

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT GRESFORD MEMORIAL HALL ON 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 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 P M Lightwood, Mrs J MacDonald, G Peake, M Perry M L Roberts and Mrs B Watson.

### In Attendance

PCSO 2118 Wendy Harris and PCSO 3464 Lisa-Marie 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. Councillor A Bailey, Mrs B Blackmore and M J Edwards indicated their intention to make declarations at the appropriate time.

### 178 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>ST</sup> August 2013 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

### 179 POLICE REPORT

Crime statistics for July and August were circulated and discussed. A letter from the Lead Member for Communities, Collaboration and Partnerships of Wrexham Council regarding the Service Level Agreement for PCSO`s and the quarterly performing monitoring process was also considered. Under this agreement each Town and Community Council was expected to agree with their PCSO`s three priorities for their area for the ensuing three months, two proposed by the Council and one by the PCSO`s.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the priorities for the next quarter would be behaviour of parents on the school run; speeding and parking; and dog fouling.

### 180 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No member of the public was present.

### 181 URGENT MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

#### Youth and Play Services

The scheme was reviewed and it was generally agreed that the second week was the better of the two, but that the schemes required closer scrutiny for future years.

***Accordingly, it was agreed to discuss the item at the next meeting.***

#### Gresford Young Peoples Centre (Youth Club)

The position was reviewed. Councillor Mrs S Cleaver agreed to liaise with Wrexham Council`s Lisa Matthews regarding the youngwrexham website.

#### Marford Community Centre

(Councillor Mrs B Blackmore and M J Edwards declared an interest in this matter and left the meeting whilst it was discussed)

The recent letter from Wrexham Council's Head of Community, Wellbeing and Development regarding funding/operating proposals for 2014 was circulated and discussed. Members of the Community Council were unanimous in their comments on these proposals. Councillor Harriman also reported that this letter appeared to be at odds with what members of Wrexham Council's Homes, Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee had decided at a meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2013. **Accordingly the Clerk of the Council was instructed write to the Chairman of that Scrutiny Committee to ascertain whether he had sanctioned the latest letter in view of this divergence of facts.**

The Clerk of the Council reported on the difficulties he had experienced in obtaining the services of suitable surveyors to carry out a review of Marford Community Centre. Two quotations were circulated. It was agreed to accept the lower quotation from Barron Design Ltd and invite the representative of that Company to meet with the Clerk of the Council and those Councillors who were available at the Centre to discuss the terms of the inspection.

**In view of the continuing uncertainty over the condition of Marford Community Centre, the Council decided to take no action on the earlier application for £1,500 from the Management Committee at this meeting.**

#### **Goal Posts at Marford Play Area**

A further email was received from Dwr Cymru indicating their contractors were perfectly competent to re-erect the Goal Posts. The Council's Play Area's Sub-Committee was invited to supervise the work as necessary.

#### **Village Improvements**

This matter was ongoing and no updated report was available at the present time.

#### **Christmas Tree**

This item had been deferred this meeting by the Council at the meeting in July. Members would continue to look for suitable lights and the Clerk of the Council was asked to clarify whether Green"N"things, Gresford would supply and decorate the tree.

#### **Allington Park – Trees and Footpath**

The Clerk of the Council had now received a quotation for cutting the trees on Allington Park, as requested at the last meeting of the Play Area's Sub-Committee in the sum of £520. **The quotation was accepted.**

It was noted that the footpath still had not been completed. **Accordingly the Clerk would continue to press Lawton's for early completion, including the threat of proceedings for breach of contract.**

#### **Precept Setting Arrangements**

It was decided to set the Precept for the Financial Year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 at the meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013. Matters to be dealt with at this meeting were limited to the Precept item and any urgent planning applications. Consequently, the January meeting would now be held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014 would be a full Council Meeting.

### **Annual Return for the Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013**

The Auditors letter, together with the Annual Return was received. The Return was approved and Section 3 was signed by the Chairman and the Responsible Financial Officer.

### **Community Council Website**

Statistical data on usage was received and it was noted that there had been 1,177 unique visits during August 2013.

### **Notice Boards – Replacement Panes**

The estimated cost of replacement PET Glazing, delivery and installation was £790 plus VAT from Malcolm Lane & Co the suppliers of the Notice Boards.

***The quotation for 9 panes was accepted.***

### **Vacancy – Gresford West Ward**

The Returning Officer had authorised the filling of this vacancy following compliance with the Statutory Regulations. One expression of interest had been received during the period allowed for in the Regulations up to 30<sup>th</sup> August 2013.

***Accordingly, the Council resolved to co-opt Mr Graham Frank-Keyes to fill this vacancy.***

### **182 REPORTS**

Councillor A Bailey reported on the decision for a Prison to be erected in Wrexham and on Webcasting of certain Wrexham Council Meetings.

Councillor Mrs J Dutton reminded the Council that she had raised matters with Lesley Griffiths, AM relating to renaming of Pont-y-Capel Lane, Gresford traffic issues on Griffin Hill and Bottom Lane, and Gresford Health Centre.

MyPAG – an up to date report was received and noted. Their intention to apply for financial assistance would be dealt with at the next meeting.

NWWT 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – The Trust had invited Councillors to the official 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cake Cutting at 2.00pm on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

Mr David Lloyd – The Clerk reported that Mr Lloyd a former member of Gresford Community Council was retiring from his position as Clerk of Glyntrian Community Council. Accordingly it was agreed to send him our best wishes.

### **183 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/2013/0537 – Fell one twin-stemmed holly tree protected by Gresford Conservation Area, 1 Achill, The green, Gresford. ***The Community Council had no representations to make regarding this proposal provided that the local planning authority's Arboricultural Officer had no objections.***

P/2013/0538 – First Floor Bedroom Extension above existing structure, Front Porch and Sunroom style Garden Shed to rear garden, 23 Claypit Lane, Gresford – **No representations**

P/2013/0554 – Crown raise to 2m and remove damaged limbs from 1 Cedar Tree (14), Crown raise over highway to 5.2m 1 Yew (T16), remove Limb over gravestones from 1 Yew (T23), crown raise over parking areas to 3m 9 Yews (T27 to T36) and Crown raise to 5.2M over highway and Remove Broken Limb over gate from 1 Yew (T41), All Saints Church, Clappers Lane, Gresford (Councillor M J Edwards declared an interest in this matter and left the meeting whilst it was discussed)

**The Community Council had no representations to make regarding this proposal provided that the local planning authority's Arboricultural Officer had no objections.**

#### **184 FINANCE**

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

Mr S Pugh – Grave making	£975.00
Mr C A Route, Grounds Maintenance and Cemetery work	£545.00
P & W Contracting Ltd – Grounds Maintenance	£59.53
Encore Office Systems – Quarterly Photocopying charges	£39.60
One Voice Wales – Training Course on 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2013	£30.00
Mrs M Jones, Salary and Postage	NJC rates
Scottish Power, Unmetered Supplies	£633.72
Maurice Paddock, Salary	NJC rates
HM Revenue & Customs, NI and Tax	PAYE rates

#### **185 CORRESPONDENCE**

##### **Electronic Consultation on Planning Applications**

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Development of Wrexham Council had requested the Community Council to review its policy decision taken in April 2010 not to be consulted on planning applications electronically. **The Community Council resolved to take no action on this recent request.**

##### **2013-14 National Salary Award for Local Council Clerks**

Consequent upon the Agreement reached by the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services on the pay scales for 2013-14, NALC, SLCC and One Voice Wales had recommended revised salary scales for full and part time staff with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013. The increase amounted to 1% of current salary scales. **The Council resolved to adopt the new salary scales for the Clerk of the Council and the Cemetery Assistant with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.**

**SLCC Conference for All Wales, Llandudno on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2013.**

**It was resolved that the Clerk of the Council be authorised to attend.**

**186 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING:** It was confirmed that there would be a meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013 at Marford Community Centre at 7.15 p.m.

**COUNCILLOR MRS J MACDONALD  
CHAIRMAN**

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