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**Rossett Community Council**

**Meeting on Wednesday 20th July 2016**

**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 :** C Guest (Vice Chair), J Bassett, G Smith, T Harmer, P Cade,

J Montgomery, C Parker, K Dolan

**Others :** PSCO Lisa Davies, Representatives of Land Planning Ltd

**Apologies for absence:**  Cllr. A Parrington, Cllr. R Shepherd, Cllr. J Fortune, County Councillor H Jones

Cllr. Guest opened the meeting with a presentation to Mr B Doyle, who had been Clerk to Rossett Community Council for 20 years, to show appreciation for his long service.

The Agenda order was changed at the request of PCSO Lisa Davies.

## 13. North Wales Police

1. **Crime Details for July and August:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Crime Type** | **No.** | **Comments** |
| Burglary | 2 | 19.07.16 – Trevalyn : No items taken, but items moved at the location. Undetected.  09.08.16 : Chester Road : Ongoing |
| Burglary  (not dwelling) | 1 | 29.08.16 – Station Road : Lawnmower taken. Undetected |
| Theft from motor  vehicle | 2 | 28.07.16 – Chester Road : Items taken. Undetected  08.08.16 – Llyndir Lane : Items taken. Undetected |
| Assaults | 1 | 08.07.16 – Chester Road : Community resolution |
| Theft | 1 | 20.08.16 – Station Road : Pedal Cycle. Found and returned |
| ASB | 4 | 19.07.16 – Personal – Cromar Crescent  19.07.16 – Nuisance – Chester Road  03.08.16 – Personal – Greenfields  31.08.16 – Personal – Trevalyn |

1. **Priorities:**

Speeding – Burton Road – No speeders.

PCSO Davies advised, however, that the speed gun had not been in use for a while due to it being calibrated and could not confirm how much this had been monitored.

B.O.T.D. – Only one for the month of August.

Parking on pavements – No calls to North Wales Police made. Advice has been given to some residents. No further problems since.

Cllr. Dolan advised that this is still a problem in The Crescent with cars completely parked on the pavement at night time. PCSO Davies noted this.

Cllr. Dolan advised that vehicles are being parked outside the door of the chemist which is causing problems. PCSO Davies noted this.

Cllr. Bassett advised that commercial vehicles are parking on the pavement in Station Road and restricting access. PCSO Davies noted this.

Cllr. Guest advised that he had received a call from a local resident who was distressed by the anti-social behaviour of some Darland pupils to both himself and his wife. PCSO Heron had previously attended at the bus stop where this behaviour is happening. The school have advised that a teacher is present each day, however, it appears this is not the case. PCSO Davies noted this and will ensure a PCSO attend at the bus stop. Cllr Guest will also contact Darland School directly regarding the issue.

1. **Emerging Issues:**

School has started. Once again, bus stops will be monitored along Chester Road at school times.

**(d) Good News Stories:**

PCSO Heron is in the process of organising “Cuppa with a Copper” event which will be conducted monthly allowing residents to have an informal chat. A venue has not yet been fixed for this.

PCSO Davies left the meeting at this point.

**14. Land Planning Ltd**

Patrick Lomax of Land Planning Ltd (“LP”) was present to report on the proposed Gamford Lane housing development. Before starting Cllr. Guest pointed out that Rossett Community Council (“RCC”) has opposed the application for 47 dwellings in Gamford Lane. Mr Lomax advised on the following points:

Public Meeting - good turn out for public meeting held at Darland Scool. Issues raised would be addressed, including:-

Flooding – A lot of the flooding problems have been caused by the development on Pippin Lane. LP have offered to unblock the Pippin Lane drains and/or form a new surface drainage area to deal with the problem.

Traffic – LP are looking for traffic calming solutions with the Highways Department.

Pavement - A pavement will be put in which will link existing footpaths and Darland School.

Schools and Doctors – LP advised, that according to the Wrexham County Council website neither Darland nor St Peters are at full capacity. LP will make a “large” contribution to both schools. The catchment area is big and this development will mean local children will go to local schools. A meeting has also taken place with Alyn Family Doctors.

LP advised out of the 47 houses proposed 25% will be “affordable housing”, i.e. 30% below market value. Discussion ensued.

LP advised a contribution will be made to RCC to enhance community facilities.

Cllr. Montgomery asked if all of these promises will be included in the Planning Application? LP confirmed they will be put in writing.

A member of the public asked if the properties will be rented or government schemes? LP advised it is only at the outline planning stage at the moment and cannot comment on this until approved. LP will then come back to RCC to find out what the village wants. LP advised that local residents need to make their views known as to what kind of housing they want.

Cllr. Guest asked for information on timescale for the development to start. LP advised it will be 12 months at least before any build starts.

LP left the meeting at this stage.

**15**. **Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting 20th July 2016 were approved by the Council and signed by the Vice Chairman.

**16. Matters Arising and Matters Raised by Community Councillors:**

1. Cllr. Bassett and Cllr. Smith put forward a proposal for CCTV between the corner of Burton Road and the underpass. This is proposed in view of the antisocial behaviour which occurs at these locations. Cllr. Bassett outlined the scheme. The current acting District Police Inspector supports the application, as does PCSO Heron. Discussion ensued.

Cllr. Guest suspended Standing Orders for a member of the public to raise questions.

Cllr. Montgomery proposed that this be delegated to the Finance Committee to go ahead with this proposal.

**Action : Proceed with the proposal**

(2) Councillor election – Cllr. Guest explained the delay in electing a new Councillor. There are now 2 positions vacant and both will be re-advertised. Those who have already applied will be carried forward. Cllr. Guest set out a timetable for events.

Cllr. Guest proposed we meet the candidates and ask them to do a 5 minute presentation on why they wanted to join the Council and what qualities, skills and experience they can bring to the role. Selection would then take place and the new Councillors could attend the next full Council meeting in November.

**Action : Clerk to prepare Notices and carry out required procedures**

(3) Toilet block – Cllr. Bassett advised he has recently attended a Cadwyn Clwyd (“CC”) Seminar. This is a rural development agency who support initiatives in Wales. Cllr. Bassett confirmed that CC would support a café development in the toilet block on the grounds that this would be an income generator, it would provide employment, it would provide training opportunities and would benefit the community in a building owned by the community. CC will undertake a feasibility project, carry out public consultation to canvas opinion, work with RCC to provide a business plan and assist in applying for a Rural Community Development Fund (up to £160,000) to convert the toilet block. RCC would have to contribute 20% to the project.

Cllr. Bassett proposed we engage with CC to do a feasibility report. He also stressed the need for wider Councillor involvement in what could be a major project.

Supported by all Councillors.

Cllr. Montgomery proposed CC be asked to attend the next full Council meeting.

**Action : Cllr Bassett to proceed with requesting CC to carry out the study.**

(4) Youth representation – One Voice Wales and the Welsh Government have an initiative whereby 2 village residents aged between 15 and 26 be appointed as Youth Representatives to attend meetings and engage with the Community Council to ensure the views of young village residents are considered in all projects/decisions.

**Action : Cllr. Guest to contact Mr Agnew at Darland High School to discuss the scheme.**

(5) Floral topping for mini roundabout – A local resident has written to Cllr Jones requesting this be done. It was agreed that it should be considered as part of spring planting.

**Action : To be placed on the Agenda for November.**

(6) Tree top cutting at the weir and outside hedge of the main recreation grounds – Clerk confirmed that a contractor has been instructed to carry out this work.

Cllr. Montgomery advised that the “Rossett” sign near The Mill is getting overgrown.

**Action : Clerk to ask the park warden to tidy this up.**

(7) Explore Rossett Walks booklet – Cllr. Bassett had discussed this when he attended the Cadwyn Clwyd seminar. It is proposed a booklet be prepared to promote walk and cycle routes around Rossett to bring people into the village.

**Outcome : It was decided that this needed more development and discussion and CC would be asked about this when they attend the next meeting. Therefore placed on hold for the time being.**

(8) Planning sub- Committee – Discussion ensued about the formation of a planning sub-committee.

As an alternative to a sub-committee Cllr. Smith volunteered to visit sites of planning applications and report back.

**Agreed, but Cllr. Guest made the point that all Councillors have a role to play in scrutinising and commenting upon any planning applications that are submitted.**

(9) Save Wrexham’s Fire Engine – A letter had been received from Caia Park Community Council asking for support to a motion to oppose any cuts to the fire service. It was agreed to support the motion.

**Action : Clerk to send letter to Fire Service.**

(10) Coedpoeth’s car park – A letter had been received from Coedpoeth Community Council asking for support to persuade Wrexham County Council to undertake consultation to change car parks at Coedpoeth, Rossett and Chirk to 2 hour short stay car parks. It was felt that with the parking issues and proposed restrictions in Station Road this was not something the Community Council could support.

**Action : Clerk to confirm this is not supported by the RCC.**

(11) Greenfields playground – Section 106 funds relating to Rosemary Gardens are available for use in the Greenfields playground.

**Action : Cllr. Montgomery and the Clerk to meet with Wrexham County Borough Council to discuss. It was noted that RCC have 5 years to implement.**

(12) Village Awards Night – A date of Friday 7th November has been fixed for an awards night to take place at The Village Hall, Station Road to recognise individuals who have made a significant contribution to the community etc.

**Action : Cllr. Parrington is dealing with the arrangements and notices will be distributed imminently.**

(13) Christmas tree lights – the lighting of the tree will take place on 1st December.

**Action : Cllr. Parrington is dealing with the arrangements.**

**Action : Cllr. Montgomery is to speak with the head of St Peters with regard to this.**

**17. Reports**

The following Reports were made available:

County Councillor Jones, Clerk, Parks sub-Committee, Finance sub-Committee, One Voice Wales AGM.

**County Councillor Hugh Jones Report**

Cllr. Bassett was uncomfortable with the unilateral agreement to amend the parking situation outside the Hair Lounge in Station Road. Discussion ensued. Cllr. Bassett has requested Cllr. Jones report back on this.

**Parks sub-Committee**

Clerk to request park warden to obtain quotes to repair the 2 benches outside the main recreation ground and paint the metalwork.

Cllr. Montgomery advised that there are 6 benches around the village that need the plaques replacing. This was agreed. Cllr. Montgomery to deal with this.

Cllr. Montgomery advised that following the resignations of Cllrs. Pace and Hopper that there are now 2 places vacant on the Parks Committee and asked for volunteers. Cllr. Dolan volunteered to join.

**Action : Clerk to email all Councillors of the vacancies.**

Cllr. Montgomery reported on the grants project for the main recreation ground.

**Action : Clerk to proceed to engage funding consultant once all information has been passed to her.**

**18. Planning**

P/2015/0713 : Appeal – Lower Parks Farm, Parkside – **No objection**

P/2016/0780 : Coxwood Farm, Rossett – **No objection**

P/2016/0842 : Broadmeadow Cottage, Trevalyn – **No objection**

P/2016/0875 : Chapel Cottage, Rossett – **No objection**

**19. Finance**

Cllr. Bassett gave an overview of his Financial Report already provided.

Cllr. Bassett advised that RCC is in a collective with 7/8 other Community Councils for street lighting maintenance which has not been reviewed for many years.

**Action : The Clerk of Rhos Community Council is to call a meeting to review these arrangements.**

The following cheques were approved and signed:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee** | **Purpose** | **Sum £** | **Chq.** |
| Excel Commercial | Toilet block cleaning | 55.20 | 2848 |
| Jones Lighting | Street lighting | 369.46 | 2849 |
| Ashtree Services | Grounds maintenance | 1020.00 | 2850 |
| Scottish Power | Toilet block electricity  **This has been paid** | 470.43 | 2851 |
| Scottish Power | Street lighting electricity | 453.88 | 2852 |
| Sarah Tushingham | Disbursements | 168.94 | 2853 |
| Sarah Tushingham | Clerk’s salary | 295.72 | 2854 |
| Terry Price | Park Warden salary | 237.60 | 2855 |
| Post Office (HMRC) | Staff Tax | 133.20 | 2856 |
| The Royal British Legion | Poppy wreaths | 100.00 | 2857 |

**20. Confidential matters - members of public excluded from meeting for these items due to commercial, legal and personal information being considered.**

Discussion ensued with regard to the following:

1. Grounds maintenance tender;
2. Appointment of a village cleaner;
3. Review of grounds maintenance procedures.

**Action : Clerk to deal with grounds maintenance tenders as agreed.**

**Action : Cllr. Bassett, Cllr. Smith and Cllr. Hamer are to interview the applicant for the village cleaner position. Clerk to provide them with necessary information.**

**Action : Cllr. Montgomery is to carry out a review of the Health and Safety Policy and Risk Assessment Policy relating to the recreation grounds. Cllr. Guest and Cllr. Bassett to assist.**

**To be placed on the Agenda for the next Parks sub-Committee meeting.**

**21. Any Other Business**

(1) Cllr. Bassett reported that the Audit Report has been received and he is very pleased with findings, 4 minor recommendations had been made which will be considered by the Finance sub-Committee

(2) Cllr. Bassett requested Cllr. Parrington be asked to distribute the new Standing Orders and Code of Conduct booklet which he had agreed to print.

(3) Clerk to write to all Councillors and ask for confirmation that they are happy with the current method of communication, i.e. by email. Review if necessary.

(4) Cllr. Dolan advised he had received several complaints from residents with regard to the new doctor surgery opening times. Noted.

(5) Cllr. Bassett volunteered to be the new representative for One Voice Wales in view of Cllr. Hopper’s resignation. **Agreed.** Cllr. Bassett and the Clerk to attend the next meeting on the 29th November.

**Date of the next meeting Wednesday 16th November 2016**

**Signed as a true record:**

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**Chairman Date**