

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ABENBURY COMMUNITY COUNCIL' HELD ON THE 13th OF JANUARY 2025

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

Chair: Councillor J. Jones.

Clerk: Serena Baxter.

Apologies: Councillors A. Reeves, S. Clutton,

357.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies were noted and accepted.																															
358.	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.																															
359.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There were no members of the public present.																															
360.	CRIME REPORT AND POLICING MATTERS: PCSO Maddocks attended the meeting and presented her report detailing crime for the month of December. The report was noted and accepted. No concerns were raised. Discussion took place about speeding along Bridge Road, following concerns raised. PCSO Maddocks will pass this on to GoSafe. Concerns about Dragon Packaging were raised again. PCSO Maddocks will investigate this. No further items were raised and PCSO Maddocks left the meeting.																															
361.	TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th of November 2024: The Minutes of the meeting held on the 11th of November 2024, were APPROVED as a true record.																															
362.	MATTERS ARISING: The Clerk updated the meeting on responses received from the Highways department concerning gullies, and from First Investments, concerning a proposed Lorry Park.																															
363.	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. A discussion took place, and it was agreed to look again in the Spring at a flyer going out.																															
364.	<p>FINANCIAL MATTERS, BUDGET, AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS: I) The Payments set out for payment in January 2025 were APPROVED.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payment To</th> <th>Reason</th> <th>Amount £</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3">Expenditure</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk- 1st December 2024 and 1st January 2025</td> <td>Clerk's salary NJC rates 20 contracted hours (Payment for November and December 2024)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vodafone</td> <td>Telephone account December and January</td> <td>33.70(x2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Audit Wales</td> <td>Audit Fees for external Audit 2023-2024</td> <td>200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vision ICT</td> <td>Website hosting and support 25-26</td> <td>258.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friends of Ruabon</td> <td>Donation as previously agreed towards the Santa Sleigh</td> <td>100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WCBC</td> <td>Half yearly Instalment playground inspection</td> <td>777.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">INCOME</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WCBC</td> <td>Precept</td> <td>4376.34</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Payment To	Reason	Amount £	Expenditure			Clerk- 1st December 2024 and 1st January 2025	Clerk's salary NJC rates 20 contracted hours (Payment for November and December 2024)		Vodafone	Telephone account December and January	33.70(x2)	Audit Wales	Audit Fees for external Audit 2023-2024	200.00	Vision ICT	Website hosting and support 25-26	258.00	Friends of Ruabon	Donation as previously agreed towards the Santa Sleigh	100.00	WCBC	Half yearly Instalment playground inspection	777.60	INCOME			WCBC	Precept	4376.34
Payment To	Reason	Amount £																														
Expenditure																																
Clerk- 1st December 2024 and 1st January 2025	Clerk's salary NJC rates 20 contracted hours (Payment for November and December 2024)																															
Vodafone	Telephone account December and January	33.70(x2)																														
Audit Wales	Audit Fees for external Audit 2023-2024	200.00																														
Vision ICT	Website hosting and support 25-26	258.00																														
Friends of Ruabon	Donation as previously agreed towards the Santa Sleigh	100.00																														
WCBC	Half yearly Instalment playground inspection	777.60																														
INCOME																																
WCBC	Precept	4376.34																														

	Unity Bank	Interest	219.41	
365.	<p>ii) The Clerk advised of the renewal quotation received from Gallaghers, for Insurance renewal with Hiscox at a cost of £799.43. This was APPROVED.</p> <p>iii) The Clerk presented the report for Income and expenditure to the end of Quarter three. This was Accepted.</p> <p>PRECEPT AND BUDGET REQUIRED TO BE SET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2025-2026: The Clerk presented the draft budget which was discussed and APPROVED. Further consideration was given to the level of Play provision that will be required. It was AGREED that the current level of provision shall remain, therefore the costs built into the budget will stand. The Council considered the level of Precept that was to be raised during the financial year. It was AGREED to set the budget at £17015, with a £5000 contribution from reserves. The Precept required will therefore be £12015 and this was APPROVED.</p>			
366.	<p>PLANNING MATTERS:</p> <p>i. P /2024/1610: Variation of condition 3 of Planning Permission P/2022/0541 to amend wording of condition: - Land adjacent to Little Llwyn Onn, Cefn Road, Abenbury, Wrexham LL13 0NY. There were no comments or objections made</p> <p>ii. P/2024/1554: Proposed Metal recycling sorting facility, soil heap removal, concrete yard extension, Landscaping and associated works at existing building premises: - Hydro Aluminum Deeside Ltd, Bridge Road, Wrexham Industrial Estate, Wrexham LL13 9PS. The following points were made to be included in a response to the Planning department.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents' concerns and fears about the proposal to expand operations at the site. • Expansion of the site operations as set out in the proposal could result in a substantial increase in noise and traffic around the site which would adversely impact on the lives of residents living nearby. This must be accounted for in planning the location of those most noisy of operations putting in place such measures to reduce this to a minimum. • If granted, this must not lead to an increase in noise nuisance or any other kind of nuisance such as airborne pollution, fibres etc, that would affect the health and wellbeing of residents nearby. It is requested that this be monitored closely by the appropriate agencies should the planning permission be granted. • If the proposal is approved, a Planning Condition should be instated which would restrict the type and amount of aluminium being loaded and unloaded at certain times of the day and week, for example evenings and weekends. • Noise monitoring is directed to take place on a regular basis to ensure that noise levels do not exceed the acceptable levels for this type of operation, given its proximity to residential dwellings. • A Planning directive should be included concerning the insulation of the new building for this type of operation to ensure that it is properly acoustically insulated to reduce the impact of noise arising from the proposed sorting operations, loading and unloading of materials. • There appears to be an ongoing issue with lorries and other vehicles queuing to access the plant along Bridge Road and Bridge Road South. Given the proposed expansion of operation , a Planning condition should be set to seek to enforce the scheduling of lorries arriving on site so that parking or other traffic issues that will impact on the health and wellbeing of residents can be addressed by such a condition, and that adequate consideration is given in the planning of the site to how lorries will be accommodated to avoid queuing and associated traffic emissions . 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is requested that a Planning condition to ensure the earth bund and associated planting on the boundary running parallel to Clywedog Road East will remain in place in perpetuity. <p>iii. P/2022/0065: Amended plans-Hybrid application A) Full permission to demolish existing units and erect 33 units for B1/B2/B8 use, refurbishment of existing retail and food and drinks units B) Outline B1/B2/B8 Use, with associated access. Landscaping and infrastructure work: - Location: - The Bridgeway Centre, Bridge Road Wrexham Industrial Estate, Wrexham LL139QS. There were no comments or objections made.</p>	
367.	COST OF DOUBLE HEADED LANTERN FOR SITING ON FONTWELL CLOSE AND FROG LANE FOOTPATH, AT A COST OF £450: The expenditure for this item was APPROVED . Clerk to arrange.	
368.	UPDATE ON COMMUNITY CENTRE SITE AND LEASE: The Clerk advised on progress with response from Mr Sharp of WCBC and obtaining professional advice, in regard to the results of the Utility survey. The Clerk was authorised to obtain advice from a local construction company who had indicated they would be willing to advise on this matter. The Clerk will provide a report to the next meeting.	
369.	UPDATE CONCERNING HYDRO ALUMINIUM PROPOSALS: The Planning proposal had been discussed previously. Regarding the offer made by Hydro to provide a community contribution, which was discussed at the previous meeting, the Clerk confirmed that she had written to Hydro to accept their offer 'without prejudice'.	
370.	CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDANCE: The Clerk reported several matters and updated correspondence received, which was noted. The Clerk raised the matter of an advice sheet prepared by One Voice Wales concerning email security and advised on the advantages of a domain name and specific email address. This was discussed and the expenditure of £125 to obtain the domain name was APPROVED .	
371.	REPORTS FROM MEMBERS: There were no reports made under this item. Members who had been present noted the success of the Santa Sleigh during December, and it was proposed to write to Friends of Ruabon with thanks for their assistance. Councillor Hancock advised the meeting of his pending move, and after discussion it was deemed that Councillor Hancock would still be eligible to serve as a Community Councillor for Abenbury if he so wished.	
372.	NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Monday the 10th of February 2025	

COUNCILLOR S Clutton
CHAIR.

..... J Clutton

DATE 14/4/25