

CHIRK TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y WAUN

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD 25th June 2014

Present

Mr Dewi Evans (Chairman), Ms H Pepler, Mrs H J Spragg, Mrs J Allen, Mrs B Humphreys, Mrs S Newell, Mrs C Gough, Mr N James, Mr F Hemmings, Mr J Vant, Mr D Poppitt, Mr M Maxfield and Mr B Evans.

Cllr Mr Terry Evans, WCBC and Mr S A Hughes, Clerk to the Council

APOLOGIES.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs C Gough and Cllr Ian Roberts.

16. VACANCY CHIRK NORTH.

The Chairman gave a warm welcome to Cllr Barry Evans to the ranks of the Council once again having been returned unopposed as Town Councillor for Chirk North. Cllr Evans had signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as required that was confirmed by the Clerk before the meeting.

The Chairman proposed that agenda item 9 is taken to allow the officer to continue his work in the community and this was agreed.

17. NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING.

PCSO Sawyer was welcomed to the meeting and gave details of the crime statistics for the previous month that were as follows:

PCSO Sawyer said that he and his colleagues had been out with the speed camera and were planning to do more in the coming weeks.

PCSO Sawyer said that had attended incidents reported at the Millennium Gardens but no evidence from the CCTV camera was available, saying the Oak Tree was blocking the view. The officer was asked about using a mobile CCTV camera.

The following were matter was brought to attention: -

- Parking in the areas around the Leisure Centre, Chapel Lane.

The Council agreed that the officer's priorities for the coming weeks should be:

- **North**, Chapel Lane Playground and recreation grounds; parking Chapel Lane, Lloyds Lane, Coronation Drive
- **South**, Millennium Gardens and recreation grounds and Brynkinalt Park.

The Chairman thanked the officer for his attendance and report.

18. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Council held the 28th May 2014 were confirmed as a correct record.

19. ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2014.

The Clerk reminded the Council that the Internal Auditor had completed his audit that was satisfactory and that he had now prepared Statement of Accounts in respect of the Financial Year ending 31st March 2014 as required for the audit and also confirmed that the Council needed to give a Statement of Annual Governance that was duly agreed.

Following this the Chairman signed the Annual Return.

20. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES.

Chirk Court. Cllr Mrs Hilary Spragg informed the Council that at a meeting of the Chirk Court Residential Home Management Committee members were told that the refurbishment and upgrading work to residents quarters was nearly complete and residents most of whom were from Chirk would be in residence soon.

Chirk Celebrations and Lights Committee. Cllr Mr Frank Hemmings reminded members that the Fun Day will be taking place on Saturday June 28th and invited all members to attend and volunteer help on the day.

Ysgol Y Waun. Cllr Mrs Suzanne Newell informed the Council that girls from Year 6 and year 4 took part in the North Wales Tennis Tournament. Both teams won their way to the finals with the Year 6 girls gaining third place and Year 4 girls gaining first place giving them the "Title North Wales Champions". Members were thrilled to hear this news and expressed congratulations to the girls on their fine achievements.

21. REPORTS FROM LOCAL MEMBERS WREXHAM CBC.

Cllr Mr Ian Roberts informed the Council that Wrexham CBC had been reduced again by the Welsh Government and needed to find at least £8 million this financial year meaning that would have to be more cuts in the services provided by the authority. This would affect all areas including his own portfolio for the Environmental Services.

With regard to Ysgol Y Waun Cllr Roberts said that a re-inspection had taken place and he was confident that the outcome would be better than the previous inspection report. The report however, would not be publicised.

Cllr Roberts said that the drainage problem at Low Barracks/Forest Hills was to be attended to involving a road closure to open up the road to find and deal with the cause of the nuisance.

Cllr Roberts expressed thanks to all the volunteers who are helping with grass cutting, gardening, planting and all other work to keep Chirk looking good for all residents and tourists. This was backed up by the Chairman Cllr Dewi Evans who said all appreciated the good job being done.

The dangerous condition of the verges either side of the New Hall Road was brought to the attention of Cllr Roberts as the road was the main access route to the Castle. His attention was also drawn to the grass cutting of the area at Princess Avenue that due to it not being cut earlier was not good enough for children's play and trusted that the next visit by the grass maintenance team would be soon. Cllr Roberts could not give any guarantee about this work.

22. CHURCH SERVICE SUNDAY 3rd AUGUST 2014.

The Clerk informed the Council that an invitation had been received for the Council to attend a special service was to take place at St Mary's Church on Sunday 3rd August 2014 with regard to World War 1 and to honour those who fought for freedom and recognise the brave men who lost their lives for the cause. Members agreed that the Council should attend the Service. The Clerk said details would be sent to Councillors.

23. ONE VOICE WALES.

The Clerk reported receipt of letter from One Voice Wales outlining their Consultancy Service to member Councils. The range of services included Human Resources and Employment Law; Health Safety and Welfare; Accountancy and Audit. Full details including costs will be provided by Mr Paul Egan, Deputy Chief Executive and Resources Manager, One Voice Wales. This information was noted.

24. CHIRK FUN DAY.

The Clerk reported receipt of a request from the Chairman of the Chirk Fun Day Committee for the Council to pay for the cost of providing a PA System for the Fun Day Event. The Clerk said that the Council agreed to this for the last Fun Day in 2013. After consideration the Council decided to provide the PA System.

25. CORRESPONDENCE.

a. Chirk Fun Day.

The Clerk reported receipt of a request from the Chairman of the Chirk Fun Day Committee for the Council to pay for the cost of providing a PA System for the Fun Day Event. The Clerk said that the Council agreed to this for the last Fun Day in 2013. After consideration the Council decided to provide the PA System.

b. Mayor's Civic Visit to Church.

The Clerk reported receipt of an invitation for the Council to be represented at the Mayor's Civic visit to Church on Sunday 6th July 2014. It was agreed that the Chairman and lady should represent the Council at this Civic function.

c. Clwyd Community Chest.

The Clerk reported receipt of Notice of AGM of the Clwyd Community Chest that also included an invitation to membership at a cost of £10.00.

d. Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth

The Clerk reported that Town Councils and others in the UK are being encouraged to raise the Commonwealth Flag on 9th March 2015. It was agreed to consider the matter when the cost of a flag is known.

26. PLANNING MATTERS.

• Planning Application Consultation Procedures.

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the Business Support Officer, Wrexham CBC who had said that the Council will continue to receive hard copies of planning applications.

27. ACCOUNTS.

- a) **Payments.** A list of invoices and payments amounting to £5,490.73 were given to the Council and were passed for payment.