

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 4TH
FEBRUARY 2014.

PRESENT

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

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Were received from Councillor H. Evans.

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.

177. POLICE LIAISON

Item number 6 on the Agenda was brought forward. PCSO Kelsey Evans was off duty until Thursday so PCSO Andrea Ellis attended in her absence. The Council were informed that there had been damage to the windscreen of a vehicle on County Road. There was to be a Bike Marking Event on Saturday 8th February from 10am to 12 noon at the Community Centre.

Reference was made to a Mr Forrest who had e-mailed the Council via the website. He had stated that he had been the victim of crime on three occasions. Each time he was given a crime number but nothing further seemed to happen. PCSO Ellis informed that if he believed he was being targeted then neighbourhood wardens could be advised of the situation to monitor the problem.

Councillor C. Bie pointed out that cars and trucks were speeding through the village of Pontblyddyn in the early morning. Councillor J. Caruana also highlighted that speeding was taking place in Leeswood. Query was raised regarding a watch on this activity or the possible use of a speed gun. PCSO

Ellis advised that the Arrive Alive vehicle was frequently in Pontblyddyn, but it was unlikely that this would appear in Leeswood. However, PCSO Evans was being trained in the use of a speed gun. Councillor R. Hughes stated that three years ago there had been a request for speed cameras and the Council had been told at the time that Officers were being trained for use of the speed gun. The 30 mph flashing light located at the bottom of Bryn Clyd rarely stops during the day.

Councillor C.E. Jones referred to an incident regarding mirrors being broken off a car. He wished to know why information had been received that there was 'nothing to report' when this had taken place? It was not his intention to be critical in any way, he was asking a question – if this could not be answered then hopefully it would be looked into in order to obtain a response.

Councillor T. Hughes pointed out that PCSO Evans had only taken over from PCSO Hughes towards the end of December and, therefore, it was a possibility she was unfamiliar with some of the incidents that had taken place.

PCSO Ellis stated that she would report back to PCSO Evans the concerns of the meeting.

The Chairman thanked PCSO Ellis for attending.

178. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7th January and Tuesday 28th January had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor J. Caruana and seconded by Councillor C.E. Jones JP that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th January be accepted as a true record of proceedings. Councillor R. Hughes proposed and Councillor C.E. Jones JP seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th January 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.

179. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor R. Hughes advised that he had been in contact with Cadwyn Clwyd regarding the possibility of funding for replacement notice boards and seats in the Community. The Clerk confirmed that she had received the application form from Sarah Jones of Cadwyn Clwyd. Further, the Clerk went on to state that she had been looking at notice boards and seats on the internet. Unfortunately the notice boards had doors which were not a requirement. Seats made of recyclable plastic seemed to be a viable option as it was easy to keep these clean – the cost of these would be in the region of £300 per seat. Comment was made that it would be possible to source the notice boards as required by the Council from a local workman. It was

agreed that the Council should seek funding for eight notice boards and eight seats. The amount to be requested was £1,000 per unit which would cover the cost of the item and the fitting of them.

180. FOOTPATH A5104 BOTTOM OF THE CONSTITUTION HILL TO THE A541

This item was to remain on the Agenda.

181. ACQUISITION OF LAND – CEMETERY REQUIREMENTS

Council were informed that it would be necessary to seek an independent valuation of the land adjacent to the Cemetery. This was to be obtained from the Valuation Officer at the Land Agents, Regent Street, Wrexham. The cost would be £450. All Councillors were in agreement.

Question was raised what did the Council intend to do with the valuation? Was it to argue the price of the land? Did the landowner believe that an agreement in regard to the price was already in place? It was pointed out that alternative sites had been looked at.

Reference was made to Mold Cemetery and that they had recently increased their rates – was it the intention of this Council to do the same? It was agreed that this could be looked at.

Concern was expressed that Stonemasons were entering the Cemetery without informing the Clerk. It was agreed that a letter should be forwarded to all Stonemasons in the area advising them that they should inform the Clerk of any intention to enter the Cemetery.

The Clerk was to chase up Steve Pugh in regard to the digging of the trial holes.

It was agreed that a Special Meeting should be held to discuss all matters of issue in relation to the Cemetery.

182. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Council were advised that Rhodri Thomas would be sending details by e-mail regarding benefits to Community and Environment issues.

183. CASTLE CEMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE

There had been no meetings and, therefore, there was nothing further to report.

184. COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Chairman advised that he had intended the last meeting of the Community Centre Management Committee as a bystander. He informed the Council that Councillor J. Caruana had attended in his role of Community

Council representative, Councillor R. Hughes had attended as County Council representative and the Clerk was present in her capacity as a member of the Committee. It had been noted that the Community Centre was very much at the heart of the Community. There are approximately between 250/300 people per week using the facility, such as the Brownies, Guides and even us as a Council. A Public Meeting was to be called in order to try and establish what support there is in the Community. However, help is needed now. Any financial support that is given has to be used effectively.

It was pointed out that care should be taken not to scare people away from using the Community Centre by increasing the prices, in particular for groups such as the Brownies, Guides and Senior Citizens. To raise prices for some sections and not for others would be difficult. The Community Centre is the home of the Community Council and we should look after it.

Comment was made that money should be given with no strings attached.

Suggestion was made that more should be done to advertise – possibly on the Council website.

It was observed that it should be the Council's job to assist in providing the Community Centre and financially support it, make sure that the Management Committee can operate properly. Help could be given in marketing, but there are different reasons why people go elsewhere.

Council were advised that when funds had run so low, a member of the Management Committee had paid bills until such time money was available for them to be paid back.

Point was made that a number of organisations receive donations from the Council and they were not asked to account for this – it would be difficult to ask the Community Centre Management Committee when others are not. Observation made that it is different with the Community Centre, the Council should be take a responsibility in the running of it. The Council should want to keep it open but make sure that this is acceptable to the rate payer.

A proposal was put forward that the Council give the Community Centre a £1,000 emergency donation, this was seconded and all Councillors were in agreement.

185. CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT

The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with Mr Gerwyn Powell of the Highways Department, Flintshire County Council. He informed that the local Councils are required to put in writing a 'wish list' of locations in their Communities that they believe need attention. At present, the County Council are concentrating on problem areas in Mold and Shotton. The smaller Councils will then be looked at. It was agreed that a letter be

forwarded highlighting the following areas: - Britannia Road/Junction of King Street; Bryn Clyd/Junction of King Street; the Parc Derwen Estate and Queen Street/Bells Corner.

186. VACANCY FOR A COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR

The Clerk reported that there had been insufficient request made for an election. A notice advertising co-option of a Councillor was to be put on the notice boards – closing date for application 28th February 2014.

187. BUS SERVICE

The Clerk informed that a letter had been sent to Arriva Bus Wales Headquarters at Llandygai Industrial Estate, Bangor. No response has yet been received.

188. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES – DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

Information relating to Section 10 involving payments made to members of Community and Town Councils had been circulated to all members. This was accepted.

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

It was agreed that all Councillors could be contacted via the Clerk. This information was to be placed on the website.

190. FESTIVE LIGHTS COMMITTEE

The Festive Lights Committee was to consist of Councillors E. Saul, Vice-Chairman; C. Bie and T. Hughes.

191. SUMMER PLAY SCHEME 2014

Correspondence received from Leisure Services at Flintshire County Council, advising of their position regarding funding of the Summer Play Scheme 2014. Observation was made that the County Council are unsure of their position at the present. It was noted that this Council had made provision for the Play Scheme in the Precept.

192. MATCH FUNDING PROGRAMME 2014/2015 – CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS

Correspondence received from Leisure Services, Flintshire County Council. Comment was made that there had been no provision for any expense regarding this made in the Precept. Councillor R. Hughes informed that he had received £4,400 to spend on the play area located at the rear of Bro Alyn in Pontblyddyn. This money had come from a Section 106 agreement involving Hartsheath and the conversion of dwellings.

193. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

County Road – a petition requesting traffic calming measures had been presented to the County Council.

Cricket Club, Pontblyddyn – an application had been made for a change in opening hours – an extension until 12 midnight Mon-Thurs and Sat-Sun and an extension until 1am on a Friday.

194. MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE

Nant, Pontblyddyn – it was reported that there had been an incident of clay washing down the bank. Natural Resources Wales were aware of this.

Memorial for the late Clerk Nigel Jones – this matter was to be placed on the next Agenda.

Fly Tipping – there is still a problem in the field adjacent to the Garages on Heol-y-Goron. It was stated that the Landowner needs to be contacted to see if they can establish the identity of the fly tipper.

195. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Holywell Town Council - Mayor's Charity Event - this was accepted.

b) Flintshire Town Council – Chair's Annual Charity Dinner – this was accepted.

c) Groundwork North Wales – this was accepted.

196. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Flintshire County Council	Summer Play Scheme	£2,098.20
B. Richards	Cemetery Maintenance Disposal of Cemetery Waste Litter Pick	£652.00
Leeswood Community Centre	Rent	£160.00
Leeswood Community Centre	Interim Donation	£1,000.00
Miss M Reynolds	Printing/Stationery	£71.38
Leeswood & Dist. Friends	Donation re insurance premium	£1,461.66
	Total	£5,443.24

197. INCOME RECEIVED

<u>From</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Amount</u>
R.G. Jones	Memorial	£100.00
Mr A. Jones	Re-open Grave	£400.00
	Total	£500.00

198. BANK BALANCES

As at 29th January 2014, there was £5,151.12 in the Community Account and £50,071.96 in the Business Money Manager Account.

199. ANY MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS NOT YET RESOLVED

- a) Seat at Pontblyddyn Crossroads – Minute No. 239 – 02.04.2013
- b) Bryn Clyd/Heol-y-Goron Bus Route – Minute No. 69 – 09.07.2013 – a response is awaited from Arriva Wales.
- c) 5 County Road Hedge – Minute No. 147 – 05.12.013
- d) Fly Tipping adjacent field to rear of Garages Heol-y-Goron – Minute No. 147 – 05.12.2013 – to be removed from Agenda.
- e) War Memorials Trust – Minute No. 165 – 07.01.2014 – a reply is awaited from London.