

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT
GRESFORD MEMORIAL HALL ON 1st OCTOBER 2015**

Members Present

Councillors A Bailey, Mrs B Blackmore, Mrs S Cleaver, Mrs J Dutton, M J Edwards, M Harriman, Mrs J Holmes, Mrs J MacDonald, G Peake, M Perry, and M L Roberts

Apologies

Councillors G Frank-Keyes, Mrs M Lightwood and Mrs B Watson

In Attendance

PCSO Lisa Davies

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 intention to declare their interests at the appropriate time.

446 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2015 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

447 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Two residents of Marford were present and spoke about the condition of Hilltop Drive and Woodridge Avenue. In this connection Councillor M Harriman also spoke about the deteriorating state of these road surfaces. Councillor M J Edwards had raised the matter with the Highways Department and some holes appeared to have been repaired.

The Community Council resolved to raise the issues with the Highways Department in support of the residents.

448 POLICE REPORT

The Crime Reports for September 2015 were received and updated as an additional criminal damage incident had occurred yesterday. Posters had been put up to warn residents of the dangers of fraud arising from a number in incidence of `cold calling` throughout the Community.

449 ONGOING MATTERS

Marford Community Centre

The new Management appeared to be functioning and therefore there was now no further need for this item to appear on the monthly agenda.

Youth Services

Two reports were received from the Advanced Practitioner in response to the queries raised at the last meeting of the Community Council. Members were still dissatisfied with the way the Youth Service was being run at present and it was suggested that the Officers should seek alternative means of funds, including parental contributions.

Community Council's Website

There had been 980 unique visits during the month and the site seemed to be serving its purpose.

7 Chester Road, Gresford

Members were dissatisfied that no enforcement action had been taken against the developer and the site remained in its bad condition. ***Accordingly, it was resolved that the matter be taken up with Wrexham's Chief Executive Officer as to why no legal proceedings had been started.***

Village (Gresford) Car Parking

The lack of sufficient car parking in the village remained of concern.

Gresford Cemetery – Update on Repairs to Unstable Memorials

Details of quotations for the supply, delivery and installation of one Notice Board at Gresford Cemetery had been obtained from Malcolm Lane & Son Ltd.

It was resolved to proceed with the purchase of a single-sided Notice Board, size 1000ml wide x 1000ml high at a total cost of £2,215.00 plus VAT.

Councillor A Bailey had raised with Tarmac the possibility of a financial contribution towards this Notice Board and Tarmac's staff appeared to be hopeful. ***Accordingly it was also resolved to write to Tarmac plc seeking a financial contribution towards this Notice Board.***

The Spar, 58 Chester Road, Gresford

It was reported that Wrexham's Licensing Committee would determine this application at its meeting on 7th October 2015 and a representative of the Community Council was invited to be present to speak on its concerns at the increased hours for the purchase and consumption of alcohol by the youths of the village, which may lead to anti social behaviour and disturbances in this residential area.

Councillor Mrs S Cleaver agreed to attend.

450 REVIEW OF GRANTS POLICY

This item had been included at the request of Mrs B Watson as she was concerned that the Council should depart from its policy and make more than one grant to organisations in each financial year unless that organisation appeared before the Council to make a case for extra grant-funding.

The Council agreed that its policy was working satisfactorily and that no more than one application was granted to one organisation in each financial year unless a case was made out by a local organisation.

451 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS 2015

This item had been included on the agenda at the request of Councillor A Bailey who reported that Carol Singing would take place on the 12th December 2015 at 4.00 pm and the shops had indicated their willingness to remain open. The Gresford Bell Ringers would also be present as would the Minister of Gresford Methodist Church. It was noted that

Councillor A Bailey would arranged for Wrexham Council's Workforce to erect and light the tree with the Community Council's lights.

It was resolved to order a tree from Vivid by Design if the new Flower Shop in the village was unable to assist.

452 REPORTS

Wrexham County Borough Council - Councillor A Bailey and Councillor M Edwards referred to the budget consultations taking place and urged residents to complete the questionnaire and for representatives of the Community Council to attend the meeting on 13th October 2015 at the Guildhall; they also referred to the discussion taking place regarding the introduction of the National Living Wage and any effect the proposed increases in National Insurance may have on that Council's budget proposals.

Maes-y-Pant - Regular work was proceeding and the Board had adopted a five year plan; the practice of owners walking their dogs in the Quarry and allowing their animals to foul away from the public footpaths.

IMAGE – Representatives reported that they had applied for grant funding for more trees in the village; the benches had been deferred because of the condition of the land which Councillor A Bailey was trying to sort out with the Highway Authority; and representatives of the developer had spoken at the last meeting regarding their present intention to build houses at Bryn-y-Groes.

Gresford Trust – Vandalism was still a cause of concern which was putting security and safety of the building in jeopardy; grants had been received from Wrexham Council under the Church Acts and the Trustees were concerned about the lights in the hall which were starting to deteriorate.

Gresford Library

A coffee morning was to be held on 24th October 2015 to raise funds for the Library.

Poppies for Remembrance Day 2015 – Additional Poppies would be purchased and placed on lighting columns from by the Lake towards the Church and direction along Chester Road towards Marford.

453 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

P/2015/0665 – Extend Existing Brickwall across open Driveway incorporating New Electronic Sliding Gate and Re-paving around property, Byways, 14 Wynnstay Lane, Marford - **No comments**

P/2015/0672 – Single-Storey rear Extension, 4 Cedar Close, Marford - **No comments**

P/2015/0689 – Retention of Mobile Building (previously granted under Code No P/2009/1053), Rofft County Primary School, Wynnstay Lane, Marford (**Councillors**

Mrs B Blackmore and M J Edwards declared their interest in this application and left the room whilst it was considered) – **No comments**

P/2015/0704 – Work to 2 No Trees (1 Beech Tree and 1 Tree of Heaven) (Within Marford Conservation Area), The Roft, Springfield Lane, Marford - **No comments provided the views of the Council's Arboricultural Officer were considered.**

454 FINANCE

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Scottishpower – Electricity Supply	£860.75
Mr C A Route – Grounds Maintenance	£170.00
Cemetery Maintenance	£375.00
PRO Control Pest Services – Rat Control	£75.00
Mrs M Jones - Salary	NJC rates
Maurice Paddock - Salary	NJC rates
HM Revenue & Customs, NI and Tax	PAYE rates

455 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Invitation from the BBC - To attend at the Centre for Creative Industries at Glyndwr University on 15th October at 7.00 pm.

Community Council's Representative on the Governors of All Saints School would lapse before the next meeting – Accordingly it was agreed to support Councillor Mrs J MacDonald continuing as the Council's representative and that the position would be confirmed at the next meeting.

456 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING: It was reported that Marford Community Centre could only be available until 8.15 pm due to other bookings. This was unacceptable to the Community Council and the Clerk was instructed to find an alternative venue, possibly Gresford Methodist Church on 5th November 2015 at 7.15 pm.

**COUNCILLOR M PERRY
CHAIRMAN**

Chairman..... Date.....