

Cyngor Cymuned Gwersyllt Community Council

Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

Under this Act, Gwersyllt Community Council is required to do the following:

“As soon as reasonably practicable after a meeting of a community council, and in any event before the end of seven working days beginning with the day on which the meeting is held, the council must publish electronically a note setting out –

- (a) The names of the members who attended the meeting, and any apologies for absence*
- (b) Any declarations of interest*
- (c) Any decision taken at the meeting including the outcome of votes”*

What follows, therefore, is a summary of the issues discussed and the decisions made at the Meeting of Gwersyllt Community Council held on Wednesday, 16 June 2021.

Please note that the decisions are subject to confirmation by Council at its next meeting on Wednesday, 21 July 2021.

Present at the Annual Meeting - Councillor David Edwards (Chair) and Councillor Gwenfair Jones (Vice-Chair), together with Councillors Martyn Davies, David Griffiths, Raymond Hughes, Arfon Jones, Arthur Jones, Mrs Sheelagh Jones, Tina Mannering, Jayne Parlour, Phil Rees, Jackie Roberts and Dennis Wynne.

Item 1 - Apologies for Absence - Councillors Annette Davies, Louise Roberts, Barrie Warburton and Mike Wilde.

Item 2 - Declarations of Personal Interests – Councillors Gwenfair Jones, Phil Rees and Tina Mannering all gave notice that they proposed to declare a personal interest in Agenda Item 12 (Planning Matters) by reason of their roles as members of Wrexham County Borough Council’s Planning Committee.

Item 3 - Public Questions – No public questions were submitted.

Item 4 – Minutes - The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 19 May 2021 were received and confirmed as a correct record.

Item 5 – Policing in the Community – Members’ attention was drawn to a recent written update from PCSO Lana Kelleher-Lightwood, containing information about:

- vehicle speed checks
- possible locations for CCTV signage
- recent response to an incident near Ysgol Bryn Alyn involving two former pupils
- good news stories in relation to drugs
- need for community intelligence to assist the Police in responding to reports about drug dealing, other crimes and anti social behaviour
- proposed Grab a Gripe sessions at Gwersyllt Community Resource Centre

The Council expressed thanks to the Police for the action taken in connection with the recent incident near Ysgol Bryn Alyn.

Members asked that the ongoing problem of pavement parking in The Queensway area of Gwersyllt be investigated and that vehicle speed checks be carried out in Sydallt Lane.

Item 6 - Community Agent - The Community Agent’s report for May 2021 was noted and, in answer to a Member’s question, the Community Agent advised that she had received no client referrals for Dragon Dinners.

The Council approved the Clerk’s report setting out a suggested process for the implementation of the revised monitoring arrangements put in place by Wrexham County Borough Council in respect of the Community Agent scheme.

Members agreed that the staff appraisal process referred to in the report should be undertaken by the Chair of the Council and the joint Clerks.

Item 7 - Street Lighting Issues:

The Clerk:

- outlined the action taken following the decisions made by Council at its April 2021 meeting (Minute 134 refers);
- advised that faulty street light 301 had been reported previously and that he would follow up the matter; and
- reported that arrangements were to be made for the Street Lighting Sub-Committee to meet representatives of Jones Lighting Ltd. in the near future.

Item 8 - NHS (Pharmaceutical Services) (Wales) Regulations 2013 – Application from Boots UK Ltd. for the Inclusion of Unit 1, Plas Coch Retail Park, Plas Coch Road, Wrexham, LL11 2B2 on the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board Pharmaceutical List - The Council decided to support this application.

Item 9 - Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation in Wrexham County Borough – The Council decided to support the introduction of this additional licensing scheme and to request Wrexham County Borough Council to put in place effective enforcement arrangements.

Item 10 – Proposed Introduction of Traffic Regulation Restrictions (i.e. No Waiting at Any time) in Park Wall Road, Bradley – The Council expressed strong opposition to this proposal on the following grounds:

- the proposal is not supported by a majority of the residents affected, some of whom have no off street parking and so will be forced to park their vehicles away from their homes;
- the Council is becoming increasingly concerned about speeding vehicles in Park Wall Road and considers that the proposed introduction of ‘No Waiting At Any Time’ restrictions will only exacerbate the problem;
- the Council considers that the proposal has not been properly thought out and that steps should be taken instead to deal with the speeding problem outlined above as this is the priority giving cause for concern.

For these reasons, the Council called for the proposal to be withdrawn.

Item 11 - Installation of Vehicle Activated Signs – The Clerk drew Members’ attention to his recently circulated written update about the installation of vehicle activated signs.

In particular, Members noted that while it had been possible to come up with proposals for some suggested locations, a number of other locations had proved problematic owing to the absence of street lighting columns and other street furniture to which signs could be attached. Further meetings would be arranged with Local Members to discuss those locations for which no firm proposals had been agreed to date.

Acknowledging the need for vehicle activated signs to be installed at the various locations referred to, Members requested the Clerk to formally consult with Wrexham Council, as Highway Authority, about the locations for which proposals had been identified and to consider other, possible proposals for the remaining sites, including where practicable the possible provision of new street lighting columns.

Item 12 - Planning Matters – The Council agreed to inform the Local Planning Authority that it has no objection to the following applications for planning permission:

- P/2021/0492 – Change of Use of Garage to Beauty Salon - 18 Penson Court, Summerhill, Wrexham
- P/2021/0454 – Front Porch Extension – Construction of Hardstanding and Widen Vehicular Access – 30 Cherry Tree Road, Bradley, Wrexham
- P/2021/0558 – Erection of 2 Dwellings – Land to the Rear of 2 Ash Close, Summerhill

Item 13 – Members’ Issues/Concerns – The Clerk was requested to take up the following matters with Wrexham Council:

- provision of No Dog Fouling stickers for use in the New Road area of Summerhill
- that the Peace Garden in Wheatsheaf Lane was overgrown
- overgrown footpath in Summerhill Road opposite LEX Football Ground
- longstanding pothole problem in Poolmouth Road near the property known as Roseneath
- possible installation of mirrors in the Bottom Road/ New Road area to help improve visibility for motorists
- need for street signs in Wilderness Lane (Pandy), Windy Hill and Ffos-y-Go
- overgrown hedge obscuring a vehicle active sign in Blue Bell Lane
- land subsidence problem in Glan Llyn Road

Item 14 – Clerk’s Update

(a) Defibrillators – In updating the Council, the Clerk reported that 4 of the defibrillators acquired by the Council had been returned to the supplier for reprogramming, that efforts were being made to identify sites for additional defibrillators and that he was awaiting information about the possible acquisition of directional signs from the Welsh Ambulance Trust.

(b) NHS , Social Care and Frontline Workers’ Day – 5 July 2021 – In updating Members, the Clerk reported that a flag had been purchased to mark this occasion.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the following actions be taken to mark this occasion:

- (i) To approve the purchase of a piece of equipment for use at the Pen-y-Maes Surgery in Summerhill.
- (ii) To publish a Message of Thanks on the Council’s behalf to NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers.

(c) Letter from Sarah Atherton, MP for Wrexham – The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from Sarah Atherton, Member of Parliament for Wrexham, expressing her desire to have discussions with Council Members about local issues.

Members decided against holding discussions with the local MP at this time.

(d) Planting of Tree In Memory of Victims of Covid-19 – The Clerk reported that quotations for the provision of a tree were being sought and that a location for the planting had yet to be agreed.

(e) Annual Play Area Inspection Reports 2021- The Clerk drew attention to the recently received Annual Play Area Inspection Reports from Wrexham Council for the play areas and facilities for which funding support was made available by the Community Council under the terms of a service level agreement with Wrexham Council.

In particular, Members noted that the various play areas and facilities had scored a ‘Low Risk’ and, therefore, no further action was required at this time.

The Clerk was asked to ascertain when the repairs to the play area in Second Avenue would be undertaken.

(f) Gwersyllt Carnival - Hire of Public Toilets – The Clerk reported that this event had been rescheduled for 18 September 2021.

Members reaffirmed the Council’s previous decision to fund the provision of public toilet facilities up to a maximum of £600.00.

(g) Provision of Replacement Bench by Former Star Cleaners Premises, Llay New Road, Rhosrobin – The Clerk reported on costings for the provision of a replacement bench at this location.

Members approved the purchase of a themed Miner’s Bench for this location.

Item 15 – Accounts for Payment – The list of accounts was approved.
