

**Rossett Community Council**

**Meeting on Wednesday 20th November 2019**

**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 Fortune, Cllr J Pretsell, Cllr P Morris, Cllr. P Roberts, Cllr H Maurice-Jones, Cllr T Sexton, Cllr H Jones, Cllr A Steven, Cllr M Gledhill, Cllr L Todd and Cllr M Woods.

Others: PCSO Davies and PCSO Lana Kelleher-Lightwood.

**200. Apologies for absence:** Cllr C Parker.

**201. 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 any planning issues due to a conflict of interest.
3. Cllr J Fortune regarding issues with the Village Hall donation request due to a conflict in interest.
4. Cllr H Maurice-Jones and Cllr Parrington regarding issues with Hwb Yr Orsedd due to a conflict of interest.

**202. Approval of the Minutes of 16th October 2019.**

**203. Police Report**

PCSO Davies reviewed the Crime Report for October 2019:

**Crime Issues/Trends**

**Theft**

Parcel taken from driveway of property – Trevalyn – Undetected

Wheel taken from a vehicle – Trevalyn - Undetected

**Criminal Damage**

Intoxicated males causing damage to property – Chester Road – Undetected.

**Burglary**

Attempts to gain access to a garage (no entry gained) – The Green – On-going

**Other News/PCSO activities:**

Joint visit with WCBC to Darland View to discuss issues between neighbours.

Patrols of the bus stops on Chester Road, Rossett.

Several visits to the community café to engage with those in attendance.

Assisted St Peters with their walk to and from Christ Church for their Harvest Service.

PCSO Davies reported that the gentleman that had been sleeping in his car around the village had now moved on but had left his vehicle on private property which the land owner didn’t have an issue with. Also, the gentleman who had been sleeping at Christ Church had now returned to family.

It was reported that there had been a number of males knocking on doors attempting to sell products, these were sometimes referred to as ‘Nottingham knockers’. Publically the advice is to report this activity to the Police who can then check if they are licensed, check the individual and confirm their activity. If they are within ‘no cold calling’ areas they are asked to leave however, there is little else the Police can do. However, if they are aggressive in any way this should be reported to the Police as this issue can then be dealt with differently.

Cllr Parrington reported that since the removal of the speed bumps outside the Golden Lion there had been an increase of vehicles doing excessive speeds. He requested PCSO Davies to focus some speed checks within that location.

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

None.

**205. Matters Arising**

1. **Hwb Yr Orsedd –** Cllr Parrington confirmed that the next stage of the project was to produce a design/plans for the toilet block in order to make it fit for purpose as a community hub/café. One company had been approached and quoted costs of £1,800 - £2,000 for this work however, it was identified that additional quotes would be required from other companies. The Clerk reported that there was an opportunity to apply to Cadwyn Clwyd for support towards these costs. Cllr Cleaver felt that something needed to be done with the building as it’s currently a wasted resource so proposed that the Community Council fund the design/planning stage to allow the feasibility of the project to move forward. This was seconded by Cllr Morris and unanimously agreed by the remaining Council. **Action: Clerk to obtain additional quotations and apply to Cadwyn Clwyd.**
2. **Traffic Flow around the Green –** The Clerk reported that she had written to the Highways Department requesting that the scheme to look at traffic flow around the Green be revisited. A negative response had been received but Cllr Jones had taken this up directly with the Highways Department. He had met with them and they advised that the previous scheme had received 12 objections and no letters of support therefore WCBC had no choice but to not go ahead. As the funding for this scheme had now elapsed, WCBC would only reconsider if there were accident statistics that supported the need for change. If the Community Council insisted on revisiting, there would be a cost of £3,000 for consultation and £7,000 for the works. Cllr Maurice-Jones expressed her disappointment with this as it was felt there were no letters of support as Highways had explained the scheme at a public meeting and most attendees had assumed that the scheme was going ahead so hadn’t seen the need to send in letters of support.

Cllr Jones confirmed that as things currently stood WCBC would not reconsider unless there was the evidence of a requirement from accident statistics.

**206. Matters Discussed**

1. Street Lighting Maintenance Contract Price Increase –The Clerk reported at the annual meeting with the street lighting contractor a price increase schedule had been proposed. As per the contract, this was in line with the RPI for the 12 month period which had averaged at 2.775%, therefore a price increase of 2.775% from April 2020 had been proposed. It was unanimously agreed that this increase be acceptable. **Action: Clerk to confirm acceptance of price increase.**
2. Christmas Tree Light Switch On –Cllr Parrington reported that the tree would be arriving on Monday and the top part would be decorated that afternoon before the tree was put in place. The remainder of the tree would be decorated on Tuesday starting at 12.30pm and the previous volunteers would be advised of the timings. The switch on event would start at 5.15 pm on Thursday 28th November so assistance would be required from 4.30 pm.
3. Purchase of street warden equipment – The Clerk reported that she had been requested to price up a petrol leaf blower for the Street Warden as a result of the recent Staffing Meeting. A price of £185 had been attained. It was unanimously agreed that this purchase should be progressed. Cllr Jones queried how working hours were monitored. The Clerk confirmed that there is a zonal map in place which the Street Warden works to however, requests for areas of attention would take priority over the zonal visits. The Street Warden, as with all other employees, completes a weekly timesheet highlighting the areas/hours worked. **Action: Clerk to purchase equipment.**
4. Purchase of mobile phones– The Clerk confirmed that as a result of the Staff meeting both herself and the Community Agent had reported issues with mobile phones**.** The Community Council had funded a mobile phone for the Community Agent over two years ago but this now required updating and the Clerk had always used an old handset of her own but the batteryno longer worked. It was agreed that two mobile phones should be purchased. Four options had been proposed and it was agreed that the cheapest option would be sufficient for the Clerk and the next cheapest suitable for the Community Agent**. Action: Clerk to purchase equipment.**
5. Road Junction Croeshowell Lane/Llay Road – The Clerk reported that she had received some concerns regarding this junction as it has always been perceived as a danger however, the potential increase in traffic due to the new housing development at Llay would make this situation worse. These concerns had been forwarded to Cllr Jones who reported that he had liaised with the Highways Department. Unfortunately, one of the trees which could potentially improve the visibility was on private property and WCBC have no legal powers to enforce removal so Cllr Jones had requested that WCBC reconsider the siting of a mirror to allow traffic turning right from Croeshowell Lane on to Llay Road to see what traffic is approaching up the hill.

**207. Reports**

County Councillor Jones’ Report

Cllr Jones reported that he had recently met with Mrs Lee the new Headteacher at Darland High School. She is very keen to engage with the Community and address anti social behaviour from the pupils. She was already negotiating with Arriva the possibility of buses pulling into school premises to pick up pupils in the hope that this would improve the current situation of large numbers of pupils walking down Chester Road and waiting around the bus stops.

During the recent period of heavy rain, Cllr Jones had visited areas of regular flooding around the area with Streetscene. It was identified that there was little that could be done on Darland Lane without the possibility of water being drained into the pond situated on the old golf course. WCBC were considering if any recent changes in legislation would allow them to push this plan forward.

Clerk's Report

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

Cllr Woods reviewed the minutes of the Finance Meeting held on 13th November 2019 and these were accepted. The Finance Committee had made a recommendation for donation payments and these had been previously distributed and were accepted. The following payments were agreed:

Rossett Scout Hut £1,280

Rossett Senior Citizens £500

Rossett Village Hall £1,420

St Peter’s School £160

Rossett & Burton Indoor Short-Mat bowling £400

Burton & Rossett Horticultural Society £500

Rossett Swimming Club £780

Gresford Library £1,000

Family Friends £500

**208. Planning Applications**

Consultation – Meadow House, Trevalyn, Rossett – Woodland creation project. The Clerk reported that this request had been received via an agent and was not subject to the formal planning process. Confirmation had been requested regarding the Community Council supporting the creation of 0.79 hectares of native broadleaf tree species at this location. Cllr Parrington proposed supporting this project and it was unanimously agreed. **Action: Clerk to write to confirm support.**

P/2019/0846 – 2 Darland Close, Rossett – Single-Storey Side Extension, Demolition of Conservatory and New Single-Storey Rear Extension, First Floor Extension and Internal Alterations– No objections.

**209. Finance**

Cllr Woods summarised the bank reconciliation for October and this was accepted.

Invoices were approved, as follows:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee**  Hewlett Packard  Scottish Power | **Purpose**  Instant Ink  Toilet Block Electricity | **Sum £**  3.49  169.92 | **Chq. No.**  Debit Card  On-line |
| The Head Gardener  Boogie Beats  One Voice Wales  Rossett & Burton Village Hall  LeeAnn James  H Maurice-Jones | Grass Cutting  Music & Movement Workshop  Training – Cllr Morris/Clerk  Hall Rental  Entertainment – 1940’s Tea Party  Hawthorn/Winter planting | 817.80  120.00  80.00  42.50  80.00  227.80 | On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line  On-line |
| Mr C Hughes | Street warden’s salary and disbursements | 417.86 | On-line |
| Mr T Price | Park warden’s salary and disbursements | 324.82 | On-line |
| Miss W Pace  Ali Pickard  HMRC | Clerk's salary and disbursements  Community Agent's salary and disbursements  Employers Tax | 1,461.74  693.02  196.81 | On-line  On-line  On-line |

Park Warden’s Disbursements Street Warden’s Disbursements

Petrol £24.75 Petrol £45.90

Total **£24.75** Total **£45.90**

Clerk’s Disbursements Community Agent Disbursement’s

Petrol (4 months’ claim) £40.50 Petrol £37.35

Parking £ 1.80 Parking £ 5.40

Toilet Rolls £11.98 Comm café activities £ 7.39

Bin bags/paper £159.77 Storage box £ 7.99

Companies House reg £12.00 Stationery £ 4.99

Raffle tickets £46.98 Dominoes for the blind £ 5.90

Kent Supplies play bark £192.00 Total **£69.02**

SLCC membership £156.00

Total **£621.03**

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

1. The Clerk reported that she had received confirmation from WCBC that the application for a Modification Order to amend the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way in the Community of Rossett had decided that there was sufficient evidence to reasonably allege that footpath rights exist on the route proposed at Darland Wood.
2. Cllr Fortune asked if a budget is set for events run by the Community Agent. The Clerk confirmed that she liaises with the Community Agent regarding events and whenever possible prices are set to make the event ‘break even’. This was sometimes difficult to judge as it was dependent on attendance numbers, so on occasion there had been a small cost to the Community Council but generally never more than £20. The Community Agent had regularly applied and been successful in gaining grant funding for events.

**Date of the next meeting Wednesday 18th December 2019.**

**Signed as a true record:**

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**Chairman Date**