

Ruabon Community Council

Minutes of Community Council's Meeting held on Wednesday 25 October 2017 at 7.00pm at Ruabon Village Hall

Present: Councillor Dana Davies (Chair); Councillor Sybil Bremner; Councillor Bob Jackson; Councillor Ann Jones; Councillor Steve Jones; Councillor Supriya Kapas; Councillor Lisa Kelly, Councillor Sharon Mazzarella; Councillor Cath. Roberts; Councillor Gwen Rogers; Councillor Bill Smith; Mike Blackshaw (Clerk/Finance Officer);

Also in attendance; Mr. G. Jones – Resident of Pont Adam Crescent.

Minute Ref No	Agenda Item No	Summary of Discussion	Decisions/ Agreed actions/ related Documents
4711	1	Item 1.0 - Apologies received from Councillor Ann Davies, Councillor Callum Edwards, Councillor Joan Lowe and PCSO Steve Bellis.	
4712	2	Item 2.0 - Declarations of Interest: No declaration of interest at this stage.	
4713	3	Item - 3.0 Confirmation of the minutes – the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 27 September 2017 were received and following minor changes were agreed as a true and accurate record proposed by Councillor Sharon Mazzarella, seconded by Councillor Sybil Bremner and approved by Council	Approved by Council
4714	4	Item 4.1 – Matters Arising – Councillor Lisa Kelly reported that she was unable to attend the Mayor's Charity Dinner and that her place was taken by Councillor Gwen Rogers. The Chair requested the members' agreement on a change in the order of the Agenda and to move the Planning Application item forward. Council agreed.	Council agreed
4715	5	Item 5.1- Planning Items – Councillor Lisa Kelly declared an interest in the following item as she is a resident of the Pont Adam estate The Council considered the following planning application P/2017/0850 43 Pont Adam Crescent, Change of use of garage to operate a Dog Grooming Business (in retrospect) – The Clerk reported on a number of issues raised by residents regarding the application with Councillor Joan Lowe. The Council noted the comments and discussed the matter in detail. The Chair also allowed Mr. Jones, a resident of Pont Adam Crescent to raise the concerns of local residents. Following a debate by the Council Councillor Bob Jackson proposed and Councillor Bill Smith seconded and Council agreed to object to the application on the following grounds: "The Council objects to the change of use from a garage to commercial usage within a large housing estate. Given the availability of vacant commercial premises within the village which could accommodate such a business the Council were of the opinion there should be no reason to approve a change of use. The Council also expressed their concern that if approved it would set a precedent for future applications to operate businesses from dwellings within the estate". The Council also noted the comments from the Service Manager Environment that parking would cause little detriment to highway	

4716	6	<p>safety in the vicinity of the site, given information provided by local residents problems are already being experienced with increased parking on the roadway. The Clerk was requested to forward the Council's objections to the planning officer involved.</p> <p>6.1 - Police Matters –The Clerk circulated details of incidents reported between the 27 September 2017 and 25 October 2017 as provided by PCSO Steve Bellis., the details are contained in Appendix A attached. The Chair and Council reviewed the report and noted its contents.</p> <p>Item 6.2 – Matters Arising – The Clerk confirmed he had reported the incident of someone sleeping rough at the railway station, PCSO Bellis confirmed he had visited the site on occasions but had found no evidence at the time of his visits. Councillor Ann Jones reported that vehicles were again causing obstructions at Daniels Drive and not allowing access to the garage site. The Clerk would report it to the PCSO.</p> <p>PCSO Bellis had requested the Clerk to mention the invitation made by Inspector Owens for members to visit the main Police Control Room and to establish the number of members interested, all members indicated their interest and requested the Clerk enquire on times and dates when a visit could take place.</p> <p>Remembrance Day – PCSO Bellis had reported that assistance would be needed to support the parade of Guides, Brownies and Cadets to the Church on Remembrance Sunday. Councillor Steve Jones offered to provide the necessary staff to assist PCSO Bellis as part of the Community Benefit scheme his company offered. The Chair thanked Councillor Jones for his kind offer and the Clerk agreed to forward on his contact details to PCSO Bellis. The Chair apologised that she would not be able to attend the service in Ruabon to lay the wreath as she would be attending the service in Wrexham, it was agreed the wreath would be laid by the Vice-Chair or if she was not available by Councillor Sharon Mazzarella.</p>	Noted
4717	7	<p>Item 7.1 – Community Agent – The Clerk reported on behalf of the Community Agent as follows. This month I have received a self-referral from a couple who I met at Lunch Club. They were wondering about carers allowance and aids available, I will be signposting them to relevant organisations. I am continuing with my visits to my regular clients. In a number of cases no signposting is required it is just regular contact to ensure they have someone who is in regular contact and available if they require assistance. I had another regular client who wanted information on what benefits she is able to claim. I went through an online assessment with her. Spoke with a lady at the lunch club who expressed her concern over the mess on the High Street. I forwarded this information on.</p> <p>I attended the photo shot at Ruabon Train Station highlighting the lack of Disabled Access at the station and whilst there I was introduced to Sarah Rochira-Care Commissioner for Older People in Wales. We discussed my role and the difficulties older people face in the community. She was very interested in the role of a Community Agent so much so we are in the process of arranging a shadowing day where she will accompany me for a day.</p> <p>I am continuing to attend various courses including a two day Mental Health First Aid Course and a Domestic Abuse Course. I have also attended Screen Champion Training provided by Public Health Wales – I am now able to actively raise awareness of screening within my communities regarding - breast screening, cervical screening, bowel screening, triple A screening (Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm) and diabetic eye screening. I'm also able to signpost members of the community to appropriate health services.</p>	Noted

4718	8	<p>This month I have also attended a Macmillan Coffee Afternoon at Ruabon Library, the Lunch Club at Church Hall and I gave a brief presentation to Ruabon United Charities. My games group at St Michaels Close is being attended by the residents, we have open discussions and I'm able to supply them with any information they may require. Nobody came to my open/drop in session at Ruabon Library again this month, fingers crossed for next month.</p> <p>I have had a number of meetings with my QCF assessor and I am about to hand in my final pieces of work. A meeting of Community Agents was held during the month and a number of topics were discussed.</p> <p>Item 8.0 - General Correspondence – The Clerk had provided a summary of general correspondence which had been received and was available for Councillors' perusal at the meeting. Councillors then considered and dealt with the correspondence as follows;</p> <p>Item 8.1 - One Voice Wales – Information relating to the intention of the Welsh Government to standardise the 'no charge' for the burial of all children under 18 years – The Clerk advised the Council that their current policy provided for free burials for all children under the age of thirteen. Following discussion the Council agreed to adopt the recommendations of the Welsh Government but that it would only apply to a plot for a single burial, grave plots for two or three burials would still incur the normal charges.</p> <p>Item 8.2 - W.C.B.C. – Copy of Power point presentation – Councillors Code of Conduct. – Circulate copies to all.</p> <p>Item 8.3 - Boundary Commission for Wales – 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales – Revised Proposals.</p> <p>Item 8.4 - W.C.B.C – Response to e-mail sent regarding the conditions within High Street conservation area - The response was noted, however, the Clerk was requested to obtain a copy of the guidance to Standard 216.</p> <p>Item 8.5 - Hafan Cymru – Response to e-mail regarding condition of the front of Bryn End property – The Council noted the response and requested the Clerk to invite representatives of Hafan Cymru to the next Council meeting in November.</p> <p>Item 8.6 - Copy e-mail from Susan Elan Jones MP – Japanese Knotweed – joint response with Friends of Ruabon to raise issue with MP – The Council continued to raise their concerns regarding the effect the knotweed was having on the area and agreed that separate letters should be sent to the local MP Susan Elan Jones. Councillor Lisa Kelly proposed and Councillor Sybil Bremenr seconded and Council agreed for the Clerk to seek some expert advice on the treatment of the knotweed and also establish whether the Public Protection Dept. at W.C.B.C. could take action against Network Rail.</p> <p>Item 8.7 - W.C.B.C Planning Department – On-line Consultation on Planning Application – operated by RCC at the moment – Noted Council currently receive on-line correspondence.</p> <p>Item 8.8 - W.C.B.C. Head of Finance – Funding of Community Agents programme. - Noted</p> <p>Item 8.9 - Friends of Ruabon – Poster of forthcoming Christmas events – Noted, the Chair made some minor changes to the item relating to the Christmas Light switch on.</p> <p>Item 8.10 - Welsh Government – Consultation on proposed changes to the registration of town and village greens following the commencement of relevant provisions in the Planning Wales 2015. This will provide owners with a right to end use of their land as town or village greens subject to certain statutory exclusions.</p> <p>Item 8.11 - One Voice Wales – New Councillor Induction training at Corwen Sports Pavilion Tuesday 19 December 2017 6.30 – 9.00pm. – Circulate to new Councillors</p>	<p>Council to adopt</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
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4719	9	<p>Item 8.12 - Marie Curie – Request for financial support – Include for consideration with other grant requests in November’s meeting.</p> <p>Item 9.1 – V.H.C.M. Group – The following items were discussed by the Group</p> <p>Item 9.2. - Village Hall Kitchen - The Clerk reported that he had received a verbal quotation to undertake the work of fitting new worktop, sink and shelving of between £300 - £350, the Group were recommending that subject to the offer of the necessary material by the Procurement Department is still available the work should proceed. Councillor Sharon Mazzarella proposed and Councillor Supriya Kapas seconded and the Council agreed to the recommendation.</p> <p>Item 9.3 – Village Hall Hire Charges – The Group had reviewed the hire charges for the hall, the Clerk and Booking Clerk reported that one of the main groups using the hall had reduced the number of session they required, this would have an impact on the level of income projected for the remainder of the year. However, enquiries had been received from other groups interested in making use of the hall but no actual bookings had been received to date. The Clerk indicated that with no significant spend planned on the hall this year the level of income expected by the 31 March 2018 would cover the running costs of the hall. The Group noted the financial situation and were recommending the current hire charges should remain for a further year commencing the 1 January 2018 and that the Group would monitor the situation throughout the year. Councillor Lisa Kelly proposed and Councillor Supriya Kapas seconded and Council agreed to retain the charges at the current level.</p> <p>Item 9.4 - V.H. Bank Account - The Clerk reported he had submitted a second application to the HSBC Bank to allow him to have internet access to the Village Hall Account and was hopeful to receive the appropriate approval from HSBC soon.</p>	<p>Defer to next meeting</p> <p>Council agreed</p> <p>Council approved</p> <p>Noted</p>
4720	10	<p>Item 10.1 – Project Group – The Clerk informed the Council that Group had discussed the options available for the MUGA and had agreed a new layout which involved the repositioning of a new MUGA and would include a fitness facility. A plan of the new layout was circulated for consideration. The Clerk reported he had contacted a number of companies who provided the type of facility suggested and had requested they provide a new design and quotation for Council consideration. The Group were also recommending the MUGA should be made available for both primary schools to use for the learning through play scheme.</p> <p>The Group had also discussed a repair required to a section of fencing at the Cemetery and had requested the Clerk to obtain a quotation on different styles available, it was agreed that it would be a metal finish. The type of fencing to be used would be considered by the Group before a recommendation be made to Council.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
4721	11	<p>Item 11.1 – Community Council Consortium – A copy of a presentation made by Penycae Community Council to a meeting of a number of local Community Councils which the Chair and Clerk had attended entitled ‘Working together to meet the needs of our Communities for the 21st Century’ had been circulated to all members. The Chair outlined the ideas contained within the presentation and advised the Council that the proposals were for consideration only. Penycae C.C were also looking to meet other Community Councils within the Wrexham area and obtain feedback from all on the idea of working in partnership in support of the ever increasing demands which are likely to be imposed on Communities by Local and Central Governments over the</p>	<p>Council agreed</p>

4722	12	<p>forthcoming years. The Chair was asking for an agreement in principal from the Council to continue with the discussions, the Council agreed.</p> <p>Item 12.1 - Finance Report – The Clerk reported on the recent Finance Group meeting and the following items were raised.</p> <p>Item 12.2 – Salary Payments – The Group had considered a more convenient method of making payments to AVOW to cover the monthly staff salary costs. The Group were proposing setting up a monthly standing order to be made on the 10th of each month. This would avoid the need for a monthly cheque to be made, but would still be reported within the accounts payable. Councillor Bill Smith proposed, Councillor Supriya Kapas seconded and Council approved the recommendation and agreed the process be set up by the Clerk.</p> <p>Item 12.3 – Vandalism Costs – The Group also considered how vandalism costs could be reported and had agreed to introduce into the financial report a section on vandalism costs, this would allow a clear indication of all costs the Council had incurred over a financial year and the impact it may have on future budgets. The Clerk reported that the only vandalism cost for this year had been refunded to the Council.</p> <p>Item 12.4 – Accounts Payable – A schedule of accounts to be paid was circulated to members for consideration Councillor Bill Smith proposed and Councillor Supriya Kapas seconded and the payments were approved by Council. Councillor Dana Davies abstained from voting following her declaration of interest in one of the creditors.</p> <p>Item 12.5 – Annual Grants – The Clerk reminded the Council that applications for financial support provided by the Council would be considered at the next Council meeting. It was suggested that all applications should be received by the Clerk by 22 November 2017. It was also agreed to publish details in the local newsletter.</p>	<p>Council approved</p> <p>Council agreed</p> <p>Council approved</p>						
4723	13	<p>Item 13.0 - DNM – The next meeting of Full Council will be on Wednesday 29 November 2017 at 7pm.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 9.15pm</p> <p>Matters Outstanding:-</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="395 1339 1098 1429"> <tr> <td>St. Mary's Church Walls</td> <td>Japanese Knotweed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Williams Mews</td> <td>Bridge Wall</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Council's Assets</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	St. Mary's Church Walls	Japanese Knotweed	Williams Mews	Bridge Wall	Council's Assets		
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