

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1ST  
JULY 2008 AT BETTISFIELD VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM.

Present: Chairman Mrs W Sime, Councillors Mr K Owen, Mr J Blanchard, Mr P Jones, Mrs G Wilson Butterworth, Mr K Muir, Mrs H Allen and Mrs A Moser, Mr M Feely (Wrexham Council), Dr J Daniels (Natural England), PC Luke Hughes, PCSO Emily Williams, Ms V Morris and clerk Miss H Morgan.

- 1) Apologies: Mrs B Wynn (on holiday).
- 2) The minutes of the meetings dated 3.6.08 and 9.6.08 were signed as true and correct records.
- 3) Matters arising.
  - a) Michael Arnold has been in touch about the advert regarding the code of conduct. The cost of advertising in the "Whitchurch Herald" would be £108.24, to be divided between ourselves, Willington/Worthenbury and Bronington Community Councils, which would work out at £36.08. To advertise in the "Wrexham Leader" would cost over £250!
  - b) The old Penley notice board has still not been removed by Horseman's Green. The clerk is to contact the clerk for Hanmer and set a deadline for removal.
  - c) Ms Morris apologised for not attending the extraordinary meeting, as she was on holiday.
- 4) Police report. PC Hughes reported that crime figures in the area are down. There have been two incidents in Penley and one in Bettisfield. He has received some complaints about the number of signs outside Penley shop and asked whether the Community Council had any objections to them. He has been to see the Manager and it has been reported in the Whitchurch Herald. Mr Feely said that the Planning Enforcement Officer at Wrexham Council was looking into the case. The chairman suggested that the matter be discussed under Any Other Business, and this was agreed.
- 5) Streetscene report. Mr Feely reported that Northwood Road is being repaired using a new process, and the work is guaranteed for 5-7 years. Sections of Avenue Lane in Bettisfield are being resurfaced. He said that some residents of Cadney Lane have been sent letters asking them to maintain water courses on their land, but unfortunately there has not been any response. There is already a problem with flooding in Cadney Lane, and the lack of maintenance is making a bad situation worse. Mr Jones said that he would put something on the village website and councillors are to try to speak to some of the residents. Mr Feely provided a copy of a map with all of the road names on in our area, to help with identification and to avoid confusion. Work has been started on clearing the paths mentioned by Mr Owen at the last meeting. The other matters will be dealt with in the near future. Mrs Moser said that the public right of way Penley no.1 has a number of access problems and Mr Feely said that he would contact the person in charge of footpaths at Wrexham Council. Finally, he reported that a number of gully gratings have been stolen, although not within Maelor South. They are expensive to replace and pose a serious safety risk.
- 6) Presentation by Dr Joan Daniels from Natural England. Dr Daniels gave a very interesting talk, explaining about the changes that have taken place in Natural England and the Countryside Council for Wales, and gave a PowerPoint presentation on the work done last year, together with work

- proposed for the current year. She showed examples of some of the blocked drains which are causing the problems with flooding.
- 7) Planning.
    - a) Applications.
      - i) P/2008/0579. First floor extension over existing utility/kitchen area to create annex at The Hollies, Moss Lane, Bettisfield. No objections.
      - ii) P/2008/0662. Construction of stable with associated feed and hay store at Corner Barn, Overton Road, Penley. Mr Owen expressed concern that the proposed building may obstruct the Maelor Way. The clerk is to write to the planning officer about this.
    - b) Granted.
      - i) P/2008/0382. Outline application for erection of dwelling to the rear of 7 and 9 Oakwood Park, Penley.
      - ii) P/2008/0397. Demolition of existing property and erection of replacement dwelling at Oakleigh, Higher Penley.
      - iii) P/2008/0544. Two storey and single storey extension at 17 Tudor Drive, Penley.
      - iv) P/2008/0345. Crown reduction of horse chestnut adjacent to plots 96 and 97 Penmere Park, Penley.
      - v) P/2008/0364. Rebuild of overhead line at Park Lane Farm, Penley.
    - c) Refused. P/2008/0390. Erection of building for use as cattle shed and fodder store on land at Burgess Lane, Penley. The clerk reported that the applicant had written to her to try to address the community council's objections, as he is resubmitting the application, and she read out the letter. However, councillors decided that their objections remained.
    - d) Electronic Communication. Bob Dewey, from the Planning Department, has written to say that Wrexham Council is seeking to send out consultations by email and will be making all the plans and details of applications available on the internet. The clerk has told Mr Dewey that we would still like paper copies of the plans, as not all councillors have internet access, and it would be helpful to have paper copies for discussions at meetings.
  - 8) Penley playground and skate park. Wrexham Council has said that there is Section 106 funding available from the nearby development for refurbishing the play area. The Council will prepare a design, consulting with local children and residents. A half pipe would cost approximately £20000. The clerk has received further correspondence from Piers Sutton and she was asked by councillors to forward copies on to Wrexham Council, to be considered as part of the consultation. She is also to send Piers a copy of the email from Wrexham Council, to keep him up to date with progress.
  - 9) Provision of planters. Nothing to report.
  - 10) Meetings attended by councillors. None.
  - 11) Internal audit and payment of auditor's fees. The internal auditor has recommended that the loose leaf minutes are initialled by the person signing them. His fee for the audit was £87.05 and Mrs Moser proposed that this be paid. This was seconded by Mrs Allen.
  - 12) Payment of clerk's salary and expenses. From January to June 2008, the clerk spent 77.5 hours on council business. At £9.30 per hour, this works out at £720.75. Her expenses for the period were £102.98. Mr Owen proposed that these amounts be paid and this was seconded by Mr Muir.
  - 13) Payment of bills. None.

14) Correspondence.

- a) Letter from the Countryside Council for Wales, enclosing a leaflet "Working Together".
  - b) Annual Report 2007/8 from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales.
  - c) Local Government Partnership Scheme and the Local Government Partnership Scheme Report 2006-7.
  - d) Letter from Wrexham Council about the Street Lighting Maintenance Contract. It was agreed that we should stay with Wrexham Council.
  - e) Letter from Wrexham Council about the next Town and Community Council Forum, to be held on Thursday July 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - f) Newsletters from Local Works on the Sustainable Communities Act.
  - g) Newsletter from Wrexham and District Alzheimer's Society.
  - h) Letter from Karen Sinclair (AM for Clwyd South), enclosing copies of correspondence re the Wrexham County Borough Local Development Plan.
  - i) Agenda for the North Wales Police Authority Wrexham PACF meeting to be held on 17.7.08, and minutes of their meeting held on 17.4.08.
  - j) Letter from One Voice Wales about the National Training Programme for Community and Town Councils in Wales.
  - k) Letter from Wrexham Council about the Owain Glyndwr Scheme.
  - l) Leaflets from the Public Services Ombudsman "How to complain that a local authority member has broken the code of conduct."
  - m) Invitation from the Post Office to attend a meeting about the Network Change Programme.
  - n) Agenda for the Wrexham South Community Safety Group meeting on 4.7.08, and minutes of their meeting held on 6.6.08.
  - o) Letter from the Welsh Assembly about reviews of electoral arrangements.
- 15) Any other business.
- a) Signs outside Penley shop. It was felt that the shop should be supported, as it would be a shame to lose it. Councillors liked the chairs and tables outside the shop and the fact that it looks busy and is nicely contained. The car in the lay-by wasn't considered to be a problem and it was pointed out that there was a car in Overton for many years advertising the chip shop. The quality of the signs was criticised for not reflecting the image that the shop is trying to promote, and looking rather amateurish and temporary. The clerk is to write to the manager to express these views.
  - b) Mrs Moser announced that she has formally adopted the public footpath known as Penley number 1, following the letter from the Local Access Forum.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21.41.