



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 7TH JANUARY 2014.

PRESENT

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

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Were received from Councillors J. Atkinson, H. Evans, D. Rule and R. Williams.

PRAYERS

The meeting was opened with prayers led by the Chairman, Councillor K McCallum.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

148. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 1st October 2013; Tuesday 5th November and Thursday 5th December had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor C.E. Jones JP and seconded by Councillor R. Hughes that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st October be accepted as a true record of proceedings. Councillor C.E. Jones JP proposed and Councillor T. Hughes seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 5th November be accepted as a true record of proceedings. Finally, Councillor J. Caruana proposed and Councillor R. Hughes seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors were in agreement and each set of minutes to be signed by the Chairman, Councillor K McCallum.

149. MATTERS ARISING

It was brought to the Council's attention that, despite earlier reports, the footpath from the A5104 bottom of the Constitution Hill to the A541, was not free of obstruction. Councillors agreed that this needs to be looked at.

150. POLICE LIAISON

PCSO Kelsey Evans was off duty and unable to attend the meeting.

Question was raised who covered the shift of the PCSO when they were off duty. It was suggested that possibly the remainder of the team would do this. Observation made that when the PCSO was unavailable; their particular contact number was transferred through to the desk. The PCSO is the first 'port of call' as there are no longer community Beat Officers. PCSO's have limited powers. It was agreed that a letter be forwarded to the Inspector asking about the shift cover and the extent of the powers of the PCSO.

The Clerk informed the meeting that PCSO Evans had stated that there was no criminal activity to be reported. Councillors referred to recent incidences that they were aware of in the Community. Reference was made to Owl Watch which is a website that is used by the North Wales Police and local co-ordinators of Watch Schemes. This website reports on incidences of criminal activity in the locality. Council agreed that a letter be forwarded to PCSO Evans indicating that it had been some time there had been a Police Liaison Officer present at a meeting and requesting that she attended in February.

151. ACQUISITION OF LAND – CEMETERY REQUIREMENTS

Council were informed that Mr Steve Pugh, the grave digger, would be required to dig the trial holes in the land adjacent to the Cemetery. The Vice-Chairman, Councillor E. Saul, stated that he was prepared to meet him there – Wednesday or Friday being the most convenient days. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Mr Pugh to arrange this.

Councillor R. Hughes would check with the Legal Department at Flintshire County Council regarding the valuation of the land.

152. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

There was nothing new to report on at this time, although it was expected that there would be during the course of the year.

153. CASTLE CEMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE

It was reported that there had recently been an issue with dust emissions. There was a lot of building work on site and this was possibly the reason for it. Tests had been paid for in order to establish where the problem was arising. However, these tests were inconclusive and it could not be proved or disproved where the emissions came from. As there was very little farming work during the winter and no barbecues, these had been eliminated. Councillor J. Caruana informed members that he had left a message enquiring if there had been any further developments relating to this issue but he had not received a response.

154. COUNTY COUNCIL POLICY ON ISSUING OF LICENCES TO PUBLIC HOUSES

Council were advised that the contact regarding the County Council policy on issuing of licences to Public Houses is Rachel Hughes in the Licensing Department, Flintshire County Council.

155. COMMUNITY CENTRE/KINGS CLUB

The Kings Club is now closed. However, it was possible that the licence could be re-applied for. Observation was made that due to the closure of the Club, the Community Centre has lost income. It was stated that the Community Council give a donation to the Community Centre at a set amount of £750 per year. A point was made that possibly individuals could give more support – the lack of attendance at recently held functions was noted. Agreed: - that this item is put on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

156. CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Various locations were suggested for possible yellow lines – the junction of Bryn Clyd and King Street; Bells Corner; County Road; Parc Derwen and Queens Street. It was felt that this issue needed more careful consideration. Agreed: - that Mr Gerwyn Powell, Highways Officer, Flintshire County Council, be requested to attend a site meeting.

157. VACANCY FOR A COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR

The Clerk reported that notices advertising the vacancy have been put on notice boards in the Community.

158. FINANCE COMMITTEE

Because of the difficulties that were encountered following the death of the late Clerk, it was suggested that a Finance Committee be established. Council were in agreement. The members were to be the Chairman, Vice-Chairman of the time and a member from the Pontblyddyn ward. At present these are Councillors K McCallum as Chair, E. Saul as Vice-Chair and G. Sherwood.

159. 5 COUNTY ROAD – HEDGE

The Clerk informed that she had been unable to establish the name of the occupier of this property and had, therefore, not written in regard to the overgrown hedge. It was agreed that the Chairman should approach the resident.

160. FLY TIPPING – REAR OF GARAGES ON HEOL-Y-GORON AND ADJACENT FIELD

The Clerk reported that an e-mail with photographs of the area in question

had been sent to the Environmental Health Department at Flintshire County Council. Members were informed that the area at the rear of the garages had now been cleared. It was stated that the County Council are unlikely to take action with the fly tipping on private land. Involvement of the land owner would be required.

161. BUS SERVICE

Members were informed that a letter had been sent to the Manager at the Arriva Depot in Wrexham requesting the presence of a senior representative at this evening's meeting in order to discuss the issues arising. There had been no reply to this correspondence. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Head Office stating that there had been no response and advising that the Council would be prepared to attend a meeting at the Wrexham Depot. In the meantime, the Clerk was requested to log any known instances of issues regarding the bus service.

162. COUNTY FORUM MEETING – THURSDAY 27TH JUNE 2013

The minutes of this meeting had been circulated to all Councillors. Reference was made to the website support grants available through the Welsh Assembly Government. Details of this had already been received from Mr Peter Evans, Legal Services, Flintshire County Council. The Clerk advised that a receipted invoice was required in order to be refunded the expense incurred.

163. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES – DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

Correspondence received stating that the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales has now published the Draft Annual Report for the financial year 2014/2015. The letter outlined that attention should be drawn to Section 10 involving payments to members of community and town councils. A request was made that the Clerk should provide more information with regard to Section 10 for the next meeting.

164. PREPARATION FOR THE COMING WINTER – FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Flintshire County Council had forwarded correspondence detailing the preparations for the coming winter. This was accepted.

165. WAR MEMORIALS TRUST

The War Memorials Trust had sent a letter stating the importance regarding the upkeep of local War Memorials. Council were informed that the War Memorial on Bells Corner had been erected through the effort of Royal British Legion Leeswood Branch fundraising. Information was to be obtained as to who would be responsible for the War Memorial should the Leeswood sub-branch cease to exist.

166. TOWN/COMMUNITY COUNCIL PRECEPTS 2014/2015

Correspondence received from the Flintshire County Council advising of the Council Tax base 2014/2015. As per the letter the Precept for 2014/2015 must be sent in to the County Council by no later than 3rd February 2014. The Clerk reported that a meeting to discuss this would be held on 28th January 2014.

167. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL WEBSITE INFORMATION REGARDING INCLUSION OF COUNCILLORS NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Information from the Flintshire County Council detailing that pursuant to Section 55 of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013, Councillors names and contact details should be included on their websites by April 2014. Reservation was expressed by a number of Councillors at having their personal contact details available, in particular given the nature of their work. Councillor R Hughes stated that in his position of County Councillor, his name, address and telephone contact numbers were available for all to see. He had never had a problem with this information being in the public domain. It was agreed that Councillors should be given the option of putting either their address or telephone number as means of contact.

168. WELSH GOVERNMENT – PROPOSED REVOCATION AND REMAKING OF THE ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT (WALES) REGULATIONS 2005

From the Welsh Government, correspondence received regarding restructuring draft regulations in order to simplify them.

169. WELSH GOVERNMENT – “SECTION 137 EXPENDITURE”

Notification received from the Welsh Government that the appropriate sum for purposes of Section 137 (4) (a) is a maximum of £7.20 per elector.

170. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

Area of New Inn Pontblyddyn – the problems with flooding are to be addressed.

Wrexham Road Pontblyddyn – the gulleys and drainage points are to be cleared.

Street Lighting – there are seven standards out within the Community.

171. MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE

There were none. However, the Chairman reported he was aware that the odour emitting in the area of Rose Cottage Pontblyddyn was iodine, which is used as a farming disinfectant.

Councillor E. Saul, Vice-Chairman, was thanked for his work in obtaining the Christmas Lights within the community. With regard to the fusing of the lights, it was believed that this could be an issue with the column. Mega Electrical

Services would be taking down the lights. The Vice-Chairman was prepared to store them on a temporary basis and the Clerk was requested to enquire if there could be a space for storage in the Community Centre.

172. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Welsh Border Community Transport – deferred until the donations are discussed.

b) Smiths of Derby – annual clock service - the Clerk to ascertain when this is next due for payment. Suggestion was made that an electricity feed could be run to the Cherry Tree located near the War Memorial in order to dress it with Christmas lights. It was further agreed that a Festive Lights Committee should be formed. This matter was to be put on the Agenda for the February meeting.

c) Urdd Gobaith Cymru – deferred until the donations are discussed

d) Eisteddfodd Genedlaethol Cymru – deferred until the donations are discussed.

173. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Amount</u>
N.W.N. Media	Advert for Clerk	£240.00
R.B.L. Poppy Appeal	Remembrance Wreaths	£32.00
Colony of Ants	Website Hosting	£240.00
Councillor E. Saul	12 sets Festive Lights	£1,234.03
G.N.I. Jones	Salary and Expenses owing	£720.20
Mega Electrical Services	Installation of Festive Lights	£4,200.00
Scottish Power	Electricity	£762.06
Mrs P. Davies	Opening School for Interviews	£15.00
Mrs E. Snowden	Services to the Community Council	£25.00
Mr B. Richards	Cemetery Maintenance	£670.00
	Disposal of Cemetery Waste	£582.00
	Litter Pick	
K. Davies	Daffodil/Tulip Bulbs	£42.00
Leeswood News	Insertions	£500.00
	Total	£9,262.29

174. INCOME RECEIVED

<u>From</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mr Mark Jones	Cremated Remains	£100.00

175. BANK BALANCES

As at 29th November 2013, there was £135.44 in the Community Account and £50,063.41 in the Business Money Manager Account.

176. ANY MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS NOT YET RESOLVED

- a) Seat at Pontblyddyn Crossroads – Minute No. 239 – 02.04.2013 – this matter has now been dealt with - remove from Agenda.
- b) Salt Bin – Minute No. 13 – 07.05.2013 – resolved – remove from Agenda.
- c) Licensing Laws – Minute No. 50 – 04.06.2013 – remove from Agenda.
- d) Bryn Clyd/Heol-y-Goron Bus Route – Minute No. 69 – 09.07.2013 – a response is awaited from Arriva Wales.

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