**BANGOR ON DEE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**BANGOR** **ISYCOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**A meeting of Bangor on Dee Community Council was held on Tuesday 21st February 2023 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall, Bangor on Dee**

**Present**: Councillors: S Morrison (Vice Chairman), J Grice, T Nicholls, C Dawson.

Mr S Merry – Clerk.

**Apologies:** Cllrs N Amyes (Chairman), S Sharp, M Glanville, R I Williams.

The Vice Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the councillors.

**The Community Council (CC) came out of standing Orders at this time to allow a presentation from Jen Naylor at Community Catalyst.**

**Community Catalyst**

Ms Jen Naylor thanked the CC and wanted to introduce Community Catalyst in Wrexham and highlight the need in the local area and particularly in Worthenbury and Malpas. Community Catalyst is a social enterprise scheme run across the UK, specialising in health and social care. In Wrexham, along with Jen Naylor, Amy Cordiak runs a development programme for interested individuals. The programme covers areas such as HMRC, police checks, insurance cover, marketing and other new business set up details.

It is a programme for individuals who want to set up on a self-employed basis and offer care and support in their local area. The service could be shopping, prescription collection, DIY, talking, etc.. It is not solely personal care, however for those already trained this is an option. Cllr S Morrison sought clarification on this point, Community Catalyst is more about setting up a business for those who already possess life skills which they could immediately use, It is not a training programme, however, direction can be given on training, WCBC offer some free training on health and social care. A safeguarding course is mandatory. To help with initial set up costs, there is a £250 grant available from WCBC. So far there has been about 80 set ups with a target of approximately another 50 in the Wrexham area.

Community Catalyst are looking to promote the idea through CC meetings, coffee morning, notice boards, social media and general word of mouth. The CC offered to help via FB, Noticeboard and village coffee mornings.

Ms Jen Naylor was thanked for her time.

**The Community Council returned back to Standing Orders.**

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

No Declarations of Interest were noted.

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

The Minutes of 17th January having been circulated and reviewed were agreed as an accurate record. Proposed by Cllr C Dawson and seconded by Cllr J Grice.

**MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

Reviewing the minutes, the Clerk confirmed the following:

The police were thanked for their attendance at the last meeting

The Clerk contacted NRW regarding evidence iro the Worthenbury pump decommission.

The Clerk contacted PCSO Dean Sayer regarding fly tipping at Friars Field (FF).

Works were agreed with Mr R Glanville at Riverside Walks and FF.

The Clerk contacted WCBC regarding waste bins at FF.

The Clerk contacted WCBC regarding Disabled Parking signs at Riverside Walks

The Clerk contacted Cheryl at Agri-cation regarding the dates for councillors visit.

The Chairman signed the Quarterly Reviews on behalf of the CC

The Chairman agreed to review the paper bank mandate change form and pass to the Vice Chairman

WCBC were informed of the CC’s position on freezing the Precept for 2023/24

Cllr J Grice advised that WCBC were not now distributing their spare Christmas Lights

All other areas are addressed below.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk confirmed that communications have been circulated to the councillors.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

P/2023/0025 – Ennisdale, Whitchurch Road, Raggs Hill

The planning sub committee have reviewed this application and have no objections.

**FLOOD DEFENCE**

Cllr J Grice confirmed she has now received the updated flood plan in a digital format and will try and add it to the Council website. **Action: Cllr J Grice.**

With regards to the recent correspondence to WCBC questioning the surface flooding priority given to the village, the CC are of the opinion that following the detailed camera investigations into the drains. There has been a change in attitude from WCBC and progress is being made. It was therefore agreed to have ‘faith’ in the County Council in the work they are doing.

Cllr T Nicholls raised the issue of the drains cut into the pavement on the High Street, and the difficulty this created with his mobility scooter. It was agreed this was a Highways Department issue at WCBC and was not connected to the work referred to above. Cllr T Nicholls offered to contact Cllr R I Williams directly on this matter. **Action: Cllr T Nicholls**.

Cllr J Grice was thanked for her time.

**POLICING**

The Clerk confirmed all police reports have been distributed.

Cllr S Morrison sought clarification on the new Go Safe Speed Van location. The Clerk confirmed Lower Station Road looking towards Worthenbury.

**VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT**

**Village Maintenance**

Village Maintenance update – As Cllr M Glanville was reporting back ion this item, this will be rolled over until the March meeting.

Display cabinet - As a number of councillors were absent, this will be rolled over until the March meeting.

Adams Bench – The CC have received further information from the Salmon Anglers Ltd about a new bench in the village in the memory of Mr S Adams. The CC considered the colours available and the principal site choice of Mr Adams, the War Memorial. It was agreed that brown would be the most suitable colour and that a space near the War Memorial would be acceptable. There was a unanimous agreement at the meeting and the Clerk agreed to make the absent councillors aware of the decision before confirming with the Salmon Anglers Ltd. Thereafter, the bench will be sited on slabs and secured with a plaque in remembrance. **Action: Clerk**

Friars Field Community Garden – The CC had a discussion about the FFCC and the ongoing maintenance and the good work being carried out by Mrs P Fitton. Following comments from a local resident and the Little Red Tractor Company (LRT) on the long grass, the CC were very supportive of the work being carried out at the garden and understood the environmentally conscious approach being taken with the long grass, however, as CC land it is important that as many views and opinions are considered. Additionally, for those maintaining the paths, LRT, the CC needs to ensure their workload is not being increased or changed during the season. With regards to the paths and potential open spaces, Cllr T Nicholls queried the option of a large cut area for children to gather or play in. The CC agreed to ask Cllr N Amyes to consider including questions on the Community Garden in the village questionnaire. **Action: Clerk/Cllr N Amyes.**

Friars Field Lower Area - continuing the review above of the Friars Field area, the Clerk asked the CC if they wanted to consider using the lower area as a ‘Memorial Garden’, this follows a query from a local resident who has recently lost a family member from the village. The idea would be to allow family members to plant trees or plants in remembrance, it is not at this stage to consider the scattering of ashes. Cllr S Morrison asked about organisation of the area and the potential randomness of such planting if not structured. Furthermore, there was full agreement with a need to utilise this area as it was purchased by the CC for the community. The CC had tried for many years to have this area as a graveyard to support the church’s limited area, however, planning was eventually declined. The CC agreed to ask Cllr N Amyes to consider including questions on the use of this land in the village questionnaire. **Action: Clerk/Cllr N Amyes.**

With regard to the local resident, it was agreed that planting of a shrub in the Community Garden would be acceptable at this stage, with the possibility, if agreed, of the planting of a tree in the lower area at some time in the future. **Action: Clerk to confirm.**

New Bins in Friars Field - the Clerk confirmed WCBC have approved the waste collection for the two bins in FF. The location of the bins will remain the same, however the CC will now look at buying new bins and having them installed. **Action: Clerk.**

Website – following a discussion on the website, the Clerk asked the Council for their views on businesses being promoted on the website. It appears that when the new website was designed for the CC, local business were added. This was the result of Vision ICT Ltd and not the businesses themselves. Following a discussion, it was unanimously agreed by those present to allow the Clerk to remove these links and leave local services only on the CC website. **Action: Clerk**

Wifi Village Hall - Following an email from the Village Hall Committee, the CC now have an indication of costs for installation and an ongoing 2 year contract. The Council discussed the implications and responsibility of providing wifi in the Village Hall. It was still unclear how this will be managed, given the potential number of users. Cllr C Dawson offered to raise some of the points discussed at the next VH committee meeting. As a number of councillors were absent, this will be rolled over until the March meeting for further discussion.

.

**STREET LIGHTING**:

The Clerk confirmed the fault on lamppost 29 on Whitchurch Road has now been resolved.

**ACCOUNTS**

Investment Strategy 2023/24 – this is unchanged from previous years and was agreed by all, for the External and Internal Audits.

Health & Safety Annual Update 2023/24 – this is unchanged from previous years and was agreed by all for the External and Internal Audits.

External Audit – The Clerk made the CC aware that the External Auditors Report is still outstanding. **Action: Clerk to chase.**

Zoom Clarification – The Clerk apologised about the Zoom costings to the CC, the invoice figure originally quoted was net of VAT, the payment was £119.90 plus VAT, equating to £143.88.

Banking Mandate to change co-signatories – this has been received from the Chairman and Vice Chairman and will be forwarded to HSBC for processing. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk confirmed the following payments have become due in the last month; all payments were agreed.

Scottish Power (January) £79.89

Employer Costs (Clerk salary Jan) £396.92

One Voice Wales Training for Cllr N Amyes £17.50

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Cllr R I Williams was unavailable to report back to the Community Council.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.