

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held remotely via Zoom on
18th April 2024

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

Cllr B. Cameron (A/V)	Cllr J. Jolley (A/V)
Cllr S. Edwards (A)	* Cllr L. Mort
Cllr L. Fellows (A/V)	Cllr D. Murray (A/V)
* Cllr A. K. Gregory	Cllr P. Owen (A/V)
Cllr L. Haggarty (A/V)	Cllr L. Platt (A)
Cllr M. Harrison (A/V)	Cllr D. Richardson (A/V)

* Absent

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

Also present: Cllr M. Pritchard (WCBC) – Items 1 to 3)

164. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr K. Gregory and Cllr L. Mort. The Chairman welcomed Cllr L. Fellows to her first meeting and also Cllr M. Pritchard (Leader of WCBC).

165. DECLARATION OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS

None.

166. ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLOR M. PRITCHARD TO DISCUSS CCTV PROVISION

Cllr. Pritchard thanked the Chairman and Members for allowing him to meet with the Council. He informed Members that due to the financial situation of WCBC, it is looking at CCTV provision as WCBC cannot afford to continue to fund provision but does not want to turn off any cameras. He stated that WCBC wants to work with Community Councils to ensure that CCTV provision continues and that this was the purpose of his visits to a number of Councils. It had been estimated that each CCTV camera costs £3,000 per year to run, and WCBC were proposing that Community Councils contribute £1,500 per year for each camera in their area. This consultation was at an early stage and had included speaking to the Police & Crime Commissioner, to ask for more funding from the Police Authority in order to maintain provision. WCBC would soon be considering a report on CCTV provision and deciding on how much provision it could afford.

According to information Cllr. Pritchard had been provided with, Caia Park had 8 CCTV cameras and also 12 cameras funded by the Safer Streets initiative with funding ending in 2026. The number of cameras was estimated at this stage and needed to be confirmed.

Members asked Cllr. Pritchard to provide a full list and a map of the cameras in Caia Park showing their precise locations (including those currently funded by 'Safer Streets'). Cllr Pritchard agreed to ask the Highways Department to identify the locations and send the details to the Clerk.

The Chairman asked if, in the interests of equality, there would be consideration of an areas ability to pay as Caia Park was a large, poor area with a lot of social housing. It would be impossible to contribute to CCTV provision without increasing Council Tax or cutting services. The Clerk informed Members that she had located an email from WCBC referring to a Safer Streets bid for 12 CCTV cameras, made by WCBC and the Police Authority who decided on

the camera locations in Caia Park. The Community Council was not involved in the process. It was agreed to forward a copy of the email to Cllr. Pritchard.

***RESOLVED:** That this would be discussed at the next Council meeting*

167. MINUTES

***RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th March 2024 be accepted as a true and accurate record*

Updates:

168. GWENFRO VALLEY (PM 154, 24)

Cllr B. Cameron – updated Members with regard to the situation at Gwenfro Valley.

169. CONCERNS RAISED REGARDING THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECENT CONVICTION OF A FORMER COMMUNITY COUNCILLER (PM 159, 24)

The Chairman informed Members that he had spoken with the Monitoring Officer of WCBC and was satisfied that concerns had been dealt with by the National Crime Agency. The Clerk outlined the advice received from One Voice Wales with regard to DBS checks for Councillors, and guidance on developing a safeguarding policy.

Cllr S. Edwards proposed that Councillors should have safeguarding training and a record of this should be kept, along with who had undergone a DBS check.

***RESOLVED:** That the following would be discussed at the next Council Meeting:*

(i) DBS checks for Councillors.

(ii) Adoption of a safeguarding policy including whether to include mandatory training within any such policy.

170. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk had provided the latest crime statistics held on the Police UK website which were for February 2024. The Chairman informed Members that he had spoken to the police Inspector about police attendance at Council Meetings, but that the situation had not yet been resolved. He had not yet had the opportunity to write to the Police Commissioner and the Chief Constable, but that he would do so.

The Clerk had received a reply from the Inspector informing the Council that she had asked for the second Safer Street camera to be moved to one of the locations which had been identified by Members.

171. MEMBERS REPORTS

Cllr B. Cameron - reported his concerns that the 'Community Fridge' provision at the Caia Park Partnership was not widely known in the Community.

***RESOLVED:** That the provision of the 'Community Fridge' is discussed at the next meeting*

Cllr B. Cameron – voiced his concern that the Councillors and the public were not able to attend meetings in person. He proposed further discussion of the progress made regarding work to the Council Offices which would allow hybrid meetings to take place.

***RESOLVED:** That the proposed alterations to the Council Offices and the provision of hybrid meetings be discussed at the next Council meeting*

172. CORRESPONDENCE

(i) 80th Anniversary of D-Day – Church Service and Parade, Thursday 6th June 2024 at 12.30 p.m. – WCBC

***RESOLVED:** That Members were unable to commit to attending the event*

(ii) D-Day 80th anniversary commemoration event – The Friends of Bellevue Park

RESOLVED: That at this time Members were unable to commit to attending the event but that a donation of £50 would be made to ‘The Friends of Bellevue Park’ towards staging the event

173. CO-OPTION OF CANDIDATE TO FILL AN EXISTING VACANCY

Cartrefle Ward – 2 written applications for co-option had been received and these had been shared with Members. Following a discussion, a ballot was taken which resulted in Carole Lloyd being co-opted as Community Councillor. The Clerk would inform and thank the unsuccessful applicant for the interest they had shown in the vacancy.

174. RENEWAL OF THE COUNCIL’S MEMBERSHIP WITH ONE VOICE WALES

The renewal of membership at a cost of £1632.00 for 2024/25 was discussed.

RESOLVED: That the Council renews its membership with One Voice Wales for 2024/25

175. AMENDMENT OF THE BANK MANDATE WITH REGARD TO AUTHORISED SIGNATORIES

The Clerk reported that the bank mandate (currently any two from four signatories) needed to be amended as two signatories were no longer Councillors.

RESOLVED:

(i) The authorised signatories in the current mandate for the accounts detailed in section 1.3 be changed in accordance with section Authorised Signatories and that the current mandate will continue as amended.

(ii) That Cllr D. Richardson, Cllr M. Harrison, Cllr L. Fellows and Cllr S. Edwards be added to the list of authorised signatories.

(iii) That Cllr P. Williams and Cllr C. Harper be removed as signatories.

(iv) That the Clerk Ms. Andrea Evans and Cllr B. Cameron (as existing signatories) remain, (any two from the five nominated signatories to sign) and the bank mandate being amended to reflect the foregoing.

176. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(i) P/2024/0152 – 1 Eagles Meadow, Wrexham – Sub-division of retail unit and change of use of building from Class A1 (Retail) and Class B8 (Storage and Distribution) to Class D2 (Leisure)

(ii) P/2024/0177 – Unit 32 Eagles Meadow, Wrexham – Change of use of building from Class A1 (Retail) to Class D2 (Assembly and Leisure)

(iii) P/2024/0186 – 16 Whitland Way, Wrexham – Parking and operation of 2 private hire vehicles

RESOLVED: There were no objections to the applications.

(iv) Erlas Park – Response to formal pre-planning consultation

The application was discussed and concerns were raised regarding the development.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk would respond to the pre-planning consultation informing the applicant that the Community Council were extremely concerned about the loss of amenity, the effects on infrastructure and services including health and education. The Council would like assurances that these issues would be fully considered and addressed in the application.

177. FINANCIAL MONITORING

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

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

178. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT*RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment in April be paid:***Accounts for payment April 2024**

D.D	Enreach	Advice Service	*	489.56	
		General Admin	*	<u>163.19</u>	652.75
D.D.	O2	Advice Service	*	38.64	
		Comm Agent	*	<u>19.32</u>	57.96
D.D.	Natwest Card (Zoom)	General Admin	*		15.59
D.D	Avensure	General Admin	*		299.56
D.D.	SSE (Electricity)	Prince Charles Rd	*		233.49
D.D.	SSE (Electricity)	Prince Charles Rd	*		218.43
D.D.	SSE (Gas)	Prince Charles Rd	*		669.22
D.D.	SSE (Gas)	Prince Charles Rd	*		823.37
D.D.	SSE (Gas)	Prince Charles Rd	*		734.82
7939	WCBC (Sch crossing 3)	Childrens Services			4499.25
7940	J Evans (reimburse stamps)	Advice Service		30.63	
		General Admin		<u>30.62</u>	61.25
8001	L Mort	Cllr Allowance			52.00
8003	J Carter (travel)	Advice Service			15.12
8009	WCBC (Sch crossing 4)	Childrens Services			4499.25
8010	SR Electrical & Security	Prince Charles Rd	*		96.00
8011	Wrexham Litter Pickers	S137 Grant			200.00
8012	Advance Brighter Futures	S137 Grant			500.00
8013	Family Friends	S137 Grant			200.00
8014	Wrexham Nat. Eisteddfod	S137 Grant			50.00
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D.D	Hafren Dyfrdwy	Prince Charles Rd			38.29
	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (March)			
	Clwyd Pension Services	Pension contributions (March)			

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