

## MAELOR SOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017

at The Rainbow Centre, Penley at 7:30p.m.

**Present:** Cllr. J. Blanchard, Cllr. P. Jones, Cllr. Mrs. W. Sime, Cllr. Mrs. R. Bettis, Cllr. Ms. D. Kettle,  
Cllr. Lord Kenyon, Mrs. L. Houston (Clerk), Mrs. Dunne, Mrs. Lee-Jones

**Apologies:** Cllr. Mrs. R. Coathupe-Fox, (family illness) Cllr. G. Williams (work commitment)  
PCSO's L. Maurice and M. Simister (rest days).

### 1. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

### 2. Minutes of the last meeting.

These were confirmed as a true record of the previous meeting and were duly signed by the Vice Chairman.

### 3. Matters arising.

**Item 3 Point 4** A reply had been received from The Maelor School, Penley, confirming that information regarding possible play placements for Duke of Edinburgh or Welsh Baccalaureate students had been passed to the relevant members of staff.

**Item 7** - Clerk had submitted an application for grant funding for Penley Playground to the ASDA Community Scheme. They had advised that charitable organisations were looked upon more favourably.

**Item 3 Point 7** Wrexham Planning Officer concurred with Council that a contribution towards the Madras School and play facilities should be made under Section in relation to the proposed development at Big Green Farm, Penley.

**Item 10a** Response from Trevor Coxon (WCBC) regarding the name of a councillor appearing in the minutes was shared.

### 4. Police Report.

The report had been received by email and was shared.  
Councillors were concerned about an unreported incident which had occurred on the Bettisfield to Whitchurch road. It was agreed that this would be mentioned to the police.

### 5. Open Forum.

No-one from the community attended.

### 6. County Council Matters.

It was confirmed that there would be a 3% increase in Council Tax.  
A document was shared which outlines the Welsh Government plans to look into Community Council funding.  
Councillors questioned the situation regarding bed blocking at the Maelor Hospital, Wrexham. It was confirmed that there would be no 'new money' earmarked for the care of the elderly.  
It was reported that the hospital in Penley may become a centre for respite care in the future.

## 7. Penley Playground.

### a) Grants

Now that grant money has been received, Clerk will look into suppliers of play equipment and get quotes.

### b) Fundraising proposal.

It was suggested that a Summer Festival could be organised to raise funds for the playground and also bring the community together. It was agreed that the clerk approach the Village Hall committee for help in organising the event.

## 8. Website

Developments are ongoing. Minutes will be placed on the website in English and in Welsh. Clerk and councillors will get together to learn how to update the website and share the workload.

## 9. Streetscene.

### a) Penley

Trees which have previously caused a problem by overhanging garage rooves and the playground have now been removed.

Potholes are still problematic, although it was accepted that repairs would not be carried out until the threat of frost has passed.

### b) Bettisfield

No issues at present.

## 10. Planning

### a) Applications

P/2017/0079 – Lean-to shed, Wyen Wen Farm, Hanmer

P/2017/0035 – Canal Cottage, Bettisfield

P/2017/0026 – Lane End, Penley

P/2017/0007 – Tudor Drive, Penley

There were no objections to any of the proposed developments.

### b) Decisions

P/2016/1118 – Pending

P/2016/1119 – Pending

P/2016/1129 - Granted

### c) Hanmer Arms – Councillors had heard that there were plans to close the hotel and apply for planning permission for a housing development. It was agreed that The Hanmer Arms is a crucial facility for the village of Hanmer and surrounding areas and that the council would support Hanmer Community Council in opposing such plans if they were to be put forward.

### d) Dymock Arms

Following a complaint from a Penley resident, the clerk had received the following information from the Planning Department:

The owner has carried out work to make the building secure and also to protect the historic elements of the building.

The owner has applied to have the building de-listed. This was refused.

Wrexham County Borough Council would not support an application to demolish the building.

Wrexham County Borough Council are in negotiation with the owner to secure a new development, but legislation limits the demands the Council is able to place upon the owner.

#### 11. Village Projects

##### a) Penley

Playground: It was proposed that a committee of parents and councillors could be set up to support the development and carry out a consultation exercise. It was agreed to hold a meeting at 6:30p.m. on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017, at The Rainbow Centre, Penley. This would be advertised via posters, the Council website, Penley Facebook pages and possibly the Madras school website or newsletters.

A question was asked regarding the ownership of the grass area at Hillcrest. The owner is no longer residing in Penley. It was felt this would make an ideal play area for the children of Hillcrest.

Cllr. Mrs. Bettis proposed that the Community Council pay for this area to be maintained. Seconded by Cllr. Blanchard.

All were in favour.

Mr. Gerald Williams would be approached to carry out regular grass cutting.

Householders neighbouring this land would be approached for their consent.

##### b) Bettisfield

The defibrillator in Bettisfield has been used often by the Rapid Response team but advice has been received regarding lighting to make access easier and also to keep the equipment at a regular temperature. A request was received for the Community Council to fund the defibrillator as follows:

To supply and install a bulb in the defibrillator box - £70.35	Proposed by Cllr. Blanchard
	Seconded by Cllr. Jones
Annual running cost for electricity - £28.72	Proposed by Cllr. Jones
	Seconded by Cllr. Blanchard

All were in favour.

#### 12. Meetings attended by Councillors.

Cllr. Mrs. Sime attended a Wrexham LAG and Cadwyn Clwyd meeting about Project scoring.

Cllr. Mrs. Bettis had attended a meeting as a Governor representative on a working party to discuss the Maelor School's Equality Policy.

Cllr. Mrs. Bettis had accompanied pupils of the Madras School to a joint School Council meeting at Bronington School. In her role as Governor at Madras School, she had also attended a Staff Meeting to discuss the School Development Plan and a meeting of the Finance Committee.

#### 13. Payment of Bills

Payable to	Amount	Cheque number	Proposed by	Seconded by
Furnitubes – Bench for Bettisfield Church	661.20	000743	W Sime	R Bettis

Scottish Power - Electricity for Penley street lighting	124.11	000744	W Sime	J Blanchard
Bettisfield Chapel-defib electricity	28.70	000745	J Blanchard	P Jones
Mr. Henry Birch - Supply and Installation of defib light bulb	70.35	000746	D Kettle	R Bettis
WCBC – Service Level Agreement for Insp + Maint of street lights	28.62	000747	P Jones	D Kettle

It was agreed to defer a decision regarding the Service Level Agreement for the Inspection and Maintenance of playground equipment in Penley until the next meeting so the clerk could research alternative providers.

#### 14. Income and Expenditure since the last meeting.

15. Treasurer's Account				
Date	Credits	Debits	Paid to/from	Balance
29.12.16				11,287.50
12.01.17		2.99	Cheque No. 000742 Audrey Hughes Planter	11,284.51
16.01.17		100.00	Cheque No. 000741 Mr. G. Williams Grass Cutting	11,184.51
17.01.17		236.00	Cheque No. 000740 Wales Audit Office Audit of Accounts	<b>10,948.51</b>
Business Instant Access Account				
6.12.16				9,486.36
9.01.17	0.40		Interest	<b>9,486.76</b>

Total available Funds:		20,435.27
Unpresented cheque:	Penycae Community Council	144.25
Committed Funds:	Penley Playground	5,000.00
	Funds raised, playground	480.00
	Benches	1,000.00
	Penley Village Hall donation	221.00
	TOTAL:	6,701.00 <b>(£13590.02)</b>

#### Scrutiny of bank statements.

Cllr. Mrs. Sime had scrutinised bank statements against bills and cheque counterfoils. She advised that three receipts/invoices needed to be included in the file. One cheque remains unpresented. Clerk advised to keep a record of payments for planters in the form of a spreadsheet. Council balances are healthy.

## 16. Correspondence

- The Community Council were advised of a formal complaint made to Wrexham County Borough Council by Mr. Keith Allan regarding housing development in Bettisfield.
- Email from Cllr. Mrs. Sime highlighted some areas to be clarified:
  - (i) Cllr. G. Williams is able to continue in his role as Councillor for Penley as long as he lives within a 3-mile radius of Penley.
  - (ii) Clerk to check that Insurance policy includes cover for legal expenses.
  - (iii) Council to publish its own financial regulations.
  - (iv) Formal declaration to be made on the council's website as to how Welsh is going to be part of all meetings and correspondence.
  - (v) Co-opted councillors need to sign a formal acceptance of the position.
  - (vi) Council to agree budget plan.
  
- Information regarding Walk for Life in aid of Kidney Wales

## 17. New Councillors for Bettisfield.

Mrs. Helen Dunne and Mrs. Yvonne Lee-Jones had put their names forward to represent Bettisfield on the Community Council. No request were received to hold an election. Letters of introduction were distributed and councillors were able to discuss the role of councillor with the two candidates.

Cllr. P. Jones proposed Mrs. Dunne and Mrs. Lee-Jones be co-opted as councillors for Bettisfield. This was seconded by Cllr. J. Blanchard. There were no objections.

## 18. Any Other Business.

It was noted that since co-option, Cllr. Aza has not attended many meetings and that it is important that apologies are sent in order to sustain the role.

Cllr. P. Jones returned remaining Cardminder wallets and the money raised so far to the Clerk.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21.47.