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**Rossett Community Council**

**Meeting on Wednesday 18th January 2017**

**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 :** A Parrington (Chair), C Guest (Vice Chair), G Smith, C Parker,

J Pretsell, P Morris, J Montgomery, County Councillor H Jones

**Apologies for absence :**  Cllr. R Shepherd, Cllr. K Dolan, Cllr. J Fortune

**Others :** PCSO Alison Heron and 3 members of the public.

The Chairman opened the meeting with the news of Cllr. Cade’s resignation and recognition of all of Cllr. Cade’s work for the Council and the community.

It was noted that there are now 3 Councillor vacancies and attendance at Council meetings for the current Councillors is therefore important.

**40.** Minutes of the meeting of 21st December 2016 were approved and signed.

**41.** The Chair changed the Agenda order to allow for the Secretary of the Gresford Allotments Association (“GAA”) to speak to the Council. Background and the history of the Gresford Allotments was given. There are 39 allotment plots available to residents of Marford, Gresford and Rossett. The allotments have been owned by the University of Wales since 1914 and is to now be disposed of as an asset. It has been agreed by the University that GAA will be the sole bidder. However, they are at risk as a property developer is also interested in the land. GAA are requesting RCC write to the University in support of their application to buy the land and also for the Chairpersons of both Gresford and RCC meet to discuss the same. Discussion ensued. Cllr. Parrington proposed that initially a letter should be done in support. This was seconded. **Action : Clerk and Chair to deal with this.**

## 42. North Wales Police

(i) PCSO Alison Heron presented the crime report for December 2016, as follows:

1. **Crime Details for December 2016:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Crime Type** | **No.** | **Comments** |
| Burglary | 1 | 06/12/16 : Lavister – Items taken within. Undetected. |
| BOTD | 1 | 08/12/16 : Shed – Item taken within. Undetected. |
| Assaults | 1 | 09/12/16 : Chester Road – Ongoing. |
| Criminal Damage | 1 | 06/12/16 : Chester Road – Undetected. |
| ASB | 1 | 09/12/16 : Station Road |

1. **Priorities:**

B.O.T.D. – 1 report this month. Continue to patrol area.

Speeding – Rossett to Llay Road. Continue to monitor.

Parking on pavements – Continue to monitor. Contractors have been advised regarding parking outside the Butchers Arms.

**(c) Emerging Issues:**

4 Crimes this month.

**(d) Good News Stories:**

Attended Christmas light switch on.

Conducted “Cuppa with a Copper”. (No one attended, but could be due to the time and date of event). Change of location will be Golden Lion, Rossett for Friday 10th February : 13:00 to 14:00 hours. **Clerk to put up posters on noticeboards. Cllr. Pretsell to publicise via social media.**

(ii) Priorities for 2017 were discussed. Cllr. Jones advised that there seemed to be no progress with speeding on the B5102. He is receiving lots of complaints. There seems to be no enforcement or deterrent. PCSO Heron advised it is very difficult to monitor on this road, but it is still being done. Cllr. Jones proposed that Speeding should continue as a priority. Seconded by Cllr. Guest. Cllr. Smith stated that speeding is a criminal offence, the sole responsibility of the Police, and that it would be very useful if we as RCC could lobby all relevant authorities including the Police to increase generally speeding checks in our area particularly the B5102 . Cllr. Jones requested clarification of criteria for speed checks from PCSO Heron and she will forward this to the Clerk. **Action : Clerk to follow up.**

Cllr. Guest proposed we change the priority from BOTH (Burglary Other Than Dwelling) to BOD (Burglary Of Dwelling). PCSO Heron will check if this is possible, or whether this is a priority stipulated by the Police. She will change this priority to BOD if she can.

Parking on pavements and in general is still an issue, particular at The Green. Discussion ensued. Cllr. Guest requested that PCSO Heron’s Sergeant attend the site and monitor the situation. The Clerk advised that a request for an “H” bar white line in front of the main park gates has been requested and this will be done within the next 6 to 8 weeks.

(iii) Community Speed Watch Team was discussed. PCSO Heron advised NW Police would train volunteers on the speed gun. RCC would provide the gun at a cost of £100. Safety clothing would be provided by NW Police. Cllr. Jones pointed out that insurance would have to be in place for both volunteers and equipment. Discussion ensued. It was decided that this was a matter that should be advertised to the public for volunteers to come forward, as a NWP initiative. PCSO Heron will provide a poster for this for the noticeboards and Cllr. Pretsell will publicise on social media.

PCSO Heron left the meeting. Cllr. Guest proposed that the crime reports should be requested in advance of meetings in the future to be circulated to all Councillors and any questions they have for PCSO Heron should be provided to the clerk in advance of the meeting, which she could then prepare for and respond to at the meeting. This was seconded. **Clerk to request.**

**43. Matters Arising:**

(1) The Clerk updated the Council re moving to internet banking and in particular the requirement of a debit card. **Action : Clerk to clarify points with the bank and report to the Finance sub-Committee.**

Cllr. Guest advised that Financial Regulations will need to be updated.

**Action : The model set of Financial Regulation from One Voice Wales to be circulated to all members for comment, the Finance sub-committee will then draft a set of Financial Regulations for approval by Council.**

(2) The Health & Safety Policy and Risk Assessment Policy of recreation grounds is to be dealt with at the next Parks sub-Committee meeting.

**44. Matters Discussed**

(1) Gresford Allotments : See above.

(2) School Crossing Patrol : Costs for a person to carry out this role would be £3952 per annum. Cllr. Montgomery queried whether it would be cheaper in the long term to obtain a pelican crossing. Cllr. Jones advised this would not be granted as it doesn’t meet the County Council’s criteria, i.e. on the basis of the limited times it would be needed. Cllr. Jones advised 2 surveys have been carried out in the past. Discussion ensued. Cllr. Montgomery requested Cllr. Jones to enquire if we could get a pelican crossing if RCC pays for it. It was also agreed that the breakdown of costs for a School Processing Patrol be considered before any decision is made to proceed. **Action : To be discussed at the next meeting.**

(3) Campaign to End Loneliness : Cllr. Pretsell advised this is a campaign already in place which is something RCC could join. It is not just aimed at the elderly but the Community as a whole. Cllr. Pretsell has contacted a representative from WCBC to offer guidance but has yet to receive a response. Discussion ensued. **Action : Cllr. Pretsell will join the campaign and create awareness through social media. Cllr. Jones to chase WCBC.**

(4) Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations : **Action : Clerk to email all Councillors with the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders. All Councillors are to review the same and put forward any suggestions for amendment within 2 weeks to the Clerk.**

(5) Community Inclusion Grant : Adjourned to next meeting.

**45. Reports**

County Councillor’s Report : Cllr. Jones reported on the Virgin broadband works on Chester Road. He has met with the Highways Department and the length of works at any one time is to be limited. Traffic lights are to be manned between 0730 hours and 1800 hours to avoid traffic build-up.

“For Sale” signs on the Manor Lane bridge are to be removed.

The Wrexham to Chester rail line will be commissioned in April.

Cllr. Jones has started a petition to the Post Office to provide postal services in Rossett. There is a petition for residents and one for businesses. **Action : Cllr. Jones to provide pro-forma of the Petition to the Clerk for insertion on the Council website and Facebook Page.** Cllr. Jones has requested that the regional manager for the Post Office meet himself and the Chairman to discuss their intentions. He has also arranged to meet the regional manager of the Co-op to discuss their intentions with regard to providing postal services.

Cllr. Jones is meeting with the Co-op to discuss traffic management and planning matters at the site, and options to ensure a safe pedestrian route.

The Gamford Lane Planning Application is going to the February Planning Committee.

Flooding in Waverley Crescent has been resolved. Shordley Close is now being dealt with.

Parks & Recreation Report : Cllr. Parrington advised that signage for the main park is to be ordered with regard to no dogs being allowed.

Cllr. Guest advised that the Risk Assessment must be prepared by the next full Council meeting. **Action : Parks sub-committee to deal with this.**

Cllr. Montgomery advised she had liaised with Burton residents and with WCBC with regard to the £15,000 funds available for new play equipment. It was delegated to the Parks Committee to deal with this.

Cllr. Pretsell reported on the Wrexham Youth & Play Provision (“WYPP”) meeting she attended this month and a written report has been prepared to all Councillors. WYPP is a charitable organisation, which provides play provision to children and youths. RCC would pay into the organisation which would then provide youth workers and play support. Cllr. Jones advised that RCC need to identify the demand for such a provision in the village. This will be discussed further at the next full Council meeting.

Cllr. Guest reported on the Cadwyn Clwyd grant regarding the toilet block. The meeting for the decision on this was postponed and the result is still awaited.

**46. Planning** : The following Planning Applications have been received:

P/2016/1170 – Balls Hall Farm, Burton. No objection.

P/2016/1169 – Balls Hall Farm, Burton. No objection.

**47. Finance**

(1) Cllr. Guest reported on the meeting with the internal Auditor. All procedures are in place and the bank reconciliation has been signed-off.

With regard to the Pension situation for employees, AVOW have confirmed that this has been dealt with, but the Finance sub-Committee will clarify.

The Finance sub-Committee will now meet bi-monthly.

(2) Cheques were approved and signed, as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee** | **Purpose** | **Sum £** | **Chq. No.** |
| AVOW | Payroll charges | 60.00 | 2912 |
| Scottish Power | Street lighting electricity charges | 453.88 | 2913 |
| Sarah Tushingham | Reimbursement of disbursements | 59.25 | 2914 |
| Sarah Tushingham | Clerk’s salary | 286.20 | 2915 |
| Terry Price | Park Warden’s salary | 264.00 | 2916 |
| Colin Hughes | Street Warden’s salary | 336.55 | 2917 |
| The Head Gardener | Leaf collection at main rec.ground | 150.00 | 2918 |
| Colin Hughes | Reimbursement of mileage | 81.90 | 2919 |
| Post Office | Employers Tax x 3 | 221.60 | 2920 |

Clerk’s Disbursements

Heavy duty bin bags £16.39

Weedkiller pump and refill £42.86

**£59.25**

(3) Precept amendment : Cllr. Guest advised that since the Precept had been set in November, more potential expenditure has come to light, i.e. An estimated£1000 per annum for ongoing CCTV costs and £3952 per annum for the school crossing (if implemented). Cllr. Guest advised that the Council can either amend the Precept figure, or take the above costs out of reserves for next year and introduce the costs in the 2018/19 Precept figure. It was proposed that costs if incurred are taken from reserves and this was seconded.

**48. Any Other Business**

(1) Cllr. Guest proposed that a schedule of specific work should be provided to the Street Warden. **Action : Councillors should feedback to the Clerk any work to then be allocated to the Street Warden.**

(2) Cllr. Parrington proposed that the same should be done for the Park Warden and this was to be carried out by the Parks sub-Committee.

(3) Cllr. Montgomery queried whether Darland School had yet done their litter pick, which had been put forward by Mr Agnew (Headmaster) at the meeting in November. **Action : Clerk to follow-up.**

(4) Cllr. Montgomery also requested the Clerk to chase Mr Agnew for the questionnaires which were provided to Darland in the Summer term with regard to the park play equipment. **Clerk to chase.**

(5) Cllr. Smith requested that a letter of condolence from the Council be sent with regard to the passing of Nat Maurice-Jones of Rosemary Nurseries in recognition of his contribution to the community. **Action : Chair to deal with this.**

**Date of the next meeting Wednesday 15th January 2017.**

**Signed as a true record:**

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**Chairman Date**