

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held on 11th October 2007 at
Cartrefle, Cefn Road, Wrexham

Cllr P M Williams (**Chair**)

Cllr A K Gregory (**Vice Chair**)

Cllr M Allum	*Cllr M A Humphreys
*Cllr L Gameson	*Cllr M King
Cllr C D Griffiths	Cllr C Lloyd
Cllr B T Halley	Cllr D G Mitchell
*Cllr J Howell	*Cllr C Powell
Cllr J M Humberstone	*Cllr B R Pritchard
	Cllr M J Vickers

*Absent

Also in attendance: Sgt D. Jacks - North Wales Police.

Members of the public: Ms J. Jones and Ms A Phillips

63. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllrs L. Gameson, J. Howells, M. King and B. Pritchard.

64. POLICE MATTERS

Sgt Jacks reported that there would be a campaign to monitor events leading up to Halloween and 5th November. Anti social behaviour statistics appeared to be disproportionately higher in the Smithfield and Queensway wards with incidents concentrated towards the end of the week and between the hours of 5pm and 1am. Operations were continuing in relation to drug related problems. The police dog had now been trained in passive and active duties and is now able to assist in searches of premises and vehicles.

General statistics quoted indicated a reduction in overall crime by 20%, vehicle crime by 50% and criminal damage by 30%.

Members reported specific problems in Crescent Road and St David's Crescent and referred to recent damage and theft at the refurbished flats in Deva Way. Concern was expressed over the effectiveness of the CCTV cameras throughout the estate and it was questioned if they were working and were being monitored regularly. Sgt Jacks agreed to investigate.

65. CHAIR & MEMBERS REPORTS

Cllr. P. M. Williams

Cllr. A.K. Gregory attended Flood Defence meeting . A river clean up has been requested, attention drawn to the weir (adjacent to Rivulet Road) and the outflow adjacent to the bridge by Queensway terrace. Details of the environmental improvement bid was also received.

Cllr. J. Humberstone Attended meeting with Wrexham CBC to examine proposed traffic regulations for the Eagles Meadow area. A public consultation meeting had also been held. Cllr Humberstone expressed his concerns over the effects the scheme may have

on residents parking and the possible effects of the old Gas Works site development proposals. Approval has been sought for the extension of the 20 mph restriction from Whitegate Road junction with Queensway extending along Montgomery Road.

Cllr. D. Mitchell Presented a written report on a meeting of the Wrexham Sustainability Forum. Attended a meeting of St Anne's School Governing Body and presented the Council with a portfolio of photographs taken at this year's gardening competition. It was agreed to forward a congratulatory letter to the overall winner.

Cllr. M. Allum Met with the Area Supervisor (Pride in your Streets) regarding problems with the French drains on Bala Road fields.

66. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved: That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 13^h September be received and adopted as a correct record.

67. PRIDE IN YOUR STREETS (PM 50)

Members expressed concern over the frequency of emptying the litter bins which at times appeared to be inconsistent. Particular difficulties had been experienced in the Montgomery Road, Benjamin Road areas and adjacent to the shop on Smithfield Road.

68. MEMBERS REPORTS (PM 51)

The Chair informed members that she had been invited to take part in a BBC Wales filming of aspects of Caia Park. It was made clear that she had been invited as a resident and that any views expressed would be as an individual and not representing the Community Council. The Chair also reported that discussions had taken place with agencies regarding the eat and exchange scheme. It was noted that there is currently provision 3 days of the week at The Elms, Rhosddu Road. It was also reported that Wrexham CBC are shortly to consider the provision of a night shelter.

69. WREXHAM IN BLOOM COMPETITION (PM 12/26/39/53)

Members referred to the previously circulated portfolio of photographs relating to the Gardening Competition and anti litter poster competition. It was agreed to reproduce the winning poster for future use and display.

70. PLANNING PERMISSIONS (PM55)

Arising from the issues raised at the September meeting over the use of the smoking shelter at Mecca Bingo, Cllr. Humberstone expressed his concerns over inaccurate comments which appeared to have been relayed back to the premises in question. The Chair recalled that Cllr Humberstone did not raise the matter and further that he confirmed that in his opinion the activities taking place were in line with normal practice. The Chair advised Members that any information imparted from the meetings should always be accurately reported.

71. FOOTWAY LIGHTING (PM59)

The Clerk reported that orders had been placed for works agreed at the September meeting. Members requested that the Smithfield Road/ Bernard Road scheme be requested as a priority in view of recent incidents of anti social behaviour in the area.

72. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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.	Hope House Children's Hospice	£600
ii	Community Media (Wrexham) Ltd	£100

(Councillor J. Humberstone declared an interest in 72ii and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

**73. WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2006 – 2021 – PREFERRED STRATEGY CONSULTATION**

Members considered the summary consultation document and noted that a drop in session has been organised by Wrexham CBC Planning Dept. to be held at Cartrefle on Thursday 25th October 2007 from 4pm – 7pm.

Members were reminded that views were being sought on the overall strategy in terms of housing and employment development, areas where development is to be encouraged and discouraged. At this stage detailed policies (such as affordable housing etc) and specific sites suggested via the Urban Capacity Study or individual landowners were not being considered.

Following discussion it was ***Resolved:*** *to consider this document at the November Council meeting following the consultation meeting scheduled for 25th October 2007.*

**74. LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES
Final recommendations for the Community boundaries within Wrexham County
Borough**

Members received a report detailing the final recommendations for the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales as they apply to the community boundaries of Caia, Abenbury and Holt.

It was noted that they have confirmed their draft recommendations as they apply to the Llwyn Onn and Thornleigh areas of Abenbury transferring into Caia community boundary. They have, however changed their recommendation for the Fairways Estate and are now recommending that this be transferred from Holt into Acton community (not as originally proposed into Caia) and that the area known as The Old Gardens be transferred from Caia into Acton community.

Members were reminded that the resultant changes to the Caia Community Council membership would see a reduction from 15 members to 14 members as follows:

Whitegate Ward – 4 members, Cartrefle Ward – 3 members, Queensway and Wynnstay Wards – 2 members each and Smithfield ward – 3 members.

Members expressed their disappointment over the changes and ***Resolved:*** *to make further representations to the Welsh Assembly Government supporting the recommendations relating to the changes to the boundaries between Abenbury and Caia Park but restating the view that the Fairways Estate should transfer into Caia with the A534 Holt Road forming the community boundary.*

75. BUS SHELTER – DALE STREET

A report was received outlining anti social activities taking place within the bus shelter situated on Dale Street. Wrexham County Borough Council had been approached over the possibility of removing the shelter, however it appeared from their records that it was the responsibility of the Community Council. The Local Member had requested this be placed on the agenda as the PCSO and Police for the area recommended its removal following an environmental audit.

The Council were informed by representatives from the Smithfield Tenants and Residents Association that they had undertaken some consultation in the area and the majority of consultees did not want the shelter removing but were concerned about its unkempt appearance.

Following discussion it was **Resolved:**

To ask Wrexham CBC to examine the shelter to ensure it is still structurally sound

Subject to a satisfactory condition survey obtain quotations for repainting

To ensure grass from the adjoining property is cut back to the footpath edge.

Members acknowledged that the shelter is an encouragement for young people to congregate within it and requested that the possibility of erecting a chat shelter on vacant land nearer the Queensway roundabout be explored. Members also requested that contact be made with Wrexham CBC to establish what use was to be made of the capital receipt held from the sale of the Herbert Jennings Avenue Civic Amenity site due to the failure of identifying a suitable site within Acton for youth facilities.

76. CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Local Authorities (alcohol consumption in designated public places) regulations 2007

Members received details of the above scheme and the questionnaire circulated to all Community Councils. Following discussion, Members **Resolved:**

To fully support the initiative and respond accordingly to the questionnaire supporting the designation of the entire Community Council area to be subject to an Order.

(ii) External Audit Financial Year 2006/07

Notification was received from UHY Hacker Young, nominated External Auditors, advising that the audit for financial year 2006/07 had been completed, that it was a clean audit report with no matters to bring to the attention of the Council.

(iii) Hyder Consulting – invitation to attend a meeting to discuss regional waste plans – 30th October 2007

It was agreed that Cllrs A. K. Gregory and D. Mitchell be nominated as Council representatives to attend.

(iv) Wrexham Town and Community Council Forum

Notification was received of a special meeting of the above to discuss neighbourhood policing with the Divisional Commander. (Meetings attended by Chair and Clerk) Concern was expressed over the PCSO's being frequently used as purely police support (assisting with warrants for arrest and surveillance work) and the apparent change in emphasis from community support. It was suggested that this could be raised at the meeting.

(v) Reports and Consultation Documents

North Wales Fire and Rescue service – Draft Risk Reduction Plan

Resolved: *That the report be noted*

Local Vision – Preparing Community Strategies

Resolved: *That the consultation document be noted*

77. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR PERIOD 30TH SEPTEMBER 2007

The Clerk submitted financial statement for period ending 30th September 2007.

Resolved: *That the financial statement be received and adopted.*

78. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved:

That payment of the following accounts be authorised

			£ . p	Authority
D.D.	Vodafone	General Admin	* 13.99	
D.D.	British Gas (elect)	Cartrefle	*206.89	
		St Peter's Hall	* <u>72.29</u> 279.18	
D.D.	Pace Telecom	General Admin	* 63.29	
		CAS	* <u>121.53</u> 184.82	
D.D.	ING Leasing	General Admin	* 165.67	
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	St Peter's Hall	12.74	
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	St Peter's Hall	108.00	LGA 1972 s133
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	Cartrefle	661.00	LGA 1972 s133
5022	Petty Cash	General Admin	50.00	
5027	Graphic Office Systems	General Admin	* 25.10	
5028	UHY Hacker Young	General Admin	* 1028.13	ACA 1998 s3
5029	RBCW	St Peter's Hall	964.00	LGA 1072 s133
5030	PHS Group	Cartrefle	* 52.84	
	PHS Group	Cartrefle	* 348.08	
5031	Connaught Gasforce	Cartrefle	* 263.51	
5032	Colour Supplies	Cartrefle	* 43.96	
5033	Tax Aid	CAS	* 20.00	
5034	City Elect Factors	Cartrefle	* 3.71	
5035	WNW	Cartrefle	* 44.61	
		St Peter's Hall	* <u>38.80</u> 83.41	
5036	Hope House Hospice	Donation	600.00	
5037	Community Media Wxm	Donation	100.00	
5038	Wrexham CBC	CAS	50.00	
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	Cartrefle	18.80	
D.D.	Nat West Business Card	General Admin	* 31.71	
	P. Emery (Salary cheque - Oct)	CAS		
	G. Evans (Travel - Oct)	CAS		
	P. Donnellan (Travel - Oct)	CAS		
	K. Walker (Travel - Oct)	CAS		
	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Oct)		
	FCC	Pensions (Oct)		

(*Includes recoverable VAT of £346.91)

79. FENCING TO REAR OF PONT WEN

It was reported that the condition of the fence to the rear of Pont Wen adjacent to Whitegate Bridge was causing concern and contributing to incidents of anti social behaviour. It was anticipated that this was to be addressed as part of the refurbished playground scheme although this was not guaranteed. It was suggested that the problem could be remedied via the Housing Dept's environmental improvements grant.