



# Gwernymynydd Community Council Cyngor Cymdeithasol Gwernymynydd

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Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at the Village Centre, Gwernymynydd.

**Chairman:** Vicky Hinstridge

## **Councillors Present**

Frances Rosedale, Carl Jackson, John Homersley, Nancy Matthews, Marjorie Thomson, Michael Meadway, Jacqueline Jepson and James Appleton.

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

Councillors, Charlotte Dawson and Heidi Jackson.

The Clerk informed the Members that unfortunately under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, Councillor Charlotte Dawson was now deemed to relinquish her position of Councillor due to non-attendance at 6 consecutive monthly meetings of the Council. The procedure for advertising the vacancy would now proceed accordingly.

### **In Attendance**

Councillor Kevin Hughes, Richard Roberts (Play Design Officer, Flintshire County Council/Aura Leisure and Libraries and Councillor Martyn Holland (Denbighshire County Council and Llanferres Community Council).

### **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.

There were no declarations of interest given by Councillors for this meeting.

### **3. Llys Enfys Play Area Improvement**

A presentation to the Council by Mr. Richard Roberts, Play Design Officer, Flintshire County Council/Aura Leisure and Libraries.

The Chairman, Councillor Vicky Hinstridge welcomed Mr. Richard Roberts to the meeting. Mr. Roberts outlined to the Members the proposed improvements to the Llys Enfys Play Area; he related that the Play Area was approximately 23 years old and that some of the equipment needed to be replaced and some required upgrading to reflect the age use of the local children. The said proposal was put to the Members who unanimously agreed to the stated improvements, the moneys available coming from match funding and a Section 106 Planning agreement.

With regard to any further play improvements within the village the possibility of additional housing development would provide funds via Section 106 Agreements. Councillor Kevin Hughes outlined to the Members the planning applications relating to Siglen Ucha and further development at the Rainbow as potential funding streams.

Councillor Vicky Hinstridge inquired as to the time-scale for starting the work, in reply Mr Roberts stated that late April to early May would be the probable date.

Councillor Kevin Hughes suggested to the Members and Mr. Roberts that some of the available funds could be used to provide a small environment area within the Play Area, everyone agreed that this proposal should go ahead.

Councillor Hinstridge and all the Members thanked Mr. Roberts for coming along to the meeting and for providing information on the Play Area Improvement Scheme.

#### **4. Parking issues at Cadole and Loggerheads**

To discuss the problems experienced in the area when snow falls and to look towards resolving the many complaints received from the community.

Councillor Vicky Hinstridge welcomed to the meeting Councillor Martyn Holland who proceeded to outline to the Members the problems to the local area experienced when multitudes of visitors arrive either when snowfalls or sunny and warm weather brings people out to enjoy the local scenery and landscape. Councillor Holland related the serious issues of visitors parking their vehicles in an obstructive manner on the A494 and in Cadole and Loggerheads. Also, Councillor Holland informed the Members of the destructive manner of some of the visitors who destroyed fences to gain access to snow covered fields and who left large amounts of debris and litter on the said fields. Councillor Holland informed the Members that he had arranged a meeting with representatives of North Wales Police, Denbighshire County Council, Loggerheads Country Park, Flintshire County Council and the Community Councils of Llanferres and Gwernymynydd. With respect to Gwernymynydd Councillors Vicky Hinstridge and Kevin Hughes would be involved in the discussions. With reference to snow falls the proposals put forward include the clearing of the car parks and roads, to channel visitors to free car parking in the Moel Fammau parks and for the Police and Denbighshire County Council to liaise together to undertake enforcement of obstructive and destructive car parking. Councillor Holland related to the Members that he had contacted the local media in order to ‘get the message’ across that visitors to the area must respect local residents and that verbal and physical abuse would not be tolerated and would be dealt with forcibly by the respective authorities.

Councillors Vicky Hinstridge and Martyn Holland related to the Members the actions they had taken to clean up the area and the local farmer’s field following the last snowfall. In addition to their clean up work they complimented Mr. John Cranwell of Mold who voluntarily undertook clearing the local area and the farmer’s field.

With respect to dogs running free in the Moel Fammau area, Councillor Holland outlined to the Members the formation of a campaign to highlight the problems of dogs worrying and or attacking sheep, this to be put out into the local media.

Members thanked Councillor Martyn Holland for coming to the meeting and for providing information regarding the proposed solutions put forward to resolve the problems outlined.

**5. To Approve the Minutes of the February 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.**

Councillor Kevin Hughes reported to the Members that he had had further discussions with Mr. J. Bond concerning the reported problems on the A494, Ruthin Road. Accusations were directed at the local Quarries regarding dust, unsheeted lorries and stone debris spillage, Councillor Hughes again informed Mr. Bond of the steps that had been taken and will continue to be taken to resolve the said reported problems. Councillor Hughes informed the Members that a promise had been given by the Assembly Member, Mr. Ken Skates that a vehicle speed activated sign would be installed on the A494 in Gwernymynydd, the activation equipment being designed to record such exceeded vehicle speeds.

**7. Defibrillators and First Responders within the Community**

With respect to a previous Council meeting whereby information had been given, reference to the Council failing to achieve a grant towards purchasing a defibrillator, Members had discussed the matter further and all had agreed that the Council should proceed on its own accord to purchase a defibrillator for the community; the issue being too important not to go forward with the undertaking. Councillor Jacquie Jepson had previously provided information on the types of defibrillators and associated equipment by e-mail. Councillor Jepson further elaborated on the types of defibrillators on the market and of the required 'back up' necessary to ensure availability of use at all times.

The Members agreed to go forward with the equipment recommended by Councillor Jepson, this being the quotation submitted to the Council by Community Heartbeat. Councillor Jepson again emphasised the need to get the community involved in order to raise awareness of the defibrillator and its use. Training will be organised for volunteers and this will be advertised throughout the village. Further to this Councillor Kevin Hughes informed the Members that Nercwys had installed 3 such defibrillators in their community and that there would be an opportunity to share training costs for using the equipment. Councillor Hughes to pursue the training initiative.

**8. Gwernymynydd CP School, Governors Report to the Council**

Councillor James Appleton informed the Members that there had been no recent meeting of the Federated School Governors Board, however he did inform the Members that the recently held Easter Bingo fund raising session had achieved £200. Councillor Appleton also reported that further meetings of the new Governing Body would be taking place regularly in the future.

Councillor Nancy Matthews again informed the Members that the school and its Governors were looking forward to the progressive way ahead which would bring many challenges.

**9. Gwernymynydd Community Council's Website**

Councillor Hinstridge informed the Members that she had been in contact with Vicki Shinks with regard to the new improved website and as such she was able to relate to everyone that the website should be up and running very soon and that she would be able share the site with all Members for their comments and observations.

**10. National Children's Day 13/05/2018**

Members agreed not to proceed further with this Agenda item.

**11. Debra's Well**

Councillor Vicky Hinstridge informed the Members of the good works undertaken by employees of the Cefn Mawr Quarry in clearing and making safe the site. Councillor Hinstridge related to the Members that it would be beneficial to all if the community could get involved to maintain and look after the Well. Councillor Hinstridge related that it would be a good initiative to get the schoolchildren involved and to this Councillor James Appleton stated that he would approach the School Headteacher about the idea.

**12. Police Matters and Member Reports**

The Clerk reminded everyone that PCSO Chey Arrowsmith had now been replaced by PCSO 2932 Emma Owen, her contact e-mail being;  
[Emma.Owen@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Emma.Owen@nthwales.pnn.police.uk).

There was no Police presence at the meeting and no police report.

Councillors Nancy Matthews and Jacqueline Jepson informed the Members that thefts of domestic heating oil had occurred in Nercwys and Cadole respectively. Also, there was information given relating to a local garden shed being broken into.

Members were informed of a reported incident in Mold whereby a suspicious person knocked on household doors requesting a 'light' for his cigarette.

Councillors agreed that members of the public need to be made aware of such incidents and that any suspicious persons should be reported to the police.

**Glyndwr Road; Minffordd Fields; Ruthin Road; Swan Lane 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.

**Member Area Reports.**

**Minffordd Fields; Llys Enfys; Glyndwr Road; Ruthin Road; Cadole; and Tros y Wern** in these areas there were no items for discussion.

**Blaen Wern**, Councillor Kevin Hughes reported to the Members that the garage area refurbishment was well underway, there being new garage doors fitted and the asbestos-cement roofing panels replaced. Also, Councillor Hughes informed the Members that the grass area located near to the garages would be transformed into a car park for local residents; Councillor Carl Jackson reported a streetlight needing attention in the garages area; **Swan Lane**, with reference to previous complaints regarding overgrown trees/bushes along Swan Lane, Mr. Andrew Lightfoot to be again contacted concerning the problem as the overgrowth was affecting the overhead telephone wires. **Hafod Road**, Councillor Kevin Hughes informed the Members that he had met with Flintshire County Council Highways Department Officers to hopefully resolve the traffic concerns of residents in the area especially with an anticipated increase in visitors to the Plas Hafod Hotel following the possible planned improvements to the building; **Ffordd Glyndwr**, Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Members that the surface water drains were blocked with debris and needed to be cleared, this to be reported to Flintshire County Council, Streetscene.

The Clerk informed the Members that he received complaints from a local resident, Mr. Keith Taylor, regarding various issues in Gwernymynydd. He related the concerns about a streetlight out on the A494, Ruthin Road, rubbish and debris alongside the former Rainbow Inn, the Llys Enfys grass verge not being maintained and the Cadole 'triangle' not being maintained. Councillors received the information given and resolved to act upon the concerns.

### 13. Planning Matters

The Clerk reported to the Members that to date the Council had not received any planning applications from Flintshire County Council for Members to give their observations and comments.

With reference to the following applications; **RMH/057882, Extensions for new bedrooms, dining room, entrance and function rooms; internal alterations. Demolition of existing conservatory and porches located at Plas Hafod Hotel, Hafod Road, Gwernymynydd and RMH/057883, Listed Building application for extensions for new bedrooms, dining room, entrance and function rooms; internal alterations. Demolition of existing conservatory and porches located at Plas Hafod Hotel, Hafod Road, Gwernymynydd.**

Councillor Kevin Hughes informed the Members that a meeting had been held for local residents with the management of the Plas Hafod Hotel with the aim to reassure everyone that the proposed improvements would not cause problems. The issues of surface water run-off and the possible increase in traffic along the road were discussed in depth and comments and observations from residents were taken on board by the Hotel management with solutions to those raised concerns being put forward to Flintshire County Council for consideration and action.

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

Councillor Kevin Hughes informed the Members that the application for 10 dwellings at Siglen Ucha, Gwernymynydd had been re-submitted and that the information concerning the planning application would soon be available for Councillors to give their comments and observations to Flintshire County Council.

#### **14. Finance**

To receive invoices for payment to order payment and to sign cheques, the Clerk informed the Members of the expenditure for March the details of which can be found on page 2018; 20.

Councillor Nancy Matthews reminded Members that 2018 would be the year of the centenary celebration of the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> World War and that many communities would be undertaking some activity to recognise that fact. Councillor Matthews again informed the Members that local resident Mr. Barrie Matkin was looking to undertake a celebratory production in line with the Nights Out/Arts Council and that he would like the support of the Council in this venture. A proposal at the November 2017, meeting had been put to the Members who had unanimously agreed to support the endeavour in principle and to work with Mr. Matkin, the production in Gwernymynydd would most probably take place in October/November, 2018. Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Members that there would be a financial implication for the Council in so much that the Council had been requested to guarantee the production. The amount quoted was in the region of £300 per performance for 3 nights. Moneys taken on the respective nights would then reimburse the Council's guarantee. This proposal was put to the Council and agreed unanimously.

#### **15. Gwernymynydd Community Council's Action Plan, 2017/18/19**

Members were reminded that to progress the Development/Action Plan and its review a Sub-Committee would be established, that consultation with the community should again take place and that the Council would commence this initiative as soon as possible.

The Sub-Committee had met previously to discuss the issues and Councillor Hintridge stated that she would be in contact with the Members of the Sub-Committee to arrange further meetings to discuss the review.

The Action Plan will be started to be discussed in detail with the intention of relaunching the Development Plan as soon as possible and undertaking full consultation with the community by adopting the same format for obtaining ideas that was used previously.

The Clerk informed the Members that he had received a request from former Councillor Chris Bradshaw to give a brief talk on the Gwernymynydd Development Plan at the April meeting. This was put to the Members and agreed unanimously.

Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Members that many of the ideas put forward in the Plan had already been initiated and were operating successfully. Also, Members were made aware that the 'dog walking' safe area would be operational very soon and that the garden area within the Centre's grounds would be completed to satisfaction shortly. These initiatives being an element of the Development Plan and its submitted proposals.

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

Members were reminded that the annual village litter pick would take place on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018, assembly for the event would be at 10.15 am at the Village Centre. Members were informed that the litter picking equipment including gloves and hi-vis bibs had been ordered and would be available on the day.

The event would be well advertised throughout the village via a purpose purchased banner and through the Village Facebook site and the school would be contacted to encourage parents and children to participate. Councillor Kevin Hughes stated that he would be organising sponsorship and the purchase of Easter Eggs.

Councillor Carl Jackson informed the Members that a Caravan Rally would be held at the Centre in May.

With reference to obtaining a defibrillator for the community, although the Council had resolved to purchase the equipment, Members again agreed that the Council could also look towards fund raising events to help with the costs. This to be discussed and progressed.

## 17. 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 outlined in the recently held One Voice Wales meeting of the Flintshire/Wrexham Area Committee. Councillor Thomson informed the Members of the proposal of 'clustering' of neighbouring Councils to share responsibilities, of the Welsh Governments Planning Strategy and of the campaign for Wales to be 'air free' of balloons, Chinese air lanterns and the over use of fire-works.

### Sub-Committees

There were no additional items for discussion.

## 18. Correspondence

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

## 19. Late Correspondence

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

By e-mail; Green paper, Strengthening Local Government, Delivering for People; One Voice Wales forthcoming AGM, notices of Motion; One Voice Wales Bulletin.

## **Chairman.....**

Payments authorised at the meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

T M Richardson	Clerk's Salary,	391.81
	Postage	10.40
		<u>402.21</u>
Clwyd Pension Fund	Employer's contribution	115.78
FLVC	Council's printing	19.14
		<u>537.13</u>