

**Rossett Community Council**

**Meeting on Wednesday 17th January 2018**

**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. B Cleaver (Chair), Cllr. J Pretsell, Cllr. P Roberts, Cllr. M Woods, Cllr. P Morris, Cllr. K Matthias, Cllr J Fortune, Cllr. P Goode, Cllr H Jones, Cllr H Maurice-Jones, Cllr. T Sexton.

**Other:** David Green and Sgt K Davies.

**90. Apologies for absence:** Cllr. A Parrington, Cllr. C Parker and Cllr. S Price.

**91. Declarations of Interest**

Declarations of interest were made by:

1. Cllr B Cleaver regarding any issues pertaining to the Park Warden due to personal association.
2. Cllr P Roberts regarding planning issues due to a conflict of interest.

**92. Approval of the Minutes of 20th December 2017.**

**93. Police Report**

**Sgt Davies read the Council Priorities Report, as follows:**

1. **Crime Details for December 2017:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Crime Type** | **No.** | **Comments** |
| Theft | 2 | 8/12/17 – Chester Road – Personal Items - Undetected.  23/12/17 – Burton – Person Items – On-going. |
| Criminal Damage | 1 | 30/11/17 – Trevalyn – Vehicles damaged – Undetected.  . |
| ASB | 4 | ASB Personal - Burton  - Rossett  - Rossett |

**(b) Priorities:**

B.O.T.D. – No BOTD's this month. Continue to monitor.

Speeding – Chester Road. Continue to monitor.

Parking on pavements – No reports to 101. Continue to patrol and monitor. Currently monitoring work vans at the Co-op. Cllr Sexton advised of regular instances near The Nags Head.

**(c) Emerging Issues:**

Ensure property is secure. Don’t make it easy. Ensure you’ve left a light on when leaving the property.

**(d) Good News Stories:**

School Patrols conducted.

No reports regarding the bus stops.

Sgt Davies reviewed the recently introduced local crime figures. These showed that compared to last year there had been a 52.95% increase in all crime (37 incidents) the top repeat locations being Darland School and the Co-op.

There was a 600% increase in sexual offences (12 incidents), the main location being Darland School due to sending and receiving of indecent social media messages but there is also an increase in reporting regarding these offences due to increased media attention and more emphasis on victim support.

There was a 100% increase in theft and handling (10 incidents), the majority being committed at the Co-op and a 200% increase in non-victim based crime (4 incidents) largely relating to traffic offences.

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

Standing Orders were suspended to invite Mr Green to raise his concerns. He queried why Rossett’s 20 mph speed restriction covered such a large area compared to other local schools. Cllr Jones explained this was relatively unique in Rossett due to the close proximity of the Primary School, playground and Secondary School and it had been considered more appropriate for a 20 mph zone to cover the area rather than stopping and starting at several points. He emphasised that the scheme had been published and advertised and no complaints had been received. Cllr Cleaver also confirmed that whilst a number of complaints had been raised at the Village Fete, once explained, members of the public understood the rationale for the decision and were more accepting.

Mr Green highlighted a problem with parking around the playground especially during the School Summer Fair and Golden Lion Music Festive. Cllr Jones confirmed that a number of schemes were being considered following the public consultation meeting some which included time restrictions however, there would be occasions when community events were being held that parking congestion should be expected. Generally they are well advertised so residents knew when they would happen and he felt the inconvenience of increased vehicles in the area was outweighed by the positives of our local facilities holding fund raising events.

Mr Green queried why there were no speed hump warning signs on Chester Road but Cllr Cleaver pointed out that if vehicles were adhering to the speed limit that was an appropriate speed for going over speed humps.

Mr Green queried the length of time a number of street lights on Harwoods Lane have been non functional. Cllr Jones confirmed they were the responsibility of WCBC but they had established that they weren’t working due to a problem with the power supply to the lights. Scottish Power were due to attend later in the week to address this problem.

Mr Green and Sgt Davies then left the meeting.

**95. Matters Arising**

1. **Donation Request – Family Friends –** The Clerk confirmed that a donation of £100 had been made last year. Cllr Maurice-Jones proposed a donation of £150 and this was unanimously agreed. **Action: Clerk to inform Family Friends of donation award.**

**(ii) CCTV –** A site visit is necessary to pursue relocating the equipment at Burton. Awaiting confirmation of date from CCS. Contact has been made with BT who have confirmed lines can be connected to independent columns and Network Rail have confirmed the land between the railway line and the underpass is not their responsibility. Cllr Jones confirmed that he understood the Welsh Government owned the land.

**(iii) Cadwyn Clwyd –** Cllr Maurice-Jones confirmed that a scoping meeting had been held and a consultant appointment. A meeting with Cadwyn Clwyd and the Consultant (BIC Innovation) was arranged for 24th January 2018 to discuss how they should now proceed. Two local residents (Mr Dave Hylands and Mrs Jackie Sexton) had been approached and agreed to join the steering group.

1. **Community and Town Council Review Panel –** No additional comments had been received other than those put forward for the consultation meeting.
2. **Planning Law Changes –** No comments had been received following the distribution of the Consultation Paper. The only consultation meeting to discuss the proposed changed was being held in Cardiff.

**96. Matters Discussed**

1. River Contamination. Correspondence regarding recent contamination in the River at the Weir had been distributed to all Councillors. A number of sanitary products had been noted at the River side by a local resident and this had been reported to Welsh Water. They had reacted promptly and investigated and when the river was at safe levels had cleared the contamination. However, on further investigation it was identified that the contamination had been as a result of the sewage works feeding into the River when the water levels were high. The feedback seemed to suggest that this would happen again when river levels were high. Following a discussion it was decided that the facts need to be established in order for the Community Council to decide how to progress the matter. Cllr Woods volunteered to be the contact for this issue and Cllr Jones advised that he would inform WCBC public protection of the pollution incident. **Action: Clerk to write to Welsh Water and establish a meeting with Welsh Water for Cllr Woods.**

**97. Reports**

County Councillor Hugh Jones’ Report

**High Speed Broadband Burton and Golly -** I have received confirmation from BT that the work to provide High-speed Broadband for Burton will be completed at the end of December, commissioned during January and released to service providers during February. This has been a long time coming but hopefully the service will be available throughout Burton and Golly.

**Planning application former Golf Course, Public Meeting -** The date for this meeting has been arranged to take place on Thursday 25th January at 1945 hrs at Rossett Village Hall. Representatives of the proposed developers will be in attendance together with details of the plans they intend to submit to Wrexham CBC Planning Department.

**Hedges -** I am still receiving numerous complaints regarding hedges overgrowing footpaths and highways, it is the landowners responsibility to ensure that hedges do not obstruct either the footpath or highway, Streetscene Officers spend a significant amount of time chasing up people to keep hedges from causing obstructions. I am appealing to residents to ensure hedges are cut where necessary before the nesting season embargo on March 1st.

**Post Office -** The Community Council is still working with Cadwyn Clwyd to evaluate options for a Community Post Office in the Village. Cadwyn Clwyd distribute part of the European Rural Development grants paid to Flintshire, Denbighshire and Wrexham.

**Budget Consultation -** Following the recent consultation on the budget proposals by Wrexham CBC we received 3797 responses, there was support for the majority of proposals however concerns were expressed about a number of areas, particularly the eventual removal of financial support for the PCSOs; and cuts to the Peripatetic Music Service and Education. As a result we will be proposing a revised budget that protects 50% of the PCSO funding and provides increases in support for the vulnerable who receive services from Adult and Children’s Social Care, provides increases in Education and makes a contribution to Peripatetic Music Service. This will result in a 3.9% increase in Council Tax which will still leave Wrexham with one of the lowest Band D rates in the United Kingdom.

On the PCSOs I am working with North Wales Police to deliver a revised Service Level Agreement that reflects the reduction in local authority funding. Wrexham is the only county in North Wales to part fund PCSOs.

**Potholes -** I have asked officers to urgently attend to potholes on Cobblers Lane.

Clerk's Report

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

Mobile Post Office

Cllr Maurice-Jones and the Clerk reported that a meeting had taken place with representatives from the Post Office. They remain keen on the Village providing a Post Office however, there are currently no retailers willing to accommodate the service**.** Therefore, a bid had been submitted for a mobile Post Office via the Outreach scheme. These are usually located in very rural locations with no Post Office Service for an extended distance. Whilst Rossett didn’t fit in this criteria, as the Post Office is keen to offer some service they have agreed to a 2 hour service weekly. This will be located in the Presbyterian Church meeting room and the Post Office will appoint a Post Master to undertake the service. An opening time of Friday 10.30 – 12.30 was proposed and deemed a suitable slot. It is hoped the service could be available from the end of March and it will offer similar services to those available within Gresford Spar. It is hoped that volunteers will also be able to offer refreshments during the opening time. The Post Office will supply the necessary IT and equipment. The provision of this service will not jeopardise any future full time service in the Village and the Post Office will continue to pursue this as the ultimate aim. The only cost for the mobile service will be the hire of the meeting room which will probably commence at £10 per hour but may reduce in the Summer months when heating isn’t required. Cllr Maurice-Jones proposed that the Community Council agree to fund the rental for an initial six month period in order to assess the success of the venture. This was unanimously agreed. **Action: Cllr Maurice-Jones to inform the Post Office of the Community Councils agreement to the scheme.**

Recreation Sub-Committee – Cllr Pretsell confirmed that a bid had been submitted via the Development Grant and Balfour Trust in respect of the 5 a-side goals. A closed Facebook group had been established to inform willing members of community events i.e. litter picks, bulb planting etc.

**98. Planning Applications**

P/2017/1054 – Home Farm, Gresford, Llay – Application for approval of reserved matters pursuant to outline planning application permission P/2014/0905 – access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the erection of 362 dwellings etc - No objections.

**99. Finance**

Cllr Woods confirmed the current financial situation of the bank balances from the financial reconciliation that had been distributed to all Councillors. The Finance Sub-Committee were due to meet and the priority would be to draft a 3 year business plan. All sub-committees were invited to forward any issues for consideration within the plan but it would include the Cadwyn Clwyd project and consideration of changing street lights to LED. Cllr Maurice-Jones requested that consideration be given to a rolling programme to replace the barrel planters, a number of which were now beyond repair.

Invoices were approved, as follows:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee**  Urdd Gobaith Cymru  Llangollen Musical Eisteddfod  Rossett Scouts HQ  Cllr Fortune  Scottish Power | **Purpose**  Donation  Donation  Donation  Reimbursement of Christmas event cost  Street Lighting electricity | **Sum £**  100.00  100.00  1,000.00  68.34  455.40 | **Chq. No.**  3012  3013  3014  3015  On-line |
| Jones Lighting  Microshade VSWr | Street Light maintenance  Small Council Hosting Service | 775.31  478.80 | On-line  On-line |
| AVOW | Quarterly Payroll Charges | 85.00 | On-line |
| Mr C Hughes | Street warden’s salary and disbursements | 423.22 | On-line |
| Mr T Price | Park warden’s salary and disbursements | 296.98 | On-line |
| Miss W Pace  Ali Pickard  HMRC | Clerk's salary  Community Agent's salary  December pay correction  Employers Tax | 754.76  393.14  11.92  206.32 | On-line  On-line  On-line |

Park Warden’s Disbursements Street Warden’s Disbursements

Petrol £28.80 Petrol £63.45

Total **£28.80** Total **£63.45**

**100. Any Other Business**

1. Cllr Jones queried if a date had been established for the awards night. A discussion ensued and Cllr Cleaver suggested conducting the awards at the Village Festival. It was felt this suggestion should be further considered so will be brought forward to next month’s meeting. **Action: Clerk to bring forward next month.**
2. Cllr Fortune raised the issue of CPR training suggested following a request for a defibrillator. She wondered if the Community Chest fund would be able to offer financial support for such training. **Action: Clerk to bring forward next month and research the criteria for Community Chest funding.**
3. Cllr Cleaver highlighted the poor performance of the zip wire which was endorsed by a number of Community Councillors. **Action: Clerk to contact company to review how this can be improved.**
4. Cllr Fortune enquired if the Community Council was prepared for the new GPDP Regulations due to come in force in May 2018. The Clerk confirmed that our recent contract with Microshade now meant compliance under a number of the electronic storage regulations however, further information was due from One Voice Wales and SLCC which would need to be reviewed to ensure full compliance.
5. Cllr Goode commented on the advertising signage at the roundabout which didn’t conform to the maximum size of permittable signage. This was placed on Highways land so they would be asked to consider removal however, for ease The Clerk would contact The Trevor Arms to ask that they remove the damaged advertising banner for Christmas/New Year events. **Action: Clerk to phone Trevor Arms.**
6. Cllr Sexton asked if the Local Development Plan for WCBC which was due to be published in April/May would propose a certain number of new developments for the Rossett area. Cllr Jones confirmed that it would.
7. The Clerk advised that WCBC had been contacted regarding the damaged Tourist Information Board in the centre of the village. They could replace it but the cost would need to be met by the Community Council. A quotation for £2,029 plus VAT had been received. This was deemed too expensive so it was decided to remove the old notice.

**Date of the next meeting Wednesday 21st February 2018.**

**Signed as a true record:**

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**Chairman Date**