



# LEESWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## CYNGOR GYMDEITHASOL COEDLLAI

THE MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF LEESWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2014.

### PRESENT

Councillor J.E. Saul, Chairman of the Council (in the Chair)  
Councillor R. Williams, Vice-Chairman  
Councillors J. Atkinson, C. Bie, J. Caruana, R. Hughes, Terry Hughes, C.E. Jones JP, K. McCallum JP and G. Sherwood.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received from Councillors H. Evans, T. Hughes and D. Rule.

### COMMUNITY COUNCIL PHOTOGRAPH

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Community Council were photographed. Those absent would be added at a later date.

### COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – RACE NIGHT

Councillor R. Hughes informed that the Community Centre Management Committee were holding a Race Night on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2014 to raise funds. Each race had 'horses' for sale at a cost of £3 each – Councillors were invited to purchase one of these.

### PRAYERS

The meeting was opened with prayers led by the Chairman, Councillor J.E. Saul.

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Councillor Terry Hughes had paraded through all parts of the Community with the Royal British Legion standard in order to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of World War I. The Royal British Legion salutation was given by Councillor C.E. Jones JP.

### DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

76. MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor R. Williams and seconded by Councillor C.E. Jones JP that the minutes of the monthly meeting be accepted as a true record of proceedings.

77. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

**Finance Committee** – Councillor C.E. Jones JP enquired as to whether there had been any progress made regarding the Clerk’s expenses. There had been no further meeting of the Finance Committee, but it was agreed that one should be arranged sometime in September when convenient to members.

**Dr Asokan** – Councillor R. Williams informed Council that Dr Asokan would be retiring from Leeswood Surgery at the end of September 2014. It was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to him, wishing him all the best for the future. Query was raised as to whether the Doctors of the community had been asked to the Civic Service. The Clerk advised that they had not but would attend to it.

78. POLICE LIAISON

The Clerk reported that PCSO Kelsey Evans was on leave and, therefore, unable to attend the meeting this evening. PCSO Evans had provided the Clerk with an update of incidences in the Community and this had been circulated to all Councillors.

This activity was as follows: –

08/07/2014 – Burglary other than Dwelling at Stryt Cae Rhedyn – a strimmer had been stolen from an outbuilding.

20/07/2014 – Criminal Damage at Queen Street – car tyres slashed which looks to be targeted.

16/08/2014 – Shoplifting at the Co-Op – joints of meat taken. There is CCTV of offender and the enquiries are ongoing.

23/08/2014 – Burglary other than Dwelling at Ash Grove – drill and fishing gear stolen from a garden shed.

26/08/2014 – Theft from vehicle – back road between Bryn Clyd and Phoenix Park – car stereo taken.

28/08/2014 – Road traffic collision at Oak Villas – driver of one vehicle arrested for Dangerous Driving. Investigation is ongoing.

Councillors J. Atkinson and C. Bie pointed out that there had been incidences in Pontblyddyn which had not been included in the list provided by PCSO Evans. These involved two attempted break-ins at the Cricket Club, Pontblyddyn. The

Police had attended on both occasions. It was pointed out that the list only included activity in Leeswood and perhaps PCSO Evans was unaware that the Community area also covered Pontblyddyn, Padeswood and part of Llong. Agreed that the Clerk should advise PCSO Evans of the Community area.

79. By full agreement of the Council this Minute is excluded.

80. **ACQUISITION OF LAND – CEMETERY REQUIREMENTS**

Councillor R. Hughes reported that he had spoken to Mr. George Owens who had indicated that he wanted to bring the proposed sale of land to the Council to a conclusion. It was agreed that Councillor R. Hughes should contact Mr. Owens to arrange a meeting at the Cemetery on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at 5pm. To confirm the price to negotiate was £25,000 maximum and the cost of legal fees.

81. **CADWYN CLWYD – NOTICE BOARD/SEAT FUNDING**

There had not been much luck finding possible suppliers of notice boards. Councillor G. Sherwood was to chase up his queries as there had been no information provided to the Clerk. Councillor R. Hughes was also to make further enquiries regarding supplier of notice boards.

Council were informed that Cadwyn Clwyd needed their share of the funding – the cost of this was £3,600. The Clerk advised that this was listed on accounts for payment.

82. **A541 PONTBLYDDYN – CAMERA**

Correspondence had been received from John Roberts (Sgt 51), Go Safe, Wales Road Casualty Reduction Partnership. In this letter he advised that Go Safe currently had a live site through the village of Pontblyddyn in the 30mph limit. This is a designated 'red site' and should receive a minimum of five visits per month resource dependent. Flintshire County Council is in the process of making a hard standing for the Go Safe van to enforce on the A541 50mph limit. A speed survey had recently been carried out in the 40mph limit and the results have been forwarded to the Roads Policing Unit for their attention and consideration. There will be an increase of enforcement in the area of Pontblyddyn as from the week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014.

Councillors J. Atkinson and C. Bie advised that vehicles were still travelling at speed through the village of Pontblyddyn and they expressed concern at the stretch of road in the vicinity of the Garage. Comment was made that the 50mph limit is not adhered to on the dual carriageway. It was suggested that a speed camera could be sited in the area of the Garage and this would hopefully slow down the cars as they approached the area where the fatal accidents had

taken place. Other opinion expressed was that a speed camera would be better located on the end of the dual carriageway by the wood where the accidents had actually taken place.

Agreed: – that the Clerk would write to Go Safe and request the results of speed surveys that had taken place in all speed areas. A copy of the letter to be sent to Mr G. Powell, Chief Officer (Organisational Change), Flintshire County Council.

**83. EXTERNAL AUDIT 2013/2014**

The Clerk reported that the external audit for the finance year 2013/2014 had now been completed. Areas of note were that the Burial Ledger had not been kept up-to-date for the year 2013/2014 but the External Auditor acknowledged that this was to be addressed in the year 2014/2015. Also that a Risk Assessment Policy had not been completed but this was again in progress. The Chairman and the Clerk were required to sign the Annual Return 2013/2014 which was to be returned to UHY Hacker Young by 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014.

**84. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Councillor J. Caruana advised that there was nothing to report.

**85. HANSON HEIDELBERG LIAISON COMMITTEE**

Councillor J. Caruana advised that the Plant was working well and was to continue to do so until the third week of December. There was to be an Open Day on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2014 from 10am to 4pm when members of the public could visit. Tree planting was to take place. It was the Company's intention to make more use of the railway rather than the road. The Governors of Penyffordd School had been invited by Public Health Wales to an explanation of the monitoring system and how it works. Query was raised regarding the colours of the smoke plume emitted. This can be effected by the angle of the sun. Observation made that it would not be proper to be on 'someone's back' all the time especially if there was nothing to be concerned about. A letter was to be sent to David Quick, the interim Managing Director, acknowledging the effort of Hanson Heidelberg in their monitoring of any possible effect that the Plant's activity may have on the environment. Also to state that the Council would remain interested in this ongoing monitoring.

**86. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL COMPETITIONS**

The judging of the Hanging Baskets and Gardens had not taken place. Observation made that it would be a little late to do this now. It was agreed that this would not take place this year but would be re-arranged for next summer. Mr. Bill Jones was to be booked to judge.

Councillor R. Hughes informed Council that the Community had unfortunately been unsuccessful in the Flintshire County Council Environment Competitions.

Comment was made about the flower boxes located under the Community signs and that these could be replaced with some similar to those located in the area of the Pensioners' bungalows. It was also pointed out that new signage would enhance the Community. Agreed that this would be placed on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

**87. LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Councillor J. Caruana reported that there was a lot of fundraising activity organised by the Community Centre Management Committee. On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September there was a Race Night which had been arranged by Councillor R. Hughes. A further event had been organised for Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September which was a Family Night where parents could come and enjoy a night out bringing their children.

**88. LEESWOOD ALLOTMENTS**

Councillor J. Caruana stated that the recent Open Day held by the Allotment Association had been a success. The produce displayed had been excellent and it was pleasing that the children's competitions had gone well. Mr. Bill Jones had given a talk in the evening which had been most enjoyable.

**89. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – WELSH ASEMBLY GOVERNMENT**

Mr. Peter Jones, Flintshire County Council had e-mailed about information required for the Welsh Assembly Government. This was regarding the provision of a Council website and whether the Council had any vacant seats. The Clerk advised that she had responded to this e-mail.

**90. COUNTY FORUM MEETING**

Correspondence had been received from Mr. Colin Everett, Chief Executive, Flintshire County Council, regarding the County Forum meeting. He advised that the next County Forum meeting would include the items 'Highways and Streetscene performance' and 'Community Assets transfer'. Mr. Everett also wrote that the Forum was feeling a little 'one-way' with the County Council having to plan and present almost all of the items each time. The last County Forum meeting had been quite negative in the latter part under the 'Updates' item. It is not the purpose of this item to make criticism of the County Council, but rather, to update the Forum on the work of the Town/Community Councils.

The next meeting of the County Forum will take place on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October.

91. **BIG BUDGET CONVERSATION**

Further correspondence from Mr. Colin Everett, Chief Executive, Flintshire County Council regarding the Big Budget Conversation. A web link was provided for the Community Council to distribute extensively locally. There was also a meeting to be convened for Town/Community Council Chairs and Clerks to attend. This would take place in mid-September.

92. **MEMBERSHIP OF ONE VOICE WALES**

One Voice Wales had sent correspondence inviting the Community Council to 'renew' its membership for 2014/2015 at a cost of £247. It was pointed out that the Council had yet to join and that it had been quoted at half price for the first year membership. The Clerk was to contact One Voice Wales in regard to this.

93. **ONE VOICE WALES CONFERENCE AND AGM 2014**

Notice had been received from One Voice Wales regarding the 2014 Conference and AGM.

94. **COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

**Councillor R. Hughes details on Community Council website** – Councillor R. Hughes requested that his details be included on the Community Council website.

95. **MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE**

**Festive Lights** – The Chairman, Councillor J.E. Saul advised that the Festive Lights were being stored by the Company who had fitted them to the standards. He also informed that he had purchased four more sets which could be fitted on two standards in Pontblyddyn and two in Leeswood. These lights were silhouette decorations.

**Bridge Inn Floral Display** – Councillor J. Atkinson suggested that a letter of thanks should be forwarded to the Bridge Inn in recognition of the floral displays on the property throughout the summer. All were in agreement.

**Hammer Drill** – Councillor R. Hughes stated that it would be necessary to hire a hammer drill in order to fit the plaques regarding the late Clerk, Nigel Jones memorial trees.

96. **CORRESPONDENCE**

a) **Central & Eastern Victim Support** – request for a donation – this request to be included in the donation meeting in February 2015.

b) **Flintshire Local Voluntary Council** – notice of the AGM to be held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September – the Chairman, Councillor J.E. Saul was to attend.

c) **Legal & Democratic Services, Flintshire County Council** – Standards Committee AGM with Town & Community Councils 6<sup>th</sup> October at 6.30pm. The Standards Committee were looking for a venue to host the meeting. If available the Council were prepared to invite them to use the Community Centre as their guests.

d) **Dee Valley Water** – draft Drought Plan – to be put on the Agenda for the next monthly meeting.

e) **North Wales Police** – South Flintshire Consultation Meeting on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September at Mold Police Station 5.45pm to 7.30pm. The Chairman, Councillor J.E. Saul and Councillors R. Hughes, C.E. Jones JP and K. McCallum JP were to attend.

97. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Amount</u>
B. Richards	Cemetery Maintenance Disposal of Cemetery Waste Litter Pick (July)	£602.00
Miss M Reynolds	Stationery/Postage/Printing	£32.75
Mr G Roberts	Expenses re attending Finance Committee Meeting	£15.00
Scottish Power	Electricity	£366.03
Flintshire County Council	Street Lighting Maintenance	£301.14
JDH Business Services	Internal Audit Fees	£178.20
Blackwell's Stonecraft	Cost of Memorial Plaques re late Clerk, G.N.I. Jones	£384.00
B. Richards	Cemetery Maintenance Disposal of Cemetery Waste Litter Pick (August)	£672.00
Cadwyn Clwyd	Community Council share re Seats/Notice Boards	£3,600.00
Dee Valley Water	Water – allotments	£25.09
Miss M Reynolds	Stationery/Postage/Printing	£32.44
Cllr. J.E. Saul	Festive Lighting	£449.96
	<u>Total</u>	<u>£6,658.61</u>

98. **INCOME RECEIVED**

Blackwell's Stonecraft	Fee re Memorial – James Patrick Morgan	£75.00
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99. **BANK BALANCES**

The bank statements had not been received at the time of the meeting.

100. ANY MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS NOT YET RESOLVED

a) War Memorials Trust – Minute No. 165 – 07.01.2014 – a reply is awaited from London.