



CHIRK TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y WAUN

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 29th MARCH 2017

Present

Cllrs. Mrs Jackie Allen (JA), Mr Frank Hemmings (FH), Mrs Barbara Humphreys (BH), Mr John Vant (JV), Mr Mark Holmes (MH), Mr Brian Colley (BC), Mr Newman James (NJ), Mr Michael Maxfield (MM) & Mrs Sarah Williams (SW).

WCBC Cllrs. Mr Terry Evans (TE) & Mr Ian Roberts (IR).

Mr Shaun Jones (SJ), Clerk to the Council.

Apologies

No apologies received ahead of the meeting but Cllr. Claire Gough did email her apologies to the Clerk at 18:49hrs this evening but her note was not opened until the following morning.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest noted based on the published agenda.

127. MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 22nd FEBRUARY 2017

The draft minutes for the Council Meeting held 22nd February 2017 are now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion was passed unanimously.**

128. MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising.

129. NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

No report from the Police. A little farther on during the meeting PCSO Dean Sawyer did deliver a written monthly report and this was distributed to members. Mention of the Go Safe team operating on the A5 made, some 61 speeders in 90 minutes will be receiving tickets in the post. Continuing patrols to reduce youth anti-social behaviour. 1 arrest for Driving under the Influence. 1 recorded burglary, 3 theft, 1 criminal damage and 7 ASB.

130. REPORT OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD 22ND FEBRUARY 2017

The draft minutes for the General Purposes Committee meeting held 22nd February 2017 are now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **Proposed FH and seconded BC – The motion was passed unanimously.**

Matters arising: The Clerk was asked to invite Sarah Jones of Cadwyn Clwyd to meet the working party to progress the iBeacon initiative.

131. REPORT OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 7TH MARCH 2017

The draft minutes for the Special Council Meeting held 7th March 2017 are now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion was passed unanimously.**

132. REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 24TH MARCH 2017

The draft minutes for the Finance Sub-Committee meeting held 24th March 2017 are now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **Proposed JV and seconded BH – The motion was passed unanimously.**

133. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

FH reported on his attendance at a Management Committee meeting of Black Park Community Centre last night. After the recent loss of their long term tenant the focus was on cutting their cloth to take account of lower income streams. The earlier AGM, attended by SJ has seen new members of the community join the committee.

BH reported on recently attending a Care Home Advisory Committee meeting. Chirk Court is operating satisfactorily in its newly expanded accommodation. It was reported that some snags in the new building have been identified and reported for action by the construction company under their contractual obligation.

Also attended a recent Governors meeting of the Dee Valley Federation of Schools where mention of the mobile classrooms at Pentre School were raised as a matter of concern – some refurbishment and possible expansion discussed.

JA attended the AGM for the Chirk & Ceiriog Valley Partnership recently. Recent financials show £415 income from membership and £1044 expenditure which includes the £750 for participating in the iBeacon initiative. They have £513 in the bank. The latest round of membership fees are due and some possibility of grant funding. The brochure reprint is expected to cost £1,400 - £1,900. All posts were re-appointed. Roads and signage and 4x4 usage were issues discussed.

Also attended the Wrexham/Flintshire One Voice Wales area committee meeting. Those councillors that are not seeking re-election in the upcoming Local Council Elections were no shows thus there was a poorer attendance than usual. 9 community/town councils were present. Mention of many councils running with not all councillor places taken up. After the May elections this may still present a challenge to some councils. To offset this, OVW are promoting the take up of recommendations made by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales on payments available to support Councillors in performing their duties. No Councillor should be out of pocket.

SJ as well as JA & FH attended the Town and Community Council Forum at the Guild Hall, Wrexham on 16th March 2017. Topics covered were responding to the latest consultation on reform of Local Government, Prevent Action Plan – Counter Terrorism and Data Protection & Community Councils. Also attended PCSO Workshop on 16th March 2017. An update on Safer Neighbourhood Teams operating in Wrexham CBC given by Chief Insp. Dave Jolly. Note that PCSO numbers are falling by 12 across the Borough.

134. REPORTS – LOCAL MEMBERS WREXHAM CBC

TE reported:-

Pen-y-Bont landfill site is now closed.

Took a tour around Chirk with Ian Jones of WCBC Environmental Dept on Tuesday at 1pm. From Chirk Green a blue plume was seen. Also a chemical taste in the air on the front of Maes y Waun.

Queuing lorries to Lodgevale seen but the weighbridge is not the problem. Staff were also seen on works gate. Also concrete lorries using an alternative entrance to the construction site – opposite Williams of Chirk Plant hire.

Also met with Dave Jones of Streetscene to identify spot repairs and also agreed to spray for weeds.

IR referred back to the closure of the Pen-y-Bont landfill site. Believed to have opened some 22 years ago. Personally had a long association with the many issues raised – glad to see this is now coming to an end.

Both IR and TE agreed to enquire of Wrexham County Borough Council about the future of the Pen-y-Bont site? Invite them to a site visit to give information over what the future plans are for the site. It was thought that it could possibly become land for recreation – if deemed appropriate.

Q&A

JV understands that Cllr. Ian Roberts is not standing at the upcoming elections. He proposed a vote of thanks for representing the constituents of Chirk North so well for over 22 years on Wrexham County Borough Council (since its creation). There was unanimous agreement and applause in the Council Chamber.

SW asked of TE for an update on the planning appeal lodged by Kronospan. It is understood that there has been a recent site visit by Welsh Assembly Government and a little confusion over whether they have miss-timed the appeal and will be required to re-apply for planning permission – i.e. start from the beginning. TE understands that Kronospan update the Chirk Environmental Liaison Group on planning matters which will report back to full Council.

In addition SW had a question over the bin close to the Old Surgery – TE confirmed this is being looked into. TE was thanked for all his work over the last 12 months.

135. CLERK'S REPORT

SJ reported the following :-

CCTV footage of parking on the zig zags on Church Street passed to the Safer Neighbourhoods Team so they can send a warning letter to the registered keeper of the vehicle.

A grant application made of the Wrexham Play *Sufficiency* Grant Program 2017 was successful. This was jointly made with some residents and the Town Council after consulting with the children. A new adventure trail supplied by Play & Leisure will be soon installed with the £5,000.00 awarded.

A new regular booking for Chirk Parish Hall will see karate classes on Mondays and Wednesdays.

The clerk attended a one day CiLCA training course in Mold. It covered The General Power of Competence, new legislation and sources of advice, agenda setting and meeting procedures, standing orders and committees and Freedom of information.

136. APPEALS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Welsh Air Ambulance – financial support request. FH proposed and BH seconded to make a donation of £100 – **motion carried.**

Chirk AAA Football Club – Cllr. Mark Holmes declared a personal interest and completed a declaration form. Letter from the Chair of the Club advising of reaching the final of Welsh Trophy 2016/17 in Aberystwyth. They wish to apply for a financial donation of £300 to cover the cost of a new medical bag and contents, water bottles and carrier & new balls (equipment). All will display the logo of Chirk TC. MM proposed that we accede to the request and this was seconded by SW. **Motion carried.**

137. CORRESPONDENCE

- **Macmillan Cancer Support** – Letter of thanks for £100 donation. **Noted.**
- **Home Start** – Letter of thanks for £50 donation. **Noted.**
- **Chirk Celebrations & Lights Committee** – Email covering “Fly Posters” and Chirk Ceiriog Valley Partnership AGM (also see minute 133). **Noted.**
- **Donna Dickenson** – Update on Open Access community based Youth Services. **Noted.**
- **Kidney Wales** – Invitation to join a Celebration Dinner @ £45pp. **Noted.**
- **Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales** – Annual Report 2017/18, section 13 details 8 determinations directly affecting Town/Community Councils. **Noted.**
- **Black Park Community Centre** – Email requesting a letter of support for a grant application to WREN. FH gave further background and proposed that CTC write a letter of support. **Motion Carried – SJ will action.**

138. PLANNING MATTERS

The following applications for planning consent received from the Chief Planning Officer, Wrexham County Borough Planning Authority under the consultation procedures for consideration and comment was dealt with.

- **P/2017/0181 Construction Of Silage Clamp And Extension To General Purpose Farm Building Pen Y Parc Farm, Black Park, Chirk, Wrexham, LL14 5AX**

Comments: *The Council has no objection to the proposal.*

- **P/2015/0225 S78 Appeal. Planning Inspectorate Ref: H6955/A/17/3166718 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, Wrexham**

Comments: *The Clerk updated committee members on progress to date, including the recent Public Meeting hosted by the Chair of Chirk Town Council.*

- **P/2016/1165 Amendment to Outline Application (Including Means Of Access) For Up To 23 (down from 24) Dwellings And Associated Works. Land On North Side Of Station Avenue, Chirk, Wrexham**

Comments: *The Council remain with the comments originally submitted and refer to those of Mr & Mrs Gareth Hughes recently sent which Council also supports.*

The report of the Plans Sub-committee meeting held on 22nd February 2017 was passed as an accurate record. **Motion carried.**

139. ACCOUNTS

- **Payments**

A list of invoices and payments (to 29.03.17) amounting to £11,914.91 & £69.25 (using pre-paid creditcard) was given to the Council and were passed for payment (see addendum). Proposed FH and seconded JV for approval – motion carried.

- **Earmarked Reserves**

As at 31.3.17, Parish Hall Renovations - £148,000, Play Area Maintenance/Renewal £5,000, Community Agent £2,000, Cemetery £2,000 & CCTV £6,000.

- **Pay Scales**

Confirmed Spinal Point 30 for Clerk and Caretaker/Playground Inspection x 2 on SCP 10. The Community Agent currently receives £7.20/hour.

140. ANNUAL REVIEW OF CHIRK TOWN COUNCIL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS INCLUDING INTERNAL CONTROLS & RISK ASSESSMENT

Based on recommendations in the latest report from the Internal Auditors updates to the Financial Regulations covering use of Internet Banking making payments directly to suppliers were reviewed, approved and incorporated. The Risk Assessment section has been updated with respect to keeping an updated Register of Assets, also reviewed, approved and incorporated. It was proposed by FH and seconded by BC that Council approves this review – **motion carried.**

141. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- SW raised a potential issue of some garden boundaries backing onto the Crogen/Offa Recreation Ground being extended. Advised this is a matter for Wrexham County Borough Council as they are the land owners.

Meeting closed 8:20pm.

Signed

Chairman

26th April 2017