

PEN-Y-CAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Pen-y-Cae Community Council held on Monday 8th January 2018

PRESENT

Chair – Cllr D.A. Thomas

Cllr. Mr J.C. Phillips
Cllr. Mrs. C. Davies
Cllr. Mr K. Gilpin
Cllr. Mrs. J. Lowe
Cllr. Miss. P. Davies

Cllr. A. Phillips
Cllr. Dr. S.E. Evans
Cllr. Mr. R. Salisbury
Cllr. Mr. G. Edwards

Mr. Aled Powell who had attended the meeting as an observer.

(18)199 APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from

Cllr. Mrs. J. Jones
Cllr. Mrs. P. Matthews
Cllr. Mrs. S. Jones

Cllr. J. Lowe had given notice that she would arrive late due to attending another meeting

The Chair wished a Happy New Year to all .

(18)200 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations from members present.

(18)201 MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 27th November 2017 copies having previously been circulated, were approved and adopted subject to the following corrections

(17) 197 – 1. ‘Cllr. John Phillips had met with WCBC Officers regarding external funding available’

The Chair noted that in recent meetings that the time of the meetings had gone on for longer than intended. For meetings to be extended beyond 9.30pm would require the agreement of full Council. The Chair advised that Council should keep debates to the point and did not wish to stifle productive conversation but wished to keep the agenda on track.

(18)202 MATTERS ARISING from the minutes.

1. Community Centre

A meeting had been held on the 18th December at Ruthin Road with Simon Roberts and Denise Garland to progress the development of the handover of the lease to the Management Committee. This was attended by the Chair, Vice Chair, Clerk, Cllrs J. Phillips, J. Lowe and Alison Tynan, the new Secretary for the Management Committee of the Community Centre. There had been some misunderstanding of the costs initially agreed by both parties at the meeting previously held back in February 2017. Through correspondence between the Chair and Steve Bayley the issue had been resolved. The

Community Council had agreed to pay the sum of £4,200 towards the maintenance of the Community Centre and the handover of the Centre to the Management Committee should be completed by the 31st March 2018 with the handover and signing of the lease to be completed on the 1st April 2018. At the meeting it was also agreed that Simon Roberts would arrange for the defect in the car park to be addressed and would supply the Centre with a vacuum cleaner.

Resolved: That the Clerk should contact Simon Roberts and confirm if the defect had been addressed and if a vacuum cleaner had been delivered.

2. **Playgrounds**

The Clerk had provided members with the SLA for the play grounds detailing the breakdown of costs for grass cutting, litter clearance and inspection of the sites. Members were not satisfied that the service received matched the terms of the SLA. It was suggested that the Clerk should ask for monitoring records for the three sites from now until April so that members could obtain a clearer picture.

Resolved: That the Clerk would contact Carla Hughes at WCBC and request monitoring records for the sites.

3. **Notice Boards**

The Clerk had received correspondence from Denise Garland regarding the installation of the notice boards. The Highways Department had agreed that the noticeboard on Hall Street could be installed but she had not had a response from the Education Department regarding the one proposed for Stryt Issa. Ms Garland advised that she would arrange for an officer to draft a letter confirming the installation and ownership responsibility of the noticeboards and would have them sent to the Clerk as soon as possible.

Resolved: That the Clerk should ask Denise Garland to chase the Education Department for an answer.

4. **Cessation of the school bus service from Rhos, Johnstown and Pen-y-Cae to Ruabon High School .**

Cllr. G. Edwards advised that the issue regarding the busses has been discussed at the Governors meeting and the suggestion of the Acrefair bus collecting any children from Pen-y-Cae by Brooklyn had been discounted due to the recent operational withdrawal of the D. Jones & Sons bus company.

Resolved: noted

5. **Lost Sons of Pen-y-Cae book donation**

The Clerk was in the process of following up communications with the schools following the Christmas break and would hopefully have received responses in time for the next meeting.

Resolved: To await further development

6. **Overgrown Hedge**

The Clerk had been in contact with Steve Jones of Streetscene who needed further clarification of the location of the property in question as he had not been able to find it on the mapping system. Cllr. J. Lowe advised the Clerk of the exact location and she would confirm with Mr. Jones.

Resolved: That the Clerk would confirm the location with Steve Jones.

7. **Remembrance Day**

The Clerk had spoken with Colin Brown, Bandmaster of the Rhos Salvation Army Band who sent his thanks to members for the donation. The Clerk had arranged to send the donation to Mr Brown who would forward it on accordingly.

Resolved: noted.

8. **Christmas Events**

The proposed Christmas Market had unfortunately been cancelled due to the risk to public safety caused by the heavy snow. As a number of goods had been purchased in advance of the intended date, a decision had been taken to hold a smaller scale event indoors at the football club where the Santa's grotto could be utilised and the selection boxes would not be wasted. In place of the German sausages and burgers, a turkey crown had been purchased in order to serve hot food alongside the mulled wine and mince pies. The event had been relatively well attended given the short notice. Cllr. John Phillips wished to thank members for their hard work and support for the event and in particular Cllr. Robert Salisbury for all of his efforts in organising it. Cllr. J. Phillips also noted that the Football Club had been extremely supportive and welcoming and that it was beneficial to the Community in forging good relationships. Cllr. Phillips also wished to thank the Community for supporting the event. Cllr. P. Davies advised that they had not yet been able to gather the costings for the event but on the day £229 was raised in cash. Cllr. P. Davies handed this to the Clerk to be banked and put aside for the development of the MUGA. Cllr. P. Davies also advised that a decision had been taken on the day by members present that the surplus selection boxes should be donated to the Children's Ward at the Maelor Hospital and to the homeless in Wrexham. This was facilitated by Nick Claffey and Alison Tynan. It was hoped that the figures could be prepared for the next meeting and would be ratified then. The Chair had purchased some cheese slices in advance of the original event, and proposed that these should be donated to the football club as they would be able to utilise them. All members were in favour of the donations made. Cllr. J. Lowe noted that it had been fairly late in the year that the event had been planned and that next year we could be better prepared and could learn from the experience. It was agreed that thank you letters should be sent to Alison Tynan and Glyn Wilkes for their participation in the Santa's Grotto.

Resolved: That the Clerk send the relevant thank you letters.
That the cheese slices be donated to the football club
That the cost netted against the takings for the event be provided for the next meeting.

9. Election in Groes Ward

The Clerk had been notified by Gaynor Coventry of the Electoral Division that a request to hold an election for the vacancy in the Groes Ward had been received. Therefore the notice of election would be displayed on the 18th January. If contested, the poll would take place on the 22nd February. It was agreed to display the notices on the website, noticeboards and on Social Media.

Resolved: noted.

(18)203 POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Tim Edwards had advised that he would not be in attendance at the meeting and would be in contact to discuss future attendance. He had provided the Clerk with the monthly crime figures and had given a breakdown of the data as a goodwill gesture.

Reported Crimes

During the period 27th November 2017 to 6th January 2018 the following crimes had been reported:

Burglary – 4

Theft – 3

Criminal Damage – 6

Antisocial Behaviour – 4

PSCO Tim Edwards had included a note to say that there had been zero reported crime in Pen-y-Cae over Christmas.

Meeting with Inspector Steve Owens

The Clerk and Cllr. K. Gilpin had attended the Community Councils meeting with Inspector Steve Owens held at Wrexham Police Station on the 4th December. The meeting had been arranged to provide an opportunity to receive an update and discuss policing of Wrexham Rural wards now and in the future. It was hoped that this meeting would strengthen the relationship of the Community Councils and North Wales Police. It was agreed that going forward, future meetings would be held on a quarterly basis. At the meeting it was explained that the increased figures being presented to councils were due to an increase in reporting and recording. Future funding of PCSOs in Wrexham had also been discussed and it was confirmed that if the funding was reduced by the local authority that NWP would cover these costs to provide the service.

(18)204 YOUTH ISSUES

The Clerk had not yet received clarification from AVOW on the reasons why Pen-y-Cae had not been approached for play provision in the Community. .

Resolved: That the Clerk should follow up correspondence with AVOW.

(18)205 ISSUES RELATING TO OLDER PEOPLE

Ffion Morus, Community Agent had prepared her monthly report and had given it to the Clerk to read out in her absence. Miss Morus had confirmed that she would attend the meeting on the 29th January. Ffion had given details of her visits to clients for the period and had procured and delivered the Christmas gifts to the over 75s in the Community. Prior

to delivering the gifts Ffion had sent out 'hello' cards to the names on the list and as a result of this had generated some new referrals. There had been a very positive response to the gifting scheme and Ffion had received telephone calls to say thank you. Ffion had also set up a drop in session at Ruabon surgery and hoped that this may generate some new referrals. Ffion had liaised with Cllr. Robert Salisbury who had assisted her with having some roller banners made for use in public engagements. During the bad weather Ffion had telephoned her clients to see if they needed any assistance, thankfully all were well. The Chair noted that between now and next winter the Community Council should discuss the need for an emergency plan for the village. In times of bad weather and heavy snow, we should be able to encourage the Community to work together and help out our elderly and vulnerable neighbours. This could be co-ordinated through social media. It was agreed that a working group should be set up in June and discussions would take place to move the idea forward. Cllr. G. Edwards noted that he had personally received three positive responses from residents over the Christmas Gifting Scheme. Cllr. G. Edwards had received communication through the Luncheon Club from Co-Op Estate Planning regarding their 'Tax Care and Toy-boys' scheme. Cllr. Edwards would liaise with Ffion regarding arranging a talk to the Luncheon Club and any other elderly members of the Community.

Resolved: That the Clerk would ask Ffion Morus to contact Cllr. Edwards regarding the Co-Op Estate Planning initiative.

(18)206 STREET LIGHTING

Reports

A report had been received detailing repairs and maintenance visits carried out for December.

Resolved: Noted

Request for new lights

There had been no further developments regarding the quotations for the new lights, given the Christmas break it was reasonable to allow extra time for this.

Resolved: That the Clerk should follow up correspondence for the quotations.

(18)207 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application ref P/2017 /1004 – COVERED SWIMMING POOL EXTENSION TO REAR OF PROPERTY (PARTLY IN RETROSPECT) SUNSET VIEW 6 PINECROFT PENYCAE WREXHAM

Resolved: No observations

(18)208 PEN-Y-CAE COMMUNITY GROUP UPDATE

There had been no further meeting of the Community Group but a meeting was arranged for 18th January. The Group had arranged a litter pick commencing at the rear of the Chinese Takeaway, progressing down to the old Railway Line. Cllr. J. Phillips had circulated details on social media and had generated some interest for volunteers.

Resolved: Noted.

(18)209 TO DISCUSS the MUGA

The Clerk had attended site meetings in November and December with Sovereign, Caloo and Wicksteed. A meeting had been arranged with Playforce who had cancelled and re-arranged for the 4th January. Quotes had been received from Sovereign and Wicksteed who had also provided detailed drawings to illustrate how the finished project would look. Caloo had not yet supplied their quote and the Clerk had sent correspondence to the agent who had not responded. Playforce had advised a turn-around of roughly 5 weeks for their quote. As the quotations had come in rather high, Cllr. J. Phillips asked members if they would be happy to see the project completed in phases, the Chair advised that any bids for funding should be made for the whole element as this would likely be more successful. Cllr. J. Phillips asked if it would be possible to hold a separate meeting and invite the play companies to attend to discuss in greater detail the proposals for the project. Members were in favour of this. Separate quotations for removal of the structure and also replacement of the wood with mesh had been provided by NJ Landscaping and Barrett Engineering. All play companies consulted advised that they would not supply any materials to be added to the existing structure as they would not be able to supply a warranty but had been happy to give quotes for removal of the structure. Cllr. John Phillips proposed that the structure should be removed, in accordance with the insurer's advice and a new structure should be installed. All members were in favour of the proposal. The Chair advised that the planning of the public meetings should commence to consult the residents of the village and to gain support for the projects.

Resolved: to await further development.

(18)210 TO DISCUSS the School Crossing Patrol

The Clerk had received an invoice from WCBC for payment of the School Crossing Patrol and had been discussion with Graham Lloyd regarding the matter. Given that there had been little to no provision in place since the start of term the Clerk was instructed to dispute the invoice. The matter would be discussed in full at the next meeting.

Resolved: That the Clerk would contact Graham Lloyd regarding the invoice.

(18)211 TO DISCUSS the Citizens Advice Bureau Provision

The Clerk had not been able to ascertain the figures for Rhos' provision and had been advised that it was up for discussion at their next meeting of full council. It was agreed that the Clerk should ascertain if Rhos Community Council would be willing to meet with the Chair and Vice Chair to discuss the provision as a whole given that it was jointly purchased by the two communities. The Clerk had received correspondence from Gaynor Roberts of the CAB advising that if the Community Council wished for them to provide their own chaperones for future sessions that this would incur an extra charge of £200 to cover staffing costs. Cllr. K. Gilpin advised that he would cover the coming session but would not be able to commit to this every fortnight. It was agreed to discuss the matter again next month.

Resolved: That the Clerk would try and arrange a meeting with Rhos Community Council to discuss the provision as a whole.

(18)212 TO DISCUSS Cristionydd Farm, Plas Issa Lane

The Clerk had been contacted by a member of the public who had concerns over the wall along the highway belonging to Cristionydd Farm on Plas Issa Lane. The gentleman had asked for the matter to be discussed as it may pose a threat to public safety if it were to deteriorate into the road. Members agreed that the matter should be brought the attention of Lawrence Isted, Head of Public Protection and Planning. Cllr. J. Lowe advised that she was willing to meet any officers on site and could give contact details of owners if needed.

Resolved: That the Clerk should refer the matter to Lawrence Isted as agreed.

(18)213 TO RECEIVE General Correspondence

The notification of the Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2018-19 which was £7.86 per elector. The Chair asked the Clerk to confirm the tax base for the next meeting.

A letter from Ruabon Community Council detailing contributions towards the Community Agent costs and a cheque for £3526.22. The Clerk would bank this and add to the Community Agent fund.

An email was sent by Carol Jones, treasurer of the Llangollen Lions asking for donations towards the cost of fuel and sweets for the Santa parade event. The Chair proposed that we donate as had been done in the previous year. Members were all in favour. The Clerk would confirm the sum and arrange for the donation to be sent.

An email from Aled Powell asking what had happened to previous correspondence sent to the Community Council as he had checked the minutes and could see no notification to his correspondence nor had he received replies. The Clerk asked Mr Powell to forward any correspondence he had previously sent by email and she would check the records.

A request from Dr Rhys Davies, Chairman of the Llangollen International Music Festival asking for donations to support the event. This would be placed on the agenda for the February meeting and discussed under donations and grants. The Clerk asked for permission to display the poster advertising for Donation and Grant Applications, members agreed.

A request from the Welsh Ambulance Service Branch of the Ambulance Services Union for donations. This would be discussed at the February meeting under donations and grants.

(18)214 MISCELLANEOUS

Resolved: To note receipt of the following:

1. The December 2017 report from Kingdom detailing all fixed penalty notices issued during the period.
2. A Christmas card from the Mayor and Mayoress of Wrexham
3. A Christmas card from Accounting Solutions
4. The report for information with an update regarding the bus services in Wrexham following the operational withdrawal of D. Jones & Sons
5. A brochure from Viking Direct detailing offers of stationery.

(18)215 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

The following issues were raised under the above heading:

1. Cllr P. Davies noted that she had received complaints from residents regarding the buses travelling along Poplar Road. The drivers had been witnessed driving erratically and were not taking due care when rounding the corner. It was agreed that the Clerk should send correspondence to Arriva advising their drivers to take care on the route
2. Cllr. G. Edwards advised that there had been further complaints raised regarding the cemetery at St Thomas. There had been several cases where there had been encroachments surrounding graves and the rules would have to be enforced. The Vicar had suggested holding public meetings to discuss the issues and to bring forward a positive resolution.
3. Cllr. Dr. S. Evans wished to pass on the thanks from her neighbours regarding the Christmas Trees. They had been enjoyed by everyone and people had even been to have their photographs taken by them in the snow. Requests had been made by members of the community for the school children to participate in the decorations for the trees next year. This was to be considered at a later date.
4. Cllr. C. Davies noted that there had been issues with cars parking on corners in Ffordd Llannerch again. This was causing obstruction and limiting the view of pedestrians and other motorists. It was suggested that the Clerk should ask Darren Williams to send the enforcement team to the area to monitor the situation

(18)216 FINANCE

The Finance Sub-Committee met before the meeting at 6.30pm.

Payments

The following payments were approved for December

102561– Christmas trees	86.40
102562- Salary	869.13
102563– Christmas market expenses	175.97
102564 - Salary	985.35
102565 – Expenses	31.06
102566 – Mileage	45.10