



CHIRK TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y WAUN

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD 31st MAY 2017

Present

Cllrs Mr Frank Hemmings (FH), Mrs Jackie Allen (JA), Mrs Barbara Humphreys (BH), Mr Brian Colley (BC), Mr Terry Evans (TE), Mr Michael Maxfield (MM), Mr Newman James (NJ), Ms Kirsty Cottam (KC) & Mr Mark Holmes (MH).
Mr Shaun Jones (SJ), Clerk to the Council.

Not Present

Cllr. Sarah Williams.

Apologies

Apologies for absence: Cllr. Mr Mark Roberts.

Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interest: No declarations of interest made at this point

12. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES AS A TRUE RECORD OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26TH APRIL 2017.

The draft minutes for the Council Meeting held 26th April 2017 are now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion proposed JA and seconded BH was passed unanimously.**

13. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES AS A TRUE RECORD OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 10TH MAY 2017.

The draft minutes for the Annual General Meeting held 10th May 2017 are now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion proposed JA and seconded BH was passed unanimously.**

14. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES RECEIVED ABOVE NOT REPORTED ELSEWHERE.

None raised.

15. TO CONSIDER NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING MATTERS.

No PCSO present this evening (the next quarterly attendance is expected at the July 2017 Ordinary Meeting). PCSO Martin Griffiths has sent a Summary of Priorities and Crime Figures report for Councillors' information. Matters raised by Councillors follow:-

NJ – Expressed concerns over the lack of presence of PCSO's in town. Relating to the Crime Figures report it was stated that the "Ongoing Neighbourhood Dispute" has been reported repeatedly – if it is in fact the same issue.

TE – Also commented on the lack of PCSO/Police presence on the streets.

JA – Has witnessed Scaffolding Lorries obstructing the Pedestrian Crossing in Church Street. Regularly there can be seen similar issues around 7:30am and 8:30am and Teatime. At a meeting with Insp. Steve Owens he reassured Cllr Holmes and JA that additional focus on the problem would be given. He saw the CCTV system live at that meeting.

NJ – came back in that Police Officers have simply passed by when these obstructions – illegal of course are being caused.

BC – Very frustrated over this issue of obstruction. Parking outside the Co-op is also dangerous.

BH – Also agrees and has witnessed the crossing nearby obstructed by parked lorries. They should be booked.

KC – reports of an issue in Black Park concerning a robbery where a home was broken into to steal the keys of a van which was then taken. The home where the perpetrator lives is WCBC temporary accommodation and FH has agreed to take up this matter. See if there can be a re-assignment of the accommodation to avoid issues in future.

16. **TO RECEIVE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 3RD MAY 2017.**
The draft report of the Staff Sub-Committee meeting held 3rd May 2017 is now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion proposed JA and seconded FH was passed unanimously.**
Mention of matter arising on item 3 made, SJ advised that he had not been able to prepare the draft Job Descriptions and call a further committee meeting ahead of this evenings meeting as originally outlined. JA asks that when the next Staff committee is arranged to avoid a Wednesday evening please.
17. **TO RECEIVE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 3RD MAY 2017**
The draft report of the Finance Committee meeting held 3rd May 2017 is now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion proposed BC and seconded BH was passed unanimously.**
18. **TO RECEIVE ORAL REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES.**
JA gave a report on the Chirk Environmental Liaison Group meeting held the previous day at Chirk Parish Hall. Kronospan began by showing their Vision/Corporate Presentation. Chirk to be the No.1 site in the group. Some £150 million of inward investment. Along with dust nuisance to be greatly reduced. Then the Sub-Group on Air Quality reported. All readings taken were found to be within permitted levels. For the time being the current additional Air Quality monitoring will cease with the caveat that the CELG can re-convene. Complaints are averaging 12 per month. If you experience instances of Nuisance Dust can this please be reported to Kronospan and Wrexham CBC – Public Protection and copied to Chirk Town Council (CTC). CTC then presented a recent video and photographs submitted to them by a concerned resident. This illustrated how some nuisance dust is resulting from handling of recycled materials. Currently the operations at Kronospan are running at 75%. There was interest in a look at vehicle movements. Reports of nuisance dust are made from places far and wide. Questions over what happens on site overnight that appears to create instances of nuisance dust. JA invited Councillors to join her in the near future on a walk through Canal Wood to see areas that have died back – possibly as a result of nearby industrial activity. It may also be appropriate to invite Mondelez and Richard Burbidge (companies adjacent to Kronospan) to a future meeting of the CELG to have input into an Annual Work Plan. A site visit for a few Councillors has been agreed by Kronospan, likely in a few months' time. The Permit transfer from WCBC Public Protection to Natural Resources Wales is being planned for and could take a further 12 months to come into effect.
19. **TO RECEIVE ORAL REPORTS FROM LOCAL MEMBERS – WREXHAM CBC.**
TE thanked residents for voting him to continue as the Chirk South ward Councillor at Wrexham CBC. There was a 61% turnout which was the biggest across the County Borough. Also TE has now a new role as Lead Member for Economy and Re-generation.
FH, as a newly elected Councillor, has attended a number of key training sessions already. He has been asked to look at issues of littering in the vicinity of McDonalds Restaurant in Halton. Forest Hills is one of the places affected as well as Old Black Park Road.
20. **TO DECIDE UPON APPEALS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RECEIVED.**
None received.
21. **TO RECEIVE ORAL REPORT FROM MEMBERS SITTING ON THE IBEACON WORKING PARTY AND GIVE FORMAL APPROVAL TO PARTICIPATE.**
BC reported on a recent meeting with Ms. Sarah Jones of Cadwyn Clwyd with the working party (Cllrs. Mr Brian Colley & Mr Frank Hemmings along with Mr John Vant, Mr Deryn Poppitt and the Clerk) where more details on the deployment and ongoing operation of the network were given. The group are very happy to be involved and recommend to Council that signing up for this opportunity will enhance the visitor experience to Chirk and the Ceiriog Valley. BC also advised that there is no duplication with the Destination Wrexham kiosk sited at Glyn Wylfa, in fact iBeacon complements this. **A motion to contribute £750 to be participants in the iBeacon project was proposed by BC and seconded by NJ. The motion carried with all but one in favour.**

22. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PROCESS OF CO-OPTION TO FILL 4 VACANCIES AFTER THE RECENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS AND SET A DATE TO FORMALLY CO-OPT.

The closing date for those interested to be considered for co-option is tomorrow. SJ reports that currently we will not fill all the vacancies. **A motion proposed by JA and seconded by BH was to extend the closing date by one week and publicise to encourage more people to come forward. All agreed and motion carried.** SJ will action directly.

A full council meeting will be arranged to proceed with the co-option of electors to the 4 vacant places.

23. TO RECEIVE AN ORAL REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE COVERING THE 2016 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AND APPROVE.

The Finance Committee met ahead of this evenings Ordinary Meeting. They have reviewed the 6 nominations received for this year's award. Members voted and a clear decision over who the award should go to this year was arrived at. In addition a Special Award was proposed and for this to be presented at this year's reception. The names of the recipients are embargoed ahead of them being contacted by the Clerk. **Members confirmed approval of the recommendations – carried.** SJ will now go ahead with making the usual arrangements for the COY evening reception.

24. TO RECEIVE THE ORAL REPORT OF THE CLERK – INCLUDES CORRESPONDENCE.

SJ reported on the following correspondence:-

- **Sean Hanratty of Wrexham CBC Rights of Way** – advising of a new routing of footpath 45 with the permission of the Hospital Trust and WCBC being the respective land owners. This does still leave some householders with a problem that those with the original route through their back gardens and back onto John Pierce's land will find the legal line of the footpath is reinstated. Probably this will result in some sort of legal challenge. **Noted.**
- **Mandi Southern of Clwyd Alyn** – Invitation to Chirk Court Open Day, Friday 16th June 2017
Civic Support Officer of Wrexham Mayoral Office – Invitation to join Mayor of Wrexham, Cllr. John Pritchard, at a Civic Service at St Giles Parish Church. Sunday 25th June 2017 at 11:00am. **FH, BH, MR & SJ plan to attend.**
- **Joseph Palasz – Tree Charter Communications Officer** – Plant a Tree Charter Legacy Tree. **Noted.**
- **One Voice Wales** – Larger Councils & Innovative Practice Awards Conference 5th July Hafod a Hendre, Royal Welsh Showground. **Noted.**
- **David Holland – Marie Curie**, promote upcoming Blooming Great Tea Party season – 23rd to 25th June 2017. **Noted.**
- **Bruno Peek – Battles Over - A Nations Tribute & WW1 Beacons of Light 11th November 2018.** Over 800 Beacon Lighting Events confirmed – target is 1000. **Noted.**
- **One Voice Wales** – Receipt of membership subscription and request to update database. **Noted.**
- **One Voice Wales** – Flintshire/Wrexham Area Committee meeting 7th June 2017 @ 7:00pm. **Noted.**
- **Seafarers UK** – Fly the Red Ensign for Merchant Navy Day – 3rd September 2017. **Noted.**
- **Wrexham Town & Community Council Forum** – date of next meeting 26th June 2017 @ 4:00pm. Venue Guildhall. Submit suggestions for agenda items by 7th June. **Noted.**
- **SSAFA – The Armed Forces Charity** – Invitation to the Clwyd Branch Annual General Meeting 14th June 2017 Wrexham Golf Club @ 7:30pm. **FH is to attend.**
- **PCSO Dean Sawyer** – Details of Parking Tickets issued – 16 in the last 17 months. **Noted.**

SJ also read out a recent progress report addressed to members by our Community Agent – Cath Gleave. **Noted.**

25. TO RECEIVE AN ORAL REPORT FROM PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE.

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/2017/0346 Removal of Beech Tree and Individual Trees (See Attached Plan) (Within Chirk Conservation Area)**
Bryn Eglwys, Castle Road, Chirk, Wrexham, LL14 5BS

Comments: The Council has no objection to the proposal.

- **P/2017/0350 Lime Tree (T16) Removal of Epicormic Growth From Around Base To A Height Of 3.5M Above Ground Level To Allow Closer Inspection And Assess Condition (TPO WCBC No 59)**
Land On North Side Of Station Avenue, Chirk, Wrexham

Comments: *The Council recommends refusal of this application for the reasons below:-*

- *The protected tree in question is clearly part of the Conservation Area and estimated to be over 200 years old.*
 - *It is part of an avenue of trees which form a key part of the Natural Heritage of Chirk*
 - *The proposed actions could damage the tree, even so far as causing it to die.*
- **P/2017/0395 Partial Demolition Of Site Boundary Wall To Increase Vehicular Access (Within Chirk Conservation Area)**
Royston House Church Street, Chirk, Wrexham, LL14 5HA

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

- **P/2017/0407 Single Storey Rear Extension**
Formally Known As The Milk Bar, Church Street, Chirk, Wrexham, LL14 5HA

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

- **P/2017/0417 Replacement Conservatory and Alterations To Pitch of Roof**
Halton Cottage, Halton, Chirk, Wrexham, LL14 5BG

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

26. TO APPROVE PAYMENTS TO BE MADE AS ON LIST ATTACHED.

Payments

A list of invoices and payments (to 31.05.17) amounting to £9,434.83 & £343.81 (using pre-paid creditcard) was given to the Council and were passed for payment (see addendum). Proposed JA and seconded MH for approval – motion carried.

27. TO PRESENT ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

None presented.

Meeting closed 8:15pm.

Signed

Chairman

28th June 2017