



Gwernymynydd Community Council Cyngor Cymdeithasol Gwernymynydd

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Gwernymynydd Community Council held on Thursday the 27th January 2022 at the Village Centre, Gwernymynydd.

Chairman: Councillor Carl Jackson.

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

Councillors Present

Julie Crabtree, Frances Rosedale, Michael Meadway, Nancy Matthews, Marjorie Thomson and George Godwin.

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors; John Homersley, Stephen Foley, Victoria Norman and June Perrin.

In Attendance

On this occasion Councillor Andrew Hughes was unable to attend the meeting and therefore sent in his apologies to the Council.

The Members received an apology for absence to the meeting from Councillor David Coggins who is an elected member for the Gwernaffield 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 given by Councillors for this meeting.

3. To Approve the Minutes of the November 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

Member Reports; 8,2021; 48, Llys Enfys, Councillor George Godwin had 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. The Clerk informed the Members that he and Councillor Frances Rosedale had met with the respective Officer from the Agency, reference to a tidy up of the area, the NMWTRA Officer, Mr. Watson-Jones confirmed that the area would be developed in accordance with the Green Corridors initiative and that an improvement plan would be submitted to the Council for the Members to approve.

Tros y Wern Play Area; to consider possible improvements that could be undertaken utilising the Flintshire County Council Match Funding Scheme. A site meeting was held on the 23rd November between Mr. Richard Roberts of Aura and Members of the Council to discuss options for improving the play area. Mr. Roberts having had ideas posed to him by Councillors for such improvements of the play area stated that he would produce a report for the Council for consideration by the Members. To date the Council had not received the said report.

Member Area Reports, 8, 2021;60, Ruthin Road; Councillor Frances Rosedale had raised the issue of light nuisance/intrusion from the Eagles and Crawford Bus Depot’s night time security lights dazzling households opposite; the Clerk reported to the Members that he had arranged to meet Company representatives on site to resolve the said complaint. Also, Councillors had requested an update regarding the proposal to site a bus shelter, Mold to Ruthin direction on the Ruthin Road near to the Village Centre, the Clerk reported to the Members that he had requested an update on the matter but unfortunately there had been no response from Flintshire County Council.

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

Unfortunately, Councillors Andrew Hughes and Stephen Foley were both unavailable for the Council meeting and as such both had submitted their apologies to the Members. Therefore, there were no items for discussion at this meeting.

6. 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. Within the Plan Councillors, can highlight the achievements to date, e.g. the Wildflower Meadow, the Dog Walking Facility, the Bees and Hives and also the Council’s involvement with the Village Pantomime, the Lunch Club and the Monthly Coffee Mornings; Members agreed to look at what can be done further within the community. Councillor Marjorie Thomson informed the Members that the Council’s Annual Report to Welsh Government would also highlight and detail the achievements undertaken by the Council.

Going forward the Members agreed to form a Committee to progress the Plan with ideas coming from Councillors and members of the public, to start and to refresh Councillors were requested to look at the existing Development Plan as published on the Council’s website.

7. 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.

The Clerk reported to the Members the information received from Mr. John Seddon which highlighted and detailed statistically the community usage on the Website. The information provided a useful breakdown of contact and clearly identified the public awareness of the Council's Website.

With further reference to the Development Plan, to be found on the website, Councillor Marjorie Thomson again drew Councillor's attention for all to look at the Plan and to move forward with a sub-group and to consult within the community.

8 Police Matters and Member Reports

The Clerk informed the Members that he had received apologies for absence from PCSO Cleo Milburn, PCSO Emma Owen and PCSO Connor Freel stating unfortunately they would not be able to attend the meeting.

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:-

3, Violence offences and 1 criminal damage and arson.

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 additional items for discussion.

Member Area Reports.

Llys Enfys; Glyndwr Road and Tros y Wern in these areas there were no items for discussion.

Councillor Nancy Matthews informed the Council that she had been approached by residents in the village with regard to the Gwernymynydd Youth Club. Members confirmed that because of the Covid-19 situation all youth activities had been suspended by Flintshire County Council but they would resume as soon as the pandemic eased and infection rates became lower. All Members resolved to support the Youth Club as and when it restarted in the Village Centre.

Ruthin Road; Councillor Nancy Matthews raised the issue and concern of the time allowed for persons crossing on the Pelican Crossing situated on the A494 near to the Village Centre, there is insufficient time allowed for a person with a disability to cross the road safely, the Clerk was requested to bring this concern to the attention of Flintshire County Council; **Minffordd Fields,** Councillors still raised concerns with regard to the excess surface water on the estate, Councillor Julie Crabtree reported to the Members that there were road signs missing at the entrance to the estate and that there was concern regarding the small brick wall fronting the small car park at the entrance, also at the moment there was still only one street light working making the street and the estate hazardous; **Swan Lane,** Members were informed that overgrown trees and hedges on the Lane were again causing a nuisance and needed to be trimmed back, also, Councillor Carl Jackson informed the Members of a telegraph pole in the Lane was loose and unstable;

Blaen Wern, Councillor Carl Jackson informed the Members that he had received complaints from residents with regard to flooding of the area after heavy rainfall, the area in question is at the Blaen Wern/Heol y Wern junction, the Clerk was requested to write to Flintshire County Council about the problem with the aim to rectifying the situation to satisfaction; **Cadole**, Councillor Michael Meadway informed the Members that tree cutting/trimming work was proceeding on the A494, Cadole area.

9. Defibrillators and Maintenance.

To discuss the possibility of obtaining a defibrillator for Cadole and the continued maintenance of the unit located at the Village Centre.

The Clerk reported to the Members the emails he had received from former Councillor Jacqueline Jepson, the defibrillator support contract for the Village Centre Unit needs to be renewed in June 2022 and that Jacqueline would not be the respective contact with the Community Heartbeat Trust and therefore a representative from the Council would need to be nominated for that post. The Clerk related to the Members that he had taken up that position and that in future he would receive the maintenance reports.

Members again discussed the proposal to obtain a defibrillator for Cadole, the Members outlined their concerns regarding the number of people within the community area and wished the proposal be progressed. The public house, The Colomendy Arms, situated in Village Road, was again suggested to be the most suitable location and Members agreed to seek sponsorship for to purchase the defibrillator.

Councillor Michael Meadway stated that as requested he would pursue the proposal both with the Colomendy Arms licensee and with the nearby Cefn Mawr Quarry.

10. Council sponsored Photograph Competition in Memory of Councillor Kevin Hughes.

To progress the Competition following received photographs from local residents.

Councillor Michael Meadway informed the Members that the photograph selection committee had met and had determined the winners of the competition with respect to the 3 age groups agreed in Council, that is to say, Adults, Under 17's and Under 11's. The next step forward would be to invite the selected winners to come along to a meeting of the Council to receive their awards.

Members further discussed in detail the photograph competition and agreed that a 2023/24 calendar would be progressed. However, there were other options to consider especially with the Queen's Jubilee coming this June. The Members agreed that those options be considered, e.g. mugs, coasters and that a decision be taken.

Further, with the calendar, Members agreed that a clear criteria/subject theme would be needed and that more consultation with respective printers be sought to ensure a good quality of photograph was selected.

11. Planning Matters

BMK/063817, Extension to first floor located at Fron Hall Lodge, Ruthin Road, Gwernymynydd.

With reference to the above planning application, the Members raised no objection to the proposal.

By email, Planning Weekly List, reference to the reception of applications and decisions taken by the Planning Authority. The Members acknowledged receipt of the respective email.

12. 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 2022; 06.

The Clerk presented to the Council the Financial Statement 2021/2022. Based upon the information provided the Members then determined the Council's Precept and Budgetary requirements for the forthcoming Municipal Year 2022/2023 from Flintshire County Council based upon the calculated Council Tax Base of 574.85 Band 'D' equivalent properties.

The Clerk outlined to the Members the financial burden that the Council would face in 2022/2023, 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 £16,500 to that of £17,500. The increase in the Precept amount equating to an increase in the Community Council Tax requirements by 6.01% an increase of £1.75 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 6.01% to the Community Council Tax.

To receive the comments and observations from the external auditor, The Auditor General for Wales.

The Clerk related to the Members the contents of the report issued by the External Auditor, The Auditor General. The comments received by the Council related to a time delay between the Internal Auditor's report and approval given by the Members on the end of year accounts. In his final comments The Auditor General for Wales gave a clean audit of the accounts for Gwernymynydd Community Council.

The item outlined was discussed in detail and the Council resolved to accept the criticism and to take heed of the submitted comments. The Clerk was requested to adhere to the recommendations given by The Auditor General for Wales.

The Members approved and accepted the report issued by the External Auditor.

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.

13. Events Taking Place Within Gwernymynydd

Members considered future celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee, suggestions put forward related to street parties within the community, a combined celebration involving the Community Council and the Village Centre and focused within the Centre's grounds. Stalls and perhaps a fair could be incorporated within the celebrations as well as providing information to the community about the Community Council and the Gwernymynydd Development Plan. A group meeting to discuss all possibilities was proposed, this being on the 8th February at 7.00 pm in the Village Centre.

Regarding, the community Christmas event, the lighting up ceremony of the Village Centre's Christmas tree complimented with a Carol Service, Members agreed that the event was not as well supported as compared to previous years. For next year Members agreed to advertise the event more widely in order to obtain better support.

With respect to the Village's Annual Litter Pick, the Members agreed to hold the event on Thursday the 14th April and to incorporate the event with Easter and to have easter eggs available for the children taking part. Contact will be made with Mold Town Council with the hope of borrowing equipment for litter picking.

Councillor Michael Meadway informed the Members that honey from the village bees would soon be made available for purchase this follows the success of a raffle of some jars of the honey that took place at the Christmas lighting ceremony.

14. 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 Councillor George Godwin. Councillor Godwin also related to the Members that bench seating would be provided in suitable locations within the grounds when good weather permits the work to be undertaken.

The Members reported no additional information for discussion.

Sub-Committees

There were no additional items for discussion.

15. Correspondence

Items 1 and 2 were received by the Council.

16. Late Correspondence

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

By e-mail; Nature Forum; Flintshire County Council/Gwernymynydd Community Council's Summer Playscheme; St. David's Day Celebrations.

With reference to the Playscheme, the Council resolved unanimously to support the Playscheme in Gwernymynydd.

Chairman.....

Payments authorised at the meeting held on the 27th January 2022.

T M Richardson	Clerk's Salary	505.70
	Postage	5.10
	Clerk's Allowance	56.40
		567.20
Councillor Carl Jackson	Chairman's Allowance	150.00
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
Councillor Michael Meadway	Village Bees nutritional feed	24.00
		1,366.60

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