

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT GRESFORD METHODIST CHURCH HALL ON 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019**

**Members Present**

Councillors A. Bailey, M. J. Edwards, J. Dutton, M. Harriman, J. Blackmore, J. Hobbley, K. Hobbley, A. Atkinson, J. Holmes, M. Wilde, Sarah Atherton

**Chair:** Councillor A. Bailey.

**Clerk:** Serena Baxter.

**Apologies given and accepted:** Councillor B. Blackmore

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**491. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were given by Councillor B. Blackmore and were accepted.

**492. 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 for any item under discussion. Councillor Atkinson indicated he would declare an interest for the two Planning items on the agenda concerning Collier's Park, due to his involvement with the Football Association of Wales.

**493. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There were no members of the Public present.

**494. VACANCIES ARISING MARFORD AND HOSELEY WARD, AND GRESFORD WEST WARD:** The Clerk advised that the Electoral department WCBC had advised that no-one had been put forward during the period of advertisement for election, for either Ward. Therefore both vacancies could now proceed through the Co-option process. **RESOLVED: To advertise the both vacancies under Co-option. Action: Clerk.**

**495. RECOMMENDATION FROM GENERAL AMENITIES COMMITTEE FOR APPROVAL TO SPEND £62.50 ON ADDITIONAL DOG FOULING SIGNS FOR ALLINGTON PARK AND MARFORD PLAY AREA.** Following the General Amenities Committee meeting, Council were advised of the need to order and fix five anti-dog fouling signs on the Play areas, Allington Park and Marford. Quotes had been obtained and scrutinised by the Committee and the signs recommended at a total cost of £62.50 for five alupanels plus VAT and coating. Fixing would be additional but minimal cost. **RESOLVED: To approve the expenditure for the signage as outlined.**

**496. TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED):** Councillor Andrew Atkinson declared an interest in items i and ii :-Planning Matters concerning Colliers Park.

*i. P/2019/0531:* Erection of 2 No. Brick pillars and 1 No. Sliding Gate at Entrance to site:- Colliers Park, Chester Road, Gresford, Wrexham: Concerns were raised about the safety of coaches arriving if the gates were closed. There was a suggestion that sliding gates may be more practical, as they could be opened quickly. The concern is that authorised coaches and other vehicles are not prevented from entering the area and causing an obstruction on Chester Road. Concern was also raised as to whether the hedge as a boundary would be sufficient to stop trespassers as had happened nearby in recent years. The Council would like to suggest that an internal fence alongside the hedging within the boundary may be helpful.

*ii. P/ 2019/0530:* Application for consent to display 1 No. FAW Logo signage:- Colliers Park, Chester Road, Gresford, Wrexham: Concerns were raised related to the size and angle of the signs. It was assumed Highways will have given their view but the Council is concerned for road safety should someone be driving past and the signs be hidden or not visible enough. The signs should be in Welsh and English with the Welsh first. Concern was expressed as to the sign needing to read "Colliers'".

*iii.* Some concerns were expressed over the seeming lack of Highways Officer's presence at the recent Planning Committee meeting, in consideration of the Vicarage Lane development. The Clerk was requested to put this as an agenda item for the September meeting. **Action : Clerk.**

**497. FINANCE:**

i. The following items of expenditure were presented and **Approved**.

Date	Payment To	Reason	Amount
1.8.19	Serena Baxter	NJC Salary, Travelling allowance and reimbursement of office expenditure.	
1.8.19	Michelle Jones	NJC Salary	
1.8.19	HMRC	Monthly amount due	
1.8.19	Encore Office Systems	Rental of Office printer	63.36
1.8.19	NJW Grounds Maintenance	Grass Cutting	864.00
1.8.19	M. Harriman	Reimbursement of travelling expenses	82.00
1.8.19	Gresford Trust	Hire of rooms July 2019	28.00
1.8.19	Information Commissioner	Renewal of annual registration fee	40.00
1.8.19	Scottish Power	Monthly electricity supply costs	840.50
1.8.19	One Voice Wales	Cost of four training places.	160.00
INCOME			
29.7.19	WCBC	Precept	29666.67

ii. **APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR PAYMENT OF FURTHER AMOUNT OF £654 TO BANCROFT AMENITIES FOR GROUNDS MAINTENANCE WORK CARRIED OUT:** The Clerk explained that a further invoice had been received from the company engaged to carry out grounds maintenance work on Allington Park, which had been approved by Council on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019. A quote had been sent through to the Clerk for the amount of £630. An additional quote sent was not in the name of Gresford Community Council and was not therefore presented to the Council since it was thought that this was for Gresford Trust. The Clerk had been investigating the matter to ensure that the amount they were asking was not a duplicate with the Gresford Trust and was indeed for the Community Council in respect of Allington Park. It transpired this was for verti-draining and reseeding work they had carried out to the MUGA. A discussion took place and concerns were expressed about procedure, and how this had occurred, and to avoid this situation re-occurring. Councillor Edwards moved that the work be approved in retrospect, and this was **AGREED**. It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair of Finance and Chair of the Council will meet with the company on site. For the September meeting the Clerk will prepare a resume of what has occurred.

**498. MEMBER’S URGENT ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- i. Cycling: Councillor James Hobbley asked that an initiative he is aware of concerning cycling be put on the agenda of a future meeting. Action : Clerk
- ii. Grass cutting of verges; Councillor Keith Hobbley expressed his dissatisfaction at the standard of grass cutting of verges and weeds left. Action: Clerk to put on next agenda for discussion.
- iii. Scout Hut: Councillor Harriman requested a discussion about the standard of the Scout Hut. Action: Clerk

**499. DATE, VENUE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING.** The next meeting of the Council will be held on the **5<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.15p.m. at the Gresford Trust Memorial Hall.**

**COUNCILLOR A. Bailey.**

**CHAIR** ..... **Date**.....