

**THE REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS
OF THE
LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



**MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 2nd APRIL 2019**

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 2nd APRIL 2019.

PRESENT

Councillor R. Hughes, Vice-Chairman (in the Chair),
Councillors J. Atkinson, J. Caruana, D.K. Crowther, D. Foster, T. Hughes, 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, and D. Rule.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST - MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

293. MINUTES

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

294. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - BEST KEPT COMMUNITIES COMPETITION 2019

Councillor R. Hughes, Vice-Chairman, welcomes Mrs Heather Hicks from Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC) to the meeting. Mrs Hicks explained that FLVC will be responsible for the Best Kept Communities Competition this year. Previously this had been organised by Flintshire County Council. The competition will be the same as in previous years, with sections for Villages with population of less than 1,000; Villages with a population between 1,000 and 5,000; Senior Citizen estates; Wildlife Gardens and Schools. This year the closing date for entry will be 14th June 2019 and judging will take place during the week beginning 15th July 2019. Judging will take into consideration the overall appearance and environmental impact.

Mrs Hicks is the funding officer for the Competition and will support Community organisations with applications for grant funding. It is necessary to know what the funding is for as grants are specific. Funding for statutory organisations, such as Community Councils, are limited. The Landfill Community Fund offers grants between £5,000 and £49,000, the opportunity to apply opens at the end of April. National Lottery Community Fund provides smaller grants between £300 and £10,000; this is for improving spaces and places that matter. Applications to this fund requires evidence that the Community is participating. Query was raised as to whether Age Friendly

Communities could apply for a grant. Mrs Hicks advised that only new project funding applications had been welcomed initially, but within the last two years this had changed, and support will now be given to ongoing projects. Constituted groups can apply to other funders for grants. Mrs Hicks informed that she would assist in finding available grants.

Councillor R. Hughes, Vice-Chairman, thanked Mrs Hicks for attending the meeting.

295. REPORT FROM MR IAN WILLIAMS, STREETSCENE AREA CO-ORDINATOR

Councillor R. Hughes, Vice-Chairman, welcomed Mr Ian Williams, Streetscene Area Co-Ordinator to the meeting. Mr Williams reported that the following works are taking place: -

- i) Gully emptying has started on the A5104,
- ii) Quite a few potholes have been picked up within the Community and these will be worked on in the next few weeks,
- iii) The 30mph area has been extended on Stryt-Cae-Rhedyn and the signs are to be moved accordingly,
- iv) Additional salt bins are to be placed on Parc Derwen,
- v) Drainage works/pipe jetting on Dingle Road has taken place,
- vi) Drainage work is to take place on Phoenix Park and Britannia Road,

Councillors brought to Mr Williams' attention that flooding has been observed in Pontblyddyn by the New Inn and the old Vicarage. Other matters raised were that the Give Way sign near Bank Farm, Pontblyddyn is overgrown and the yellow hatching outside Ysgol Derwenfa needs renewing.

Councillor R. Hughes thanked Mr Williams for attending the meeting.

296. POLICE LIAISON

PCSO 3684 Peter Jones was unable to attend this evening. He had forwarded a report to the Clerk which was read out to Councillors.

Incident update - (from 05/03/2019 to 31/03/2019)

Crime Issues / Trends

Last Month

No updates to be given.

This Month

Padeswood Lake Road - Single vehicle crashed into property causing damage. Two individuals were identified and arrested as they had left the scene.

Albert Street, Leeswood - individual has been walking the dog and has returned home NOT locking the door behind him, unknown person(s) have entered and taken a wallet and car keys. All lines of enquiry fully investigated; no suspect has been identified.

Unnamed Road, Leeswood - two individuals were seen trying to gain entry to a caravan which was left UNLOCKED. They have taken a safe containing valuables and cash, enquiries on-going.

Ffordd Siarl/Bryn Clyd, Leeswood - three individuals have been arrested in relation to drug supply offences.

Albert Street, Leeswood - unknown person(s) have entered a property through rear door and have taken set of keys and a vehicle. Vehicle was later found abandoned nearby. Forensic tests were negative. All lines of enquiry have been completed, but no suspect has been identified.

Padeswood Lake Road - large amount of youths 'scuffling' after a party, no complaints made and no injuries.

Station Lane, Padeswood - individual has come home and left the keys to vehicle on the bonnet of the car while he has gone inside the house. He has come back out of the house and car has been taken, enquiries on-going.

Ash Villas, Leeswood - front door was left unlocked, miscellaneous items taken from within. All lines of enquiry investigated fully; no suspect has been identified.

Ffordd Siarl, Leeswood - one person has threatened a friend, one person arrested at scene.

Ffordd Siarl, Leeswood - unknown individual has thrown object at a window causing it to smash, enquiries on-going.

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 requests that residents ensure that cars and properties are kept secure at all times which will make it a lot harder for opportunists looking to target the area. Many crimes this month could have been prevented easily.

Further speed checks in the area to be completed week commencing 01/04/2019. PCSO Jones will try his best to target areas which are worst affected.

297. CEMETERY

Councillors noted that the Cemetery was looking very well. It was pointed out that Mr Aled Davies and his team were doing a very good job there. All Councillors were in agreement that they were very pleased with the Cemetery.

298. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Application - 059652

Re-location of all-weather pitch

Pontblyddyn Cricket Club, Aber Meadow, Wrexham Road, Pontblyddyn, Mold, CH7 4HW.

It was agreed by all Councillors that this Planning Application should be supported.

299. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS 2019/2020

The Clerk advised that she had approached Came and Company for a quotation to provide insurance requirements for the Council during 2019/2020. A quote of £968.30 per annum had been given if the Council were to take a three-year agreement out. Zurich Municipal, the Council's current provider had provided a quote of £1,719.68 for 2019/2020. It was pointed out that Came and Company were specialist insurance providers for local Councils and all Councillors agreed that the quotation from Came and Company be accepted.

300. AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Councillor G. Sherwood reported that the Steering Group had been held on 1st April 2019. The existing officers had been re-elected; Mrs Shereen Devine as Chairman, Mrs Helen Jones as Secretary and Mr Rob Jackson as Treasurer. The Sunday Carvery Lunch Winter event had been very successful, with many residents of the Community attending. A profit had been made on the raffle held on the day. Working towards being a Dementia Friendly Community was now included on the aims and local organisations, also businesses were to be targeted to becoming Dementia Friendly. On 8th May 2019, a Public Session on Dementia Awareness is to be held in the evening.

The Community Café will be opened on 11th May 2019 for a book sale. It is still doing very well. Volunteers to help with the café are still needed. An urn to be used in the café is to be purchased.

Mrs Shereen Devine will be starting to work in Holywell in August 2019 as they aim to become an Age Friendly Community. She will be working one day per week in Leeswood up until November 2019.

301. LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Councillor G. Sherwood reported that a couple of issues relating to the boundary of the Community Centre has now been resolved. There had been an issue with payments regarding any elections where the Polling Station would be the Community Centre. Flintshire County Council had not wanted to pay for some elections, but this was no longer the case and all elections would be paid for.

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

No further information had been received relating to the double yellow lines to be put on Bell's Corner and the junction of Bryn Clyd/King Street. Comment was made that the double yellow lines on the junction of Bryn Clyd/King Street were requested to facilitate the movement of buses around the Bryn Clyd/Heol-y-Goron estates, but as the buses were no longer travelling this way it was queried as to whether it was worth having them.

It was pointed out that there were parking problems on the top of Heol-y-Goron, vehicles were being parked on the pavement on both sides of the road impeding the movement of traffic. Observation was made that there were parking spaces

available on the Heol-y-Dderwen and Maes-y-Meillion estates, but they were not being used.

303. CADWYN CLWYD - iBEACON PROJECT

Councillor J.E. Saul advised that the iBeacons were to be placed in places where people are likely to congregate. He had provided a map of proposed locations. Following a discussion, Councillors agreed that the ten free iBeacons would be sufficient and the locations were decided on. After two years the maintenance of the iBeacons would be the responsibility of this Council.

The launch of "Leeswood Digital Trails" is to be held on Thursday 16th May 2019 at the Community Centre, 10am till 12 midday. Staff and pupils from Ysgol Derwenfa would be invited to attend. Councillor J.E. Saul would design a poster for inclusion on the notice boards in the Community.

304. PONTBLYDDYN CROSSROADS

The Clerk advised that she had not received any further correspondence from Lee Shone, Road Safety Officer, Highway Strategy, Streetscene and Transportation, Flintshire County Council. Councillor R. Hughes reported that he had requested for the break down of the speed survey undertaken at Pontblyddyn to be forwarded to the Clerk. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should contact Mr Shone the following day requesting that this breakdown be sent to this Council.

305. PONTBLYDDYN VILLAGE SIGN

This sign had still not been erected. Mr Ian Williams, Streetscene Co-Ordinator, was to attend to this.

306. 20MPH MANDATORY SPEED LIMIT OUTSIDE FLINTSHIRE SCHOOLS

This was now going through the legal requirements for installing 20mph speed limits outside Flintshire schools. Councillors were very pleased about this.

307. YSGOL DERWENFA, LEESWOOD - IT EQUIPMENT

The Clerk informed that she e-mailed Mr Gareth Owens of the Legal Department, Flintshire County Council and was awaiting a reply. Councillor R. Hughes advised that he would chase this up.

308. 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOLD RIOTS, 2019

The Clerk advised that she had e-mailed Mr Kevin Matthias, Chair of the Daniel Owen Festival, informing that this Council would like the Community to be involved with the arrangements for the 150th Anniversary of the Mold Riots. Mr Matthias had also been invited to attend a meeting of this Council to discuss the options available.

309. 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' third 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 4th March and Mr Owens was writing with feedback to all Town/Community Councils to give assurance on good practice and procedures.

Findings from eight further visits, undertaken in November and December 2018 and January 2019, were received by the Committee. 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.

In addition to the procedural points, the Committee requested that the following be fed back to Town and Community Councils:

- i) The recognition of the benefit of youth involvement - Community Councils can, following public advertisement, appoint youth representatives who can play a valuable role in reaching an often neglected demographic. As the local government franchise is soon to be extended to 16-year olds, their participation is to be encouraged.
- ii) The benefit of public consultation sessions.
- iii) Access to the Code of Conduct being made available on the website.

As with previous reports, simple practical arrangements that could make it easier for the public were noted. These were:

- 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.

The Committee hoped that this feedback is useful and wished to acknowledge the dedication and good work undertaken by Town/Community Councillors in their voluntary roles.

Councillors accepted this correspondence.

310. LEESWOOD AND DISTRICT NEWSLETTER – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Friends of the Leeswood and District News have forwarded further correspondence.

In response to the points raised by the Clerk following the Council meeting of 5th March 2019, the following response was made: -

It is not the intention to re-introduce a charge for the Leeswood & District News. To charge for this paper, which contains so much community information, would be a backward step and not in line with the Committee's current vision.

Since moving to the new printing company, the presentation of the Paper has improved and the coloured printing has come at the same price as black and white printing, i.e. there is no extra charge for printing in colour.

Regarding plans to finance the Paper, there is currently a charge for commercial adverts, the cost of which will be sympathetically increased from April 2019 onwards to avoid the loss of income.

Discussion has taken place with the Printers to possibly make financial savings by reducing the format to A5 and it has been agreed to proceed with A5 from April 2019 onwards.

Changing the publication of the Leeswood & District News to bi-monthly has been discussed but Community organisations all benefit from a regular monthly publication when advertising forthcoming events.

The aim has always been to support the Community, but the burden of financing Community adverts is becoming difficult.

Councillors remarked that this Council remains very sympathetic to the struggle of financing and the rising costs but found the response unsatisfactory as it seemed that the Committee did not intend to make any effort to fundraise themselves or give any consideration to re-introducing charges. It was pointed out that this Council has a commercial agreement with the Newsletter is Committee and the insertions are paid for by invoice. Suggestion was made that the cost of these could be revised and any new charges to be made should be brought to the Council.

311. CHANGES TO THE 26 BUS SERVICE

The Clerk advised that she had e-mailed Mr Mick Morton of Arriva Wales regarding the changes to the 26 Bus Service Mold to Wrexham which now excluded the Bryn Clyd/Heol-y-Goron estate. No reply had been received.

Councillor R. Hughes advised that he was looking into providing transport from the Senior Citizens estate to Mold and return on a Wednesday and Saturday.

312. CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN – RE BOUNDARY WALL WITH CEMETERY

Correspondence had been received from Revd C.M. Poolman relating to concerns about the Church car park wall that is a boundary with this Council's Cemetery. This matter had previously been discussed at a meeting at the Cemetery. All Councillors were of the opinion that the walls surrounding the Church car park had been built for a specific reason when the National School had been in existence. They did not feel that this Council were responsible for the state of the wall and all agreed that the Clerk should write to Revd Poolman expressing this decision.

313. BETSI CADWALADR STAKEHOLDER REFERENCE GROUP

Members had been circulated with a copy of the latest report from Mike Harriman, One Voice Wales' representative on the Betsi Cadwaladr Stakeholder Reference Group.

Finance - Annual Update - Rob Nolan, the Commissioning & Strategy Finance Director, presented the end of year report to the Group, it is essentially a repetition of what was previously reported late last year detailing the "approved deficit" of £35m which the Board is allowed by Welsh Government to carry forward. Little has changed since the last report although concern continues to be expressed about the level of 'agency staff' and their costs. In order to make significant inroads into those costs, the Health Board (and every other one across the UK presumably) will need to recruit more medical professionals, particularly nurses. However, there simply is not an overflowing 'pool' of potential employees to address the local or national shortage. It is and will continue to be accepted that agency costs are too high, but, in the context of the overall amount spent on staffing, those costs are relatively small.

Third Sector Strategy - Sally Baxter, the Assistant Director for Health Strategy, outlined the approach the Health Board is going to take in developing a strategy in relation to the Third Sector. It has been a long time coming to get to this stage but there is now a recognition by Health Board Members that there needs to be a clearly defined policy.

Three Year Plan - Sally Baxter, the Assistant Director for Health Strategy again. Whilst all Health Boards are required by law to produce a three-year plan, BCUHB will not be submitting this plan to Welsh Government as any Board which cannot meet the financial requirements set for it by Welsh Government will not have the plan approved. BCUHB cannot meet those requirements, hence the word 'Draft'. In spite of the plan not being submitted, it makes practical sense to have one to aspire to and work towards and, essentially, that's what the document is.

A Healthier Wales - Transformation Proposals - Sally Baxter, the Assistant Director for Health Strategy once again. This is a fairly new initiative from Welsh Government designed to develop and implement inter-agency health and social care provision across all six Counties which stakeholders across the

Region will be invited to contribute towards the developments. Accidentally rather than by design, Community and Town Councils have not been included in the various lists of Stakeholders although it seems inevitable that they will have something worthwhile to contribute. This point was taken on board and, hopefully Community and Town Councils will have some involvement further on down the road.

This report was accepted.

314. ONE VOICE WALES – UNDERSTANDING WELSH PLACES WEBSITE

E-mail correspondence had been received from Elinor Shepley, Understanding Welsh Places Project Officer, One Voice Wales, requesting assistance in drafting a short narrative description of Leeswood to feature on the website.

315. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS/ANY MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE

i) Matters of an Urgent Nature - It was pointed out that any matters of an urgent nature should be passed onto Councillor R. Hughes if they involved the County Council or otherwise to the Clerk as they arose, rather than wait for the monthly meeting.

ii) Any Other Business - All Councillors agreed that matters classed as ‘Any Other Business’ should be brought to the Clerk before the meeting. If possible, a week before the meeting so that the Clerk would be able to include it on the meeting’s Agenda.

iii) Date of Next Meeting - Due to absence, it was agreed by all Councillors that the next meeting will be deferred until Tuesday 14th May 2019.

316. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Payee	Detail	Net	VAT	Total
Miss M Reynolds	Salary/Expenses - Mar. 2019.	£616.16	£0.00	£616.16
Miss M Reynolds	Postage/Printing/Stationery - Mar. 2019	£32.60	£0.00	£32.60
Wales Audit Office	External Audit 2018/2019	£380.25	£0.00	£380.25
Came & Company	Skate Park Insurance 2019/2020	£696.38	£0.00	£696.38
HMRC	PAYE/NI Q4 2018/2019	£405.80	£0.00	£405.80
	Totals: -	£2,131.19	£0.00	£2,131.19

317. INCOME RECEIVED

None at the time of publishing the Agenda.

318. BANK BALANCES

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

The meeting was declared closed at 8.35pm.