

Ruabon Community Council

Minutes of Community Council's Meeting held on Wednesday 31 August 2016 at 7.00pm at Ruabon Village Hall

Present: Councillor Supriya Kapas(Chair); Councillor Paul Bickley; Councillor Sybil Bremner; Councillor Ann Davies; Councillor Christine Jackson; Councillor Ann Jones; Councillor Lisa Kelly; Councillor Cath. Roberts; Councillor Bill Smith; Mike Blackshaw (Clerk/Finance Officer); PCSO Steve Bellis. Mr.Mike Jones(member of the public)

Apologies: Councillor Dana Davies; Councillor David Green; Councillor Joan Lowe; Councillor Gwen Rogers; PCSO Emily Blake

Minute Ref. No.	Agenda Item No.	Summary of Discussion	Decisions/Agreed Actions/related Documents
4547	1	1.1 - Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest at this stage.	
4548	2	2.1- Confirmation of the minutes – the minutes of the meeting held on the 27 July 2016 were considered and agreed as a true and accurate record, proposed by Councillor Sybil Bremner, seconded by Councillor Christine Jackson and approved by Council.	
4549	3	3.1 - Matters Arising – 3.2 – Ruabon Community Fund - the Clerk reported that a meeting had been arranged for Thursday 1 September between 6.00pm and 9.00pm at the Village Hall to discuss the fund with representatives of AVOW. Invitations had been sent out to all those groups who had submitted large capital bids. 3.3 – 20mph. Speed Zone - The Council noted the previous response from the Highways Department, however, Mr. Jones pointed out that concerns had been raised regarding the introduction of these zones and that the Department of Transport were undertaking a review of the initiative. The Clerk reported he would forward details of the e-mail Mr. Jones had circulated for discussion at a future meeting. 3.4. – Graffiti Maes y Llan School Wall – The Council noted there was considerable graffiti on the section of school wall facing the Recreation ground. The Clerk advised the meeting he was unsure whether the responsibility was the schools to remove it or with the Property Services Department in Wrexham, he would report it once the school had re-opened.	
4550	4	4.1 - Police Matters – PCSO Steve Bellis arrived at 7.10pm and was welcomed by the Chair. PCSO Bellis reported details of the crime figures since the last meeting and these are contained within Appendix A.	

4551	5	<p>PCSO Bellis reported that there were no visitors to the Police Surgery held on Friday 26 August. The possibility of one being held in the village hall on a Saturday was discussed and a provisional date of 19th November 2016 between 11.00am and 1.00pm was agreed, this would be confirmed at the meeting in October.</p> <p>4.2 Matters Arising – The Drug issue was again raised and concern was expressed that a more direct approach should be taken, details of daily drug use on the recreation ground including around lunchtime was mentioned and also the need for regular patrols. PCSO Bellis indicated that he had carried out patrols in the areas previously mentioned but had not identified those involved. He requested that where possible more precise information on those using drugs and also those supplying drugs would be required.</p> <p>Councillor Paul Bickley requested information on Neighbourhood Watch schemes and PCSO Bellis agreed to provide the necessary information.</p> <p>Councillor Smith raised the issue that a motor car for sale had been parked on the pavement in Pont Adam Crescent causing an obstruction to pedestrians, PCSO Bellis would investigate.</p> <p>Councillor Sybil Bremner mentioned two forthcoming events which might require some police/PCSO presence, these being the litter pick on the morning of Saturday 24 September 2016 and an Autumn Festival was being held at the Village Hall all day on Saturday 1 October 2016. Both events were to be agreed by the Council.</p> <p>PCSO Bellis left the meeting at 7.35pm and was thanked by the Chair.</p> <p>5.1 Hafan Cymru – The Chair welcomed Sherrie Evans and Trish Jones to the meeting at 7.40pm. The Council raised their concern of the impact to Hafan Cymru with the sale of the HSBC Bank, Sherrie Evans confirmed their lease was still in place until December 2016 but they were confident that a further lease would be negotiated with the new owner, however, she confirmed that alternative arrangements were also being considered if necessary.</p> <p>She outlined the aim of the project and the type of facilities available in Bryn End, she also confirmed that the property contained both male and female residents. The Council mentioned previous problems which had occurred in the Flats, Trish Jones acknowledged there had been a number of issues but these had been addressed. She also confirmed staff were at the site daily ensuring regular contact with the residents. Councillor Bremner mentioned that there were a number of up-coming events which the residents might wish to be involved in. Sherrie Evans acknowledged that one of their aims was to encourage the</p>	
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4552	6	<p>residents to become more involved within the community and at such events.</p> <p>The Clerk asked whether the liaison group still existed and was informed that the group no longer met but that if it did reconvene then representatives of the Council would be invited to join. The Chair thanked them both for attending and that the Council was pleased to have the opportunity to discuss the project with them. They left the meeting at 7.50pm.</p> <p>6.1 Williams Mews – The Chair welcomed Mr. Sion Wynne to the meeting at 7.40pm. Mr. Wynne outlined the present position regarding the houses on High Street, he explained that they were still attempting to establish ownership of the site by a company in Guernsey, however, this was proving difficult and that W.C.B.C. had commissioned solicitors within the Channel Islands to progress this issue. He was confident that progress was being made but extremely slowly. He informed the Council he would continue to provide progress reports as things develop. Councillors questioned whether the site, if it became available could be used for other purposes rather than for affordable housing, Mr. Wynne said that the site had been designated for housing but a final decision had not been made. Mr. Wynne agreed to provide a written report to the Council which could be circulated in the minutes and local newsletter and that he would make himself available to attend future meetings. The Chair thanked Mr. Wynne for attending and he left the meeting at 8.00pm.</p>	
4553	7	<p>7.1 – Cemetery Group – Councillor Paul Bickley reported on behalf of the group and raised a number of issues, he reported that the specific car parking problem at the cemetery had been resolved.</p> <p>The Group requested the Clerk to obtain an additional key for the gate at the top of the cemetery to allow the Gravedigger to deposit excess material in the field. The Group had been made aware that maintenance work was being carried out to the footpaths around Rhostyllen Church and suggested the Clerk enquire whether grants were available to undertake the work.</p> <p>The Group had also discussed the current level of charges and proposed that a review should be undertaken.</p> <p>The water butt had now been delivered and would be placed at an appropriate position within the Cemetery with easy access for visitors to the cemetery a hosepipe would be required to service the butt. The Council approved the recommendations.</p> <p>The lack of facilities for the groundsmen was raised, it was agreed the Clerk would investigate what should be provided.</p>	

4554	8	<p>The Group had noted the concerns raised by visitors regarding the condition of the new section of the cemetery. The thought behind the reduced grass cutting of part of the extension was to lower the maintenance costs but to also attract wildlife and allow for the growth of wild flowers. The section would not be required for immediate use but would continue to receive the appropriate level of maintenance. The Clerk pointed out that the new section would be required for use if a request was made for a grave for 3 people.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that he had been approached by a local funeral director concerning the current fees. A client who was arranging a funeral had queried the charges, the member of the family being buried had been a resident in a nursing home but had been a permanent resident of the village for 50 years previously, the query was that should the individual still be classed as a resident and therefore qualified for the reduced charges. The Council considered the request Councillor Paul Bickley proposed, Councillor Ann Jones seconded and Council agreed the cost should be at the residential rate and this should apply to all similar applicants and future approvals should be at the discretion of the Clerk.</p> <p>8.1 – General Correspondence – The following items of correspondence were considered:</p> <p>W.C.B.C. - Licence Policy Review – letter noted.</p> <p>W.C.B.C. – Framework for the Procurement of Youth (Support) Services – information session 22 September 2016 at 1.00pm at Acton Children and Family Centre – noted, circulate to specific members.</p> <p>W.C.B.C – Donna Dickenson – Invitation to attend a workshop to contribute to developing community based open-access Youth Service – South Area meeting at The Stiwt Rhos on 19 September 2016 between 6.30pm – 9.00pm. - noted, circulate to specific members.</p> <p>W.C.B..C. –The Worshipful the Mayor – Invitation to Charity Dinner/Dance at the Ramada Wrexham on Friday 7 October 2016 – noted no nominations raised.</p> <p>L. Archer, Penycae – Note concerning the condition of the new section of the cemetery - noted</p> <p>A. P.Jones, Ruabon - Note concerning the condition of the new section of the cemetery - noted</p> <p>W.C.B.C. – Holt Castle – 15c War of the Roses event on Saturday & Sunday 17-18 September - noted.</p> <p>Focus Wales – Neal Thompson – Ruabon Station – request for information regarding siting of poster. – Clerk to investigate.</p> <p>Zurich Insurance – Information on Insurance Premium Tax Increase. - Noted</p> <p>Planning Directorate Wales – On-line questionnaire on restructuring Planning Policy Wales so it fully considers and</p>	
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4555	9	<p>promotes the goals set out in Well-being of Future Generations(Wales)Act 2015. - Noted.</p> <p>Wales Audit Office – Consultation on fee rates and fee scales for 2017-18 – Noted.</p> <p>Gittins, McDonald Solicitors – Request from the Tribunal Office of the availability of Council representatives for dates within the next 6 months. – Clerk to provide necessary details.</p> <p>W.C.B.C. Play Development Team – Playwork proven to be a preventative service - Investing in Playwork Provision in Wrexham: Returns for Communities First - Noted</p> <p>W.C.B.C. Wrexham Town & Community Council Forum – Next Meeting 22 September at 4.00pm in the Guildhall, Minutes & Agenda to follow. – Noted circulate to Councillor Ann Davies.</p> <p>OWL – Further Telephone Scams – list of recent incidents - Noted.</p> <p>Jenny Miller – 146 Bus Service to Overton area - Minutes of public meeting held on 9 August. – Noted minutes circulated to specific Councillors.</p> <p>CAB – Invitation to ‘join us’ on 14 September 2016 11.00am-1.00pm to provide insight into their services – Noted</p> <p>W.C.B.C. – Adult Social Care – Training Stroke Awareness</p> <p>9.1 – Planning Matters – The following Planning Application was discussed:</p> <p>P/2016/0045 – James Park Cottage Wynnstay Court Ruabon – Section 78 Appeal – Replacement of timber windows with PVC – Details of the appeal were noted.</p> <p>P/2016/0741 – Hafod Coach House Overton Road Ruabon – Application for lawful development certificate for an existing use as a dwelling house (use Class C3) – No objections raised.</p> <p>P/2016/0735 - Site of Wynnstay Technology Park, south Llangollen Road, Ruabon – Outline planning application for mixed use development comprising of 6 light industrial units, 1 Retail unit and 37 houses. – Application noted, no objections raised.</p> <p>P/2016/0766 – 154 Pont Adam Crescent Ruabon – Provision of pitched roof to existing garage and single storey extension. – No objections raised.</p>	
4556	10	<p>10.1 - Village Hall C.M. Group – It was reported that the Group had met and discussed the options for increasing storage space within the hall. The Group were recommending the Clerk obtain drawings to outline the 2 options.</p> <p>The Group had expressed their thanks to the work carried out by Councillors Ann Jones and Paul Bickley on the circular planter outside the hall. The Council also expressed their thanks to both Councillors.</p>	

4557	11	<p>Councillor Bickley advised the meeting that the VHCMG had met in the pavilion and the group had surveyed the building and acknowledged there was a great deal of space not being used. It was suggested that the unused space could be made available for storage. This would be investigated further and that plans should be provided in order to consider all options</p> <p>11.1 - Finance Report – The Clerk reported on the following Item:</p> <p>11.2 – Account — A schedule of accounts requiring payment was circulated Councillor Paul Bickley proposed and Councillor Ann Davies seconded and the Council agreed payment of the accounts..</p> <p>11.3 – Pension Provision – The Clerk reported that payments to NEST had been made and the next one was due on 1 September 2016. He also confirmed that arrangements have been made with the Payroll Manager at W.C.B.C. for the collection of the employee’s contributions, the first payment being made on 15 August 2016.</p> <p>11.4 – Audit Report – The Clerk advised the Council that the external auditor had returned the Annual Return ending 31 March 2016 and had raised no areas of concern.</p> <p>11. 5 - Street Lighting – The Clerk informed the Council that he had carried out a survey of the street lighting system with the Lighting Engineer and had identified specific works which required to be undertaken as part of the replacement programme planned. This included the replacement of 10 columns. He was in the process of drawing up a schedule for circulating for tender. He suggested this could be considered by the Project Group in early October.</p>	
4558	12	<p>12.1 - A.O.B. – The following item was raised:</p> <p>Councillor Bob Jackson expressed his concern regarding the state of the grass verges along the footpath between Penycae Road and Llangollen Road, he also mention the amount of litter on the entrance to the school grounds. The Clerk would report the problems to Street Scene for action.</p> <p>The Council was informed that all the rubbish on the waste ground in Queen Street had been removed, the Council wished to express their thanks to all those involved in its removal.</p> <p>The Council acknowledged that Father Moses was leaving the Parish to take up a new role elsewhere. The Council extended their best wishes to Father Moses and wished to thank him for the work he did maintaining the planters around the village. His support of village events will be sadly missed.</p> <p>Concern was expressed regarding the amount of litter on the footpath leading from Park Street to the Rec., the Clerk to report to Street scene.</p>	

4559	13	<p>Diabetes UK – On 17 August 2016 the Chair accepted on behalf of the residents of Ruabon a Plaque and certificate presented by Mr. Dai Williams National Director, Wales following their nomination for the ‘Local Group and Community Award’.</p> <p>Also in attendance was a representative of Susan Elan Jones MP and the Press. The Plaque will be displayed in the Village Hall.</p> <p>Councillor Paul Bickley declared an interest in the next item. Councillor Sybil Bremner informed the meeting of forthcoming events organised by the Friends of Ruabon. A ‘Litter pick’ had been arranged for the morning of Saturday 24 September 2016 finishing in the Village Hall. Councillors Ann Jones and Cath. Roberts offered to provide the refreshment for those taking part.</p> <p>An all day Autumn Festival had been arranged for Saturday the 1 October 2016 with events such as apple pressing etc, the event was to be held in the Village Hall. The Council agreed to support both events.</p> <p>13.1 - D.N.M. – The date of the next meeting of Full Council is Wednesday Full Council 28 September 2016 at 7.00pm</p> <p>Matters Outstanding:</p> <p>Japanese Knotweed Stonewall - Bridge Litter Bin Williams Mews Boundary Wall – St Mary’s Church</p>	
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