

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT MARFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE ON 2nd OCTOBER 2014

Members Present

Councillors A Bailey, Mrs B Blackmore, Mrs S Cleaver, Mrs J Dutton, M J Edwards, M Harriman, Mrs J Holmes, Mrs M Lightwood, Mrs J Macdonald, M Perry and M L Roberts

Apologies

Councillors G Frank-Keyes, G Peake and Mrs B Watson

In Attendance

PCSO from Gwersyllt

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. Councillors Mrs B Blackmore and M J Edwards indicated their intentions to declare personal and/or prejudicial interest at the appropriate time.

321 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2014 were received, approved and signed by the Presiding Chairman.

322 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No member of the public was present

323 POLICE REPORT

Crime statistics for September were circulated, discussed, and questions answered. Members referred to the increasing use of mountain bikes in Maes-y-Pant.

324 ONGOING MATTERS

Youth Services

It was reported that a youth club had now been established at Marford Community Centre, but cleaning up after them remained a problem.

Marford Community Centre

Arising from the discussion of cleaning the centre after youth club, ***it was agreed to discuss the cost of cleaning at the next meeting.***

Gresford & District Community Library

Numbers were increasing and charity status had been applied for.

Community Council Website

It was noted that there had been 3,122 unique visits. At this point the Council varied the agenda to discuss the use of the website by IMAGE. Councillor Mrs Cleaver reminded members that under the terms of the agreement with WEEBLY, ten websites were permitted. ***Accordingly it was agreed that IMAGE should make use of one of the additional sites.***

7 Chester Road, Gresford

The condition and state of the site continued to cause concern.

Cemetery Committee – Memorial Plaques

The report of the meeting prepared by Mrs Michelle Jones was accepted. A date for the Sub-Committee to consider the matter again had been fixed for Wednesday, 8th October 2014.

Playgrounds

It was agreed that a meeting of the Playground Sub-Committee should be held on the 8th October 2014 at 7.00 pm to discuss the future inspections of play equipment.

Tendering Committee

The Council considered the terms of reference circulated to members on 20th September 2014. It was agreed to adopt the Terms of Reference, subject to any co-opted members not having the right to vote; to annually review the providers of services and a quorum of 3 members will be required to make any recommendations. These arrangements would be confirmed and adopted at the next meeting of the Council.

Goal posts for Marford Play Area

The goal posts had now been erected.

Weight Restrictions Order on Springfield Lane/Bottom Road

This matter was ongoing

Reduced Government Funding for Local Services

The Consultation Document had been published by Wrexham Council.

Financial Assistance for Refurbishment of Gresford Methodist Church Hall

The accounts had been obtained and circulated to members. ***After discussion it was agreed to make a grant of £200 to the Church.***

Christmas Celebrations

The arrangements for this year's tree and decorations was discussed and the 20th December 2014 was the more likely date for the Carol Singing. The Community Council considered that a star should be placed on the top of the tree and ***Councillor Mrs Blackmore was asked to purchase a suitable one and any other decorations required to supplement the lights.***

Drinking Fountain

A new contractor had now been engaged and it was anticipated that the work would be completed by the end of October 2014.

Remembrance Day

It was agreed to make a contribution of £50 towards the purchase of a wreath and the Chairman would be present to lay it.

325 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – Small Grants Application

The Council considered the paper prepared by Councillor Mrs B Watson to determine some criteria for the Council's grant giving, and to ensure that the information received from all

groups was standardised. The Council decided to accept the application form for small grants of £500 or less together with the accompanying notes, and agreed that in future years all applications must be received by the end of November to be considered by the Council in February of the following year. As this is the transitional period some exceptions would have to be accepted for 2014/15.

326 REPORTS

Councillor M J Edwards reported that the pond at Maes-y-Pant would not be as deep as it appeared.

Councillor A Bailey reported that Wrexham Council had objected to the findings of the Williams Commission on the suggested merger between Wrexham and Flintshire Councils.

Councillor Mrs J Holmes reported that there had been a good response for this year's clean up of the lake in High Street. Further consideration was being given to reinforcing the banks by planting willows. Gresford Trust had reviewed the Gresford Festival and was very pleased with the turnout despite the wet weather. It was also noted that there would be a Bowls Festival in 2015 which would be covered by a TV company.

Councillor Mrs J Dutton reported that the sculptured Bell would be installed next week.

Councillor Mrs S Cleaver reported that there was to be a tidy up on 12th October 2014 to include areas in Pant Olwen. IMAGE had obtained a number of trees which would be planted by Wrexham Council in January/February 2015.

327 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Details of planning applications received from the Head of Community Well-being and Development were available for Members and dealt with as follows:

P/2014/0639 – First Floor rear extension to create additional bedroom, 20 Bodwyn Park, Gresford (Councillor M J Edwards declared a personal interest in this application as his daughter's property adjoined the site and left the meeting whilst it was discussed) – **No comments**

P/2014/0646 – Renovation of existing garage into kitchen with replacement roof, 31 Mayflower Drive, Marford – **No comments**

P/2014/0701 – Installation of 2 no. Side facing windows, The Paddock, Clapper Lane, Gresford – **No comments**

328 FINANCE

The following items were approved for payment:

Mr. S A Pugh, Gravemaking	£425.00
Mr C A Route - Grounds Maintenance	£170.00
Cemetery Work	£375.00
Scottishpower plc, Unmetered supplies	£859.86
G.B. Sport & Leisure Ltd – Supply of Football Goalposts	£814.80
Mrs M Jones, Salary	NJC rates
Maurice Paddock - Salary	NJC rates
Sundry Expenditure	£48.09

Postages
HM Revenue & Customs, NI and Tax

£99.26
PAYE rates

Financial Statement for the 6 Months ended 30th September 2014

The statement was received and noted. ***Revisions proposed by Councillor Mrs J Holmes were accepted.***

329 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Wrexham County Borough Council - `Difficult Decisions` - A letter from the Leader of Wrexham Council regarding finding new ways of delivering services had been published for public consultation. The Community Council was also invited to send two representatives to attend a Consultation Event at the Guildhall on Tuesday, 21st October 2014 from 5.30 pm to 8.30 pm. ***The attendance of Councillors Mrs B Blackmore and M Perry was approved by the Council.***

Community Council Street Lighting – Service Level Maintenance Agreement – The letter from the Interim Senior Service Manager was received regarding a review of SLA`s being carried out with a view to revised agreements with effect from 1st April 2015. The proposed changes would be sent to the Community Council in the near future and at that time the Community Council would be expected to confirm that they wished to continue with Wrexham Council`s service or seek an alternative service supplier. The Community Council decided to prepare a list of contractors in readiness for the new proposals.

One Voice Wales, Annual Conference

The Council approved the attendance of Councillor M Harriman and the Clerk of the Council at the conference to be held at Bulth Wells on Saturday, 4th October 2014.

330 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING: It was confirmed that the next meeting would be on Thursday, 6th November 2014 at 7.15 p.m. at Gresford Memorial Hall.

**COUNCILLOR MRS B BLACKMORE
CHAIRMAN**

Chairman.....

Date.....