

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held on  
12<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at the 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

Together with:

Sgt Claire McGrady  
John Davies  
R. Sheehan  
3 Members of the public

N. Wales Police  
PCSO - N. Wales Police  
Wrexham Leader (Press)

#### **42. APOLOGIES**

All Members were present

The Chair welcomed the members of the public to the meeting and received a petition from them relating to the agenda item on play provision.

#### **43. POLICE MATTERS**

Sgt McGrady introduced herself to those present and advised that she was replacing Sgt Darren Jacks who had recently retired. PCSO Davies presented a community overview of crime for the month of June on a ward basis.

It was noted that there had been arrests for drug offences in the Clos Owen and Pentre Gwyn areas and patrols were being undertaken in the Warwick Avenue area. A Member referred to issues occurring on the public footpath at Rubery Way and enquired if any progress had been made in identifying those responsible for vandalising the play area in Newquay Drive. A Member referred to concerns regarding the subway on Queensway and commented that following some arrests this week there had been a noticeable improvement in the area.

Sgt McGrady reported that there had been eight arson offences in the Queensway Ward in the past 10 days (mostly grass related). N. W. Fire Service had hoped to attend the meeting but are working with the Police on various strategies such as Operation Pheonix. It was confirmed that the Fire Service had offered to undertake some work on awareness raising at The Venture. Intelligence gathering was still being carried out in Y Wern.

Concerns were expressed over the condition of the former HSS premises on Smithfield Road although they were currently being cleaned up with a view to marketing. There had been

reports of issues to the rear of the former Nant Silyn Home in relation to drug misuse and discarded needles. Patrols had been increased in this area on a daily basis. Incidents of anti-social behavior had increased in the Wynnstay Ward particularly in the areas of Moorland Avenue and Archers Way. Similar concerns were expressed in the Cartrefle Ward although these had diminished of late.

Other items – Off road motorbikes continue to be a nuisance even though a number had been seized. Operations were continuing and new strategies were being considered.. Members commented that recent communication with the PCSO’s and Police had improved and was appropriately responsive.

**44 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr. M. King	-	Agenda item 8 and 12(ii)
Cllr. L. Platt	-	Agenda item 8
Cllr. C. Powell	-	Agenda item 8
Cllr. M. Downward	-	Agenda item 8
Cllr. J. Johnson	-	Agenda item 11(ii) & 12(ii)
Cllr A. Jeorrett	-	Agenda item 11(vii)
Cllr P. Williams	-	Agenda item 11(ii)

**45. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** *That the minutes of the Ordinary and Confidential meetings held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018 be received and adopted as a true record.*

**Matters arising:**

**46. PRESENTATION BY VIRGIN MEDIA (PM 22)**

A Member commented on how he felt the work being undertaken on behalf of Virgin Media has been carried out very efficiently.

**47. RELOCATION OF SECURITY CAMERA (PM 168, 154, 140, 122, 104, 86, 70, 50 & 11, 27)**

The Clerk reported he was currently awaiting the contractors and Wrexham CBC to co-ordinate who would undertake the relocation work.

**48. SUBWAY OFF QUEENSWAY (PM 14 iv, 28)**

The Clerk reported that Cllr Harper and the Clerk had met with the Rights of Way Officer who had suggested that barriers at one end of the subway with a “kissing gate” should reduce vehicular movement and slow bikes etc. down. A provisional estimate for the works had been given and the Clerk advised that if members wished to support the scheme it could be financed from the capital reserve. **RESOLVED:** *To fund the necessary work and advise the Rights of Way Officer accordingly.*

**49. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (PM33)**

The Clerk advised that some work had been undertaken but was reliant on the IT provider arranging safe and secure storage, computer network for the use of the AdvicePro software package required for the Advice Service and IT support. This would have a financial implication for the Council.

## 50. MEMBERS REPORTS

Cllr B. Halley - Governors Meeting Hafod y Wern School

## 51. CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) **Wrexham Public Service Board - Information regarding the Well-being of Future Generation Act.** This letter gave details of the responsibilities placed under the Act on larger community councils. The Clerk advised that a meeting had been arranged at Llandrindod to discuss this in more detail but unfortunately the Chair was not now able to attend. **RESOLVED:** *That Cllr C. Powell attend in his place.*
- (ii) **Gresford Road Action Group – Letter regarding a planning application in Llay granted on appeal – Noted**
- (iii) **Wrexham CBC – Notification of preapplication consultation for the former site of Nant Silyn Residential Home.** Consultation taking place at Queensway Leisure Centre Tues 17<sup>th</sup> July from 2.30pm – 6.30pm (Proposal; for the development of 8 apartments, 6 2 bed houses and 1 bungalow) – Noted.
- (iv) **Wrexham CBC – Decision notice to add new route from Thornleigh to Abenbury Footpath 1** (route to be added to Definitive Map) – Noted
- (v) **The Venture – Invitation to attend 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations – Noted**

### NEWSLETTERS:

Wrexham Area Civic Society  
Nightingale House

## 52. COMMUNITY SURVEY

The Clerk presented a written report on the community survey undertaken to illicit views on levels of expenditure and the amount of council tax levied by the Community Council.

Members were advised that initially, it was proposed to randomly select 1000 addresses across the five wards and to employ canvassers to engage with the public and assist with the completion of the survey forms. It had proved difficult to engage staff and various organisations had been contacted including educational establishments, voluntary groups and employment agencies. Unfortunately, due to the lack of success in recruiting, it was decided to undertake a postal survey across 750 randomly selected addresses. Disappointingly only 69 responses were received and the overall findings and individual ward statistics as well as comments made by respondents were included in the report. The general consensus was a reluctance to see council tax increased significantly.

A general discussion followed with some Members expressing concern over the poor return rate and the age profile of the respondents. It was suggested that an online survey would have produced a higher response although it was recognised that this may not be fully inclusive and would not necessarily target householders responsible for paying the council tax. Under normal circumstances, Councillors could have canvassed their own wards but the content of this survey specifically excluded a large number due to a conflict of interests. The Clerk also

read an email received from Cllr. R. Prince expressing concern over possible increases in council tax.

**RESOLVED:** *To note the details of the survey.*

### 53. FUTURE PLAY PROVISION

(Cllr. B.Cameron in the chair)

Members considered a report concerning the provision of play in the community and were reminded that as a result of Gwenfro Valley Adventure Playground closing in July, the Council had agreed to fund three sessions per week for the summer holiday period via Wrexham County Borough Council's Play Team. They had subsequently contacted the Clerk to ascertain if the Council would consider providing sessions for the remainder of the financial year (Sept – March)

At this point the Chair referred to the petition submitted at the start of the meeting and invited the public present to comment. They stressed the importance and value of the play sessions currently held at Gwenfro Valley and hoped the Council would look favourably on extending the provision beyond September.

The Clerk advised Members of the costs per session for the remainder of the year also the costs for a full year going forward from April 2019. He detailed information provided by Wrexham County Borough Council on the allocation of the Communities First Legacy Fund and the formation of a new body named the Wrexham Youth and Play Partnership (WYPP) Whilst the Wrexham Youth and Play Partnership is central to the success of this project it is still a very new organisation and can't provide all the functions needed to deliver and sustain provision on its own. The use of Legacy Fund monies demonstrates the collaborative nature of this bid as follows:

- **WYPP** – has funding to employ a fulltime co-ordinator and part time site maintenance/development worker as well as covering the costs associated with insuring and maintaining a facility like the Gwenfro Valley Adventure Playground.
- **The Venture** – is the lead grant recipient receiving funding to provide administration and governance support to the WYPP and to continue the delivery of play sessions at The Venture.
- **Caia Park Partnership** – funds to employ and host a volunteer co-ordinator for the WYPP with a small budget for volunteer development
- **AVOW** – funding to help with the delivery of play work provision in the Plas Madoc and Gwenfro Wards and ensure they had capacity to provide governance and funding advice to the WYPP
- **WCBC Play and Youth Support Team** – funding to increase their capacity for managing and developing playworkers and youth workers **and negotiate contracts with Community Councils** to pay for these staff.

In addition, Members received and were asked to consider a grant application from The Venture requesting a grant of £30,000 to provide funding towards a Playground Manager, part time Senior Play Development Worker, Playworker for holiday/sickness cover and some running costs.

It was noted that there was no provision within the current budget for additional play provision and that for the remainder of the financial year any additional expenditure would need to be met from reserves. Members were reminded that the projected agreed expenditure exceeded income by some £13k and the decision to cover the summer holiday sessions at Gwenfro Valley added a further £2286 to expenditure. It was also necessary to fund the requirements of GDPR in terms of the services required from the I.T. provider. These sums would also need to be taken from the reserves. It was unknown, at this time, if any savings would be made in year from the current considerations relating to St Peter's Hall.

Members expressed concern over the continuing pressure they faced from organisations seeking funding as a result of the withdrawal of support from other agencies and in particular the ending of the Communities First Programme even though this had been planned for a considerable time. They also referred to the current grants budget being reduced to £10k for the year and the policy of a maximum grant per organisation not exceeding £2.5k.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was **RESOLVED:**

- (i) *To unanimously support the provision of two play sessions per week to be run from Gwenfro Valley Adventure Playground from September 2018 – March 2019 to be reviewed when considering the budget for 2019/20*
- (ii) *Not to support the grant application for £30k received from The Venture (an amendment to seek further information from The Venture before making a decision was lost by 8 votes to 2)*

(Cllrs. M. Downward, M. King, L. Platt and C. Powell declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item and withdrew from the meeting whilst under consideration)

#### **54. AUGUST RECESS**

The Clerk reminded members that as the Council do not meet in August, it was necessary to agree a scheme of delegation for the period.

**RESOLVED:**

- (i) *In the event of any planning applications being received during the period, these be referred to The Chair and Vice Chair, and ward members for consideration*
- (ii) *Accounts for payment in August be authorised by the Chair and reported for information to the September meeting.*

#### **55. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**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) *Annbraize Morris Dancers* - £350
- (ii) *Smithfield Resident's Association* - £200

(iii)	<i>Kardells/Shirdale Morris Dancers</i>	-	£350
(iv)	<i>Home Start Wrexham County Borough</i>	-	£100
(v)	<i>Vic Studios</i>	-	£100
(vi)	<i>Wrexham &amp; District CAB</i>	-	£150

(Cllrs J. Johnson and P. Williams declared an interest in (ii) above and Cllr A Jeorrett declared an interest in (vi) but as the grant amount fell below £500 claimed exemption under 12(c) of the Code of Conduct and remained in the meeting and voted thereon.

An application submitted by Wrexham Foodbank was deferred following their announcement that they were to close down within the week and were attempting to find alternative accommodation.

## 56. PLANNING - APPLICATIONS

*Resolved: That no objections be raised to the following applications:*

**(i) P/2018/0483 War Memorial Club, Farndon Street, Wrexham**

Display of internally illuminated sign

**(ii) P/2018/0477 Caia Park Centre, Prince Charles Rd., Wrexham**

Installation of new windows to front and rear of existing building.

**(iii) P/2018/0504 31 Millbank Rise, Kings Mills, Wrexham**

Works to tree, subject to a tree preservation order (lightly reduce side of crown over neighbouring property by 1-2m and remove dead wood.

**(iv) P/2018/0518 32-33 St George's Crescent, Eagles Meadow, Wrexham**

Change of use to Estate Agency (use class A2)

Cllrs J. Johnson and M. King declared a personal and prejudicial interest in P/2018/0477 and withdrew from the meeting whilst under discussion.

## 57. FINANCIAL MONITORING

The financial statement for period ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 was submitted.

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

## 58. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts for July were authorised for payment:

D.D.	Pace telecom	CAS	* 166.21	
		General Admin	* <u>70.56</u>	236.77
7233	Inst of Money Advisers	CAS	*	121.00
D.D.	INVESTEC	General Admin	*	114.00
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D.D.	Dee Valley Water	St Peters Hall		9.10
D.D.	Plus Net	CAS Admin		12.00
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	St Peter's Hall		175.00
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	Prince Charles Road		478.00
7234	Wrexham Civic Society	General Admin		25.00

7235	RBCW	St. Peters Hall	750.00	
		CAS	<u>375.00</u>	1125.00
7236	Caia Park Partnership	SLA 2 <sup>nd</sup> Inst		2000.00
7237	R. Bentley Printers	General Admin	*	59.64
7238	Graphic Office Systems	General Admin	* 4.85	
		CAS	* <u>43.67</u>	48.52
7240	Annbraize Morris Dancers	Donation		350.00
7241	Kardells Morris Dancers	Donation		350.00
7242	Smithfield Residents Assoc	Donation		200.00
7243	Home Start	Donation		100.00
7244	Vic Studios	Donation		100.00
7245	Wrexham CAB	Donation		150.00
7246	CPAG	CAS		34.59
D.D.	SSE (Elect)	Prince Charles Rd	*	175.90
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	Prince Charles Road		42.24
	K. Walker (sal adj/travel)	CAS		
	A. Humphreys (sal adj July)	St Peter's Hall		
	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (July)		
	Clwyd Pension Fund	Pensions (July)		

\*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable

## 59. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

### (i) STAFF TERMS & CONDITIONS

Arising from Minute 40, the Clerk sought clarification that the leave entitlement would apply retrospectively to the two other staff affected.

**RESOLVED:** *That the leave entitlement applies retrospectively to the other staff affected*

### (ii) POLICE INITIATIVE

The Clerk related information provided by PCSO Rob Parry and sought the approval of Members to assist with the purchase of certain items.

**RESOLVED:** *To support the initiative to the sum of £500 from the environment and amenities budget.*