

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held on 10th January 2008 at
Cartrefle, Cefn Road, Wrexham

Cllr P M Williams (**Chair**)
Cllr A K Gregory (**Vice Chair**)

Cllr M Allum
*Cllr L Gameson
*Cllr C D Griffiths
Cllr B T Halley
*Cllr J Howell
*Cllr J M Humberstone

Cllr M. King
Cllr C. Lloyd
*Cllr D Mitchell
Cllr C Powell
Cllr B R Pritchard
Cllr M Vickers
Vacancy

*Absent

Also in attendance Sgt Darren Jacks – N. Wales Police.

109. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from:
Cllrs. L. Gameson and J Humberstone

110. POLICE MATTERS

Sgt Jacks provided crime statistics for the period. It was noted that there had been an increase in incidents in recent weeks with garages in certain areas targeted. Sgt Jacks reported that PC J. Clarke had been moved from Caia for personal reasons leaving the Queensway Ward without a Community Beat Manager. This was noted with regret, given he had only been in post for four months. The Local Member for the Queensway Ward found this particularly surprising given the Assistant Chief Constable had toured the Ward some two weeks previous and did not mention that these changes were taking place.

Members were particularly concerned that policing in the Queensway Ward had suffered because of previous prolonged vacancies and this put undue pressure on the remaining CBMs for the area. It appeared that the concept of signing a three year contract, thus giving some degree of stability and continuity to an area was breached as and when it suited the Police Force. Members felt that in the interests of providing a reasonable service to the area, the vacancy should be filled as a matter of urgency and the remaining CBMs for the area should not be abstracted for duties in other areas whilst the vacancy remains unfilled. Following a lengthy discussion, it was **resolved:**

To write to the Chief Constable (copies to Divisional Commander and Area Inspector) expressing disappointment and concern and requesting that the vacancy be filled as a matter of urgency and any abstraction of other Caia CBMs be kept to an absolute minimum.

That the matter be raised at the next meeting of the Police and Community Forum if the opportunity arises.

A Member expressed concern over an apparent increasing number of vehicles with faulty lights being driven in the area creating a hazardous situation for pedestrians and cyclists. Sgt Jacks offered to monitor the situation.

Discarded needles still appeared to be a problem in the area of the river to the rear of Nant Silyn. Discussions were taking place with Pride in Your Streets to determine if it is possible or appropriate to locate a sharps box in this area.

111. CHAIR & MEMBERS REPORTS

Cllr P. Williams reported that she had attended an Executive Board meeting of Communities First at which a presentation was given on needle exchange issues. A report was given on a joint meeting held with Wrexham CBC and a discussion took place on the role of local pharmacies and the Harm Reduction Team. A general discussion took place and there appeared to be a perception that more needles were given out than were being returned, sometimes resulting in unused syringes being discarded. It was agreed to write to the Harm Reduction Team to establish their policy on needle exchanges and to establish how it operates in practice.

Cllr. M. Allum, C. Powell and the Clerk had attended a meeting of the Flood Defence Committee. It was unfortunate that key Members from United Utilities and Environment Department of Wrexham CBC were not present. The concept of identifying members of the community as possible Flood Defence Wardens was discussed at the meeting . Following general discussion, it was **resolved**

To write to Pride in Your Streets – Wrexham CBC expressing concern over:

The amount of debris in the river at Cook's Weir

White goods deposited in the river since October 2007 that haven't been cleared when inspections are supposedly taking place on a weekly basis

The frequency of inspecting the culvert on Rivulet Road from the filter/screen through the yards of the industrial premises.

To establish from Caia Park Environmental Group their involvement in matters relating to the river.

112. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 13th December 2007 be received and adopted as a correct record.

113. COMMUNITY ADVICE SERVICE (PM 102)

The Clerk reported that sessions had commenced from 2nd January 2008 at The Venture due to the need to relocate from Spring Lodge House. The success of this would be monitored over the next few months.

114. QUEENS PARK YOUTH CLUB (PM 105)

The Clerk reported that he had written to Wrexham CBC as instructed but to date a reply had not been received. It was acknowledged that the issues were primarily the responsibility of the Youth Club Management Committee and it was understood a meeting of this group was to be convened in the near future.

115. 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. Caia Park Nursery (purchase of willow panels) £150

116. APPLICATIONS FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

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

Resolved: *that no objection be raised on the following applications:*

- P2007/1434 15 Fenwick Drive, Wrexham – Extension to dwelling to form additional bedroom and en suite.
- P2007/1435 Opposite Numbers 79-101 Deva Way, Wrexham – On street parking.
- P2007/1469 Opposite Numbers 67-71 Deva Way, Wrexham – On street parking.

The following decision notices issued by Wrexham CBC as Planning Authority were noted:

- App. P2007/1296 (Former Kwik Save, 95 Kingsmills Road, Wrexham) – Granted
- App. P2007/1244 (27 Salop Road, Wrexham) - Granted

117. CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) **Invitation to become a Corporate Member of Wrexham Area Civic Society**
Members received an invitation to become a Corporate member of Wrexham Area Civic Society. Following discussion, it was **resolved:** *to become a Corporate Member of the Wrexham Area Civic Society given that the community boundary contains part of a Conservation Area and has recently been the subject of some major developments..*

118. RATE ESTIMATES 2008/09 AND PRECEPT SETTING

The Clerk of the Council as Responsible Financial Officer, submitted his rate estimates for the year ending 31st March 2009. These included increased provision to reflect the possible costs associated with elections in May 2008, the additional costs associated with the Community Advice Service as a result of the Healthy Living Scheme ending in March 2008 and to reflect decisions previously taken regarding the contribution towards the Police dog, and the possible provision of a chat shelter for Smithfield. It was noted that other minor budget headings had been reduced and there was no provision for further traffic calming measures during the financial year. It was noted that the possible costs of the elections would be met from balances to avoid increasing the precept unnecessarily. Having considered the position with regard to reserves and observations made by Members with regard to street lighting, it was **resolved:**

That the rate estimates and reserves as presented be approved.

That the Council levy a rate of £55 for the year ending 31st March 2009 and that it precepts on Wrexham CBC for the sum of £219,780.

119. COMMUNITY ADVICE SERVICE

Members received the statistics for the Community Advice Service for period October – December 2007

Resolved: *That the quarterly statistics be noted*

120. FINANCIAL STATEMENT – DECEMBER 2007

The Clerk submitted the financial statement for period ending 31st December 2007

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

121. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved: *That the following accounts be authorised for payment*

			£ . p	Authority
D.D.	Vodafone	General Admin	* 13.99	
D.D.	British Gas (elect)	Cartrefle	*433.01	
		St Peter's Hall	* <u>77.46</u>	510.47
D.D.	Pace Telecom	General Admin	* 45.73	
		CAS	* <u>123.21</u>	176.94
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	St Peter's Hall		12.74
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	St Peter's Hall		108.00
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	Cartrefle		661.00
5096	Graphic Office Systems	General Admin	*	12.24
5097	NIBBS	General Admin	*	16.58
5098	Society of Local Council Clerks	General Admin		145.00
5099	Wrexham Civic Society	General Admin		25.00
5100	Caia Park Nursery	Donation		150.00
	D.D. Dee Valley Water	Cartrefle		18.80
D.D.	Nat West Business Card	General Admin	*	31.71
	P. Emery (Salary cheque - Jan)	CAS		
	G. Evans (Travel Jan)	CAS		
	K. Walker (sal adj/travel Jan)	CAS		
	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Jan)		
	FCC	Pensions (Jan)		

(*Includes recoverable VAT of £105.63)