

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at  
Cartrefle, Cefn Road, Wrexham

Cllr P M Williams (**Chair**)

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

Cllr A K Gregory	*Cllr C Lloyd
Cllr B Halley	*Cllr D G Mitchell
*Cllr J Howell	Cllr C Powell
*Cllr N Hughes	Cllr R Prince
Cllr J M Humberstone	Cllr B R Pritchard
Cllr T Thomas	Cllr M King

\*Absent

Together with Sgt D. Jacks and P.C. L. Parker – North Wales Police

**137. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and authorised from Cllr. J. Howell, who is hoping to return in February following illness and Cllr. N. Hughes.

**138. POLICE MATTERS**

Sgt Jacks provided crime and anti social behaviour incidents for December together with comparative data for previous months. It was noted that some of the increase in anti social behavioural activities were related to the weather conditions (snow) and problems still being encountered in the Churchill Drive area. The pattern of criminal damage reported in the Smithfield Ward tended to be damage to vehicles occurring late at night. The criminal damage in Wynnstay Ward tended to be to windows and some vehicles.

Sgt Jacks expressed some concern over the detection rates for those crimes reported by the elderly. A Member enquired if the 101 telephone contact number had been widely advertised. It was felt that more could be done to raise awareness with this age group. A visual aid, such as a fridge magnet, giving contact numbers etc may be useful and it was agreed to explore avenues of funding. It was suggested that similar events to Operation Cinnamon held in the North Wrexham Policing Area specifically aimed at that age group could be considered. In addition, Pont Wen and Queensway terrace residents have received packs including window stickers advising that cold callers are not welcome

Sgt Jacks reported on certain operational matters that had been carried out in recent days including warrants in relation to the supply of drugs, stolen goods and a specific incident which occurred on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January. He advised that because of previous low attendance, the Neighbourhood Policing meetings would be held on a ward basis. Dates scheduled at present are:

Cartrefle	10 <sup>th</sup> February 2010
Smithfield	5 <sup>th</sup> February 2010
Whitegate	24 <sup>th</sup> February 2010

Cllr Gregory drew attention to a problem with a significant number of discarded sharps at a certain location.

### 139. MEMBERS REPORTS

- Cllr. B. Halley            Raised an issue on behalf of residents of Cambrian Place. It was agreed that the Local Member would speak to the Warden in the first instance to clarify the situation.
- Cllr. J. Humberstone    Reported that he had accompanied the Red Cross to carry out an assessment of some homeless / rough sleepers in the area and the capacity situation at the Local Authority accommodation provided. It was noted that the accommodation available had not been fully taken up.

### 140. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**Resolved:**

*That the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009 be received and adopted as a correct record.*

**Matters arising:**

### 141. FENCING MULTI USE GAMES AREA – PRINCE CHARLES ROAD (PM 96, 109 & 129)

The Clerk reported that an order had been placed for the fencing and work should commence shortly.

### 142. WREXHAM C.B.C. NEW MODEL OF YOUTH SERVICE DELIVERY (PM 130 iv)

The Clerk reported that a response had been received indicating that the contract for youth provision entered into with Caia Park Partnership would be monitored by the Youth Service at present by Head of Young People Inclusion and once appointed, by an Area Officer. It is a requirement of the contract to produce quarterly and annual monitoring reports and the Area Officer will be charged with meeting representatives of the Partnership on a monthly basis.

### 143. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were received:

**(i) Wrexham CBC – Skatepark / MUGA lighting costs**

A letter was received from Wrexham CBC requesting views on the future maintenance and energy costs relating to lighting MUGAs and skateparks. Two options were presented:

Option 1 -        not repair the existing lighting and remove if it is not safe and not replace it.

Option 2 -        ask Community Councils to fund offering an annual maintenance and inspection contract (exclusive of major repairs) Costs estimated at £600 - £700 per site.

Members were of the view that as both sites within Caia were not originally requested by the Community Council, both options appear to be extremely unfair. Whilst it is recognised that the budgetary situation of the County Borough is difficult, there is an increasing trend to try and force community councils to fund items from their limited budgets. The request seemed to be contrary to the aims of the recently endorsed Play Strategy and appeared to be an officer recommendation without reference to the Elected Members. It was recognised that both sites are extremely well used.

It was **resolved:** *to express objection to both proposals and request that where the facilities had been developed by the County Borough Council, they should continue to maintain them.*

**(ii) Wrexham CBC - Owain Glyndwr Nominations 2009**

A letter was received detailing the successful sites selected in 2009 and advising that the criteria for site selection would be considered by the Executive Board in Jan/ Feb

**Resolved:** *That the letter be noted.*

**(iii) Wrexham CBC – Prohibition of waiting and no stopping order 2009 (Abbott Street and Yorke Street)**

**Resolved:** *That the order be noted.*

Arising from the above it was reported that a number of private hire vehicles were parked in and around Market Street at a recently opened taxi office which had planning consent as an administration office only. It was agreed to refer the matter to Planning Enforcement.

**(iv) North Wales Police Authority – Operation Focus**

Requesting views of the Community Council in three areas on Operation Focus and the tactics employed to reduce accidents and casualties as a result of riding motorcycles. It was **resolved:** *to respond supporting the Force’s high visibility approach to tackling motorcycle casualties.*

**(v) Wrexham CBC – invitation to attend event on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010 “Towards a Low Carbon Wrexham”**

**Resolved:** *That Members decide if they wish to attend and to circulate details to Cllr. D. Mitchell.*

**REPORTS AND CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS**

The following were received and noted:

- (i) Welsh Assembly Government – Proposed changes to Local Authority Capital Finance Framework.
- (ii) National Assembly for Wales (Legislative Competence)(Local Government) Order 2009

**144. PRECEPT AND BUDGET SETTING 2010/2011**

The Clerk presented a comprehensive report detailing historic and the projected precept yields based on a number of financial options. Details of the levels of expenditure were given in various areas of the Community Council work. It was noted that in view of the Boundary Review and a reduction in investment income the Council faced a shortfall of in excess of £28k based on current levels of expenditure at the existing precept levy. A number of cost cutting options were put forward for discussion and Members were reminded of the need to determine the level of precept for 2010/2011.

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

- *To set the precept level for 2010/2011 at £206,967 which equates to £56 per Band D equivalent property.*
- *To reduce the s137 Grants Budget to £30,000 (was £35,000 in 2009/10)*
- *To increase the hire fees as St Peter’s Hall and Cartrefle by £2 per session (weekdays) – last reviewed in 2007.*
- *To reduce Chair’s Allowance to £500 (was £1,000 in 2009/10).*

- *To remove payphone from St Peter's Hall.*
- *To reduce holiday cover for Community Advice Workers as per report.*
- *To put on hold proposed adaptations at Cartrefle premises (£7,000).*

In addition Members instructed the Clerk to review staffing costs and report back.

#### 145. FUNDING OF COMMUNITY CENTRES

The Clerk reported that a request had been received from Wrexham CBC requesting that the Community Council financially support the two County Council owned Community Centres in the sum of 10% of the net running costs per centre.

It was **resolved:** *To accede to the request and make a financial contribution as follows:*

<i>Kingsley Circle Community Centre</i>	<i>£1,048</i>
<i>Pentre Gwyn &amp; Tanycoed Community Ccentre</i>	<i>£ 961</i>

#### 146. 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) Groundwork – Walkabout Wrexham	-	£70
------------------------------------	---	-----

#### **Caia Park Partnership**

Members were reminded that in April 2009 (Minute 163) it had been resolved to grant aid Caia Park Partnership to the sum of £8,000 to provide a youth club at Pentre Gwyn on a Wednesday and at Smithfield on a Friday evening. As a result of a successful tendering process with Wrexham CBC, this provision was now being met through the contract with Wrexham CBC with effect from October 2009. As a result only 50% of the Community Council grant has been paid. The Partnership had advised that the remaining grant could be used to fund their “drop in” info shop and some outreach work and Members had sought clarification on the level of outreach work offered and this had been received in a recent communication.

Members felt that they would prefer more outreach work to be undertaken and the grant used on providing this. Following discussion, it was **resolved:**

*To pay the remainder (50%) of the grant to Caia Park Partnership for 2009/10 for use as outlined in the correspondence.*

*To advise Caia Park Partnership that any application for assistance in 2010/2011 will be considered on the basis that it is utilised for outreach work within the community.*

#### **Community Bonfire**

Members were reminded that they had agreed to sponsor the community bonfire to the sum of £1,700 (October 2009 Minute 98) subject to the organising body providing an income and expenditure sheet for the event. The Clerk reported that this had now been received and it revealed that the shortfall of income was in fact only £1,240. Members instructions were therefore sought as to the level of grant to be paid. Following discussion, it was **resolved:**

*To release the original budgeted amount of £1,700 subject to the surplus balance being “ring fenced” for next year’s bonfire or if that does not take place, to be refunded to the Community Council.*

#### 147. 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 applications:*

**P2009/1004 – Former Hightown Barracks, Kingsmills Road, Wrexham**

Amendment to previously approved application to incorporate 7 no. 1 bedroom apartments within the roof space of Block 3.

**P2009/1021 – Land adjoining Hightown Road, Wrexham**

Change of use from sawmills yard to internal car wash and valeting, new access, fences, gates, sign and crash barrier, landscaped border to frontage.

**P2009/1022 – Land to rear of 3 – 11 Tan y Coed, Wrexham**

Proposed off street car park

**P2009/1035 – Mecca Bingo Club, Smithfield, Wrexham**

Variation of condition 1 of planning code P2008/1294 to permit opening until 12.00 (midnight) on any day on a permanent basis

#### 148. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Clerk submitted the provisional financial statements for period ending 31st December 2009. **Resolved:** *That the financial statement be received and adopted.*

#### 149. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

			£ . p	Authority
D.D.	British Gas (elect)	Cartrefle	* 457.02	
		St Peter's Hall	* <u>-58.29</u>	398.73
D.D.	Pace Telecom	General Admin	* 60.18	
		CAS	* <u>133.60</u>	193.78
<hr/>				
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	St Peter's Hall		12.99
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	Cartrefle		721.00
D.D.	Wrexham CBC	St Peter's Hall		117.00
D.D.	Investec	Genenral Admin	*	70.50
5562	City Elect Factors	Cartrefle	*	153.83
5563	Doveys Office Solutions	General Admin	* 39.81	
		CAS	* <u>39.47</u>	79.28
5564	Graphic Office Solutions	General Admin	*	23.00
5565	WMS	St Peter's Hall	*	59.23
5566	WNW	St Peter's Hall	* 39.78	
		Cartrefle	* <u>34.77</u>	74.55
5567	JME Electrical Ltd	St Peter's Hall	*	433.52
5568	Shelter Cymru	CAS		120.00
5569	Church in Wales	St Peter's Hall	644.00	
		CAS	<u>320.00</u>	964.00
	Enterprise	Amenity/Environ	* 4224.82	***
D.D.	Dee Valley Water	Cartrefle		14.66
D.D.	Plus net	General Admin	*	31.04
5571	Groundwork Wrexham	Donation		70.00
5572	The Venture	Donation		1700.00
	P. Emery (Sal Jan)	CAS		
	G. Evans (Travel Jan)	CAS		
	P. Donellan (Travel Jan)	CAS		
	K. Walker (Sal adj/travel Jan)	CAS		
	J. Francis (Sal Jan)	St Peter's Hall		
5570	Unison	St Peter's Hall		
	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Jan)		
	FCC	Pensions (Jan)		

\* Includes VAT \*\*\* Estimated at this stage original account overcharged awaiting credit note.

