



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 of the Gwernymynydd Community Council held on Thursday the 29th September 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 existing Covid-19 rules and regulations and he also welcomed Councillors to the meeting.

Councillors Present

Victoria Norman, Stephen Foley, Klara Lethbridge, Karen Hughes,
Michael Meadway, George Godwin and Marjorie Thomson

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillors; Julie Crabtree, John Homersley and Frances Rosedale

In Attendance

On this occasion Councillor David Coggins was unable to attend the meeting and as such he submitted his apologies for absence to the Members.

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 Karen Hughes declared a personal and prejudicial interest with reference to Item 13 on the Agenda, Planning Matters.

There were no other Declarations given by Councillors for this meeting.

3. The Clerk to Gwernymynydd Community Council,

Notification of retirement and actions to be taken forward.

Clerk informed the Members of the process to be taken forward following notification by the Clerk in relation to his submitted resignation.

4. **Dog Litter Bins within Gwernymynydd.**

The Clerk informed the Members that he had received a request from Councillor David Coggins who in turn had received requests from members of the public for more dog litter bins to be placed within the village. Councillor Michael Meadway informed the Members that he had arranged a meeting with Andrew Lightfoot, of Streetscene, Flintshire County Council regarding other matters and that he would bring up the related public requests at the meeting.

5. **To Approve the Minutes of the July Meeting**

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

6. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

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 a meeting with a Company representative on site to resolve the said complaint, however the Company had not responded to the agreed improvements and therefore the Clerk stated that he would again follow up on the issue.

Member Area Reports, 10,2022;17, Minffordd Fields, Minffordd Fields, 'Councillors still raised concerns with regard to the excess surface water on the estate, Councillor Julie Crabtree had previously 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, this situation was still being maintained'.

Councillor David Coggins had informed the Members that he had pursued the concerns raised by Councillors and residents of Minffordd Fields with Flintshire County Council but there had been no substantive reply, Councillor Coggins stated that he would continue to pursue the said issues on behalf of the residents.

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

Councillor Stephen Foley provided for the Members a detailed report, reference to the last meeting of the Hafod Federation. Councillor Foley again explained the school's financial situation and stated that the school numbers were healthy and everyone was looking forward to the new school year.

8. **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 and the Monthly Coffee Mornings; Members agreed to look at what can be done further within the community and also to advertise any such regular events taking part within the villages of Gwernymynydd and Cadole.

Following on from the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations the Members discussed the responses received from members of the public who had attended the event and made comments via the 'post-it' board and the Members agreed to proceed with the ideas put forward.

Again, Members were requested to look at the existing Development Plan as published on the Council's website.

9. 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 Freeland 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; 6, Violence offences, and 1, anti-social behaviour incident.

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 additional items for discussion.

Cadole; Councillor Michael Meadway reported to the Members the concerns of local residents' reference to noisy speeding vehicles in the early hours of the morning. Councillor Meadway requested the Clerk to pursue the said nuisance with North Wales Police.

Member Area Reports.

Tros y Wern, Swan Lane, Cadole, Glyndwr Road and Blaen Wern in these areas there were no items for discussion.

Llys Enfys; Councillor George Godwin reported to the Members his concerns with regard to the junction with Ruthin Road (A494), the tight vehicular access/egress turning being difficult to manoeuvre, could Flintshire County Highways investigate this problem, there being available land at the said junction to enable improvements to be undertaken; **Minffordd Fields,** Councillors still raised concerns with regard to the excess surface water on the estate, Councillor Julie Crabtree had previously 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 were no streetlights working making the street and the estate hazardous, this situation was still being maintained; **Ruthin Road,** Councillors were informed of a wall which had been demolished and as such had given rise to concerns.

Councillor Victoria Norman had previously requested information with regard to the possible reforming of the Village Youth Club, in reply Councillors Carl Jackson and George Godwin stated that Flintshire County Council had not made any progress with this issue.

The items of concern raised by the Members would be forwarded to Streetscene, Flintshire County Council for attention and action.

10. Defibrillators and Maintenance.

To discuss the possibility of obtaining a defibrillator for Cadole and the surrounding community.

Councillors were reminded of earlier discussions on this item ‘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.’

With reference to the above Councillor Michael Meadway reported to the Members that he had been in consultation with the nearby Quarry (Cefn Mawr) and that he had received a positive response, the Quarry Management stated that they would either in total or part fund the purchase and also maintain the defibrillator, this was still being pursued in a positive manner. With respect to the siting of the defibrillator at the suggested local pub, The Colomendy Arms, Councillor Meadway had also received a positive response from the Licensee to the request of siting the unit at the pub. Councillor Meadway had stated that he would continue with the consultation process with both the Cefn Mawr Quarry Management and the Licensee at The Colomendy Arms. With respect to obtaining the defibrillator the Members reiterated the major concern of having training in its use and also the need to have ‘first responders’ available to help and assist when necessary. The Members agreed to pursue these points and to request help in this endeavour from Ms. Jacque Jepson.

11. Council sponsored Photographic Competition in Memory of Councillor Kevin Hughes.

Members had reported that photographs were coming in and that the end of August had been declared as the end date for submission. Councillor David Coggins’ had previously stated that his community newsletter would publish the competition details in order to remind people to submit their photographs.

Councillor Michael Meadway provided an update on the competition for the Members and related to everyone that the winners in the agreed categories had been chosen, the next steps to be taken would be to print the winning photographs and to produce a 2023 calendar as agreed. Double Click Design and Print were the selected printers.

12. The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, Gwernymynydd.

The Members reported that the day of celebration had been very successful with a very good response from the community. Photographs of the event had been published in the Village Newsletter and the Members had stated that they wished to thank the organisers’ for making the day so successful.

Councillor George Godwin provided information for the Members in relation to the costs incurred by the Council and the Members discussed ideas to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee. Suggestions put forward by the Members were the planting of trees or the creation of a rose garden incorporating Queen Elizabeth Roses plus a memorial stone with a suitable informative plaque.

13. Planning Matters

Ref: FUL/000460/22, Proposed extensions, erection of a detached garage and internal refurbishment located at Rockland, Ruthin Road, Gwernymynydd.

With reference to the above Planning Application, Councillor Karen Hughes declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the submitted application, her interests were disclosed and the appropriate form signed in the presence of the Council. Councillor Hughes left the meeting whilst the planning application was discussed by the Members

The Members fully discussed the proposal and all agreed to offer no objections to the application.

Councillor Hughes was permitted to re-join the meeting following the decision taken by the Members.

By e-mail, Planning Weekly List, reference to the previous reception of applications and decisions taken by the Planning Authority, this has now been replaced by an alternative process by Flintshire County Council for the Members to use, the details of which have been given to the Members.

14. Finance

To receive invoices for payment to order payment and to sign cheques, the Clerk informed the Members of the expenditure for September the details of which can be found on page 2022; 39.

Please note that because the Clwyd Pension Department at County Hall has most of its staff still 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 present to the Council the Report received from the Council's Internal Auditor, Mr. David Griffiths, reference to the Council's Accounts for the Municipal Year 2021/2022.

The Clerk provided for the Members the detailed report given by the Council's Internal Auditor Mr. David Griffiths to the external Auditor, Wales Audit. Mr. Griffiths also provided for Wales Audit the points of concern that he raised with the Clerk at their meeting, the main issues related to the paying of supplier invoices via Council approved Councillors and the reimbursement of VAT where necessary.

The Members discussed the issues in depth and resolved to accept the concerns of Mr D. Griffiths, the Council's Internal Auditor.

15. Events Taking Place Within Gwernymynydd

To receive and outline and subsequently progress suggested future events from Councillors taking into consideration the following:- proposals which were put forward for consideration.

‘A Memorial Walk within the confines of the community, Councillor Marjorie Thomson and Mr. Michael Thomson to investigate and put forward a suggested route, the event to take place in early September’. Councillor Marjorie Thomson confirmed for the Members that the proposed ‘Memorial Walk’ would now take place on Sunday the 9th October starting from the Village Centre at 10.am. The route selected lies within the Village boundary and is calculated to be approximately 4 miles. The entry fee was set at £5 per person with the collected amount being shared between the Teenage Cancer Trust and the Village Centre.

Councillor George Godwin provided details to the Members for the Christmas Fayre to held on the 4th December starting at 3.00 pm and also information relating to the annual Pantomime.

16. Reports

Outside Bodies

With reference to the Village Centre Management Committee, an update of present usage and additional information concerning possible improvements to the Village Centre was provided for the Members by Councillor George Godwin.

Councillor Godwin provided information for the Members relating to the Flintshire County Council initiative for the provision of sheltered accommodation/meeting hubs in Community Centres and Church Halls to help people in the increasing problems of the energy and financial situations. Councillor Godwin reported to the Council that to date 22 premises had been identified and that the Village Centre had been put forward to help residents in Gwernymynydd.

Councillor Marjorie Thomson outlined to the Members the details of the Training Plan that all Councils’ have to undertake. The purpose of the Plan for the provision of training can be carried out in a proportional way taking into account factors such as the activities undertaken by the respective Council, the current expertise of Councillors and Clerks and the nature and significance of any training needs that may be identified. Such areas of skills are, the basic induction for Councillors, the Code of Conduct for Members and the Financial Management and Governance.

Councillor Thomson requested that Members look at the emailed documents in order that the Council could proceed with the Training Plan for Gwernymynydd Community Council.

With reference to Flintshire County Council’s available training, Councillor Marjorie Thomson provided a report for the Members relating to the Code of Conduct Training, Councillor Thomson stated that the zoom training undertaken was very good and that more training sessions were planned for the future, both by Flintshire County Council and One Voice Wales.

Sub-Committees

There were no additional items for discussion.

17. Correspondence

Items 1 and 2 were received by the Council.

18. Late Correspondence

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

By e-mail; Energy Bill scams being circulated; One Voice Wales, September/October Training Dates; One Voice Wales, Save the Date, 27th October, Bio Diversity Conference.

Chairman.....

Payments authorised for the Council meeting held on the 29th September 2022.

T M Richardson	Clerk's Salary Postage	505.70 5.70 511.40
Clwyd Pension Fund, via T. M. Richardson	Employer's contribution	145.64
T. M. Richardson	Council's Microsoft Office	79.99
Village Centre, via Councillor George Godwin	Queen's Jubilee Celebration, pins and refreshments	344.82
The Green Man Landscapes	Items relating to Bees and Wasps	190.96
Elite PC Systems	Council's Computer	365.00
Councillor Marjorie Thomson	One Voice Wales/SLCC Conference	54.00
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