

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held on 10th January 2013
at Cartrefle, Cefn Road, Wrexham

*Cllr Marc Jones (Chair)
Cllr B. Pritchard (Vice Chair)

Cllr T. A. Birch	Cllr Maurice Jones
Cllr B. Cameron	*Cllr S. Jones
Cllr A. K. Gregory	Cllr M. King
Cllr B. Halley	Cllr C. Lloyd
Cllr C. Harper	Cllr C. Powell
Cllr J. Johnson	Cllr P Williams

*Absent

Also present:

Sgt D. Jacks (N. Wales Police) Rebecca Cole (N. Wales Newspaper Group) and 5 members of the public

117. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Marc Jones and S. Jones.

118. POLICE MATTERS & CONSIDERATION OF CCTV PROVISION

Sgt Jacks presented the crime statistics for each Ward for the month of December. He reported that there had been six arson attacks during the month, three on cars, one garden shed, one trailer and one refuse bin. Four had been attributed to a previous operation and arrests had been made. There was evidence of thefts from motor vehicles in Queensway (Coed Aben area) and Smithfield. A number of burglaries from dwellings had occurred in the Whitegate/Kingsmills area some of which had been detected. Criminal damage had increased in Wynnstay Ward compared to just one incident in six weeks in Cartrefle. Incidents of anti social behaviour were pretty uniform throughout the community. It has been a busy time, but included the Christmas period. Members felt that there appeared to be less problems with anti social behaviour of late in the vicinity of Kingsley Circle shops.

Members expressed concern over the number of reported incidents for Smithfield Ward but it was pointed out that the Ward covers part of the town centre. Sgt. Jacks agreed to see if the statistics could be divided between the town centre incidents and the residential areas.

Sgt Jacks also mentioned that it was hoped to recommence the environmental audits as they had proved useful in the past. It was reported that there was evidence of discarded syringes in the Colwyn Road area, in particular at empty properties.

The Clerk advised Sgt Jacks that at the December meeting, the Members had received a presentation on CCTV cameras and that they were supportive, in principle, of acquiring one. Its successful operation, however, was dependant upon the PCSO's being prepared to monitor the data. Members sought confirmation from Sgt Jacks that this support would be forthcoming if a camera were to be purchased.

A general discussion followed and consideration was given to the possible changes proposed for the Wrexham CBC CCTV system which obviously impacted on Caia.

It was **Resolved:**

- i) *To support the principle of acquiring a camera as outlined*
- ii) *That Sgt Jacks check if there were any issues precluding police support and report back*
- iii) *That enquiries be made with Wrexham CBC to ascertain if the changes to their system are imminent and whether their contractor would be in a position to supply cameras to community councils under the same contract*
- (iv) *To place the matter on the agenda for the February 2013 meeting for further consideration.*

119. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved:

- (i) *That the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 13th December 2012 be received and adopted as a correct record.*

Matters arising:

120. YOUTH SHELTER – PRINCE CHARLES ROAD (PM 86 & 104)

The Clerk reported the response received from Wrexham CBC Environment Department indicating that they received further advice from the Building Control Section and that a more heavy duty fence had been installed thereby reducing the need for such frequent inspections. Cllr King advised that as there had been the Christmas break since the last meeting no costs for repair had been determined.

Resolved: *To note the position*

121. ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY SCHEMES (PM 78, 93 & 107)

- (i) The Clerk reported that the lighting works were still scheduled to commence in January.
- (ii) The seats had been received and were in store however there seemed to be a delay with the Environment Department installing the bases. Having regard to the observations of members, it was **Resolved:** *That a contractor be sought to quote for installing the bases and that this should proceed if not cost prohibitive.*
- (iii) The higher fencing on the riverside of the new MUGS at Queensway had now been erected.

122. MEMBERS MEETINGS & REPORTS

Nothing to report since the December meeting

123. SPEED OF VEHICLES FROM DIRECTION OF EAGLES MEADOW TO HIGHTOWN ROAD (PM 116)

Cllr Gregory reported that a scheme of improvements had been suggested by the Highways Department.

124. CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Wrexham CBC – Letter of consultation on proposals for revised traffic calming at Cefn Road.

Members were asked to consider proposed changes to the traffic calming on Cefn Road which would result in a 20mph speed restriction being introduced from approximately 54, Cefn Road to Beeston Terrace and the removal of all of the build outs to be replaced with one set of double cushions and two flat top speed humps but confined to three locations (adjacent to Plas Rhosnesni, the junction of Sutton Drive and under the footbridge)

Members discussed the scheme at length and whilst acknowledging that the build outs were not popular, they were effective in slowing down the traffic and only tended to create congestion at peak times such as at the start and end of school times and late afternoon/early evening with traffic returning from the Industrial Estate. They were particularly concerned that there appeared to be nothing to effectively slow the traffic between the roundabout adjacent to the Greyhound Public House and Plas Rhosnesni and that this area in particular seen many accidents over the years. As the members of the public had attended for this specific item, they were invited to relay their views to Members. They were unanimous in their support for the build outs to remain and felt the new proposed scheme did not have regard to the issues experienced from the roundabout to Plas Rhosnesni and did nothing to effectively slow the traffic. Members felt that the proposals were merely to facilitate ease of future maintenance, had no regard to the significant financial input made by the Community Council and would not be as effective as current system. It was **Resolved:**

- i) *To support the introduction of a 20mph speed restriction but ask that it be extended to the roundabout adjacent to the Greyhound given the location of the day nursery and the junctions of Fenwick Drive and Thornleigh.*
- ii) *To strongly object to the removal of the build outs and the limited installation of humps and cushions and would wish to see some form of physical calming feature being retained near the entrance to Thornleigh.*
- iii) *That as the current 30mph speed limit is regularly breached along Cefn Road, a more comprehensive scheme should be developed which could include speed activated signs beyond the existing calmed area and/or an enforcement camera. The Community Council would consider contributing financially to any jointly supported initiatives.*
- iv) *The Council considers that the Highway authority should impose a weight restriction on Cefn Road as experience shows that HGV's are still accessing the Industrial estate via cefn Road rather than using the new link road.*

(ii) Wrexham CBC – consultation on proposed changes to Local Planning Guidance note 28 (Affordable Housing)

Members considered the proposed changes and were generally supportive.

Resolved: *That under the order of preference (off site provision) the determination by the Affordable Housing Officer for sites outside of the Community Council area should only be as a last resort and when all sites within a community council area have been exhausted.*

In the case of the affordable housing taking the form of social rented housing, allocation points should be weighted in favour of members of the community where the development has taken place (provided there is a need in that community for affordable housing)

(iii) Wrexham CBC – Notification of additional houses in multiple occupation

Members noted the list of houses in multiple occupation and were surprised to see that they were so few in number. The Clerk advised that these were the properties covered under the additional licensing regime and was not the list of all properties in multiple occupation. In noting the letter, Members requested that a full list be supplied in order that they could verify the information.

(Supplementary agenda)

(iv) Letter from the Secretary of the Ramblers Association

This formed a letter of introduction for the local secretary of the Ramblers Association offering support to Community Councils on matters relating to public footpaths. **Resolved:** *To note the letter.*

- (v) **Welsh Government – letter advising of appeals against the proposed approval of Mr. R. J. Evans for inclusion for primary consent for inclusion in the Pharmaceutical List in the vicinity of King Street or Lord Street.**

The Clerk reminded Members that in 2012 they had given their full support to Mr Evans with regard to his proposal to open a pharmacy in the vicinity of Lord Street or King Street. Subsequently, the Local Health Board had indicated their support for the proposal but a number of objections had been received from other pharmacies operating in the area. The Community Council was, in the light of these objections, being given the opportunity to comment further. **Resolved:** *That the Community Council contact Welsh Government and re-affirm its support for the application.*

125. **PRECEPT AND BUDGET 2013/14**

The Clerk presented a comprehensive report on levels of income and expenditure for 2012/13 and a draft budget for 2013/14. He advised that the property base had increased slightly resulting in an increase in precept income of £728 if the levy remains unchanged. Members were advised that the following factors had been acknowledged:

- That no election costs had been included for 2013/14 given that there were full elections in 2012/13. If a by election was called and contested this would cost in the region of £2,000.
- A staff pay award has been included although this is yet to be determined (No award given for 3 years)
- Members may care to review the hire charges for both Cartrefle and St Peters Hall
- Members will need to consider contributions to community centres given recent correspondence. Included in the budget is the shortfall for 2013/4 and a 20% contribution for 2014/15
- Determination of the grants (s137) budget given the current levels of expenditure in 2012/13
- No amount had been included for the recommendations contained within the recent Independent Remuneration Panel's Report which would form the basis of a report at a future meeting.

Following discussion and after hearing the views of Members, it was **Resolved:**

- To accept the draft budget for 2013/14 as outlined in the report but to retain the grants budget at the 2012/13 figure and not reduce it.*
- To approve the sums outlined and included within the budget for contributions to costs of the community centres (Kingsley Circle and Pentre Gwyn)*
- To freeze any increase on room hire charges (last reviewed 2010) but to commence charging Caia Park Environmental Group from April 2013(previous free use)*
- To advise Wrexham CBC that the precept would remain unchanged for 2013/14 i.e. £56 equivalent per Band D property.*

126. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Members considered the following applications received **Resolved -**
That no objections be submitted in relation to:

- P2012/0866 Unit B4 Eagles Meadow, Wrexham**
Change of use from class A1 (shops) to A3 (Restaurants & cafes)

- (ii) **P2012/0867 Unit B3 Eagles Meadow, Wrexham**
Change of use from class A1 (shops) to A3 (Restaurants & cafes)
- (iii) **P2012/0880 Former Gas Works site, Rivulet Road, Wrexham**
Submission of reserved matters (Design, appearance, landscaping access layout) Construction of 5 storey apartment building with parking and landscaping

Supplementary agenda

- (iv) **P2012/0869 49 – 52 Chester Street, Wrexham**
Alteration to existing shop front to allow access to first floor unit
- (v) **P2013/0009 Gwenfro CP School, Queensway, Wrexham**
Relocation of mobile classroom from Llay to Gwenfro School

127. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The financial statement for period ending 31st December 2012 was submitted.

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

128. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved: That the accounts for January 2013 be approved for payment:

		£. p	Authority
D.D.	Pace Telecom	* 53.80	
	CAS	* <u>119.96</u>	173.76
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D.D.	Dee Valley Water		12.00
D.D.	Wrexham CBC		323.00
D.D.	Wrexham CBC		163.00
D.D.	Wrexham CBC		145.00
D.D.	EON (Jan)	*	498.26
D.D.	Plus net	CAS (St Peter's)	*
D.D.	Plus net	General Admin	*
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	Cartrefle	32.12
J. Francis (Salary Jan)	St Peter's Hall		
G. Evans (Travel)	CAS		
P. Donellan (Travel)	CAS		
K. Walker (Sal adj Jan/Travel)	CAS		
P. Rondel(Sal adj Jan)	St Peter's Hall		
H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Jan)		
Clwyd Pension Fund	Pensions (Jan)		

*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable