

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ABENBURY COMMUNITY COUNCILⁱ on the 13th of June 2022

Members Present: Councillors, P. Done, C. Borland- Jones, W. Wilson, D. O'Brien, G. Williams,

Chair: Councillor D. O'Brien

Clerk: Serena Baxter.

Apologies: Councillors A. Reeves, S. Clutton, M. Morris (Wrexham CBC), PCSO Lisa Davies

17. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies were given and accepted.
18. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Members were reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of any personal and/ or prejudicial interest on the form provided for this purpose for any item under discussion.
19. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There were no members of the public present.
20. **LOCAL PLACES FOR NATURE OFFICER, ONE VOICE WALES:** A presentation was given to the meeting by Rachel Carter, the Local Places for Nature Officer of One Voice Wales. This presentation was given in respect of the Community Council's wish to progress the area of land formally occupied by the Community Centre at Pentre Maelor. Ms Carter explained the purpose of her role and the links and responsibilities of Community Council's under the Section 60 duties of Area statements and targets contained in the Well-being Act. Ms Carter gave information about funding opportunities available for projects, from large to medium scale, provided by the National Lottery and others, to smaller 'starter' packages, provided by Keep Wales Tidy. This was illustrated through case studies from other parts of Wales. Ms Carter was thanked for her report and left the meeting.
21. **PROGRESS ON COMMUNITY CENTRE SITE:** It was AGREED to bring forward this item as it closely relates to the previous item and presentation. The Clerk explained the lack of response from WCBC despite Councillor Morris' intervention, and it was agreed that the Clerk would keep trying to elicit a response, as this is vital to taking forward any project. In the meantime, it was AGREED, after discussion, to take forward the exploration of funding opportunities for the project. Feedback was given to the meeting on the site meeting held with Jacinta Challoner, Environmental Officer of WCBC, which was very positive. It was RESOLVED to proceed and draw up a business case as the basis for the proposal and applications for funding, and to explore the adjoining woodland, in terms of ownership and potential attachment to the project. It was AGREED to invite Jacinta Challoner to the next meeting with a view to looking at work to be carried out, and to write to WCBC concerning the land attached. Councillor Borland Jones advised the meeting that during the walkabout at the recent site meeting, it was noted that several large sections of hedge had been removed during works to upgrade vacant housing. It was AGREED to write to WCBC Housing to enquire about this, particularly since it had been carried out during bird nesting season and was therefore potentially not legal.
22. **CRIME REPORT AND POLICING MATTERS:** A discussion took place about lack of police resources and information contained in the report provided by the clerk. It was noted that burglaries have reduced. A discussion took place about the money provided last year for the crime prevention measures, and it was noted that the information received on the items purchased, didn't justify the spend of £250, in terms of value for money. A discussion took place about the prison and what was originally said about the impact of the prison on police resources. It was agreed to await the response to the letter written on this matter.
23. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD:** The Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on the 9th of May 2022, were **APPROVED** as an accurate record.
24. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:** The item concerning requests to WCBC for speed monitoring equipment was flagged up. The Clerk advised that she had written and had received a call from Mr Lloyd. Action: Clerk will keep chasing the matter. It was AGREED to invite Mr Lloyd to attend the next meeting.

25. **FINANCIAL MATTERS, BUDGET, AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS:** i) The payments for June 2022 were **APPROVED**:

Payment To	Reason	Amount
EXPENDITURE		
Clerk- (salary 1st April 2022)	Clerk's salary NJC rates 2022 contracted hours	
	Payment S Baxter	
Wrexham Litter pickers	Wrexham Litter pickers (agreed at prior meeting)	50.00
JDH	Costs for Internal Audit 2021-22	225.00
INCOME		
Caia Community Council	Contribution to costs of defibrillator fitting	123.84

- ii. The Financial report for the End of year expenditure 2021-22 was presented. After discussion the report was **APPROVED**.
- iii. The Annual return 2021-2022 was presented and **APPROVED** to send to the External Auditor
- iv. The Clerk advised that the report of the Internal Auditor JDH had been received. The points raised by the Internal Auditor were considered and noted. The Clerk gave reassurance that the accounting issues highlighted had been corrected.
26. **CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:** The Clerk presented a report updating on several matters. In particular, the Annual Play Inspection report had been received, highlighting an item for removal. Once this item had been dealt with the report would revert to a low risk overall. Quotations had been received for a new Notice board to be sited in Llwyn Onn area, to replace the notice board at Abenbury fields, now no longer within Abenbury Community Council area. After consideration it was agreed to look at the one from Shelley signs in more detail as this was the cheaper option but looked substantial. It was noted that there is a new lead member for the Environment WCBC, and it was agreed to send a copy of the letter about the lorry park to the new head of environment.
27. **TO CONSIDER ANY APPLICATIONS RECEIVED UNDER THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED):**
- i. A Pre- Application consultation was considered regarding land east of Cefn Road. After discussion it was **AGREED** to respond citing concerns over Infrastructure, roads and traffic management.
- ii. A Pre- Application consultation was considered regarding land at Cefn Road and Erlas Park. After discussion it was **AGREED** to respond similarly, with concerns over Infrastructure, roads and traffic management in the area.
28. **REPORTS FROM MEMBERS:** Councillor Borland Jones raised an issue concerning horse manure being left on roadways and pathways. It was decided that this cannot be acted on in the same way as dog fouling, due to bylaws. Councillor Wilson highlighted an event on the 30th June.
29. **DATE, VENUE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on the **11th of July 2022, and will commence at 7 p.m.**

i) This meeting took place as a Hybrid meeting, using 'Go To' Meetings software, under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (following The Local Authorities (Coronavirus)(Meetings)(Wales) Regulations 2020.) which make provision for meetings to take place both in person and with remote attendance.

COUNCILLOR D. O'Brien

CHAIR.

DATE.....