

# BRYMBO



## CYNGOR CYMUNED COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Bethan M Hughes Clerk and Financial Officer  
15 Chestnut Avenue Wrexham LL12 7HS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRYMBO COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD  
ON TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013 AT BWLCHGWYN COMMUNITY  
CENTRE

Present –Cllr Monti (Chairman)

Brymbo Ward- Councillors J Clarke, Z Clarke, P Rogers, and M Shone.

Tanyfron Ward- Councillors T Birch and D Griffiths.

Bwlchgwyn Ward- Councillors M Jones and S Tilston.

County Borough Councillor D Kelly.

Apologies- Councillors- D Davies, S Rawlinson, M Reston and B Woodfine-Jones.

Police PCSO Michael Simister

The minutes of the meeting of September 10<sup>th</sup> 2013 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### 2. POLICING

#### Crime Stats – Bwlchgwyn

Crime	Incidents
ASB Personal	0
ASB Nuisance	0
ASB Environment	0
Criminal Damage	0
Drugs	x 1 On-going, arrest made
Assault S.47	x 1 Person charged
Common Assault	x 2 (persons charged)
Harassment	x 1 On-going, known offender

#### Crime Stats – Brymbo

Crime	Incidents
ASB Personal	x 3 (2 x Neighbour dispute, 1 x verbal argument)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Monti', is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

ASB Nuisance	x 8 (2 x youths, 5 x adults - domestic related, personal)
ASB Environment	0
Burglary Dwellings	0
B.O.T.D.'s	0
Theft Other	x 3 (on-going patio slabs taken, family matter, attempted - nothing taken)
Theft from vehicle	x 1 (number plates taken)
Harassment	x 1 (on-going)
Assault s.47	x 2 (1 undetected, 1 on-going)
Common Assault	0
Criminal Damage	0
RTC	x 1 (blast road damage only)

### Crime Stats – Tanyfron

Crime	Incidents
ASB Personal	0
ASB Nuisance	x 1 (youths)
ASB Environment	X 1 (loud music)
BOTD	0
Burglary Dwelling	0
Criminal Damage	0
Theft Other	0
Theft	0
RTC	X 1 (damage only)

### 3. COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

Cllr Rogers said that Brymbo Heritage Group had secured grant funding of £97.5k towards the former steelworks site project. This would be granted over 3 years. This would fund an employee who would work in the community rather than fund any existing building work. Cllr Shone said that this was disappointing as 5.8 million had previously been requested to invest in the site on the understanding that BDL would invest £300k. The site had now deteriorated badly as this funding had never been secured. He said that this grant seemed too little too late. Cllr Rogers said that there was a possibility that further funding may be available from another source and this may be used to stop the further deterioration of the site. CADW were awaiting a report from the Welsh Government.

A request by residents had been made to Cllr Rogers to ask whether the CC would pay to replace or repair the plaque that had been placed to in memory the late Cllr Greenaway. Cllr Tilston said that it was the CC responsibility as it had installed it. Cllr Monti said that he would inspect the plaque and report back to Council.

### 4. CAMBRIAN HOUSE



Cllr Rogers reported that there had been an accident where a vehicle had hit the stone wall. He said that a small section of the wall had been damaged and he had cleared debris from the road. Cllr Shone asked whether a claim would need to be made to the insurance company. The damage would be looked at as the excess on the policy may exceed the cost of the repair.

Cllr Shone told members that an incorrect sold sign had been placed on Cambrian House. This had now been rectified.

## **5. ROADS**

Cllr Kelly advised members that the signage was now in place following the speed limit review. There were a few anomalies which he was following up. Cllr Birch had been contacted by Mr Bickerstaff with regards to issue around Tanyfron. He said that the pavements needed levelling and speed limits needed lowering. Cllr Rogers said that he had been made aware of these and was looking into the issues.

## **6. BUS SHELTER SERVICES AND STOPS**

No further information.

## **7. PLAYING FIELDS AND PLAYGROUNDS**

No further information.

## **8. FOOTPATHS/LIGHTING**

Cllr Rogers said that a few lighting issues had arisen. He had been told of a problem on Pleasant Lane where a light had been placed the previous year by NWP Power after a site meeting with the tenant and the lighting rep. He had been asked if the pole could be moved as it was causing inconvenience to the homeowner. WCBC Highways had attended and suggested moving the column. Cllr Shone said that the CC would have taken advice from NWP Power after the site meeting to place the column where it stood; it would cost approx. another £2000.00 to move it. He said the CC could not justify the expense of moving the column. Cllr Jones said that NWP Power would have used their expertise and the CC would have had to rely on their knowledge as to where the column would be placed. The CC could therefore not justify further expense in moving this column. Cllr Rogers said he would pass on the resident's details to the Clerk. Cllr Birch proposed that the Clerk write to the resident to explain the situation and suggest that if the resident felt the column needed to be moved he would have to bear the cost. Cllr Jones seconded the proposal. All were in favour.

Cllr Rogers said that lamp 181 on the Red Path had a major fault. Jones Lighting had were not sure what the issue was, however they would be working on finding out what the problem was and would inform the lighting rep. when they knew more. Lights had been out on Blast Road for approx. 4 weeks. Scottish Power were not co-operating with Jones Lighting who were chasing them. WCBC advised Cllr Rogers that if there were multiple faults and these had not been rectified within 20 days, the CC may be able to claim compensation. Between Brake Road and Penrose, an accident had taken down the overhead power supply. Scottish Power was refusing to replace the cable as there was a National Grid power supply overhead. Cllr Rogers said that there was a similar issue on Cheshire View, and he would contact



Scottish Power to try to resolve the issue. Jones Lighting was also looking into it.

#### **9. WAR MEMORIAL**

No further information.

#### **10. PLANNING**

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981-WCBC BRYMBO 112  
DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

ERECTION OF 10.NO RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS COMPRISING 6  
NOTHREE BEDROOM UNITS AND 4 NO. FOUR BEDROOM UNITS, WITH  
ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPING, ACCESS AND CAR PARKING.  
LAND NORTH OF CLIFTON AVENUE BRYMBO  
P/2013/0586- No observations made.

RELOCATION OF EXISTING APPROVED ACCESS INTO SITE  
(PREVIOUSLY APPROVED UNDER CODE NO P.2011/0330)  
KARLAIRE BRYMBO ROAD BWLCHGWYN  
P/2013/0669- Observations made.

#### **11. EXTERNAL AUDIT-NOTICE OF CONCLUSION OF AUDIT, STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE.**

The Clerk gave copies of the above to be placed in all the noticeboards in the 3 villages. These were to be placed on the 10th October for 14 days.

#### **12. WCBC BUDGET REDUCTIONS**

Cllr Rogers read out the e-mail received from Martin Howarth in reply to all questions raised at the special meeting a fortnight earlier. In it Mr Howarth said that Railway Road play area would be transferred over to the CC as the 106 payment would not alter anything. Also, the Lodge play area and Cae Merfyn would be better off closed as it was a maintenance liability and the Meadow View site could be used as an alternative. Cllr Rogers had requested that grass cutting and litter clearing should still be the responsibility of WCBC; However Mr Howarth's reply was that the CC would be responsible for these. Cllr Rogers also asked whether the CC could insure land it did not own. Mr Howarth stated that WCBC only have public liability insurance and presumed the CC could have the same. Mr Howarth also said that all legal costs would be met by CC's. Mr Howarth ended the e-mail by saying that there would be a drop in session at the Guildhall on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October between 6-8 p.m. Cllr Shone, Cllr Birch and Cllr Jones said they would attend. Cllr Rogers said that he had spoken to Denise Garland at WCBC who said that the Borough Council would only consider leasing land and not the disposal of it. Cllr Kelly said that this was rather presumptuous of WCBC as they might not necessarily own all the land where these facilities were. He also said that this was not Denise Garland's decision to make. Cllr Birch said that he and Cllr Jones had attended the meeting the previous Thursday at the Guildhall; and Cllr Hugh Jones had threatened that if CC's did not take on the lighting in their areas the lights would be switched off. Also Community



Centres would be knocked down. Cllr Rogers said that he had spoken to Lawrence Isted who had told him that if CC's did not take on Community Centres a decision would be made on merit. Cllr Kelly said that he had been told differently and that there would be no exceptions. Cllr Shone said that he had grave concerns regarding the handling and decision making of the whole thing. He said that Mr Isted was in the Community and Wellbeing Dept. however, the budget upkeep came under the Environment Dept. Denise Garland was part of the Asset Management Dept. Perhaps all departments should make more of an effort to discuss it together. Cllr Birch said that if the Community Centres were taken on by the CC they would then be responsible for all employment issues. Cllr Jones said that each CC would then have additional administration costs and issues, and perhaps they should come together. Cllr Kelly said that this may be difficult as each CC would need to retain individual control. Cllr Rogers said that in some areas one central organisation did everything. Cllr Jones said this needed to be considered. Cllr Shone said that the main issue was that each household was paying a certain level of tax for services received. If WCBC were to remove these services the tax would remain at the same level however the CC would need to increase their tax whilst householders would gain nothing. He said this seemed very unfair. Cllr Jones said that she had a copy of the 2013/2014 budget provision which showed a shortfall of nearly 60million from the Welsh Government. She said that the CC needed to look at the whole of its precept and make decisions on what was most important in the communities. She said a more realistic attitude was needed. Cllr Shone said he agreed, however WCBC still had to invest in certain provisions. Cllr Z Clark said that empowering local people to become more involved was very important. Cllr Tilston said that Bwlchgwyn residents had met with the Community Centre management and the figures that had been given by WCBC had been challenged. He said that residents felt that the figures were flawed. Also, the timing was particularly bad. He said that the CC should insist on scrutinizing the figures. He said that the village of Bwlchgwyn relied greatly on the Community Centre and badly needed to keep the building. He said that previously grant funding had been applied for but had been turned down as organisations needed assurance that the building would be backed by the Council for 8 years. Cllr Jones said that after these cuts had been made there was still no firm guarantee that further cuts would not take place the next year. Cllr Birch said that this was another reason not to take on such responsibilities as there could be more to take on the next year. Cllr Rogers said that in relation to the play areas he would urge the CC to take these on. Currently the CC provided £1500.00 approx. towards the upkeep of existing ones and if the others were to be taken on it would cost approx. £4500.00. This would be an additional cost of around £3000.00. This could come from the Environmental Funds of the Communities. With regards to the Community Centres he said that he could not justify the CC taking on these. There were many issues in relation to them and residents of Brymbo did not use them. These residents would see a large increase in their precept with no extra services being provided. Cllr Shone said that residents of Brymbo had rejected a plea to keep Brymbo Community Centre open if it meant increasing their taxes. He said that questions would be asked as to why their taxes would be increased to keep open other Community Centres. He said it would be difficult to justify this to Brymbo residents. Cllr Z Clark

*W. Shone*

asked whether people in the Community realised the difficulties experienced by the CC's. She said that perhaps residents should be told and urged to use their local facilities more. Cllr J Clarke said that residents would benefit from this, and perhaps then would be willing to pay more tax. Cllr Jones said that the residents of Bwlchgwyn had chosen the option of the CC taking on the responsibility for the CC rather than a residents group. They could then take the asset on and try to find funding with support from residents. Cllr Birch said that from previous experience he had found it difficult to get residents involved. Cllr Kelly asked if the CC took them on it could have a transition period to see if a group could be established. Cllr Monti said that it was difficult to see what decision would be made and the CC were no further forward in finding a solution. A reply was needed by the 18<sup>th</sup> October. Cllr Rogers said that there was nowhere near enough information to make a decision. Cllr Shone asked how the CC could even consider entering into a deal when there were so many unanswered questions and so many different departments giving different information. He said that the CC needed definite answer on which department was leading this.

Cllr Shone proposed that the Clerk write back to WCBC asking which department was in charge of the process and who would ultimately make the decisions on the future of the community Centres and Play Areas. Also, that before any decision could be made, terms and conditions must be defined before the CC would consider any decision. He said that subject to correct information being made available, the CC would be willing to consider further a decision on the future of these facilities.

Cllr Birch seconded this proposal.

Cllr Jones tabled an amendment to the proposal. She said that the reply should state that the CC was willing to take on these facilities if further sufficient information was given to the CC.

Cllr Z Clarke seconded the amendment.

A vote was taken on the amendment. There were 4 votes in favour, and 4 against. The Chairman voted against.

A vote was taken on the proposal. There were 5 votes in favour and 2 against. The proposal was carried.

### **13. CORRESPONDENCE**

CYMDEITHAS TAI CLWYD ANNUAL REPORT

NIGHTINGAL HOUSE NEWS

RAY PARRY PLAYGROUNDS

NORTH WALES POLICE-WREXHAM POLICE STATION AND FUTURE  
RELOCATION PLANS

BOBATH ANNUAL REVIEW

LETTER OF THANKS FROM BRYMBO LUNCHEON CLUB

WREXHAM TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM ADVICE OF  
NEXT MEETING & MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

BRYMBO/BROUGHTON HOUSING RENEWAL AREA STEERING GROUP


LETTER OF THANKS BRYMBO PLAY ASSOCIATION



#### 14. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

2559 BRYMBO FC DONATION	250.00
2560 SHELTER CYMRU DONATION	100.00
2561 ALL SAINTS CHURCH SOUTHSEA DOANTION	300.00
2562 BRYMBO LUNCHEON CLUB GRANT	1200.00
2563 B M HUGHES REFUND OF POSTAGES	15.00
2564 T CROFTS BWLCHGWYN WAR MEMORIAL	125.00
2565 ONE VOICE WALES TRAINING	30.00
2566 SHERRATT LANDSCAPE BRONWENS GREEN	126.00
2567 ENCORE OFFICE SYSTEM MAINT PHOTOCOPIER	43.20
2568 CORONA ENERGY CAMBRIAN HOUSE	34.43
2569 B M HUGHES SALARY	480.44
2570 INLAND REVENUE	120.00
2571 JONES LIGHTING MAINT AUG/SEPT	2235.89
2572 UHY HACKER YOUNG EXTERNAL AUDIT	690.00
2573 AJI ACCOUNTING SOLUTIONS PAYROLL	54.00
2574 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION 6XWREATHS	102.00
2575 SCOTTISH POWER ENERGY	1023.06

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Signed .....  ..... Chairman

