

**Rossett Community Council**

**Meeting on Wednesday 20th January 2021**

**MINUTES**

**Declarations of Interest**

**Members were reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of any personal and or prejudicial interest in the business of this meeting**

**Present:**

**Councillors :** Cllr. A Parrington (Chair), Cllr H Maurice-Jones, Cllr H Jones, Cllr A Steven, Cllr M Gledhill, Cllr P Roberts, Cllr P Morris, Cllr T Sexton, Cllr L Rowland and Cllr L Todd.

**1. Apologies for absence:**  Cllr J Fortune, Cllr M Woods and Cllr C Parker.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of interest were made by:

1. Cllr H Maurice-Jones, Cllr P Morris and Cllr A Parrington regarding issues with Hwb Yr Orsedd due to a conflict of interest.
2. Cllr P Roberts regarding any Planning issues due to a conflict of interest.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of 16th December 2020.**

**4. Police Report**

**November 6**

Anti-Social Behaviour 2

Violence & Sexual Offences 2

Vehicle Crime 1

Other 1

The Clerk reported that PCSO Davies had provided a report for recent incidents and the only report for the month so far was criminal damage to Darland School field. Officers had attended, located the offending vehicle and were progressing the incident with the offender. In neighbouring wards there have been reports of fraudsters attending properties so they were undertaking visits to elderly/vulnerable residents to offer security/reassurance advice. Speed checks had been carried out on Chester Road and a couple of letters issued to speeding vehicles. Following discussions with Cllr Jones they were also monitoring large vehicles and tractors speeding through the village and suspicious vehicles in the area.

Cllr Parrington reported that there were a number of large vehicles speeding through the village between the hours of 10pm and 2pm is the A483 so closed during the evening for maintenance works. The Clerk will forward this information to PCSO Davies. Cllr Morris advised that he had contact details for Highways England who were undertaking the work on the A483 and would make contact with them to notify them of the issues in the Village as a result of the diversion. **Action: Clerk to liaise with PCSO Davies/Cllr Morris to notify Highways England.**

**5. Representation's from General Public**

Cllr Parker had notified the Clerk of a request he’d received regarding the bus stop outside Christ Church. As the bollards are not lit there had been a request for illuminated arrows. It was agreed that this issue should be raised with the Highways Department to review. **Action: Clerk to write to Darren Green.**

**6. Matters Arising**

1. **Hwb Yr Orsedd –** Cllr Parrington reported that at the last meeting it was confirmed that the lease issues were on-going with Allington Hughes. The planning application had now been submitted. A number of funding streams were being explored including the Co-op Community Fund. The Directors were due to have a workshop to review the stakeholders for the venture. The Board were grateful for the words of support in Cllr Jones recent Essentials article and it was hoped his calendar would allow for attendance at a meeting in the near future. The notice board near the toilet block would be refreshed and used for displaying information about Hwb Yr Orsedd in order to improve communication with the Community. The Board are looking to attract ‘friends’ to the project with specific professional expertise.
2. **Co-option of Councillor –** The Clerk reported that two applications had been received and these had been forwarded to all Councilor’s prior to the meeting. Each Councillor then submitted a private vote and Nathan Roberts received the highest number of votes so was duly co-opted to fill the vacancy in Allington. Cllr Parrington confirmed that it was good to see two excellent candidates apply for the vacancy. Cllr Morris raised concern with the current gender imbalance within the Community Council and it was agreed that it would be good practice to see how other Community/Town Councils attract applicants as it is frequently achieved by ‘word of mouth’, even though the statutory requirements of advertising on the website and notice boards are followed. It was agreed that Cllr Morris and Cllr Rowland review other alternatives and report back before the annual meeting in May. Cllr Sexton also highlighted the need to attract younger applicants to the role and the Clerk advised of a few Community Councils who appoint Youth Representatives. It was agreed that this should be considered so the Clerk should gather additional information for circulation. **Action: Clerk to advise applicants of result of co-option. Cllr Morris/ Rowland to review other alternatives for advertising CC vacancies and Clerk to circulate information regarding Youth Representatives.**
3. **Christ Church churchyard maintenance –** The Clerk reported that she had met with a local volunteer along with Cllr Maurice-Jones to discuss assistance with some maintenance work in the church yard. The volunteer was very enthusiastic and hoped to start immediately however, when the Clerk liaised with the Warden she was advised that due to Covid restrictions, currently no work could take place in the church yard. Therefore, the offer of the volunteer along with up to 4 hours per month of the Street Wardens time had been made and it was now left with the Church to make contact to progress these offers.

**7. Matters Discussed**

1. Footpaths – The Clerk reported that the WCBC Footpaths Officer had forwarded details of possible new signage for entry points to a field in Burton where the landowner had complained about dog walkers. Cllr Maurice-Jones confirmed that the standard signage had been installed to reiterate the message. It was generally felt that the proposed signage would look unsightly and would probably have little impact so should not be progressed at this time, however it is important to work with the Footpaths Officer to ensure the established right of way remains clear this year. Cllr Parrington reported that he had received complaints regarding dog kennels on a footpath that goes through Meadow Farm, Stringers Lane. The dogs from the property are frequently loose so cause concern to walkers with other dogs. It was agreed that Cllr Jones should speak with the Footpaths Officer regarding this issue. Cllr Parrington also mentioned the state of the footpath near Darland School that goes towards the Army Cadet Hut. The hedges have recently been cut and this has highlighted the amount of litter in the area. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Head Teacher to highlight this issue and see how it can be resolved. **Action: Clerk to report to Footpaths Office re signage and Cllr Jones to refer loose dog issue. Clerk to write to Head Teacher regarding littered footpath.**
2. WCBC Play areas SLA – The Clerk confirmed that WCBC had forwarded a new SLA for the forthcoming year which included a 1.5% increase in costs. It was unanimously agreed that this should be accepted. **Action: Clerk to sign and return SLA.**
3. Scarecrow Festival – Cllr Rowland confirmed that the Community Council were running a Scarecrow Festival to cover the February half-term period. All households are invited to submit an entry and these will be judged and a public vote will select the winners. A Scarecrow will be erected by the 1st February in the Christmas Tree location to promote the event. A digital map will again be produced to enable the community to view all entries.

**8. Reports**

County Councillor Jones’ Report

Cllr Jones reported that he had dealt with 47 calls on that day regarding the extensive flooding issues in the area. There were a number of people and areas affected and those with the issue of property flooding were being prioritised. WCBC officers were in attendance with machinery to try to alleviate some of the issues and a large number of sandbags had been provided. Cllr Jones praised the efforts of WCBC who were dealing with similar issues throughout the County with reduced numbers due to Covid absences. Natural Resources Wales and North Wales Police were also playing key roles within the operation. Cllr Maurice-Jones advised that she had visited Greenfields where some properties had been flooded but at that time as much as possible was being done. The Clerk confirmed that there had been contact from several residents and she questioned what the Community Council could do in this situation to offer assistance other than pointing people to the appropriate authorities. Cllr Jones confirmed that the correct approach is to signpost people to the correct authorities. Cllr Sexton queried if the Community Council could purchase a stock of sandbags and store for this type of situation. It was agreed that the issue of flooding should be put on the agenda for the next meeting where this can be considered. **Action: Clerk to bring forward the issue of Flooding to February meeting.**

Cllr Jones has been liaising with North Wales Police regarding large vehicles/tractors speeding and will continue to progress this matter.

Cllr Jones reported that he had met with representatives from the Environment Department to review a scheme which they are proposing to resolve the flooding issue on Darland Lane.

Cllr Jones advised that the Golden Lion carpark is being considered as a mobile Covid testing unit and whilst no strategy had been received from the Welsh Government for the vaccination programme it is promising that Alyn Family Doctors are undertaking this.

Cllr Jones reported that there is a proposal in install double yellow lines along an area of Burton Road to allow for exit from Poplar Row. He has also been informed that WCBC have agreed to re-advertise the one-way system around the Green to alleviate traffic issues at the Chester Road/Holt Road junction.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk had previously distributed her report for Councillor's information.

Cllr Jones then left the meeting.

**9. Finance**

Cllr Parrington summarised the finance documents for December and these were accepted.

Invoices were approved, as follows:

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| **Payee**  Hewlett Packard  Zoom  WCBC  Scottish Power  Audit Wales  Microshade  Shields Arboricultural  WCBC  WCBC  Marches Ecology  Rossett Presbyterian Church  H Maurice-Jones | **Purpose**  Instant Ink  Monthly charge  Planning Application Fee Re Toilet Block  Street Lighting Electricity  Audit of Accounts 2019/20  Small Council Hosting Fee  Arboricultural Impact Assessment  Inspection & Maintenance of Play Areas  Renewal of Gambling Licence  Ecology Report on Toilet Block  Hire of Room  Winter plants | **Sum £**  4.49  14.39  690.00  184.33  281.75  1020.00  350.00  491.40  20.00  975.42  100.00  36.00 | **Chq. No.**  Debit Card  Debit Card  Debit Card  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  3041  On-line  On-line  On-line |
| Mr C Hughes | Street warden’s salary and disbursements | **503.00** | **On-line** |
| Mr R Jenkins | Park Warden salary and Disbursements | 226.26 | On-line |
| Miss W Pace  Ali Pickard  HMRC | Clerk's salary and disbursements  Community Agent's salary and disbursements  Employers Tax | 1032.16  768.75  245.39 | On-line  On-line  On-line |

Street Warden’s Disbursements Clerk’s Disbursements

Petrol £33.30 Items for Christmas boxes £9.11

Total **£33.30** Diary £3.49

Refund for laptop battery -£38.99

Community Agent Disbursements Total -£26.39

Petrol £56.25

Christmas Activities £31.00

**Total £87.25** f

**10. Planning Applications**

P/2020/0869 – Lodge Farm, Borras Road, Commonwood, Holt – Change of Use to Micro Brewery (In Retrospect) - No objections.

P/2020/0882 – Hem House Cottage, Rossett Road, Parkside, Rossett – Erection of Detached Dwelling - No objections.

**11. Other Items brought to the Council’s Attention**

1. Cllr Gledhill referred to the recent water burst at the end of Alyn Drive and commented on the efficiency of the company who had communicated well with the community and provided bottled water very promptly.
2. Cllr Steven reported that he had again received a number of complaints regarding the state of Park Lane. It was agreed that the Clerk should refer this matter to Cllr Jones and suggest he meets with Cllr Steven to review the issue. **Action: Clerk to email Cllr Jones.**

**Date of the next meeting Wednesday 17th February 2021.**

**Signed as a true record:**

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**Chairman Date**