

Ruabon Community Council

Minutes of Community Council's Meeting held on Wednesday 29 March 2017 at 7.00pm at Ruabon Village Hall

Present: Councillor Dana Davies(Chair); Councillor Sybil Bremner; Councillor Ann Davies; Councillors David Green ;Councillor Bob Jackson; Councillor Ann Jones; Councillor Lisa Kelly; Councillor Joan Lowe; Councillor Gwen Rogers; Councillor Bill Smith. Mike Blackshaw (Clerk/Finance Officer);

Also in attendance Ms. Jo Dulson, Cadwyn Clwyd; Inspector Steve Owens and PCSO Steve Bellis

Minute Ref No	Agenda Item No	Summary of Discussion	Decisions/ Agreed actions/ related Documents
4631	1	Item 1.0 - Apologies received from Councillor Supriya Kapas; Councillor Cath.Roberts; Councillor Paul Bickley; Councillor Christine Jackson and Sarah Jane Jones Cadwyn Clwyd	
4632	2	Item 2.0 - Declarations of Interest: No declaration of interest at this stage.	
4633	3	Item - 3.0 Confirmation of the minutes – the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 22 February 2017 were received and were agreed as a true and accurate record following minor changes, proposed by Councillor Ann Davies, seconded by Councillor Bill Smith.	Approved by Council
4634	4	Item 4.0 - Matters Arising: The following items were discussed Item 4.1- Business Plan – Councillor Bill Smith reported that he had received no feedback relating to items to be included within the Business Plan. He advised the meeting that no further progress could be made without the input of everyone. It was agreed the Clerk would circulate the Business Plan to everyone again Item 4.2 – Youth Service – The Clerk reported he had received correspondence and report from the Youth Service Manager concerning the continued provision within Ruabon. It was agreed by Council to discuss the matter in more detail later in the meeting. Item 4.3 – Williams Mews – Council were again concerned regarding progress with resolving this outstanding matter and were of the opinion that the Council should have some say on the sites future development. The Clerk was requested to invite Mr. Sion Wynne to the next meeting to provide a progress report and for the Council to raise their concerns.	
4635	5	Item 5.1 – Ibeacon Project – The Chair welcomed Jo Danson to the meeting, Ms. Danson went on to outline the aim of the project to Council. She explained Cadwyn Clwyd had secured funding to set up a network of Ibeacons across North East Wales. The beacons are small electronic devices which allow the transfer of information about a specific site to people on their smart phones or tablets via an app which can be downloaded at home. Data is transferred using Bluetooth. The project offers an opportunity for communities to provide visitors with information about designated sites within their community. Cadwyn Clwyd are currently working with a number of community groups who have already joined the scheme and it is hoped that a number will be going live from Easter 2017. Their aim	Refer to Project Group

		<p>is to promote the project to other communities and schools in order to develop it across the whole of the areas.</p> <p>The initial cost to communities is £750, this covers the cost of consultants to help to develop a trail and to provide up to 10 ibeacons complete with installation and technical support. Running costs would be minimal (cost of replacement batteries) but would require regular monitoring every two months to ensure the units were still active. Technical support for the project has funding up to the end of 2019, after which time the support would still be available but at an extra cost.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Ms Danson for addressing the meeting and providing details of the project, Ms. Danson left the meeting at 7.35pm. The Council considered the information provided and agreed it should be included for consideration by the Project Group.</p>	
4636	6	<p>Item 6.1 - Police Matters – The Chair welcomed Inspector Steve Owens and PCSO Steve Bellis to the meeting.</p> <p>PCSO Bellis provided the meeting with details of the incident which had been recorded since the last meeting, these are contained in Appendix 1. PCSO Bellis also provided some detail of the incidents reported and confirmed that there had been an arrest warrant issued in relation to a drug offence. He also reported that there had been a positive response to the joint surgeries he had with Councillor Dana Davies where an increase in the number of people attending in comparison to the Cuppa with a Copper which had been tried previously. He suggested that this could be developed further in the future.</p> <p>Item 6.2 Other Matters – Inspector Steve Owens introduced himself to the meeting and advised the Council of his new role which he has undertaken since January 2017. He explained he was responsible for managing the rural area and outlined some of the difficulties the force was experiencing with less resource available and a significant reduction in the number of PCSOs. He explained that these changes have had a major effect on role of the PCSO's, at this time PCSO Bellis will remain dedicated to Ruabon with support from neighbouring PCSO's in his absence. There may be a possibility of amalgamating PCSO's to operate as a neighbourhood team rather than remain ward based. Inspector Owens explained that this would allow them to be deployed across the area and to respond to specific incidents when necessary but still provide the local links to their communities, that decision requires more thought and has yet to be made. Councils would be informed if that situation changes. He advised the meeting that a Priority Demand Team was being set up to provide additional support to the PCSO's and to respond to specific incident which required police action.</p> <p>Inspector Owens outlined the main areas of priority identified by Police Headquarters, these being Domestic Abuse, Child Sexual Exploitation, Human Trafficking and Mental Health issues. He acknowledged that one of the main priorities of the communities was drugs, he pointed out that depending on the context of the situation, linked to the availability of timely and accurate intelligence, this may nw be regarded as a lesser priority when compared with other competing demands. Councillors Sybil Bremner and Joan Lowe expressed their concern that drugs were no longer treated by police as a priority and pointed out that this was a problem affecting residents of all communities with drug dealing occurring openly around the region. It was pointed out that this was one of the priorities identified by Ruabon for action by the police. Inspector Owens requested that all incidents be reported so that a log could be kept and that responses would then be aligned to demand.</p>	Noted

		<p>The issue of 101 calls was raised, Inspector Owens invited the Council to visit to the Force control room in St Asaph and obtain first hand experience of that operation. He suggested that if there were any interested parties, the numbers and available dates if it could be collated so he could liaise and arrange.</p> <p>Councillors asked if it was possible to have a detailed breakdown of recorded incidents, this would allow them to identify where improvements had occurred. PCSO Bellis indicated that the link had been provided. Access to the crime figures are available from information that could be accessed by everyone and that details of the the www.police.uk website. The Clerk was requested to forward contact details of Inspector Owens and PCSO Bellis to all Councillors. The Chair thanked Inspector Owens and PCSO Bellis for attending and they left the meeting at 8.10pm</p>	
4637	7	<p>Item 7.1- Planning Items – the following planning matters were considered:-</p> <p>P/2017/0246 – Penygardden Hall, off Tatham Road, Ruabon – Construction of an external tennis court.</p> <p>P/2017/0250 – 17 Church View Ruabon – Conservatory Extension.</p>	No objections raised
4638	8	<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, or details could be forwarded on as requested. Councillors then considered and dealt with the correspondence as follows:</p> <p>Item 8.1 - W.C.B.C. Adult Social Care – Changes to the Project Management of the Community Agent – responsibility passed to AVOW, Contract still with Adult Social Care.</p> <p>Item 8.2 - 1251 (Berwyn) Air Cadets – Request for financial support towards the provision of equipment etc. The squadron provide regular support to community activities throughout the year.</p> <p>Item 8.3 - W.C.B.C. – Proposed traffic regulation order – parking and waiting restrictions in Duke Street (as per attached plan) to ensure safe movement of pedestrians and vehicles.</p> <p>Item 8.4 - Gaskells Waste - notification of increase in rates</p> <p>Item 8.5 - EE – notification of increase of clerk’s mobile phone charges from £15.00p per month to £15.37p(inc. VAT)</p> <p>Item 8.6 - Welsh Government – Education Workforce Council – Appointment of Deputy Chair – website link to details: http://wales.gov.uk/publicappointments</p> <p>Item 8.7 - Energise Wales Network – Newsletter March 2017 providing sector news, events details of various projects.</p> <p>Item 8.8 - OWL – Warning of latest scams – Cold Callers (maintenance work), Cold telephone calls(telephone preference services) and scam e-mails(Paypal, Nationwide, Apple etc).</p> <p>Item 8.9 - Go Safe – Gosafe Newsletter March 2017</p> <p>Item 8.10 - Welsh Government – Appointment of members – website link to details: http://www.gov.wales/publicappointments</p> <p>Item 8.11 - W.C.B.C – Wrexham Town & Community Council Forum – Additional information relating to items discussed on 16 March, including ‘Reforming Local Government Resilient and Renewal’(White paper) Section 6 reference Community Councils</p> <p>Item 8.12 - Dept. Work & Pensions – Welsh Government Initiative to assist people who have childcare issues return to the workplace or training. Leaflet to circulate.</p> <p>Item 8.13 - Mrs. K Jones – Request to site a bench in the cemetery in memory of her late husband Haydn Jones.</p>	<p>See Item 9.1</p> <p>Clerk to respond include in November 2017</p> <p>Council agreed, check times with Highway Dept.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Request agreed</p>

		<p>Item 8.14 - Mrs. Y. E. Redfurn Meltham, Holmfirth – Request to pre-purchase burial plot in cemetery adjacent to family.</p> <p>Item 8.15 - E-mail Roger Hurst – e-petition to Government which proposes a levy on Professional football clubs to fund the maintenance of children’s play areas. The Link is as below: http://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/185162.</p> <p>Item 8.16 - One Voice Wales – Draft Habitual or Vexatious Complainants Policy for consideration.</p>	<p>Comply with Council policy</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Refer to future meeting</p>
4639	9	<p>Item 9.1 – Community Agent. – The Clerk provided the Council with the monthly report on behalf of the Community Agent. The C.A. reported she had attended a number of meetings with various organisations which had provided her with a greater insight into their operation. These included W.C.B.C. Housing Department, a Betsi Cadwalader Stakeholder event, a meeting with a representative from the Royal Voluntary Service and the Dementia Friendly Communities Co-ordinator.</p> <p>Following the meeting with the Dementia Co-ordinator Ffion has indicated that she would be interested in undertaking a QCF level 3 training course and had discussed the possibility with the Adult Social Care Department. She had also had further contact with other Community Agents to see how the service operates in other areas. She also reported that she was starting her ‘Drop in Sessions’ at Ruabon Library on 12 April and these would continue every second Wednesday each month. To date Ffion has still not had any referrals for the Ruabon area.</p> <p>The Clerk also reported that he had been informed by Ffion that the management of the project had been passed over to AVOW, he pointed out that he had not received any correspondence to the Council prior to the change informing them of the situation, he had contacted Adult Social Care and expressed his concern that no prior consultation had taken place, he was informed the reason for the change was that funding had become available and because of increased workload within the department it was felt that transferring the management to AVOW with their involvement within communities would benefit the scheme.</p> <p>He also informed the meeting since his conversation with Adult Social Care he had been informed the intention was to extend the scheme to include vulnerable adults over 18years of age. The Council were concerned that these changes had been made without prior consultation and it was stressed the need to ensure the original aims of the scheme were achieved before introducing any changes.</p> <p>Councillor Joan Lowe reported that no discussions had taken place within Adult Social Care department and that she would be raising the matter with the Head of Service at Wrexham.</p> <p>Following further discussions the Clerk was requested to write a letter to Adult Social Care expressing the Council’s concerns over the changes. The Clerk also reported that the Council had now received a letter confirming the funding of the project for 2017/2018</p>	<p>Noted</p>
4640	10	<p>Item 10.1- Cemetery Group – With Councillor Paul Bickley not available the Clerk reported the following items on behalf of the Group.</p> <p>The Group had discussed making better use of the storeroom and agreed that by installing racking to the walls some equipment could be better stored. They had also looked at the need to provide a welfare unit and Councillor Smith was looking into the feasibility of incorporating storage and welfare facilities. Councillor Bickley also reported that the wall of the storeroom adjacent to the</p>	<p>Noted</p>

		<p>toilet is in need of attention and requires securing with metal strapping, the long term solution being to rebuild it in double brick. The water butt had been installed at the top of the cemetery and the group were looking into how to improve its aesthetics. The Group had also looked at the turning circle at the northern side of the cemetery and had agreed that this needed to be repaired to allow vehicles access. It was proposed to include this with any improvement work on the footpaths. The Group were also concerned that the toilet facilities were not fit for purpose and were recommending that matter should be referred to the Project Group to consider how the facility can be improved. Councillor Bill Smith proposed and Councillor Lisa Kelly seconded that the report be approved and Council agreed.</p> <p>The Clerk also up-dated Council regarding the negotiation of the lease of the Cemetery Fields to Mr. Gary Billington. The Council's solicitor had reported that it was becoming extremely difficult to get agreement and was suggesting the best option would be to refer the matter directly to an independent solicitor as agreed by the court. Councillor Bill Smith proposed and Councillor Sybil Bremner seconded and Council agreed to refer the lease to an independent solicitor..</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Approved</p>
4641	11	<p>Item 11.1 – V.H.C. Management Group – Councillor Dana Davies reported on the outcome of the recent meeting and the Group were recommending that the following items be considered and approved by Council</p> <p>The MUGA again to be referred to the Project Group for further discussion.</p> <p>An additional radiator be installed within the new room in the pavilion if necessary</p> <p>The electricity meters located in the village hall to be boxed in.</p> <p>The installation of blinds in the pavilion</p> <p>The update of the village hall disclaimer.</p> <p>The Council agreed to the proposals.</p> <p>The Clerk reported he had tested the strength of the W.I.F.I. in the pavilion and it did provide the necessary access to broadband. He also requested the approval to the transfer of funds from the Village Hall account to cover the running costs of the hall and from the reserve account to cover the costs previously agreed. The Council approved the transfer and the letters authorising the transfers were signed by Councillor Sybil Bremner and Dana Davies.</p>	<p>Council Agreed</p>
	12	<p>Item 12.1 - Finance Report – The Clerk reported on the following items</p> <p>Item 12.2 – Accounts Payable – A schedule of accounts requiring payment was circulated Councillor Bob Jackson proposed and Councillor Ann Davies seconded and the Council agreed for payments to be made.</p> <p>Item 12.3 – Annual Audit – The Clerk reported that he had received paperwork for the internal audit which was due in on 27 April 2017. He also reported that the external audit papers had been received with the auditor asking for details relating to staff salaries, Councillors Code of Conduct and Register of Interest.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Noted</p>

