

**Rossett Community Council**

**Meeting on Wednesday 21st February 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. A Parrington (Chair),Cllr. B Cleaver, Cllr. J Pretsell, Cllr. C Parker, Cllr. M Woods, Cllr. P Morris, Cllr. S Price, Cllr J Fortune, Cllr. P Goode, Cllr H Maurice-Jones, Cllr. T Sexton.

**Other:** Mrs Rebecca Hennessey and Sgt K Davies.

**101. Apologies for absence:** Cllr. H Jones, Cllr. P Roberts and Cllr. K Matthias.

**102. 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 S Price regarding any issues pertaining to the Park Warden due to personal association.
3. Cllr P Morris regarding donation request due to personal association with the concern.

**103. Approval of the Minutes of 17th January 2018.**

**104. Police Report**

**Sgt Davies reviewed the Crime Report for January 2018:**

Overall crime is up by 37 incidents when comparing year to date figures.

Violence Without Injury – An increase of 11 incidents (220%), these are mainly domestic incidents.

Violence With Injury – A decrease of 6.7%

Sexual Offences – An increase of 14 incidents (700%), these are mainly due to incidents involving mobile devices and social media, a large number from Darland School.

Burglary Residential – Overall a decrease of 5% comparing year to date figures, one incident in Burton last month which is under investigation.

Burglary Commercial – An increase of 5 incidents (500%) comparing year to date figures.

Vehicle Crime – No change on year to date figures, no incidents this month, one the month before which related to the theft of number plates.

Theft and Handling – An increase of 8 incidents on the year to date figures, no incidents last month.

Criminal Damage and Arson – A decrease of 2 incidents (15.4%) on year to date figures.

Non Victim Based Crime – An increase of 5 incidents (250%), these largely relate to traffic offences.

There was one ASB nuisance reported in January 2018.

Speed checks were conducted on Chester Road 20 mph zone and 1 speeding ticket was issued. Requests were made to maintain these checks when possible.

Sgt Davies then left the meeting.

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

Standing Orders were suspended to invite Mrs Hennessey to be involved in the discussion regarding the contamination of the River Alyn. Mrs Hennessey had observed untreated sewage along the River bank for quite some time but first reported it at the end of last year. Welsh Water had attended, reviewed the area and conducted clear up’s however, concern was raised that this contamination would continue as the sewage plant would release into the river when levels were high. Legally they were able to do this on a specific number of occasions per year. Due to our proximity to the sewage plant at Gresford when it happens there is a large amount of contamination, predominately untreated sanitary products. Once reported Welsh Water would send representatives to clear up the area. Natural Resources Wales have the responsibility to ‘police’ this issue and to monitor the number of releases into the River. Cllr Sexton had looked into this issue and had been informed that these incidents have to happen otherwise the sewage would ‘back up’ into residential properties. The River Alyn is apparently one of the worst areas for this in North Wales which raised concern for those who went into the River (predominantly children). He was also aware that a large amount of money was available to improve problems with this service so it was imperative that incidents continue to be reported to potentially prioritise the local area for investment. Mrs Hennessey had also reported the situation to MP Ian Lucas who had visited the area to see the problem for himself.

Following a discussion it was decided to take the following action:

1. Highlight the issue to the local community to enable them to report any contamination to ensure early clean up and make them aware of the contamination in the river to advise children regarding going in the water..
2. Clerk to make contact with Welsh Water to make appointment for Cllr Woods to visit sewage plant to ensure maintenance programmes are being followed and records maintained.
3. Cllr Jones to pursue contact with Welsh Water/NRW regarding capacity of sewage plant with respect to additional housing planned for the local area.

Mrs Hennessey then left the meeting.

**106. Matters Arising**

1. **CCTV –** The Clerk confirmed that there had been no progress regarding the relocation of the recording equipment at Burton as WCBC were unwilling to engage until a Legal response was available regarding issues with equipment installed in remote cabinets. Regular communication would continue with WCBC to ascertain when a decision is made regarding this equipment. **Action: Clerk to maintain contact with WCBC.**

There had been a previous decision to obtain quotation’s for a new CCTV system within the playground. The reasons for the need for this equipment were deemed to be:

1. Child protection issues relating to the users of the playground
2. Protection of RCC assets

As the Cadwyn Clwyd project was now moving forward it was deemed sensible to delay any new installations until the future development of the toilet block was known, as changes to this building may alter the equipment required and location. At that time the need for CCTV would be reviewed.

1. **Cadwyn Clwyd –** A scoping meeting had taken place with BIC Innovation and a progress meeting was scheduled for 27th February. The consultants would be making contact with local groups to commence consultation.
2. **River contamination –** This matter had been discussed under representation’s from General Public**.**

**107. Matters Discussed**

1. Bee Friendly. On behalf of the Community Council, Cllr Pretsell had applied to the Bee Friendly scheme which aims to help all pollinators. There are a number of criteria which a Community has to meet to obtain accreditation. In order to achieve this the following actions were in place:
2. Three local areas identified for wild seed planting and WCBC requested not to cut these areas.
3. Liaising with St Peters to produce fact sheet/poster for display around the Village and replanting of some areas at the school to increase the number of shrubs/plants suitable for pollinators.
4. Competition for best pollinator garden to be run in the Summer, to be judged by Cllr Maurice-Jones and hopefully the prize awarded at the Village Festival. A prize has been secured courtesy of Grosvenor Garden Centre. **Action: Clerk to write to Village Festival/BRHS to ensure prize can be awarded at Village Festival.**
5. Reduce the use of pesticides – To be covered on the fact sheet but also regular information updates on Facebook.
6. Spring Clean – Cllr Pretsell confirmed that Keep Wales Tidy had distributed information on a Spring Clean event. The Community Council will run a Spring Clean event on Sunday 4th March between 10.30 – 12.30 starting at the Village Hall. A number of volunteers had already committed to attending via Facebook and St Peters had publicised the event. The Co-op Community events pioneer had been contacted regarding providing staffing and refreshments at the Village Hall. Cllr Morris suggested that Rossett Scouts be informed of the details. **Action: Clerk to inform Rossett Scouts and chase up Co-op.**
7. CPR Training – Cllr Fortune had been unable to make contact with the individual she knew to provide this training. **Action: Clerk to contact St John’s to obtain quotation for training sessions.**
8. Community Awards – Cllr Cleaver proposed presenting the Community Awards at the Village Festival, this was unanimously agreed. **Action: Clerk to write to Village Festival Committee to enquire if this would be agreeable.**

**108. Reports**

Clerk's Report

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

Outreach Post Office

Cllr Maurice-Jones reported that works were on-going at the Presbyterian Church meeting room and the Outreach Post Office would commence on Friday 6th April running between the hours of 10.30 – 12.30 on a weekly basis.

Recreation Sub-Committee – Cllr Pretsell reported that the Development Grant bid had been unsuccessful however, the Balfour Trust had committed £3,000 towards the 5 a-side football pitch. It was hoped that the installation would commence over the forthcoming weeks.

The tree survey had been completed and an application for the works submitted as it fell within the Conservation area.

**109. Planning Applications**

P/2018/0030 – Lawn House, Croeshowell Lane, Burton – Two-Storey Extension - No objections.

P/2018/0078 – Christ Church, Rossett – Proposed works to trees within Rossett Conservation area – Communication had been received regarding additional works which a neighbouring resident felt should be included. It was noted that the individual had raised the issues directly with WCBC which was deemed to be the most appropriate cause of action – No objections.

P2018/0087 – South Bank, Station Road – Replacement Front Windows – No objections.

P2018/0088 – Rossett Playground – Proposed works to trees within Rossett Conservation area – No objections.

**110. 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. Correspondence had been received from the Internal Auditors confirming the annual audit would take place between April – June

Invoices were approved, as follows:

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| **Payee**  Family Friends  Mr J Bassett  Darland High School  Emma Jane Trust  St Peters School  Rossett Village Hall  Scottish Power  Scottish Power  Dee Valley Water | **Purpose**  Donation  CCTV Standing Order shortfall  Christmas Raffle Payment  Christmas Raffle Payment  Christmas Raffle Payment  Christmas Raffle Payment  Street Lighting electricity  Power to Toilet Block  Water to Toilet Block | **Sum £**  150.00  8.84  325.00  325.00  249.00  325.00  455.40  169.14  55.81 | **Chq. No.**  3016  3017  3018  3019  3020  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line |
| Jones Lighting  Shields Arboricultural | Street Light maintenance  Tree Assessment | 373.80  300.00 | On-line  On-line |
| One Voice Wales  BIC Innovation | Annual membership Renewal  Cadwyn Clwyd Stage Payment (1) | 553.00  1041.00 | On-line  On-line |
| Mr C Hughes | Street warden’s salary and disbursements | 413.32 | On-line |
| Mr T Price | Park warden’s salary and disbursements | 298.97 | On-line |
| Miss W Pace  Ali Pickard  HMRC | Clerk's salary and disbursements  Community Agent's salary  Employers Tax | 728.48  449.10  175.25 | On-line  On-line  On-line |

Park Warden’s Disbursements Street Warden’s Disbursements

Petrol £19.80 Petrol £53.55

Wellington Boots £10.99 Total **£53.55**

Total **£30.79**

Clerk’s Disbursements

Petrol £ 8.10

3 x Litter pickers £31.83

Total **£39.93**

The Clerk reported that two further donation requests had been received from Rossett Swimming Club and OWL. Whilst it had been agreed that requests would be considered outside the normal donation calendar it was accepted that this made budgeting difficult, therefore it was agreed that after this meeting only urgent local requests would be considered outside the advertised time schedule. Cllr Parrington proposed a £395 donation to Rossett Swimming Club and this was unanimously agreed. It was agreed that OWL would be contacted and informed of the timescales for annual applications**. Action: Clerk to notify Rossett Swimming Club and OWL regarding donation requests.**

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

1. Cllr Cleaver reported that 106 charges should be considered for the development of key community facilities. It was agreed that if large developments are submitted 106 charges need to be considered.
2. Cllr Cleaver reported that he had made enquiries regarding the parking on driveways on Cromar Crescent where dropped kerbs were in place. He had made contact with WCBC who had confirmed there would be no charge for residents parking on such driveways.
3. The Clerk reported that Ali Pickard the Community Agent was now well enough to return to her role on a phased return. There would be close communication to check her current condition and consider an increase in hours when appropriate.
4. The Clerk reported that a member of public had made contact to ask that the Community Council try to escalate the repair of a number of local roads which were in a poor state. Harwoods Lane, Darland Lane and Alyn Drive were identified. Cllr Jones had previously notified the Community Council that highway repairs had been reduced due to cuts in budgets however, confirmation would be requested to see if the three roads identified were scheduled for maintenance work in the near future. **Action: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Jones regarding highway repairs.**

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

**Signed as a true record:**

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**Chairman Date**