

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRYMBO COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2005 IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE BRYMBO

Present - Cllr S Tilston (Chairman)

and

Brymbo Ward Councillors – N Davies, D Greenaway, G Jones, K Monti, D Moran, M Shone, A Stapley, B Stapley.

Bwlchgwyn Ward Councillors – H Williams.

Vron Ward Councillors – A Birch, M Crowther, D Griffiths..

County Borough Councillor – N Price. Police – Pc Steve Owen.

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Thomas. The minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2005 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

138 PRECEPT 2005/6

The Clerk reported that the Finance Sub-committee had met on Tuesday 1 February to consider the budget information prepared by the Clerk, as a result of which the Sub-committee's recommendation to the full Council was that a sum of £50,000 should be raised as the Precept for the coming financial year. The Clerk gave councillors a copy of an itemised spreadsheet showing actual and budgeted expenditure for both the General and Lighting Accounts (detailed figures are shown in the appendix to these minutes)

RESOLVED -

It was proposed by Cllr D Moran, seconded by Cllr K Monti, and agreed unanimously, that a Precept of £50,000 is to be requested for the year 2005/6.

Councillors thanked the Clerk for preparing the initial budget information and members of the Sub-committee for their preparatory work in examining the figures prior to presenting them to the full Council. The Clerk said that once again the Council has by prudent budgeting been able to reduce the Community Rate, and it is anticipated that there will be also be an improvement in services delivered during the coming year..

139 POLICING

Pc Owen gave a crime report for the period since the January meeting. In Brymbo there had been 4 reported incidents which included assault, one of which was serious, a public order offence, and two incidents of vehicle crime. Two incidents of anti-social behaviour and two incidents of juvenile nuisance had been reported. In Bwlchgwyn a theft from a shed, a theft from a vehicle, and property damage at the Community Centre had been reported. The Police had visited a farm because of concerns about the treatment to animals. In Tanyfron there had been one report of anti-social behaviour and a report of a burnt out car. Pc Owen said he had conducted a surgery in Brymbo Library recently, and was hoping to repeat the process twice per month. He was also pleased to inform the Council that PACT have been successful in securing funding of £2,500 for the road safety initiative involving the provision of fluorescent bibs for children attending Brymbo Community primary schools. The Head Teachers of the schools in Brymbo, Bwlchgwyn, and Tanyfron will soon be informed that the money will be available for the bibs, which will be re-useable from year to year. He said he wished to thank a Brymbo family for making a donation for the bibs for Brymbo pupils. Councillors have been invited to a problem solving meeting with Inspector Chesters at Brynteg Memorial Hall on 24 February. Cllr Moran said that two vehicles are still being parked

long term in the lay-by opposite Brymbo Post Office, which is a time restricted parking area. Cllr A Stapley said that because they belong to trade persons permission had been given by the Warden for them

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to park at the Tai Owen flats during the day only, but this offer has not been taken up. Cllr Greenaway asked if the police could organise a patrol on Thursday nights outside Brymbo Community Centre when OAP's play bingo, and sometimes feel threatened when leaving the building because of the presence of congregating youths. The Chairman said a similar situation exists at Bwlchgwyn Community Centre on Wednesdays and Fridays. Cllr B Stapley said he has approached Karen Sinclair AM regarding funding for road markings for a drop off area for children outside St Mary's School Brymbo. The Clerk has received a copy of a Statutory Instrument "The Fireworks Regulations 2004". The Chairman thanked Pc Owen for his report.

140 CAMBRIAN HOUSE

No further information.

141 COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Price reported that an Open Evening has been arranged for 24 February by Northern Marches as part of the Rural Community Action Programme for which Bwlchgwyn qualifies. Cllr Price is to investigate information given to him by the Clerk regarding the acquisition of funding for the provision of skate parks. Cllr Shone said he wished to inform the councillors that the Wrexham Council Tax increase should be kept to a maximum of 2%, which would be one of the lowest increases in Wales. The Chairman thanked the county borough councillors for their reports

142 ROADS

The Clerk read a letter from the Chief Engineering Officer, WCBC, which informed the Council that he was retiring in March, and the meeting requested with him to discuss the poor state of Brymbo roads would have to be arranged with the Highways Maintenance Manager. It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange for a site meeting to be held as soon as possible to look at specific problems in Vicarage Road, Penrhos, Cheshire View and other identified areas. The standard of repair work to pot holes, and the need for road warning and direction signs at certain locations will also be discussed at the meeting. Cllr Shone is to inquire why the speed warning signs promised for Penrhos have not been installed. WCBC have confirmed that work will be undertaken to alleviate a surface water problem on the Stryt.

143 BUS SHELTERS SERVICES AND STOPS

The Clerk read out a letter from WCBC which stated that a bus stop at Cheshire View has now been re-located, the missing perspex panels will be replaced on the bus shelter in High Street, the bus shelter at Offa Street has been cleaned, and any missing flags will be replaced in the near future as they are currently out of stock. The bus shelter in Coed-y-Felin Road has been removed for repair and will be replaced within a month.

144 PLAYINGFIELDS AND PLAYGROUNDS.

The Clerk reported that he has still not received a reply from the Chief Legal Officer WCBC, to matters raised about the playing field off Coed-y-Felin Road. He has written again to ask for a reply. Cllr Shone said that he had recently spoken to a representative of BDL who had indicated that the company would not contest any attempt by the Council to claim ownership of the section of land that houses the kick about area off Blast Road. If ownership was acquired quotations for refurbishment could be pursued, and the matter is to be put on the Agenda for the March meeting.

145 LAMPS

Cllr Griffiths has agreed to take over as Lighting rep. for the Vron Ward. Cllr A Stapley reported that the Council's contractors have inspected the kick-about area off Blast Road and will be replacing the defective

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floodlights. The Clerk is to ask Broughton Council if it would be prepared to take over the costs of the lighting in Holland Road, as it is not in the community electoral area. NWP are investigating why the lamp on Mount Hill has no cable running to it. A letter of thanks has been received from Wrexham Homework Clubs for the improvement the Council has made to the lamps on Pleasant Lane for pupils attending Brymbo Homework Club.

146 FOOTPATHS

Cllr Crowther said that she has asked the Rights of Way Inspector WCBC if there will be a circular Public Bridleway on the area of land being developed on the site of the former Brymbo Steelworks. She said the numbers of people who go riding has increased and there is a need for more bridleways. Cllr Shone said that he would seek information on which Public Rights of Way will eventually be re-opened on the site, and he will report back to the Council.

147 WAR MEMORIALS No further information.

148 CHURCHYARDS No further information..

149 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications were considered and approved -

P/2005/0015 – Land at the corner of Gwalia Road/High Street Brymbo – outline application for residential development and construction of new vehicular and pedestrian access

P/2005/0016 – Land at Harwd Rd Brymbo – outline application for residential development and construct of new vehicular and pedestrian access.

P/2005/0052 – 9 Cae'r Efail Bwlchgwyn – garage and car port extension.

P/2005/0088 – Former Brymbo Steelworks (Coke Ovens Site) Blast Rd Brymbo – construction of the Brymbo Community Enterprise Learning Information and Resource Centre to accommodate business incubation units, conference facilities, community amenity space, child care facilities, health improvement suite, cyber café and associated ancillary accommodation. Cllrs Birch, Jones, Shone, and Williams declared a personal interest. Cllr Monti said that members of the Brymbo Urban 2 Committee should be congratulated on the work that they have done to promote this project, which when established will have significant community benefit. Cllrs were shown drawings of the proposed building.

P/2005/0094 – 7 Argoed Brymbo – detached double garage.

An objection has been registered to application P/2005/0014 – outline application for residential development and construction of new vehicular and pedestrian access on land off Blast Rd Brymbo, on the grounds that this field has been used by members of the public as an open space for many years. With regard to P/2005/0057 – 3 and 4 Church View Church Rd Tanyfron – an application for change of use of dwelling to 2 dwellings and rear extensions, the Planning Authority are to be asked to clarify the situation in view of the fact that work on the property has already commenced in advance of planning permission being granted. The Clerk had sent to Cllr B Stapley some amended plans for application P/2004/1618. The Clerk had received a copy of the Statutory Notice of the intention to adopt the Wrexham Unitary Development Plan. Copies of recent WCBC planning decisions had been received by the Clerk.

150 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – Feb 2005

| | £ |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1377 - NWP Electrical Ltd – Maintenance (Jan) | 541.59 |
| Repairs /replacements | <u>487.95</u> 1029.54 |
| 1378 – UHY Hacker Young – External Audit Fee 2003/4 | 434.75 |
| 1379 – Mr T Crofts – Repair of bus shelter Ruthin Rd Bwlchgwyn | 475.00 |

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|--|---------|
| 1380 – A R Cardiff – Salary | 372.76 |
| 1381 - Inland Revenue – Tax/NI | 115.44. |
| 1382 - A R Cardiff – Refund of postages | 12.69 |
| 1383. – Scottish Power – Energy (Dec) | 468.72 |
| 1384 – Mr T Crofts – Work on paths Caer Efail Amenity Area | 310.00 |

RECEIPTS HM Customs & Excise – Refund of VAT 2003/4 3595.94

151 DONATIONS

The list of donation requests for consideration at the March meeting was agreed. Letters of thanks for the donations granted had been received from Hope House and Family Friends. Epilepsy Wales has informed the Council that it is applying for funding from the Urban 2 Key Fund for the provision of a field worker whose duties will involve work in the community, and they would like a letter of support for their application from the Council. The Clerk is to send a letter of support.

152 BRYMBO FISHING POOL

A letter received by the Clerk from the Secretary of Brymbo Angling Club is to be put on the Agenda for the March meeting.

153 BRONWENS GREEN

Cllr Shone said that he is confident that the cost quoted in the preferred estimate for the football facility will cover the work required to be done. There is a problem however in that the site for the junior pitch does not benefit from a lot of daylight and the grass would deteriorate quickly if it was overused. A gravel carpet could be sited under the soil at extra cost to improve the situation. Cllr Shone said that inquiries are now being made to establish whether Urban 2 monies can be utilised for developments such as this on the west side of Wrexham, and if so a funding bid would need to be made which if successful could reduce some of the Council's capital outlay. He said that it is anticipated that work on the car park and access could start in the near future.

154 COUNCIL WEB SITE

Cllr Davies reported that the Key Fund funding bid for Brymbo OnLine has been successful and a grant of £5,480 has been secured. However the offer is subject to approval from WEFO for the Bwlchgwyn site to be used, and the submission to AVOW of two written quotes for the expenditure as per operating guidelines of the Key Fund. Although Bwlchgwyn is outside the Urban 2 funding area it is within the Council's electoral boundary. Cllr Shone declared a personal interest.

155 CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU OUTREACH SERVICE

Gaynor Roberts, Bureau Operations Manager, attended the meeting to discuss the venues for the Service. She took the opportunity of looking at the facilities Brymbo Community Centre can provide, and it was

decided that a monthly session will be held at the Centre, but this will be on Tuesday mornings as Fridays are not available. She said that because of this change the Service will start in Brymbo on 1 April and suitable advertising will be arranged. This means the Service will be offered once per month in Tanyfron, and once per month in Brymbo, and no additional funding will be required from the Council. She said that her case worker is off long term through illness, but a replacement has been arranged. The Chairman thanked Ms Roberts for attending the meeting.

Cllr Monti asked for a site meeting to be arranged with WCBC to discuss the deteriorating condition of Brymbo Community Centre.

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156 RISK MANAGEMENT

A meeting of the Risk Management Sub-committee was arranged for Tuesday 15 February, and Cllr Davies was co-opted to the Committee. It will report back at the March meeting.

157 ANNUAL RETURN 2003/4

The Annual Return has now been audited by the External Auditor and a clean report has been received, but a risk assessment strategy is needed for 2004/5. A Notice of Conclusion of Audit is to be put on the notice board and the Clerk is to complete a Statement of Assurance.

158 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been received by the Clerk –
SLCC – Conditions of Service for Clerks of Local Councils 2004. To be an Agenda item for a future meeting. Comic Relief – Information for Red Nose Day 2005 on 11 March. Clwyd Community Health Council – Wishing to canvass the views of local people. WCBC – Notice of Brymbo/Broughton Housing Renewal Area Steering Group, meeting on 2 February. Nat. Assembly – Meeting of North Wales Regional Committee 11 February. WCBC – Draft Tree and Woodland Strategy HLC Wrexham Ltd – Dates for exhibitions on a new waste management strategy. Wales Legal Services News – December 2004 issue. Welsh Assembly – Draft Account and Audit Regulations which will come into force on 1 April 2005. Borrowing by Community and Town Councils Loan Sanction for 2005/6. Northern Marches Cymru – Invite to open meeting 24 February. Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod – Programme for 5 – 10 July.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm...

SIGNED.....

DATE.....