



# Gwernymynydd Community Council Cyngor Cymdeithasol Gwernymynydd

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**T. M. Richardson C. Eng. M.I.MMM, MIOA.**  
*Clerk to the Council*  
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Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at the Village Centre, Gwernymynydd.

**Chairman:** Councillor Marjorie. Thomson.

## **Councillors Present**

Karen Jones, Anita Thomas, Keith Taylor, Shirley Hughes, Anu Beadle, Kevin Hughes, Robert Sheppard, John Homersley and Carl Jackson.

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

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Nancy Matthews

### **2. Election of Chairman, 2013/14**

Councillors Marjorie Thomson and Keith Taylor were proposed and seconded for the post of Chairman of the Gwernymynydd Community Council. Following on from a paper ballot which resulted in even votes being cast by the Members, Councillor Thomson was elected Chairman.

### **3. Election of Vice-Chairman, 2013/14**

Councillor K. Taylor was proposed and seconded for the post of Vice-Chairman of the Gwernymynydd Community Council. Councillor Taylor was unanimously elected Vice-Chairman.

### **4. Co-option for the Vacant Seat on the Community Council**

The Clerk reported to the Members that the Council had received one nomination for the vacant seat on the Community Council.

Vicky Hinstridge from Cwr y Coed, Cadole was unanimously elected as a Councillor for the Gwernymynydd Community Council.

As a newly elected Member of the Gwernymynydd Community Council Vicky Hinstridge signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Clerk to the Council.

5. **Adoption of the Council's Existing Standing Orders & Financial Regulations**

The Members agreed to adopt the above Orders and Regulations without alteration.

6. **To Approve the Minutes of the April Meeting**

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

7. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

**5. 2012; 37, Llys Enfys;** With reference to the sign warning of children playing in the area, Councillor K. Taylor informed the Members that the sign had now been obtained.

**5. 2013; 02, Tros y Wern;** With reference to dog fouling in and around the Godre'r Coed, Godre'r Mynydd areas, the Clerk related to the Members that he had been in contact with Mr. Richard Blake in Public Protection, Flintshire County Council and that meeting could now be arranged to discuss the problems. Councillors Anita Thomas, Vicky Hinstridge and Kevin Hughes volunteered to meet with Richard Blake.

**9. 2013; 03,** With reference to the proposal to brighten up the approach to Gwernymynydd and Cadole by having spring/summer time flowers in planters near to the village road signs, Councillor K. Taylor informed the Members that the planters had now been put in place.

**5. 2013; 17,** With reference to concerns expressed by residents and Members regarding the future of the Rainbow Inn the Clerk related to the meeting the contents of a letter received from Councillor Nancy Matthews. The Inn has been purchased by Wheeler Homes and it is proposed that the building will be retained with the Downing Hall fire place also being kept as a feature. It was also proposed that a plaque would be sited on the building recognising the Inn's role as a staging post and the village's first post office.

**4. 2013; 17,** The Clerk related to the Members that he had been in contact with Mr. E. Owens regarding regular reports from the Gwernymynydd CP School Governors meetings and that Mr. Owens would be willing to come along to a Council meeting to give regular updates on events etc. taking place. The Members were appreciative of the recently sent Governors Report and requested the Clerk to ask Mr. Owens if he could come along to the next meeting of the Council to provide information as to what has been achieved by the school over the last year.

8. **Police Matters and Area Reports**

There was no Police presence at the Council meeting.

**Gwernymynydd and Cadole; Police Area Reports.**

**Cadole; Glyndwr Road; Minffordd Fields; Swan Lane; Tros y Wern and Ruthin Road** in these areas there were no items to report for discussion.

**Llys Enfys and Blaen Wern;** Indiscriminate vehicle parking was still causing a nuisance.

## **Member Area Reports;**

**Swan Lane; Tros y Wern; Blaen Wern; and Llys Enfys,** in these areas there were no items to report for discussion.

**Cadole;** Councillor K. Taylor reported that bushes and the grass verges near to the planters required trimming/mowing.

**Glyndwr Road;** Councillor R. Sheppard reported to the Members that litter was a problem at the former entrance to the Cambrian Quarry.

**Minffordd Fields;** Councillor A. Beadle reported to the Members that one street light had now been repaired and that she had been in contact with residents asking for support with the view to requesting Flintshire County Council to adopt the road and its street lighting.

**Ruthin Road;** Councillors requested the Clerk to pursue the resolution to insert windows in the two bus stops.

## **9. Planning Matters**

**Ref: APW/050723, Partial demolition, alterations and extension to Hen Dyddyn, Hafod Road, Gwernymynydd.**

**AGREED**

**Ref: HJP/050695, Restoration of Cambrian Quarry by the importation of recycling of inert materials.**

**NOT AGREED**

The Members of the Council following a public meeting held to discuss the application with residents of Gwernymynydd, emphatically resolved to object to this proposal to import inert materials into the Cambrian Quarry for the purpose of restoration and recycling for the following reasons:-

1. The proposed new entrance to the quarry lies in close proximity to the Glyndwr Road/A494 road junction. The increase in heavy goods traffic using this entrance/exit, close to a bend on the brow of a hill on the A494, will in the opinion of the Council create a road traffic hazard and an increase in associated risks on the busy trunk road. A previous planning application submitted by the bus company Eagles and Crawford was subject to strict road traffic conditions for separate entrance and exit access. This company's access/exit is located further away from the proposed Quarry access/exit onto the A494.

2. The proposal outlines traffic movement of heavy goods vehicles of at least 150 per day, this amount of vehicle activity from the narrow Glyndwr Road onto the busy A494 trunk road would exacerbate the existing traffic problems of quarry traffic emanating from the nearby Cefn Mawr Quarry and increased public vehicle flow.

3. The proposal identifies a new quarry haul road which would be in an elevated position running parallel to the existing public road, the Glyndwr Road. Residents and or users of the Glyndwr Road would be subject to heavy goods, quarry vehicles, travelling along the elevated road high above them thus increasing the possibility of traffic risk relating to an accident. This traffic risk would be increased at times of inclement weather, increased surface water run off within the quarry and possible icy road condition in the winter months.

4. Residents in the area would be subject to an increase in road traffic noise, an estimated 150 lorry movements per day, road/quarry traffic dust resulting from the works taking place inside the quarry and traffic movement onto the Glyndwr Road/A494 junction.
5. The Council questions the proposal reference to landfill and restoration within the quarry; Members are of the opinion that the quarry would be essentially a transfer station with recycled materials being transported out thus maintaining a high traffic flow from the quarry and through Gwernymynydd via the busy A494.
6. The local flora and fauna, well established since the cessation of quarrying activities, would be adversely affected by the increase in traffic movement and recycling activities within the quarry, special reference is made with respect to disturbance of the resident protected bat population.
7. The Council expresses its concern with regard to the proposed working hours deemed necessary to make the operations viable.
8. The Council and local residents express their concerns with regard to previous operations that have taken place within the quarry, e.g. the licensed deposition of asbestos, the importation of general waste and chemical waste materials. The concerns are centred upon the possible disturbance of the buried substances.
9. Previous permitted operations within the quarry entailed adequate waste cover material and bunding to ensure minimum nuisance of noise and dust to neighbours. In the opinion of the Council and local residents this control measure has not been fulfilled and adequately addressed in the proposal and works within the quarry would cause unacceptable nuisance.
10. Concern is also expressed with regard to light nuisance caused by floodlights necessary to undertake recycling/landfill works within the quarry and noise and dust nuisance caused by associated generators, screening, crusher machinery and vehicle reversing beepers.
11. Members have raised the issue of the Cambrian Quarry being in close proximity to the Clwydian AONB and to what effect the proposal will have on the neighbourhood.
12. The planning application lacks a transport assessment, an adequate noise assessment relating to the use of the respective machinery and an assessment of possible fugitive dust emissions arising from the proposed work activities.
13. The quarry area is subject to excess surface water run off, this frequently causes flooding problems and nuisance on the Glyndwr Road and the A494, there is no provision detailed in the planning application to resolve the problem, increased traffic flow caused by the work operations would exacerbate this situation.
14. The quarry area is criss-crossed with public and non definitive footpaths close to the proposed workings; the application does not adequately resolve this problem of the use of the footpaths.

In addition to above, following more concerns expressed by a local resident the Council contacted Flintshire County Council to state further objections; these are given below:-

1. The Community of Gwernymynydd is most concerned and worried about the additional flow of traffic, heavy goods vehicles, which would be generated by the proposal. The A494 is already a busy trunk road and takes a heavy traffic flow from the nearby operating quarries. The proposal for access/egress at the junction of the A494/Glyndwr Road, in the opinion of the Council is inadequate to cope with the additional traffic. The Council and residents of Gwernymynydd respectfully request that the North and Mid-Wales Trunk Road Agency looks more closely at the proposal and undertakes a traffic review.

2. It has recently come to light that the proposal in its present form has had the knock on effect of devaluing property within the village. This effect has been felt not only in the area close to the quarry but also within the village some distance away from Cambrian Quarry. Properties currently for sale within Gwernymynydd have seen a devaluation figure of 20% imposed on the respective houses.

The Council respectfully requested that the concerns and objections outlined above by the Members and the residents of Gwernymynydd must be taken into consideration and that the planning application refused.

With regard to the vacant position on the Planning Sub-Committee Councillor Vicky Hinstridge was nominated to succeed former Councillor Ian Joseph.

## **10. Finance**

To receive invoices for payment to order payment and to sign cheques, the Clerk informed the Members of the expenditure for May, the details of which can be found on page 2013; 28.

The Clerk informed the Members that the Council's Accounts had now been returned by Mr. D. Griffiths the Council's Internal Auditor, the Clerk related to the Members the comments received from Mr. Griffiths. The documents relating to the Accounts will now be forwarded onto the External Auditor (Wales Audit Commission).

## **11. Gwernymynydd Development Plan and Action Plan**

Councillor Marjorie Thomson outlined to the Members the Social and Community Development Policies. The Gwernymynydd Development Plan Review included original policies with dates followed by actions linked to those policies.

### **SC1 Ongoing 2010-2030**

The Policy stated that the Community Council would look to support and encourage initiatives aimed at developing greater organised social activity within the village. Specifically it would:

- Work with the current Village Centre Management Committee to strengthen its role as a facilitator of social activities in the community.
- Publish on a quarterly basis a "Contact Bulletin" which lists contact details for all current activities and offer the opportunity for residents to suggest or join any new initiatives, to promote the Council's website and therefore to provide up to date information to the Community.
- Where needed, facilitate the initial setup of new initiatives by arranging first meetings, further promotions and possible financial help.

It was agreed that the Council had met with these objectives examples of such initiatives being the Pantomimes, Lunch Club, Book Club, Royal Wedding Street Party, Queen's Jubilee Parade, Street Party and Barbecue, Senior Citizen's Christmas Party, 2013 Calendar, LIFT Training with ACNEW, Children's Fundraising Events, Blaenwern Garden Competition, Vegetable Co-op, Christmas Fayre and the Christmas Carol Concert.

### **SC2 Ongoing 2010-2030**

The Community Council will look to support initiatives aimed at providing local amenities. This may include less mainstream proposals such as Member Co-operatives or facilities run from local pub buildings.

To date the Council has replaced the 4 notice boards located in the community. The provision of benches for residents in Blaenwern is being progressed.

### **SC3 Ongoing 2010-2030**

The Community Council recognises the significance and importance of the Welsh language and as such continues to encourage existing Welsh speakers within the village to assist the Council in promoting the use of the language both in the field of Council affairs and in raising the proportion and confidence of Welsh speakers in the community.

Welsh classes are taking place in the Village Centre and continue for a third year.

### **SC4 Short term 2010-2012**

The Community Council views the Internet as the primary means of community correspondence. Specifically it will designate a member of the Council as co-ordinator to promote this potential whilst not ignoring the requirements of any residents who cannot use the Internet. The co-ordinator will also lead any communication with existing or alternative broadband providers to improve quality of service throughout the area.

The Gwernymynydd Internet web pages are updated on a regular basis covering social activities in the village and information relating to the Community Council.

## **12. Gwernymynydd Youth Club/Youth Council**

Councillors were informed that the last meeting had been cancelled due to the adverse weather conditions however with respect to the previous meeting there had been a good attendance of Club members. All who had turned up enjoyed a night games and outside activities. Councillors Karen Jones and Anita Thomas gave further details to the Council of the Club's proposed activities.

## **13. Gwernymynydd/Cadole, Road Safety and Road Improvements**

With reference to the A494 and the Prohibition of Waiting Order, Members related that the painting of the yellow lines appear to be working. It is hoped that the Prohibition Order continues to be effective as this would improve pedestrian and highway users' safety and ease the problem of indiscriminate parking of vehicles. Members also related that Denbighshire County Council had erected additional signs prohibiting the parking of vehicles on the grass verges.

**14. Reports**

**Outside Bodies**

With reference to the Village Centre Management Committee, Councillors K. Hughes and A. Thomas provided an update of information for the Members. Councillors were informed of the problems experienced with the Centre's heating system and of discussions with Flintshire County Council with the view of resolving those stated problems. Finances were issues that the Management Committee needs to address with reduced income from the usual Caravan Clubs having an impact on available funds.

Councillor Carl Jackson related to the Members the main points of the recently held Cefn Mawr Quarry Liaison Committee meeting, production levels remain the same as last year, there were no reported complaints by residents and the Quarry Management is looking into extending the Cadole footpath towards the Pantybuarth crossroads.

**Sub-Committees**

BMX Cycle Track, the Clerk informed the Council that the Sub-Committee had met on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2013 in order to open and examine the sealed submissions. The Sub-Committee had made a decision and the successful Contractor was given to be Brian Davies Ltd of Maeshafn. The Clerk was requested to inform the successful Contractor accordingly and to ask the Company to proceed with the construction of the BMX Track as soon as possible.

**15. Correspondence**

Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 were received by the Council.

**16. Late Correspondence**

The following information was received by the Council:-

One Voice Wales, notification of its AGM and Conference, to be held on Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at the Royal Welsh Showground.

Flintshire County Council, reference to its policy to procure energy for its streetlighting at a reduced kwatt/hr. This rate is offered to Town and Community Councils. The Council discussed the savings that could be made by utilising the offer and resolved to approach Flintshire County Council and to confirm its interest in the procurement process.

Councillor Kevin Hughes requested Members to consider supporting a Village Event in August similar in theme to those of the Jubilee and the Royal Wedding celebrations. Councillors were asked to give suggestions for the event, the aim being to maintain continuity of Village involvement with a party atmosphere.

**Chairman.....**

Payments authorised at the meeting held on the 30<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

T M Richardson	Clerk's Salary	364.06
	Postage	13.00
	Clerk's Allowance	53.96
		<b><u>431.02</u></b>
Gwernymynydd Village Centre	Support grant	2,000.00
Gwernymynydd CP School	School support grant	600.00
Councillor K. Taylor	Play warning sign, planters delivery	153.98
		<b><u>3,185.00</u></b>