

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GRESFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL (HELD REMOTELY*) on the 13 January 2022.

Members Present: Councillors A. Bailey, M. J. Edwards, K. Hobbley, J. Holmes, J. Dutton, B. Blackmore, M. Harriman, D. Brockhurst, J. Hobbley, A. Merry, W. O Grady.

Also present: Ruth Thompson, Community Agent (part).

Chair: Councillor J. Dutton (part) and Councillor A. Bailey.

Clerk: C. Povey

Apologies: Councillors J. Blackmore, M. Wilde and J. Jones, PCSO L. Marie Davies

997. **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were given and accepted before Councillor J. Dutton left the meeting due to technical difficulties and Councillor Bailey was Chair for the meeting.
998. **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 B Blackmore declared an interest in item 12 iv and Councillor Holmes declared an interest in item 8.vi.
Action: Form to be completed
999. **Public Participation:** There were no members of the public present.
1000. **Confirmation of Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 2 December 2021:** An amendment was requested to show that C Povey attended as an observer. The Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 2 December 2021 were **APPROVED**, as amended, as an accurate record.
1001. **Matters arising from Previous Minutes and progress on Actions:** Clerk advised that the updated Actions list will be reviewed and updated following a change in Clerk. Councillor Bailey advised that an additional meeting of the Cemetery Committee will be called after 24 January to discuss ongoing matters.
Action: Clerk to review and email the updates.
1002. **Crime Figure Report and Policing Matters:** There was no report for this meeting.
1003. **Community Agent's report:** Councillors were pleased to receive the Community Agent's report. Councillors discussed whether the community agent's attendance at meetings was essential, though useful to gain feedback. It was agreed that the Community Agent would attend meetings once a quarter unless specifically requested to attend. Ruth was thanked for her report and left the meeting.
1004. **To receive updates on ongoing matters:**
- i. Marford Play Area – There was no further update as a response to queries raised was still awaited. Concerns over the height of the boundary hedge were raised and the Amenity Committee asked to consider its suitability once the lease has been agreed.
 - ii. Gresford Health Centre – It was confirmed that there was still no signage in place to direct the public to the medical centre in Llay. It was agreed that signage was required in two locations, from the roundabout and at the entrance to School Road. Councillors were also aware of the public experiencing difficulties in accessing medical advice via the online system in circumstances when other surgeries were starting limited opening in person. It was **RESOLVED** to ask Alyn Family Doctors how and when they were proposing to phase back to full service.
Action: Clerk to enquire.
 - iii. Gresford Lake – IMAGE to discuss in their forthcoming meeting.

- iv. Traffic Matters and Traffic lights - Following repairs the traffic lights were reported as working well and it was **RESOLVED** to remove this item from the agenda. It was further **RESOLVED** to put a new item on the agenda regarding the pedestrian crossing in Marford.
 - v. Allotments – A charity has been formed and this is a matter for the solicitors to progress. **Action: Clerk to contact Allington Hughes solicitor.**
 - vi. Allington Park- It was reported that progress in relation to the footpath work was being followed up. The fence had been broken again at the same point. Repair solutions were being discussed. Lease renewal – A discussion took place about the lack of information and progress in relation to this. Councillors **RESOLVED** that an urgent letter is written to request contact details for individual trustees and a meeting, in person or virtual. **Action: Clerk to write to the Trust.**
1005. **Finance Committee:** Councillor Bailey left the meeting and Councillor Edward proceeded with the Finance Committee report.
- i. Minutes of Meeting held on 29 November 2021: These were received by Councillors.
 - ii. Update on staffing matters: An update on recruitment progress was given - the Staffing Sub-Committee will meet on Monday ahead of interviews with copy applications to be supplied to Staffing Sub-Committee members. **Action: Clerk to circulate copy applications.**
1006. **General Amenities Committee**
- i. Footpath at the top of Allington Park - discussed in an earlier item.
 - ii. Tree planting – There was no tree planting to report but tree roots have been removed.
1007. **Finance**
- i. Financial Matters: The next meeting was noted for **24 January 2022** to discuss grants.
 - ii. To Approve last month’s payments: Councillors **APPROVED** for payment the following items of expenditure for December:

Date	Payment To	Reason	Amount £
13.01.22	Aubergine	Email set up and email accounts set up/transferred	444.00
13.01.22	Microsoft (paid by Jan Jones)	Online Services – monthly licences charge 9/12/2021- 08/01/2022	61.20
13.01.22	The Backford Christmas Tree Farm	Christmas Trees	280.00
13.01.22	Gresford Trust	Hall hire for community Agent Dementia Sessions 21/9, 19/10 16/11.	17.00
13.01.22	Serena Baxter	NJC Salary	
13.01.22	Michelle Jones	NJC Salary	
13.01.22	Ruth Thompson	NJC Salary	
13.01.22	Camilla Povey	NJC Salary	
13.01.22	HMRC	Monthly costs due	
13.01.22	Clwyd Pension Fund	Monthly costs due	
13.01.22	Steve Pugh Limited	Reopen grave 3 x £300.00 (on 08.12.21, 14.12.21, 20.12.21)	900.00
13.01.22	Towns Web Archiving	Digitising records (2019)	94.82
13.01.22	Vodafone	Mobile phone bill (3 numbers)	38.14
13.01.22	Canda Copying	Printer rental	30.00
13.01.22	SLCC	Job Advertising (October)	126.00

Date	Payment To	Reason	Amount £
13.01.22	Canda Copying	Estimated copier meter reading	13.94
13.01.22	Scottish Power	Electricity	262.02
13.01.22	Unity	Bank service charge	25.80
13.01.22	BT	Phone and Broadband	56.10
13.01.22	STC	Emergency tree work further to storm damage	552.00
13.01.22	Ryal Media	Recruitment advert (Nov)	234.00
13.01.22	Chester Band	Carols around the tree	200.00
13.01.22	GT Egerton-Egerton Tree Care	Gresford Cemetery Tree work	1728.00
13.01.22	SLCC	Local Government Finance Module 6 (Clerk and Cllr Brockhurst)	60.00
13.01.22	PeopleSafe	Peoplesafe subscription	40.50
13.01.22	STC	Erect and remove Christmas Tree work and fencing	264.00
13.01.22	WCBC	Half yearly Inspection in SLA	3,116.40
13.01.22	Community Heartbeat Trust	Battery	223.20
13.01.22	Clerk Mrs C J Povey	Recruitment advert	118.80

1008. **Planning application requests received under Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended):**

Councillors considered the following Planning application requests:

- i. Planning Application P/2021/1159 5 Maxwell Close, Gresford, Wrexham, LL12 8UD. Proposed garage extension – no objections raised.
- ii. Planning Application P/2021/1180 9 Yew Tree Court, Gresford, Wrexham, LL12 8ET. Installation of air source heat pump - no objections raised.
- iii. Planning Application P/2021/1174 60 Hillock Lane, Gresford, Wrexham, LL12 8YL. Discharge of Condition 4 (materials) of planning permission p/2021/0585 - no objections raised.
- iv. Planning Application P/2021/1163 Marford Community Centre, Pant Lane, Marford, Wrexham, LL12 8SH. Erection of new modular building to be used as playgroup – Councillor Blackmore left the meeting. A discussion took place during which Councillors noted the comments made by WCBC highways regarding the need to change and improve the access and whether the permission would restrict community usage. Councillors **RESOLVED** that a letter be sent asking planning to take note of Highways comments and to raise concerns whether granting permission to playgroup may restrict the use of the community centre.
- v. Planning Application P/2021/1212 Pine Ridge, Pistyll Hill, Marford, Wrexham, LL12 8LE. Erection of single storey extensions, alterations to roof and erection of balconies - no objections raised.
- vi. Planning Application P/2021/1218 145 Narrow Lane, Gresford, Wrexham, LL12 8EN - Erection of fence to front and side (in retrospect) - no objections raised.
- vii. Planning Application P/2022/0012 29 Marford Hill, Marford, Wrexham, LL12 8SW - Single storey side and rear extensions, below ground floor rear extension and basement extension and erection of balcony - no objections raised.

- In relation to previous planning items a dismissal of an appeal on a decision relating to application P/2020/0890 at Quarry Ridge was noted.
 - A query raised as to whether a previous enquiry relating to change of use of from a bed and breakfast on Chester Road remained ongoing. **Action: Clerk to review and report.**
 - Councillors raised an ongoing concern about the wall at a property on Wynnstay Lane P/2021/0168. **Action: Clerk to ask the Council’s new planning enforcement officer for information.**
1009. **Member’s urgent announcements and requests for future meeting items:** The Chair asked Councillors to consider use of funds relating to the Queen’s Jubilee in anticipation of discussion at the next meeting within the context of any other events expected to take place in the village.
1010. **Correspondence:** Councillors received a list of correspondence received during the month of December 2021.
1011. **Date, Venue and Time of next meeting:** The next Meeting of the Council will be on **Thursday 3 February 2022 at 6.30 pm and to be held remotely.**

CHAIR DATE.....
 COUNCILLOR J. Dutton

*This meeting took place remotely, using Zoom software, under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (following The Local Authorities (Coronavirus)(Meetings)(Wales) Regulations 2020) which make provision for meetings to take place remotely.