

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup>  
MAY 2008 AT BETTISFIELD VILLAGE HALL AT

Present: Chairman Mrs W Sime, Councillors Mr K Owen, Mrs H Allen, Mr K Muir, Mr J Blanchard and Mrs A Moser, PCSO Jenna Owen, Mr P Jones, Mrs B Wynn, Ms V Morris and clerk Miss H Morgan.

- 1) Apologies: Ms V Davies (unwell).
- 2) The minutes of the last meeting were signed as a true and correct record.
- 3) Matters arising.
  - a) Penley notice board. The clerk of Hanmer Community Council has telephoned our clerk to say that the village of Horseman's Green would like our old notice board.
  - b) Penley trees. Wrexham Council is going to remove the dead cherry tree in the next few weeks and carry out pruning work to some of the adjacent trees. A replacement tree will be planted in the winter. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to plant in the Dymock Place verge due to the presence of underground utility pipes/cables.
- 4) Police report. PCSO Owen reported that there had been no incidents in Bettisfield since our last meeting, but there had been 11 in Penley. These included one crime, a stolen bin. She said that the police have been out with the speed camera in Penley and that she and PCSO Williams have started going to the Maelor School once a fortnight to try to build up a rapport with the school children. They will be holding surgeries at the school, mixing in the playground and travelling on school buses. Mrs Sime raised the subject of lead being stolen from church roofs, following the theft from Overton church, and Mr Muir reported a tree house being built in Bettisfield using materials taken from another property.
- 5) Community Council vacancies and co-option of new councillors.
  - a) Bettisfield. There are 2 vacant seats in the Bettisfield ward. Mr Muir proposed that Phil Jones and Gill Butterworth be co-opted and this was seconded by Mr Blanchard.
  - b) Penley. There is one vacant seat in the Penley ward. Mr Owen proposed that Bridget Wynn be co-opted and this was seconded by Mrs Allen. Mrs Moser proposed that Val Morris be co-opted and this was seconded by Mr Blanchard. The chairman asked the two candidates to leave the room while a discussion took place over which one should be co-opted. It was felt that both had a lot to offer and that a way should be found to involve both. There was a general, but not unanimous, feeling that Bridget Wynn would be the better choice as she has lived in Penley for 25 years, while Val Morris has lived there for under a year. After some discussion, the chairman proposed that Mrs Wynn be co-opted onto the council, but that Ms Morris should be invited to attend meetings as a non-voting "advisor". This proposal was seconded by Mr Owen and unanimously agreed.
- 6) Planning.
  - a) Applications.
    - 1) P/2008/0345. Crown reduction of horse chestnut by 20% adjacent to plots 96 & 97, Penmere Park, Penley. Out of time.
    - 2) P/2008/0364. Rebuild overhead line, Park Lane Farm, Penley. Out of time.

- 3) P/2008/0382. Outline application for the erection of 1 detached dwelling including garage and garden, construction of new vehicular access and driveway, on the rear garden of 7 & 9 Oakwood Park, Penley. No objections.
- 4) P/2008/0133. Amended plans for extension to existing farmhouse, construction of new entrance porch and internal alterations to Wood Farm House, Breaden Heath. Out of time.
- 5) P/2008/0390. Erection of building for use as cattle shelter and fodder store on land at Burgess Lane, Penley. Object on grounds of there being no nearby buildings and so it would be new development in the countryside, the lane is narrow and unsuited for the transport of cattle and fodder, and the size of the building is excessive and we would question the use to which it will be put.
- 6) P/2008/0397. Demolition of existing property and erection of replacement dwelling at Oakleigh, Higher Penley. No objections.
- 7) P/2008/0458. Outline application for erection of dwelling on land adjacent to Oakwood House, Cadney Lane, Bettisfield. No objections.
- b) Planning granted.
  - 1) P/2008/0145. Single storey extension at Yew Trees, Ellesmere Lane, Penley.
  - 2) P/2008/0148. Demolition of existing dwelling and outline application for residential development at Cadney View, Cadney Lane, Bettisfield.
- c) Approval of reserved matters. P/2008/0065. Construction of community and activity centre for the elderly at Penley.
- d) Application withdrawn. P/2007/1408. Outline application for residential development on land at Ellesmere Lane, Penley.
- e) Reports of the chief planning officer.
  - 1) P/2008/0116. Erection of 3 dwellings on land at the rear and side of Rose Cottage, Bettisfield. Recommendation: that permission be granted.
  - 2) P/2008/0133. Extension to Wood Farm House, Breaden Heath. Recommendation: that permission be granted.
  - 3) P/2008/0148. Demolition of existing dwelling and outline for development at Cadney View, Bettisfield. Recommendation: that permission be granted.
- 7) Penley playground and skate park. The Environment Department at Wrexham Council is looking into ways of freeing up the existing section 106 funding from the development in Penley, to contribute towards replacement play equipment at the existing site. Any redevelopment of this play area would involve consultation with local children, at which time they would be asked their views on skate ramps. Wrexham Council also has a portable skate park that is available for hire. Piers Sutton, the nine-year-old who wrote to ask for skate ramps, has come up with some ideas for fundraising. Mrs Wynn expressed concern about the amount of noise that would come from the skate ramps on the playground. It was agreed that the clerk should make enquiries about hiring the mobile skate park, so that we could test out the amount of noise produced, and the amount of interest from other children. The clerk is to write to Piers Sutton to encourage him to raise funds.
- 8) Provision of planters. The chairman reported that a resident, P Scott, has been in contact again through the Penley website to request planters for Penley. The clerk had made enquiries about whether Wrexham Council

- would water them if we bought them, but they are not able to do this because of lack of resources. The clerk spoke to Mike Feely and he said that, if we still want to go ahead with the idea, we should write in to the Environment Department to say what we would like to do. They would need to know how many planters we would want, where they would be sited and the size. They would need to be able to get a ride-on mower and strimmer around the planters. The chairman thought that it could still be done if residents could be involved in the watering and maintenance. P Scott is to be asked to attend the next meeting to discuss this.
- 9) Meetings attended by councillors. None.
  - 10) Change of bank signatories. Mr Tennant and Mr Saunders were removed as bank signatories. Mrs Sime proposed that Mrs Allen and Mr Blanchard should be added as signatories and this was seconded by Mr Owen.
  - 11) Insurance renewal. The cost of insurance for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009 is £659.51. A discussion took place on the high cost of the insurance and what, exactly, it covers. It was agreed that we should insure with Allianz as usual this year, but that the clerk should find out from other Community Councils which companies they insure with and obtain more quotes for next year. Mrs Allen proposed that the insurance bill be paid and this was seconded by Mr Muir.
  - 12) Payment of street lighting bill. Mrs Sime proposed that Wrexham Council be paid £81.96 for the quarterly maintenance of street lights and this was seconded by Mr Owen.
  - 13) Correspondence.
    - a) Letter from Wrexham Local Access Forum regarding voluntary opportunity for protecting and enhancing the Public Rights of Way Network. Mrs Moser said that she would be interested in adopting a footpath and the clerk passed the contact details on to her.
    - b) Letter from Wrexham Council regarding changes to the Maelor Rural TaxiBus Scheme. This affects Bettisfield and the clerk has displayed a leaflet about the changes in the Bettisfield bus shelter.
    - c) Invitation to the Annual Meeting of Wrexham Council on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2008. Ms Morris said that she would be interested in going but would need to check her diary.
    - d) Letter from Wrexham Council regarding the appointment of Community Council Representative on the Standards Committee. Mrs Allen expressed an interest in this and asked the clerk to find out what would be involved.
    - e) Minutes of the Wrexham South Community Safety Group meetings held on March 7<sup>th</sup> and April 4<sup>th</sup>, and the agenda for their meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - 14) Any other business.
    - a) Mr Muir said that the letter boxes in Bettisfield still haven't been replaced. The clerk will contact Royal Mail again.
    - b) Mr Muir said that there have been no more incidents of motorbike scrambling. Thirteen were held in total, and this is the limit before they have to apply for planning permission.
    - c) Mrs Sime asked the clerk to request definitive maps of the footpaths in Maelor South.
    - d) Mrs Sime asked the clerk to request a street name plate for Penley Hall Drive.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.48pm.