

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT  
MARFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE ON 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012**

**Members Present**

Councillors A C Bailey, Mrs B Blackmore, Mrs S Cleaver, Mrs J D Dutton, M J Edwards, M Harriman, Mrs J Holmes, Mrs P M Lightwood, Mrs J MacDonald G Peake, M Perry, M Pritchard and Mrs B Watson.

**In Attendance**

PCSO 2118 Wendy Harris PCSO 3037 Daniel George.

**Welcome**

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to Councillor Mrs Sue Cleaver who was attending her first meeting following her recent co-option onto the Council.

**Declarations of Interest**

Councillors A Bailey, M J Edwards and M Perry gave notice of their intention to make declarations of interest if necessary at the appropriate time.

**38 VARIATION OF AGENDA**

*In accordance with Standing Orders it was resolved that the order of business be varied on the grounds of urgency.*

**39 POLICE REPORT**

The Crime Report for July and August 2012 was circulated and discussed together with other matters of concern including the litter pick held on 8<sup>th</sup> August and the parking of cars on pavements.

**40 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public wished to address the Council.

**41 VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS**

Mrs Margaret Heaton, assisted by her husband, gave a presentation on improvements which might be made to the village. She reported on her discussions with local politicians and senior Officers of Wrexham County Borough Council in her efforts to raise awareness to the need for improvements and to obtain funding to take the ideas forward, including the appointment of Urban Designers.

Mr and Mrs Heaton were thanked for their attendance at this evening's meeting.

**42 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2012 were confirmed and signed by the Presiding Chairman.

**43 ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

**Review of Speed Limits on various Roads**

The Clerk of the Council was waiting for further information regarding the costs of mobile interacted traffic signs.

### **Telephone Service 101**

This matter had been deferred at the last meeting and whilst members noted some improvements in the Service they considered that an evening visit to the Centre would be advantageous in enabling the Council to understand the Service.

### **Oak Tree at the Junction of Chester Road and Clapper Lane**

The Clerk of the Council was instructed to seek the necessary approvals of the Planning Department and Highways Department, as required.

### **Swings for children with Special Needs**

(Councillor M Perry declared a personal and/or prejudicial interest in this application and left the room whilst it was discussed). This matter had been deferred at the last meeting.

***Following further discussion, the Council agreed that there was no room on the existing Play Areas without substantial re-adjustment and that the Newtown site was not suitable.***

### **Filling of vacancy**

No further expressions had been received since the last meeting and therefore it was agreed to continue to advertise the vacancy for a Councillor in the Marford/Hoseley Ward.

### **Litter Pick, Allington Park**

An e-mail report was received from the Detached Youth Work Team giving details of a very successful litter pick in Allington Park on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> August 2012. Approximately 10 young people had participated along with PCSO Wendy Harris, the Area Manager for the Youth Service and representatives of Keep Wales Tidy and Wrexham Fire Service.

### **Report of the Cemetery Sub-Committee**

***It was resolved that in pursuance of Sub-Section (4) of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that if members of the public were present during the discussion there might be disclosed to them exempt information as defined in paragraph 8.***

***It was also resolved that Standing Orders relating to contracts be waived to enable Tender No 1, which was not the lowest of the three tenders received, to be accepted.***

The report of the meeting of the Cemetery Sub-Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August dealing with Benches Policy, Pathways and Fees and Charges was received and following the observations of members was adopted.

### **Play Scheme Workers**

This item was included at the request of Councillor Mrs Jan MacDonald who expressed her concerns at the poor attendance of children on the scheme, and this indicated that it was not working.

The Council asked for a report from the Area Manager on why this scheme had failed to attract sufficient numbers of children and how attendance at Gresford compared at attendances at other schemes in the County Borough.

#### **44 VARIATION OF AGENDA**

*In accordance with Standing Orders it was resolved that the order of business be varied on the grounds of urgency.*

#### **45 MyPAG – APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

An application was received from Mrs Sue Kelly, Director/Fundraising Officer of MyPAG for financial assistance towards the cost of continued work of improvements at the Quarry.

*After discussion it was resolved that a contribution of £6,000 be made to MyPAG, and a letter of support for their applications to WREN and CORY for funding. MyPAG were asked to provide the Community Council with a monthly progress report.*

#### **46 PRESENCE OF BLUE GREEN ALGAE IN THE LAKE**

It was reported that the Environment Agency Wales had discovered Blue Green Algae in the lake and instructed the erection of notices warning people of the dangers.

*It was resolved that replacement permanent signs be purchased.*

#### **47 REPORTS**

**Councillor A C Bailey** reported that the proposed changes to the Health Services in North Wales were being discussed at a Public Meeting at the Catrin Finch Centre on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012 and urged people to attend; also on the recent flooding near the shops and on the examination results for Darland High School. He also asked that an item be included on the agenda for the next meeting regarding the provision of a Christmas Tree and Lights again this year and Low Cost Housing.

**Councillor M J Edwards** reported on the forthcoming Cycle Race around parts of the Borough and also on the continued policy to bring empty houses into occupation.

**Councillor Mrs B Watson** reported that there as a new landlord at the Red Lion Public House and it was rumoured that there was a proposal to apply for planning permission in respect part of the car park.

**Councillor M Harriman** reported that One Voice Wales had adopted a policy or circulating documents and reports by e-mail in an effort to reduce costs.

**Councillor Mrs J D Dutton** reported that she and the Clerk had attended a meeting of the Standards Committee earlier today day. The Committee had granted dispensation to the members of the Community Council to enable them to participate in discussions of matters relating to Gresford and District War Memorial Trust until 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016.

**Councillor M Pritchard** asked for an item to be included on the next agenda regarding the footpaths on Allington Park.

#### **48 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/2012/0574 – Pitched roof to side extension and new windows, erection of new garage, Parkleigh Farm, Park Lane, Rossett - **No representations.**

P/2012/0579 – Erection of two dormer bungalows and construction of private access Road, Plot 12 Quarry Brow, Marford - **The Community Council decided to ask the Planning Authority to ensure that the private access road and that the approach road from Pant Lane are brought up to adoptable standards**

P/2012/0599 – Fell five sycamores (S1, S2, S3, S4, S5), fell one cypress (C1), coppice four Portuguese laurel (PL1, PL2, PL3, PL4), side prune one Irish yew (Y1) back from footpath by 0.5 – 1 metre and reduce 5 metres from major leaning limb from one horse chestnut (CH1), Trewythen Hall, Vicarage Lane, Gresford - **The Community Council has no objection to this proposal provided that your Council's Arboricultural Officer is satisfied that the work is necessary having regard to the present condition of the trees.**

P/2012/0610 – Alterations and extension and improvements to driveway entrance, The Orchard, Marford Hill, Marford - **No representations.**

#### **49 FINANCE**

##### **The following items were approved for payment**

Wrexham CBC, Quarterly Lighting Maintenance and Repairs	£1,475.53
P & W Maintenance Ltd, Quarterly Maintenance	£59.63
Dee Valley Water plc, Water Charges at the Cemetery	£10.63
Dunn & Co, Training Course on Burial Rights	£36.00
Playsafety Ltd, Annual Inspection of Playground Equipment	£90.00
Gresford Trust, Contribution towards Projector and Screen	£650.00
Scottish Power plc, Unmetered supplies	£622.91
Mr C A Route, Grounds Maintenance and Cemetery Work	£1,090.00
Mrs M Jones, Salary	NJC Rates
Maurice Paddock, Salary	NJC Rates
HM Revenue and Customs, NI and Tax	PAYE Rates

#### **50 CORRESPONDENCE**

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

Application for Financial Assistance – Gresford Retirement Club – **resolved that a grant of £300.00 be made.**

Code of Practice Training, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2012 – 4 places to be reserved together with one for the Clerk.

Induction Training – Councillor Mrs Cleaver and M Perry to attend the forthcoming Induction Training Course arranged by One Voice Wales.

Wrexham Town & Community Council Forum, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2012 – Councillors M Harriman and Mrs B Watson to attend.

Engineering Policy No 61/NZ/12810872/3 – The Clerk of the Council reported on his exchange of correspondence with Allianz Engineering regarding an unpaid premium. The

company`s Business Development Team earlier this week had finally agreed that the premium was no longer payable.

Health Services in North Wales Consultation by BCUHB – members asked that hard copies of the document be obtained for discussion at the next meeting and that in the meantime, Councillor M Harriman would attend the Public Meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012.

Power to Promote or Improve Economic, Social or Environmental Wellbeing – a Welsh Government Consultation Document – the members asked that hard copies of the document be obtained for consideration at the next meeting.

Annual Return for the Year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012 – a letter, accounting statement and Annual Government Statement were received from UHY Hacker Young who proposed to qualify the Return on the grounds that the Council had not approved an Investment Strategy during the year. – ***The Council resolved that Section 3 of the Return be signed by the Responsible Financial Officer; that UNY Hacker Young`s letter be approved, the Accounts be published and that the Chair sign and date Section 3 of the Return. Also that the date of Budget Setting Process be discussed at the next meeting.***

Community Councils meeting with the Police, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2012 – The Chairman and Vice-Chairman were instructed to attend.

**51 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING:** It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held at Gresford Memorial Hall on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2012 at 7.15 p.m.

**COUNCILLOR MRS P M LIGHTWOOD  
CHAIRMAN**

**Presiding Chairman.....**

**Date.....**