



CHIRK TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y WAUN

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD 27th JUNE 2018

Present

Cllrs. Mrs Jackie Allen (JA), Mr Brian Colley (BC), Mrs Barbara Humphreys (BH), Mr Michael Maxfield (MM), Mr Frank Hemmings (FH), Ms. Eleanor Burnham (EB), Mr Terry Evans (TE), Mr Gareth Baines (GB), Mrs Sarah Williams (SW), Ms Kirsty Cottam (KC), Mr Mark Holmes (MH), Mrs Dot Griffiths (DG), Miss Lynne Painter (LP) & Mr Mark Roberts (MR)
Mr Shaun Jones (SJ), Clerk to the Council. Ms. Lucy Wain, Press – NWN.

Apologies

Cllr. Newman James.

29. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES AS A TRUE RECORD OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 30TH MAY 2018.

The draft minutes for the Annual General Meeting held 30th May 2018 are now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion proposed GB and seconded MM was passed unanimously.**

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

None raised.

31. TO CONSIDER NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING MATTERS.

No PCSO present, however, a report from PCSO Dean Sawyer lists 5 crimes and 5 instances of ASB for the month of June to date. Members noted.

32. TO RECEIVE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 21ST JUNE 2018.

The draft report of the Finance Committee meeting held 21st June 2018 is now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion proposed SW and seconded BC was passed unanimously.**

Matters arising: –

Item 3 – EB asked if illustrative graphics could be introduced to make it easier to digest the financial data being reported on.

33. TO RECEIVE ORAL REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES.

BH gave members and update on a recent site visit to Pen y Bont Landfill. We are at the pre application stage for outline planning permission, some 60 houses are proposed on this brownfield site and in addition some holiday cabins which would come later. Over 50 people attended the site visit. The next stage will be for the application to be submitted to Wrexham County Borough Council.

JA reported on attending the recent One Voice Wales AGM for Wrexham Flintshire and Denbighshire area. Lyn Cadwallader chaired the meeting as Luned has recently stopped working for One Voice Wales. It was reported that One Voice Wales will be represented by Lyn Cadwallader on a Wales wide body with community asset transfer as the area of focus. Rossett Community Council reported a part-time street cleaner and odd job man. Neighbouring Gresford have also engaged a linesman. These are examples of where the first tier of local government having to fill gaps. It was also stated to expect 4 weekly bin collections as the new norm. Principal authorities are cutting deep.

34. TO RECEIVE ORAL REPORTS FROM LOCAL MEMBERS – WREXHAM CBC.

FH referenced a recent Wrexham County Borough Council report published by Kingdom who are the third party contractor engaged to enforce the Public Space Protection Order put in place by Wrexham CBC. The report produced in May does detail Chirk North as being the ward with the most tickets issued. The picture may not be so black and white as the McDonald's restaurant in Chirk is located in the ward and it is understood many of the tickets were issued at this location. In addition a resident of Lodgevale has published a letter which sets out opposition to the single site in Chirk which is designated for 180 new homes as this is a greenfield site and in the writer's view other brownfield sites should be conceded ahead. The local development plan consultation is still open and as many residents who wish to support or reject the proposals should participate.

TE explained that budget provision in Wrexham County Borough Council is very tight. Further savings on waste and recycling are envisaged. Collection of green waste in the winter months is now likely to stop and the frequency of black bin may be changed - every three or four weeks as against the current fortnightly collection. Even operation of libraries and public conveniences are areas where more savings are being looked for. TE went on to advise that hedge trimming in a number of nearby locations has either taken place or will soon be undertaken. Councillor Newman James requested ahead of this meeting that the hedges along Trap Bank and C&S stores also be trimmed.

EB queried the period when green waste will not be collected. This was thought likely to be from November to March.

BH suggests those that have paid for a second green bin look to making a request for a partial refund if the service is suspended over winter.

The cost of purchasing a wheelie bin is set at approximately £58 - for information, EB queried.

GB provided some information to TE regarding recent works in the Fron Isa area that has uncovered tree roots damaging the water main pipe. A reduction in pressure has been noted.

EB brought attention to concerns over a commercial premises placing items for recycling alongside the usual domestic premises boxes. TE will review this matter.

KC informed members that the Black Park Community Centre have announced an emergency committee meeting and requests SW & FH to attend.

BH mentioned a matter for FH, a recent road traffic accident and the general high speed of traffic in the Pentre/Pen y Bont area. If possible the speed of traffic should be monitored perhaps with an automated traffic survey.

DG highlighted annoying illegal parking on Colliery Road. Particularly bad on a Friday or Saturday evening. The painting of road lines is a maintenance task very much needed. GB also mentioned parking on double yellow lines by the Indian restaurant. DG added that when the Youth Football Club are using the Longfield Recreation Ground there are also parking issues - obstruction etc.

LP raised her concern to FH over the recent press comment over littering in Chirk North ward. It was upsetting to read.

SW requested a look at overgrown hedgerows leading up to the hospital. Some efforts have been made at the hospital but visibility is still obscured for motorists. Secondly the worksite location near to her home on Princess Avenue sees a good deal of inconsiderate parking by the contractors. The service bus is having to squeeze through and instances of cars being clipped have been reported. Finally SW notes completion of the driveway improvements - thanks.

MR informs TE that the contractors at Mondelez will undertake work to tidy the greenery along Station Avenue.

SW with one last contribution made mention of environmental health concerns over the number of rats seen in the Duke Street area primarily but other areas in Chirk also. Many instances are being reported and people are paying to have the problems seen to. Please ensure the WCBC team are also engaged to tackle the issue.

35. TO DETERMINE A MONTHLY SCHEDULE/CALENDAR FOR KEY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The suggested dates for key committee meetings was approved by members.

36. TO DECIDE UPON WHEN MEETING MINUTES SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW.

Members were asked to suggest when they would like to see draft minutes published. EB thought "as soon as possible", while JA suggested within a week. Finally it was agreed to trial a target of 10 days after the meeting. SJ is happy for this to be monitored and if the target is missed on many occasions for this matter to be reviewed once again.

37. TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS FOR AGENDA TOPICS FOR THE WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM – NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER.

JA wished to highlight the Town & Community Council Forum hosted by Wrexham CBC. This was in part brought about as the Charter initiative was rejected by Wrexham County Borough Council, the forum being the alternative. Of late a meeting has been cancelled at short notice and there have been instances where items that have been put forward for discussion have been knocked back. Subjects like street lighting, school no waiting/20mph zones and planning. EB expressed great concern and made the suggestion to table the difficulties DG has been trying to get traction on over inconsiderate and illegal parking on Colliery Road. Members agreed to keep a close eye and to submit suggestions for discussion.

38. TO DECIDE UPON APPEALS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RECEIVED.

SJ provided information on the annual budget set and total of grants already made, £4,500 and £900 (April and May meetings) respectively. This shows we are on track as we consider application at 10 meetings annually thus apportioned as £450 at each meeting can be granted.

- **Chirk AAA Football Club** – MH declared an interest and completed the requisite declaration which will be recorded and published online. The appeal is for a new team in the 16 – 19 years age group who cannot play in the adult league. This initiative is seen as helping this age group by providing a team sport and a positive activity. Costs for running 2 teams are currently c£8,000. – proposed BC, seconded MM to grant £400, an amendment to grant £600 – proposed by SW, stating this was a brand new section and she recognised there is little for this age group to do (no youth club) and seconded EB – 4 votes in favour for the amendment – not carried, **for the original £400 proposed grant – 8 votes – motion carried.** BC also recommended that the team write to Glyn Wylfa who also award community grants.
- **Wrexham & District Citizens Advice Bureau** – proposed GB, seconded DG to grant £200, an amendment to grant £500 proposed EB and seconded TE – 5 votes in favour of the amendment – not carried, **for the original £200 proposed grant – 8 votes – motion carried.** It was also suggested to make further applications in future if necessary.
- **Nightingale House Hospice, Wrexham** – proposed EB, seconded FH to grant £200 – **motion carried.**

39. TO RECEIVE INTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT AND ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2018.

The Internal Auditors report was thoroughly reviewed and explanations by SJ provided when required. All members agreed that the Audit report be noted. JA thanked the Clerk for the work undertaken. Then the completed Annual Return for 2017/18 was tabled. All members gave approval and both the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) and Chair signed the section to complete the Annual Return. Inspection by electors is closing on 19th July 2018 and then all will be submitted to Grant Thornton – the External Auditors.

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

SJ asked members for guidance over a request to place a banner advertisement on the Holyhead Road railings bordering Chapel Lane Recreation Ground. JA outlined that some years back when the town were entered in Wales and Britain in Bloom competitions banners were removed as being a tourist town we didn't think they made a great impression and also whether free advertising be condoned. Also on the railings further North in the New Rhos y Waun area these were considered a problem because of restricting visibility close to the road crossing. There have been exceptions allowed before and since. In this case **TE proposed we support Freedom Leisure** and agree to the poster so long as it is removed within a week of the offer period closing. This was seconded by SW and the **motion carried** but not unanimous.

The May 2018 report from Kingdom Security Ltd was outlined – including the Chirk North figure of 54 fixed penalty notices being issued – mostly for cigarette litter.

SJ advised receipt of the meeting minutes for the last Chirk & Ceiriog Valley Partnership meeting held on the 8th May 2018. SJ attended in place of JA.

JA read out a letter addressed to the Clerk and all Councillors sent by Mrs Cath Roberts our Community Agent. The letter advised of her decision to resign from her position as the Community Agent in Chirk. Cath has been studying for an Open University degree in Social Care which now can be switched to Nursing (both courses share the same initial modules) and in doing so Cath must also be employed in an

hospital environment. She states that she has really enjoyed the post and will be sad to leave. SJ has been requested to send a letter of thanks from the members to Cath. EB stated she has recently been assisting Cath with the translation into Welsh of a new publicity brochure. She adds her support for the CA role. BC commented this was a very worthwhile activity in the community. **It was agreed that we should recruit a person to take over from Cath. SJ will be delegated to undertake.**

Correspondence:-

- **Chirk Youth U13 FC** – Card expressing thanks for the support and in Holland they came 5th out of 20 teams competing – they had an amazing time. **Noted.**
- **Wrexham Area Civic Society** – Call for nominations – Annual Awards. **Noted.**
- **FCC Environment** – Community Liaison Meeting 11.7.18 – Wrexham Recycling Park. **Noted and JA/BH/GB plan to attend.**
- **Stephen Birch – Chirk Youth FC** – Looking for additional pitches to play on. **Members note recent email correspondence with the Clerk and confirm that Chirk Recreation Ground must not be regularly offered for use to play football matches. JA to respond along these lines.**
- **North & Mid Wales Trunk Road Agent** – Overnight works – July, 1, 6 & 8. **Noted.**

41. TO RECEIVE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 21ST JUNE 2018.

All members **received and accepted the draft report** as presented.

With reference to Item 4 – the pre-consultation stage for Kronospan to develop a new production facility for Oriented Strand Board, GB raised a concern over any effect this proposal may have on the water supply – particularly the company's use of bore holes to supply the new process and any lasting effect on the water table. There are many instances of lowering pressure in Clwyd South that may be as a result of a change in water table levels.

42. TO CONSIDER ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECENTLY NOTIFIED.

After a short discussion over the applications in hand, it was agreed to call a Planning Sub-Committee meeting on the 10th July 2018 (subject to confirmation by the Clerk).

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

A list of invoices and payments (to 27.06.18) amounting to £11,799.86 & £713.51 (using pre-paid creditcard) was given to the Council and were passed for payment (see addendum). All members signalled acceptance – **motion carried.**

44. TO PRESENT ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA.

- Look at Tenancy Agreement for Parish Hall House – conditions by which to keep the garden well maintained. Likely to be a future agenda item at a General Purposes Committee meeting.

Meeting closed 8:43pm.

Signed

Chairman

25th July 2018