

# **Gwernymynydd Community Council Cyngor Cymdeithasol Gwernymynydd**

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Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2017 at the Village Centre, Gwernymynydd.

# Chairman: Vicky Hinstridge

#### **Councillors Present**

Frances Rosedale, James Appleton, Heidi Jackson, Jacqueline Jepson, Charlotte Dawson, Nancy Matthews and Carl Jackson.

#### 1. <u>Apologies for Absence</u>

Councillors, Marjorie Thomson, John Homersley. and Stephen Prydderch.

#### In Attendance

Councillor Kevin Hughes.

# 2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Councillors

The Clerk informed the Members that unfortunately Councillor Stephen Prydderch had given his apologies and was unable to attend the Council meeting, therefore he was not able to declare his acceptance of Office of Councillor.

#### 3. <u>Members Code of Conduct, Declarations of Interest</u>

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 James Appleton declared his interest to the Council, reference to Agenda Item, 10, Planning Matters.

#### 4. Defibrillators and First Responders within the community

Councillor Vicky Hinstridge again outlined to the Members the initiative of utilising the Community Heartbeat Trust Lottery fund in order to purchase defibrillators for the community. Councillors discussed the number needed for the 2 villages and possible locations for siting them within a suitable range for emergency use. Again Members resolved that the Council would pursue the said funding stream and look towards purchasing 3 defibrillators for the community. Issues raised regarding training, insurance liability and maintenance of the units would be investigated.

Councillors Vicky Hinstridge and Jacquie Jepson would lead on the project with help and assistance being given by the Clerk as and when required.

The Members agreed to discuss this issue further at the next meeting of the Council.

# 5. <u>To Approve the Minutes of the June Meeting</u>

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

# 6. <u>Matters Arising from the Minutes.</u>

With reference to the items of concern raised by Members at the previous meeting to Mr. Andrew Lightfoot, of Streetscene, Flintshire County Council, the Clerk informed the Councillors of the actions that had been taken to resolve the issues stated. The problem of bricks/kerbstones on the highway (Ruthin Road) had been resolved by the direct action of Mr. Lightfoot speaking to the home owner concerned, the items had now been removed. The issue of the overflowing dog litter bins in the village had now been resolved, Mr. Lightfoot had reviewed the respective schedule in order to ensure that the said bins were emptied on a more frequent basis. With regard to the problem of the parking of a bus in the lay-by in Cadole, the bus causing a traffic hazard by reducing visibility along the busy A494, Mr. Lightfoot outlined in his e-mail to the Clerk the actions he had taken with regard to the problem and also that Flintshire County Council's Transportation Department were investigating the complaint and how it may be resolved to satisfaction.

**9. 2017; 29; Council's Website,** Councillors Vicky Hinstridge, Heidi Jackson and Charlotte Dawson had been nominated for this Sub-Committee with the main issue being to improve the website and to co-ordinate relevant information with the Gwernymynydd and Cadole Facebook site.

Councillor Hinstridge stated that she had received interest from 2 residents within the village to help look into improving the website and Councillor Dawson stated that she would look into the respective issues and link into the investigation in order to achieve an efficient and informative website. The Sub-Committee will continue to pursue this item to satisfaction.

**12, 2017; 40; Gwernymynydd Community Council's Action Plan, 2016/17,** Councillors agreed that this Agenda Item should be discussed further at the September meeting, following a meeting of the respective Sub-Committee.

**16, 2017; 41; Preferred Strategy Briefing, Flintshire County Council's LDP,** Councillor Frances Rosedale outlined to the Members the salient points discussed at the Briefing. Also Councillor Vicky Hinstridge informed the Members that she had requested the respective slides/information from Mr. Andy Roberts, Planning and Environment Directorate, Flintshire County Council.

# 7. <u>Gwernymynydd CP School, Governors Report to the Council</u>

Councillor Kevin Hughes related to the Members the details of the farewell get together organised by the school and Governors to say their thanks to Mrs Louise Williams for all she had done and achieved during her stay at Gwernymynydd CP School as Headteacher. 20

Councillor Hughes stated that it was a very emotional event with Mrs Williams receiving many gifts and everyone present wished her every success in her new appointment.

Councillor Hughes informed the Members that the school and Governors were looking forward to the new term and to the progressive way ahead which will bring many challenges to the school.

## 8. <u>Remembrance Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2017</u>

Councillors discussed the work of upgrading of the gardens and war memorial at its site within the Village Centre grounds. The refurbishment is due to commence on the  $3^{rd}$  week in August and is in line with all that has been discussed previously, e.g. an increase in the hard standing area, the memorial to be lit illuminated by solar powered lights, the trees to be trimmed back.

With regard to a possible opening ceremony of the garden/memorial following completion of the work Councillor Kevin Hughes stated that he would ask the Quarries Management team, Mr. Ken Skates AM, Mr. David Hanson MP, and the Chief Executive, Flintshire County Council to attend the event, most probably on a Friday but depending on the availability of the invited guests.

Concerning the Remembrance Sunday Service, all has been organised as previous, e.g. the Reverend Mary Brotherston to conduct the service, cubs/scouts, school pupils to come along, the piper to play, the former school bell to toll and the PA System to be obtained.

# 9. Police Matters and Member Reports

There was no Police presence at the meeting and no submitted report at the time of the meeting, however the Clerk informed the Members that he had been in contact with PCSO Arrowsmith and that he expected the report to be sent ASAP.

The Clerk received the said report the next day the contents of which are given below:-

During the last month there were 2 reports of suspicious activities within the village; a man knocking on windows/doors, Officers attended the scene and conducted a search but did not find the person concerned; a man with an Irish accent attended a property purporting to sell furniture but was was asking questions about the residents in the area with regards to whether or not they would be going away, Officers were looking into this complaint. A burglary was reported in Ruthin Road and this is still under investigation.

PCSO Arrowsmith submitted a request via the Clerk to all Councillors to please get into contact with him over any items of concern within the community.

Glyndwr Road; Minffordd Fields; Swan Lane; Ruthin Road; Tros y Wern 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. With reference to the latter, the parking problems have been exacerbated due to the poor surface area of the car park near to the entrance of Minffordd Fields, vehicles were now parking at the top of Blaen Wern and causing a nuisance to the residents. In addition to this problem Councillor Hughes informed the Members that he had again approached Flintshire County Council about the issue and because of the close proximity of the subsided surface to the pavement he had requested the Council to take the appropriate action to make safe the area. However because the area of land in question was in private ownership Councillor Hughes had requested Flintshire County Council to pursue enforcement action in order to remedy the problem. Also concerns were expressed with regard to vehicles parking within the garage area at Blaen Wern, such indiscriminate actions resulting in obstruction to access to the rented garages. Councillor Hughes related that he had met with Flintshire County Council Officers to discuss the problem and as such the proposed way forward of removing the grassed area near the garages and replacing with tarmacadam was discussed but unfortunately dismissed due to the costs that would be incurred

In addition to the above concerning Blaen Wern Councillor Carl Jackson informed the Members that vandalism to the parked cars in the garage area had occurred and that an investigation was underway to discover the culprit.

#### Member Area Reports.

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

Llys Enfys, Councillor Nancy Matthews again related to the Members complaints received regarding the grassed area of land near to the former Rainbow Inn, in previous years the land had been maintained in part by Flintshire County Council but because of unknown ownership this complimentary action had now ceased; Cadole; Councillor Vicky Hinstridge informed the Members that a volunteers had come forward to look after the village planters and to cut/maintain the triangular section of land at the junction of Village Road and Cadole Road respectively; Glyndwr Road; Councillor Nancy Matthews raised her concerns with regard to the surface water run-off in the area.

#### 10. <u>Planning Matters</u>

# KCS/057186; erection of side extension and modification of roof to rear extension, located at 37, Godre'r Coed, Gwernymynydd.

The above planning application was discussed by Councillors at the recent Planning Sub-Committee meeting and further in full Council; the Members raised no objection to the proposal and as such Councillors agreed to the submitted application.

The Members received the information by e-mail regarding the Planning Weekly List, reference to decisions taken by the Planning Authority.

#### 11. Finance

To receive invoices for payment to order payment and to sign cheques, the Clerk informed the Members of the expenditure for August the details of which can be found on page 2017; 48.

To receive the comments and observations from the Council's Internal Auditor, Mr. David Griffiths regarding the Council's Accounts, 2016/17.

Mr. Griffiths discussed the monopole telecommunication masts planning applications with the Clerk, the cash receipts obtained from the Family Day and Xmas Fayre events with regard to the Council's insurance policy and the safe keeping of cash, the documentary evidence of the Council's employer liability with regard to the Pension Scheme and a submitted request to the Clerk to insert the cheque numbers on the finance documents in order to facilitate an easier audit trail.

The Clerk informed the Members that Mr. Griffiths would be attending the October Council meeting to discuss the annual review of the Financial Risk Assessment, the Clerk will provide the existing documentation for the Members to look at and to consider any alterations to the Assessment that they feel is necessary at the September meeting.

# 12. <u>Gwernymynydd Community Council's Action Plan, 2016/17</u>

To progress the Development/Action Plan and its review the Members had agreed that a small working group would be established, that consultation with the community should again take place and that the Council would commence this initiative in September.

Councillor Vicky Hinstridge stated that she would be in contact with the Members in order to arrange a meeting to discuss the issues of the review. The Action Plan could then be started to be discussed in detail at the September meeting.

# 13. Events Taking Place Within Gwernymynydd

The annual Xmas Fayre was discussed by the Members who also highlighted the success of the previous event, 2016. Ideas for the Fayre were requested from Members for further discussion on the topic. The proposed dates for the event were given to be, 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> December at the Village Centre, 2.00 to 4.00 PM.

Councillor Carl Jackson informed the Members that another Car Boot Sale will be taking place on the 27<sup>th</sup> August, the sale to be held in the car park of the Village Centre.

#### 14. <u>Reports</u>

#### **Outside Bodies**

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

Members received with thanks the report submitted by Councillor Marjorie Thomson which was circulated to everyone by the Clerk via e-mail.

With regard to the Gwernymynydd Community Council/Flintshire County Council Playscheme Councillor Heidi Jackson raised her concerns to the Members with regard to the children at the scheme being exposed to adverse weather conditions whilst out on the Centre's field as opposed to being afforded accommodation within the Centre itself. The Members were informed that this was an oversight and unfortunately the Centre's Caretaker had not been informed that this was an option to be taken up, this situation has now been rectified.

# **Sub-Committees**

There were no additional items for discussion.

#### 15. <u>Correspondence</u>

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

#### 16. Late Correspondence

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

Flintshire County Council, notification of FLVC's AGM and a request for the nomination of Trustees; information relating to the attendance at Council meetings of Flintshire County Council's Streetscene Area Co-ordinators; notification of additional training for newly elected Councillors to take place at County Hall on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> September. With regard to the latter Councillors Heidi Jackson and Jacquie Jepson expressed a wish to attend the training session.

By e-mail; Flintshire County Council, Preferred Strategy Briefing (Planning and the Council's LDP); Flintshire County Council, a new draft supplementary planning guidance, ROWIP, Consultation document; Play Wales Bulletin; One Wales Bulletin; information relating to Betsi Cadwaldr Stake Holders meeting.

#### Additional Item

With reference to the Flintshire County Council's Best Kept Communities Competition, Councillor Nancy Matthews proposed that the Council should enter the said Competition and that the respective submission be considered well in advance, this was put to the Members and unanimously agreed.

Chairman....

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T M Richardson	Clerk's Salary (July/August)	783.62
	Postage	10.10
		<u>793.72</u>
Clwyd Pension Fund	Employer's contribution, x2	
	months	231.56
T. M. Richardson	The Council's annual Microsoft	
	Office Subscription	79.99
Deeco Lighting	Streetlight maintenance charge	289.25
FLVC	Council's printing	10.00
Scottish Power	Streetlight energy charge	188.37

Payments authorised at the meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2017

# <u>1592.89</u>