

**Rossett Community Council**

**Meeting on Wednesday 21st February 2024**

**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, Cllr A Steven, Cllr H Jones, Cllr H Maurice-Jones, Cllr L Rowland, Cllr L Todd, Cllr M Gledhill, Cllr M Woods, Cllr P Roberts, Cllr R Shepherd and Cllr W Cleaver and Youth Rep Ryan Littler.

**Other:** Members of Public

**101. Apologies for absence:** Cllr N Roberts and Cllr P Morris.

**102. Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of interest were made by:

* Cllr H Maurice-Jones regarding issues with Hwb Yr Orsedd due to a conflict of interest including planning application P/2024/0043.

**103. Approval of the Minutes of 17th January 2024** – Minutes were agreed and signed.

**104. Crime Report**

**January**

Anti Social Behaivour 2

Burglary 1

Theft 1

Common Assault 1

Total 5 (Report from PCSO Lisa C3464)

Due to unforeseen circumstances the crime report was not received for the meeting and PCSO Lisa was unable to attend. The report would be circulated two days after and it was agreed the information would still be added to the minutes for reference.

Cllr R Shepherd mentioned he had raised the issue of parked vehicles blocking pedestrians from passing on curbs and footpaths to Sargent Nathan Harvey. He also informed it was often the same vehicles obstructing. Cllr H Jones mentioned he too had reported this issue but no help was being received in stopping them. The Clerk had previously brought this up to PCSO Lisa but she was unable to do much more patrolling of the issue than she was already doing. Cllr A Parrington questioned if a letter needed to be written to higher authority. This was agreed and Cllr H Jones furnished the Clerk with details for Superintendent Nick Evans. **Action – Clerk to compose and send letter.**

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

Rossett Food Cupboard - Paul gave a brief update on the Cupboards progress in moving to the garages on the scrub land. He presented a copy of the draft contract and asked for the council’s approval of it. Cllr M Woods advised that Paul check on the details of mentioned legal costs but aside from this the council saw no issues with the contract. Cllr P Roberts questioned if they had registered with the Charity Commission, which Paul replied they were in the early stages of registering for. He also informed they had obtained their gambling license to allow them to raise money through raffles and fundraising. Cllr A Parrington questioned what the plan was with any food waste in consideration of locals living close by. Paul confirmed there was minimal food waste but it was collected daily. He lastly asked if the council thought the Cupboard should seek to get a defibrillator. It was thought this was a good idea if the Cupboard could source one themselves. Cllr A Parrington asked if the council could look into suppling a defib in the Burton area as there wasn’t one that side of the rail lines. **Action – Clerk and Cllr A Parrington to look at defib for Burton**

**106. Matters Arising**

* **Hwb Yr Orsedd –** Cllr H Maurice-Jones gave an update informing that the disconnection of electrics and removal of the meter were happening imminently. This would progress the demolition to start the following week. With the delayed start, the completion was looking to be more like mid-September. Cllr H Maurice-Jones suggested there was a need to discuss timelines for the toddler play area project with SP Projects (the agents for the Hwb project) **Action – Cllr A Steven to meet and discuss with SP Projects.** It was also suggested the Clerk contact Cadwyn Clwyd about the deadline for the funding that had been awarded for the toddler play area, to see if there was any possibility on extension if needed. It was agreed this would now come off the agenda and updates to be given as and when they were needed. **Action – Clerk to contact Cadwyn Clwyd**
* **Traffic Order –** Cllr R Shepherd reported the signs had been erected but were covered until the road markings were able to be painted. This was now considered completed from the agenda.
* **Community Speed Watch –** No update on volunteers and the council agreed to remove this from the agenda until any further update was needed.
* **Allotments –** Cllr W Cleaver reported they were waiting for a reply from planning regarding the change of status. This was ongoing.
* **Underpass signage** – Cllr R Shepherd informed that there had been very little activity been reported here. The Clerk updated that a service had been carried out on the CCTV and repairs to 2 cameras were being sorted.

*(Youth Rep Ryan Littler arrived)*

**107. Matters to be discussed**

1. Litter Picking Group – A request had been received by the Community Agent about setting up a volunteer litter picking group. Whilst many of the councillors were in favour to support the idea and the council had litter pickers and bag holder to provide them, it was thought best the council not be the main instigator as the insurance may not cover this. Cllr H Jones suggested seeking advice from Keep Wales Tidy and progress from there, as they had previously provided safety equipment and policies to cover a litter picking day event in the past. This was agreed. **Action – Clerk to report back to Community Agent and contact Keep Wales Tidy.** Cllr A Stevens mentioned about the bin in the walk-through by the Co-op not being emptied. It was agreed to ask the Park Warden to check on it twice a week and empty it when needed. **Action – Clerk to add to Park Wardens job schedule.**
2. Rossett Park Grant for Toddler Play Area – Following the awarding of some grant money from Cadwyn Clwyd for a project to install a new toddler area and the tender invitation period closing a parks meeting had been held to score the submissions. Cllr A Stevens explained some companies had provided two quotes, one with the area being fenced off and one without. This had been the main point of discussion and most felt a fence around was more ideal. The company that had given the most ideal vision and quotes was ESP Play Parks and the Clerk had returned to them with a few alterations and request for a third quote. This was circulated to the parks committee who believed it to be the best option. There was a vote to decide if there should be a fence or not and majority were in favour. The Clerk now needed to go back to Cadwyn Clwyd with the favourable quote and justification to agree the total funding money. Cllr A Parrington informed that the council had been unsuccessful in their initial expression of interest for further funding with Shared Prosperity Funding, which would have gone towards the other end of the park and some new equipment for older children. The Clerk was already looking for other funding options for this. Cllr A Parrington asked if in principal all were in favour of the decision for the toddler area and all were in favour. He congratulated Cllr A Stevens and the Clerk for their work on this so far. **Action – Clerk to contact Cadwyn Clwyd**
3. Councillor Vacancy – The Clerk explained the Vacancy Notice had been displayed since 2nd February for the following 14days. Once this time was up Electoral would update on whether there were any candidates for an election, otherwise this would allow the council to co-opt. This was agreed and would go ahead if there was no election.
4. Lighting Collaborative – Cllr M Woods and the Clerk had attended the latest lighting contract collaborative meeting where the new lighting schedule prices were confirmed. The issue of Scottish Power dropping out of offering un-metered supplies had been discussed as well. Once details of the current contract were confirmed it meant the council would need to start looking for a new supplier. One option was for the consortia to look into a group contract to bring down prices and Sian Andrews at Penycae Community Council would look into this. The Clerk would update when more information was obtained.

**108. Reports**

County Councillors Reports

Councillor Shepherd’s Report – Cllr R Shepherd reported Highways had been repainting junction markings and continuing to fill many pot holes. They had been putting loose curb stones back into place and had also filled in the gap along the curb and road on Burton Road. He reported that he received some complaints about bin collections not being done but informed residents needed to use the *Contact Us* service online to report this. A tree in Rossett Park that BRHS had donated had recently been vandalised and Cllr R Shepherd had added this to the Essentials update. Cllr H Maurice-Jones had informed BRHS when the incident had been reported to the council. Cllr H Jones reported the dip in Holt Road had been seen too. Cllr R Shepherd mentioned he had received good comments regarding the redecoration of the village hall. Cllr A Parrington responded that there was more work being done soon as they had been awarded a grant.

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

Reports from Community Councillors

* Parks Committee – This had already been discussed but Cllr A Stevens added he would be checking on Greenfields soon regarding the work done last year. Cllr L Rowlands reminded to let Ground Force know about Greenfields being closed and that some work was due to happen there again soon. **Action – Clerk to contact Ground Force**
* Events Committee – Cllr L Rowland reported nothing was planned but queried if the council would want to do a Scarecrow Festival again. It was agreed that something during the summer holiday might be good to provide entertainment and an activity for children during the school holidays. Cllr L Rowland informed Picnic in the Park would aim to be during September in conjunction with the opening of the new Hwb.
* Staffing Committee – Nothing to update.
* Floods Committee – Cllr A Stevens reported there had been a small amount of flood alerts earlier in the month. They had also received a reply from Lesley Griffiths following the council letter of complaint.
* Youth Representative – Ryan had no update. Cllr A Parrington requested Ryan help the Clerk put together the mailing list and he agreed. **Action – Youth Rep and Clerk to sort**

**109. Finance**

i) Cllr M Woods summarised the finance documents for February and these were accepted. He read through the bank reconciliation, highlighting the costs that had been previously agreed to be covered for the lighting inspections and repairs.

ii) Invoices were approved, as follows:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee**Hewlett PackardPlusnetEEZoomNestScottish PowerAllington HughesMEGAMEGAMEGARingo JonesRossett Village HallScottish PowerStaff CostsHMRC | **Purpose**Instant InkSIM cards for Clerk and Community AgentNEW SIM cards for Clerk and Community AgentMonthly chargePension contributionsToilet Block (October 23 – January 24)Legal Fees for Lease to Hwb (from Dec 21-Jan 23)Faults with Street Lights Oct-Dec 23Inspection CostsRemedial Works following inspectionsDisconnect and refit of Defibrillator Hall Hire – November 23 – NRW meetingElectricity (01.01.24-01.02.24)Salaries and disbursementsEmployers Tax | **Sum £**9.997.458.0015.5966.2442.061440.00761.081210.424442.33240.0030.00746.322709.28256.52 | **Chq. No.**Direct ChargeDirect DebitDirect DebitDirect ChargeDirect DebitOn-lineOn-lineOn-lineOn-lineOn-lineOn-lineOn-lineOn-lineOn-lineOn-line |

Street Warden’s Disbursements Community Agent Disbursements

Petrol £48.60 Petrol £42.30 **£48.60** Printing £2.00

 **£44.30**

**110. Planning Applications**

**P/2023/0231 - Section 78 Appeal at: Lower Rackery House, Dark Lane, Burton -**

It was decided that the council would restate their initial opinions and comments on this.

**P/2024/0043 - Rossett Park The Green Rossett -** Installation Of Solar Panels And Air Source Heat Pump Within A Conservation Area – Cllr H Maurice-Jones was asked if the solar panels would be as unobtrusive as possible and the heat pump hidden which she confirmed – **No objections**

**P/2024/0042 - 1 Lower Parkside Cottages Parkside Rossett -** Erection Of Single Storey Garage – **No Objections**

**P/2024/0044 - Yew Tree Farm Llay Road Rossett -** Erection Of Agricultural Building For Storage Of Straw And Machinery And All Associated Works – **No Objections**

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

Cllr L Todd confirmed her attendance at the full Governors meeting at Darland School.

Cllr R Shepherd informed the council that previous Chair Jeff Peet had recently passed away and as he’d been a longstanding member of the council requested a note of condolence be sent to the family. This was agreed. **Action – Clerk to send card**

Cllr A Stevens commented that branches from the tree at Rossett Mill were hanging quite low over the road and falling onto the road too. Cllr H Jones would pass this onto Highways.

Cllr W Cleaver mentioned the behaviour of school children on the buses had been bad lately and Cllr L Todd would mention this at the next Darland meeting.

Cllr A Parrington concluded the meeting by recording his thanks to Cllr S Hopper who had served 2 terms with the council and contributed highly to the village. He wished him all the best from the council and impressed that he would be missed.

**Date of the next meeting Wednesday 20th March 2024.**

**Signed as a true record:**

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**Chairman Date**