

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2008 AT 7.30PM AT THE MADRAS SCHOOL, PENLEY.

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

- 1) **Apologies:** Mr K Owen (on holiday), Mr K Muir (on holiday), Mrs G Wilson Butterworth (unwell), Mrs H Allen (prior appointment) and Ms V Davies (daughter's school open evening).
- 2) **The minutes of the last meeting** were signed as a true and correct record.
- 3) **Matters arising.**
 - a) An article has been put in the Bettisfield newsletter about the dumping of grass cuttings. There has been no feedback from residents but Mr Blanchard said that the Bettisfield councillors will keep a check on it.
 - b) The clerk wrote to Montec regarding the boarded-up house at Chapel Gardens and received a reply saying that the house has been boarded up because the site has been broken into five times, and that the police response has been poor. The clerk sent a copy of this letter to PC Luke Hughes. PCSO Owen said that they had checked their records and had only one reported incident at the site. The clerk is to write back to Montec to reiterate that we would like the boarding removed and to give them the contact details of PC Hughes and PCSO Owen.
 - c) The clerk wrote to Morris Homes regarding the state of the ground by Penley Hospital and received a reply saying that "the site frontage is maintained in accordance with a strict schedule of prescriptive measures intended to retain habitat..... and we are unable to undertake further works to enhance this area." The clerk is to contact the planning department to find out exactly what restrictions have been placed on the site.
 - d) One letter box has been installed in Bettisfield. A second one was installed but had to be removed following complaints from the land owner. Mrs Wilson Butterworth has said that it could be sited on her land, which is adjoining the original site.
 - e) The clerk has received a copy of the street lighting contract from Wrexham Council and it makes no mention of the electricity supply. She has looked back in the old cash book and found that we used to pay for electricity but the last payment was in 2000. She has also found a certificate of unmetered supply issued by Manweb. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the clerk should contact Manweb.
- 4) **Police report.** PCSO Owen reported that there had been no incidents in Bettisfield since our last meeting. There had been 11 incidents in Penley, one of which was a crime, a theft from a vehicle. At the recent Maelor School surgery, the headmaster had reported trouble with youths out of school hours, and as a result the school gates will be shut earlier and anyone in the grounds will be asked to leave.
- 5) **Streetscene report.** No one from Wrexham Council was able to attend. Mrs Sime said that the problem with the footpath by Penley Church had not been sorted out; there is still soil making the path narrow in places. Also, she said that the grass at Pendas Park had been cut much too short and the area looked very muddy and messy. The clerk is to contact Wrexham Council about both issues. She will invite Mike Feely to attend the next meeting.

- 6) **Planning.**
- a) Applications. P/2008/0987. First floor extension above existing ground floor dining and utility to provide master bedroom with en-suite at 19 Tudor Drive, Penley. No objections.
 - b) Planning Officer's reports.
 - i) P/2008/0863. Erection of sports complex and bus/coach facility. Recommendation that it be granted.
 - ii) P/2008/0847. Erection of building for use as fodder and cattle shelter at Burgess Lane, Penley. Recommendation that it be granted.
 - c) Other planning issues.
 - i) Mr Jones said that a house in Cadney Lane, 3 Meredith Close, has had a hedge replaced with a wall, which is over 3 feet tall on the road side. The clerk is to contact Wrexham Council.
 - ii) Mrs Sime suggested that a rota be set up for viewing of the Penley planning applications. This was agreed. It was also agreed that the clerk should post the Bettisfield plans to Mr Muir so that Bettisfield councillors have time to look at the plans before the meetings.
- 7) **Provision of planters and Tidy Towns Grants.** Five people attended a site meeting to discuss the provision of planters alongside the main road in Penley. There was a lot of enthusiasm and it was agreed that there should be nine planters, made from wooden sleepers. In the meantime, the clerk had received a letter from Wrexham Council regarding the Tidy Towns Grant Aided projects, which gives grants for schemes to benefit the local community. She has therefore submitted an application. Mr Blanchard and Mr Jones were interested in submitting an application for Bettisfield and will contact the clerk with details of their scheme in time to meet the deadline of October 31st.
- 8) **Meetings attended by councillors.** Mrs Sime had attended a Northern Marches Cymru meeting. Mrs Wynn had attended a meeting at Wrexham Council about traffic and transport. Mr Jones, Mr Blanchard and Mrs Wynn had attended the training session on the new code of conduct. Mrs Moser said that the village hall committee has been in contact with Wrexham Council about the possibility of building a new village hall on the site of the existing car park. At the moment, Wrexham is saying no, so the existing site might have to be developed instead.
- 9) **To consider buying Remembrance Day wreaths.** Mr Jones proposed that the Community Council buy wreaths for Bettisfield and Penley, and this was seconded by Mr Blanchard. They said that a joint Remembrance Sunday service is held between the Methodist and Anglican churches in Bettisfield, and that residents would like a wreath to be laid. Mrs Sime said that there is no such service in Penley and so there would be no point in buying one for Penley. A vote was held and it was unanimously decided to buy a wreath for Bettisfield. Mr Jones is to order one, at a cost of £16.50.
- 10) **External audit** and payment of auditor's fees. Nothing has been received from the auditor.
- 11) **Payment of bills.** None.
- 12) **Correspondence.**
- a) Letter from Miss OE Preston in Newport. She has the minutes of a public meeting held on 24.1.1925 "to consider the question of a public hall" in Penley. She also has the first minute book dated from 20.8.1897 to

29.1.1912. The clerk has spoken to Miss Preston and has arranged for them to be sent to the clerk via a contact in Penley WI.

- b) Letter from Wrexham Sustainability Forum about a public meeting on 22.10.08.
 - c) Letter from Wrexham Council regarding the Local Development Plan Preferred Strategy.
 - d) Copy of the Code of Conduct for Members in large print format.
 - e) News Release from Wrexham Council regarding planned Post Office closures.
 - f) Copies of September edition of "Supporting Social Enterprise" newsletter from Northern Marches Cymru.
 - g) Agenda for the meeting of North Wales Police Authority Wrexham PACF to be held on 16.10.08, together with the minutes of their last meeting.
 - h) Summer newsletter from Postwatch Wales.
 - i) Newsletter from Alzheimer's Society Wrexham & District.
 - j) Autumn newsletter from Nightingale House Hospice.
 - k) September/October newsletter from AVOW.
 - l) Invitation to AGM of the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales on 16.10.08.
 - m) Information on grants from AVOW.
 - n) Wrexham Local Health Board Annual Report 2007-8.
 - o) Cymdeithas Tai Clwyd Annual Report 2007-8.
 - p) Letter from Wrexham Council regarding Wrexham's Community Strategy.
 - q) "Caring for our Health 2008-2011" from the Health, Social Care and Well-being Partnership".
 - r) Letter from Karen Sinclair AM regarding the Wrexham County Borough Local Development Plan – Housing Potential Capacity Study.
 - s) Minutes of the Wrexham South Community Safety Group meeting held on 5.9.08.
 - t) Letter from Cymdeithas Tai Clwyd offering assistance with community projects. The clerk is to write to them.
 - u) Copy of "Guidance for Community and Town Councils in Wales – Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act" from the Welsh Assembly.
 - v) "Play for Wales" autumn newsletter.
- 13) **Any other business.**
- a) Mr Jones said that the old shop in Cadney Lane has been empty for 5 years. The conservation officer has been out to have a look at it and thinks that it has merit, and CADW may list it.
 - b) Mr Jones said that he had heard that the developer interested in buying the Nags Head site wants to build an extra ten houses on the site, in addition to the 14 for which permission has been granted.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.20pm.