

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held remotely via Zoom on
11th January 2024

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

Cllr B. Cameron (A/V)	* Cllr L. Mort
Cllr S. Edwards (A/V)	Cllr D. Murray (A/V)
* Cllr A. K. Gregory	Cllr P. Owen (A/V)
* Cllr L. Haggarty	Cllr L. Platt (A/V) (from item 3)
* Cllr C. Harper	Cllr D. Richardson (A/V)
Cllr M. Harrison (A/V)	Cllr A. Wright (A/V)
Cllr J. Jolley (A/V) (from item 4)	
* Absent	

Key (A/V) = Audio and visual presence
(A) = Audio presence

124. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr A. Gregory, Cllr L. Haggerty, and Cllr C. Harper.

125. MINUTES

RESOLVED: *That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th December 2023 be accepted as a true and accurate record*

Updates:

126. DELTA ACADEMY AND THE HAPPY HEDGEHOG (PM 118, 24)

Cllr. B Cameron informed members that he had written to Lesley Griffiths MS, following her meeting with the business owners in December 2023.

RESOLVED: *That the Clerk would write to Lesley Griffiths MS to ask for an update*

127. DECLARATION OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS

All Personal and Prejudicial relating to Item 8 - To consider budget detail for 2024/25 and agree precept levy:

Cllr. S Edwards - (Children's services element of budget) as employee at The Venture (SLA provider)

Cllr. D Richardson - (Children's services element of budget) as employee at Caia Park Partnership (SLA provider)

Cllr. M King - (Children's services element of budget) as employee at The Venture, Trustee of Caia Park Partnership (SLA provider)

Cllr. L Platt - (Children's services element of budget) as employee at The Venture (SLA provider)

Cllr. A Wright - (Children's services element of budget) as a Trustee of Caia Park Partnership (SLA provider)

128. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk had provided the most up-to-date crime statistics held on the Police UK website which were for October 2023, (these were the figures provided last month as the website had not been updated). The Clerk had emailed the local police sergeant regarding possible CCTV

coverage on Whitegate Road and the Queensway, and was awaiting a reply. The Chairman informed Members that he had not yet had the opportunity to write to the Police Commissioner and the Chief Constable, but that he would do so.

129. MEMBERS REPORTS

Cllr. L Platt: informed Members that the Venture was working on a project in St. Giles Crescent to reclaim play streets. The project would be set up before March and would provide play sessions.

Cllr. S Edwards: informed Members that he had spoken to Betsi Calwaladr regarding the possibility of local health team statistics being provided to Community Councils and was awaiting a reply.

Cllr. M King: told Members that several constituents had expressed concerns to him about the outcome of the trial of Paul Williams (former Councillor).

130. CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Current WCBC provision of CCTV – On 21st December 2023 the Council received an email from WCBC requesting a payment of £12,000 annually from April 2024 for CCTV provision. Members discussed the request, and were concerned that this had been made without any prior consultation and after a budget workshop had been held to recommend the budget for 2024/25.

RESOLVED: *that the Clerk asks the other Community Councils close to Wrexham City Centre if they had received the same request and what their response had been*

131. MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK MAY 15TH TO MAY 21ST 2024

Members discussed whether to hold an event during the week.

RESOLVED:

(i) That Cllr. M King would discuss this with the coordinator of the Mental Health Project hosted by the Venture, and Cllr. D Richardson would discuss it with the MIND coordinator at the Caia Park Partnership.

(ii) That this was considered further at the next Council meeting and a decision made whether to set up a working group.

132. BUDGET 2024/2025 AND PRECEPT LEVY

A budget workshop had been held on 12th December 2023 for Members to consider the budget for 2024/25. The Clerk presented the budget report including the latest proposed figures.

During the workshop Members were advised that:

- Energy costs were likely to continue increasing in 2024/25.
- The pay award for 2024/25 was estimated at 6%.
- There was no provision for additional expenditure to satisfy the face-to-face and remote attendance at meetings (hybrid meetings), although this could be funded from capital reserves depending on the type of equipment purchased.
- No amount had been built into the budget for Members' Allowances, which could be as much as £3,120.
- The cost of Advice Service provision to Offa CC had been increased by 6%.
- Children's Services SLA were estimated to increase by 4% and the School Crossing SLA by 7%.

- The employer’s pension contributions for 2024/25 would be funded from the pension fund surplus.
- The tax base use in the budget proposal was 3999

Following a discussion, Members **RESOLVED:**

- To inform Wrexham CBC that the precept requirement for 2024-25 was £68 per Band D equivalent property yielding £271,932 based on a 3999 property tax base.
- The budget for 2024/25 would be £294,792 and the precept levy £271,932.
- That existing service level agreements would continue for the financial year 2024/25.
- To investigate the current contract costs of IT Support/Telephone provision to ensure that the Council receive the best service and value for money and achieve savings.

133. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(i) P/2023/0863 – Tesco Stores Ltd, Crescent Road, Wrexham - Works to trees protected by tree preservation order WCBC284

RESOLVED: To seek clarification from WCBC that only necessary work will be done to ensure that the tree is not lost and ask what the end result will be.

134. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The following application was considered:

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:

- Wales Air Ambulance - £500

135. FINANCIAL MONITORING

The Financial Statement for the period ending 31st December was submitted.

RESOLVED: That the financial statements for the period be received and adopted

136. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment in January be paid:

Accounts for payment January 2024

D.D.	O2	Advice Service	*	38.64	
		Comm Agent	*	19.32	57.96
D.D.	SSE (Elect)	Prince Charles Rd	*		330.42
D.D.	Natwest Card (Zoom)	General Admin	*		15.59
D.D.	Avensure	General Admin	*		299.56
D.D.	SSE (Gas)	Prince Charles Rd	*		350.62
7899	Graphic Office Systems	Advice Service		29.23	
		General Admin		29.23	58.46
7900	ACS Technology	Advice Service			50.00
7901	Hallam Heating	Prince Charles Rd	*		385.54

7902	Benefits & Work Publish	Advice Service	*		97.00
7903	Redstick Solutions	Advice Service	*		648.00
7904	J. Carter	Sal adj (Dec)			
7905	J Clays	Sal adj (Dec)			
7906	A. Davies	Sal adj (Dec)			
7907	K. Lucas	Sal adj (Dec)			
7908	B. Tudor	Sal (Dec)			
7909	B. Tudor	Sal (Dec)			
7911	Enreach	Advice Service	*	2070.09	
		General Admin	*	<u>690.03</u>	2760.12
7912	WCBC	Childrens Services	*		679.70
7913	WYPP	Childrens Services			8237.00

D.D	WCBC (Rates)	Prince Charles Rd		637.00
D.D	Hafren Dyfrdwy	Prince Charles Rd		38.29

H.M. Rev & Customs	Tax NI (December)
Clwyd Pension Services	Pension (December)

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.

(Any accounts received after the publication of agenda will be reported at the meeting)

*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable