

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held on
14th September 2017
at Community Council Offices, Prince Charles Road, Wrexham

Cllr M. King (Chair)
Cllr B. Cameron (Vice Chair)

*Cllr T. Calverley	Cllr J. Johnson
Cllr L. C. Crawford	Cllr S. Jones
Cllr M. J. Downward	*Cllr C. Lloyd
Cllr B. Halley	Cllr L. M. Platt
Cllr C. Harper	Cllr C. Powell
Cllr A. J. Jeorrett	Cllr Paul Williams
*Absent	

Jonathan Davies PCSO
2 members of the public

N. Wales Police

49. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. T. Calverley and C. Lloyd

50. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Davies presented the crime figures on a ward by ward basis for the month of August again in graph format. Members again expressed concern that they were not easy to follow and interpretation was very difficult. Giving a broad overview, PCSO Davies reported that most offences were down for the month with the exception of shoplifting. It was noted that the comments relating to the format of the statistics made at the July meeting should have been transmitted back to the inspector by PCSO Parry who was not at this meeting to report back. From the graphs, it was evident that “peaks” in incidents were set against a previous average for the area. It was felt that this could result in a high level of criminality becoming the norm for certain areas which would not be acceptable in others.

Members were concerned over this lack of continuity and by the lack of attendance of a senior officer at occasional meetings even though attendance had taken place at a neighbouring community council. The County Councillors present reported that there was a reluctance by the Police to meet with them which used to routinely occur. This would provide an opportunity to discuss these matters.

Members were concerned that general policing matters within the community were now addressed by the PCSO staff and that previously employed Community Beat Managers were now focusing on other, wider policing issues although the Community Council had not been informed of these structural changes.

It was **Resolved:**

(i) *To contact the local Inspector expressing concern over the level of community involvement, the concerns over the statistical information and the lack of engagement by the Police at Community Council meetings*

- (ii) *To make representations to the Police & Crime Commissioner / Chief Constable over the continual erosion of Police resources in the area*

Other items discussed included

Nuisance motorbikes:

Although the situation had improved, there were still some incidents taking place. The County Councillors expressed concern that the leaflet which was to be sent to all tenants by the Housing Estate Office still had not been completed. This would strengthen the work of the Police to highlight that tenancies could be at risk if an offender was traced back to a particular address. They also reported that the environmental schemes initiative could provide an opportunity to fund measures to assist blocking off certain routes although costing schemes and getting them agreed was considerably delayed. Some tenants had been contacted by Tenancy Enforcement Officers and the Police.

It was

Resolved: *To contact the Housing Estate Office requesting that the leaflet is distributed without delay*

Drug related issues:

Members reported alleged incidents of drug dealing at various locations and addresses within the community. They felt that the Police were slow to react to information provided and that the reporting mechanism via 101 was still totally inadequate with long delays experienced. PCSO Davies advised that resources were stretched and responses were competing with other demands. Unfortunately, whilst a local priority, drug related crime was not seen as a stated priority of the Police & Crime Commissioner.

SURVEILLANCE CAMERA PROTOCOL

The Clerk reported that he had prepared a draft protocol for the deployment of the Community Council owned cameras in consultation with the Councillors nominated to consider the matter. This was presented to Members and it was **Resolved:** *To adopt the protocol.*

RELOCATION OF SURVEILLANCE CAMERA

A request was received for a camera to be relocated to Y Wern and this was supported by a petition from local residents who were encountering problems with antisocial behavior and drug related activity. Following discussion, it was **Resolved:**

- (i) *to relocate the camera from Coed y Bryn to Y Wern as soon as practicable.*
(ii) *that the precise location be determined in consultation with the Ward Members, County Councillor and PCSO Jonathan Davies.*

51. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- (i) Cllr Brian Cameron – Agenda item 8 - Pentre Gwyn Community Centre
Personal & prejudicial attends Residents Association meetings (who own the land) in advisory capacity
- (ii) Cllr B. Halley – Agenda item 9 - Application for financial assistance by Gwnefro Valley ICC
Personal & prejudicial as Chair of Gwenfro Valley ICC Management Committee.

- (iii) Cllr C Powell - Agenda item 9 - Application for financial assistance by Gwenfro Valley ICC
Personal & prejudicial as an employee of Gwenfro Valley ICC
- (iv) Cllr M. Downward - Agenda item 9 - Application for financial assistance by Gwenfro Valley ICC
Personal & prejudicial as an employee of Gwenfro Valley ICC

52. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: *That the minutes of the Ordinary and Confidential meetings held on 13th July and the extra ordinary meeting held on 27th July 2017 be received and adopted as a true record.*

53. VARIATION IN AGENDA

As Members of the public had specifically attended to present a progress report on Pentre Gwyn Community Centre it was agreed that agenda item 8 would be considered at this point in the meeting

54. PROGRESS REPORT – PENTRE GWYN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Members received a progress report from the representatives of the Pentre Gwyn, Tan y Coed and Coed y Bryn Community Association focusing largely on events and activities they had organised during the reporting period. These included the formation of a lunch club, coffee morning (twice monthly) and a Fun Day. The Association had also been working with the National Trust Green Academy Project who have been actively involved with tree planting and landscape improvements at the community centre.

The representatives of the association also handed in a petition calling for the Community Council to take over the management of the community centre when the County Borough Council cease to be involved in April 2018.

55. FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF PENTRE GWYN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr B. Cameron referred to the petition and highlighted that from April 2018 the County Borough Council would cease to have any involvement with the management of the community centre and requested that the Community Council consider taking of the role of managing the centre from that time. He outlined the work undertaken by the Association in recent times and commented that the centre was now used more evidenced by the bookings.

(At this point Cllr Cameron withdrew from the meeting prior to discussion and voting having declared a personal interest in this matter)

The Clerk reminded Members that the Community Council had fully underwritten the shortfall between income and expenditure since 2014 amounting to over £6k per annum as well as any costs associated with agreed repairs. He also advised that the Community Council was not entitled to claim rate relief or apply to many grant bodies as it was not a charity and was regarded as local government. In addition, there would be issues transferring the member of staff given that the employment terms of community council staff differ to Wexham CBC staff and that the payroll system was at capacity although the Association could arrange that through AVOW. It would also result in the Community Council having to formalise arrangements through leases and

as a result all risks and management decisions would transfer to the Community Council.

Following discussion, it was suggested that a forward may be for the Residents Association, as freeholders of the site, to retain management with the Community Council offering support where practical with a continuation of the financing arrangements in place. It was **Resolved:** *To establish a working group to consider all options and implications comprising Chair, Clerk, Cllrs B. Cameron and two representatives of the Residents Association, to meet within the next two months.*

56. MEMBERS REPORTS

Cllr. A. Jeorett – Concerns over dog fouling and suggested an initiative to stencil no dog fouling symbols on pavements at selected locations. Cllr Jeorett advised that further details had been requested in terms of costs and that she would report back to a future meeting. Also requested additional litter bins for the area. The clerk advised that the Focus Group (via Caia Park Partnership) had recently asked about bins and they had agreed to fund two new bins with the Community Council funding an additional three which would allow one for each ward. These were due to be delivered within the next two weeks. It was suggested that the specific siting of the bins be discussed with the Focus Group and Wrexham CBC.

57. CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) **Wrexham CBC** – Tree preservation order at Bryn Estyn Road
Resolved: To support the making of the tree preservation order as outlined in the documentation.
- (ii) **Welsh Government** – Inviting Community Councils to enter into clustering arrangements. Grants available for set up amount to £20k for the whole of Wales with expressions of interest required by 13th October 2017.
Resolved: To note the correspondence
- (iii) **Wrexham Civic Society** – request to nominate for the Society Awards 2017
Resolved; To nominate both Gwenfro and Hafod y Wern Schools under the new build category
- (iii) **Wrexham CBC** – Invitation to Mayor's charity dinner dance (6th Oct 2017 - Noted

Supplementary:

- (iv) **Wrexham CBC** – Invitation to attend training sessions on Code of Conduct (4pm on 3rd or 16th Oct) - Noted
- (v) **Friends of Bellevue Park** – Invitation to attend the opening of the Memorial Garden (22nd October at 2.30pm) – Noted
- (vi) **Cardiff University** – Invitation to a focus group meeting on 21st September (5.30pm – 7pm Glwndwr University) – Noted

- (vii) **The Young Foundation Co-op well-being workshop 20th September (1.30 – 5.30 AVOW) – Noted**
- (vii) **North Wales Miners Assoc Trust – Invitation to Gresford Disaster Service 11am 22nd September 2017 – Noted**
- (viii) **Wrexham Civic Society Visit to old Wrexham Cemetery and Newsletter - Noted**

58. CONCLUSION OF EXTERNAL AUDIT FINANCIAL YEAR 2016-17

The Clerk advised that the Annual Report had been returned from the external auditors duly signed and with no matters requiring to be brought to the attention of the Community Council. The conclusion of audit has been advertised in accordance with the regulations.

59. APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Further to the extra ordinary meeting held on 27th July 2017, the Clerk advised that an application for financial assistance had now been received from Gwenfro Valley ICC requesting a grant to cover the shortfall in their funding for the remainder of the financial year as a result of reductions to Communities First Funding and the changing eligibility for Families First funding.

In considering the request, Members noted the significant sum involved and were concerned about the long-term sustainability of the organisation post March 2018 as the Community Council would not be in a position to offer such generous support in the future. It was noted that applications had been made to external funders but as yet the results were unknown and it was uncertain if the organisation would benefit from the Communities First legacy fund.

The Clerk advised that the grants budget for 2017-18 had been set at £15,000 and so any significant grant would need to be met from reserves and the budget amended accordingly. Whilst reserves were favourable, he reminded members that the Council had reduced the precept for 2017-18 from £56 per Band D property to £50 which meant that some £36000 excess expenditure over income received would also need to be met from balances and that this decision was taken to reduce reserves following the capital receipt from the sale of the Cefn Road offices.

***Resolved:** That the Council, in accordance with its powers under S137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:*

- (i) Gwenfro Valley ICC £26,668.30
- (ii) That the grant be met from the Council's reserves.

- (iii) That a service level agreement be entered to ensure the continuation of the existing provision until 31st March 2018 thereafter the agreement and funding would cease.
- (iv) That the Community Council would pay the grant in two payments – October 2017 and January 2018 following receipt of an update report submitted to the January Community Council meeting outlining progress made regarding external grant applications/funders as well as statistics for Oct – Dec in a format as previously supplied to Communities First.

(Cllrs C. Powell and M. Downward declared an interest in this item as employees of the organisation and Cllr B, Halley as Chair of the Management Committee. They withdrew from the meeting prior to any consideration of this item)

60. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The financial statements for period ending 31st July and 31st August 2017 was submitted.

Resolved: That the financial statements for the periods be received and adopted.

61. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were authorised for payment:

(i) August 2017 (for information purposes)

D.D.	Pace Telecom	General Admin	* 79.43	
		CAS	* <u>154.41</u>	233.84

D.D.	Plus Net	CAS	*	12.00
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	St Peters Hall		13.62
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	Prince Charles Road		457.00
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	St Peter's Hall		170.00
7078	C. Rayworth	General Admin (website)		400.00
7079	British Gas	Prince Charles Road	*	255.76
7080	Connected Security	Amenity/Environ	*	4063.20
D.D.	SSE Hydro	Prince Charles Road	*	147.96
D.D.	SSE Hydro	Prince Charles Road	*	79.86
7081	Wrexham CBC	Amenity/Environ		1041.50
7083	Walker Fire	St Peters Hall	*	74.46
7084	Thomas Fattorini	General Admin	*	56.47
7085	Connected Security	Amenity/.Environ	*	96.00
7089	Wrexham CBC	Amenity.Environ		2964.00
7090	British Gas	St Peter's Hall	*	197.57
7091	Petty cash (stamps)	General Admin	20.00	
		CAS	<u>60.00</u>	80.00
7092	BestHost	General Admin		10.50
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	Prince Charles Road		32.00

D.D.	SSE Hydro	Prince Charles Road	*	173.11
D.D.	SSE Hydro	St Peter's Hall	*	68.54
	G. Evans (sal adj/travel)	CAS		
	P. Donellan (sal adj/travel)	CAS		
	J. Carter (sal adj/travel)	CAS		
	K. Walker (sal adj/travel)	CAS		
	A. Humphreys (sal adj Aug)	St Peter's Hall		
	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Aug)		
	Clwyd Pension Fund	Pensions (Aug)		

*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable

(ii) September 2017

D.D.	Pace Telecom	General Admin	* 63.68	
		CAS	* <u>148.88</u>	212.56

D.D.	Plus Net	CAS	*	12.00
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	St Peters Hall		9.14
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	Prince Charles Road		457.00
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	St Peter's Hall		170.00
7094	Bates Office Supplies	General Admin	* 17.91	
		CAS	* <u>48.77</u>	66.68
7095	WNW	St Peter's Hall	* 149.27	
		Prince Charles Rd	* <u>64.14</u>	213.41
7101	RBCW	St Peter's Hall	750.00	
		CAS	<u>375.00</u>	1125.00
7102	CPAG	CAS		83.04
7099	Petty cash	CAS	60.00	
		General Admin	<u>20.00</u>	80.00
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	Prince Charles Road		32.00
	G. Evans (sal adj/travel)	CAS		
	P. Donellan (sal adj/travel)	CAS		
	J. Carter (sal adj/travel)	CAS		
	K. Walker (sal adj/travel)	CAS		
	A. Humphreys (sal adj Sept)	St Peter's Hall		
	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Sept)		
	Clwyd Pension Fund	Pensions (Sept)		

*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable

62. SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM – PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED: That no objection be raised to the following applications

- (i) P/2017/00696 4, Willow Court, Rhosnesni, Wrexham**
Extensions to dwelling, internal alterations and change of all windows and doors
- (ii) P/2017/0742 Unit D18 Eagles Meadow, Wrexham**
Change of use from retail to financial and professional services to trade as a retail bureau be change
- (iii) P/2017/0743 Unit D18 Eagles Meadow, Wrexham**
Display of three internally illuminated fascia signs