

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held on
10th March 2016 at Cartrefle, Cefn Road, Wrexham.

Cllr Marc Jones (Chair)
Cllr A. K Gregory (Vice Chair)

Cllr B. Cameron	Cllr M. King
Cllr B. Halley	*Cllr C. Lloyd
Cllr C. Harper	Cllr C. Powell
Cllr J. Johnson	Cllr B. Pritchard
*Cllr Maurice Jones	*Cllr P. M. Williams
*Cllr S. Jones	Cllr Paul Williams

*Absent

Also present:

PCSO Robert Parry	N. Wales Police
PCSO Bryn Jones	N. Wales Police
Mr Neil Taunt	Wrexham CBC Senior Flood Management Officer
Mr Jon Holland	Regional Emergency Planning Officer

149. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S. Jones, C. Lloyd and P. M. Williams.

150. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Parry presented the crime statistics for February 2016 and it was pleasing to note that there had been a reduction on reported crime when compared with the previous month. In particular, reported incidents of criminal damage were reduced from 52 to 29. In introducing PCSO Bryn Jones as additional support, he reported that PC John Clarke would also be engaged in Caia in addition to PC Gemma Poulton.

Several Members commented that the situation in the Pentre Gwyn area had seemed to improve recently and that there had been a visible police presence in the area.

It was reported that there had not been a PCSO present at the Rhosnesni Residents Association for three months. PCSO Parry commented that someone would attend the next meeting.

PCSO Parry informed the meeting that the Inspector was keen to re-establish community action plans and for the Council to agree a set of priorities. It was **Resolved:** *to consider and agree priorities at the next meeting.*

Members enquired if the criteria for accessing the funding for arson reduction measures agreed by the Police & Crime Commissioner were available. Both PCSO

Parry and the Clerk of the Council were unaware of any detail. PCSO Parry offered to establish if the criteria had been set and report back at the next meeting.

151. FLOOD MANAGEMENT RIVER GWENFRO

The Chair welcomed Mr. Neil Taunt (Senior Flood Management Officer – Wrexham CBC) and Mr. Jonathon Holland (Emergency Planning Officer) to the meeting.

Both provided a general update on progress across the County generally in relation to community flood plans and confirmed that Natural Resources Wales (NRW) are responsible for the river from Cook’s Weir downstream as it is designated a main river and the section from the town centre to Rivulet Road is the responsibility of Wrexham CBC.

It was noted that in Caia, there were only two designated community flood wardens to support the strategies and that little had been done since 2012 to progress the plan or keep the two wardens up to date.

Some Members felt that at the very least the public should be aware of telephone numbers to contact in the case of an emergency. One member reported that when contact had been made with NRW they commented that it was not their responsibility even though the concern raised was in relation to an area designated as a main river. Members were advised that contact could be made in the first instance via the Council’s general reporting number (01978 298989) which is manned 24 hours a day. The operatives will then redirect the concern to the most appropriate agency.

Members were informed that there was not an early warning system in place similar to those in place for sections of the River Dee and River Alyn. Work is being undertaken to identify monitoring points along the river and how it responds to excessive rainwater. It was hoped that this work would continue although it is dependent on resources and funding.

Members were concerned that NRW were not present at the meeting and had not responded to an invitation to attend sent by the Clerk. They also felt that there was an over reliance on recruiting volunteer flood wardens which could prove problematic in an area comprising largely of rented Local Authority properties and that agencies had certain statutory responsibilities even if volunteer flood wardens could not be recruited.

Mr. Holland advised that there were periodic Area Flood Partnership meetings held where all agencies were in attendance and suggested that it would be beneficial for a representative from Caia to attend. The next meeting is likely to be in May. Members also asked if their concern over non attendance by NRW at this evenings’ meeting could be conveyed to them.

152 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved: *That the minutes of the Ordinary & Confidential meetings held on 11th February 2016 be received and adopted as a true record.*

Matters arising:

153. SPEED WARNING SIGN – CEFN ROAD (PM 14vi , 28, 47, 64, 96, 112, 125 & 137)

It was reported that the sign was now in place together with a similar one funded by Abenbury Community Council adjacent to the Llwyn Onn Estate.

154. MEMBERS REPORTS

Cllrs. J. Johnson & Paul Williams – Attended Smithfield Residents Association.

155. CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) **Wrexham CBC – Consultation on the Local Development Plan Preferred Strategy**
This consultation document set out the County Borough Council's preferred strategy for development in the emerging Local development Plan. It outlined key strategic policies as well as indicating the level of housing and employment land provision required to cover the plan period up to 2028. It identified two key strategic sites for housing as well as an area of search for employment land adjacent to the Wrexham Industrial Estate.

Members considered the document and felt that it was important to ensure that the necessary infrastructure including health services, education provision, highways etc would be in place. They also felt that the level of growth proposed was excessive and unnecessary. Following discussion, it was **Resolved:**

That Caia Park Community Council objects to the growth levels set out for Wrexham in the Local Development Plan preferred strategy, whilst acknowledging that these housing numbers are being forced on Wrexham by the Welsh Government/Planning Inspectorate.

We object to the use of flawed population projections, there is no local need for the level of housing proposed and we have serious concerns about the impact of this level of development on local roads, hospitals, doctors, schools and other general infrastructure, as well as the impact on our environment and the destruction of our green barrier.

Secondly, we object to the inclusion of the green field adjacent to the Cefn Road, including Ysgol Morgan Llwyd playing fields and the proposal for 1300 new houses. Such a level of development would have a huge impact on congestion locally as well as destroying our open green space.

- (ii) **Wrexham CBC – Off Street Parking Places Consolidation Order**

Resolved: *To note the changes proposed and the reduction of car parking charges at Waterworld Car Park.*

- (iii) **Wrexham CBC – Extension to the Community Agent Scheme**

Members were reminded that the Community Council took part in a pilot project to provide a part time Community Agent funded by Wrexham CBC. The pilot period was coming to an end and Wrexham CBC had enquired if the Community Council would be happy to extend the scheme for a further 12 months. It was noted that uptake had given some cause for concern and accordingly the Clerk had requested a meeting with representatives of the Adult Social Care Department and other Community Council Clerks involved with the scheme before agreeing to an extension.

It was **Resolved:** *to await the outcome of the meeting before agreeing to extend the scheme for a further 12 months.*

Additional correspondence:

(i) Together in Wrexham Enabling Grant - request to support

The Clerk reported that a request had been received from Wrexham County Market – Cooperative Social Enterprise to support their application for a Together in Wrexham grant.

It was noted that Wrexham Country Market operates from the People’s Market and are looking to extend their operational base to other areas. As a consequence, they are seeking to purchase additional equipment.

Resolved: *To support the application.*

(ii) Newsletter –Wrexham Matters. This was circulated to all members for information.

156. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REPORT FEBRUARY 2016

The Clerk presented a report on the findings of the Independent Remuneration Panel. In particular determinations 46 – 54 as they apply to Community Councils. It was **Resolved:**

- (i) Not to make payments under determinations 46 and 47*
- (ii) To fund Chairman’s expenses on receipt of documentation up to a maximum of £300 in financial year 2016-17 as included in the budget (determination 48)*
- (iii) To pay proper expenses in relation to travel, accommodation, subsistence and financial loss associated with attending on Community Council business approved in advance by the Community Council. Payments to be made in accordance with determinations 49, 50, 51 and 52*
- (iv) Not to make payments under determinations 53 and 54*

(This re-affirms previous Council policy)

157. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

It was **Resolved:**

That the Council, in accordance with its powers under S137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:

(i) *Wrexham Allotment & Leisure Gardener's Assoc - £50*

158. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT - TOGETHER IN WREXHAM GRANT APPLICATION MADE BY CAIA PARK ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP (BIKE PROJECT)

Members considered a request to support a grant application proposed for submission by Groundwork Wrexham to Wrexham CBC . Members considered the application in detail and were concerned over the accuracy of the application in terms of the requirement “bringing something new to Wrexham” given that the bike project was known to have been operating in the community for some considerable years and that other bike projects do exist. On the basis of the application being factually incorrect, it was **Resolved:** *Not to support the application in its present form.*

159. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Resolved: That no objection be raised to the following applications

- (i) **P2016/0101 15 Charles Srteet, Wrexham**
Conversion of rear first floor to 3 no flats and erection of external metal staircase to rear of No. 14
(Concern expressed over lack of parking provision)
- (ii) **P2016/0191 Wickes. Unit 1, Border Retail Park, Wrexham**
Display of 5 no. internally illuminated fascia signs and 1 no. non illuminated fascia sign.
- (iii) **P2016/0200 Tenpin. 36 Eagles Meadow, Wrexham**
Display of 2 no. internally illuminated fascia signs and 1 double sided protecting sign
- (iv) **P2016/0120 9 Churchill Drive, Wrexham**
Application for approval of details reserved by condition imposed under P2015/0857 (means of ventilation for extraction and disposal of cooking smells).

160. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The financial statement for period ending 29th February 2016 was submitted.

Resolved: That the financial statement for the period be received and adopted.

161. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved: That the following accounts payable in March 2016 as submitted be approved for payment and any accounts received between the date of this meeting and the end of the financial year be agreed for payment following consultation with Chair and reported to the April meeting of Council

D.D.	Pace Telecom	General Admin	*	8.83	
		CAS	*	<u>32.75</u>	41.58
D.D.	SSE	St Peter's Hall	*		76.60
6781	British Gas	St Peter's Hall	*		240.83

D.D.	Dee Valley Water	St Peter's Hall			13.79
D.D.	Plus net	St Peter's Hall	*		12.00
6787	Wrexham CBC	Amenity/Environ			
		Playground repairs	*		396.86
6787	Wrexham CBC	Traffic calming			
		Speed sign	*		3538.06
6788	Caia Park Partnership	CAS			390.00
6789	CPL	Cartrefle	*		1131.69
6790	Walker Fire	Cartrefle	*		132.90
6791	Graphic Office Systems	General Admin	*	12.48	
		CAS	*	<u>34.68</u>	47.16
6792	Powys Teaching LHB	General Admin		146.98	
		Cartrefle		<u>15.09</u>	162.07
6793	Wexham Allotment Assoc	Donation			50.00
D.D.	CAB	CAS	*		725.80
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	Cartrefle			28.00
D.D.	Plus net	Cartrefle	*		32.03

G. Evans (Sal adj & Travel) CAS
P. Donellan (Sal adj & Travel) CAS
J. Carter (Sal adj & Travel) CAS
K. Walker (Sal adj & Travel) CAS
S. Jones (Sal Mar) CAS
L. Mills (Sal adj) General Admin

M. Morris (Sal adj)	General Admin
K. Cramer (Sal adj)	Community Agent
A. Humphreys (Sal adj)	St Peter's Hall
P. Rondel (Sal adj Mar)	St Peter's Hall
P. Jones (Sal adj)	Cartrefle
H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Mar)
Clwyd Pension Fund	Pensions (Mar)

*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable