



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 25th February 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, Victoria Norman, Frances Rosedale, Stephen Foley, George Godwin and Julie Crabtree.

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors; Carl Jackson, John Homersley and June Perrin

In Attendance

Mr. John Seddon, the Council's Website coordinator and administrator.

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. Gwernymynydd Community Council's Website.

An opportunity for Councillors to discuss any issues with Mr. John Seddon.

The Chairman Councillor Michael Meadway welcomed to the meeting Mr. John Seddon who then proceeded to take control of the Zoom session in order to provide for the Members a full and detailed report of the existing Gwernymynydd and Cadole Council website. Mr. Seddon explained to the Members the history of the website and his early involvement in its production he outlined the design from start to finish and drew examples from the Gwernymynydd Village Plan, the Members page and the required Members details, reference to Declarations of Interests.

Mr. Seddon outlined the contents of the website as a provider of useful village knowledge and general information which all residents within the community could enjoy. He identified the sections on village walks, of the photographs taken on Remembrance Sundays and the booking calendar for the hire of the Village Centre. Mr Seddon also made reference to the need to update village history taking into account Cadole as well as Gwernymynydd. With respect to the Village Newsletter this will be put onto the website and can include back issues if Members agree. Ideas for the future for Members to consider are, a country diary, information about the Village Lunch Club and advertising space for local businesses for sale to provide income for the Council. Mr Seddon ended the presentation stating that any feedback that Councillors wish to make then please just get in contact with him.

Councillor Michael Meadway thanked Mr. Seddon for providing the Members with a full and detailed outline of the Council's website, all Councillors thanked Mr. Seddon.

4. To Approve the Minutes of the January Meeting

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

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no items given for discussion by the Members.

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 had requested that the Members consider this situation and that in due course a nomination for the position would be put forward. With regard to this Councillor Stephen Foley informed the Members that he would consider putting his name forward for the position but at the present time this would not be possible, a delay in making the decision of about 2 months would alter the situation. The Members thanked Councillor Foley for his interest and hoped that he would be able to take the vacant position of School Governor in due course.

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

7 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; Cadole and Llys Enfys on this occasion, in these areas there were no items for discussion.

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, Councillor Marjorie Thomson 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; **Minffordd Fields**, previously in his report to the Council Councillor Kevin Hughes, as stated in previous minutes had 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.

Councillors had 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. The Clerk informed the Members that Councillor Chris Dolphin would continue with the good works already achieved by Councillor Hughes and as such the Clerk would forward to the Members the correspondence that had been received by Councillor Dolphin relating to what had been given to Councillor Hughes from Flintshire County Council.

8. Planning Matters

Submitted Planning Application.

JZB/061940; Proposed erection of 4 number detached bungalows located at 4, Paddock Way, 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 object to the planning application as follows:-

Dear Sir

I refer to the above planning application which was placed before this Council at its recent meeting. The Members of this Council resolved unanimously to object to this proposal. This planning application contains very little detail with regard to the development and therefore as stated this Council objects to the proposal for the following reasons:-

1. Access/egress to and from the site is via an unadopted narrow track of 4 metres in width co-owned by the adjacent properties with specific easements to allow access to the existing properties and it cannot accommodate large vehicle movements, for example, the Streetscene refuse collection vehicle cannot negotiate the said track. The track is accessed by a junction at The Twmpath, this is a bridleway/footpath and is described in the definitive footpath map as a green road in use prior to 1931, this pathway is widely used by ramblers and the community of Gwernymynydd. The Twmpath leads onto the busy A 494 Trunk Road, there is the hazard of speeding vehicles ignoring the 40-mph limit, the road is well used by heavy goods vehicles carrying stone from the nearby quarries and there have been numerous accidents and incidents at this location. The Council emphasizes this statement that there have been numerous road traffic incidents in this location it is near to the brow of the hill and a bend resulting in poor vision in both directions along the Trunk Road. The additional proposed vehicle movements that would be caused by the development would exacerbate an already hazardous traffic situation. The Council is of the opinion that the Welsh Government, Trunk Road Agency would need to be consulted on this proposed development with respect to the A 494.

2. There would be a problem with the drainage, of excess surface water run-off to neighbouring properties which already suffer from flooding caused by water run-off coming from the nearby fields. The building of additional 4 bungalows would exacerbate the situation and result in further problems.
3. It is anticipated that there would also be a problem with the foul water system, to service an additional 4 bungalows on an already overstretched main would inevitably cause problems on the existing sewers. This concern has also been expressed in the past by the Mold Town Council.
4. There is no detailed information in the planning application with respect to both surface water run-off and the foul water services.
5. The submitted planning application drawing outlining the site location at Paddock Way does not show the number 5, property. Therefore, the said location plan is inaccurate as it does not show the true layout of all the properties in Paddock Way. The true location plan will have an impact on the proposed development.
6. The proposed development is out of character with the existing properties in Paddock Way, the proposal to build 4 bungalows can be described as being overcrowded and out of place with the existing properties.
7. The proposed development does not comply with the Gwernymynydd Development Plan on housing issues which was accepted by Flintshire County Council following intensive discussions with both the community in Gwernymynydd and Senior Officers in the County Council.
8. The proposed development land is quoted as being a garden, this statement is inaccurate, the said land is an open field which accommodates livestock, it also has mature trees and hedgerows within its boundary. The proposed development would therefore be classed as a development in open countryside, this contravenes local planning guidelines and regulations.
9. There is a public footpath which abuts the proposed development site, this footpath has been left out of the application information submitted to Flintshire County Council.
10. There are ancient stone buildings adjacent to The Twmpath which would prevent access/egress to the proposed site, these are not mentioned in the submitted planning application.
11. There has been no planning consultation given with neighbouring properties nor any pre-application advice sought from the Planning Department, Flintshire County Council.

This Council respectfully requests that its observations on the proposal be earnestly considered, that the decision making process is not undertaken by delegated powers and that a site visit by the respective committee is undertaken to view the proposed development taking into account the objections of this Council.

The Community Council of Gwernymynydd wish refusal of the application.

The Clerk 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 The Plas Hafod Hotel, Hafod Road, Gwernymynydd.

The Clerk 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. Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Members that this application was a renewal of a previous submission which had been given approval but time had lapsed and therefore a new application was necessary.

9. Finance

To receive invoices for payment to order payment and to sign cheques, the Clerk informed the Members of the expenditure for February the details of which can be found on page 2021; 11.

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.

To consider proposals for a memorial to Councillor Kevin Hughes.

Councillors considered various suggestions that had been put forward, a memorial seat, a dedicated picnic area within the grounds of the Village Centre, a sponsored competition for pupils in the Gwernymynydd CP School and a sponsored village photography competition. Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Members that ASH Waste Services were going to sponsor the school competition in memory of Councillor Kevin Hughes and that the suggested dedicated picnic area would be undertaken by the Village Centre Management Committee. All Members agreed that the Council sponsored Village photography competition in memory of Councillor Hughes would be taken forward. The details of the said competition would be discussed at the next meeting of the Council.

10. 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 continued to undertake litter picks throughout areas in the communities of Gwernymynydd and Cadole.

Members were thanked again for the litter pick initiative taken and thanks were again given to Councillors Michael Meadway, Marjorie Thomson and Nancy Matthews.

11. Reports

Outside Bodies

With reference to the Village Centre Management Committee, an update of 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 Matthews also informed the Members that the Management Committee were in negotiation with Flintshire County Council regarding a new contract of responsibility.

Councillor Michael Meadway provided for the Members an update on the Bees and their Hives Project, the hives being located in the far corner of the Village Centre's field, sadly Councillor Meadway reported that one of the hives had died and that a new location but in a better area was being considered. This relocation work would be put into operation soon. Councillor Meadway also informed the Members that hopefully honey would be available for sale this year and that he would be in discussion with the Village Management Committee to finalise details of sales.

Sub-Committees

There were no additional items for discussion.

12. Correspondence

Items 1 and 2 were received by the Council.

13. Late Correspondence

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

By e-mail; One Voice Wales, a scam alert relating to phishing on Facebook; Welsh Government, an Elections Newsletter, WLGA, further information on Covid-19.

Chairman.....

Payments authorised at the meeting held on the 25th February 2021.

T M Richardson	Clerk's Salary,	505.70
	Postage	3.40
	Clerk's Allowance	56.40
		<u>565.50</u>
Clwyd Pension Fund, via T.M Richardson	Employer's contribution	140.72
		<u>706.22</u>