



# Gwernymynydd Community Council Cyngor Cymdeithasol Gwernymynydd

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Gwernymynydd Community Council held on Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at the Village Centre, Gwernymynydd.

**Chairman:** Carl Jackson

The Chairman welcomed the Members to the meeting following the Covid-19 lockdown. The Clerk informed the Members of the procedures that needed to be undertaken to comply with the Covid-19 rules and regulations and he also welcomed Councillors and visitors to the meeting.

## **Councillors Present**

Marjorie Thomson, Victoria Norman, John Homersley, George Godwin  
Nancy Matthews and Frances Rosedale.

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Councillors; Julie Crabtree, Stephen Foley, June Perrin and Michael Meadway

## **In Attendance**

On this occasion Councillor Andrew Hughes submitted his apology for absence to the Council.

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting PCSO Cleo Milburn of North Wales Police.

### **2. Members Code of Conduct, Declarations of Interest**

The Clerk outlined to the Members their responsibility to declare any such interests that they may have with regard to discussion items and any actions determined that may influence decisions taken on Agenda items.

Councillor Nancy Matthews Declared an Interest with reference to Planning Matters and the planning application DBE/062973, Alterations to the existing dwelling and one new dwelling located at Rhianfa, Ffordd Bryngwyn, Gwernymynydd.

### **3. To Approve the Minutes of the May Meeting**

The Minutes of the above had been distributed and were confirmed as a true record of the business transacted.

#### **4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

**Item 10; Member Reports, Ruthin Road;** ‘Councillor Nancy Matthews had previously outlined her concerns to the Members regarding the bus stop, Ruthin direction A494, located near to the Village Centre; local school children and residents use the bus route on a regular basis, however there is no bus shelter available for use in times of inclement weather. Councillor Matthews informed the Members that she had approached Flintshire County Council with the view to obtaining a bus shelter at this location. Also, Councillor George Godwin via an email related to the Members the concerns he had received from a local resident with regard to people waiting by the bus stop close to the Village Centre in all weathers without the protection of a bus shelter. Councillor Matthews informed the Members that she had received a reply from Sarah Blake, Flintshire County Council, on the matter stating that if the Community Council were in agreement Flintshire County Council would instigate a public consultation to obtain an assessment for installing a shelter. It was also stated that a financial contribution from the Community Council may be requested by Flintshire County Council on a match funding basis. The Clerk was requested to pursue the matter with Sarah Blake, Flintshire County Council.’

In addition, Councillors Frances Rosedale and Marjorie Thomson informed the Members that there had been many comments in the community concerning the proposed bus shelter.

The Clerk confirmed that he had been in contact with Sarah Blake of Flintshire County Council and as such observations to the proposal were pending.

#### **5. Federated CP Schools The Hafod Federation (Gwernymynydd and Gwernaffield), Governors Report to the Council**

Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Members that Councillors, Andrew Hughes and Stephen Foley were at the moment attending the meeting of the Hafod Federation, School Governors Board. Information from the respective Federation will be reported to Members at the next meeting of the Council.

Members concurred with Councillor Nancy Matthews that the Clerk writes to the Federation requesting that Governor Board meetings do not clash with the Gwernymynydd Community Council meetings which take place on the last Thursday of the month.

#### **6. Gwernymynydd Development Plan, 2030**

To discuss progressing the Plan taking into account the Sections Titled, Policies, Social and Community Development, Transport and Roads, The Environment, Housing and Land Development and the continued monitoring of the Plan.

Members discussed the issue and how to proceed to impart the information to residents in the community, Councillor Marjorie Thomson suggested using the Village Newsletter to which Councillor Nancy Matthews brought everyone up to date with how the Newsletter was being re-established following the death of Councillor Kevin Hughes. Councillor Thomson proposed that the Council looks closely at each topic in turn and as such proceeds from that point. The Members agreed to the proposal with the Environment section being the first to progress. Within this, the Council can highlight the achievements to date, e.g. the Wildflower Meadow, the Dog Walking Facility and the Bees and Hives and to look at what can be done further within the community.

Councillor Matthews reminded the Members that the Council could also communicate information to residents via its website and also the Village Facebook facility and perhaps a short introduction to the Environment section of the Plan could be undertaken by Councillor Michael Meadway for publication to the community.

## **7. Gwernymynydd Community Council's Website**

The Members were reminded that the contents of the Gwernymynydd Community Council website were a provider of useful village knowledge and general information which all residents within the community could enjoy and that Mr. John Seddon could be contacted with regard to any item on the website be it new or old information by Councillors for clarification on any points. With reference to the identification and location house-naming project within the Village, Members have put their names forward to provide a working group, and Mr. John Seddon had started a section on the Council's website to accommodate the information.

Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Members that she had been approached by some residents regarding the font size used on the website to provide general information, Councillor Matthews enquired whether a link could be produced in order that visually impaired readers could see the information more clearly. The Clerk was requested to pursue the issue with Mr. Seddon.

## **8 Police Matters and Member Reports**

The Clerk informed the Members that he had received an apology for absence from PCSO Emma Owen stating unfortunately she would not be able to attend the meeting, however, the Clerk had been informed via Sergeant Emma Prevete of North Wales Police that PCSO Cleo Milburn would be attending the meeting in place of PCSO Owen.

A warm welcome was extended to PCSO Milburn by the Chairman and the Members of the Council.

The Clerk related to the Members the Police Report published from the police website and requested information regarding the reported burglary and any further offences, PCSO Milburn in her reply provided to the Members the details to hand. In feedback to PCSO Milburn questions were posed by Councillors regarding speeding traffic on the A494 Trunk Road, residents had raised their concerns and asked whether the Go Safe team could visit the Village or whether a speed gun and a police presence could be utilised to deter speeding vehicles. PCSO Milburn in reply stated she would pursue the concerns given. Councillor Marjorie Thomson raised the issue of parked vehicles on the A494 directly opposite to the Swan Lane junction thus causing difficulties in access and egress, PCSO Milburn in her reply stated that police visits had been undertaken regarding previous complaints and that this situation would continue to be monitored. However, it was clear to everyone that double yellow lines in the area would help to resolve the problem.

The Chairman and Members thanked PCSO Cleo Milburn for her attendance at the Council meeting and stated that it was much appreciated.

**Glyndwr Road; Blaen Wern; Minffordd Fields; Ruthin Road; Swan Lane; Tros y Wern; Cadole and Llys Enfys** on this occasion, in these areas there were no items for discussion.

## **Member Area Reports.**

**Llys Enfys; Cadole; Swan Lane;** and **Blaen Wern** in these areas there were no items for discussion.

**Ruthin Road;** Councillors again raised their concerns regarding speeding vehicles and the parking of vehicles on the Trunk Road (A494); **Glyndwr Road,** Councillor Nancy Matthews outlined to the Members her concerns regarding erosion of the tarmac road surface on the edges of the road; **Tros y Wern,** Councillor George Godwin related to the Members the problem of the damaged style leading onto the footpath near Tros y Wern Farm; **Minffordd Fields,** Members again raised health and safety concerns regarding the wall at the edge of the small car park close to the entry into Minffordd Fields. The wall is very badly damaged and close to collapse. The Clerk was requested to pursue the matter with Streetscene, Flintshire County Council asking for remedial repairs to be undertaken and make the wall safe.

## **9. Planning Matters**

**BK/062953, erection of a front and rear extension located at 6, Hafod y Wern, Gwernymynydd.**

The Members inspected the proposal by use of the Flintshire County Council website and discussed the application in the Council meeting. The Members after full discussion agreed to offer no objection to the planning application.

With respect to the email, Planning Weekly List, reference to the reception of applications and decisions taken by the Planning Authority, notification had been received via the list concerning applications **063054, located at 3, Trem y Dref Gwernymynydd, erection of an Orangery and application 063000, located at 20, Godre'r Coed, proposed garage conversion to office/utility and a new raised flat roof.**

The Members had later received the information and inspected the proposals by use of the Flintshire County Council website and further discussed the applications in the Council meeting. The Members after full discussion agreed to offer no objection to the planning applications.

**DBE/062973, alterations to the existing dwelling and one new dwelling house located at Rhianfa, Ffordd Bryngwyn, Gwernymynydd.**

The Members inspected the proposal by use of the Flintshire County Council website and discussed the application by email and in the Council meeting. The Members after full discussion agreed to object to the planning application as follows:-

Planning Services  
Planning, Environment and Economy Directorate  
Flintshire County Council  
County Hall, MOLD

Dear Sir

I refer to the above planning application of which I emphasise that this Council objects to the proposed development on this site as it does not comply with the Gwernymynydd Village Development Plan, a document produced by full consultation and agreement with the respective community and Flintshire County Council.

Therefore, the Members of this Council have emphatically resolved to object to this proposal for the following reasons.

1. The site lies within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty where only such development allowed is essential housing for Agricultural and or Forestry employees.
2. The submitted plans do not cater for surface water run-off, consequently if the development was permitted this would inevitably lead to flooding on the nearby road and properties.
3. The location of proposed new dwelling is positioned at the top of the site this would impact on the outlook of the nearby properties and as such it would be an overpowering development causing visual intrusion to the nearby property.
4. On examination of the submitted plans it states that there are no hedgerows, this is incorrect as the site is bordered by well-established plum trees.
5. There is no identified provision for a septic tank arrangement stated in the plans.
6. The submitted plan of the dwelling Rhianfa is incorrect it does not address the lean-to rear porch.
7. The proposed use of timber cladding on the new dwelling is inappropriate for the location taking into account its siting within an Area of Outstanding natural Beauty.
8. This Council expresses great concern with regards to the proposed development submitted as it lies outside of the Gwernymynydd settlement boundary.
9. Previous submitted plans in this location stated the requirement that any building (a field shelter) must be built in a dip in the land area in order to reduce the visual impact of the construction, thus taking into account the location lying within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The Community Council of Gwernymynydd emphatically wish refusal of the submitted application.

## **10. Finance**

To receive invoices for payment to order payment and to sign cheques, the Clerk informed the Members of the expenditure for June the details of which can be found on page 2021; 35.

Previously Members were requested to consider the Remuneration Payment that could be given to Councillors in their capacity as Elected/Co-opted Members of a Community Council and following a detailed report on the issue given to the Members by Councillor Marjorie Thomson the Members had agreed to pursue the matter. The Clerk provided for the Members the Payment Allowance Form to be completed by the Councillors. Payment was duly authorised and cheques were signed.

Please note that because the Clwyd Pension Department at County Hall has all its staff working from home the Council's cheque to the Pension Fund for the Clerk, the Employer's Contribution, will be paid directly to the Clerk for submission by BACS to the pension fund.

## **11. Events Taking Place Within Gwernymynydd**

With reference to the proposals put forward at the previous Council meetings for a memorial to Councillor Kevin Hughes the Members agreed to the suggestion of an annual community photograph competition which reflected village life. The Members considered and agreed that the age groups should be for primary school children, secondary school children and adults and that £50 be awarded to the respective winners, also, that a Village Calendar could be produced to show the winning photographs. The judging of the said competition would be undertaken by 3 Councillors plus a person independent of the Council. The competition will be widely advertised throughout the community utilising the Facebook site and the Council's website. Regarding the printing of the Calendar, the Clerk was requested to obtain relative quotations from local printers.

With reference to the suggestion of a 5k walk within the community put forward by Councillor Victoria Norman the Members had agreed to this proposal and as such were requested to consider a suitable route within the community area and to report back at the next meeting. Councillor Marjorie Thomson informed the Members that she had undertaken a possible route which included the Twmpath and Moel Findeg, other less strenuous routes were still to be considered. Members agreed that a suitable date for the walk would be Saturday the 4th September.

Members discussed the delayed Village Litter Pick and resolved to pursue the event in 2021 and to propose a suitable date, most probably in October at school half-term, this to be confirmed at a future meeting of the Council.

Councillors also reported to the meeting that local residents and indeed Members themselves had continued to undertake litter picks throughout areas in the communities of Gwernymynydd and Cadole.

Members also considered future celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee, this item to be discussed at a later meeting of the Council, Remembrance Sunday and the purchase of permanent poppies for display to honour the fallen soldiers.

## **12. Reports**

### **Outside Bodies**

With reference to the Village Centre Management Committee, an update of present usage and information concerning the Village Centre was provided for the Members by Councillor Nancy Matthews. Councillor Matthews in her report informed the Members that the Village Centre had been decorated and that the newly constructed planters were now located just outside of the car park, thanks were given to Michael and Vicky White for the kind donation of flowers to fill the boxes.

Councillor Matthews also stated that volunteers were being sought to maintain the planters and to keep the flowering plants watered on a regular basis.

Councillor Matthews informed the Members that she and Councillor Carl Jackson had taken time out to clear the car park surrounding area of weeds and to undertake a general tidy-up.

### **Sub-Committees**

There were no additional items for discussion.

## **13. Correspondence**

Items 1 and 2 were received by the Council.

**14. Late Correspondence**

The Clerk reported to the Members on the following received item:-

By e-mail; Information received from Flintshire County Council reference to the Summer Playscheme; One Voice Wales monthly Bulletin; Planning for Dark Nights; Welsh Government News update regarding e-PIMS; Introduction to Rachel Carter, Local Places for Nature Officer; An email received from Councillor David Coggins requesting information about Council meetings.

**Chairman.....**

Payments authorised at the meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

T M Richardson	Clerk's Salary, November	505.70
	Postage	5.10
		<b>510.80</b>
Remuneration Payments to Councillors	Remuneration/Councillor Allowance Payments	600.00
Clwyd Pension Fund, via T.M Richardson	Employer's contribution,	145.64
Councillor Nancy Matthews	Compost and Plaques plus Engraving	54.88
		<b><u>1,311.32</u></b>