

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held on  
9<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at the Community Council Offices, Prince Charles Road, Wrexham

Cllr M. King (Chair)

\*Cllr M. J. Downward (Vice Chair)

Cllr B. Cameron

\* Cllr L. C. Crawford

Cllr A. K. Gregory

Cllr B. Halley

Cllr C. Harper

Cllr A. J. Jeorrett

\*Absent

Cllr J. Johnson

Cllr S. Jones

Cllr C. Lloyd

Cllr L. M. Platt

Cllr C. Powell

Cllr Paul Williams

PCs Kerry Evans and James Duffy

PCSOs Lauren Willdig

Nelly Lloyd

Reporter

Representative

N. Wales Police

Wrexham Leader

Caia Park Partnership

#### **101. CHAIR'S REMARKS**

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting and wished everyone a happy New Year.

#### **102. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. M. Downward

#### **102. POLICE MATTERS**

PC Kerry Evans introduced her colleagues and advised that PC James Duffy is to cover Caia Park instead of PC John Clarke. She advised that the new PCSOs were currently in training and that we would have the full complement within a few weeks. It is planned to hold an environmental clean-up day during the Summer and targets have been set to execute one or two warrants per month. Meetings have also been held with the Arson Reduction Team. PCSOs will be expected to visit youth clubs on their open evenings.

The Clerk mentioned that a number of Members had attended a quarterly meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> January with the Inspector and he suggested that we decide on a collective priority for the forthcoming months. Members suggested that we continue to prioritise the motorbike problem in the area.

The monthly crime trends for each ward were considered. PC Evans agreed to supply contact details for the new staff as soon as available. Members were reminded to use the Caia email address ( [CaiaSectorWrexhamTow@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:CaiaSectorWrexhamTow@nthwales.pnn.police.uk) ) as well as 101 for reporting incidents.

PC Evans requested that everyone try to encourage the public to co-operate with the police if they know where motorbikes are being stored as this is an effective way of solving issues. She also referred to the work of the passive drug dog which has been deployed in the town and advised that the dog is available to work in specific communities for the sum of £100 for four

visits and that some communities had committed to this. It was **RESOLVED:** *that the Community Council would support this initiative and make the necessary funds available.*

**Other issues raised:**

Drinking at various times of day on Pidgeon House Field creating an intimidatory atmosphere for walkers in the area.

**103. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS**

There were no declarations made in relation to the Council meeting agenda.

**104. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Confidential meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October and Ordinary meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

**Arising:**

**105. Led LIGHTING – OFFICES PRINCE CHARLES ROAD**

The Clerk reported that this has been completed except for two external lights as there has been a delay in obtaining the special fixing brackets.

**106. MEMBERS REPORTS**

**Cllr C. Harper and L. Platt:** Attended and assisted with the distribution of food and other items to members of the community on Christmas Eve at Caia Park Partnership. Thanks were recorded to all those involved.

**Cllr B. Halley:** Attended Hafod y Wern CP school Christmas concert.

**Cllr A. Jeorrett, B. Cameron and the Clerk:** Attended quarterly police meeting with the Inspector.

**107. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following item of correspondence were received:

- (i) **Wrexham CBC – Shaping the future of Wrexham Library Service**  
**Letters enquiring if the Community Council would be interested in funding the mobile library service and investigating ways to provide a local library service in areas that do not currently have them. (Current costs of mobile library for the time spent in Caia £ 4122 p.a.)**

Members expressed concern over the timing of such a request when Wrexham CBC's consultation on the library service had not yet ended and the fact that community councils had already set the budget and precept requirement for 2020/21. Members were generally supportive of the mobile service and other library services and were keen to promote better levels of literacy in the area. It was felt that further dialogue was required to establish if the mobile service is the most effective method of delivery or whether technology could be used at community venues to provide an alternative. **RESOLVED:** *To respond accordingly.*

(ii) **Wrexham CBC – Dates of Town & Community Council Forum Meetings. (30<sup>th</sup> Jan, 9<sup>th</sup> April and 23<sup>rd</sup> Jul 2020) - Noted**

(iii) **Wrexham Civic Society – Autumn 2019 In Focus Newsletter - Noted**

**108. TO CONSIDER THE BUDGET & PRECEPT REQUIREMENT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2020-21**

Members considered a report presented by the Clerk and were reminded of the budget workshops held on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 29<sup>th</sup> October and 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and recommendations reached. Based on those recommendations, Members were presented with a draft budget for consideration which included a number of options in relation to the community council precept.

A Member commented that whilst the windfall from the pension contributions rebate was welcome, without it, we would have faced difficult choices in terms of what services to fund. The Community Council could not ignore these pressures in future years and needed to be mindful of that. A general discussion followed over the level of precept required to deliver the funding required for 2020/21. Members were mindful of the increases likely to be imposed by the Police and Wrexham CBC including the Fire Service element.

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED:**

- *Reduce Amenities & Environment budget to £6000 (previously £9000)*
- *Reduce the s137 Grants budget to £5000 (previously £10,000) with a reduction in grants to a maximum of £500*
- *Increase the Advice Service SLA charges to Offa C.C. to £6429 (previously £6048)*
- *Reduce the cleaning hours at Prince Charles Road from April 2020 to 8hrs (previously 10hrs)*
- *Reduction in the inspection of the 2 MUGAs and play area at Newquay Drive.*
- *Utilise the pensions contribution lump sum rebate as previously reported.*
  
- *That the draft budget be adopted and a council tax precept for Financial Year 2020/21 of £228,180 be levied representing an increase of 3% over the level set in 2019-20.*

*In addition to agenda an item to consider the establishment of a working group to undertake long term budget planning to ensure that future priorities can be achieved.*

**109. ANNUAL REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Members considered the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. The Clerk advised that the Standing Orders there was one change require to Standing Orders required so that they are compatible with Financial Regulations.

In terms of the Financial Regulations, new model regulations had been suggested by One Voice Wales and it was recommended that these changes be adopted.

**RESOLVED:** *To adopt the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations as presented.*

**110. PLAY & YOUTH PROVISION MONITORING REPORTS**

In accordance with the service level agreements in place, six monthly monitoring reports were presented by Wrexham Play Development Team for the work undertaken at Gwenfro Valley and Caia Park Partnership for the Youth Outreach provision.

**RESOLVED:** *To accept the reports as presented.*

#### **111. CLIMATE CHANGE / ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

- (i) The Clerk reported that the repair work to the MUGA off the Queensway is scheduled to take place w/e 20<sup>th</sup> Jan at a cost of £1998.
- (ii) The Clerk reported that the Council had a duty to publish a report under s6 of the Environment (Wales) Act by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019. As the Council did not meet in December a draft report had been prepared which would be circulated to Members for comment prior to publication if acceptable. **RESOLVED:** *To agree this course of action.*
- (iii) A Member reported that work was scheduled by Wrexham CBC to clear the wooded areas created a number of years ago on The Dunks. The damaged fencing would also be addressed. Members commented that in some areas (where the trees have become established) the fencing is no longer required. The Member agreed to feedback these observations to Wrexham CBC.

#### **112. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Clerk advised that since the November meeting an application had been received as follows:

**P/2019/0841 Former Red Dragon Inn, Prince Charles Rad, Wrexham**

Change of use and extension to former public house to form A1 convenience retail unit.

As there was no Council meeting held in December the details were forwarded to the Members for the Queensway Ward and as no adverse comments were received, the Clerk advised the Planning Authority that the Community Council had no objection. Members briefly discussed the merits of the proposal and unanimously agreed to support the proposal. The Clerk was asked to forward these further comments to the Planning Authority.

The Clerk advised that amended plans had been received in respect of:

**P/2019/0792 Community Centre Site, Eaton Drive, Wrexham LL13 9HG**

And an amended application had been received for:

**2 Oxford Street, Wrexham LL13 8HA**

**RESOLVED:** *That the original comments made in respect of these application should be re-affirmed.*

### 113.. FINANCIAL MONITORING

The Financial Statements for period ending 30<sup>th</sup> November and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 were submitted.

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

### 114. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

**RESOLVED:** That the following schedule of accounts for December as circulated to the Chair for approval be noted:

D.D.	Pace Telecom	CAS	* 362.21	
		General Admin	* <u>242.16</u>	604.37
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D.D.	Wrexham CBC (rates)	Prince Charles Rd		506.00
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	Prince Charles Road		39.20
7451	Graphic Office Systems	CAS	* 23.29	
		General Admin	* <u>23.31</u>	46.60
7452	Wrexham CBC	Amenity/Environ		154.05 (Pentre Gwyn)
7452	Wrexham CBC	Children's Services		15707.22 (Play Gwenfro Valley for yr)
D.D.	SSE (Electricity)	Prince Charles Rd	*	160.45
	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Dec)		
	Clwyd Pension Fund	Pensions (Dec)		

That the following accounts for payment in January 2020 be approved:

D.D.	Pace Telecom	CAS	* 362.21	
		General Admin	* <u>239.69</u>	601.90
7456	Cash (stamps)	General Admin/CAS		80.00

D.D.	Wrexham CBC (Rates)	Prince Charles Rd		506.00
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	Prince Charles Road		39.22
7457	Graphic Office Systems	CAS	* 19.96	

		General Admin	* <u>19.95</u>	39.91
7458	Information Commissioner	General Admin		40.00
7459	Soc Local Council Clerks	General Admin		202.00
7460	Assoc Local Council Clerks	General Admin		40.00
7461	Cash (Stamps)	Gernal Admin/CAS		80.00
7462	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Jan)		
7463	Clwyd Pension Fund	Pensions (Jan)		

\*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable