

## MAELOR SOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2010 AT 7.30PM AT THE MADRAS SCHOOL, PENLEY

**Present:** Cllr Mrs Sime (chairman), Cllr Owen, Ms Morris, Cllr Blanchard, Cllr Muir, Cllr Jones, Cllr Mrs Wilson Butterworth, Cllr Mrs Moser, Cllr Mrs Allen, Cllr Mrs Wynn, PCSO Bethan Large, Mrs Huxley, Mr Huxley and clerk Mrs Coathupe-Fox.

**Apologies:** None.

- 1) **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2010, copies of which had been previously circulated to members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 2) **Matters arising.**
  - a) **Penley noticeboard.** Following the request at the last meeting to increase the insured value of the noticeboard to £1000, the clerk contacted Mr David Sincock of Tennyson (brokers) who did so immediately. There will be no charge as the amount is under Zurich's limit. The clerk also contacted Denbigh Magistrates Court to enquire about the compensation for the damage to the noticeboard. Apparently, the only compensation awarded on this case was £150 to S. Hall and not to M.S.C.C. Cllr Mrs Moser said we have an obligation to the community to appeal against this decision, Cllr Muir proposed the clerk contact Denbigh Magistrates Court and appeal against their decision, this was seconded by Cllr Blanchard.
- 3) **Police report.**
  - a) PCSO Large reported the following.
    - A tractor was stolen from Burgess Lane, Penley but was found abandoned in Red Hall Lane, Penley.
    - An incident of criminal damage occurred in Lane End, Penley where an old caravan was vandalised.
    - PCSO Large has started up an optional Farm Watch using a system called OWL.
  - b) An incident that happened on 05/02/10 at Hill Farm, Overton Road, Penley subsequently went to court on 23/02/10, where the defendant was ordered to pay compensation 'with intent to cause ... harassment, alarm or distress, used threatening, abusive or insulting words or behaviour or disorderly behaviour, thereby causing that person or another harassment, alarm or distress'. The council sympathised with those who were the object of such appalling behaviour.
  - c) Cllr Owen asked PCSO Large about the incident where a bus mounted the pavement in the lay-by in Penley and consequently got stuck in the soft ground and had to be recovered. Cllr Owen said he reported the matter to Colwyn Bay but was not aware if the matter had been followed up. PCSO Large replied that she was aware of the matter but could not see anything as she drove through the village on another call.
  - d) Cllr Owen told PCSO Large that Mrs Houston, Headmistress of the Madras School Penley, had asked him to report that parents were parking on the zigzags outside the school. PCSO Large replied that parking

issues were no longer under the remit of the police but said she would contact the council on our behalf. Cllr Mrs Wynn reminded councillors of a WCBC meeting she attended when changes to parking enforcement were discussed. Parking attendants were to be sent to rural areas. The clerk will contact WCBC to chase this matter up.

**4) Streetscene.**

- Cllr Muir asked the clerk to contact Mr Mike Feely regarding bad pot holes out of Taraloka Drive (Corn Hill Farm, Bettisfield) onto the main road, opposite the village hall. It was thought that the pot holes occurred when heavy vehicles were used during the work on the canal.
- Cllr Muir also reported that the bend and T-junction sign on the A495, travelling from Ellesmere to Whitchurch, just before the right-hand turn off to Bettisfield, on the left-hand side of the road has been turned around. The clerk will report to WCBC.
- Cllr Mrs Sime reported that one of the grit boxes on the hill on Ellesmere Lane is missing. The clerk to contact WCBC regarding a replacement.

**5) Planning.**

a) **Applications.** None.

b) **Decisions.**

- i) P/2009/1044. Removal of hedgerow (and reinstatement to match existing). A539 North East of Dymock Arms, Penley. Granted.

6) **Tidy Towns Grant Aided Project 2010/11.** Penley - Cllr Mrs Sime said the tree guards had arrived and she had ordered the trees for the lay-by which would be paid for out of this year's funds. After a recent site meeting at the lay-by to which residents were invited, came the suggestions for next year's grant of a bench and an interpretation display. It was also decided to use the funds to improve the area in front of Park Villas with planters to match that of the other side of the road in front of Dymock Place. Cllr Owen proposed that we request WCBC to reinstate the grass to the area in front of Park Villas instead of the tarmac there at present and that three planters be erected; this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Wynn. After further discussion it was decided to apply for a bench (£800), a bilingual interpretation display (£1500) and £250 for sleepers and sundries making a total of £2,550 from the Tidy Towns Grant Aided Project for 2010/11. Cllr Mrs Sime asked the clerk to check with the Planning Department to make sure a bench and sign could be put in the lay-by. After a brief discussion Cllr Owen proposed that the council progress with the registration of the grassed area of the lay-by, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Moser. The clerk to make further enquiries to the Land Registry. Bettisfield – Cllr Jones reported that they still had money left from this year's grant and they would have to think about whether to apply for more funds next year.

7) **Playground.** Cllr Mrs Sime suggested the council seek alternative funding for a new playground as it is unlikely the council will receive funds from Morris Homes in the near future. This was proposed by Cllr Blanchard and seconded by Cllr Mrs Moser. The clerk will source funding options.

8) **Contributions to village halls and graveyards and donations to charity.** It was decided to keep the donations the same as last year. Cllr Mrs Sime proposed contributions of £550 to Penley Village Hall, £385 to Bettisfield Village Hall, £315 to Penley Church and £210 to Bettisfield Church. This was seconded by Cllr Blanchard. Cllr Mrs Allen proposed donations of £100 each to Wales Air Ambulance, Nightingale House, Hope House and Macmillan

- Nurses. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Wynn. Both proposals were agreed unanimously.
- 9) **Review of the effectiveness of internal controls.** The system of internal controls was found to be satisfactory. The clerk suggested that her expenses be reviewed prior to the meeting in which they might be approved. Cllr Mrs Allen volunteered to undertake this task.
- 10) **Meetings attended by councillors.** The clerk attended a presentation at WCBC by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales which gave a brief overview of how they will carry out the initial Electoral Review.
- 11) **Payment of invoice for street light maintenance.** An invoice has been received from WCBC for street light maintenance for the period 01/07/09 to 30/09/09 in the sum of £98.98. Cllr Owen proposed the invoice be paid and was seconded by Cllr Blanchard.
- 12) **Payment of any other bills.** None.
- 13) **Review of bank statements.** Cllr Mrs Wynn has reviewed the bank statements since the last meeting and found everything to be in order.
- 14) **Correspondence.**
- a) Agenda for the next Wrexham Town and Community Council Forum on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2010 at 6.30pm.
  - b) Copy of letter sent to W.C.B.C from the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales for information regarding the initial Electoral Review.
  - c) Housing Standards & Strategy Newsletter, Winter 2009/10, from WCBC.
  - d) Leaflet from Ray Parry Playground Services Ltd.
  - e) Leaflet from Wicksteed Playscapes.
  - f) Agenda for Community Buildings Network Forum meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2010.
  - g) Community Buildings Network – Building News, Issue 5, February 2010.
  - h) Letter from WCBC re Wrexham Deposit Local Development Plan. Cllr Blanchard asked the clerk to reply stating Bettisfield wish to be involved in the planning process.
  - i) Letter from One Voice Wales re Membership 2010-11.
  - j) Email from Wrexham Refugee and Asylum Seeker Support Group re an inter-agency meeting being held next Monday, agenda to follow.
  - k) Email from Wrexham Health Support re a free health event in Wrexham ‘When Your Heart Rhythm Goes Wrong’ a talk by Dr Johan Waktare on Wednesday 17th March 2010 7.30 pm at the Wrexham Medical Institute.
  - l) Letter from the Welsh Assembly Government re Review of Councillors’ Allowances Regulations.
- 15) **Any other business.**
- The clerk distributed copies of the letter from the Welsh Assembly (see item j under Correspondence) including the ‘list of questions for response’ for the councillors’ to consider for a future meeting.
  - The clerk has received Cllr Ms Davies’ letter of resignation. WCBC will have to be advised and the vacancy will have to be advertised on the noticeboard. If WCBC does not receive any response to the notice they will send us a letter advising us to co-opt a member. Cllr Muir suggested the clerk send a letter thanking Cllr Ms Davies.
  - Cllr Owen would like to clerk to write to G.H.A. to thank them for their prompt action in dealing with the bus stuck in the lay-by incident.
  - The clerk asked the council’s permission to write the cheques raised previously outside the meeting due to the large number of cheques and

the late hour. This was proposed by Cllr Jones and seconded by Cllr Blanchard.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21.44.