Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held remotely via Zoom on

13th May 2021

Cllr M. King (Chair) (A/V)

\*Cllr M. J. Downward (Vice Chair)

Cllr B. Cameron (A/V) Cllr J. Johnson (A/V)

Cllr L. C. Crawford (A/V) (left mtg 18.30) \* Cllr S. Jones

\* Cllr A. K. Gregory \* Cllr C. Lloyd

Cllr B. Halley (A) Cllr L. M. Platt (A/V) (left mtg at 19.20)

\*Cllr C. Harper Cllr C. Powell (A/V) (left mtg at 18.20)

Cllr A. J. Jeorrett (A/V) (left mtg at 18.55) Cllr Paul Williams (A/V)

\*Absent

P.Sgt. Kelly Lewis & P.C. Kerry Evans – North Wales Police

Mr. Matt Warner - Newsquest..

Key (A/V) = Audio and visual presence

(A) = Audio presence

**6. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Michelle Downward, S. Jones, C. Harper and A.K. Gregory.

**7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

***RESOLVED:*** That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 8th April 2021 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

**Updates & matters arising:**

**8. LITTER PICKING (PM 140)**

The Clerk reported that a quantity of refuse sacks had been acquired and are available for distribution/collection.

**9. HILLCREST SURGERY (PM140)**

Members were pleased to note that the parking problems seemed to have eased following the erection of appropriate signage.

The Chair reported that as a County Councillor, he had received notification from Betsi Cadwalladr University Health Board (BCUHB) advising that the G.P’s at the surgery had resigned and that the practice would revert back to BCUHB control in June. He had received representations from residents expressing their concern about the future operations of the surgery. Other Members were aware that patients listed at the practice had also received a letter indicating that it was the controlling syndicate members who had resigned affecting three surgeries in the area (Hillcrest, Forge Road, Brymbo and Borras Park) The correspondence sent to County Councillors and residents appeared to be unclear and confusing. ***RESOLVED:*** *That enquiries are made to establish the facts and hopefully advise of plans for the future of the surgery.*

**10.** **FOOTPATH IMPROVEMENT WHITEGATE TO KINGS MILL (PM 143**)

It was reported that due to staffing changes and procurement, there had been a delay in the start date of this project.

**11. DEFIBRILLATORS (PM145, 123,112,103iii)**

The Clerk reported that he had telephoned McColls regarding their shop on Holt Road and was advised to email the health & Safety Officer. Two emails had been sent but to date no reply has been received. It was noted that McColls had recently entered a franchise with Morrisons and perhaps this could be the reason for the delay. It was agreed to telephone again.

With regard to the Premier Stores on Abenbury Road, the Clerk of Abenbury Community Council had been advised that they no longer felt it was suitable for their store which conflicts with their original decision. The position was being clarified although it is difficult to speak with the Manager. It was agreed that if the store did not change its mind, then the defibrillator be located on the grassed area across directly opposite, the costs shared 50:50 with Abenbury C.C.

**12. POLICE MATTERS**

The Chair welcomed both representatives of N. Wales Police to the meeting and expressed gratitude for their attendance.

Sgt Lewis introduced herself and colleague P.C. Kerry Evans to the meeting. She advised that it was her intention to remain with the Neighourhood Policing Team and that she was keen to establish the practice of providing local police reports to be circulated with the monthly agenda, Both then outlined some of the local issues and incidents which have recently occurred and been dealt with.

The issue was raised concerning the data extracted from the national Police website and what appeared to be high numbers in the category “violence/ sexual offences” Details of the crime statistics as extracted from the National Police website and previously circulated were noted.

Sgt Lewis advised that the figures were categories and listed differently from those received locally some time ago and now included all reports of incidents which traditionally may have been recorded as one incident for the same address or complainant. She commented that issues within the community were not giving cause for undue alarm and that the national figures needed to be considered in context of the local situation.

It was reported that the Force would be employing drones to assist the detection of crimes involving the use of motorbikes and that the recent proposals for an extensive CCTV system would also be a significant support.

**13. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS**

Cllr. B. Cameron and Cllr. M. King – Agenda item 9 Personal but not prejudicial as Members of the Clwyd Pension Scheme.

Cllr. B. Cameron – Agenda item 10 (viii) Personal and prejudicial

**14. MEMBERS REPORTS**

Cllr B. Cameron reported that the additional work to Pentre Gwyn play area had not to date been carried out.

The Clerk advised that there had been recent incidents at the Bala Road play area resulting in one section of fencing being stolen and another damaged.

**15. ANNUAL RETURN, ACCOUNTS & SUPPORTING STATEMENTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2020/21**

The Clerk reported that the internal audit had taken place and accordingly, the Annual Return had been endorsed at Section 4 by the Internal Auditor. The Annual Return was now presented for signature by the Chair and Clerk before it is sent to the External Auditor. It was noted because of the Covid 19 situation amended procedures had been put in place by Wales Audit particularly in relation the timescale for elector’s rights to examine the relevant paperwork.

In addition, the annual accounts, variation analysis, level of reserves and risk assessment were also presented for approval.

***Resolved:*** *(i)**That the Annual Return for 2020/21 be signed as a true reflection of the accounts submitted.*

*(ii) That the prepared annual accounts, risk assessment variation analysis, reserves and supporting statements be accepted and adopted.*

The Clerk was thanked for preparing the documents.

**16. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2020/21 AND APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITORS FOR 2021/22**

The Clerk presented the findings of the internal audit for Financial Year 2020-21 with two items to be brought to Member’s attention.

i. That during the Financial Year 2020/21 an up to date service level agreement was not in place with Caia Park Partnership for the provision of their services.

It was noted that the services envisaged had been undeliverable because of the Covid restrictions but alternative strategies had been put in pace. This was documented within the minutes and reports presented to Members and so the Auditor was satisfied that efforts had been made to recognise this.

ii. That the Council should consider adding supplier fraud to its risk assessment and what measures would be put in place to deal with this.

The Clerk reported that this comment had been added to most Community Council audit statements. As Caia Park C.C. do not engage in online banking the risks are not so significant but it will be necessary to add a comment in the risk assessment in due course.

The Clerk asked Members to formally consider the appointment of internal auditors for Financial Year 2020/21.

***RESOLVED:*** *That*

*(i) the Council accept the findings of the Audit report*

*(ii) the Council appoint Messrs J.D.H. Business Services. Carreg Llwyd, Cefn Bychan Road, Pantymwyn, Flintshire as internal auditors for 2021/22.*

**17. DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT ON FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT (WALES) 2015 FOR YEAR 2020-21**

The Clerk reminded Members that it is a requirement to produce an annual report and that as part of the external audit last year’s report has been requested as supplementary evidence. The draft report for consideration is limited due to the Covid restrictions and lack of information from the Public Service Board.

Members ***RESOLVED:*** *To accept the report subject to an additional comment being included in relation to the work undertaken earlier in the year to combat food hardship experienced by some residents and prior to W.G. and Wrexham C.B.C. introducing the direct payments system for meals and also an amendment to the matrix (item 2 to add “prosperous”.*

**18. NOTICE OF MOTION.**

In accordance with standing orders, the following notice of motion was considered:

“On 13th June 2019 Caia Park Community Council unanimously declared a Climate Emergency, recognising that climate change posed the most serious threat to the future well being of the residents of Caia Park, becoming the first Community Council in Wales to do so.

Since then the Community Council has carried out a number of actions to reduce its own carbon footprint and remains strongly committed to continuing to reduce carbon emissions as rapidly as possible.

To this end, Caia Park Community Council joins with other Councils in Wales calling upon the regional Pension Fund bodies to seek rapid disinvestment from carbon fuel producing companies believing that the current policy of “engagement” is an unrealistic way of producing the sort of rapid change that climate emergency demands. In particular, given the very long history of carbon fuel companies investing huge sums of their money to distort and deny climate change evidence, the likelihood of persuading them to go against their narrow financial interests seems remote”.

***RESOLVED:***

*i) Inform the Clwyd Pension Fund of our request that they rapidly disinvest in carbon fuel producing companies.*

*ii) Seek to join with other Councils and public bodies in Wales in achieving unanimity across the country in the campaign for rapid disinvestment by our Pension Fund holders in carbon emitting fuel companies.*

*iii) Encourage the residents in Caia Park, wherever possible to use their influence to similarly request that their own pension providers disinvest in carbon fuel companies.*

(Cllrs M. King and B. Cameron declared a personal interest in this agenda item as outlined in Minute 13).

**19. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following applications were considered and ***RESOLVED*** **no objections** raised:

**(i) P/2021/0281 153 Kingsmills Road, Wrexham**

Conversion of garage to annex – (Reported for information – already granted permission)

(ii) **P/2021/0256 RAM Leisure, Unit 31 Trinity House, Whitegate Ind. Est., Wrexham**

Siting of 4 steel containers in retrospect

**(iii)** **P/2021/0294 7 The Orchards, Kingsmills, Wrexham**

Single storey front extension

**(iv) P/2021/0327 101 Kings Mills Road, Wrexham**

New vehicular access

**(v) P/2021/0404 Junction of Ceiriog Road and Cefn Road**

Installation of CCTV camera

**(vi) P/2021/0408 Former Red Dragon Inn, Prince Charles Road**

Relaxation of Condition 8 (change of opening hours)

The following applications were considered and ***RESOLVED* to object as outlined.**

**(vii) P/2021/0306 1 Salop Road, Wrexham**

Unit for fitting tyres and car wash

Reason for objection - extremely close proximity of the River Clywedog and potential for pollution and contamination with solid materials having an adverse effect downstream.

The highway network in that area is congested and has a complex layout. The proposal would increase pressure on an already concerning stretch of road.

**(viii) P/2021/0291 1 Eagles Meadow, Wrexham**

1 Digital Display Sign

Reason for objection – a digital sign of such proportions would be visually intrusive and potentially prejudicial to highway and pedestrian safety.

**(ix) P/2021/0398 2 Royden Gardens, Wrexham**

Operation of four private hire vehicles

Reason for objection – Potentially prejudicial to neighbouring residents due to noise disturbance. Restricted parking on a residential cul de sac where parking space is at a premium.

The following application (in Offa C.C. area - notified as an adjoining Council) was not considered as at that time the Council would not be quorate with he withdrawal of Cllr. Cameron.

**(viii) P/2021/0335 Hightown Barracks, Kingsmills Road, Wrexham**

Erection of bronze statue and notice board (in Offa CC area)

(Cllr B. Cameron declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this application)

**20. FINANCIAL MONITORING**

The Financial Statement for period ending 30th April 2021 was submitted.

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

**21. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

***RESOLVED:* That the accounts for payment in May 2021 be approved:**

D.D. Pace Telecom CAS \* 428.65

General Admin \* 281.88 710.53

7625 Wrexham CBC Children’s Services 2385.50 (Sch crossing Q4)

D.D. SSE (Elect) Prince Charles Road \* 187.13

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Accounts above the line have already been paid either by direct debit or in the case of cheques, because they

were deemed to be urgent or have been previously agreed)

D.D. Wrexham CBC (Rates) Prince Charles Road 527.00

D.D. Natwest card (Zoom month 11)General Admin \* 14.39

D.D. Natwest card (Green sacks) Amenity/environment \* 59.40

D.D. Siemens Financial Services General Admin \* 84.00

7692 JDH Business Services General Admin \* 516.60

7630 DCM Roofing Services Prince Charles Road 500.00

7631 CPAG Community Advice Service 69.50

7632 BESTHOST General Admin 24.00

BESTHOST General Admin 10.50

7633 Galleon Supplies Prince Charles Road \* 98.10

D.D. SSE Gas Prince Charles Road \* 951.91

Petty cash (stamps) General Admin/CAS 80.00

D.D. Hafren Dyfrdwy Prince Charles Road 6.61 (Water rates)

H.M. Revenue & Customs Tax NI (May)

Clwyd Pension Services Pension contributions (May)

Additional reported at meeting:

7634 Zurich Insurance General Admin 2011.03

D.D. Natwest card (Zoom month 12) General Amin \* 14.39

D.D. Natwest card fee General Admin 35.00

J. Clays (expenses) CAS

\*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable