

Coedpoeth Community Council

Chair's Report - 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015

INTRODUCTION

It gives me great pleasure to present this report to the Council. 2014/15 has seen a year of considerable achievement for the Village and for the Council, where so much has been achieved, as particularly evidenced by the total renovation to the Cemetery Lodge and the successful integration of the new Councillors co-opted to the Council. Sadly three excellent councillors needed to resign. There has been strong competition for places this year. Following the resignation of Cllr J Hinchliffe as Chair, I was elected as Chair in November 2014.

GOVERNANCE

- i) The Council has achieved another good internal audit report for 2014/15;
- ii) The Council has successfully revised its Business Plan for 2014-2019;
- iii) The Council has provided detailed comments and responses to a number of Planning Applications;
- iv) A representative of the Leader attends nearly all Council meetings.

COMMUNITY DIRECTIVES

- i) At Christmas the Council:
 - a. again provided lights and a tree for St Tudfil's;
 - b. again organised a Christmas business shop window display – and presented prizes;
- ii) The Council held a very successful Christmas Lunch party for the over 60s in the Parish Hall on two days;
- iii) The Council is working more effectively with our key partners, which include North Wales Police, Wrexham CBC, both local schools, the Leader and local businesses, on a number of issues;
- iv) The Council provided local businesses with flags and bunting for St David's Day 2015.
- v) Successful integration between Council and residents regarding Playable Places, War Memorial Park Gates and Dog Fouling issues;
- vi) Gardening Project.
- vii) Villager of the Year 2015.

EFFICIENCY SAVINGS

- i) The Council has continued to make savings on electricity costs with LED lights in the Parish Hall.
- ii) The Council renewed the new street lighting contract.
- iii) Refuse collector changed to save money.

Coedpoeth Community Council

Chair's Report - 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015

COUNCIL ACHIEVEMENTS

- i) Cemetery Lodge renovation totalling £28,000, including chimney safety maintenance, allowing income to be received;
- ii) 2013/14 Income received has exceeded that of either of the two previous years;
- iii) Increased the Council's media coverage in the Leader;
- iv) War Memorial Park Gates renovation;
- v) Parks and Playspaces Group successfully formed;
- vi) Purchased a new website for Coedpoeth.com;
- vii) The Snooker Club goes from strength to strength, so publicising our facilities;
- viii) Sunday opening has increased Parish Hall revenue, thanks to the Caretaker and Assistant Caretaker;
- ix) The Clerk has directly helped a number of villagers with issues involving Wrexham CBC;
- x) The Friends of the Parish Hall have set money aside for specific initiatives relating to the Council's buildings, but the Friends have been unable to be as pro-active this year due to other commitments. Future purchases are being organised;
- xi) New Accountant in position who will also project-manage alongside the Clerk;
- xii) New Community Agent in position for the Over 60s.

FUTURE COUNCIL INITIATIVES FOR 2015 AND BEYOND

- i) New grant budget to refurbish the Memorial Gates (£14,000) as well as £1500 from Council budget;
- ii) New budget to replace street lights (£4,000);
- iii) New contract for refuse with savings of £650p.a.
- iv) New budget for Playgrounds (£21,300)
- v) New budget for School Crossing Patrol (£3500)

CONCLUSION

I believe that this Community Council continues to go from strength to strength. I should like to record my appreciation of my fellow Councillors and our members of staff for their help and support throughout 2014/15.

CLlr Julie Hinchliffe, who was elected Chair at the Annual Meeting in 2014, stepped down in October due to pressure of work. She has contributed to this report.

Graham Jones, Chair.
30 April 2015