

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ABENBURY COMMUNITY COUNCIL<sup>i</sup> held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2023**

**Members Present:** Councillors: W. Wilson, G. Williams, D. O'Brien, J. Jones, A. Reeves, S. Clutton, P. Done

**Chair:** Councillor D. O'Brien

**Clerk:** Serena Baxter.

**Apologies:** Councillors: M. Davies, M. Morris (Wrexham CBC)

- 200. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies were given and accepted.
- 201. **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.
- 202. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** There were no members of the public present, in person or online.
- 203. **ATTENDANCE BY MR GRAHAM LLOYD, WCBC HIGHWAYS DEPT:** Mr Lloyd explained how the data that was gathered on Cefn Road is processed and passed to North Wales Police, which is responsible for enforcing speeding. Data showed that speeding was almost doubled at times in the Llwyn Onn area. Discussions took place about the new 20mph speed limit, and the restrictions placed on Councils by Welsh Government at the present time, concerning road safety measures. Those present highlighted a number of areas of concern in the Abenbury area. Mr Lloyd advised that he would investigate and feedback the prices for painted roundels on road surfaces and let the Clerk know, as this is all that can be done at the present time to remind motorists about their speed. A new speed sign with a smiley face would cost around three thousand pounds. Councillor O'Brien raised a query about the bus stop being moved, and Councillor Wilson raised a concern about fireworks being let off on the roadway outside the prison. Mr Lloyd was thanked for attending and left the meeting.
- 204. **CRIME REPORT AND POLICING MATTERS:** The Crime report provided by PCSO L. Davies was considered. An update was given concerning the meeting held between the Rural Policing Inspector and Councillor Davies. This was considered and thanks were forwarded to Councillor Davies for the report and for meeting with the Rural Police Inspector.
- 205. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>th</sup> of SEPTEMBER 2023:** The Minutes of the meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2023, were **APPROVED** as an accurate record.
- 206. **MATTERS ARISING:** There were no matters arising. The Clerk advised on the response received from Wrexham Council, which had investigated the issue that was raised concerning the Playscheme. All present were satisfied with the response now received.
- 207. **FINANCIAL MATTERS, BUDGET, AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS:**
  - i) The payments for October 2023 were **APPROVED:**

Payment To	Reason	Amount
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Clerk- (salary 1st October 2023)	Clerk's salary NJC rates 20 contracted hours	
Vodafone	Telephone account October 2023	25.47
<b>INCOME</b>		

ii) Financial and Budget Report for Quarters 1 and 2: The Clerk presented a Financial report showing income and expenditure for quarters one and two of the financial year. This was considered and **ACCEPTED**.

- 208. PROGRESS ON COMMUNITY CENTRE SITE- LEASE AND COSTS:** The Clerk advised the meeting of communications received from Wrexham Council, and the decision by the Council's Executive Board to approve the authorisation of a 21-year lease to Abenbury Community Council on terms and conditions to be negotiated. An Open Space provision must be commenced by Wrexham Council to advertise their disposal of the land. This carries a cost to the Community Council, as does the survey that had to be carried out, which had been advised previously. The Clerk presented a briefing note on potential additional costs for the future. It was suggested by the Chair, that before continuing, that the Community Council consider a full financial risk report of possible future costs, and the impact this will have on the Precept. After discussion it was agreed that if this piece of work caused the Clerk to work additional hours, that up to twenty additional hours payment would be approved.
- 209. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:** The Clerk submitted the latest report and updated the Community Council. Feedback had been received from Mr Hall at First Investments concerning an update on the Lorry Park. No update was given on the additional matters raised at the meeting held. After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to write to First Investments expressing the Community Councils' 'extreme disappointment' at the lack of progress in this matter despite earlier assurances. Councillor O'Brien updated the meeting on the position regarding the erection of the Noticeboard, already purchased. The view of the Highways department is to be sought regarding locating the Noticeboard further towards the roundabout on Cefn Road. Correspondence was noted.
- 210. PROGRESS ON VACANCIES:** As last month, the Clerk advised that both vacancies are now advertised under Co-option, but no expressions of interest have been received to date. The Clerk will update the website.
- 211. TO CONSIDER ANY APPLICATIONS RECEIVED UNDER THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED):**
- i. P/2023/0687: Siting of Two Shipping Containers: Unit D to F, Spectrum Business Park, Wrexham Industrial estate, Wrexham There were no objections raised but Abenbury Community Council wished to again draw attention to the lack of facilities and lorry parking on the Industrial estate.
- 212. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS:** Councillor Williams reported lack of lighting on Bridgeway West by the former community centre site. The Clerk will enquire if it is a fault or if it has arisen from the disconnected utilities. Councillor Williams will let the Clerk know the number on the post to enable her to report it. It was raised that the junction continues to be a problem around Clywedog Road North with vehicles blocking the visibility to the junction, and this is now dangerous. It was **RESOLVED** to send further letters about this problem to the Police, the landlord First Investments and Highways department. A TRO is also to be requested to restrict parking in this area. The Clerk reported on a response received from WCBC to the concern raised about car parking near a property on Llwyn Onn that is visited by carers. Councillor O'Brien announced that from March 2024, he intends to stand down from the Community Council.

**213. DATE, VENUE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on the **13<sup>th</sup> of November 2023**, 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.**

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**COUNCILLOR D. O’Brien**

**CHAIR.** ..... **DATE**.....