

FINAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ABENBURY COMMUNITY COUNCIL¹ HELD ON THE 11th OF NOVEMBER 2024

Members Present: Councillors: N. Hancock, G. Williams, A. Reeves, W. Wilson, M. Morris (Wrexham CBC). P. Done.

Chair: Councillor P. Done.

Clerk: Serena Baxter.

Apologies: Councillors S. Clutton, J. Jones

342.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies were noted and accepted.																			
343.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Members were reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of any personal and/ or prejudicial interest for any item under discussion.																			
344.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: The meeting was joined by three members of the recently formed Residents committee for Pentre Maelor. The meeting was adjourned for five minutes to allow residents to speak. Ms McDermott advised that the residents committee has been trying to contact F1 regarding the footpath at the rear of the houses on a field to be built on which has been used by the public for many years. The meeting reconvened. It was advised that the footpath is not a designated public footpath. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact F1 on resident's behalf to try to establish what they can do to rectify the issue.																			
345.	CRIME REPORT AND POLICING MATTERS: The Crime report prepared by PCSO Lisa Davies was noted and accepted. No concerns were raised. The Clerk advised that PCSO Davies is leaving and the contact details of her replacement.																			
346.	TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14th of October 2024: The Minutes of the meeting held on the 14 th of October 2024, were approved as a true record.																			
347.	MATTERS ARISING: The new Community Agent Mr Tom Martin spoke to update the meeting on his recent appointment and the referral process. Any community referral forms go direct to AVOW. Details will be sent to the Clerk so that she can put them on the Community Council website. A discussion took place about the 20mph speed limit and where WCBC is up to concerning the redesignation of local roads.																			
348.	UPDATE REGARDING VACANCIES ON THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST RECEIVED, REQUIRING APPROVAL OF CO-OPTION: The Clerk advised that vacancies continue to be advertised. Councillor Hancock advised that he has put it on 'next door' and it has also gone on to the Facebook page. Further consideration as to advertising to be given in the new year.																			
349.	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS, BUDGET, AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS: i) The Payments set out for payment in November 2024 were APPROVED</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 35%;">Payment To</th> <th style="width: 35%;">Reason</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Amount £</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3">Expenditure</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk- 1st November 2024</td> <td>Clerk's salary NJC rates 20 contracted hours</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vodafone</td> <td>Telephone account</td> <td style="text-align: right;">33.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk's expenses and reimbursements</td> <td>April – December 2024</td> <td style="text-align: right;">377.57</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">INCOME</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Payment To	Reason	Amount £	Expenditure			Clerk- 1st November 2024	Clerk's salary NJC rates 20 contracted hours		Vodafone	Telephone account	33.70	Clerk's expenses and reimbursements	April – December 2024	377.57	INCOME			
Payment To	Reason	Amount £																		
Expenditure																				
Clerk- 1st November 2024	Clerk's salary NJC rates 20 contracted hours																			
Vodafone	Telephone account	33.70																		
Clerk's expenses and reimbursements	April – December 2024	377.57																		
INCOME																				

JG

	<p>ii) The Clerk advised of the latest NJC pay settlement scales received via One Voice Wales and requested the Community Council to consider approval of the revised rates and for these to be backdated to April 2024. This was APPROVED.</p> <p>iii) The Clerk advised of the report from the External Auditor, advising an unqualified report. This was Accepted.</p> <p>iv) The Clerk advised of the need to alter the bank mandate form to add Councillor Jones to the Mandate by means of the new form and this was APPROVED</p> <p>v) The Clerk advised that the Community Council's insurance is to be renewed in January, figures to follow.</p>	
350.	<p>UPDATE ON COMMUNITY CENTRE SITE AND LEASE: The Clerk advised on the results of the Utility survey. After discussion it was decided that as the site appears to have utilities running under it, and the proposal involves some digging, that some further professional advice is needed on how the utilities may impact. It was suggested that the Clerk contact Mr D. Sharp of WCBC for some advice, and it was further AGREED that a surveyor may need to be approached for additional confirmation as to location and extent of utility cabling. A discussion took place concerning the request from residents of Pentre Maelor to revisit the decision previously made to provide for a Community Orchard on site. Ensuing discussion acknowledged that the survey of residents had taken place some time ago, but the mechanism to obtain the lease approval from WCBC has been protracted. Any changes would need to go back to WCBC for reconsideration. Anything that would involve excavation or depth of installation may be problematic. Therefore, it was agreed to keep this in mind until further advice is received regarding the Utility survey results.</p>	
351.	<p>UPDATE CONCERNING PRE-APPLICATION PROPOSALS - HYDRO ALUMINIUM: It was noted that there is a further meeting to be held with Hydro Aluminium which Councillor Hancock will attend. Consideration was given to the offer made by Hydro to put in place a community project, such as the drainage of the football area. It was AGREED Hydro are to be thanked for their offer which would be accepted without prejudice, and to be looked at with them in the future. The Clerk will write a response.</p>	
352.	<p>CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS: The Clerk confirmed the date as 13th of December, and this will be publicised once confirmed by Friends of Ruabon. Several Councillors agreed to support the event. The Clerk will email details.</p>	
353.	<p>CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDANCE: The Clerk reported several matters and updated correspondence received, which was noted. The information on the Play area report was noted and the figures given for the Play area usage. To be considered when setting the budget in January.</p>	Clerk
354.	<p>PLANNING MATTERS:</p> <p>i. P/ 2024/ 1446: Advertisement consent for free standing sign :- location: land at the junction of Coed Aben Road and, Clywedog Road North, Wrexham Industrial Estate, Wrexham, LL13 9UH .This proposal was considered and no objections were raised.</p>	
355.	<p>REPORTS FROM MEMBERS: Councillor Wilson highlighted a matter concerning the purchase of land on the Industrial Estate. Councillor Williams raised a concern about speeding on Bridge Road. The Clerk will again raise this with the North Wales Police. Councillor Williams also raised a matter concerning surface water drains which need to be cleared, following the recent heavy rainfall. The Clerk will raise with Highways department. Councillor Hancock advised that hedging has been cut back on Frog Lane, but the overhanging branches have not been cut back. It was AGREED that a double headed light fitting is to be requested</p>	

356. NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Monday the 13th of January 2025.

COUNCILLOR S Clutton

CHAIR.

J. Jones

DATE 14 / 4 / 25