

## MAELOR SOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2009 AT 7.30PM AT THE MADRAS SCHOOL, PENLEY

**Present:** Cllr Mrs Sime (chairman), Cllr Owen, Cllr Muir, Cllr Blanchard, Cllr Jones, Cllr Ms Davies, Cllr Mrs Allen, Ms Morris, Cllr Mrs Wilson Butterworth, Cllr Mrs Moser, PC Hughes, PCSO White and clerk Mrs Coathupe-Fox.

**Apologies:** Cllr Mrs Wynn

- 1) **Minutes.** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2009, copies of which had been previously circulated to members, were corrected to reflect that Cllr Sime attended a Northern Marches Cymru board meeting and not an event and were then confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 2) **Matters arising.**
  - a) **Pavements.** The clerk spoke to Mr Mike Feely regarding the cracked pavements in Penley. After inspection he said he would log the complaint but could not guarantee any repairs due to the tightening of budgets by Wrexham Council.
  - b) **BT Payphone, Penley.** An email has been received from Rick Thompson at BT Payphones stating that the kiosk will remain in place for the time being but there is a strong possibility that it would be subject to a future removal proposal. The Planning Department at Wrexham CBC have sent a reply to our letter saying that BT have not yet approached them with a proposal to remove the payphone but have received proposals for other areas in the past which they have refused. They can write to BT on our behalf if we are approached in future.
- 3) **Police report.** PC Luke Hughes reported the following incidents.

09/11/09 damage to advertising board reported by Morris Homes, Penley – the perpetrators have been caught.

18/10/09 noticeboard, Penley, damaged by stolen vehicle subsequently set on fire – a man has been arrested for aggravated vehicle theft, drunk driving and no insurance. The case has been adjourned until next month due to no plea.

24/10/09 theft of a pedal cycle from Pendas Park, Penley – property still not recovered.

30/10/09 criminal damage to a vehicle in Bettisfield where the tyres were slashed.

PC Hughes was pleased to report that there were no Halloween incidents in the area.

PC Luke Hughes announced he would be leaving the community and returning to mainstream policing in Rhos. He has enjoyed his three and a half years here but needs to move to further his career. His replacement starts 18/12/09 which is also his leaving date. The council thanked PC Hughes for all his efforts over the years and wished him well in his future career.
- 4) **Proposed purchase of a hand held laser speedmeter.** A letter has been received from Overton Community Council inviting us and the other 6 community councils covered by PC Hughes, PCSO Large and PCSO White to

- contribute to buying a hand held laser speedmeter, at a cost of £629.00 per council, to be kept in the community police car for use by the police when they are in each area. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the Arrive Alive scheme was very effective and that Bettisfield only has the national speed limit so the speedmeter would not be of much use. Cllr Mrs Moser proposed that we turn down the invitation and Cllr Muir seconded the motion. The clerk will write to Overton Community Council informing them of our decision.
- 5) **Street lighting maintenance contract.** The contract has not been received since the last meeting. The clerk has spoken to Mr Paul Fairclough (WCBC) who apologised for the delay but they have been waiting for invoices from their term contractors, which they have now received. The contract will be out to us as soon as possible.
  - 6) **Streetscene.** Cllr Owen reported that a street light which was out of action in Park Villas, Penley was repaired the next day. The metal noticeboard posts, which had been left in the ground, have been cut off by WCBC for health and safety reasons without consultation. The posts could have been temporarily made safe if notice had been given. The clerk will write to WCBC to try to recover the extra costs of digging out the posts from the concrete base. The council also discussed the way in which the traffic calming right of way sign post in Penley has been left after yet another car collision. Its light is damaged making it extremely unsafe. The clerk will write to WCBC to request it be repaired or removed. The wood for the Bettisfield planters has been ordered and will be delivered this week. The four planters planned for Cadney Lane, by the bus stop, may be too close to the road. Mr Kevin Edwards (WCBC) offered to come and inspect them after they have been erected. Cllr Owen reported that a new bus stop has been erected by the shop in Penley.
  - 7) **Planning.**
    - a) **Applications.** P/2009/0857. Two storey side extension. 7 Ellesmere Lane, Penley. No objections.
    - b) **Decisions.** P/2009/0642. Kitchen extension and conservatory. Roslyn, Penley. Granted.
    - c) **Planning Committee Report.**
      - i) P/2009/0720. Installation of 10Kw vertical axis wind turbine (less than 10.7m high). Hill Farm, Breadon Heath. Recommended permission granted.
      - ii) P/2009/0789. Agricultural building for storing cattle and fodder (retrospective application for amendments to previous granted under code no. P/2008/0847). Land at Burgess Lane, Penley. Recommended permission granted.
  - 8) **Risk Assessment.** The risk assessment was reviewed in detail and any comments were noted on the schedule.
  - 9) **Penley noticeboard.** Cllr Ms Davies completed a Disclosure and Registration of Interest form as her partner submitted a quote for the replacement noticeboard. Cllr Owen reported that he had provided PC Hughes with a copy of the estimate from Vicarage Workshop, at his request, to take to court. PC Hughes reported that the perpetrator may well be sentenced in which case we would not be able to recover the costs of the damage from him. After a lengthy discussion it was decided to proceed with the claim through Zurich Insurance and to instruct Mr Colin Davies of Vicarage Workshop to proceed with making the replacement noticeboard. Cllr Mrs Allen proposed this motion and Cllr Owen seconded. Cllr Muir asked if the

- clerk could telephone Zurich to explain the situation and advise them that we would be proceeding with the replacement board. The clerk will also complete the claim form and submit by email to Zurich.
- 10) Meetings attended by councillors.** None.
- 11) External audit and payment of auditor's fees.** The auditor gave a clean report, apart from the fact that the review of the effectiveness of internal controls was carried out after the year end. This will be addressed by the clerk. The auditor's fee was £138.00. Cllr Mrs Moser proposed that this be paid. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Blanchard.
- 12) Payment of electricity bill for Penley street lights.** The bill for unmetered street lighting was received from Scottish Power for £92.00 for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2008 to 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009. Cllr Owen proposed that this be paid and Cllr Mrs Moser seconded.
- 13) Payment of invoice for street light maintenance.** None.
- 14) Payment of any other bills.** None.
- 15) Review of bank statements.** The bank statements were taken away by Cllr Mrs Sime to review. She will report any findings at the next meeting.
- 16) Correspondence.**
- a) Letter from WCBC regarding next meeting of Wrexham Town and Community Council Forum 8<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm.
  - b) Bettisfield newsletter.
  - c) WCBC Housing Standards and Strategy Newsletter.
  - d) Wrexham Police and Community Forum Agenda for meeting 15.10.09 and minutes of last meeting.
  - e) Carers Issues Autumn 2009 newsletter from AVOW.
  - f) Fenn's, Whixall & Bettisfield Mosses National Nature Reserve 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009.
  - g) Letter from The Welsh Assembly regarding Consultation Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 enclosing Part 1: The Wales Programme of Improvement and Part 2: Community Planning.
- 17) Any other business.** Cllr Blanchard reported that the company that operates the Community Bus Project which runs on a Thursday through Wem, Hanmer, Bronington and Bettisfield is having its funding from WCBC cut from £28.00 a trip to 40 pence a mile which equates to a little over £7.00 a trip which is not viable. Cllr Blanchard did not have the details with him but would email the clerk to enable her to write a letter of protest. Cllr Mrs Moser enquired if anyone knew of anyone with accountancy/business plan skills that would be able to help the Village Hall committee apply for grant aid.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21.16.