

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held on
8th January 2015 at Cartrefle, Cefn Road, Wrexham.

Cllr Marc Jones (Chair)
*Cllr A. K Gregory (Vice Chair)

Vacancy	Cllr S. Jones
*Cllr B. Cameron	Cllr M. King
Cllr B. Halley	*Cllr C. Lloyd
Cllr C. Harper	Cllr C. Powell
Cllr J. Johnson	Cllr B. Pritchard
Cllr Maurice Jones	Cllr P. M. Williams
*Absent	

Also present:

Sgt D. Whibberley	- North Wales Police.
PCSOs J. Davies, S. Pawley	- North Wales Police.
Cllr R. Prince	- Wrexham CBC.
Mr. Rory Sheehan	- North Wales Newspapers.

117. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs B. Cameron, A. K. Gregory and C. Lloyd.

118. POLICE MATTERS

Sgt Whibberley provided statistical information relating to reported crime for the period and comparable periods last year. It was noted that there appeared to be an overall increase in reported crime of 5% particularly in relation to criminal damage and low level assaults and harassment. Members questioned how the statistics compared with National figures and the view that, overall, crime rates were falling. Members were advised that the levels of crime in the area for the same period last year were particularly low and the current levels were somewhat distorted due to this.

Certain staffing changes were reported with a Community Beat manager being appointed for Caia Park and adjustments made to the PCSO staff to cover staff absences. In addition, officers had been dedicated to Caia Park which effectively meant 24 hour cover for 7 days a week. Targets and operational measures had been put in place for officers and individuals identified for specific targeting. It was noted that 335 of recorded crime in Wrexham town is attributed in some way to Caia Park. As a result, it was proposed to establish a multi agency community safety group to address issues, perhaps attract additional funding and work in a more co-ordinated way. Members welcomed this proposal and were keen to be involved. Sgt Whibberley suggested that this could be established within a three month timescale.

A general discussion followed on the deployment and use of the mobile CCTV camera which was last installed at Montrose Gardens. It was noted that there had been some issues in terms of reliability but the Clerk advised that it was due to be returned within the next week. It was stressed that regular monitoring of the footage

should take place to ensure that the equipment is fully operational and Sgt Whibberley noted the comments and observations made.

There was an observation that there had been problems by an agency within the community contacting the Police on the 101 number. Sgt Whibberley agreed to contact the agency to establish more information.

119. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved: *That the minutes of the Ordinary & Confidential Meeting held on 11th December 2014 be received and adopted as a true record.*

Matters arising:

120. OLDER PERSONS COMMUNITY AGENT (PM 71, 84, 104)

The Clerk reported that an approach had been made to a second adjoining Community Council to ascertain if they would be interested in appointing a person to work in both communities. This had also been declined.

121. PAINTING UNDER WHITEGATE BRIDGE (PM 74, 86, 105)

It was agreed that this project be put on hold until March/ April 2015.

122. SCHOOL CROSSING PATROLS (PM116)

It was reported that a school crossing patrol officer would be in attendance at St Anne's Primary School within a few days.

123. MEMBERS REPORTS

There were no Members reports.

124. BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2015/16 AND TO DETERMINE THE PRECEPT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2015/16

Members were presented with a report detailing historic information in relation to the precept and options for the future with the resultant effect on the cost per Band D equivalent properties. Budget trends over previous years and an estimated situation at March 2015 was also included. It was noted that there was likely to be a modest increase in 2015/16 on the special levy imposed by Wrexham CBC for street lighting revenue costs.

Members were reminded of their increased liabilities for the forthcoming year and of the decisions taken at the November and December meetings. The Clerk advised that the additional expenditure on the Advice Service was covered by third party grants and that some slippage was estimated for year end 2014/15 due to less than anticipated costs. There was also a small increase in the tax base for 2015/16 which resulted in a small increase in precept yield.

Following discussion and a proposed amendment to increase the precept amount which was not seconded, It was **Resolved:**

- (i) *To accept the budget as prepared.*
- (ii) *To set the precept amount for 2015/16 at £211,456 (which is equivalent to £56 per annum per Band D property).*

125. NOTICE OF MOTION OPPOSING FRACKING

Members considered the following notice of motion as submitted by the Chair of the Council.

“This council recognises the concerns of local residents regarding plans to drill for unconventional gas in the Wrexham area. The drilling process, which may or may not involve hydraulic fracturing (‘fracking’), involves pumping a toxic cocktail of chemicals and high-pressure water into the ground to free underground gas. This process will

- i. Risk pollution of our water supply
- ii. Endanger the health of local people and animals
- iii. Raise the danger of subsidence due to tremors caused by the process
- iv. Threaten the environment
- v. Risk disturbing the last resting place of the victims of the Gresford Disaster of 1934.

The only fracking site in the UK has already encountered problems of leaking at the well and there are several well-documented cases in both the USA and Australia of the water table being polluted by leachate from the wells. Only last month, the mayor of New York banned fracking after a rigorous scientific study.

For these reasons, this council resolves:

1. To oppose fracking and the drilling for unconventional gas
2. To express support for the protection camp and local residents peacefully resisting the test drilling at Borrás Head Farm, Commonwood, Wrexham.
3. To write to Wrexham Council supporting the decision of its planning committee to refuse planning permission and calling for Wrexham to be declared a Frack-Free zone.
4. To declare Caia Park a Frack-Free zone.”

Members unanimously supported the motion and in addition, resolved to: write to the appropriate Welsh Government Minister calling on Welsh Government to declare Wales a frack free zone.

126. LIGHTING PROVISION FOR MUGA OFF QUEENSWAY

The Clerk reported that he had received preliminary observations from Wrexham CBC advising that planning consent would be required to erect lights and that suppliers were limited and the cost of works quite expensive.

Notwithstanding the above, Members felt that the project was worth progressing with the lights set to a timer to prevent very late use. It was agreed to invite some young people to the February meeting to discuss in more detail (Cllr Johnson to arrange).

It was also suggested the led lights are considered.

127. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The financial statement for period ending 31st December 2014 was submitted.

Resolved: *That the financial statement for the period be received and adopted.*

The Clerk advised that the Council’s bankers had been difficult in agreeing to transfer funds by telephone from the Reserve Account to the Current Account in order to meet monthly liabilities. This despite the fact that the current arrangements had existed for many years.

Resolved: *That the Clerk be authorised to instruct the bank to transfer funds within accounts in line with current practice.*

128. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT*Resolved: That the accounts due for payment in January 2015 be approved:*

D.D.	Pace Telecom	General Admin	* 64.56	
		CAS	* <u>142.15</u>	206.71
D.D.	EON	Cartrefle	*	181.16
D.D.	EON	St Peter's Hall	*	23.97
6520	The Venture	CAS		1110.00
6521	Cash	General Admin	70.00	
		Chair's Allow	<u>40.00</u>	110.00

D.D.	Dee Valley Water	St Peter's Hall		13.86
D.D.	Plus net	St Peter's Hall	*	12.00
D.D.	WCBC	Cartrefle		654.00
D.D.	WCBC	St. Peter's Hall		151.00
6532	CPL Petroleum	Cartrefle	*	1270.50
6533	Bates Office Supplies	General Admin	* 9.34	
		CAS	* <u>26.57</u>	35.91
6534	Diamond Properties	Cartrefle	*	1369.20
6535	Ron Bentley Printers	CAS	*	185.88
D.D.	EON	Cartrefle	*	487.14
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	Cartrefle		29.35
D.D.	Plus net	Cartrefle	*	32.03
	G. Evans (Sal adj & Travel)	CAS		
	P. Donellan (Travel)	CAS		
	J. Carter (Travel)	CAS		
	K. Walker (Sal adj & Travel)	CAS		
	L. Mills (Sal adj Jan)	CAS		
	S. Jones (Sal Jan)	CAS		
	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Jan)		
	Clwyd Pension Fund	Pensions (Jan)		

*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable