

Coedpoeth Community Council

Chair's Report - 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017

INTRODUCTION

It gives me great pleasure to present this report to the Council. 2016/17 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 Christmas Lights and the AEDs 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 2016/17;
- ii) The Council has provided detailed comments and responses to several Planning Applications;
- iii) 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;
 - c. for the first time, in collaboration with Plas Pentwyn, organised a Christmas Festival for the Christmas Lights Switch-On;
- 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) Successful integration between Council and residents regarding Playable Places, War Memorial Park Gates, Street Lighting and Dog Fouling issues;
- v) Gardening Project.
- vi) Villager of the Year 2017 and Lifetime Achievement Award 2017.

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) 2016/17 Income received is similar to that of the previous year;
- iii) Increased the Council's media coverage in the Leader;
- iv) Three-year Christmas Lights' Contract and Christmas Festival in collaboration with Plas Pentwyn;
- v) Donation to Llangollen International Eisteddfod resulting in a Community Concert in St Tudfil's with a German Youth Choir;
- vi) New website growing for Coedpoeth.com, as well as regular updates to Facebook and Twitter;
- vii) A new bench positioned in the Memorial Park, donated by a resident;
- 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, working closely with the Community Agent;
- xi) Allocated grants to community groups in the village;
- 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 indefinitely;
- xiii) Encouraging the Gateway to our Heritage Group and the Playable Places Group to make positive changes to the village;

FUTURE COUNCIL INITIATIVES FOR 2017 AND BEYOND

- i) New budget to refurbish a park (£5,000) as part of a grant;
- ii) New budget to replace street lights (£4,000);
- iii) New budget for Christmas Lights (£4,200);
- iv) New budget for Playgrounds (£20,000);
- v) New budget for IT improvements (£500);
- vi) New budget for Youth Services (£2,500);
- vii) New budget for Playscheme (£2,500);
- viii) New budget for elections (£6,000);
- ix) New budget for Dog Fouling Prevention (£400);
- x) New budget for School Crossing Patrol (£4,000)

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 2016/17.

Michael Dixon, Chair.
30 April 2017