

## LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### CYNGOR CYMUNED COEDLLAI A PONTBLYDDYN

THE MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019.

#### **PRESENT**

Councillor R. Hughes, Vice-Chairman (in the Chair),  
Councillors J. Atkinson, J. Caruana, D. Foster, L.C. Richardson, J.E. Saul, G. Sherwood and R. Williams.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds - Clerk to the Council.

#### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

These were received from Councillor C. Coleman, L.T. Coleman, D.K. Crowther, T. Hughes and D. Rule.

#### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST - MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **266. MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor J. Caruana and seconded by Councillor R. Williams that these be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor J.E. Saul and seconded by Councillor G. Sherwood that these be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

#### **267. POLICE LIAISON**

PCSO 3684 Peter Jones was in attendance. His report for this month had already been sent to the Clerk and circulated to all Councillors present.

**Incident update** - (from 04/02/2019 to 05/03/2019)

#### **Crime Issues / Trends**

##### **Last Month**

No updates to be given.

##### **This Month**

**Theft from vehicle on Corwen Road, Pontybodkin** - £600 stolen from cab of lorry while delivering oil. All lines of enquiry completed, no suspect has been identified.

**Sexual Conduct on King Street, Leeswood** - a person having a shower has looked up to see a phone giving the illusion that they are being filmed. All lines of enquiry completed, no suspect has been identified.

Criminal Damage - Oak Villas, Leeswood - a lock has been broken off a gate and shed but nothing has been taken. All lines of enquiry completed, no suspect has been identified.

### **ASB Issues**

None to report.

### **Other News/PCSO activities**

There has been a spate of thefts/ people trying to gain entry into properties in the Wrexham/ Flintshire areas. Please report any suspicious activity to Police using 999 if the individuals are still present and continuing to act suspiciously (urgent) and the 101 service if the matter is not urgent.

PCSO Jones informed that there are nine PCSOs based in Mold Police Station which covers a large area in South Flintshire. The PCSOs are on a shift pattern with not all of them on duty at the same time. Shifts are nine to ten hours.

It was commented that the majority of incidents reported did not seem to have suspects identified or caught.

Councillors raised the issue of speeding in the village of Leeswood, particularly on the Dingle Road, where vehicles do not slow down once they enter the 30mph area. Observation was made that there is speeding throughout the village especially on Queen Street/King Street. PCSO Jones advised that he would get an update on the speeding for the next meeting.

Councillor R. Hughes, Vice-Chairman, thanked PCSO Jones for attending the meeting.

## **268. CEMETERY**

The Clerk informed that Mr Aled Davies, Cemetery sub-contractor had been unable to attend the meeting this evening. It was agreed by all Council that the meeting with Mr Davies be re-arranged at a time convenient.

Councillor R. Hughes, Vice-Chairman, advised that complaints had been received about the molehills in the Cemetery. The Clerk reported that Mr Davies had arranged for traps to be set in the Cemetery and that a mole had been caught. Mr Davies had forwarded a photograph of this to the Clerk.

It was reported that the Cemetery was looking very well, a good job had been done with the fencing on the new extension. The clay in the existing Cemetery was to be moved into the new extension through an opening on the first bend.

## **269. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Application number: - 058946

Proposed Residential Development

Factory 2, Pontybodkin Hill, Leeswood, Mold, CH7 4RY.

Information was received that this application had been returned to the Agent with regard to the inclusion of three storey properties on the development.

**270. AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES**

Councillor G. Sherwood reported that the Steering Group had met on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019. The winter meal event which had been open to residents aged over 50 years had been very successful with approximately 100 residents being fed. Councillor J.E. Saul had taken photographs at the event, putting them on the Community Council website and the Clerk was to forward the link to access these to Mrs Helen Jones, Older People's Strategy Co-Ordinator, Flintshire County Council.

This Council had an excellent Dementia Friendly training on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Another Dementia Friendly training session is to take place at Ysgol Derwenfa. It was hoped that a session open to the public could be arranged in May 2019.

The café is still doing very well. Volunteers to help with the café are still needed.

**271. LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Councillor G. Sherwood reported that he had met with the Solicitors to the Trustees and a list of queries had been passed on to Flintshire County Council. It was understood that Flintshire County Council had made a response to these queries, but the Trustees' Solicitor has yet to be in contact.

The building had once again been checked for asbestos.

During the Six Nations rugby tournament, the Community Centre has been open to show the Wales matches.

**272. PARKING ISSUES - BELL'S CORNER AND JUNCTION OF BRYN CLYD/KING STREET**

E-mail correspondence had been received from Lee Shone, Road Safety Officer, Highway Strategy, Streetscene and Transportation, Flintshire County Council. The proposed parking restrictions at Bryn Clyd and near to the cenotaph will go through the following process: -

Firstly, prior to completing a Draft Order, Notice of Proposal and Statement of reasons, it is necessary to seek approval from the Emergency Services and key Stakeholders. All documentation would need to be bilingual and unfortunately the cost of the translation is non-refundable. The Notice would then be advertised in the local press, online, on-site and in a nominated location such as a local Library/Post Office for the statutory 21 days Consultation Period, again all associated costs are non-refundable.

There is a potential risk that objections may be received during the consultation period, of which we cannot determine the outcome and these objections may not be able to be overruled, therefore, any associated costs will again be borne by the Community Council. However should the objection not be valid, then a Delegated Report will be written and signed, recommending that the objection(s) be overruled. The Notice of making can then be advertised, with

the order being sealed, and all objectors will receive a written response. Following this, the road marking works would then be programmed.

Should the proposal not go ahead, there will be an element of cost for the Traffic Regulation Order that is non-refundable and the cost of the physical works such as the road markings, would only apply should the proposals be implemented. The maximum anticipated cost of the Traffic Regulation Order including the physical works is £3000 however the cost would be less, should the Order not be implemented following receipt of an objection that cannot be overruled.

The Clerk reported that she had confirmed with Mr Shone that this Council wished to go ahead with this process. Also, that the notices had been put out on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019.

### **273. CADWYN CLWYD - iBEACON PROJECT**

Councillor D.K. Crowther had sent e-mail correspondence relating to the iBeacon training session held at Ysgol Derwenfa. Councillor J.E. Saul and Mrs Jo Danson had also been present at the School. The training went very well and the teachers seemed excited to get fully on board. They came up with some great ideas/projects for the children to get involved in.

Mrs Jo Danson is hoping to launch the Leeswood Digital Trails on Thursday 9th May 2019 at Leeswood Community Centre. This event would start around 6pm. Mrs Linda Dilkes has indicated that she would be happy for the School choir to help with the launch which would hopefully bring in more people.

Timescales and issues to be resolved: -

- i) 20th March 2019, teachers to provide Mrs Jo Danson with material to download. Mrs Danson will visit the school and help at a time convenient.
- ii) Community Councillors to approve the date of the launch as the 9th May 2019.
- iii) The Community Centre Management to be contacted to check if the Community Centre is available for 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019.
- iv) The launch of "Leeswood Digital Trails" to be publicised in the Leeswood News and other media outlets, including digital media such as Facebook etc.
- v) Would the councillors be willing to provide refreshments (tea/coffee and biscuits) on the night? Or could the bar be opened and soft drinks be provided for children?
- vi) The opening page on the site to include: "Welcome to Leeswood & Pontblyddyn". The Community Councillors to agree the wording and what is to be included and the signature of the current chairman to finish, the signature could be updated each year as the Chairman changes. This needs to be something that sells the village to locals and visitors.
- vii) Arrange for the beacons to be placed in their locations before the launch

date. This might need someone young and with a suitable size ladder and a map of the locations.

Councillor J.E. Saul advised that he would give the Councillors a preview of what would be on the iBeacons prior to the launch.

**274. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - BEST KEPT COMMUNITIES COMPETITION 2019**

Members had been circulated with a copy of e-mail correspondence from Janet Kelly, Democratic Services Support Officer, Flintshire County Council, advising that Shaun Darlington from FLVC would be prepared to attend a meeting of this Council and discuss what they can offer, whether it is support applying for grants or volunteer support. Also circulated to Members was a copy of the FLVC presentation given at a meeting at County Hall and a copy of the FLVC annual Impact Report 2017/2018. It was agreed by all Councillors that Shaun Darlington of FLVC be invited to attend a meeting of this Council.

**275. PONTBLYDDYN CROSSROADS**

Councillor R. Hughes informed that he had spoken with Lee Shone, Road Safety Officer, Highway Strategy, Streetscene and Transportation, Flintshire County Council. Mr Shone had advised that he would be sending a breakdown of the speed survey as per this Council's request. It was pointed out that it is important to get a breakdown of this survey as there could be figures in it that will skew the results. At certain times of the day the traffic will be moving very slowly as there is a gridlock but at other times vehicles could be moving considerably above the speed limit. Observation was made that the Officers of the Flintshire County Council present at the site meeting held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018, were investigating three options: - a) traffic calming; b) traffic lights on the crossroads and c) average speed measurement. Further comment was made that when the Police become involved they will want to know about any fatalities and serious accidents at the location. It was pointed out that something needs to be done before it reaches the stage involving accidents or deaths on the road.

**276. PONTBLYDDYN VILLAGE SIGN**

The Pontblyddyn village sign on the Nant is due to go up soon. It was pointed out that the sign on the Chester Road, Pontblyddyn, had been damaged by the farmer's hedge cutter. This sign had been replaced free of charge by Flintshire County Council.

**277. 20MPH MANDATORY SPEED LIMIT OUTSIDE FLINTSHIRE SCHOOLS**

Information was received that Flintshire County Council are now working to have the 20mph advisory signs outside Flintshire Schools changed to mandatory 20mph signs. Councillors were very pleased about this.

**278. YSGOL DERWENFA, LEESWOOD - IT EQUIPMENT**

The Clerk informed that she would contact Mr Gareth Owens, Legal Services, Flintshire County Council, regarding how a donation could be given to a School

from a Community Council. Councillors asked if purchasing equipment would be a possibility.

**279. 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOLD RIOTS, 2019**

Members had been circulated with e-mail correspondence from Kevin Matthias, Chair of the Daniel Owen Festival. In his e-mail, Mr Matthias refers to Samantha Roberts at Mold Town Council mentioning the Daniel Owen Festival's interest in involving the community at Leeswood in our activities this year (festival dates are 19-26 October) as it is the 150th anniversary of the Mold riots. It is going to be an exceptional year for the festival and for Theatr Clwyd who are producing a ground-breaking exciting community theatre project. The Festival Group held its first meeting last night and were introduced to Alice Evans who has been appointed as a the Community Development Producer by Theatr Clwyd especially for the Riots project and who will be co-ordinating related events from the Spring onwards.

One of the events the festival had already thought of doing was a walk from Leeswood to Mold on the Sunday afternoon (20th October 2019). This could evolve into other activities: banner making, musical accompaniment etc.. The Theatr is also considering inviting the walkers who wish to stay in Mold after the walk to the final dress rehearsal (100 actors performing in the streets of Mold) if it fits into their schedule. Representatives at Tyddyn Street Chapel have been asked if they could have the chapel open for refreshments for the walkers on their arrival. As the chapel is more or less the site of the riot they have information panels on the event. The Festival would also like to have a walk around the area where the troubles began on the Thursday afternoon but there will be more information on that to follow.

Councillors expressed their wish to be involved with the Leeswood aspect of the Festival and all agreed that Mr Matthias be invited to attend a meeting of this Council to discuss the matter further.

**280. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL STANDARDS COMMITTEE - VISITS TO TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

Correspondence from Gareth Owens, Chief Officer, Governance, Flintshire County Council, which gives feedback on the recent visits by Standards Committee members to Flintshire Town and Community Councils had been circulated to all Councillors.

This is Mr Owens' second update regarding the visits by the independent members of the Standards Committee to Town/Community Council meetings to observe practice and gain an understanding of how local council business is conducted.

The findings from further visits undertaken were reported to the Committee on the 4<sup>th</sup> February and I am writing with feedback to all Town/Community Councils to give assurance on good practice and procedures. Findings from four further visits, undertaken in October and November last year, were

received by the Committee this week. As in the case of the last reported visits, the four independent members agreed that these had been positive experiences and praised the level of commitment and contributions by those in attendance. Amongst the findings were some minor procedural points that may be of general interest and assistance to all Councils. The points focus on helping members of the public who wish to attend meetings and some of these points were identified in respect of the last four visits:

- i) The same point was made again about the importance of the location of meetings being clear and information being available on the website and on noticeboards, as well as venues being clearly signposted where there is more than one room in the building;
- ii) The best use of the layout of the meeting room should be made, in terms of the audibility and visibility of the meeting for any public attending;
- iii) The identity of members of the meeting itself should be made clear for the benefit of any public attending;
- iv) Following the requirements of the Code of Conduct when declaring interests at meetings including explaining the nature of the interest, how it has arisen and what steps you will take in respect of it (e.g. to leave the room if it is a prejudicial interest) and that a request for any such declarations is made by the Chair at the beginning of the meeting prior to considering any substantive business.

Mr Owens goes on to say that the Committee hopes that this feedback is useful and wishes to acknowledge the dedication and good work undertaken by Town/Community Councillors in their voluntary roles.

Councillors accepted this correspondence.

**281. LEESWOOD AND DISTRICT NEWSLETTER – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

The Friends of the Leeswood and District News have forwarded correspondence requesting further financial assistance in order to continue printing the Newsletter. Since deciding to make all issues free of charge in the spring of 2015, the balance sheet has shown continued losses. During the last three years, the cost of printing has risen considerably, partly due to it being necessary to find new printers in 2018. Councillors remarked that before committing to any further financial support it would be important to know whether the Committee intended to re-introduce charges for the Newsletter. This Council is very sympathetic to the struggle of financing and the rising costs, but wish to know if they have any plans to finance the Newsletter, or possibly change the circulation, perhaps to bi-monthly. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk write to the Friends of the Newsletter expressing these concerns.

**282. WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT – SENEDD AND ELECTIONS (WALES) BILL**

Councillors had been circulated with a written statement by Elin Jones AM, Llywydd, as Chair of the Assembly Commission.

The introduction of the Bill follows a period of public consultation by the Assembly Commission on proposals to change the name of the National Assembly, on the recommendations of the Expert Panel on Assembly Electoral Reform and on other proposed changes to the Assembly's electoral and internal arrangements.

The Bill proposes to use powers in the Wales Act 2017 to:

- i) change the name of the institution from the National Assembly for Wales (Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru) to the "Senedd", and make consequential changes to relevant names, titles and descriptors; the "Senedd" may also be known as "Welsh Parliament";
- ii) lower the minimum voting age in Assembly elections to 16, and implement reform of associated electoral registration arrangements;
- iii) make changes to the law on disqualification from being an Assembly Member;
- iv) place a duty on the Senedd to consider the financial and oversight arrangements for the work of the Electoral Commission in relation to devolved Welsh elections and devolved referendums;
- v) introduce a regulation-making power to implement Law Commission recommendations;
- vi) extend the deadline for the first meeting of the Assembly after an election; and
- vii) clarify Assembly Commission powers to charge for goods and services.

This document was accepted.

**283. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – LOCAL TOILETS STRATEGY**

Members had been circulated with e-mail correspondence from Barry Wilkinson, Highway Network Manager, Streetscene and Transportation, Flintshire County Council, advising that the consultation for the Flintshire County Council Local Toilets Strategy is now available for review and comment. It was agreed by all Councillors that this Council should put forward the opinion that the provision of public toilets is essential.

**284. PRESENTATION FROM THE WALES AUDIT OFFICE**

Copy of e-mail correspondence from Paul R. Egan, Deputy Chief Executive and Resources Manager, One Voice Wales relating to a presentation given by the Wales Audit Office to the Larger Councils Committee, along with a copy of the Auditor General for Wales publications; 'Internal Audit Arrangements at Town and Community Councils in Wales' and 'Financial Management and Governance – Town and Community Councils 2017-18' had been circulated to all Councillors. These documents were accepted.

**285. NORTH WALES COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL – ALL WALES GP OUT OF HOURS SURVEY 2019**

Members had been circulated with a copy of e-mail correspondence from Carol Williams, Deputy Chief Officer, North Wales Community Health Council,

requesting help in publicising a survey on GP Out-of-Hours services. The survey was launched on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 and is aimed at anyone who has used the Out-of-Hours service during the last six months. Also enclosed is a copy of the survey. It was agreed by all Councillors that a link to this survey should be put on this Council's website for residents to access.

**286. WELSH GOVERNMENT - 2019/2020 FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE INITIAL SET-UP OF JOINT ARRANGEMENTS**

Councillors had been circulated with a copy of e-mail correspondence from Joan Lockett, Local Government Partnerships, Welsh Government and accompanying documents. These were accepted.

**287. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED OPTIONS TO AMEND DISCRETIONARY TRANSPORT POLICY - POST 16 AND BENEFITS ENTITLEMENTS**

Members had been circulated with a copy of e-mail correspondence from Gill Yates, Admissions Manager, Education and Youth, Flintshire County Council, advising of a formal consultation on the above. This information was accepted.

**288. COUNTY FORUM MEETING OF 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019**

Members had been circulated with copy e-mail correspondence from Sam Perry, Corporate Business and Communications Support Officer, Flintshire County Council relating to the County Forum meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Also circulated with the following: -

Item 1b - Presentation slides - Council Plan 2019/2020 Priorities - any feedback needs to be sent by the end of March 2019,

Item 1c - Presentation slides - Community Resilience Update,

Item 1d - frequently asked questions - Budget - Flintshire County Council wish to know if there are any FAQs missing and they will be added accordingly,

Item 1f - Presentation slides - Third Sector Support Using Dewis Cymru, also flyer for Dewis Cymru - Flintshire County Council request that Dewis Cymru is promoted within the community and via the website.

Councillor J.E. Saul had attended the meeting on behalf of this Council. He advised that the Dewis database for local services was excellent, a very useful tool that showed everything available within a certain radius. It was agreed by all Councillors that this database be promoted via the Community Council website.

**289. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

i) Changes to bus service from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 - it was brought to the Council's attention that the number 26 bus would no longer be serving the sheltered housing accommodation from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. For over twenty years, the 26 bus has served the OAP sheltered housing accommodation in Leeswood, travelling around the estate of Heol-y-Goron/Bryn Clyd. Councillors expressed their gratitude for the inclusion of the OAP sheltered housing accommodation on the route as they believe that this assists those residents who struggle to get

out. They are now very concerned that if this part of the service is withdrawn, members of the Community will become isolated, unable to get out. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should write to the Manager at Arriva Wrexham Depot, expressing this Council's dismay at this change, stating that it would cause hardship and isolate the most vulnerable.

ii) Garden Waste, Flintshire County Council - Council were advised that Flintshire County Council would be collecting the garden waste bins on the old labels for this month. The residents who have paid for their garden waste to be collected will be receiving their new labels soon.

## 290. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
Miss M Reynolds	Salary/Expenses - Feb. 2019.	£616.16	£0.00	<b>£616.16</b>
Miss M Reynolds	Postage/Printing/Stationery - Feb. 2019	£171.52	£0.00	<b>£171.52</b>
Aled Davies Agricultural	Cemetery - Feb. 2019	£364.00	£72.80	<b>£436.80</b>
One Voice Wales	Membership 2019/2020	£308.00	£0.00	<b>£308.00</b>
Mega Electrical	Installation Christmas lights 2018	£2,935.00	£587.00	<b>£3,522.00</b>
One Voice Wales	Course attendance fees	£40.00	£0.00	<b>£40.00</b>
Flintshire County Council	Street lighting maintenance	£249.11	£0.00	<b>£249.11</b>
Leeswood Community Centre	Hire of Community Centre Jan. to Mar. 2019	£105.00	£0.00	<b>£105.00</b>
	<b>Totals: -</b>	<b>£4,788.79</b>	<b>£659.80</b>	<b>£5,448.59</b>

## 291. INCOME RECEIVED

None at the time of publishing the Agenda.

## 292. BANK BALANCES

At 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019 - Deposit account - £62,856.19 and current account - £7,766.95.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.25pm.