



CHIRK TOWN COUNCIL CYNGOR TREF Y WAUN

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD 27th NOVEMBER 2019

Present

Cllrs. Mr Brian Colley (BC) - Chairman, Mrs Jackie Allen (JA), Mrs Barbara Humphreys (BH), Mr Gareth Baines (GB), Mr Michael Maxfield (MM), Mr Chris Burgoyne (CB), Mr Newman James (NJ), Mrs Sarah Williams (SW), Ms Eleanor Burnham (EB), Mrs Dot Griffiths (DG), Mr Frank Hemmings (FH), Miss Lynne Painter (LP) & Mr Mark Roberts.
Mrs Karen Brown (KB) Clerk to the Council.
Mr Jack Butler (JB) – Press – NWN.

95. To accept apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs. Mr Terry Evans and Mr Mark Holmes.

96. Declarations of Interest

None.

BC reminded all members of meeting protocols.

97. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM NEIL CULFF – REGIONAL MANAGER, EMERGENCY PLANNING SERVICE ON COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

BC welcomed Neil Culff (NC). Mr Culff gave a presentation on Emergency Planning which covered the following areas:

- Who are North Wales Councils Regional Emergency Planning Service and what we do
- Wrexham Council statutory duties
- Community resilience definition
- North Wales Community Resilience Strategy
- How you can help to achieve this
- Benefits
- Next steps – formation of a Community Response Team and Plan

NJ asked how do we identify the risks and ensure we are not duplicating plans which other organisations already have in place. NC explained that the regional team are aware of the larger risks and can work with Chirk Council to share this information. JA asked about GDPR and how this affects the gathering of data e.g. vulnerable people. NC explained that rather than recording individuals as 'at risk', you could record key people in the community who have that local knowledge. The Community Agent was a good example of this.

JA highlighted that this presentation received today could be shared with One Voice Wales to engage further Community Councils.

Members were interested to learn that there is an emergency plan in place for Kronospan. NC confirmed this is in the public information zone.

NJ emphasised that this emergency plan would cover a much wider spectrum than Kronospan. i.e. accidents on the A483, snow etc. LP confirmed that Chirk Bunkhouse is already a registered as an emergency rest centre for North Wales.

JA proposed that this be referred to a General Purposes Committee in the new year to agree membership of the community response team to take the matter forward. NC confirmed he would be willing to attend a further meeting to work on the plan and help identify risks. FH seconded the proposal; **the motion was unanimously agreed.**

98. TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES AS A TRUE RECORD OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 30th OCTOBER 2019.

The draft minutes of the Council meeting held on 30th October 2019 were reviewed. Minute 82: BC clarified that the reduction in PCSO's was only temporary; recruitment is ongoing to replace staff up to

previous staffing levels. With this amendment, the minutes were proposed as a true record by FH and seconded by MM. **The motion was unanimously agreed.**

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

Minute 82: EB asked if the Police mentioned any link between domestic abuse and the child sexual exploitation and abuse priority. BC confirmed no, but will he raise it at the next Police meeting.

Minute 85: JA was asked about the Transport for Wales lobbying and had this resulted in any changes? JA updated the Council by confirming that pressure had been on Cardiff, however the first off peak train had been removed from the timetable. GB added that the UK Transport Secretary is looking into whether Welsh Government are in breach of the devolution settlement. LP reported that the new timetable is available on-line.

Minute 87: The clerk asked for any feedback and improvements which could be made to the Remembrance Sunday service. Councillors noted the high turnout of people and a successful event. Areas for improvement were suggested around the singing, the Legion did not provide tea/coffee as per the order of service, children could stand in the sun following the march and a seating area for disabled people. The Clerk will work on these improvements for next year.

100. TO CONSIDER NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING MATTERS (INCLUDES ACTIVE SPEED SIGN).

The Police report was circulated, discussed and noted.

The active speed sign data was shared and the clerk reported the positive impact the sign is having as both speed and the number of occurrences had reduced. The sign will be moved to near the Welcome to Wales sign next week and the third location was agreed to be the B5605 Pentre.

101. TO RECEIVE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 13TH NOVEMBER 2019.

The draft report for the Finance committee held on 13th November was presented as an accurate record of proceedings. BC stated the detailed discussion around the budget will take place in the December Council meeting – when the 2020/21 budget/precept will be set. CB proposed and MM seconded that the Council approve the appointment of the internal auditor and that the committee report be approved. **The report was unanimously approved.**

102. TO RECEIVE ORAL REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES.

BC attended a social enterprise event as part of Glyn Wylfa and Chirk Town Council was offered a presentation on the Wellbeing & Future Generations Act from a Welsh Commissioner. EB proposed that the Council take up the offer of the presentation; seconded by LP, all agreed.

LP asked about the Carol Service at the Care Home. BH confirmed that Black Park will be singing there on 5th December.

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

FH reported that Casey's Construction had lost the Black Park houses contract and Gareth Morris Construction had taken over. Casey's will be brought back temporarily to complete various unfinished works.

The Christmas lights had been installed. Thanks was given to Mark Holmes and Mondelez for their installation work. Further lights would be installed at Lodgevale. Next year the Lights Committee are looking to replace some of the lights.

The residents of Y Wern/West View were consulted with an overwhelming majority of residents not wanting the planting along the Kronspan's frontage on Holyhead Road. JA had reported this to Kronospan who will focus the planting in the North.

104. TO PROVIDE REPRESENTATION ON THE DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES 2020/21.

The members considered the draft 2020/21 report section 13. JA proposed that the Council respond to the Remuneration Panel to state that the £150 allowance should be tax free, this only covers expenses and does not encourage new Councillors. The proposal was seconded by EB and unanimously agreed by all. **Action:** Clerk to make formal response.

105. TO CONSIDER REPLACEMENT PLAY EQUIPMENT AT LONGFIELD.

The Clerk presented options for play equipment at Longfield and reported that a running or bike track are too expensive due to needing a new surface area. It was discussed that the average age is 1-8 year olds. FH stated that the exercise bikes at the school are the most popular piece of play equipment and this could be another option. DG highlighted that Longfield is a safe place for children to play and is keeping them away from the car park.

It was agreed to seek further options and take to a General Purposes Committee in the new year; playground and dog fouling signage and goal posts are all linked to this area.

106. TO DECIDE UPON APPEALS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE RECEIVED

Tom Edwards – Victim Support requested a donation towards supporting people affected by crime. JA proposed and SW seconded that the request be **left on table**.

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

Summary of matters raised:

- The Wheelchair Swing – installation completed. A RADAR key is required to access the swing. The master key is held in the Clerk's office. It was agreed that this key would not be given out to the public and kept for maintenance/inspections only. Disabled people will already have the RADAR key or can apply for one from the Local Authority. The Forum will be doing the marketing of the new swing.
- Ifton Colliery Youth Band – thanks were given to the band for their support at Remembrance Sunday. Last year a donation was made. FH proposed and JA seconded that £250 be donated to Ifton Colliery Youth Band and the Royal British Legion. The Youth Band be invited to participate in the 2020 service.
The members also felt that the ATC Cadet Alex Young who played the bugle on Remembrance Sunday was excellent. A letter to Cadet Alex Young be sent commending him on his performance. JA proposed a donation of £50 be made to the Chirk ATC, seconded by FH. All three donations were agreed by all.
- Residents of Pentre submitted a petition to North Wales Police regarding the speeding on the B5605 including overtaking and the provision of a pedestrian crossing. A response was received from Inspector Darren Whibberley committing to an officer for two hours to conduct speed enforcement in this location, Pentre School to be part of a speed awareness operation next quarter (which involves officers stopping speeding vehicles and require the drivers to answer to school children armed with their own questionnaire) and the establishment of Community Speed Watch Scheme in this location. **Action:** FH to ensure the speed strips are put in place. BC to ensure speeding in Pentre is covered at the next Police meeting.

Correspondence:-

- Cat Dowdeswell – Hope House - thanked the Council for its sponsorship and support for the Chirk Castle Dark Run event.
- Laura Ellis-Barlett – Marie Curie – thanked the Council for their donation to help people make the most of the time they have together.
- Eifiona Williams – Head of Water Branch, Welsh Government – informs the Council of proposed amendment to the Sustainable Drainage (enforcement) order. Article 21 is requiring a minor amendment to bring it in line with other punishment legislation.

The above correspondence was noted.

108. TO NOTE PLANNING APPLICATIONS DEALT THROUGH THE PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE BY EMAIL.

P/2019/0806 – Application For Consent To Display 5 No Internally Illuminated Advertisements – McDonalds Restaurant Chirk. **The Council had no objection to the proposal.**

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

A list of invoices and payments to 27.11.19 amounting to £23,598.24 & £72.99 (using pre-paid credit card) was given to the Council (see addendum). JA proposed and GB seconded that the payments be approved. The motion was passed unanimously.

110. TO PRESENT ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

JA pointed out that no action had been taken to appoint the three Councillors who were to act as the Clerk's point of contact.

Meeting closed at 20:45

Signed

Chairman

11th December 2019