

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY JUNE  
3<sup>RD</sup> 2008 AT BETTISFIELD VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM.

Present: Chairman Mrs W Sime, Councillors Mrs B Wynn, Mrs A Moser, Mr P Jones, Mrs G Wilson Butterworth, Mrs H Allen, Mr K Owen and Mr K Muir, PCSO Emily Williams and clerk Miss H Morgan.

- 1) Apologies: Mr J Blanchard (chapel meeting), Ms V Davies (unwell), Ms V Morris (on holiday), Mr M Feely (hospital appointment).
- 2) The minutes of the last meeting were signed as a true and correct record.
- 3) Matters arising.
  - a) Insurance renewal. The clerk said that she had spoken to the clerk for Willington/Worthenbury, a similar sized community council, and their insurance for the year was around £670 with Zurich, slightly higher than ours.
  - b) Bettisfield letter boxes. The Royal Mail is still waiting for clearance from Highways, as the boxes are going to be moved slightly from their original position. The clerk is going to pass on Steve Jones's contact details.
  - c) Definitive map. This has now been received. Mrs Sime will look after it.
- 4) Police report. PCSO Williams reported that there had been 11 incidents since the last meeting, all in Penley. They include the theft of some red diesel and an assault, for which someone has been arrested. She warned that there have been reports of someone driving around in a van taking photographs of horses and encouraged horse owners to be vigilant. The school surgeries are continuing and are going well. Mr Muir reported that someone had been in Bettisfield asking for scrap metal, and PCSO Williams asked for people to take details of any scrap dealers and pass them on to the police.
- 5) Streetscene report. There was no report as Mike Feely was unable to attend the meeting. He had asked for any problems to be passed on to him. Mr Owen said that there were a few places in Penley where grass was encroaching on the pavement, making it very narrow in places. He had cleared some of it himself. He also mentioned the poor state of the pavement in the lay-by between the two schools, which has been broken by school buses parking on it. He provided photographs of both problems and the clerk will forward them on to Mike Feely. The clerk will also ask him about the speed limit sign down Ellesmere Lane, which has not yet been repaired. Mr Jones and Mr Muir said that there is a road sign which is pointing in the wrong direction on the junction between Northwood and Welshampton. The clerk is to write to Mike Feely about all these issues.
- 6) Planning.
  - a) Applications.
    - 1) P/2008/0481. Demolition of 2 existing farm buildings and erection of new hay and implement store and hardstanding at Blackhurst Farm, Northwood, Wem. No objections.
    - 2) P/2008/0544. Two storey and single storey extension at 17 Tudor Drive, Penley. No objections.
  - b) Planning granted. P/2008/0229. Extension at 5 Oakwood Park, Penley.
  - c) Approval of reserved matters.
    - 1) P/2007/0494. Erection of 9 detached dwellings on land to the rear of the former Nag's Head, Bettisfield.

- 2) P/2008/0116. Erection of 3 detached dwellings on land to the rear and side of Rose Cottage/Arbour Cottage, Bettisfield.
- d) Planning Committee Report. P/2008/0382. Outline application for 1 dwelling to the rear of 7 & 9 Oakwood Park, Penley. The planning officer is recommending that permission be granted.
- e) Letter from Environment Agency. Mr Blanchard had been sent a letter from the Environment Agency about the planning application for erection of a dwelling on land adjacent to Oakwood House, in Cadney Lane. The agency is objecting to the application because “the land in Bettisfield is (in the main) unsuitable for soakaway of effluent and there are no watercourses available with sufficient dilution for the Agency to permit a discharge of sewage. The Agency does not accept the promotion or proliferation of cesspools as long term sewerage on the grounds of sustainability, pollution prevention and environmental protection.”  
Councillors were pleased that the Environment Agency is of the same view as the Community Council, regarding this matter.
- 7) Code of conduct. The clerk reported that she had attended a meeting about the new code of conduct at the Guildhall on May 8<sup>th</sup>. As a result, there were three things that needed to be discussed.
  - a) Level of gift. On 1.4.08, Maelor South Community Council adopted the model code of conduct, to take effect from 5.5.08. The model code does not include the level of gift. Mrs Moser proposed that the level of gift be set at £10 and this was seconded by Mr Muir. The resolution was passed unanimously and the code of conduct will be amended.
  - b) There is a legal requirement to advertise the fact that we have adopted the new code of conduct. Wrexham Council advertised in the Wrexham Leader and it cost £160. The clerk had discussed this with the clerk for Willington/Worthenbury Community Council(ex-editor of the Whitchurch Herald), who suggested that we put a joint advert in the Whitchurch Herald with Bronington Community Council, thereby sharing the cost of an advert which would be much cheaper than the Wrexham paper. Councillors thought that this was a good idea and Mr Owen proposed that the clerk be given permission to go ahead with this. This was seconded by Mr Muir.
  - c) Wrexham Council is going to organise some training for Community Councillors on the new code of conduct in the autumn. The clerk briefly explained some points about the new code.
- 8) Penley Village Hall. Mrs Moser and Mr Owen declared an interest, as members of the village hall committee. A letter has been received from Penley Village Hall Trust, saying that they have withdrawn from the joint scheme with the Rainbow Trust and would like the Community Council to be involved with their project for a new village hall. They would like to change the present site of the village hall and construct a new building on the village hall car park across the road, and would like us to write to Wrexham Council Planning Department with our endorsement of the project. Mrs Moser explained that they have written to the Planning Department and to the Church Authorities about the proposals. Councillors agreed that the project should be supported, as the existing village hall needs either upgrading or replacing, and the clerk will write to Wrexham Council at the appropriate time.
- 9) Penley playground and skate park. Mrs Sime reported that five Penley community councillors and the clerk visited Ellesmere Skate Park on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Having inspected the equipment there, and after speaking to the young

- people who use it, it was felt that the most suitable piece of equipment for Penley would be a half-pipe. The clerk was asked to contact Wrexham Council to find out if there has been any progress on funding.
- 10) Provision of planters. Mrs Sime asked Mrs Wynn if she would speak to her neighbours to find out if they would be willing to help maintain planters if they were provided.
  - 11) Welsh Assembly health service consultation on proposals to change the structure of the NHS in Wales. After a short discussion, it was felt that a separate meeting should be held to discuss this important consultation document. A date was set for Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2008 at 7.30pm. The clerk is to book the Madras School at Penley.
  - 12) Annual Governance Statement and Internal audit. The clerk reported that she would be taking the books to the auditor in Mold tomorrow (June 4<sup>th</sup>). The Annual Governance Statement was completed and signed.
  - 13) Meetings attended by councillors.
    - a) Mrs Sime reported that she had attended a Northern Marches Cymru meeting. There have been many more applications for funding and so there is not so much money available.
    - b) Mrs Allen reported that she had attended a meeting at the Rainbow Centre. The new building is still going ahead, as they have received some funding from an anonymous source. The lease is being amended so that the use of the centre will not be restricted to the elderly. A fundraising event is being held at Bettisfield Hall on June 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - 14) Payment of bills. None.
  - 15) Correspondence.
    - a) Letter from Wrexham Council regarding Dog Control Orders.
    - b) "Supporting Social Enterprise" newsletters from Northern Marches Cymru.
    - c) Agenda for the meeting of Wrexham South Community Safety Group being held on June 6<sup>th</sup>, and minutes of their meeting held on May 9<sup>th</sup>.
    - d) Invitation to the Mayor's Civic Visit to Church on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June.
  - 16) Any other business.
    - a) Mrs Allen will remind Ken Smith about removing the old notice board in Penley.
    - b) Mr Jones said that he was looking into North East Wales Green Opportunities doing some grass cutting in Bettisfield.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21.08.