

**MARCHWIEL COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 15th JANUARY 2020 AT MARCHWIEL VILLAGE HALL AT 7:00 PM**

Present:

Councillor Mr Terry Edwards – Chair
Councillor Mrs Sharon Lloyd - Vice Chair

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| “ Mrs Morag Browning* | Councillor Mr Russell Jones |
| “ Mrs Patricia Downes | “ Mr Stephen Jones |
| “ Mr Andrew Edwards | “ Mr Nigel Lloyd |
| “ Mrs Sally Jakisch | Vacancy x2 |

Mrs Victoria Jones – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer *** Absent**

Invited Guests: MEGA Electrical

Welcome

Cllr Edwards welcomed Members Mega Electrical to the meeting. Mr G Jones presented to Members a detailed scope of work of connecting electricity power to the Welcome map along with lights and connecting the defibrillator. He provided drawings of SP Energy networks research. The quote to connect to the nearest lamp without crossing a road made the job expensive. Quoted figure £10,860. Members thanked his for attending and asked if he could supply a quote to connect to the nearest lamp crossing the road behind. Mr G Jones then left the meeting.

128 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Councillors Mrs S Lloyd, A Edwards and S Jones

129 Police Report

The Clerk read the North Wales Police reports to Members Noted.
IP's Amazon A/c hacked. Undetected; Public Order offence;
Speed checks Bangor Road Cross Lanes (Pickhill) 40mph 47 vehicles checked 88 vehicles speeding fastest 52mph
Speed checks Wrexham Road Marchwiel 30mph. 56 vehicles checked 14 speeding fastest 38mph

130 Declarations of Interest¹

The Clerk reminded Members that they should declare the existence and nature of any personal and or prejudicial interest.

131 Confirmation of Minutes

AGREED – That the minutes of the Meeting held on October 9th be approved.

132 Matters concerning Wrexham County Borough Council (Part 2)²

The Chairman declared that Members of the Press and Public will be excluded from discussions on this matter as it contains items of a sensitive nature, under the provisions

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of Part 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960.

No matters discussed.

133 Finance

ai) The Council proposed and seconded the following:

Income and Expenditure for the Period 9th October 2019 - 13th November 2019

Total income @ 15/01/2020 (19/20) = £1,100.00

Total expenditure @ 15/01/2020 (19/20) = £3,780.27

aii)

BANK BALANCE TOTALS @ 31.12.2019

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| Current A/c | £18,591.88c |
| Reserve A/c | £50,097.00 |

aiii) Members approved the **Expenditure Comparisons** spreadsheet @ 1.12.2019. The Clerk reported that the expenditure is on track to the Precept approved for 19/20 expenditure.

b) **External 2018/19 Audit**: The Clerk informed Members that she had contacted Grant Thornton (External Auditor) and told that the two previous Auditors had left the company as they were part time. A senior Auditor was now finalising it but he now asked for copies of the Standing Orders and other documents. He added that he realised that each of the other two Auditors had requested different documents and that the Clerk had been extremely helpful. The Clerk reported scanning and emailing the previous Standing orders and the current Standing Orders that Members have previously adopted but are reviewing the Financial section including the limit required for Tendors in February 2020.

c) Precept Payment Schedule & Taxbase 2020/21 (Taxbase = 592)

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the County Borough Council's Chief Financial Services Officer requiring that precepts be issued to that authority. Accordingly, I have prepared a budget setting out the Council's income and expenditure to date, the estimated income and expenditure as at 31st March 2019 and a suggested budget for 2020/2021. 2018/19 Precept was increased.

Members should bear in mind the following points.

❖ **Bank Charges** current a/c remain similar. I am in the process of applying for an account with Utility Bank. Payments can be approved online by two or three Members. Interest is also paid on savings. Other Councils use this bank.

❖ **Reserve A/c** balance is £50k for Projects:-

1. Nature Reserve Wildlife Trust £5k
2. Welcome Garden Eco seating purchased and Electricity supply to Map for defibrillator and lighting £8K
3. Defibrillator and external case £1,800
4. Street Lights replacement. 18/19 set aside £15,000 but 19/20 5 lamps and poles replaced at a cost of £4,463 Considerably cheaper than the previous quotes from WCBC for 69 lamps @ £1,250 = £86,25.00. An application for Salyx Funding scheme for under £10,000 is imminent to be approved and the money would be spread over 5 years. I recommend that £5k be reserved towards further poles that may need replacing.
5. Training for Members and Clerk £2-3K
6. The Clerk – Remuneration costs plus salary increase (under review) and pension costs £7K
7. Marchwiell Play Area - £10k

8. Rainbow Centre has requested £8k – Admin set up fees to manage the Village Hall – Members asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting to discuss this with them.

- ❖ **Grants Applications** for street lamp replacement scheme and Marchwiell Nature Reserve.
- ❖ **Insurance Premiums** 19/20 BHIB Insurance Broker fee was £453 an increase of £18.00. They were competitively priced.
- ❖ **Street Lighting Maintenance** provided by WCBC - SOX bulbs are being discontinued. WCBC have reduced the SLA from £27.01 to £25.28 x 69 lights SLA. Members will be required to Resolve whether to continue with WCBC Street Lighting maintenance service. The SLA has not been received.
- ❖ **Street Lighting Electricity supply** is provided by Scottish Power. The cost was competitive but is likely to increase.
- ❖ **Play Areas Grounds Maintenance** no costs have been sent yet by WCBC.
- ❖ **Burial Ground** – The current service costs as similar to 18/19. However, bear in mind that mower services and fuel to mowers are not required. 20/21 should prepare to go out to Tender for this service.
- ❖ **Water Supply** – has changed to Hafren Dyfrdwy Severn Dee and increased with the new supplier.
- ❖ **Village Hall** – now being managed by the Rainbow Centre and requesting a grant of 8K.

- ❖ **Purchases** – Defibrillator, Welcome Planters, CCTV for Marchwiell 21/22
- ❖ **WEB Site** - £125 annual fee – Vision ICT have update the Website to their newest version at no additional cost.
- ❖ **Office Expenses** – This amount has been £200 per annum. This contributes towards renting the Clerk's home to carry out Council's work. It covers electricity, lights and heating whilst the Clerk carries out the work for the Council, including broadband connection. Purchase a mobile and abolish the landline would save money.
- ❖ **WCBC's Payroll Service** AVOW charge £10.25 per month to pay employees (deducting the NI & Tax. A Standing Order has been set up to pay them on the 10th of each month.
- ❖ **Employee Pension** - Joined the Clwyd Pension Scheme 2017. A Bacs Trf has been set up to pay on the 10th of each month.
- ❖ **Marchwiell Map and Noticeboard** – at Welcome Garden. Was repaired and varnished 19/20. 20/21 electricity supply for a defibrillator, lights and Xmas tree lights.
- ❖ **Councillor Expenses** – Annual Allowance of £500 for no more than 3 Members and £150 all Members. It is discretionary, if you wish to receive it you will notify the Clerk and she will add you to the payroll.
- ❖ **Election** Members allow £500 to be held in case an Election is called.
- ❖ **Training** – Members need to attend and receive training. £40 per delegate per course. If you host an event you receive a free place but open up to other communities to attend and reduce your costs.
- ❖ **Events** – Recent events have been well received by the Community who are keen for more to be arranged. £500 - £1000

RESOLUTION: Members resolved to set their Precept for 2020/21 at £32,560 / 592 = £55 which is a slight reduction for residents from 2019/20.

134 S137 Financial Assistance

Resolved that, in accordance with Council policy, applications for financial assistance from organisations be considered once a year in May.

135 Planning

The Clerk reported receipt of three planning applications.

P/2019/0890 Mill House Marchwiell Two Storey extension to the West of the dwelling, proposed basement level extension to be hidden from ground level view replacement separate outbuilding to match the existing

P/2019/0891 Listed Building Consent For Refurbishment To Existing Dwelling Including Internal

Works, Two Storey Extension To The West Of The Dwelling, Proposed Basement Level Extension To Be Hidden From Ground Level View, Replacement Separate Outbuilding To Match the existing and keep original form and size of existing outbuilding, re-instating the original porch to the northern elevation of the dwelling, demolition of garden wall on Northern Elevation (Later Addition). Installation windows to match original style and installation of new external doors with a more complimentary style and material **Mill House Marchwiel Wrexham LL13 0SS**
Members asked the Clerk to contact the Planning Dept to request a site meeting and inform them that the building is Grade II listed. It has protected plants and Badger sets. The Cottage was built before the Hall and is Grade I.

P/2020/0011 Application For Outline Planning Permission (With Some Matters Reserved) To Erect A Single Dwelling For An Agricultural Worker **Black Rock Farm Sesswick Way Cross Lanes**
Members made no objections to this application.

136 Clerks Report

No additional reports.

137 County Councillor Report

County Councillor John Pritchard has not sent his monthly report to the Community Council.

138 Burial Ground

Members reported hearing comments how nice the Burial Ground was looking. The Clerk reported that the grounds maintenance contractor has sent the paperwork requested including one from his accountant.

Members complained of dog mess in the Burial Ground and on the pavements. Cllr Russell Jones agreed to look for No Dogs Allowed signs.

139 Street Lighting

Members reported Elwyn Drive requires a new lamp

140 Nature Reserve

The Clerk reported speaking to Five Fords who agreed we could have our own padlock and 'Daisy Chain' it though their chain to gain access to the Nature Reserve. She agreed to look at padlocks but first make contact with the North Wales Wildlife Trust.

141 Welcome Garden and Defibrillator

The three ECO benches for the Welcome Garden have arrived and Leon has agreed to fix into place. They require a metal plate to be made to make secure.

The Clerk informed Members that the Christmas tree was purchased and collected by the Clerk and Cllr Mrs Lloyd and planted by Cllrs N Lloyd, R Jones and A Edwards. The Welcome garden was strimmed at the same time. The Clerk attended the following week to fix two sets of solar lights to the tree however the night after fixing someone has deliberately vandalised them by cutting both wires. CCTV coverage is being perused.

142 Website

The Clerk and Cllr Sally Jakisch agreed to meet and discuss the website.

143 Christmas Event

Cllr Sally Jakisch reported that the Round Table attended but the weather was dreadful so only a handful of people attended. He contacted Cllr Jakisch following the event and divided all the charity collections and wishes to donate to a good cause in the village. Members made suggestions. Cllr Jakisch agreed to speak with the Round table. She thanked Cllr Andy Edwards for providing refreshments at his own expense although it was 'rained off'.

144 Events Calendar

- a) Bulb planting: No update for this item.
- b) Easter event
- c) VE Day – Members suggested a street party for the children. Cllr T Edwards agreed to make enquiries of costs of things for this event.

145 Correspondence

Email correspondence was noted by Members:

- 1) **WCBC – Library Service Mobile unit charge to visit Marchwiel = £3,297.00. Members agreed that this was too expensive for them to afford. They discussed a book swap scheme to hold books in the village hall**
- 2) **Welsh Government: The Playing Fields Regulations 2015: re disposal decisions**
Members asked to look at the link off the email.
- 3) **Local Democracy and Bounty Commission For Wales:** The Clerk reported that Marchwiel has no developments listed.

146 Members Urgent Announcements' and requests for future meeting items

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:20pm.

PRESIDING CHAIRMAN - COUNCILLOR MR TERENCE EDWARDS

Signed as a correct record _____ this 12th February 2020