



# Gwernymynydd Community Council Cyngor Cymdeithasol Gwernymynydd

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Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at the Village Centre, Gwernymynydd.

**Chairman:** Due to apologies for absence being received from both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Marjorie Thomson was nominated to Chair the meeting.

## **Councillors Present**

Frances Rosedale, Keith Taylor, Karen Jones, Jacqueline Jepson, and Marjorie Thomson.

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Vicky Hintridge, Carl Jackson, John Homersley, Kevin Hughes and Heidi Jackson.

### **In Attendance**

Councillor Nancy Matthews, Mr. David Griffiths (the Council's Internal Auditor), Mr Andy Roberts (Flintshire County Council, Planning) and Mr. C. Bradshaw (local resident)

### **2. To Welcome to the Meeting Mr. Andy Roberts, Flintshire County Council, Reference to the Flintshire County Council's LDP**

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mr. Andy Roberts and introductions were made to all present. Mr. Roberts outlined to the Members his role as the Service Manager in Planning Strategy and proceeded to give an overview of Flintshire's LDP. Mr. Roberts outlined the different strategic options for growing Flintshire up to 2030 that will inform the preparation of the Flintshire LDP. The Plan will set out where new development goes in the future as well as planning policies on a range of issues, these were identified as follows:-

1. Enhancing Community life; the provision of shops and services, capacity of education facilities and access to them, health care provision, traffic congestion and rural accessibility.
2. Delivering growth and prosperity; recognising the importance of the Flintshire economy to the wider region, type and quality of employment land and infrastructure, housing affordability and undersupply of housing.
3. Safeguarding the environment; climate change and wildlife protection.

Mr. Roberts further explained the Spatial Options taking into account proportional distribution for towns and villages, towns and larger villages only, towns and villages within the spatial growth area, settlements along transport routes and sustainable and flexible distribution; he further outlined the next steps to be taken in preparation with input provided from local people through the consultation process.

With regard to the Gwernymynydd community, Mr. Roberts identified that infill development within the existing 'village envelope' would satisfy the predicted settlement growth. Mr. Chris Bradshaw posed the question as to how the Gwernymynydd Development Plan stood in regard to the LDP, in reply Mr. Roberts stated that the Plan answered many of the questions outlined within the Spatial Options and Key Requests asked by Flintshire County Council in the previous consultation process which looked into candidate sites for future development within communities. Overall the Gwernymynydd Development Plan was a model document which would greatly assist Flintshire County Council in formulating its LDP.

With respect to Councillors and the members of the community Councillor Marjorie Thomson stated that residents should outline their views on the LDP proposals to Flintshire County Council, this being undertaken either by utilising the Flintshire website; [www.flintshire.gov.uk](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk), or by e-mail, at [developmentplans@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:developmentplans@flintshire.gov.uk) or by letter to Andrew Farrow, Chief Officer (Planning and Environment) Flintshire County Council, County Hall, Mold, CH7 6NF.

In summing up the discussion Councillor Marjorie Thomson thanked both Mr. Andy Roberts and Mr. Chris Bradshaw for coming along to the meeting and for their valuable input into the LDP Agenda Item.

### **3. To Welcome to the Meeting Mr. David Griffiths the Council's Internal Auditor**

To review the Council's Financial Risk Assessment, 2016/17.

The Chairman, Councillor Marjorie Thomson welcomed Mr. Griffiths to the Council meeting whereby introductions were made to all present. An explanation of why this assessment needed to be done was given by Mr. Griffiths who then referred Councillors to the previous year's Financial Risk Assessment check list. The Clerk had provided the Members copies of the said list and as such Mr. Griffiths proceeded to go through each item, the Risk, the Consequences and the Action.

Following discussions on each identified Risk, Consequences and Action and also drawing reference to the situation that had involved Dynfant Community Council in South Wales changes to the Council's Financial Risk Assessment were deemed to be necessary. The Members agreed to the following:-

1. The Action Plan on residents' views continues to be monitored regularly and Councillors actively seek and regularly report residents' comments to the Council.
2. There is a need to investigate insurance cover for events not held in the Village Centre and a full risk assessment will continue to be carried out before each event.
3. Communication to the community is undertaken via the Village Newsletter and the Gwernymynydd and Cadole Facebook site

The resultant Financial Risk Assessment, 2016/17 can be found attached to the Minutes.

#### **4. Co-option of a new Councillor**

The Clerk reported to the Members that he had not received any applications nor any enquiries regarding the vacancy for a Councillor. This vacancy will therefore be kept open pending such a time that someone may be interested in filling the post.

#### **5 To Approve the Minutes of the October Meeting.**

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

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

**2016; 57, Ruthin Road,** Councillors Vicky Hinstridge and Jacqueline Jepson again raised their concerns with regard to large amounts of the toxic weed Ragwort growing in fields close to the A494. Their concerns relate to the possibility of the weed spreading to other areas and causing a danger to horses and cattle. Members were informed that Andrew Lightfoot of FCC, Streetscene had been informed about the matter. Also in addition to this concern Councillor Frances Rosedale had raised the issue of intrusive weeds growing alongside the A494, again this complaint had been referred to Andrew Lightfoot for action.

**2016; 59,** Councillor Keith Taylor had previously informed the Members that the North Wales Wildlife Trust would be taking over the Visitors' Centre at the former Aberduna Quarry in the near future and that Mr. Andrew Lloyd Jones would like to come along to a Council meeting to outline the work the Trust will be undertaking at the former Quarry. Councillor Taylor related to the Members that he was still pursuing this matter.

#### **7. Gwernymynydd CP School, Governors Report to the Council**

In the absence of Councillor Kevin Hughes, Councillor Nancy Matthews provided an update of what was happening at the school, pupil numbers were creeping up and this was seen as a positive step towards being renowned as an excellent school which was appreciated by the community.

Councillor Frances Rosedale provided for the Members information relating to forthcoming events at the school, a Christmas Fayre and concerts were planned for December.

Councillor Nancy Matthews again stated that the Governors' continue to promote the school through the local media and the Village Newsletter in efforts to increase pupil numbers.

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

There was no police presence at the Council meeting and no police report to give to the Members for discussion and comments.

**Tros y Wern,** Members were made aware that a car located in Godre'r Coed had been 'broken into' and items stolen, the police had been informed and were investigating the matter. The Members were also told that the theft would be reported in the Village Newsletter in order to make residents aware of what could happen if valuables or other items were left in their vehicles. **Swan Lane,** The Clerk reported to the Members that he had spoken with PCSO Arrowsmith in relation to the parking of vehicles opposite to the Swan Lane/A494 road junction.

**Glyndwr Road; Minffordd Fields; Ruthin Road;** and **Cadole** in these areas there were no items for discussion.

**Llys Enfys and Blaen Wern;** as previously stated indiscriminate vehicle parking was in part still causing a nuisance.

#### **Member Area Reports.**

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

**Ruthin Road,** Councillor Jacqueline Jepson informed the Members that she was pursuing the concerns raised regarding large amounts of the toxic weed Ragwort growing in fields close to the A494 with the respective landowner; **Llys Enfys,** Councillor Keith Taylor informed the Members that the Cambrian Quarry would in the short term be working on Saturday mornings, also he related to the Members that the storm drains near to the former Rainbow Inn were blocked with fallen leaves; **Glyndwr Road,** Members were informed of a street light being out and requiring attention; **Ruthin Road,** Councillor Frances Rosedale reported to the Members that a bollard on the A494 was ‘sparking’ and required attention.

The Clerk was requested to report the concerns and complaints to appropriate authority.

#### **9. Planning Matters**

##### **Pre-planning application consultation for a mobile phone base station installation located at the Rainbow Garage, Ruthin Road, Gwernymynydd.**

Councillor Nancy Matthews reported to the Members on the above issue and she also outlined the actions she had taken on the matter. The Members thanked her for her report and requested that the Clerk writes to the Company outlining the similar concerns of the Council.

##### **JZB/056085, Erection of a 2.5m high boundary stone wall located at Treetops, Village Road, Cadole.**

After full consultation the Members raised no objection to the planning application.

By e-mail, Planning Weekly List, reference to decisions taken by the Planning authority.

#### **10. Finance**

To receive invoices for payment to order payment and to sign cheques, the Clerk informed the Members of the expenditure for November the details of which can be found on page 2016; 66.

The Clerk provided for the Members an interim report regarding the proposed Precept, for the Municipal Year, 2017/18; the full financial position will be presented in the January meeting.

The Clerk reported to the Members that he had received a request for financial assistance from the Gwernymynydd Pantomime Group. After full discussion on the submitted request the Members resolved to donate the sum of £250 to the organisation.

**11. Gwernymynydd Community Council's Action Plan, 2016/17**

The Members resolved to discuss the Action Plan in more detail at the next meeting of the Council.

With respect to the Gwernymynydd Development Plan and its associated Action Plan, the Clerk informed the Members that he had received a report from Councillor Vicky Hinstridge to update the Council on the Sub-Committee's meetings.

**12. Events Taking Place Within Gwernymynydd**

The Clerk informed the Members of the preparations already taken with regard to the planned Christmas event, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at the Village Centre.

Councillors had previously resolved that the Christmas event would have the following; a tree that would be decorated with presents or handmade festive decorations given by children, craft stalls, refreshments (cakes, mince pies, tea, coffee and soft drinks), small boxes filled with 'stocking fillers', music and carol singing and a raffle. The Members had also agreed that the charity chosen to benefit from the Christmas event would be the Domestic Abuse Safety Unit based in Deeside.

**13. Remembrance Sunday 2016**

Members reported to the meeting that the Service conducted on Remembrance Sunday was a success and that compliments had been received from Members of the Public, reference to the organisation of the Service and its presentation.

**14. Reports**

**Outside Bodies**

With reference to the Village Centre Management Committee, an update of usage information was provided for the Members.

Councillor Marjorie Thomson reported to the Members the salient points of the recently held meeting of One Voice Wales. Councillor Thomson informed the Members of the success of Rosset Community Council in obtaining funding for local CCTV; she commented on the External Audit Themes relating to PAYE, Code of Conduct for elected Councillors and the use of Internal Audit for Town/Community Councils. Councillor Thomson also related information on School Governors and representation on the Boards by local Councillors and individual parents.

Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Members of the main items arising out of the recently held Cefn Mawr Quarry Liaison Committee; the Padeswood plant was closing down for refurbishment resulting in a reduced output from the Quarry and new members of the liaison committee were introduced to each other at the meeting.

With regard to the scheduled South Flintshire Police Consultation Evening with the District Inspector, Jonathan Bowcott, Councillor Keith Taylor informed the Members that unfortunately he would not be able to attend the meeting, Councillor Kevin Hughes would attend in place of Councillor Taylor.

## Sub-Committees

There were no additional items for discussion.

### 15. Correspondence

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

### 16. Late Correspondence

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

By e-mail; information received Betsi Cadwaldr Stakeholder Reference Group; National Resource Wales Report; County Forum notes; a reply from WBCT providing the additional information as requested by the Council.

**Chairman.....**

Payments authorised at the meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016

T M Richardson	Clerk's Salary, (Nov and Dec)	783.62
	Postage	11.37
	Clerk's Allowance	56.40
	Council's Computer Security	89.99
		<b><u>941.38</u></b>
Society of Local Council Clerks	Annual Subscription	93.00
FLVC	Council's Printing	20.23
Association of Council Clerks	Annual Subscription	10.00
Councillor Carl Jackson	Refreshments for the Forum	8.64
Councillor Keith Taylor	Council's Poppy Wreath	20.00
Gwernymynydd Panto Group		250.00
		<b><u>1,343.25</u></b>