

Minutes of the extra Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held on 27<sup>th</sup> July  
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	

Representative

- North Wales Newspapers

**46. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. M. Downward, J. Johnson and C. Powell

**47. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Clerk advised that two applications had been received since the dispatch of the agenda and would need to be considered prior to the next meeting.

***RESOLVED:***

*That an objection be raised with regard to the following application*

**(i) P/2017/0571 6 Yorke Street, Wrexham**

Conversion of use class A1 shop to 14 bed house in multiple occupation

Reason: Loss of retail unit in a recognised shopping area  
Potential long stay parking on street due to residential nature of proposal  
Request that the number of HMOs in the area be reviewed before decision is taken.

**(ii) P2017/0611 8 Albert Street, Wrexham**

Conversion of dwelling into house in multiple occupation (HMO) use class C4 (6 units)

Reason: Request that the number of HMOs in the area be reviewed before decision is taken.

**48. FUTURE FUNDING GWENFRO VALLEY INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S CENTRE**

The Chair referred to the report attached to the agenda as submitted by the Manager of Gwenfro Valley ICC and commented that there would be a strong possibility that if funding is not re-provisioned via Families First then Gwenfro Valley would be likely to close. He reminded Members of the concern expressed at the last meeting over the loss of such a facility and that, as a Council, Members would like to prevent that from happening.

It was reported that at present there were two areas of uncertainty:

Firstly, Families First funding for this particular project was coming to an end at the end of September although Gwenfro Valley has been invited to resubmit for funding. There appeared to be different opinions over the interpretation of the guidance for funding as it relates to open access play, although indications were that it would meet the criteria if working with the parents as well as young people. If services are to be re-provided, it was uncertain if they would continue in the same form after 1<sup>st</sup> October. It was hoped that services for young people, particularly those with disabilities, would have some continuity. This comes in addition to the 30% reduction in Communities First funding for 2017/18 with that provision ending completely in April 2018 except for a much reduced "legacy" fund to be divided across the whole of the County Borough

Secondly, Gwenfro Valley was actively seeking alternative grant funders and at present one application is looking favourable. However if this does not materialise then Caia Park would lose an important facility. The dilemma for the Community Council is that it would not wish to donate funds if they are not required however the position with Families First may not be clear until early September.

A general discussion followed emphasizing the importance of play and the impacts on health and wellbeing and the value placed on the facility by families within Caia Park.

The Clerk reminded Members that any funding would have to be met from the s137 grants budget which for 2017/18 has been set at £15,000 and any budget overspend would need to come from the Council's reserves. It was also noted that as a result of lowering the precept requirement for 2017/18 some £36,000 would be taken from reserves to balance the budget.

It was further noted that a formal application had not been received or the necessary supporting documentation such as accounts which would then enable the Council to make an informed decision.

It was also necessary to consider the long term prospects and sustainability of the organisation given the withdrawal of Families First and Communities First funding as it would not be possible for the Community Council to compensate fully for this loss.

Members felt that it was necessary to emphasise that any grant award now should be regarded as a one off to help secure the facility up to March 2018 and was not sustainable in the longer term.

It was **RESOLVED:**

*(i) That, in the event of failing to secure renewed funding from Families First and being unsuccessful with other funding bids, the Community Council agree to consider a funding application to support Gwenfro Valley ICC*

*(ii) The level of funding be determined following receipt of a completed grant application form, most recent accounts and operational options including a business case for continuance after March 2018 being submitted by the organisation for consideration.*

*(iii) That as an exception and if required, the Community Council deviate from its agreed policy of an upper limit of grants payable of £2500*

*(iv) In the event of an award being made in excess of £2000 the usual requirements for regular progress reports be adopted to satisfy external auditors.*

It was further **RESOLVED:**

*That in the event of an urgent decision being required before the September scheduled meeting of the Community Council, the Chair and Clerk be authorised to convene an extra ordinary meeting of the Council*