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Minutes of the Meeting of the Gwernymynydd Community Council held on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at the Village Centre, Gwernymynydd.

**Chairman:** Councillor Carl Jackson.

The Chairman welcomed the Members to the meeting following the Covid-19 lockdown. The Clerk informed the Members of the procedures that needed to be undertaken to comply with the Covid-19 rules and regulations and he also welcomed Councillors to the meeting.

### **Councillors Present**

Nancy Matthews, Stephen Foley, Julie Crabtree and Frances Rosedale

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

Councillors; Michael Meadway, Victoria Norman, John Homersley, Marjorie Thomson, June Perrin, and George Godwin

### **In Attendance**

Councillor Andrew Hughes.

#### **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.

Councillor Nancy Matthews declared an interest to the meeting, reference to the Agenda Item, Planning Matters and the submitted planning application for Rhianfa.

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

To discuss and determine the Council's Financial Risk Assessment 2021/22

The Chairman, Councillor Carl Jackson 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 Council agreed to adopt the recommended terms of reference of the Internal Auditor and to undertake remedial action of any identified issues of concern.

2. With reference to the Council's business, reference to the still present Covid-19 situation or any national health pandemic, that may be affected by restrictions imposed by National Government. The necessary action to be taken warranting urgent attention would be discussed by Councillors via email, by telephone with all participants able to access other Councillors' views, by Zoom meetings or by the Council's WhatsApp facility. The Clerk would deliver payment documentation to the cheque signatories whilst maintaining the required stipulated rule/regulations.

The Members thanked Mr. Griffiths for his report and for his commitment to the community in outlining the Council's Financial Risk Assessment.

**4. To Approve the Minutes of the September 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**

**Member Reports; 8,2021; 48, Llys Enfys,** 'Councillor George Godwin raised the issue of the overgrown area of land on what used to be the 'Old Chapel' before demolition, the land in question is the responsibility of NMWTRA, and the Clerk was requested to contact the respective Officer at the Agency, reference to a tidy up of the area'.

The Clerk reported to the Members that he had been in contact with NMWTRA and that the respective Officer would be dealing with the complaint submitted by the Council.

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

Councillors Stephen Foley provided for the Members an update with respect to the present Covid-19 situation and its effects on the running of the school. Councillor Andrew Hughes explained to the Members his role as Chairman of the Schools Staffing Committee and how its progressing with regard to staffing levels and school numbers.

**7. Gwernymynydd Development Plan, 2030**

To continue to discuss the progress of the Plan taking into account the Sections Titled, Policies, Social and Community Development, Transport and Roads, The Environment, Housing and Land Development and the continued monitoring of the Plan.

Members again discussed the issue and how to proceed to impart the information to residents in the community, the Village Newsletter and the Council's website will, as stated previously, be used to provide information relating to the Development Plan

As stated previously, within the Plan Councillors, can highlight the achievements to date, e.g. the Wildflower Meadow, the Dog Walking Facility and the Bees and Hives and Members agreed to look at what can be done further within the community.

Councillor Nancy Matthews outlined to the Members the existing Village Envelope and how it will affect future proposed developments within the village and its surrounding community area. The topic to be discussed in future Council meetings.

## **8. Gwernymynydd Community Council's Website**

The Members were reminded that the contents of the Gwernymynydd Community Council website were a provider of useful village knowledge and general information which all residents within the community could enjoy and that Mr. John Seddon could be contacted with regard to any item on the website be it new or old information by Councillors for clarification on any points.

## **9 Police Matters and Member Reports**

The Clerk informed the Members that he had received apologies for absence from PCSO Cleo Milburn and PCSO Emma Owen stating unfortunately they would not be able to attend the meeting, however the Clerk informed the Members that PCSO Connor Freel who works alongside PCSO's Owen and Milburn had provided information in relation to the published Police crime figures for Gwernymynydd.

The Clerk related to the Members the said Police Report as published from the police website, the reported crimes within the Gwernymynydd Area were given to be:-

2, Anti-Social behaviour issues; 1, burglary and 2, violence offences.

Reports were received regarding work taking place in the fields at unsociable hours near to Llys Enfys, the police were called to investigate the complaints and following their intervention the issue was resolved.

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

### **Member Area Reports.**

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

**Ruthin Road;** Councillors again raised their concerns regarding speeding vehicles the parking of vehicles on the Trunk Road (A494) and the spilling of stones/rocks from heavy goods vehicles; **Minffordd Fields,** Councillors still raised concerns with regard to the excess surface water on the estate, Councillor Julie Crabtree reported to the Members that at the moment there was only one street light working making the street and the estate hazardous; Councillor Andrew Hughes in reply stated that he would look into the issue and hopefully be able to resolve the problem; **Swan Lane,** Members were informed that overgrown trees and hedges on the Lane were again causing a nuisance and needed to be trimmed back.

**Tros y Wern;** with reference to the proposal to match fund improvements to the play area with Flintshire County Council, the Clerk informed the Members that Mr. Richard Roberts of Aura would be in contact to arrange a site meeting to discuss possible proposals.

## 10. Planning Matters

Planning Application; 060696, outline planning application, for 28 dwellings located at Llys Newydd, Ruthin Road, Gwernymynydd. An invitation had been sent by Flintshire County Council to the Gwernymynydd Community Council for a representative/s to attend the Planning Committee by remote means on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

Councillor Victoria Norman represented the Council at the above remote meeting and gave a full report via email to the Clerk to the Members on the outcome given. Councillor Norman informed the Members that Flintshire County Council, Planning Committee refused the application.

### **Ref: ADW/063680, Change of Use of existing outbuilding to a one-bedroom holiday let, located at Oak Alyn Cottage, Village Road, Cadole.**

The Members fully discussed the above application and resolved to object to the proposal as follows:-

#### *Change of Use of existing outbuilding to a one-bedroom holiday let, located at Oak Alyn Cottage, Village Road, Cadole.*

8<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Mr. Wells

I refer to the above planning application which was placed before this Council at its recent meeting. The Members of this Council resolved to object to this proposal. This planning application causes concern 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 a shared driveway directly onto the busy A494 Trunk Road (Ruthin Road) where there is the continued hazard of speeding vehicles ignoring the 40-mph limit and there have been accidents and incidents near this location. The entrance to the proposed development lies close to the Cadole Village Road where visibility can be obscured and thus cause additional concern with respect to hazardous vehicle movement.
2. The proposed development outlines an extension to the outbuilding which is twice its size, the Council is of the opinion that this doubling of the original footprint is not permitted under Planning Regulations.
3. The proposed development does not provide sufficient space for vehicles to manoeuvre safely taking into account additional visiting vehicles to the property and the close proximity of the A494 Trunk Road.

This Council respectfully requests that its observations on the proposal be earnestly considered, taking into account the objections of this Council.

The Community Council of Gwernymynydd wish refusal of the application.

By e-mail, Planning Weekly List, reference to the reception of applications and decisions taken by the Planning Authority.

**Ref: ADW/063584 alterations to the existing dwelling and the erection of one new dwelling house., located at Rhianfa, Ffordd Bryngwyn, Gwernymynydd.**

Information on this application was received by the above emailed, Planning Weekly List.

The Members fully discussed the application and objected to the proposal as follows:-

1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

Dear Sir

I refer to the above planning application of which I emphasise that this Council objects to the proposed development on this site as it does not comply with the Gwernymynydd Village Development Plan, a document produced by full consultation and agreement with the respective community and Flintshire County Council.

Therefore, the Members of this Council have emphatically resolved to object to this proposal for the following reasons.

1. The site lies within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty where only such development allowed is essential housing for Agricultural and or Forestry employees.
2. The submitted plans do not cater for surface water run-off, consequently if the development was permitted this would inevitably lead to flooding on the nearby road and properties.
3. The location of proposed new dwelling is positioned at the top of the site this would impact on the outlook of the nearby properties and as such it would be an overpowering development causing visual intrusion to the nearby properties, also the design and construction materials to be used for the proposed new dwelling are inappropriate and would be out of place in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
4. On examination of the submitted plans it states that there are no hedgerows, this is incorrect as the site is bordered by well-established plum trees.
5. There is no identified provision for a septic tank arrangement stated in the plans.
6. There is no adequate road access and egress onto the narrow lane proposed for the development.
7. With respect to additional vehicle movements at the proposed development concerns are expressed regarding the close proximity of the nearby public house and also the busy nearby Cambrian Quarry.
8. The submitted plan of the dwelling Rhianfa is incorrect it does not address the lean-to rear porch.
9. The proposed use of timber cladding on the new dwelling is inappropriate for the location taking into account its siting within an Area of Outstanding natural Beauty.

10. This Council expresses great concern with regards to the proposed development submitted as it lies outside of the Gwernymynydd settlement boundary.

11. Previous submitted plans in this location stated the requirement that any building (a field shelter) must be built in a dip in the land area in order to reduce the visual impact of the construction, thus taking into account the location lying within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The Community Council of Gwernymynydd emphatically wish refusal of the submitted application.

## **11. Finance**

To receive invoices for payment to order payment and to sign cheques, the Clerk informed the Members of the expenditure for October the details of which can be found on page 2021; 57.

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.

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

With reference to the proposals put forward at previous Council meetings for a memorial to Councillor Kevin Hughes the Members had agreed to the suggestion of an annual community Photograph Competition which reflected village life.

'For confirmation, the Members considered and agreed that the age groups should be for primary school children, secondary school children and adults and that £50 be awarded to the respective winners, also, that a Village Calendar could be produced to show the winning photographs. The judging of the said competition would be undertaken by 3 Councillors plus a person independent of the Council. The competition would be widely advertised throughout the community utilising the Facebook site, the Council's website and the Village Newsletter'.

The Clerk reported to the Members that there had been very little response to the advertised Photograph Competition, to this the Members agreed to keep open the Competition into December with the hope that entries would be submitted for consideration.

Regarding the printing of the Calendar, the Clerk confirmed that he had received 2 quotations from local printers for the Members to consider and progress.

With reference to the agreed 5k walk within the community Members reported that the event was a resounding success with approximately 84 people taking part to honour Councillor Kevin Hughes

With respect to donations collected at the event to give to the Hope House Charity Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Members that the amount given was £365.

The Members thanked everyone who took part in the event and special thanks were given to the organisers and to the Village Centre Management Committee for providing refreshments.

Members also considered future celebrations for the Queen’s Jubilee, this item to be discussed at a later meeting of the Council.

Regarding, Remembrance Sunday it was confirmed that Councillor Michael Meadway would purchase the Council’s poppy wreath. The Clerk also, confirmed to the Members that the Reverend A Millar had agreed to undertake the Remembrance Service on the Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> November and with respect to this year’s Service the Chairman Councillor Carl Jackson outlined to the Members the details of the Remembrance Service.

### 13. Reports

#### Outside Bodies

With reference to the Village Centre Management Committee, an update of present usage and information concerning the Village Centre, with reference to Covid-19 Rules was provided for the Members by Councillors Nancy Matthews.

The Members reported no additional information for discussion.

#### Sub-Committees

There were no additional items for discussion.

### 14. Correspondence

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

### 15. Late Correspondence

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

By e-mail; Brilliant Basics delivering memorable experiences; A letter received from Tarmac, Burley Hill; COP Cymru 2021.

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

Payments authorised at the meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

T M Richardson	Clerk’s Salary, July and August	505.70
	Postage	5.10
		<b>510.80</b>
Flintshire County Council	Playscheme	1,428.90
Clwyd Pension Fund, via T.M Richardson	Employer’s contribution,	145.64
Deeco Lighting	Streetlight Maintenance	289.25
Scottish Power	Streetlight Energy Charge	190.51
		<b>2,565.10</b>