

CHIRK TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y WAUN

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD 29th April 2015

Present

Cllrs Mr D Evans (Chairman), Mrs H J Spragg, Mrs B Humphreys, Mrs J Allen, Mrs S Newell, Mrs C Gough, Mr D Poppitt, Mr W N James, Mr B Evans, Mr F Hemmings, Mr J Vant, Mr M Holmes and Mr D M Roberts.
Mr Sam Hughes, Clerk.

Cllrs Mr Ian Roberts Wrexham CBC.

And four members of the public.

APOLOGIES.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mr M Maxfield and Cllr Terry Evans.

The Chairman welcomed the Clerk after his recent illness.

It was agreed to take agenda item 4 first followed by item 5..

131. VACANCY – CHIRK NORTH WARD.

The Chairman informed the Council that the notice to fill the vacancy by co-option had been duly advertised in the area and Mr David Mark Roberts had applied to fill the vacancy. There were no other applicants. The Council unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Roberts as a member of Chirk Town Council for the Chirk North Ward.

Mr Roberts was at the meeting and The Chairman welcomed him into the body of members having duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as required.

132. NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING.

A report was received from PCSO Sawyer as follows:-

133. Crime Statistics for March:

April A total of 5 crimes reported for the month along **with 8 ASB incidents as follows: -**

Burglary – 1; Theft – 2 (Pedal cycle was returned a few days later). (A laptop left on vehicle-found and not handed in); **Criminal Damage – 3** (vehicle mirror; spray paint to fence; tyres punctured).

PCSO Sawyer informed the meeting that action had been taken with regard to ASB issues at Walden Crescent and Coronation Drive areas where 120 warning letters had been sent to the residents on foot and by unmarked car by officers and the local press have also printed the letter. The Twitter site has been updated with these actions and residents have commented on the level of police presence at the location. PCSO Sawyer said that information on a number of youths possibly responsible for the ASB's has been gathered to which Neighbourhood Police Team (NPT) will attend and warn the parents and name the individual and a warning marker has been placed on the address.

PCSO Sawyer also reported that the NPT had deployed the Speed Gun in Chirk and Ceiriog Valley and that patrols are ongoing at the Millennium Garden following last month's ASB incident and that an operation had been organised for the recent Chirk Triathlon.area

In answer to members queries PCSO Sawyer said the tyre puncture was a random incident and he was in contact with schools for information whether some incidents are by youths from outside of the Chirk.

Cllr Mrs Hilary Spragg thanked the NPT for the police presence in Rhosywaun.

134. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held the 1st April 2015 were confirmed as a correct record.

135. MATTERS ARISING.

125. Clerk's Resignation. The Chairman informed the members that the meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th May at Chirk Parish Hall and that members would receive proper notice.

126. CCTV Sub-Committee. The Clerk said that a meeting of the sub-committee would be arranged soon.

127. Local members report. Cllr Ian Roberts said that 6 weeks were given for the blue haze to be resolved.

136. NOTICE OF ANNUAL AUDIT..

The Clerk reported receipt of Notice from UHY Hacker Young that the date for the audit of the Council's accounts for the year ending 31st March 2015 will be 30th June 2015. The Clerk informed the Council that proper Notice of this will be placed on the Council's notice board and that he will prepare the accounts ready for the Internal Auditor. The Annual Return will be presented to the Council for approval on the 24th June 2015.

137. REPORT FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES.

Chirk Fun Day. Cllr Frank Hemmings informed the Council that the Fun Day had been organised for Saturday 27th June and appealed for volunteers to help on the day.

138. APPEALS.

The Clerk reported receipt of an appeal for financial help in regard to Hafal Wrexham - a charity that helps persons with severe mental illness and their families to work towards recovery. The Council agreed to make a donation of £50.00.

139. CORRESPONDENCE.

The Clerk reported receipt of the following correspondence: -

- a. Letter from the Licensing Team, Wrexham CBC with information with regard to an application for the grant of a premises license to sell alcohol from 9am till 11pm at The Tea Rooms, Church Street, Chirk. This information was noted.
- b. Letter from the Waterway Manager, North Wales and Borders with regard to proposed improvements to improve the facilities for visitors. This information was noted.
- c. Letter from the Head of Regulatory Department regarding the North Wales Transport Plan that has now been submitted to the Minister for Economy Science and Transport in line with Welsh Office guidance. The plan can be seen on website <http://www.taith.gov.uk/publications/> This was noted.
- d. Letter from One Voice Wales with regard to the Local Government (Democracy)(Wales)Act 2013 (Commencement No 2) Order 2015 advising that sections 55-57,68 and 69 of the 2013 Act will commence on the 1st May 2015. This information was noted.
- e. Copy of the One Voice Wales response to the White Paper "Reforming Local Government: Power to the People". The Clerk said he had attended very recent meeting at Mold on the 20th April on behalf of the Council when the Chief Executive of OVW attended to consult with Town and Community Councils representatives about the White Paper. This was short notice as replies to the consultation had to be sent to the Welsh Government by the 24th April. The Clerk said that he had also sent comments on the White Paper on behalf of the Council on matters concerning Town and Community Councils. This information was noted.
- f. A copy of the Wrexham Area Civic Society's Spring Newsletter "In Focus". This was noted.
- g. Letter from the Ombudsman for Wales with regard to revised guidance on the Code of Conduct for members. The Clerk said a copy will be given to all members.

140. PLANNING MATTERS.

It was reported that the Plans Committee had met this evening and had dealt with an application received from the Planning Officer under the consultation procedures for the Councils consideration and comment.

P/2015/0209 Alterations to Shop Front (Insertion of New Window to Front and replacement of door) – Star Fish and Chips, 25 West View, Chirk, Wrexham.

The Council has no objection to this development

P/2015/0216 Application to vary condition 1 of Planning Permission Code P/2009/0900 to allow the development to commence before the expiry of 5 years d from 19/04/2015 – Glenwood, Station Avenue, Chirk, Wrexham.

The Council has no objection to this development

P/2015/0225 Use of land to provide Residential Gypsy/Traveller pitches (7 plots) and erection of communal utility building – Land West of and adjacent to The Bungalow, Old Black Park Road, Halton, Chirk.

The Council objects most strongly to the proposed development and recommends that Wrexham County Borough Council REFUSE planning permission.

The following reasons are given for this: -

1. The development site is ridge top and the most elevated and exposed area of Chirk overlooking the Dee and Ceiriog Valleys. Residential Development would not be allowed planning permission at such a location.
2. The site is agricultural land and as such in the Local Development Plan not Housing Development.
3. The site is outside the settlement area.
4. The site is within the Pontcysyllte and Canal World Heritage Site Buffer Zone.
5. The existing Black Park Road is narrow without pavements and is dangerous and hazardous for pedestrians and other road users – a real accident black Spot. Lorries ,cars, caravans using the site will add to these severe dangerous conditions.
6. The site is in the direct line of the runway at Chirk Airfield and the real dangers associated with landings and take offs. Fatal accidents have occurred as well as other incidents. In 2014 and 2006 2 persons were killed on each occasion during take-offs.
7. It is noted that it is not proposed that the foul drains be connected to the public foul sewer
8. The Primary and Junior schools in Chirk and Pentre have a full complement of pupils. There is also no safe route to either of the schools from this site.
9. The description of the proposed development is not correctly stated as it is apparently intended for the 7 permanent chalet homes to have 7 traveller caravans located with them. This could allow more to reside on the site and be overcrowded.

10. **P/2015/0236 Two storey extension to 70 Church View, Shepherd’s Lane, Chirk.**

The Council has no objection to this development.

11. **P/2015/0275 Application for prior approval of Telecommunication equipment (siting and appearance) involving removal of existing 15m high monopole and replace with 17.5 high monopole and 6 No. antennae and other associated works –**

Telecommunications mast Bronywaun, Colliery Road, Chirk, Wrexham

The Council has no objection to this development

141. ACCOUNTS.

- a) **Payments.** A list of invoices and payments amounting to £13,483.39 were given to the Council and were passed for payment.
- b) **Accounts.** The Clerk provided members with details of expenditure to 31st March 2015 compared to the annual budget agreed by the Council. The Clerk also provided detail of the bank reconciliation showing that expenditure totalled £171,784.16 and receipts £210,015.57.
The Council accepted the report and thanked the Clerk.

Signed

Chairman

27th May 2015