

**Rossett Community Council**

**Meeting on Wednesday 20th October 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 H Jones, Cllr C Parker Cllr P Roberts (remotely), Cllr M Gledhill, Cllr N Roberts, Cllr L Todd (remotely), Cllr A Steven and Cllr L Rowland.

**Other:** PCSO Lisa Davies and PCSO Lana Kellegher-Lightwood, plus a number of members of public.

**56. Apologies for absence:**  Cllr P Morris, Cllr J Fortune and Cllr M Woods.

**57. Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of interest were made by:

1. Cllr H Maurice-Jones 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.

**58. Approval of the Minutes of 15th September 2021.**

**59. Crime Report**

**August 15**

Violence & Sexual Offences 8

Anti-Social Behaviour 4

Criminal Damage & Arson 1

Other Theft 1

Public Order 1

PCSO Davies reported there had been few incidents over the last month and they had conducted some speed monitoring on Chester Road. This had resulted in a couple of warning letters being issued, details relating to the outcome of speed monitoring are posted on community alert so people will see the results. She encouraged anybody with speeding issues to report the location to Go Safe.

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

The Clerk read out an email from a resident who wished to raise some issues with regard to the proposal to decorate the underpass with artwork. Cllr Sexton addressed the issues raised and confirmed that it is likely that the project would be grant funded so would not require the Community Council or NEWTRA funding. He also mentioned that Northwich Town Council who had carried out a similar project had seen a reduction in graffiti and as the boards were anti-graffiti, they were easily cleaned. It was the intention that the artwork would be produced as a result of partnering with St Peters and Darland High Schools. An update had been chased from the Welsh Government, the main reservations appear to be the fixing of the panels and how that would allow for inspection and maintenance of the underpass structure. It was hoped that as a result of this enquiry the lighting may also be changed to sensor powered lighting therefore, reducing energy consumption but also providing lighting during the daytime if natural light is low. Cllr Parrington suggested a public meeting should approval for this proposal be received from the Welsh Government/NEWTRA.

Mr John Filce addressed the meeting providing an update of the extensive work carried out in respect of the proposed development on Holt Road. The main issues of contention were, lack of realistic consideration to the flooding risk, access points through land not owned by the developer and the safety risks associated with any footpath to the development. Mr Filce confirmed that the Rossett Focus Group would soon be writing to key WCBC individuals and would like to confirm if they had the backing of the Community Council. They would also like the Community Council to consider making a Bona Vacantia enquiry to identify the costs of purchasing the yellow marked land on Trevalyn Way. A vote was held in respect of both matters and it was agreed that the Community Council would make a Bona Vacantia enquiry and the Focus Group do have the support of the Community Council. Cllr Jones thanked Mr and Mrs Filce and the Focus Group for their continuing work.

Mr Tony Murphy reported concerns on behalf of a number of Station Road residents as a result of the planning application to open a restaurant/café/take away in the old Spar premises. They felt there was insufficient parking available along with the footpath being too narrow to accommodate a suitable waste receptacle. A number of members of public raised issues relating to potential parking, littering, street lighting and noise. Cllr Jones reported that he had spoken with the planning officer and they were in negotiation with the applicant regarding the possibility of removing the take away element and reducing the restaurant capacity. Any such changes would result in the application being re-submitted at which time, residents would again be able to submit their concerns, objections or support. It was important to gain a balanced view as there were a number of local residents who were supporting the application in the hope of seeing the disused premises back in business.

A resident also identified the lack of appropriate disabled parking on Station Road. The Clerk reported there were two allocated spaces on the car park however, the resident felt these were not of an appropriate width to be considered as suitable for disabled users. **Action: Clerk to contact WCBC regarding the width of the disabled parking spaces.**

Mrs Sian Hatton-Jones raised two issues regarding the accountability of the Hwb Yr Orsedd board now and in the future and when the public meeting will be held. The Clerk confirmed that it was a priority of the Board to set a date for the public meeting however, they did not feel that was possible until comments regarding design changes were received from the Planning Officer. Once this information was forthcoming it would allow for a public meeting to be arranged and options to be considered. It was also confirmed that currently the Board report to the Community Council however, as and when the project comes to fruition the Board would hold open meetings. All details for board members are available via Companies House.

**61. Matters Arising**

1. **Hwb Yr Orsedd –** As previously mentioned the Board were awaiting feedback from the Planning Officer regarding a number of changes to potential designs, once available a public meeting would be arranged. Following the advertisement for new board members, two directors had been co-opted and would be formally accepted at the next AGM
2. **Traffic Order –** Cllr Jones confirmed that he had met with members of the Highways Department. There is no easy fix to the problems faced which are predominantly as a consequence of the Co-op car park. One scheme would consider the feasibility of a roundabout and another a one-way system but along with that came the issue of reduced parking along the Green as visibility is not adequate. There would also need to be consideration of the priorities at The Green/Holt Road junction. Along with this would be the consideration of making Chapel Lane one way to ensure it wasn’t then used as a cut though. It is likely that either option will cause some inconvenience to someone but in the interest of safety it has to be addressed. There is the issue of cost and Cllr Jones advised that he recommended that a request should be made to the Co-op regarding partial funding.

**62. Matters to be discussed**

1. Festive illuminations– Cllr Gledhill advised that he had been in contact with several organisations to gather information regarding the feasibility of festive illuminations on some of the street lights in the centre of the village. There are a number of processes including inspection of the street lighting column, installation of a timer, purchase of the illumination, calculation of charges with Scottish Power and storage and testing of the equipment. It was discussed that a couple of lights could be considered to emphasise the area around the Christmas tree and if these received favourable feedback could be added to in the future. **Action: Cllr Gledhill to produce costings for 2 lights and feedback.**
2. Remembrance Service –The Clerk confirmed that contact had been made with a representative of the Scout group to see if it was feasible to continue with the remembrance service at Burton previously organised by Phil Bentley. Cllr Parrington asked Cllr Todd if she would like to lay the wreath on behalf of Rossett Community Council with her children and she accepted.

**63. Reports**

County Councillor Jones’ Report

Cllr Jones reported that the issues were on-going in relation to the planning application for six properties on land on Darland Lane. New regulations now required consideration of phosphates where there was potential of drainage into the River.

He advised that WCBC were now filling pot holes with hot tar following the purchase of some new equipment and they had halved the depth of holes to qualify for filling. It had been agreed that the remaining part of Chester Road would be resurfaced however, this would not be done until the works on the A483 were completed.

The works to address the flooding on Darland Lane were ready to go but had been delayed by the land owner not responding. The Legal Department of WCBC were now considering if there were sufficient powers to allow access which could allow commencement of the works within 14 days.

Clerk's Report

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

Cllr Rowland reported that there continued to be issues with dogs being taken into the Rossett play area and additional signage had now been erected. This confirmed that the space was subject to the Public Spaces Protection Order so Enforcement Officers would be able to fine anyone taking dogs in to the play area. Cllr Rowland confirmed that the additional bark had been delivered to Greenfields play area and had been spread by the Peacock family who had also weeded the area. She wished to pass on the thanks of the Community Council to the Peacock family. A meeting had been held to arrange events over the forthcoming months including advent boards, baubles, Christmas tree and Santa visits. Bedding plants had been purchased for winter planting along with bulbs which would be offered to the community to assist with planting in designated areas.

Cllr Maurice Jones confirmed that she had met with Gill Antrobus who had kindly offered to fund the purchase of six cherry trees to be located in areas around the village where members of the community could sit and reflect. The trees would now be ordered.

**64. Finance**

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

Invoices were approved, as follows:

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| **Payee**  Hewlett Packard  Zoom  Royal British Legion  Christ Church Rossett  Scottish Power  The Head Gardener  Ace Play  Ace Play  JAR Architecture  Trailwalk  Rossett Village Hall  H Maurice-Jones  SLCC  P J Huxley | **Purpose**  Instant Ink  Monthly charge  4 x wreaths  Hire of Church Hall  Street Lighting Electricity  Ground Maintenance  Repair of Mountain View multi-unit  Install 2 x self-closing gates  Stage 1 & 2 Concept Design  Hedge cutting at Burton weir  Room Hire  Winter Plants for Floral Displays  Membership Renewal  Tools for Park/Street Warden | **Sum £**  7.49  14.39  100.00  80.00  178.46  817.80  957.00  1,983.10  2,060.26  72.00  20.25  432.72  166.00  192.70 | **Chq. No.**  Debit Card  Debit Card  3043  3044  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line |
| Mr C Hughes | Street warden’s salary and disbursements | 809.44 | On-line |
| Mr R Jenkins | Park Warden salary and Disbursements | 550.52 | On-line |
| Miss W Pace  Ali Pickard  HMRC | Clerk's salary and disbursements  Community Agent's salary and disbursements  Employers Tax | 3,159.81  782.69  290.09 | On-line  On-line  On-line |

Street Warden’s Disbursements Park Warden Disbursements

Petrol £49.95 Petrol £6.75

Fuel £5.00 White Spirit £4.00

**£54.95 £10.75**

Clerk’s Disbursements Community Agent Disbursements

IT Equipment £812.00 Petrol £27.90

Wireless Mouse £9.99 Golden Carers Subscription £49.95

Projector for Pensioners Group £506.93 **£77.85**

Bark for Greenfields play area £756.00

Training package for staff £108.00

Cleaning items for Park Warden £17.48

Wood Hardener/Filler £19.47

**Total £2,229.87**

The Clerk confirmed that the annual Councillor allowance need to be considered. This is a mandatory payment however; Councillors are able to opt out of receiving it. Forms were distributed to all Councillors and any who do not wish to receive the allowance should return the forms to the Clerk. This is not applicable for County Councillors.

**65. Planning Applications**

P/2020/0250 – The Coach House, Trevalyn Hall, Chester Road, Rossett – Erection of Garden Office, Relocation of Existing Garden Shed and Retention of Existing Garden Shed, Telephone Kiosk and Raised Tree House Style Decked Area - No objections.

P/2021/0904 – 5 Park View, Chester Road, Rossett – Dropping of Kerb to Access Existing Driveway – No objections.

P/2021/0949 – 1 Alyn Drive, Rossett – Single and First Floor Rear Extension – No objections.

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

1. Cllr Steven reported that two road closed signs remained on Park Lane following the Chester Marathon. **Action: Clerk to contact event organisers to arrange sign removal.**

2. Cllr Parrington reported that there are again some For Sale signs on the bridge near The Alyn pub. **Action: Cllr Jones to report to WCBC and arrange removal.**

3. Mr Filce reported that there will be new flood maps for the area issued on 1st December and this will include new areas not previously covered so there may be a requirement for Flood Wardens to cover additional properties. **Action: Cllr Parker to consider new maps when available and liaise with WCBC/NRW regarding possible update of Flood Plan.**

4. Mr Green reported that some of the hedges on Harwoods Lane are approximately 15ft high. Cllr Jones confirmed that WCBC will only get involved with hedges that protrude into the Highway and will not take action for high hedges, this is the land owners responsibility. **Action: Cllr Jones will visit the area to determine if the matter needs referring to WCBC.**

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

**Signed as a true record:**

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**Chairman Date**