised that match

funding of 30% of cost from a Community Council can lead to Welsh Government additional funding of 60 %of cost towards such projects. Resources include the basic shell scheme for information boards and a consultant who will work with the community to generate ideas. Sarah Jones explained that the match funding costs are £750 for each of the defibrillator package and the Community information board package, and gave examples of areas where these had been carried out. She also highlighted the importance of a power supply for the defibrillator and this is because of the need for an ambient temperature to be maintained for the battery for the defibrillator. She also explained the links to the Community Heartbeat Trust and how they can maintain and if necessary replace the equipment should it be faulty for a period of four years. Ms Jones was thanked for her presentation and answers to questions.

87. MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- i. **Car Parking Rofft school-** Councillor Edwards advised that the parking restrictions have only partly been completed and suggested that Darren Green of WCBC should be contacted to find out when they will be completed: **Action – Clerk.**
- ii. **7 Chester Road:** The Clerk advised of a response received from WCBC to the letter sent on behalf of the Council.
- iii. **Clappers Lane:** The Clerk referred to her report to advise on comments received from the Highways manager for the area concerning prioritising of resources. Councillor Dutton advised this was a concern because it causes flooding and is damaging the gateway entrance to the Trust Land and football field which is a public amenity. The flooding also causes cars to swerve and take avoiding action which could lead to an accident. **Action: Clerk to write again highlighting the priority issue and that there are Health and Safety concerns.**
- iv. **Parking at the Co-op:** The Clerk advised there was no further update on this matter
- v. **High Street Gresford:** The Clerk referred to her report and advised of costs provided by WCBC of £1,231, plus VAT, as a complete price for signs plus fitting. **AGREED: The installation of signs to go ahead at the price quoted.**
- vi. **Community Speed Watch Scheme:** Councillor Atkinson explained that the overall price for the cameras was a higher cost than previously thought of £2k for one that captured data. Therefore, he proposed to purchase a speed gun that acts as a deterrent but captured speed only which can then be manually recorded. **This was Approved.**

88. **COMMUNITY AGENTS:** - A discussion took place following the previous discussion at the last meeting. The Clerk had subsequently circulated a Job Description and costs. The Clerk also gave information which she had obtained from Chirk Town Council, who had had a positive experience of the Community Agent and had precepted for its continuation in the event of funding ceasing. The Clerk also advised of a statement from the Head of Finance at WCBC concerning ongoing funding for the appointment of Community Agents. Councillor Atkinson confirmed that the contract would sit with the Community Council. Councillor Atherton queried evidence for a need and suggested watching Rossetts' experience. Other concerns were raised due to a lack of information on need and outcomes and the fact the responsibility sits with the Council. Councillor Wilde highlighted a concern if the Agent was found to have given bad advice then the Community Council would be liable for any consequences of it. Councillor Hobbly suggested the success in Chirk might be due to an older demographic. Councillor J. Blackmore asked whether the GP's have been consulted as they might have a view. Councillor Harriman echoed this stating that not everyone in the Community is known to the Community Council. The outcome of the discussion was that the Community Council request more information and evidence and will reconsider the matter. Councillor Dutton proposed waiting 12 months to review the issue. This was voted on and an amended proposal put forward by Councillor Edwards of a review in six months, whilst collecting evidence. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Holmes and carried. **Action: Clerk to write to GP surgery to ascertain their view, and where they direct such concerns currently. To ensure the matter is brought back to Council in six months for consideration. To gather further information and evidence. In the meantime, to be overseen by General Amenities Committee.**

- 89. CAMERA AT ALLINGTON PARK:** The Clerk advised of information contained in her report, and concluded that there seems little point in having the camera serviced when the installing company has said that it is an out of date model. The Clerk asked for permission to explore other options, such as whether there is a leasing scheme that would include upgrades. **Approved: Clerk to leave servicing of camera for the time being and explore other options and costs for its replacement.**
- 90. APPROVAL TO UNDERTAKE IDENTIFIED TREWORK AT ALLINGTON PARK –** The Clerk advised of a quotation received from the Tree Surgeon J Twiss of £520. **Approval was granted for this work to go ahead.**
- 91. APPROVAL TO UNDERTAKE IDENTIFIED TREE WORK AT GRESFORD CEMETERY: -** The Clerk advised of a quotation received from the Tree Surgeon J Twiss of £480. **Approval was granted for this work to go ahead.**
- 92. EXPENDITURE ON REPLACEMENT LIGHTING COLUMNS ALONG CLAPPERS LANE:** The Clerk advised of information, advice and costings of £2606.00 plus VAT received from WCBC Lighting Manager concerning proposed works to be undertaken by Scottish Power and the removal of wooden poles with Lighting brackets along Clappers Lane. Two of these wooden posts are to be removed and will therefore need replacing, and there is opportunity to have a third column installed to improve lighting at this location, at reduced cost. A discussion took place. **The expenditure was Approved to go ahead.**
- 93. PISTYLL HILL MARFORD- REQUEST TO RECONSIDER THE ISSUE OF A 30MOH SPEED LIMIT. –** Councillor Gilmartin advised that he is still receiving reports of speeding and asked for the suggestion of a light to trigger a 30mph speed limit to be reconsidered. A discussion took place and Councillor Edwards suggested a speed camera to monitor speeding. Councillor Blackmore advised she has heard comments about speeding. Councillor Harriman advised that it had been stated by residents that a light installed will not resolve the issue. He suggested that the whole of Wynnstay Lane be looked at to see if a 20mph limit could be pursued. Councillor J. Blackmore suggested discussing the matter with residents. **Action: The speed gun to be purchased will be put to use at this location, and residents will be consulted on their views and experiences.**
- 94. MARFORD HILL- SPEED LIMIT AND ELECTRONIC SIGNAGE –** Councillor Gilmartin advised that a speed survey had been carried out on the hill which showed an average speed of 29.4 mph, which is quite high. 100 cars were found to have done over 30mph in the period of the survey. He has received complaints about speeding by Village Walks and would like consideration to be given to speed sensor signs on the hill at the top, halfway and by village walks. He advised that he is due to meet with WCBC Streetscene Managers to discuss this. Councillor Edwards suggested a moveable electronic sign. It was suggested that this might prove costly. Councillor Wilde advised that Gwersyllt have had one at a cost of £2.5k. **Action: Clerk to find out about different options and costs.**
- 95. FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNITY SURVEY AT PICNIC IN THE PARK EVENT. -** Councillor Atherton referred to her email previously circulated outlining the outcomes from the survey of residents attending the Picnic in the Park event. A discussion took place. Councillor Atkinson advised that he thought that recent work to highlight the work of the Community Council in Essentials, through the leaflet and on the website, had been useful and it was important to build upon it. Councillor Atkinson also highlighted future work by Virgin Media in the area. The issue raised of lorries turning in the village will be taken forward by Councillor Atkinson. Councillor Gilmartin advised he has followed up on the issue of flytipping at Hoseley Lane. The issue was raised of cars turning the wrong way up School Hill. Councillor Atkinson will look at the signage with Highways Manager. **Action: Suggestion of Equipment for disabilities to be put on the General Amenities Committee agenda- Clerk**
- 96. PARKING MATTERS RAISED|AT GRESFORD TRUST.** It was stated that the issue of cars on High Street had not been discussed at the Trust meeting. The entry onto High Street is acknowledged to be difficult. Councillor Atkinson advised that he has raised this with WCBC.

97. CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS: i) The Clerk advised that she had enquired about ordering the tree with two suppliers but had been advised that it was too early and no price was available as yet, however it was likely to be comparable to last year's prices. **Approval to purchase the tree at a reasonable and comparable price was granted.** ii) A discussion took place about the Carols around the Tree event. Councillor Atkinson advised of a fundraising event that he and Councillor Atherton were organising, independently of the Community Council, to benefit the Gresford and Marford Playgroups. This was on the 16th December in the Plough Car park. **Agreed: The date of the Carols around the Tree should coincide with the fundraising event in the Village.**

98. TELEPHONE KIOSK: The Chair referred to the presentation received earlier from Cadwyn Clwyd. A discussion took place on the possibility of signing up to Cadwyn Clwyd's project and the costs and benefits involved. Councillor Julie Blackmore proposed that the work go ahead with Cadwyn Clwyd and this was seconded by Councillor Holmes. **Agreed: To sign up to work with Cadwyn Clwyd, and to commit to £1500 as 30% match funding costs for the development of Community Information in the Kiosk and installation of the Defibrillator. To advise Alyn Family Doctors, as they had previously made an offer to contribute to the cost.**

99. TASK AND FINISH GROUPS

- i. **Allotments.** The Clerk advised there had been no further communication with the University of Wales since the last meeting, but she will keep chasing.
- ii. **Youth Working Party:** Councillor Blackmore asked for any missing contact details for the organisations working with young people, and advised work is underway developing the website.

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

The Clerk advised that no Planning Application details for consideration had been sent this month by Wrexham Council. Councillor Atkinson advised that the development at Balmuir Garage site had been passed by Planning Committee.

101. FINANCE:

- i) The following items were presented for approval and **Approved.**

Date	Payment To	Cheque Number	Reason	Amount £
5.10.17	Michelle Jones	202443	Salary	NJC Salary
5.10.17	Serena Baxter	202444	Salary	NJC Salary
5.10.17	HMRC	202445	Monthly amount due	Monthly due
5.10.17	Mike Harriman	202446	Reimbursement of Travel costs	74.70
5.10.17	Neil Route	202447	Grass Cutting for August and September	1220.00
5.10.17	Scottish Power	202448	Supply due to end of August 2017	861.71
5.10.17	Alan's Skip Hire	202449	Disposal of lakeside clear up items	780.00
5.10.17	WCBC	202450	Quarterly lighting Maintenance	2192.16
5.10.17	Gresford Methodist Church	202452	Hire of room	15.00
5.10.17	Steve Pugh	202453	Grave digging services	275.00
5.10.17	Gresford Trust	202454	Hire of room for meeting	13.00

