



Gwernymynydd Community Council Cyngor Cymdeithasol Gwernymynydd

T. M. Richardson C. Eng. M.I.MMM, MIOA.
Clerk to the Council
Telephone: 01244 815083

Ty y Gefell
2, Church Close
Northop Hall
Nr. MOLD
Flintshire
CH7 6HY

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 21st January 2021 remotely and by Zoom format.

Chairman: Michael Meadway (Vice-Chairman)

The Chairman welcomed the Members to the meeting held by Zoom format following the recent Covid-19 lockdown imposed by the Welsh Government. The Clerk informed the Members of the procedures that would be undertaken and he also welcomed Councillors to the remotely held meeting.

Councillors Present

Marjorie Thomson, Nancy Matthews, June Perrin, Frances Rosedale,
George Godwin and Julie Crabtree.

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors; Carl Jackson, Stephen Foley, John Homersley and Victoria Norman

In Attendance

The Members expressed their sorrow and sadness to the loss of Councillor Kevin Hughes to the Covid-19 infection he had contracted and stated their condolences to his family. Councillor Hughes did a great deal of work for the communities of Gwernymynydd, Cadole and Nercwys and he will be greatly missed by everyone.

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.

3. To Approve the Minutes of the November AGM 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

Agenda Item 9; 2020; 42, Member Area Reports, Cadole; Councillor Michael Meadway outlined further to the Members his discussion with a local resident regarding obtaining and locating a defibrillator unit within Cadole Village, Councillor Meadway stated that he would continue to pursue the matter.

Additionally, the Members proposed that more defibrillator/CPR courses be made available to members of the public when it would be safe to do so, to this the Clerk was asked to pursue the request.

Agenda Item 9; 2020; 47, Federated CP Schools (Gwernymynydd and Gwernaffield), Governors Report to the Council, Councillor Marjorie Thomson inquired whether the Council had written to Mr. and Mrs. Droog with regard to their retirement following many years working at the Gwernymynydd CP School. The Clerk reported that he had been in contact with Mr. and Mrs. Droog and that they had sent a reply to the Council thanking all the Members for the kind words expressed to them.

5. Vacancy for a Councillor on the Gwernymynydd Community Council

Following on from previous minutes the Clerk had explained the legal process of advertising the vacancy throughout the community for the said vacant seat on the Council. The Clerk informed the Members that following the expiry date of the advert time period, with respect to Flintshire County Council's election regulation, that as agreed by the Members Mr. George Godwin had been co-opted. for the vacant position of Councillor. The Clerk also informed the Members that Councillor George Godwin had signed the Gwernymynydd Community Council' document, to Undertake and to Observe the Council's Code of Conduct.

6. Federated CP Schools (Gwernymynydd and Gwernaffield), Governors Report to the Council

With respect to Councillor Kevin Hughes' passing there was now a vacancy as the Council's representative on the Federated CP. Schools Board of Governors, the Clerk requested that the Members consider this situation and that in due course a nomination for the position be put forward.

As stated because of Councillor Hughes' passing there was no further discussion on this Agenda Item.

7. Gwernymynydd Community Council's Website

The Clerk again informed the Members that following on from the past problems experienced with the Council's website local resident Mr. John Seddon had come forward to take over responsibility for the website and as a result of his intervention the website had been brought up to date. The Clerk also informed the Members that Mr. Seddon would be undertaking further work on the website in order to bring it up to a satisfactory standard to serve the community.

Councillor Marjorie Thomson informed the Members that she had been approached by a local resident asking for details about the Gwernymynydd Development Plan, the resident stated that the Plan was difficult to locate but had eventually found the document on the Council's Website. Councillor Thomson requested that Mr. Seddon be approached to make the document more prominent and easier to find as it was still a work in progress. The Clerk to pursue the request.

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 remotely held meeting, however, PCSO Owen did state that she would provide the Clerk with a Police Report, this would be forwarded on to the Members as soon as possible.

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

Cadole, Councillor Michael Meadway related to the Members that the recent snowfall had brought in members of the public to the Cadole and Loggerheads area and although there were less numbers of cars and people about there was still the usual problems of cars parking on grass verges, cars in the lay byes causing obstruction and vandalism with hedges and fences being knocked down to gain access to the fields. Councillor Meadway informed the Members that he had been in contact with Councillor Martyn Holland, the local Member for Llanferres, and the police about the problems experienced and in accordance with the complaints received they had both responded to the reported issues.

Member Area Reports.

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

Swan Lane, Councillors Marjorie Thomson and John Homersley again stated that overhanging trees and bushes were still causing a nuisance and interference, some areas had previously been trimmed back but not enough, it was noted by the Members that Mr. Andrew Lightfoot of Streetscene was still pursuing this matter with Scottish Power, B.T and Mr. John Edgar; **Glyndwr Road**; Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Members that a burst water main had caused problems in the Road relating to access and safety and that because of this essential repairs had been scheduled by Welsh Water Dwr Cymru to take place resulting in a road closure **Minffordd Fields**, previously in his report to the Council Councillor Kevin Hughes, as stated in previous minutes related to the Members that he was working closely with Flintshire County Council's Legal Department and the Planning Department in order to resolve the concerns of residents in relation to streetlight maintenance, surface water run-off, the steep steps leading onto Swan Lane and road repairs on the estate. Councillor Hughes had again at that time informed the Members that the issue at the present was still being pursued. Councillor Hughes had again related to the Members that he would continue to provide updates of information to all residents in Minffordd Fields and that hopefully he would be able to call more public meetings if the Covid-19 situation eased.

Councillors now expressed their concerns that the good works done and the achievements made to date would be lost due to Councillor Kevin Hughes 'passing, Members were unanimous in their resolve that the Council shall continue to pressure Flintshire County Council to determine a resolution to the problems being experience by the residents of Minffordd Fields. Therefore, Members requested the Clerk to write to the Chief Executive and to the Chief Officer of the Planning and Environment Directorate, Flintshire County Council emphasising that the good works undertaken by Councillor Kevin Hughes should not be put aside. Councillor Nancy Matthews volunteered to act as the liaising Councillor in this matter.

9. Planning Matters

Submitted Planning Application.

CLR/062207, Proposed 2-storey extension along with the demolition of the existing detached garage, located at 7, 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.

Councillor Nancy Matthews outlined to the Members the submitted planning application received via the Planning Weekly List, reference to the reception of applications and decisions taken by the Planning Authority, for 4 Paddock Way, Gwernymynydd. Councillor Matthews related to the Members that at this moment there was very little information available, but Members do need to be aware of the said proposal. The Clerk stated that as soon as further information became available, he would let everyone know the details by e-mail.

10. Finance

To receive invoices for payment to order payment and to sign cheques, the Clerk informed the Members of the expenditure for January the details of which can be found on page 2021; 06.

The Clerk presented to the Council the Financial Statement 2020/2021. Based upon the information provided the Members then determined the Council's Precept and Budgetary requirements for the forthcoming Municipal Year 2021/2022 from Flintshire County Council based upon the calculated Council Tax Base of 575.12 Band 'D' equivalent properties.

The Clerk outlined to the Members the financial burden that the Council would face in 2021/2022, The Clerk informed the Members that based upon the Council's commitment to the community and the level of predicted financial spend he would recommend an increase in the Council's Precept from its present amount of £16,000 to that of £16,500. The increase in the Precept amount equating to an increase in the Community Council Tax requirements by 1.88% an increase of 53 pence on the Band 'D' Charge.

The Members fully discussed the financial implications and the Council's commitments to the community and resolved to accept the Clerk's recommendation of an increase of 1.88% to the Community Council Tax.

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

Members discussed the delayed Village Litter Pick and resolved to pursue the event in 2021 and to propose a suitable date at the next meeting of the Council.

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

Thanks for the litter pick initiative taken were given to Councillors Michael Meadway, Marjorie Thomson and Nancy Matthews.

12. **Reports**

Outside Bodies

With reference to the Village Centre Management Committee, an update of 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 vegetable co-operative was still in use and doing well despite the problems imposed by the Covid-19 situation.

Councillor Marjorie Thomson provided the Members with a full and detailed report from One Voice Wales in relation to land registry and the implications for Town and Community Councils. With reference to Gwernymynydd Community Council, the Clerk informed the Members that the Council does not own any land within the community. With respect to the One Voice Wales associated survey on the subject, Councillor Thomson volunteered to respond on behalf of the Council. Councillor Thomson also informed the Members that the Remuneration Audit conducted by Wales Audit gave a figure of only a 50% return by Town and Community Councils, the Clerk confirmed that Gwernymynydd Community Council did not come into this category, the Remuneration Return for Gwernymynydd Community Council being completed in September 2020. Councillor Thomson provided further information for the Members in relation to FLVC and funding received and also Well Being Sessions. With regard to advice offered by FLVC for Asset Transfer Councillor Thomson briefly outlined to the Members the sessions that were available. Also, with respect to this Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Members that she had been contacted to offer additional advice on the subject.

The Chairman and Members thanked Councillor Marjorie Thomson for the especially useful information provided to them.

With reference to the Village Newsletter Councillor Marjorie Thomson thanked all concerned for continuing this essential outlet of village news to everyone within the community, the continued publishing of the Newsletter being a tribute to Councillor Kevin Hughes.

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 items:-

By e-mail; One Voice Wales, a scam alert relating to Amazon; Flintshire County Council, an information update on Covid-19 and vaccinations within the County area; WLGA, further information on Covid-19.

By post, a card received from Mr and Mr. Droog thanking the Council for the kind words given by the Members on their retirement from working for many years at the Gwernymynydd Cp. School.

Chairman.....

Payments authorised at the meeting held on the 21st January 2021.

T M Richardson	Clerk's Salary,	505.70
	Postage	8.50
		<u>514.20</u>
Councillor Carl Jackson	Chairman's Allowance	150.00
Clwyd Pension Fund, via T.M Richardson	Employer's contribution	140.72
Deeco Lighting	Streetlight Maintenance	289.25
Scottish Power	Streetlight Energy Charge	190.01
		<u>1,284.18</u>

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