



'Your very Local Council'

Locum Clerk to the Council/RFO: Shaun Jones
Chairman: Cllr Mrs. Sharon Lloyd

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at 6:30 pm on **Wednesday 25th February 2026** in Piercy Hall, Marchwiell.

Present: Cllrs Lloyd S (SL), (Chair); Downes (PD); Francis (CF); Lloyd N (NL); Lydford (KL); Marriott (PM); Ogden (MO) & Rathbone (MR)

In attendance: Shaun Jones (SJ), Locum Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer, 1 Member of the Public & Cllr. John Pritchard WCBC (JP [via Zoom]).

130.25/26 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr Clare Davies – Family Commitment, Cllr Kath Grives – Family Bereavement & Cllr William Price – Work Commitment.

131.25/26 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None given.

132.25/26 **PUBLIC SPEAKING/QUESTIONS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS** – None.

133.25/26 **MINUTES** – To approve for accuracy and sign the minutes of the **Full Council** meeting held on Wednesday 14th January 2025. - **Approved by all members present.**

134.25/26 **WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – WCBC Cllr. John Pritchard reported that :-

- The WCBC Street Lighting team visited Marchwiell today with a plan to install a replacement column and lamp – opposite the Church. It seems that the job was aborted and JP will check-in to get an update.
- WCBC Council met today and have set the Council Tax for 2026/27 – a 4.3% rise, add the Police and Fire Service contributions and the combined increase is 4.9%. For Marchwiell residents a Band D household pays £91.75 annually.
- A letter of complaint over the WCBC officer's lack of communication with Marcella Crescent residents. We await the response.
- Another matter reported by a resident to MR and JP over sub standard work by a WCBC contractor. This will be put right.
- There is a WCBC Footpath schedule of works published online and 2 relate to the A525 – Marchwiell to Bangor on Dee. JP will advise when there is a firm date for this work to be undertaken.

Signed:..... Date:.....

1

- Mention made of the Pride in Place Impact fund and the opportunity to apply for up to £44,117.00 by Marchwiell Community Council. SJ has received the first initial notification.
- PM asks JP about a finger post sign to the Nature Reserve that may have been temporarily removed after the recent Streetscene fence repair at the bottom of Station Rd. JP will make enquiries. If it has been discarded JP suggested to include in the grant application just mentioned.
- A street sign for Marcella Crescent has been uprooted. The sign is with CF and a report has been made. JP also informed and he will see if WCBC resource can re-install it.

JP left the meeting – 6:45pm.

- 135.25/26 **UPDATE ON COUNCIL MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT** – Wrexham County Borough Council have made revisions that members of Marchwiell Community Council should note and adopt. **Motion carried**
- 136.25/26 **UPDATE THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS TO REFERENCE ELECTRONIC BANKING ALONGSIDE USE OF CHEQUES TO MAKE PAYMENTS** – This and the Mandate Fraud risk were noted in the 2024/25 Internal Auditors report. Members to review the changed wording and add into the Financial Regulations update. **Members reviewed and approved the updates.**
- 137.25/26 **APPROVE SUPPLEMENT TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS – SUPPLIER ACCOUNT AND BANK DETAILS SETUP** – Review and approve the drafted procedures to ensure mandate/invoice fraud is avoided. **Members approved this supplement to the Financial Regulations.**
- 138.25/26 **APPROVE DRAFTED SEC.6 BIODIVERSITY REPORT** – The Council recognises its statutory duty under Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 to seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity and promote ecosystem resilience, in proportion to its functions and resources. A draft report for period 2023-2025 is presented for review and approval. **Members approved the draft and for it to be adopted and submitted to Welsh Government.**
- 139.25/26 **ANNUAL REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT** – **Members reviewed and approved** the tabled list of identified risks (incl. financial) and controls to manage.
- 140.25/26 **TRAINING PLAN 2026/27** – To comply with Section 67 of the 2021 Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 a Training Plan has been drafted. **Members approved the draft and for it to be adopted.**
- 141.25/26 **NATURE RESERVE – WCBC OPEN SPACES TEAM UPDATE** – The Locum Clerk gave an update on initial discussions on how Enfys Ecology and their partnering with WCBC Open Spaces might assist MCC with the management of the Nature Reserve. The initial meetings took place in April & October 2025. Rebecca Hayes, Green Infrastructure Project Officer – Local Places for Nature – Wrexham emailed on 30th January 2026 to advise that she has secured funding for a scheme of works (via Local Places for Nature grant funding) that Enfys Ecology will be engaged to undertake - *to remove reeds and reprofile all the ponds in the nature reserve to allow more water flow. Remove and reinstall a section of the boardwalk that is broken (there is a hole in the board walk).* The outlay is £4,136.00 plus VAT. In addition a second quote costed at £6,993.50 plus VAT *to compete additional pond clearance of reeds,* is also grant funded. It

Signed:..... Date:.....

has been decided that Enfys Ecology will postpone these jobs until October 2026 – the funding is ring-fenced.. **Members have been in the loop via email and confirmed their approval and gratitude for this work to proceed.**

142.25/26

PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUND – Notice from Wrexham CBC concerning the allocation of funds to each Community Council in the county. The Locum Clerk shared details of the opportunity to access up to a total of £44,117.00 across 2025/26 & 2026/27 financial periods. An application pack is to be published by 9th March 2026. In order to meet the UK government's reporting deadlines, we're asking Town and Community Councils to submit their applications within the month of April 2026. Community engagement and involvement is critical. Facebook post to seek suggestions could be considered. An immediate thought is the recent comments about the bottom of Station Road looking a bit shabby. We need to contact WCBC Housing who are thought to be the land owner. Disability access might be considered around the village. An approach to the road contractors used by WCBC for a professional view on what can be done. The path on the east side of the Skate Park could be earmarked for improving so wheelchair/scooter users can better access the Nature Reserve. **Members agreed a group of 3 or 4 members will undertake a village walk around all potential ideas for using this grant pot. CF, PM and MO volunteered.** At the Welcome Garden making electric supply upgrade to facilitate Christmas Lights display should be considered. Village signs and pedestrian signage could be priced up to.

143.25/26

STREET LIGHTING MAINTENANCE – To approve renewal of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC). **Members approved the renewal @ £2,560.59 annually.**

144.25/26

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

– To consider the following applications;

1. Reference: P/2025/0875: **27 Berwyn Drive, Marchwiell**: Erection of Garage : To view online : [Click Here](#).
– **Decision – No Observations or Comments to be submitted.**

145.25/26

PLANNING DECISIONS

– **Members noted the following Planning Decisions**

1. Reference: P/2025/0517: **Sunnybank, Eyton**: Change of Use of Land to Rear of Property to Residential Curtilage and Single Storey Rear, Side and Front Extensions. : **Granted** : To view online : [Click here](#).
2. Reference: P/2025/0718: **Erddig Hall, Erddig**: Listed Building Consent For Removal Of 18 No Conservation Roof Lights And Replace With 13 No Conservation Roof Lights With 5 No Areas Of Slate To Match Existing Roof : **Withdrawn** : To view online : [Click here](#).
3. Reference: P/2025/0720: **Land at, Bedwell Road, Cross Lanes**: Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission P/2018/0138 to Amend Plan - Alterations to Plots 04 and 05. : **Granted** : To view online : [Click here](#).
4. Reference: P/2025/0911: **Saint Marcellus Church, Wrexham Road, Marchwiell**: Works to Trees in Marchwiell Conservation Area – 5 Limes Trees -. **No Objections** : To view online : [Click here](#).

146.25/26

FINANCE MATTERS – To determine the following:-

- An update on Audit Wales review of three Annual Reports covering 2022/23, 2023/24 & 2024/25 financial periods. Two basic and one full audit.

Signed:..... Date:.....

SJ has sent an email this week asking for a status report after the most recent submission of information on 24th January 2026.

- Present Monthly Bank Reconciliation – January 2026 reports and sign off.
Reviewed and signed off the Bank Reconciliation report.
- Update on application for a Barclaycard commercial credit card.
SJ is still fielding emails from the New Business Dept. SL and SJ signed a letter which we hope will allow the application to progress.

147.25/26

LOCUM CLERK REPORT – INCLUDES CORRESPONDENCE –

- VAT Claim 2024/25 submitted Friday 13th February 2026 for £2,693.50 and monies received Wednesday 18th February 2026.
- Attended (via Zoom) One Voice Wales Wrexham & Flintshire Area Committee Meeting Wednesday 4th February 2026. Lyn Cadwallader, Chief Executive was the guest speaker. A special thanks from Lyn to those member councils that attended their AGM – Cllr Marriott represented MCC. In an effort to gain greater engagement by member councils in our area the next meeting is open to any council member rather than just the appointed rep. The next meeting is 21st April 2026 at Gwersyllt Resource Centre – 7pm. A great opportunity to hear what other councillors have to share. Detailed minutes have already been circulated.
- We have received the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru (DBCC)'s first Annual Remuneration Report for the next Financial Year 2026/26. Determination 6/2026: Payments to community and town council (CTC) members has noted uplift in Financial Loss compensation, this optional payment was not adopted by MCC in October 2024 – minute 78.24/25. SJ distributed the Member Allowances 2025/26 Personal & Bank Details form for each member to complete and return.
- One Voice Wales National Awards Ceremony 2026. Members informed this will take place 1st July 2026 at Builth Wells Showground. If you wish to showcase any services MCC provide for its community you are invited to make a nomination. There is a guide containing more information. Closing date 30th April 2026.
- Marchwiel Police Report January 2026 received. 2 crimes noted, one theft and one burglary.
- Renewal of Service Level Agreement 2026 – Inspection and Maintenance of the Station Rd Play Area and Skate Park. The annual cost has risen by £43.00 to £2,251.00 plus VAT. Request members to approve.
- Notice of COVID-19 Day of Reflection 8th March 2026 from One Voice Wales which is taking place across the whole of the UK. Suggestions given over how a Community Council might wish to mark this moment to pause, remember and acknowledge the impact on all communities. Members may direct if they wish to take up this opportunity to join.

Correspondence

- Cllr Rathbone was contacted by a resident over some WCBC sub contracted works which have severely overrun and communications gone off-track, so much so the resident feels threatened. MR will report.
- A resident copied an email with an attached complaint to Wrexham County Borough Council. This relates to the Phase 2 Tree Planting behind Marcella Crescent.
- Cllr Cim Francis copied an email to Cllr John Pritchard – WCBC member regarding a street sign ripped out that needs to be re sited.
- WCBC Local Places for Nature officer emails to inform of the return of contractors to the Phase 2 improvements – this time to sow wetland grass seed.

4

Signed:..... Date:.....

- Wrexham MP – Andrew Ranger invites any resident to complete a Borough wide survey on the WCBC 10 year Cultural Strategy now being drafted. This email has been circulated to all members to forward to their contacts and SJ can post details on our Facebook page if thought appropriate.

148.25/26

PAYMENTS – The following payments were approved:-

Payment Number	Method of Payment	To	For	Net	VAT	Gross
BACS	Faster Pymt	AVOW	Salaries Account	1977.05	0.00	1977.05
BACS	Faster Pymt	Scribe Accounts	Subscription - February 2026	29.00	5.80	34.80
BACS	Faster Pymt	Leon Hughes	Burial Ground Maintenance	200.00	0.00	200.00
	D/D	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly Service Fee - 2/26	6.00	0.00	6.00
BACS	Faster Pymt	Rainbow Foundation	Room Hire - 01/26	10.00	0.00	10.00
	D/D	Ecotricity	January Unmetered Supply	196.83	9.84	206.67
	D/D	Salix Finance Ltd	Loan Repayment	986.68	0.00	986.68
BACS	Faster Pymt	S G Jones	Expenses Claim	45.10	9.02	54.12
BACS	Faster Pymt	Wrexham CBC	Street Light SLA - Apr-Dec 2025	1593.39	318.68	1912.07

149.25/26

TO PRESENT ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON A FUTURE MEETING AGENDA (FULL COUNCIL OR RESPECTIVE COMMITTEE) – Members are invited to propose.

- Outstanding from recent meetings: Village Signs & Burial Ground records to review.
- Training Courses – in person, look at scheduling a series of sessions.
- Playhouse graffiti – use nail varnish to repair.
- Look at improving the kerb appeal at the bottom of Station Road.
- Cllr Sharon Lloyd requests MCC look into obtaining - Unknown Tommy and Women In War Statue Pair – to display on the North side of the Welcome Garden.

The meeting closed at 8:20pm.

Signed:..... Date:.....