

PLAS MADOC COMMUNITIES FIRST

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Wednesday 29th April 2009 at 9.30a.m

In attendance:

Chair	
Tenants / Residents	x 14
Residents/ Cefn Community Council	Malcolm Hughes
	Ennys Hughes
PMCF	Clare Barnes
	Andrew Harradine
NW Police	Sgt Darren Whibberley
	PCSO Chris Cheshire
WCBC	Cllr Paul Blackwell
WCBC Housing	Mark Owens
WCBC Streetscene	John Walsh
Plas Madoc Leisure Centre	Simon Richards

2. Apologies

x3

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

Proposed as true record by RJ and seconded by EE

4. Matters Arising

Actions from last meeting

Action 1 Trench behind garages has been definitely been reported to repairs, MO will get time scale for this. To be revisited during next audit.

Action 2 However he will have answers for the next meeting. Concerns have been raised that not everyone has replacement doors MO believes all doors on the estate will be replaced in the near future. MO has telephoned Ruthin Road but was unable to speak to anyone regarding replacement windows and doors.

Action 3 More evidence is needed to prove that people are repeatedly parking in this location in Dinas – Alwen for either railings or a bollard to be put there. Will revisit during next audit.

Action 4 Housing has written to owners of garages. The Group agreed that this letter should go to all households. Cars are also being parked and left with for sale signs on them the owners are not from this area, police or council have no power over this

Action 5 People have expressed their concerns over the skip site being shut for 6 months; only 1 issue of fly tipping has been reported in the area so far. PMCF was working with WCBC on bringing a temporary recycling site to The Opportunity Centre car park but now due to changes at the Leisure Centre car park WCBC has enquired as to whether it could be a permanent site. PMCF is seeking local people's views before progressing. Letters to be sent out and contact via press coverage. There was limited support for this amongst the Group.

Action 6 Plas Madoc tidy team collected 6 bags of rubbish, the group enjoyed meeting up socially. AH commented that it was good to see members of the public doing something about

this problem for themselves and that the project was in addition to the local authority not instead of. The next meeting will be held on Friday 8th May.

Additional Matters

The Group formally thanked DT for his significant efforts in keeping The Brook clean recently, which he was doing in a completely voluntary capacity. There was unanimous praise for his work and the resulting state of The Brook. DT asked if a litter bin could be positioned on the stretch of The Brook. ADH added that PMCF's Environment Officer together with volunteers had been cleaning up the stretch of The Brook behind Hampden Way and adjacent to the school. This would hopefully improve the overall flow of The Brook. ADH apologised for the impact that this operation may have had in the short term. CG mentioned a tree of concern as it had been ring barked.

Action 1: Marlbrook & Dinas and tree next to The Brook to be checked at next audit

Action 2: Letters to be sent out to everyone on Woodward's Walk, Hampden Way, Whalleys Way and Marlbrook re:parking.

Action 3: Further investigate No Parking to be painted in front of garages at Marlbrook / Woodward's Walk garage.

5. Nomination of Officers

ADH asked that the Group ratify his proposal that KH continue in the role of secretary to the Group based on the fact that she had only just started and was very keen to continue. RJ proposed this suggestion and it was seconded by FH. This was accepted by the Group.

WL indicated that she would be willing to stand for Chair again. ADH reminded the group that at the last CSG, notice was given that a new Chair would be appointed at this meeting and that nominations had been invited. No nominations had been forthcoming and no additions were offered at this time. FH asked why this process did not include a written election process. ADH explained that the group had always been run informally and that a written election would effectively require an appropriate constitution as currently there was nothing in place to require such a process. There was a lot of discussion as to how to proceed and the Group was equally split between Option 1: Electing the current Chair in the absence of any new nominations and Option 2: Moving to written election. A compromise proposal was reached whereby a new CSG Constitution would be drafted for approval at the June meeting. If agreed at this point an election of officers would take place in July as governed by the new constitution. The Group approved this proposal.

Action 4: ADH to draft new constitution for the CSG and consult with partners as required.

6. Police Update

PCSO CC provided an update on reported crime over the period since the last meeting.

2 ASB
2 Assaults
3 Criminal Damage
3 Thefts
2 Shop Lifting
1 Litter Ticket (Issued)
1 Fly Tipping Ticket (Issued)
7 Yellow Cards
1 Section 59 Issued

DT informed the Group that several people had contacted him regarding thefts from gardens. This was thought to be in the region of up to 30 incidents over the last month. DW was very concerned about this and queried as to why none had been reported. DT replied that most were thefts of very cheap garden items and people seemed to feel it was not worth reporting due to the value. DW was very clear that the monetary value was irrelevant if a crime had been committed and urged anyone who had been a victim of crime to report these to the Police. DW explained that the Police provide crime figures based on what is reported. PB said that measuring unreported crime is very difficult but it can have a clear impact on how people feel in an area. CC stated that the main objective was to encourage people to officially report crimes so they can be responded to appropriately. ADH reminded the group that official reports are usually needed to progress insurance claims, etc. and that NW Police need to have accurate data so crime reduction operations can be planned and carried out both with and without the CSG's involvement. CC asked that DT speak outside the meeting to make further investigations into the 30 thefts. There was discussion over how the community could pass on information over crime if they maybe didn't wish to report directly to the Police. ADH offered to pursue a PO Box, where people could write anonymously with information. SR also offered to make a "suggestion box" available at the Leisure Centre.

DT also raised concerns about "gangs" of youths playing on roofs at the care home and The Opportunity Centre, where they were using the container to gain access, and also the school roofs.

DT spoke of a serious incident involving a dog on 11th April, where 5 people had been bitten including a PCSO. CC confirmed that the dog had been "removed" from the estate. There was a lot of concern about dog issues. ADH reminded the group about Op Gruff from last year but highlighted the significant staff time required. CC offered to look at arranging a similar operation.

Action 5: DT to help CC investigate the allegations of theft at close of meeting

Action 6: DW, CC & ADH, SR to look at reporting mechanisms (e.g. PO Box)

Action 7: PCSOs to keep an eye on the named buildings for young people on roof

Action 8: CC to look at Op Gruff 2 and clarify which PCSO was bitten

7. Action Planning

Litter – a draft of the Litter action plan was circulated for comments.

Supply of Drugs – this process was started but due to lack of time little progress was made. –

Defer to next meeting.

8. CSG Priorities 2009

Litter and dog fouling

ASB – There was concern that youths (<13yrs) were drinking and causing issues at Gwynant play area. It was suggested that NW Police were not responding to reports from this area.

Supply of drugs

Criminal Damage

Vehicle Management (including speeding, parking) – CC to arrange deployment of SID

Communal bin areas

Lighting

Positive publicity

Action 9: DW to look into issues in Gwynant

Action 10: CC to arrange SID deployment

9. Small Grants Scheme

Four completed applications had been received and assessed by the Panel, which on this instance comprised of DW, MO and ADH. In future rounds other members of the CSG will be invited to

join the panel. The main finding of the panel was that the original application form was ineffective and needed to be redesigned. For the 4 applications received it was decided that all should be approved in principle, so not to disadvantage the applicants due to the issues with the forms, but that site visits would take place at each property to finalise how the grant could best be used.

Action 11: ADH to redesign form

Action 12: ADH, DW & MO to undertake site visits.

10. AOB

Children's play areas - Letters have been sent out regarding new play area to all the houses nearby and only 2 people have voiced negative responses. EH was concerned that the play ground could cause disturbance in the area. ADH responded that the project was only replacing / equipment in an existing play area, already well used by local children.

Leisure Centre – SR responded to recent newspaper coverage and reassured the Group that the Leisure Centre was not shutting down as stated in the report. SR confirmed that due to the Extra Care Development the car parking for the Leisure Centre would revert to the rear of the building as in the early days. SR asked that the CSG consider the implications of this situation in relation to traffic management and related safety. ADH thanked SR for bringing this to the Group's attention.

Action 13: Include proposed changes to parking in the Vehicle Management action plan.

11. Date of Next Meeting

27th May 2009 at 9:30 a.m