

*Cllr P M Williams (**Chair**)

*Cllr M. Allum (**Vice Chair**)

Cllr A K Gregory

Cllr B Halley

*Cllr J Howell

Cllr N Hughes

*Cllr J M Humberstone

Cllr T Thomas

Cllr C Lloyd

Cllr D G Mitchell

*Cllr C Powell

Cllr R Prince

Cllr B R Pritchard

Cllr M King

*Absent

Together with P.C Miles Hanmer and P.C.S.O. Simon Griffiths
N Wales Police (Apologies from Sgt. D. Jacks)

165. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. M. Allum, J. Howell, J. Humberstone and P. Williams.

166. POLICE MATTERS

Cumulative statistics relating to crime and anti social behaviour for the period to the end of February were presented. The majority of the presented statistics indicated a general downward trend during February. Figures relating to vehicle crime and burglaries had shown a reduction as a result of apprehending and detaining suspects.

Updates were given on various initiatives. It was reported that 14 warrants had been executed in February in relation to stolen goods and drug related issues, and enquiries were currently ongoing which may result in further warrants. The problem of anti social driving at the Border Retail Park continued to be monitored.

Operation Brittle, aimed at providing reassurance for the elderly, was ongoing. It was suggested that presentations could be given by the Police at community venues such as Caia Park Family Centre, Deva House and older people activities held at Pentre Gwyn Community Centre and St Peter's Hall, Smithfield.

The deployment of the mounted team and horses outside the primary school at the end of the school day had a beneficial effect in reducing anti social behaviour incidents. It was noted that the Police Authority were reviewing the costs associated with the provision of the police horses.

Other items referred to the Police were:

Behaviour outside Kingsley Circle Community Centre

This continues to be monitored however the number of incidents appeared to have decreased. It was reported that incidents of vandalism and graffiti at the Community Centre were still evident.

Bala Field Play Area

It was noted that this area had been attracting young people in the evenings although the play area was not completed or opened. It was agreed that the Police would monitor the situation.

Advertising and parking of vehicles for sale on roadside verges

One particular vehicle was brought to the attention of the Police by a Member of the Council.

167. PRESENTATION OF “PLANT” PROJECT

Mr Keri Hargest (Wrexham CBC) gave a visual presentation of the “PLANT” project. He explained that this was a Welsh Assembly initiative likely to be organised in conjunction with the Forestry Commission. The aim was to plant a tree for every child born in Wales (some 35,000). Caia had been identified as a possible community to be considered as an urban woodland area, given the considerable areas of informal open space within the community. He advised that the matter had been considered by the Communities First Resident’s Panel who had expressed concern over the proposed large areas of woodland at the expense of open play space, the implications of poor future maintenance and practical issues such as attracting anti social activity and littering. He envisaged consultation with the community being undertaken via the Communities First newsletter which was scheduled for production at the end of March. It was noted that whilst large areas were proposed in some areas, less significant planting could take place in other areas where open space was at a premium.

Members generally supported the project but did raise concerns including:

The need for community involvement in an attempt to secure “community ownership” to minimise vandalism.

The need to protect existing recognised walkways and to ensure that they remain safe walking routes.

The need to ensure that any information as part of the consultation exercise was accurate and comprehensive, as the original maps circulated at the meeting did not cover all proposed areas.

That the Forestry Commission should be aware that the type of fencing proposed (rabbit proof netting) was not likely to withstand even moderate interference from members of the public and was not appropriate in an urban environment.

That proposals should involve children and Local Members from the five Caia Wards.

Following general discussion, it was **resolved**:

To strongly support the concept on the basis that:

- *All consultation should be carried out on the basis of full and accurate information indicating all areas proposed for planting*
- *The fencing proposed need to be substantial and suitable to withstand an urban environment and be robust enough to protect the areas planted for the appropriate time required*
- *That County Members for the five Caia Park Wards be consulted and informed of progress*
- *That children, schools and other local agencies involved with young people should be involved to maximize community ownership of the scheme*

168. MEMBERS REPORTS

- Cllr. B. Halley Attended Smithfield Residents meeting.
Concern still being expressed over on street parking issues.
Resolved: *To contact Wrexham CBC to suggest Smithfield be considered for a resident's parking scheme should the proposed pilot scheme at Bradley Road fail to gain public support.*
- Cllr. M. King Attended the recent Police PACT meeting for Wynnstay Ward held at the Hand Hotel, Holt Road.
- Cllr. R. Prince Reported that the MUGA lights at Prince Charles Road were not operational. The Clerk advised that these had been reported recently.
Requested an update on the refurbished youth shelter of Prince Charles Road. Cllr. King advised that a meeting had been held with young people and Caia Park Partnership and a proposed reopening date was scheduled for the Easter holiday period. There was some minor cosmetic work to be completed but this would be more accessible once the security fencing had been removed.
- Cllr. K. Gregory Acknowledged the work of Second Nature in commencing the garden refurbishment project off Manley Road.

169. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the ordinary and confidential meetings held on 11th February 2010 be received and adopted as a correct record.

Matters arising:

170. BALA ROAD PLAY AREA (PM 154)

It was noted that having contacted the Environment Department at Wrexham CBC., pedestrian control barriers were not to be erected at the entrance to the play area, given the open nature of the field generally.

171. COMMUNITY COUNCIL CASUAL VACANCY (PM 157)

The Clerk reported that a request for a ballot had been called and the process would now be handled by the Returning Officer at Wrexham CBC. The closing date for nominations is noon on 17th March with any election being held on 15th April. He further advised that the Community Council would need to consider if they wished polling cards to be issued.

Resolved: *In accordance with procedures, the Community Council requests the Returning Officer to issue polling cards in the event of an election being held.*

172. COMMUNITY SIGNAGE (PM 163)

The Clerk advised that the wording on the signs would be revised to reflect an appropriate Welsh translation at no cost to the Community Council. Members expressed concern over the content of a recent letter published in the local press and submitted by a Member of the Council who had been party to the original discussions relating to the signs. Following discussion, it was **resolved:**

To replace the sign originally located adjacent to the Greyhound Public House on Cefn Road that had been removed.

To discuss, at the April meeting, subject to the Member referred to above being present, the contents of the letter published in the local press.

173. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were received:

(i) Wrexham CBC – Consultation on Traffic Regulation Order (prohibition and restriction of waiting) Abenbury Road and Pentre Gwyn

Resolved: To fully support the proposals to prohibit waiting on the areas of Abenbury Road and Pentre Gwyn as contained within the consultation document given previous concerns over highway safety and the requirement to keep the two lanes adjacent to the Cefn Road traffic lights clear of obstruction.

(ii) Wrexham CBC – Local Development Plan

Members received correspondence from the Planning department seeking support and assistance in facilitating community interest in the emerging draft Local Development Plan when on public deposit.

Resolved: To note the letter and provide assistance by offering accommodation to host an information event, display posters and attend drop in sessions.

(iii) Welsh Assembly Government – Consultation on Accounts and Audit (Wales) Amendment Regulations

Resolved: That the document be noted.

(iv) Local Government Boundary Commission – copy of initial Electoral Review notification letter

The Clerk advised that a recent meeting had been held by the Local Government Boundary Commission to explain their role in carrying out a review of County Electoral Divisions. It emerged at that meeting that the ideal ward size comprised of at least 1700 electors and that multi member wards may be considered as had been the case in some areas where a review had already been completed. The letter requested initial observations to be submitted prior to the Draft Proposals being published. Members expressed concern over the implications on effective local government if multi member wards were to be promoted and detailed particular circumstances in relation to the five Caia Wards. It was *Resolved: To discuss the matter at the April meeting and respond within the set timescale*

(v) Wrexham CBC – Invitation to visit Wrexham Recycling Park (additional item)

It was reported that Members had received an invitation to visit the Recycling Park at Bryn Lane, Wrexham Industrial Estate on Saturday 17th April 2010 with three visit times being available (10am -12pm, 12pm – 2pm and 2pm – 4pm)

Resolved: Any Member interested in attending one of the session to contact the Clerk as soon as possible.

174. TIDY TOWNS GRANT APPLICATION

The Clerk advised members that expressions of interests were required to be submitted by 31st March 2010. It was noted that the Community Council had been successful in the previous two years with the river project and landscaping project at Montgomery Road.

Following discussion it was *Resolved: to submit the following schemes for consideration:*

Garden area off Manley Road

Area of former play ground off Moorland Avenue (subject to details of proposals currently under consideration being available from The Venture)

175. REQUESTS 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:

National Eisteddfod for Wales (Wrexham 2010)	–	£1000
Nightingale House Hospice	-	£1000

The Clerk reported that, as agreed at the last meeting, the Chair of the Red Dragon Football Club had been contacted by letter and copies of previous correspondence sent to the Fundraising Secretary included. To date no reply had been received.

Resolved:

That the consideration of a grant be held in abeyance until a reply is received.

176. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The provisional financial statement for period ending 28th February 2010 was submitted.

Resolved: *That the financial statement for period 28th February 2010 be received and adopted.*

177. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved: *That the following accounts for March 2010 be approved:*

			£ . p	Authority
D.D.	British Gas (elect)	Cartrefle	* 492.55	
		St Peter's Hall	* <u>87.93</u>	580.48
D.D.	Pace Telecom	General Admin	* 8.81	
		CAS	* <u>31.65</u>	40.46

D.D.	Dee Valley Water	St Peter's Hall		12.99
5609	Graphic Office Systems	General Admin	*	23.03
5610	Institute of Money Advisors	CAS		30.00
5611	Doveys Office Solutions	General Admin	* 80.30	
		CAS	<u>17.84</u>	98.14
5612	WNW	Cartrefle	* 66.18	
		St Peter's Hall	* <u>103.87</u>	170.05
5613	John R Boyle	Cartrefle	*	111.39
5627	Pats Coaches	Chair's Allowance		320.00
5617	P. Williams	Chair's Allowance		43.00
5614	British Gas	St Peter's Hall	*	917.13
5628	Clwyd CHC	General Admin	109.49	LGA 1972 s133
		Cartrefle	<u>19.55</u>	129.04
5615	Nat. Eisteddfod (Wrexham)	Donation		1000.00
5616	Nightingale House Hospice	Donation		1000.00
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	Cartrefle		14.66

				£ . p	Authority
D.D.	Plus net	General Admin	*	31.04	
	G. Evans (Sal Adjustment)	CAS			
	P. Donellan (Sal adjustment)	CAS			
	K. Walker (Sal Adjustment)	CAS			
	D. Lloyd (Sal Adjustment)	CAS			
	M. Morris (Sal Adjustment)	General Admin			
	L. Mills (Sal Adjustment)	General Admin			
	R. Matthews (Sal Adjustment)	St Peter's Hall			
	S. Pritchard (Sal Adjustment)	St Peter's Hall			
	J. Francis (Sal Mar)	St Peter's Hall			
	P. Jones (Sal Adjustment)	Cartrefle			
	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Mar)			
	FCC	Pensions (Mar)			

*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable

178. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members considered the following applications for planning permission submitted for their observations by Wrexham CBC:

Resolved:

That no objection be raised on the following application:

P2010/0142– 14 Kelso Close, Llwyn Onn, Wrexham

Conversion of existing garage to bedroom, extension over existing garage to form bedroom and erection of new double garage