



# CHIRK TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y WAUN

## MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING HELD 31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2018

### **Present**

Mrs Jackie Allen (JA), Mrs Barbara Humphreys (BH), Mr Michael Maxfield (MM), Miss Lynne Painter (LP), Mrs Dot Griffiths (DG), Mrs Sarah Williams (SW), Ms Eleanor Burnham (EB), Mr Brian Colley (BC), Mr Mark Holmes (MH), Mr Terry Evans (TE).  
PCSO Martin Griffiths (MG).  
Mr Shaun Jones (SJ), Clerk to the Council and 0 Members of the Public present.

### **Not Present.**

Mr Gareth Baines

### **Apologies**

Apologies for absence: Cllrs Mr Frank Hemmings, Mr Mark Roberts, Mr Newman James & Ms Kirsty Cottam.

### **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest noted based on the published agenda. See Minute 132 where six declarations were made.

### **123. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES AS A TRUE RECORD OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 13TH DECEMBER 2017.**

The draft minutes for the Council Meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 are now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion proposed EB and seconded DG was passed unanimously.**

### **124. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES AS A TRUE RECORD OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2018.**

The draft minutes for the Special Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 are now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion proposed LP and seconded BH was passed unanimously.**

### **125. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES RECEIVED ABOVE NOT REPORTED ELSEWHERE.**

Minute 122 – 9.1.18 – SJ confirmed that Wrexham CBC have been sent the usual notification of Precept for 2018/19.

### **126. TO CONSIDER NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING MATTERS**

MG welcomed and began with working through the published report for the month of January. Reported crime shown be quite low at the moment. There has been one incident where an individual had called emergency services over 300 times. There are concerns for the mental health of the perpetrator. Figures YTD for Chirk North ward were up by 5 and Chirk South down by 27. There was some confusion over the new layout of information brought to the meeting regarding how to read the graph, after discussion it was agreed to leave it there as it shows YTD figures.  
DG asked if there was much knife crime in the area , amongst the youth – not seen in Chirk but sometimes threatening behaviour in domestic incidents.  
SW asked about “suspicious circumstances” being included in the new format report. MG said it was not actually a crime so is omitted.  
EB asked about non-prescribed drug use – MG outlined that combating this was intelligence led. Recently a driver & passenger were charged with drug driving.

**127. TO RECEIVE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF SUB- COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2018.**

The draft report for the Staff Sub-Committee Meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018 is now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion proposed LP and seconded SW was passed unanimously.**

**128. TO RECEIVE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2018.**

The draft report for the Finance Committee meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018 is now put to the Council as an accurate record of proceedings. **The motion proposed BH and seconded BC was passed unanimously.**

**Matters arising: –**

Item 6 – SJ presented the results of the requested survey of burial ground fees in the locality. Areas covered were Coedpoeth, Cefn Mawr, Gresford, Plas Acton (Wrexham CBC), Rhosllanerchrugog, Ruabon and Fron Bache, Llangollen (Denbighshire CC). A summary showing the price comparisons was considered and the proposed Chirk increases were found to compare favourably. Proposed BC and seconded BH for full adoption of the new table of fees effective from 1.4.18– **motion carried.**

Item 7 – DG put forward the idea of recognising members of the Pantholics committee that will be retiring at the close of this year's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary production. Along the lines of a Special Award which was introduced at the 2016 Citizen of the Year reception. Proposed DG and seconded SW for this to be considered at the next Finance Committee meeting – **motion carried.**

**129. TO APPROVE UPDATE TO CHIRK TOWN COUNCIL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND REVIEW INTERNAL CONTROLS AND RISK ASSESSMENT.**

Based on recommendations in the latest report from the Internal Auditors updates to the Financial Regulations covering Procurement/Contract Procedures were reviewed, approved and incorporated. The complete Financial Regulations are submitted, after scrutiny by the Finance Committee, and approved by all members – **the motion proposed MH and seconded BC was passed unanimously.**

**130. TO RECEIVE ORAL REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES.**

EB reports that she attended an event at the Catrin Finch Centre, Glyndwr University hosted by Age Cymru Gwynedd & Anglesey. The Older People's Commissioner for Wales - Sarah Rochira was the keynote speaker. SJ also attended supporting Cath Roberts the Community Agent for Chirk. She was very highly commended for the work undertaken around Chirk and the initiative was seen as a great success. Consideration of many of the Ageing Well in Wales initiatives should be added as a future agenda item.

Further EB has assisted with a resident with new housing needs and is pleased to report that progress is being made.

SJ provided a report of a recent Chirk & Ceiriog Valley Partnership (CCVP) meeting held at the Glyn Wylfa Caffi, explaining some details regarding their iBeacon set up and that their system is near completion. Also CCVP are planning to have 1,200 leaflets printed for distribution to local businesses to promote the Ceiriog Valley. SJ was asked to contact Paul Rogers of The Hand Hotel, Chirk to see if they would be interested in having an advert in the leaflet.

**131. TO RECEIVE ORAL REPORTS FROM LOCAL MEMBERS – WREXHAM CBC.**

TE reported three manholes have been replaced locally. A cover close to the British Legion is still noisy and has been reported as well as a cover close to the Kronospan factory entrance. There are also reports of poor road maintenance around the town, mainly potholes but response from Wrexham Council has been poor. Mention of a new off street parking bay in Church View was welcomed.

EB asked about who had received defibrillator training, the Spar staff had been trained but it was felt more people could be trained. SJ to check when courses were available. SJ listed where all the defibrillators are currently located in Chirk and also suggested the Parish Hall and Chirk AAA's Sports & Social Club could potentially re-site the defibrillator in the Parish Hall reception area to be a 24 hour access cabinet and this would take away the need for the AAA's to fund another AED. To complete the coverage in Chirk SJ is to write to the Co-op at Old Rhos y Waun to explore the possibility of applying for funding from the Coop charity arm.

FH sent written report of his recent activities. This was read out by SJ - included mention of Pentre School and the fact they are still hoping for new classrooms however due to the logistics of fitting them it's unlikely they will be installed until the summer holidays. Also flower beds in Princess Ave have been tidied. The garden area of Craig Close to be tended by Tesco community volunteers. Working with Highways to get some road repairs and drain blockages attended to.

The drain outside the Coop was blocked and TE said it was already in hand.

It is expected that Wrexham CBC will raise Council Tax by 3.9%

**132. TO DECIDE UPON APPEALS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RECEIVED.**

SJ has received six requests for financial support:

1. Family Friends of 5's to 11's who have supported people in Chirk previously and we have made a donation of £100 previously. MM suggested to leave on the table - **carried**.
2. Chirk Community Forum. (JA & TE declared an interest, remained in the room but took no part in discussions) The group look after public spaces in and around Chirk including the flower displays and green spaces. Their existing lawn mowers are coming to the end of their life after 20 years of work. SW proposed we use all the funding available to support the group as they do such a good job. In our annual budget we allocate £1,500, for this financial period and the previous there was an underspend of £1,583.75 which SW proposed and seconded LP to grant – **passed unanimously**.
3. Chirk Community Newsletter Councillor (JA & TE declared an interest, remained in the room but took no part in discussions). This Spring will see the 50<sup>th</sup> edition of the Newsletter and the group were planning a larger than usual special edition. The cost of the special edition was expected to be £1400 compared to the usual cost of £750. A contribution of £1000 was proposed EB and seconded BC – **was passed unanimously**.
4. Urdd Eisteddfod - Requested a donation towards their running costs – agreed to donate £50 proposed by SW and seconded EB – **was passed unanimously**.
5. Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod (EB declared an interest, remained in the room but took no part in discussions). Suggested to donate £200 The motion proposed TE and seconded SW was **passed unanimously**.
6. Chirk Youth FC (SW declared an interest, remained in the room but took no part in discussions) They would like to organise a trip to a football tournament in Holland, they will be raising money themselves but would be grateful of any support. Agreed to donate £250. The motion proposed DG and seconded MH **was passed unanimously**.

**133. TO RECEIVE RESPONSE FROM WREXHAM CBC OVER PROVISION OF GRIT BINS.**

The snow in December 2017 had highlighted the lack of grit bins in the area, bins had gone missing over a period of time. Wrexham Council could supply grit and a bin for £125 but warned that they are not used most of the year and do become maintenance liabilities. Agreed to leave on the table TE reported that the Health Centre car park is gritted at the same time as the route to the fire station. A query over gritting for Pentre School – WCBC should be include all schools as priority.

**134. TO RECEIVE ORAL REPORT ON THE RECENT ACTIVITIES OF OUR COMMUNITY AGENT.**

A written report dated 29/01/2018 was made available in the meeting pack.

Highlights of the report included

- 120 contacts made so far
- 9 New referrals in January 2018 4 of them coming from local Social Workers
- 26 Christmas hampers delivered in December 2017
- Elvis concert in December 2017 had been a great success
- Lots of referrals relating to anxiety issues.

**135. TO RECEIVE THE ORAL REPORT OF THE CLERK – INCLUDES CORRESPONDENCE.**

**Summary of matters raised.**

- Proposal from JDH Business Services – Internal Auditors over supporting Community Councils with the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) to be introduced in May 2018. This will be considered at a future Finance Committee meeting.
- Wrexham Council – Adult Social Care annual notice concerning the Community Agent Scheme. Declaration to be completed and returned to unlock the 2018/19 funding.

- Planning for the old fire station on Colliery Road access has been modified as per the Town council recommendations. Comments from residents concerned about the three storey buildings height possibly allowing people to overlook existing housing. Take this to the Planning Committee, meeting arranged for 7<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm

**Correspondence:-**

1. **Ffion Bevan – Law Commission** – Planning law in Wales Consultation. **Leave on the table.**
2. **Liz Jermy – Oswestry and Borders Foodbank** – Thanks for donation to hampers for Christmas. **Noted.**
3. **Mr John Elvet Pierce – Public Footpaths Number 45** – Obstruction of footpaths at Ash Grove, Lodgevale Park. **Noted.**
4. **Elton Watson – Wrexham Council** – Proposal for tree planting at West View, Chirk. **Noted.**
5. **Tracy Gilmartin-ward – One Voice Wales/Waste regulation Policy Branch** – Welsh Government and Defra have launched a consultation to tackle crime and poor performance in the waste sector and to introduce new fixed penalty fines. **Noted.**
6. **Joss Thomas – Wrexham Council Licensing** – Application for Grant of a Premises Licence Chirk Tavern, Holyhead Road, Chirk, Wrexham LL14 5ET **Noted.**
7. **Sharon Williams – Wrexham Council** – Planning Appeal KRONOSPAN Ltd, Holyhead Road, Chirk, Wrexham. Appeal to The Welsh Ministers. **To be reviewed by Planning committee.**
8. **Josie Chidgey – Geldards Solicitors** – proposed 10 lease to the RFCA will be compulsorily registrable at the Land Registry. As we have to embark on properly registering the freehold title over Longfield Recreation Ground and Pentre Recreation Ground there is an offer of completing a 7 year lease with the RFCA to side step the need to register at the Land Registry. **Members agreed to the proposed 7 year lease agreement.**
9. **Angela Blood – WCBC Play Team** – Wrexham Play Sufficiency Innovation Grant 2018 Previously the grant has been £5000 but is now down to £500. **Noted.**

**136. TO REVIEW Q3 EXPENDITURE AGAINST BUDGET AND BANK RECONCILIATION REPORT.**

Reviewed and approved.

**137. TO APPROVE PAYMENTS TO BE MADE AS ON LIST ATTACHED.**

A list of invoices and payments (to 31.1.18) amounting to £18,517.19 & £277.69 (using pre-paid creditcard) was given to the Council and were passed for payment (see addendum). Proposed EB and seconded SW for approval – motion carried.

**138. TO PRESENT ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA**

- Access/speed of Broadband in Chirk has been causing Issues and needs reviewing (EB).
- Lights in Walden Crescent reported as being very poor (SW).
- Town plan to provide for the Chirk our residents would wish for.

**Meeting closed 9:05pm.**

**Signed**

**Chairman**

**28<sup>th</sup> February 2018**