

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT GRESFORD METHODIST CHURCH HALL ON 1st June 2017

Members Present

Councillors A. Bailey, M. Harriman, J Holmes, J. Dutton, B. Blackmore, I. Lewis, M. Wilde, J. Hobbley R.Gilmartin, S.Atherton, M. Lightwood

Chair: Councillor B Blackmore

Clerk: Serena Baxter

Apologies given and accepted: Councillor M. J. Edwards, J. Blackmore, A. Atkinson

19. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

20. 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. Councillor Bailey declared an interest in one item concerning Planning (Agenda item 12).

21. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Lisa Jones addressed the meeting and explained her role as an employee of the Co-op in engaging with the Community as a Member Pioneer. This involves engaging with individuals and organisations within the Community. Members thanked miss Jones for the information provided and asked to be kept informed on progress in the role.

22. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 11th May 2017 were agreed as a true record.

23. POLICE REPORT: The Clerk advised that she had spoken with the PCSO concerning attendance at the meeting. This was now to be on an as and when available basis. The Clerk had requested that if the PCSO was unavailable that a colleague be briefed to attend if not engaged in direct work. Apologies had been received from PCSO Davies for this meeting as she was on leave, but no PCSO had attended or provided the statistical report. Following discussion, it was decided that North Wales Police Chief Constable be written to concerning attendance and to see if this can be improved upon. **ACTION: Clerk**

24. MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- i. **Car Parking Rofft school-** The Clerk advised the Council of a conversation with Mr Darren Green of WCBC concerning a site meeting. This is provisionally to be held on Monday the 5th June at 11am. **AGREED ACTION: Clerk to continue to liaise with WCBC and the date of 5th June was agreed for a site meeting, and to invite B Watson to that meeting.**
- ii. **7 Chester Road:** The Clerk advised that a letter had recently been sent to Wrexham Council outlining further the concerns of the Community Council but nothing further had been heard.
- iii. **Clappers Lane:** The Clerk advised that there had been no further developments since reporting on this at the Annual meeting. **Action: Clerk to continue to liaise with WCBC Highways on this.**
- iv. **Additional lighting requested Pont Y Capel Lane:** The Clerk advised that the situation remains that WCBC are awaiting the approval from Scottish Power and in the meantime, the Clerk has also contacted Scottish Power to try to expedite this. **Action: Clerk to continue to liaise with WCBC.**
- v. **Dog waste bins at Marford:** The Clerk outlined costs that had been received from two bin companies recommended for purchase by WCBC. If the council purchases two bins, WCBC will situate them near the entrance to Maes Y Pant so that they can be emptied. The question was raised as to what had happened to bins previously within the area. **Action: Clerk to determine the actual**

specification of the bins due to the difference in cost and to contact NW Wildlife Trust to see what has happened to existing bins.

vi. **Parking at the Co-op:** The Clerk advised on follow up action taken by PCSO Lisa Davies following the last meeting. Councillor Hobbley advised that the car park is not owned or managed by the Co-op but by the Marstons brewery and suggested that they be contacted to devise a solution for parking and delivery issues. Following discussion, it was **AGREED** that the Clerk write to North Wales Police concerning clarification about the hazard of parking on the road and causing motorists to cross the double white line, and to Marstons to highlight the issue and invite comment. **ACTION: Clerk.**

25. **HIGH STREET GRESFORD:** The Clerk advised that Mr Graham Lloyd had advised he is simply waiting for an electrician to check the capability of both poles. She had suggested the use of a contractor to carry this out. **ACTION: Clerk will continue to pursue with WCBC**

26. **ATTENDANCE OF CLERK AT SLCC/ONE VOICE WALES JOINT CONFERENCE AT EWLOE:** Approval was granted for the Clerk to book a place at the cost of £69. If any other members wish to attend they need to contact the Clerk.

27. **DRAFT MODEL STANDING ORDERS:** The Chair advised of the need to have these agreed and adopted. **AGREED:** To put on the next meeting of the Finance Committee or an ad hoc meeting of the Finance Committee to be called.

28. **NOMINATIONS TO EXTERNAL BODIES:** The following persons were nominated to represent the Community Council on each of the following bodies:

- i. Gresford and District War Memorial Trust: -Councillors Atherton, Lewis and Hobbley
- ii. Gresford United Charities: - Councillors Blackmore and Dutton
- iii. One Voice Wales: - Councillors Harriman and Bailey
- iv. Tarmac Liaison Committee: - Councillors Lightwood, Holmes, Bailey, Gilmartin and Atkinson.

A discussion took place about representation on the Boards of Local Schools and it was determined that the County Councillors will attend the respective schools as Local Education area representatives.

29. COMMITTEES

i. Membership of Committees: The membership of each committee was revisited following last month's meeting and it was **AGREED** that Councillors Lightwood and Harriman join the Cemetery Committee. Councillor Dutton will join the Allotments task group. A discussion took place about non-Councillors join in task groups. The Clerk will double check the position with One Voice Wales.

ii. General Amenities Committee:

- a. Councillor Blackmore advised of the minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd May and these were noted.
- b. The purchase price of the lectern of £1212 which had been previously agreed was confirmed. This was noted and the purchase price **AGREED**.
- c. The Clerk advised of the quotation received for tree work to the amount of £180, on the High-Street side of Allington Park, and this was **Approved**. Councillor Dutton raised the issue of Trees requiring attention on the Chester road end of the Park. **ACTION:** Clerk to progress tree work and action inspection
- d. The Clerk advised of a price received from WCBC of £51.44 for a repair to a swing basket and this was **Approved**.

30. TASK AND FINISH GROUPS

- i. Councillor Blackmore advised that the Allotments task group had met and that a site meeting is to take place A discussion had taken place about the entrance to the site, the need for an independent check of the site by WCBC, and Legal Representation. A discussion took place about the value of the site and whether it was too low. Councillor Holmes advised she had spoken with Wingetts. **ACTION: Clerk to write to University of Wales to ask about progress in the matter.**

- ii. Telephone Kiosk: The Clerk advised on progressing the purchase. The Chair advised members to go and look at the box so that discussion can be had at next meeting as to siting and usage **ACTION: Clerk to obtain quotes for refurbishment and details of Cadwyn Clwyd to be circulated.**
- iii. Youth Working Party: Councillor Blackmore advised that a meeting is to be held on June 14th

31. REPORTS

- i. **Chairs Report:** The Chair advised there was nothing to report on this occasion.
- ii. **Wrexham County Borough Council:** Councillor Gilmartin reported that there had been one general meeting and that currently all the Committees are in process of forming.
- iii. **Gresford Trust:** Councillor Dutton reported that the Trust AGM will be held on the 15th June. Anyone can put themselves forward as a potential Trustee. There have been discussions ongoing with the football club regarding the proposed stand.
- iv. **IMAGE:** Councillor Bailey provided a written report and highlighted Tidy up Sundays and the Scarecrow trail. Regarding the lake there had been a suggestion that perhaps a lifeline alongside the lake would be good practice.
- v. **Maes Y Pant:** Councillor Bailey advised that a coffee morning had been held which had raised £200 for funds. A volunteer party works on site on the second Sunday of each month.
- vi. **Website:** The Clerk advised that the website had received 1017 unique visitors through the previous month with the top sites visited being the Councillors, the diary and the committees. Following last month's meeting the Clerk had made enquiries and Sue Cleaver is happy to oversee the site and the IMAGE pages , and the Clerk as part of her job description to oversee the pages concerning the Council. A discussion took place and suggestions made included looking at the Trusts website and their host. **ACTION: Clerk.**
- vii. **Library:** Councillor Bailey presented a written report on the library.

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

- i. *P/2017 / 2017/0366:* - Lime Tree at 18 Springfield Court, Gresford. **AGREED**-To go ahead in line with the Arboricultural officer's recommendations.
- ii. *P/2017/ 0345:-* Removal of Birch tree at 9 Church Green, Gresford. . **AGREED**- To go ahead in line with the Arboricultural officer's recommendations.
- iii. *P/2017/0351:-* Lime tree Improvement of light at 20 Springfield Court. . **AGREED** -To go ahead in line with the Arboricultural officer's recommendations.
- iv. *P/2017/0404:-*Demolition of existing buildings and outline application for residential development of six dwellings at Balmuir Garage 1 Chester Road, Gresford. members expressed concerns about the pinch point of access to the site. It was **AGREED** that the comments back to the Planning Authority need to state concerns that the site would be an overdevelopment with six dwellings proposed, that there would be insufficient parking spaces as indicated on the plan and this would lead to future problems. Residential proximity to the petrol station might pose a health and safety issue. Access to the site would be a major problem. Members also expressed the view of a need for smaller, affordable housing in the village.
- v. *P/2017/0420:* - Erection of detached dwelling House (Amendment to design of previously approved house details) Plot 12 Quarry Brow, Gresford , Wrexham. Councillor Bailey declared an interest and left the room. Members had **no observations to make.**

33. FINANCE

- i. The Following items were approved for Payment:

Date	Payment to	Cheque Number	Reason	Amount £
1.6.17	Serena Baxter	202399	NJC Salary and reimbursement	
1.6.17	Michelle Jones	202400	NJC Salary	
1.6.17	HMRC	202401	Monthly amount due	
1.6.17	C&S Driveway Ltd	202402	Invoice for tarmacking play areas	1500.00
1.6.17	N Route	202403	Invoice for Grass Cutting March and April 2017	1090.00
1.6.17	WCBC	202404	Trade refuse charges Cemetery	359.00
1.6.17	N Route	202405	Grass Cutting May	625.00

- ii. The Clerk circulated a new Bank Mandate form for Members to complete with their signatures
- iii. The Clerk advised on the progress with the internal and external Audits. Approval was sought to complete the documents as outlined to the meeting by the 26th June 2017, and this was **granted**.

34. MEMBERS URGENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

- i. Councillor Blackmore made a suggestion that the Council could have a stand at the Village Festival and this was **AGREED**.
- ii. Councillor Harriman outlined a meeting that was due to take place to discuss the traffic issues on Pistyll Hill.

35. ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE

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

36. DATE, VENUE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING. AGREED: The next meeting of the Council will be the 6th July 2017 at 7.15p.m. at the Gresford Memorial Trust Hall.

COUNCILLOR B. Blackmore

CHAIR

Date.....