

Coedpoeth Community Council

Chair's Report - 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016

INTRODUCTION

It gives me great pleasure to present this report to the Council. 2015/16 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 successful funding towards the Memorial Park and the successful integration of the new Councillors co-opted to the Council. There has been strong competition for places this year.

GOVERNANCE

- i) The Council has achieved another good internal audit report for 2015/16;
- 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 almost 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 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 2016.
- v) Successful integration between Council and residents regarding Playable Places, War Memorial Park Gates, Street Lighting and Dog Fouling issues;
- vi) Gardening Project.
- vii) Villager of the Year 2016.

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 street lighting contract.

COUNCIL ACHIEVEMENTS

- i) The Council use a reliable, qualified grave digger at the Cemetery;

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- ii) 2015/16 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 Re-dedication and Community Day;
- v) Parks and Playspaces Group successfully applied for a grant for the Memorial Park;
- vi) New website growing for Coedpoeth.com;
- vii) Two new benches positioned in the village, as well as a new noticeboard.
- viii) The Snooker Club goes from strength to strength, so publicising our facilities;
- ix) Sunday opening continues to make full use of the facilities, thanks to the Caretaker and Assistant Caretaker;
- x) The Clerk has directly helped a number of villagers with issues involving Wrexham CBC;
- xi) New Accountant in position who will also project-manage alongside the Clerk;
- xii) The Community Agent in position for the Over 50s, continues to work successfully with residents and groups, thanks to the grant from Intermediate Care Fund continuing into 2018.
- xiii) New floor in the Balcony Room and small dance room in the Old Carnegie Library established.
- xiv) Considerable savings following a review of procedures at the cemetery.

FUTURE COUNCIL INITIATIVES FOR 2016 AND BEYOND

- i) New budget to refurbish Heol Caradoc Park (£5,000) as part of a grant;
- ii) New budget to replace street lights (£4,000);
- iii) New budget for Playgrounds (£21,300)
- iv) New budget for School Crossing Patrol (£3800)
- v) New initiative for Coedpoeth to become a Dementia Friendly Community, beginning May 16th with a visit from the Alzheimer's Society

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 2015/16.

Graham Jones, Chair.
30 April 2016