

Llangollen Rural Community Council
Minutes of Meeting held at the Garth & Trevor Community Centre
Tuesday 5th September 2023

12/23

Present

Cllr. Mrs Sue Kempster
Cllr. Darrell Wright
Cllr. Mrs Moira Griffiths
Cllr. Phil Jones

Cllr. Keith Sinclair
Cllr. Steve Jones
Cllr. Mrs Sian Williams
Cllr. Mrs Rachel Allen

Chairman: Cllr. K Sinclair

Clerk: Andrea Evans

1. Apologies for absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr. E Morris.

2. Minutes of the last council meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th July 2023 had been distributed and were accepted as a true record. The minutes were signed accordingly by the Chairman.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Public Participation

None

5. Member's Urgent Reports

It was reported that the grass verge on the way to Fron, on the right after the cricket ground, was overgrown and encroaching into the already narrow road. The Chairman offered to ask the owners to cut back the verge.

6. Police Report

A report had not been received from the police.

7. Update on the Community Agent's scheme

The Clerk had shared the letter received from WCBC with regard to 'Contracting and Payment for 2023-24'. The options for sub-contracting were discussed and it was decided that the Community Council would move to be a named party to the Southern Consortia Contract currently hosted by Overton Community Council, on the understanding that it would receive 16 hours of service and regular reports/figures on service provision.

Members discussed the report received from the Community Agent. It was decided to ask the Community Agent to attend the next meeting in order to provide further explanation regarding the number of clients.

8. Update from the Clerk on the work log

The Clerk provided an update on the work log and this was discussed.

Parking at Fron Basin/Trevor Basin – With regard to the parking of coaches, the Clerk had spoken to M Bathers of WCBC to request a meeting between himself, CRT, the Boat Company, the County Councillor and the Community Council to discuss parking issues. He was trying to arrange a meeting but he had encountered some reluctance by certain parties. If a meeting between all parties was not possible he would meet with the Boat Company himself in an effort to resolve the longstanding issues. It was decided that there were parking issues relating to the whole World Heritage Site and that these should be labelled as such on the work log so that they could be dealt with.

Installation of a lockable gate at the George Avenue playground – The signage details would be finalised following the Playground Committee site meeting.

Memorial in Garth – The work was scheduled to be carried out by the end of September.

JC Edwards Wall – The Clerk updated Members on the project. A conservation architect had been appointed to develop the designs produced within the feasibility study to enable planning permission to be sought. Before requesting planning permission, the proposals would be shared with the local community to seek their views.

Safety issues on Gate Road due to parked cars – WCBC had installed signs on Gate Road warning drivers of pedestrians on the road.

Request to WCBC for road signs (No footway) to be placed at four locations on Garth Road – WCBC had 3 more signs to install.

Notice Board Trevor – It was decided to pay the requested 50% deposit so that work could begin on constructing the notice board.

Four planters on Trevor Green to be used to plant pollinators and fruit and vegetables – The planters had been tidied to prepare for the planting of pollinators and fruit and vegetables using the Sustainable Development Fund grant of £200. This would be discussed under agenda item 14.

9. Planning Applications

To consider planning applications:

P/2023/0561 – Formation of vehicular access – **16 Woodland Grove, Froncysyllte, Wrexham**

P/2023/0564 – Two storey rear extension – **9 Tower Hill, Acrefair, Wrexham**

There were no objections to the applications.

For information - Granted:

P/2023/0415 – Single storey rear extension – **Cae Bryn, Garth, Wrexham**

P/2023/0181 – Listed Building Consent for installation of security gate – **Land north of New Road, Trevor, Wrexham, LL20 7TP**

10. Correspondence update from the Clerk

All correspondence was listed in the Clerk's report and had been forwarded to Councillors.

With regard to the email 'New Funding Available for Wrexham Communities' it was decided to submit expressions of interest for: a piece of play equipment for Froncysyllte Community Centre playground; repair work on the Garth War Memorial; and for work to renovate the Boer War Memorial in Froncysyllte.

11. An update from the County Councillor

The County Councillor updated Members on the on-going issues in the area, and requested their support for a TRO to be introduced at the bottom of Garth Road. It was decided to discuss this at the next Council meeting.

12. Dates for the Playground Committee meeting, the Noddfa Committee meeting and the Staffing Committee meeting.

It was decided to hold the Playground Committee meeting on Thursday 7th September at 5.30pm and the Staffing Committee meeting on Monday 25th September at 5.00pm. A date for the Noddfa meeting would be confirmed once the risk assessment had been carried out at the cemetery.

13. Risk Assessments for Noddfa Cemetery and Community Seats

The Clerk reported that the risk assessment for street furniture had been carried out. It was decided that Cllr. P Jones and Cllr. K Sinclair would carry out the risk assessment for community seats in Froncysyllte and Cllr. Mrs M Griffiths would conduct the risk assessment for seats in Trevor and Garth. A group of Members would carry out the risk assessment at Noddfa Cemetery.

14. Report and proposals on submitting a bid to Local Places for Nature.

It was decided to submit a bid to 'Local Places for Nature' in order to repair and replace the planter at the top station road upon receipt of approval from WCBC.

A date would be arranged and publicised on social media asking for volunteers to assist with the planting of the four planters on Trevor Green.

With regard to creating wildlife garden spaces in the community, Members would submit details of any possible sites to the Environment Group for further consideration.

15. Damage to Joyce's Bench

The bench had now been repaired after it had been vandalised at the end of August.

16. Motion in response to the Fire Authority's proposal to reduce coverage in Wrexham.

A motion was put forward in response to the proposals to reduce the Fire Service coverage in Wrexham and this was discussed.

The Motion was as follows:

'NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

North Wales Fire Authority are proposing 3 options as a way of reducing costs, 2 involving cutting the 2nd fire appliance in Wrexham and reducing the numbers of firefighters from 52 to 28.

Llangollen Rural Community Council believes this would put the safety of its citizens in jeopardy, not just in Llangollen Rural but the whole of Wrexham.

This is totally unacceptable given Wrexham has a population of around 136,000 with possibly the largest Industrial Estate in Europe, Wrexham Maelor Hospital, a University, Coleg Cambria in the town and also the manufacturing training college on Bersham Road, as well as one of the largest prisons in the UK.

Llangollen Rural Community Council takes the safety of its residents in Llangollen Rural and Wrexham very seriously, and states that proposals to cut services in Wrexham are unacceptable and calls on the Fire Authority to look at other options of cost saving, possibly from the top of the Authority to save costs.'

It was unanimously resolved at the meeting that the Council agrees:

- i. That the current proposals by the North Wales Fire Authority are unacceptable due to the potential effects on the safety of Wrexham County Borough citizens and the Council totally opposes the proposals.
- ii. That the Council's opposition to the proposals is communicated to the Fire Authority.
- iii. That it calls on the Fire Authority to look at other options of cost saving.

17. Publication of the Community Newsletter

The Community Newsletter Working Group had met on 27th July to agree what should be included in the newsletter. The Clerk had produced a newsletter in the new format and a draft had been sent to Councillors for their approval. The draft was now with the printers and should be ready for distribution on 12th September.

18. Financial update from the Clerk and authorisation of payments to be made

Payments to be authorised retrospectively for August 2023:

P Ankers	102613	£292.50
P Green	102614	£618.00
RJ Tree Services	102615	£240.00
WCBC	102616	£65.56
Cllr. S Jones	102617	£150.00
Cllr. Mrs S Williams	102618	£150.00
Cllr. Mrs R Allen	102619	£120.00
Cllr. Mrs M Griffiths	102620	£150.00
J Evans	102621	NJC
J Evans	102622	£149.48
NEST	DD	£57.56
Total		£3,044.96

Payments to be authorised for September 2023:

15/23

P Ankers	102623	£412.50
P Green	102624	£618.00
Wynnstay Joinery	102625	£739.90
J Evans	102626	NJC
J Evans	102627	£35.90
HMRC	102628	£1,044.22
Total		£3,902.38

19. Items for the next agenda

Items to be received by the Clerk by Tuesday 27th September 2023

Date and Venue of the Next Meeting – 3rd October 2023 at 7.00pm at Froncysyllte Community Centre