

**Rossett Community Council**

**Meeting on Wednesday 15th September 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 T Sexton, Cllr P Morris, Cllr J Fortune, Cllr L Todd, Cllr A Steven and Cllr L Rowland.

**Other:** Sian Hatton-Jones, Elaine Hughes and Jeff Hughes.

**45. Apologies for absence:**  Cllr H Jones, Cllr C Parker Cllr P Roberts, Cllr M Gledhill, Cllr N Roberts and Cllr M Woods.

**46. Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of interest were made by:

1. Cllr H Maurice-Jones and Cllr P Morris regarding issues with Hwb Yr Orsedd due to a conflict of interest.

**47. Approval of the Minutes of 18th August 2021.**

**48. Crime Report**

**July 8**

Violence & Sexual Offences 6

Burglary 1

Public Order 1

The Clerk read the report received from the PCSO and no issues were raised but the following were asked to be publicised:

They have been a number of complaints from residents about the speed of vehicles in the village, people should contact Go Safe directly where they will be asked to **complete the relevant form under “Community Concern”.**

North Wales Community Alert is a community messaging service offered by North Wales Police and partners, to give up to date information about crime, engagement events, appeals, prevention advice and general policing activity in your local area. Registration is completely free, quick and simple. North Wales Community Alert also gives you an opportunity to provide feedback to your local neighbourhood police team on the issues that matter most to you, helping us to work together to make North Wales the safest place in the UK. <https://www.northwalescommunityalert.co.uk/>

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

The Clerk reported that an issue regarding overgrown trees/shrubs blocking two street lights on Burton Road had been passed to Cllr Jones who had referred it to WCBC for progressing**.**

Cllr Maurice-Jones reported that she had been contacted regarding the flooding at the beginning of the year along Burton Road and Cobblers Lane. WCBC had confirmed that work would be undertaken during the Summer but this had not happened thus far. **Action: Clerk to request an update from Cllr Jones.**

Cllr Parrington advised that the issue of availability of a post box in the centre of the village had been raised along with a query as to if the post box on Station Road is still in use. The Clerk advised that the box on Station Road is still operational even though there is a sign inside the shop window that would cause confusion. **Action: Clerk to write to Royal Mail regarding the feasibility of a post box in the centre of the village and to confirm the future plans for the post box on Station Road.**

**50. Matters Arising**

1. **Hwb Yr Orsedd –** The Board had met and shortlisted the architects to three and they had been approached to submit costings for the next stages. A provisional date of 21st October had been suggested for the public meeting. The advert had been placed for the recruitment of board members. The Clerk had circulated a report regarding the architect’s assessment along with a proposal to appoint JAR. Cllr Parrington queried the financial commitment to the Community Council. The Clerk confirmed that there was approximately £1,500 remaining of the Cadwyn Clwyd grant and the architects quote was between £2,000 - £2,700 dependent on the number of hours required. A vote was held and it was agreed unanimously to place the contract with JAR.

**51. Matters to be discussed**

1. B5102 residents concerns– Cllr Jones had requested this meeting item and had submitted a report. He advised that he had met with residents who have a number of concerns regarding the speed and volume of traffic and the inadequacy of the footpath. In addition, the signage on the A483 encourages its use as a short cut to the A55. He had discussed these issues with Highways and North Wales Police who in principle support some form of permanent speed enforcement measures. The signage on the A483 is a matter for the Welsh Government and residents have written to Lesley Griffiths and WCBC Highways are taking this up with NEWTRA.

**52. Reports**

County Councillor Jones’ Report

Cllr Jones had submitted a report which the Clerk read out:

Speeding – Welsh Government are carrying out consultation which will see 30 mph reduced to 20 mph and I would encourage the Council to support it. It works well in Scotland.

I met with the new Police and Crime Commissioner and he is very keen for Community Speed Watch schemes and again I would encourage the Council to take this up. I made the point about resourcing local policing.

Darland/Gamford Lane – Agreement has been reached with the landowner for the implementation of the scheme and the legal documents are with his solicitor. WCBC are applying maximum pressure and the scheme and contract is ready to go.

Station Road – I have received a concern from one resident about the planning application for a café/restaurant, they are concerned about the take away element and the potential noise for residents. My initial reaction is to support the application as we need to improve this part of the street and the empty shop does not enhance the conservation area.

Cllr Sexton commented that it would be important to consider the data available from Scotland as a result of the reduced speed limits in order to assess its success. Cllr Steven added that enforcement was necessary otherwise there is little point. There was a discussion regarding the possibility of fixed speed camera’s and average speed camera’s and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Highways to request information regarding the options available for the centre of the village. **Action: Clerk to write to Highways.**

The issue of a speed watch scheme had previously been discussed but consideration needed to be given as to which areas could be linked in order to swap volunteers so they weren’t covering their home areas.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk had previously distributed her report for Councillor's information. She highlighted the points raised by the Community Agent with reference to the resumption of the Community café. For a temporary period, this would be held in the Church Hall as the room at the Presbyterian Church has through traffic from customers using the Post Office, which is difficult to manage. There would be an increase in refreshment costs in order to go some way towards the rental of this additional facility, as the Community Council already make a contribution to the Presbyterian Church. Whilst the Presbyterian Church don’t charge rental for the room a contribution towards the heating costs during the winter months is made. Cllr Parrington highlighted the importance of this facility for many residents and it was agreed that if necessary the Community Council would make up any shortfall towards room rental to ensure this vital service could continue. The Clerk also confirmed that a request had gone out for additional volunteers to assist with running the Community café, transport for attendees and a befriending service. A reasonable number of volunteers had been received and the Community Agent was now progressing DBS checks for those undertaking roles where this was deemed necessary. AVOW would be undertaking the DBS checks and they are free of charge for volunteers.

Cllr Rowland reported that a Parks meeting had been held and the minutes distributed. She had been notified regarding some people taking dogs into the play area at Rossett and she had spoken with a couple of people who she had seen with dogs and informed them that this was not allowed. A schedule of events had been created for the forthcoming months and Cllr Gledhill was pursuing the possibility of additional lighting for the festive period. A sub committee had been established to consider the possible redevelopment of the play area at Rossett as a result of the potential redevelopment of the toilet block. Consideration would be given to a revised layout with some new equipment. Cllr Fortune reported that some of the trees at Mountain View were very overgrown, The Clerk confirmed that some had been cut approximately 18 months ago but many were on private property so were the landowners responsibility.

Cllr Maurice Jones confirmed she had got the bulbs for the Autumn planting and these would be offered to residents to plant during the October half term, in predetermined areas. She had also dried some bulbs from the Spring planting and some of these would be considered for the grassed area near The Griffin.

Cllr Sexton confirmed that the order for the equipment to enable a hybrid meeting had been ordered and would be tested before the next meeting.

Cllr Sexton reported that he had visited Northwich with the Clerk to meet the Town Council Clerk who had undertaken a project of installing artwork to two underpasses a few years ago. Some details of attachments had been obtained and Cllr Sexton would now contact NEWTRA to assess their initial reaction. Other options of affixing the artwork is possible so could be considered. The boards used are graffiti proof and could be changed as and when necessary. He would also raise the suggestion of motion sensor LED lights. **Action: Cllr Sexton to contract NEWTRA.**

**53. Finance**

The Clerk summarised the finance documents for August and these were accepted.

Invoices were approved, as follows:

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| **Payee**  Hewlett Packard  Zoom  Scottish Power  The Head Gardener  AVOW  Trailwalk  ADAS | **Purpose**  Instant Ink  Monthly charge  Street Lighting Electricity  Ground Maintenance  Payroll Charges  Hedge cutting at Rossett play area  Preliminary Roost Assessment | **Sum £**  4.49  14.39  184.44  817.80  93.00  192.00  900.00 | **Chq. No.**  Debit Card  Debit Card  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line |
| Mr C Hughes | Street warden’s salary and disbursements | 606.47 | On-line |
| Mr R Jenkins | Park Warden salary and Disbursements | 331.21 | On-line |
| Miss W Pace  Ali Pickard  HMRC | Clerk's salary and disbursements  Community Agent's salary and disbursements  Employers Tax | 1,355.41  666.97  153.04 | On-line  On-line  On-line |

Street Warden’s Disbursements Community Agent Disbursements

Petrol £60.75 Petrol £12.15

**£60.75 £12.15**

Clerk’s Disbursements

Weed Killer £103.28

Bench £279.99

**Paint**  £42.00

**Total £425.27**

The Clerk confirmed that this is normally the time when donation forms are available for local groups. It was agreed that this should proceed as in previous years with the form available on the website. The closing date would be in early November for consideration at the November meeting. **Action: Clerk to post form on website and advise local groups.**

**54. Planning Applications**

P/2021/0823 – Riverdale, Burton Road, Rossett – Single Storey Rear Extension - No objections.

P/2021/0874 – The Old Post Office, Station Road, Rossett – Change of Use of a Ground Floor Shop (Class A1) Including the Ground Floor of Associated Dwelling and Rear Garden (Class C3) To a Restaurant/ Coffee/Shop/Takeaway(Class A3). Internal Alterations to First Floor (Class C3) – a discussion ensued regarding this application but it was identified that the opening hours were in line with the previous retail premises – No objections.

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

1. Cllr Fortune advised that one ‘Mountain View’ road sign was missing and there was a loose paving stone. The Clerk advised that these issues should be reported on the WCBC ‘report it’ facility.

2. Cllr Parrington reported that Christ Church had been successful in their fund raising in order to repair the clock. They had requested that the repair be completed by Remembrance Sunday if possible. As the Community Council had painted and tidied the area around Christ Church it had highlighted the need for the church railings to be painted, Cllr Parrington had offered to help with this along with the Park and Street Warden as long as the Church supplied the paint.

3. Cllr Fortune confirmed that a contractor had now been selected for the works at the Village Hall to create an accessible toilet. She confirmed that the committee were still looking for members so Cllr Parrington agreed that the Chair or Deputy would attend the next meeting to see if they could assist.

4. Cllr Morris raised the issue of the one-way system/traffic order and felt it is important to keep this on the agenda to assess progress. This was agreed. There was also a suggestion that the person now assigned to undertake the review should be invited to a Community Council meeting. **Action: Clerk to invite WCBC representative to next available Community Council meeting and retain subject on agenda.**

5. Cllr Steven enquired about the Youth Representative advertisement and The Clerk confirmed it had been sent to Essentials and was due to be published in the October edition.

6. Cllr Todd reported that she had spoken with Llay Community Council who had invested £10,000 in 20 Christmas light fittings. She would forward the details to Cllr Gledhill who was going to look into festive lighting.

7. Cllr Todd reported that the Army Cadet hut had been vandalised again. The MOD will not install camera’s due to the proximity to the high school. The Clerk suggested Cllr Todd meet with the PCSO to see if there were any other options that could be considered to improve the situation.

8. Cllr Todd reported that the numerous potholes on Cromar/Waverley Crescent had been filled with tarmac. It was not a neat job and on some parts of the road they had covered the 20mph markings. **Action: Clerk to email Cllr Jones in order to progress this with WCBC.**

**Date of the next meeting Wednesday 20th October 2021.**

**Signed as a true record:**

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**Chairman Date**