

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT GRESFORD MEMORIAL HALL ON 6th JUNE 2013

Members Present

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

Apologies for absence

Councillors Mrs P M Lightwood and PCSO2118 Wendy Harris

In Attendance

PCSO 3000 J Dobby and PCSO 3464 Lisa Davies

Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded that they must declare the existence and nature of any personal and or prejudicial interest on the form provided for this purpose. No member proposed to make a Declaration at this time.

148 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd May 2013 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman after noting that the savings were £9.5m.

149 PLANNING PRESENTATION

Matthew Phillips and Louise Phillips gave a presentation on the functions of the Planning Department of Wrexham Council and answered many questions from members.

The Planning Officers were thanked for their attendance and the very helpful presentation.

150 POLICE REPORT

The Crime Statistics for May 2013 were received and discussed.

151 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No member of the public was present.

152 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Gresford Youth Club

This matter was once again discussed and the Clerk of the Council was instructed to write to the Head of Service Education Enrichment requesting more information on the following points:

Details of the services to be provided for young people and specifically where such services would be held when the Gresford Young People's Centre at Allington Hall has been closed;

How would the young people get to the Centres of Excellence and home again;

What arrangements will be made to publicise the changes, as and when they occur?;

Where do they plan to hold the training for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and store the equipment required? and

Also to obtain an assurance of what would happen to the proceeds from the sale of Allington Hall, as the Community Council still firmly believed that this Hall was given by the late Miss Allington Hughes to the Community for services to young people and had not received written evidence that this belief was not correct.

Youth and Play Services

It was agreed to support the provision of a Holiday Playscheme during the last two weeks in August at a cost of £714 per week.

Village Improvements

It was noted that the Sub-Group would be meeting on Wednesday, 12th June 2013 to discuss the findings of the Landscape Architects. Members were urged to have regard to future funding for this project and any historical stories which might be used for the development of this project.

Gresford Constitutional Club

It was noted that the application for grant aid to ENTRUST had been unsuccessful.

Community Council Website

The updated statistics on use of the site during the past month were received and discussed. The letter from the Head of Corporate and Customer Services was received and the Clerk of the Council was instructed to apply immediately for the £500 made available by the Welsh Government for the development of Community Council Websites.

Carving of Oak Tree

The Clerk of the Council reported that the carving was almost complete and he was instructed to appoint appropriate Consulting Engineers to prepare an application for Section 115 submission to the Highway Authority.

Welsh Language Complaint

The adjudication of the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales was received. ***It was noted that the Ombudsman had decided not to investigate the matter further.***

Draft Annual Return for the Year Ending 31st March 2013

The Draft Annual Return as prepared by the Clerk of the Council, together with the Report of the Internal Audit, were received and considered.

The Council approved the Draft Annual Return and the Chair signed page 1, where required;

The Council also approved the Internal Audit Report after noting that the comments in the report regarding an update of the Risk Assessment to include Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Risk Management would be implemented.

153 MARFORD SWINGS, GOAL POSTS AND CHRISTMAS TREE

These items had been included on the Agenda at the request of Councillor Mrs B Blackmore.

After hearing the observations of Councillor Blackmore it was decided that the ground was not in a fit state at the present time to re-erect the Goal Posts and accordingly it was agreed to obtain specialist advice from local Football Clubs for the treatment of the land during the summer months.

It was also agreed that the matter of lights for the Christmas Tree should be discussed at the next meeting.

154 REPORTS

Councillor M J Edwards reported that the Asset Management Review was to be considered by the appropriate Committee of Wrexham Council on 12th June 2013; also that the planning application for the erection of a retail unit and associated works on land adjacent to the Red Lion Public House, Marford had been refused by the Planning Committee; and that there were to be temporary Highway Restrictions on Hillock Lane and Claypit Lane shortly.

Councillor A Bailey reported that he had recently accompanied the Police Community Support Officers of an Environmental Assessment of Gresford and had identified a number of matters, including the loose traffic calming measure on Clapper Lane and that he proposed to take up with the Transport Department the defects with the electronic timetables at Bus Stops.

Councillor Mrs B Blackmore reported that the Annual General Meeting of Marford Community Centre was to be held on the 11th June 2013.

Councillor Mrs J D Dutton reported that she had raised a number of issues with Lesley Griffiths AM at the AM's surgery recently.

Councillor Mrs B Watson reported that IMAGE had decided to move their monthly meetings to the third Thursday of each month with effect from 20th June 2013.

155 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/2013/0301 – Demolition of Existing Conservatory and Erection of Sun Lounge, 2 Pant Olwen, Gresford – ***No comments***

P/2013/0306 – Conversion of Existing Store to One Bedroom Dwelling, Land to the rear of Video Shop, High Street, Gresford – ***No comments***

P/2013/0373 – Erection of Storage Container, Quarry Entrance, Pant Lane, Gresford (Councillors A Bailey and M J Edwards declared personal and/or prejudicial interests in this application) – ***The Council resolved to make no comments, provided that the container was adequately screened***

156 FINANCE

The following items were approved for payment:

Mr S Pugh, Grave making	£1150.00
Mr C A Route, Grounds Maintenance and Cemetery work	£545.00

Mrs M Jones, Salary and Postage	NJC rates
Scottish Power, Unmetered Supplies	£605.17
Wrexham CBC, Community Lighting Repairs	£662.51
P & W Maintenance Ltd, Quarterly Ground Maintenance	£59.53
JDH Business Services Ltd, Audit Fee	£461.76
Digital Surveillance Wrexham Ltd, Maintenance of CCTV Equipment	£282.00
Caia Park Partnership Ltd, Oak Memorial Bench	£660.00
Broker Network Ltd, Annual Insurance Premium	£2,436.59
Encore Office Systems, Kyocera Photocopier	£660.00
Maurice Paddock, Salary	NJC rates
HM Revenue & Customs, NI and Tax	PAYE rates

157 CORRESPONDENCE

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

Skatepark Camera – An email from DSW Ltd regarding the cost of backing up evidence for the Police was considered – ***The Council decided to accept responsibility for the costs for a trial period of three months.***

One Voice Wales – Annual Conference 2013 – Llanelwydd on 5th October 2013 – ***Councillor M Harriman was appointed to attend.***

Wrexham Town & Community Council Forum – next meeting on 9th July 2013 – Councillor Mrs B Watson indicated that she would attend.

Leader of Wrexham County Borough Council's letter regarding the Annual Budget – The observations of members were noted.

158 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING: It was confirmed that the next Meeting would be held at Marford Community Centre on Thursday 4th July 2013 at 7.15 p.m.

159 GRESFORD CEMETERY

It was resolved that the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the matter as it was likely that, if they were present, there would be disclosure to them exempt information as defined in Paragraph 12 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

A reply was circulated to members and it was noted that the matter was being dealt with by the Council's Insurers, however, it was considered that the Cemetery Committee should view the plot, with power to act on any recommendation to the Insurers.

**COUNCILLOR MRS J MACDONALD
CHAIRMAN**

Presiding Chairman.....Date.....