



LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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THE MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 6th DECEMBER 2016.

PRESENT

Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman of the Council (in the Chair)

Councillor J. Caruana, Vice-Chairman

Councillors D.K. Crowther, R. Hughes, Terry Hughes, T. Hughes, D. Rule, and J.E. Saul.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received from Councillors J. Atkinson, C.E. Jones JP, K. McCallum JP, J. Phoenix and R. Williams.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

160. MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 1st November 2016 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor D.K. Crowther and seconded by Councillor J. Caruana that these minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17th November 2016 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor R. Hughes and seconded by Councillor D. Rule that these minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

161. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA

Boundary Commission Review 2018

The Clerk reported that an acknowledgement e-mail had been received from the Boundary Commission. It stated that all comments received as part of this review will be published on the Boundary Commission for Wales website. This will be in Spring 2017 and there will be an opportunity to see what others have said about our local area. Based on what local people have told them, the Boundary Commission for Wales may revise their proposals in the autumn of 2017.

162. POLICE LIAISON

PCSO Poppy Hadfield-Jones was unable to attend the meeting this evening. It was pointed out that this was the second meeting in a row that the PCSO had been unable to attend. The Clerk stated that she had not received a report.

The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood informed that at the recent meeting of the One Voice Wales Wrexham/Flint Committee, Mr Arfon Jones the current Police and Crime Commissioner had been the guest speaker. One of the issues that had arisen was the lack of PCSO attendance at Community Council meetings – this could be for a variety of reasons such as work commitments or that more than one Community Council had a meeting on the same evening. Mr Jones advised that if contact with the PCSO was required it would be better to send an e-mail rather than telephone.

163. ACQUISITION OF LAND – CEMETERY REQUIREMENTS

Councillors had been circulated with e-mail correspondence received from Mrs Sian Jones, Solicitor from the Legal Department at Flintshire County Council. In this e-mail, Mrs Jones informed that she had heard from Llewellyn Jones solicitors who are acting on behalf of Mr Owens. It appeared that they are now in a position to proceed. Mrs Jones had requested that she be provided with the necessary contract and title information for her to undertake the transactional process.

As quite a long time has elapsed since this Council's initial instruction to Mrs Jones, she asked that confirmation was sent of our wish to instruct Flintshire County Council to undertake the necessary transaction on behalf of Leeswood and Pontblyddyn Community Council. The charge for this will be legal fees of £400.00 plus any disbursements that may be incurred on our behalf. These disbursements that will be incurred are search fees, land registration fee and any stamp duty.

The Clerk advised that she had already e-mailed Mrs Jones stating that this Council wished for her to act on their behalf with regard to the acquisition of land to extend the Cemetery.

Councillor J.E. Saul had drafted a plan showing the possible drainage requirements and layout for the new extension. Comment was made that there could possibly be more useful area in the new extension than in the existing section of the Cemetery. Councillor R. Hughes was to take the draft plan to Mr A. Roberts of the Planning Department at Flintshire County Council. All Councillors were in agreement.

164. CEMETERY

It was reported that three graves had sunk. Mr Aled Davies, the Cemetery sub-contractor had been contacted about this and the issue had been resolved.

A request had been received about the siting of a seat in the Cemetery in memory of Mr Raymond and Mrs Lorna Richardson. All Councillors agreed that this could be done. There was also a request about the planting of a tree in memory of Mr Raymond and Mrs Lorna Richardson. More information about the type of tree was to be acquired before a decision on this request was made.

Councillor R. Hughes advised that he had tried to contact the blacksmith regarding repairs to the Cemetery entrance gates, but so far had not been able to speak to him.

It was gratifying that so many favourable comments were received in relation to the condition of the Cemetery. However, there was one issue and that was the lack of plastic bottles to fill with water. Councillors stated that if they had any empty plastic bottles they would take them to the Cemetery.

165. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application number – 056188
Construction of an agricultural vehicle access.
Field OS Number 3691 adjoining The Old Stables, Wrexham Road, Pontblyddyn.

Great concern was expressed about the gradient between the field and the road, also the visibility on coming out onto what is a very busy road. These remarks were to be submitted to Flintshire County Council. All Councillors were in agreement.

166. PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS

Application number – 054863
Change of use of disused quarry to country park incorporating heritage attraction, recreational uses and visitor centre with associated parking.
Hanson Fagl Lane Quarry, Fagl Lane, Hope.

Notification received that this planning application has now been included on the Agenda for the meeting of the Planning & Development Control Committee which is to be held on Wednesday 14th December 2016 at 1.00pm in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Mold.

167. AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Following the successful Age Friendly Open Meeting hosted by this Community Council in conjunction with Flintshire County Council held on Tuesday 15th October 2016, Helen Jones the Older Peoples Strategy Co-Ordinator had provided feedback on the discussions of the evening.

Mrs Jones advised that the next stage would be for the County Council Age Friendly team to meet with Community groups in order to find out their views on Age Friendly Communities. A questionnaire was to be developed to ensure that views and ideas were collected effectively. This questionnaire once prepared could be included on the Community Council website. The Clerk was to provide contact details for the Community groups to Mrs Jones.

168. COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

The Clerk reported that the Community Transport flyer circulated through the Community had received a number of responses. Dismay was expressed at the question on the flyer as it was felt that it would have been more appropriate to ask what kind of transport service was wanted as opposed to why people use public transport. It was agreed that the Clerk should provide an analysis of these responses for the next monthly meeting in January 2017.

169. HANSON HEIDELBERG CEMENT

Correspondence received from David Quick, Plant Manager, Hanson Cement Padeswood Works advising that due to unforeseen circumstances no minutes of the Liaison Committee meeting held on 12th September 2016 were available. The next meeting of the Liaison Committee was to take place on Monday 12th December 2016 at 6.30pm. A proposed agenda for this forthcoming meeting was included in the letter.

Observation was made that the smoke emitted from the kiln on occasions looked black in colour. Councillor J. Caruana advised that this smoke was not dirty, the colour was affected by the light of the sun.

170. CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN

The Clerk explained that she had not sent a letter to Revd Carole Poolman regarding Christ Church request for 50% funding for surfacing work on the Church Car Park. This funding request had been made in accordance with the Right of Way agreement between this Council and the Representative Body of the Church in Wales. The Clerk queried as to whether there would be any disturbance to the Church Car Park once works on the new Cemetery extension started. It was commented that there would not necessarily be any significant disruption and the works on the extension would be carried out in stages.

As agreed by Councillors in the meeting of 1st November, a letter of reply was to be forwarded requesting copies of the quotations received and the job specification.

171. LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood reported that the Bar had been replumbed with new lines and pumps at no cost to the Community Centre.

There are three planned Community Centre functions over the Christmas period; the annual Christmas Dance on 17th December 2016 at a cost of £5.00 per ticket; a Social Evening on Christmas Eve, a £1 entrance fee is to be charged for this and the annual New Year's Eve Dance at a cost of £12.00 per ticket.

To move forward with the registering of the Community Centre as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, the Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood in his role as Vice-Chairman of the Management Committee is to meet with Mr John Gray of the Flintshire Local Voluntary Council on Thursday 8th December 2016.

172. COMMUNITY COUNCIL OWNED STREET LIGHTING

The Clerk reported that as yet she had received no e-mail correspondence from Darell Jones of Streetscene, Flintshire County Council regarding her query of the Community street lights that are in this Council's ownership. Councillor R. Hughes advised that he would speak to Mr Jones about this issue.

173. POLICE AND CRIME PLAN CONSULTATION 2016/2017

Members had been circulated with a copy of the Police and Crime Plan Consultation 2016/2017 survey and a copy of the Police and Crime Plan of April 2016. The Clerk would post completed surveys on to the Office of Arfon Jones, North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood stated that the new Police and Crime Commissioner is different to the previous incumbent. Mr Jones has advised that he will be basing his new Police and Crime Plan on public opinion and statistics available from the Home Office. While Mr Jones understands that low level crime is important his main concerns are incidents that are a result of domestic violence, cybercrime and modern slavery.

174. MATCH FUNDING PLAY AREAS 2016/2017

Correspondence had been received from Alan Roberts, Leisure Manager, Public Open Spaces, Flintshire County Council regarding the consideration of match funding applications which will take place at the end of this year.

Councillor R. Hughes advised that there is Section 106 monies available for upgrading the play area to the rear of Bro Alun, Pontblyddyn. All Councillors agreed that the Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood and Councillor R. Hughes would inspect this play area to see what equipment if any was required.

Following further discussion, it was agreed by all Councillors that £2,500 of the Council's budget would be made available for match funding purposes.

175. TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2017

From Colin Everett, Returning Officer, Flintshire County Council, correspondence outlining the potential costs of an election to the Community Council. The cost to the Community Council should there be an election in the Leeswood Ward is estimated at £2,500 and £1,700 if there is an election in the Pontblyddyn Ward. These figures quoted are not accurate and the costs may be lower or higher. Should the Wards be uncontested then a charge of £135 per electoral area will be levied.

Members had also been circulated with the Electoral Commission timetable for local elections in England and Wales 2017.

176. COUNTY FORUM

Councillors had been circulated with a copy of the meeting notes and supplementary documentation from the last County Forum meeting held on Thursday 27th October 2016. This was accepted.

177. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

a) Part re-surfacing of road through Leeswood village – work has now been completed on the road surface patching. A programme of white lining will start soon.

b) Parking spaces on area of Cenotaph alongside Eaton Place – Councillor R. Hughes reported that he and Councillor C.E. Jones JP, would be meeting with a representative of the Royal British Legion as a matter of courtesy in regard to the creation of parking spaces on a small section of the County Council owned land where the Cenotaph is sited on Bell's Corner. These parking spaces were to be provided to alleviate the issues with car parking on Eaton Place.

c) Street names new properties on the garages sites at Heol-y-Goron and Maes-y-Meillion – Councillor R. Hughes informed that he had spoken with Nadine Hughes, Technical Assistant at Flintshire County Council regarding the proposed names for the new properties that are to be built on the old garage sites at Heol-y-Goron and Maes-y-Meillion. Alternative names of Park View for the new properties at Maes-y-Meillion and Mountain View for the new properties at Heol-y-Goron were to be put forward as it was agreed that these were more suited to the area than the names initially suggested.

178. MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE

a) Dog Fouling – comment was made that during the winter and dark evenings there was a more noticeable rise in the incidents of dog fouling on the Community pavements. It was agreed by all Councillors that this should not be tolerated and a notice was to be put on the Community Council website and in the next edition of the Leeswood & District News.

179. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Flintshire County Council – a Seasons Greetings e-mail received from the Chairman of Flintshire Council, Councillor Peter Curtis and his consort Mrs Jenny Curtis.

b) Flintshire County Council – advance notification received of the Chairman of Flintshire County Council, Councillor Peter Curtis, Chairman's Charity Dinner to be held at the Beaufort Park Hotel on Friday 17th March 2017.

180. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
Miss M Reynolds	Salary/Expenses – Nov. 2016	£567.89	£0.00	£567.89
Miss M Reynolds	Stationery/Postage/Printing	£88.00	£0.00	£88.00
Aled Davies Agricultural	Grass cutting in Cemetery Oct. 2016	£488.00	£97.60	£585.60
Aled Davies Agricultural	Grass cutting in Cemetery Nov. 2016	£488.00	£97.60	£585.60
Royal British Legion	Remembrance Sunday wreaths 2016	£37.00	£0.00	£37.00
Dee Valley Water	Water supply – Cemetery	£21.20	£0.00	£21.20
Dee Valley Water	Water supply – Allotments	£67.73	£0.00	£67.73
Leeswood English Methodist Church	Christmas Tree Festival	£20.00	£0.00	£20.00
One Voice Wales	Course fees	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00
	Total	£1,812.82	£195.20	£2,008.02

181. INCOME RECEIVED

No income had been received.

182. BANK BALANCES

At present, there is £60,466.97 in the deposit account and £8,770.83 in the current account. These figures are from the statement to 29th November 2016.

There being no other business the meeting was declared closed at 8.20pm.