

## **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 13<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2018.

#### **PRESENT**

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

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

#### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

These were received from Councillors D.K. Crowther, L.T. Coleman and R. Williams.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **268. MINUTES**

Copies of the Precept 2018/2019 discussed at the special meeting held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor G. Sherwood and seconded by Councillor R. Hughes that these minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings and a sum of £56,000 be requested from Flintshire County Council. All Councillors in agreement.

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor D. Rule and seconded by Councillor J. Atkinson that these minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

#### **269. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA**

Non-Charge of Burial Fees for a Child of Under 18 – The Clerk raised the point that the Cemetery fees included the cost of the grave digger, the Community Council received a cheque for the balance. It was sincerely hoped that an occasion such as this would not arise, but it was agreed by all Councillors that the Community Council would cover the cost of the grave digger if it did.  
Recycling/Bin Collections – it had been pointed out at the next meeting that there was a possibility of a £75 fine being issued by the County Council should residents put out black bin bags alongside their black bin. The Clerk pointed out that she had noticed black bin bags being put out in this way, but the particular household was recycling as these bags had also been put out and were full.

Councillor R. Hughes advised that in these circumstances someone would come out to discuss the matter with residents and help would be given.

**270. POLICE LIAISON**

PCSO 3684 Peter Jones was unable to attend the meeting this evening.

He had sent a report of the following incidences: -

**Crime Issues/Trends**

Station Lane, Padeswood – theft of car keys from an unsecure commercial property. Enquiries are still on-going, property has been found.

Ffordd Celyn, Leeswood – theft of items from a motor vehicle, enquiries still on-going.

Maes-y-Meillion, Leeswood – theft of a ‘Pecker’ (tool used to break concrete). All lines of enquiry have been investigated.

Queen Street, Leeswood – hate related incident. Enquiries are on-going.

**271. COMMUNITY COUNCIL DONATIONS 2017/2018**

A discussion was held on the applications for financial assistance. It was agreed by all Councillors that the following donations be issued: -

1.	1 <sup>st</sup> Leeswood Brownies	£150
2.	1 <sup>st</sup> Leeswood Rainbows	£150
3.	1 <sup>st</sup> Leeswood Guides	£75
4.	1 <sup>st</sup> Leeswood Rangers	£75
5.	Leeswood Senior Citizens	£150
6.	Pontblyddyn Mothers Union	£100
7.	Leeswood Bowling Club	£150
8.	Leeswood & District Angling Club	£150
9.	Nightingale House (Leeswood Support Group)	£150
10.	Leeswood Invitation Homing Society	£150
11.	Leeswood Carnival Committee	£200
12.	Pontblyddyn Cricket Club	£100
13.	Suitcase Theatre	£150
14.	Age Friendly Communities	£100
15.	Welsh Border Community Transport	£150
16.	Air Ambulance Wales	£200
17.	Citizens Advice Bureau	£100
<b>Total</b>		<b>£2,300</b>

**272. CO-OPTION OF MEMBER DUE TO VACANT SEAT FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR C.E. JONES JP**

The Clerk advised that the procedure to fill the vacancy had been re-started and the notices to request an election to fill the vacancy had been placed on Community notice boards.

**273. COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON YSGOL DERWENFA GOVERNORS**

Councillor J. Atkinson has indicated that after great thought she wishes to step

down as this Council's representative on the Ysgol Derwenfa Governors because she believes that she cannot give the commitment the post deserves. The Chairman, Councillor J. Caruana thanked Councillor Atkinson for her work, her commitment to the position was appreciated and it was known that she had constraints on her time due to work. It was agreed by all Councillors that the election of a new representative be put on the Agenda for the next monthly meeting.

**274. ACQUISITION OF LAND – CEMETERY REQUIREMENTS**

There was nothing further to report on this matter.

**275. CEMETERY**

Councillor R. Hughes reported that he had met with the County Council Tree Man on site. The tree to the rear of the cremated remains plot cannot come down, but can be trimmed, removing all the dead and decaying branches. There is nothing wrong with the tree itself.

The Clerk reported that Mr Aled Davies had been at the Cemetery and cleared the lying snow during the recent period of bad weather. However, he believed at the time that it was unsafe for people to go up there in vehicles so he had closed the Cemetery gates to indicate this.

It was noted that moles were once again an issue in the Cemetery, this was to be brought to the attention of Mr Aled Davies. The Cemetery notice board had been damaged, possibly during the period of bad weather, the Clerk was to look into the purchasing of a new notice board.

**276. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Planning Application – 058016

Relocation of caravan.

Caravan, Tyddyn Glo Farm, Dingle Road, Leeswood, Mold, CH7 4SN.

It was pointed out that the Planning Application discussed at the last meeting had indicated that it was a caravan made from white plastic that was to be moved. Further information had been received that it was actually the Log Cabin which was being re-sited. Observations could still be made by Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018. All Councillors agreed that an objection to the re-siting of the Log Cabin be made, in particular as its very existence had been granted permission by default.

**277. HANSON HEIDELBERG CEMENT**

Members had been circulated with a copy of the minutes of the Liaison Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and a copy of the Agenda for the Liaison Meeting to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018. This information was accepted.

The Chairman, Councillor J. Caruana, reported that he had attended the Liaison Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018. He had previously received a complaint from a

resident in regard to the smoke plume coming from the stack at Hanson Heidelberg Cement. The plume had looked a little different to usual but there was nothing dangerous in the smoke, coal was being burned in the furnace. Biosecurity was being operated to protect the public from anything harmful with emissions monitored at the top of the stack.

## **278. AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES**

Members had been circulated with Age Friendly Communities e-mail correspondence, also a letter from Sarah Rochira, Older People's Commissioner for Wales, Chair, Ageing Well in Wales. Ms Rochira is regularly informed on developments at all programme levels and she takes a keen interest in developments at Local Authority and community level. She was delighted to hear of the innovative and pioneering work that is happening to make Leeswood and Pontblyddyn age-friendly communities. Through the Ageing Well in Wales programme, she hopes to share experiences with other communities around Wales and to inspire others to follow. The development of age-friendly communities is the overarching aim of Ageing Well in Wales. If Wales is to be made a good place to grow old for everyone, the development of age-friendly communities is essential. An age-friendly community is one that meets the needs of all ages. It is a community where older people are recognised and valued, and where older people are provided with opportunities to engage with all aspects of community life in a way that suits them. An age-friendly community recognises that the true experts in community planning are the members of that community themselves and works with them to co-produce community services and facilities. Age-friendly communities involve improving local transport services, housing, and public spaces to make sure they benefit everyone, regardless of their age. Age-friendly communities also encourage intergenerational working and the exchange of skills, knowledge and experience between generations. Ms Rochira is grateful for the work already achieved in Leeswood and Pontblyddyn and she congratulates those involved on their achievements to date. These efforts contribute to the Strategic Action Plan, and the Flintshire Ageing Well Plan, and is a credit to what communities can achieve through dedication, commitment and passion.

Notification of an Age Friendly Communities open event at the Leeswood Community Centre on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018, 12.30pm till 2.30pm had also been received. This is an event to find out how Rural Wisdom in Leeswood and Pontblyddyn is working for the older people and the Community.

All Councillors are invited to attend a meeting with the Age Friendly Communities Steering Group to be held at the Community Centre on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018, 6.15pm till 7.15pm. This will be a very informal gathering, just to have a chat about the action plan, discuss what has been achieved so far and identify how we can move forward, with a focus on the Age-Friendly

accreditation, Community Café, developing new activities and Community Events. A copy of the action plan has been circulated to all Members.

**279. COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**

It was reported that the new community bus service to Broughton was getting very little use. Hopefully this will pick up when the weather improves. If the service is not used it will be withdrawn.

Concern was expressed at the lack of evening and Sunday bus services in the community. All Councillors agreed that an invitation be sent to representatives of Llanfynydd and Treuddyn Community Councils to attend a joint meeting to discuss this issue.

**280. LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Councillor G. Sherwood reported that the Asset Transfer request has been approved following initial scrutiny. This has now been passed onto Flintshire County Council.

**281. PARKING ISSUES – BELL’S CORNER AND JUNCTION OF BRYN CLYD/KING STREET**

It was pointed out that more injury accidents are recorded at Stryt Cae Rhedyn than at Bell’s Corner. Observation was made that the suggestion of putting yellow lines on Bell’s Corner related to danger to pedestrians because of the cars parked part on and part off the pavement. There had been no reference to accidents occurring in the area.

The Clerk referred to the part on and part off the pavement that was now occurring on the front of numbers 9-14 Bryn Clyd, Leeswood. It had been particularly difficult this morning because not only where there cars parked on the pavement but the bins and recycling were out making it impossible to walk the pavement. Councillors agreed that this was dangerous especially for children walking to school.

Councillor R. Hughes is to arrange a meeting on these sites with officers of Flintshire County Council.

**282. CADWYN CLWYD – iBEACON PROJECT**

It was pointed out that time is running out for completion of this project. Any material such as old photographs that people may have to share on the iBeacons would be greatly appreciated. The Clerk is to contact Mrs Jo Danson to make progress.

**283. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - BEST KEPT COMMUNITIES COMPETITION 2018**

The Clerk is to arrange a meeting to prepare the information for the competition entry forms.

**284. FORMATION OF A VILLAGE PLAN**

This item was to be put on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

**285. COUNCILLOR C.E. JONES JP – COMMEMORATION OF SERVICE AS LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR**

The Clerk reported that Mr C.E. Jones JP had sent a letter stating that he would be very pleased to attend the Celebratory Event organised for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Refreshments on the afternoon were to be prepared by members of the Guides and Brownies.

**286. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT, PONTBLYDDYN CROSSROADS**

As a meeting at Bell's Corner and Bryn Clyd is to be arranged with officers of Flintshire County Council, it was suggested that it may be convenient to include Pontblyddyn Crossroads at the same time. All Councillors in agreement.

**287. PONTBLYDDYN VILLAGE SIGN**

Councillor R. Hughes is to query the cost for a basic sign and installation at a point to be agreed with Flintshire County Council.

**288. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS SUMMER PLAY SCHEME PROGRAMME 2018**

The Clerk reported that Janet Roberts, Play Development Officer, Flintshire County Council has requested that this Council provides an invoice for £911.00 for the Play Opportunities grant from Welsh Government, towards the county summer play scheme programme. This Council will then be invoiced for the total cost for of the play scheme in September 2018.

**289. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE IN LOCAL COUNCILS 2016-17**

Members had been circulated with a copy of this report received from the Welsh Audit Office. This Community Council complies with the requirements of the Welsh Audit Office.

**290. LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES – GUIDANCE FOR PRINCIPAL COUNCILS ON THE REVIEW OF COMMUNITIES**

E-mail correspondence had been received from Tom Jenkins, Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales explaining that the Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government has requested updated guidance on the conduct of community reviews by Principal Councils to support greater consistency in the manner in which they are conducted. The further documentation enclosed has a dual purpose, to serve as a guide to Principal Council officers in the conduct of a review of their communities and to inform interested parties such as Town/Community Councils as to how the process should operate. This was accepted.

**291. WELSH GOVERNMENT – REVIEW OF COMMUNITY/TOWN COUNCILS**

Councillors had been circulated with a copy of the February 2018 Newsletter. This was accepted.

**292. TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR TRAINING**

E-mail correspondence received from Matt Georgiou, Deputy Monitoring Officer, Flintshire County Council, advising that the Standards Committee are reviewing training needs for all Town/Community Councillors and their Clerks. The Committee wishes to establish the number of Councillors who have received training and how recently it was received. Also received was a copy of some slides that were used to deliver training to Town/Community Councillors following the last elections.

It was pointed out that Community Councillors will now be expected to receive training when available and it is likely that their progress will be monitored.

**293. PLANNING AID WALES – FREE PLANNING TRAINING**

Notification had been received from Gayle Wootton, Chair, Planning Aid Wales of free Planning Training to take place at the Beaufort Park Hotel on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018, 5.30pm till 8.45pm. The Clerk reported that she has booked two places on this workshop. The Chairman, Councillor J. Caruana and the Vice-Chairman, Councillor D. Rule are to attend.

**294. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES – ANNUAL REPORT FEBRUARY 2018**

The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales has issued its Annual Report. Members had been circulated with a copy of the information in the Report relevant to Town/Community Councils. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk seeks clarification regarding any payments to Community Councillors.

**295. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES – ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION EVENTS**

From the Independent Remuneration Panel, correspondence regarding Regional Events being held across Wales to discuss the Panel's current remuneration framework in respect of Town/Community Councils. The North Wales event will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018, 10.30am to 12.30pm at the Conwy Business Centre, Llandudno. This was accepted.

**296. PLANNING AID WALES – PRE-APPLICATION COMMUNITY CONSULTATION: GOING BEYOND THE REQUIREMENTS**

Planning Aid Wales are holding an event on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018, 11.45am till 4pm at the Catrin Finch Building, Wrexham Glyndwr University. Welsh Government has introduced minimum requirements for pre-application Community consultation for all significant planning applications. Good developments are those that work well with their local areas, which means working with local Communities. However, some convincing is still required from each perspective to develop a positive and beneficial process. For Communities, faced with

limited resources, meaningful consultation should involve early discussions with developers about 'options' rather than draft planning applications and a clear understanding about how comments are taken forward in shaping outcomes. This event will explain the requirements for pre-application consultation and other useful guidance for Communities. The cost per Councillor is £20. Councillor J.E. Saul is to attend.

**297. WELSH AUDIT OFFICE – SURVEY OF TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

E-mail correspondence from Nick Selwyn, Welsh Audit Office, advising that the Community Council is expected to take part in a national survey. This survey is to hear the perspective of Town/Community Councils in order to gain an understanding of the issues in Communities across Wales. They are particularly interested in the Community Council's relations and dealings with the local authority; services or amenities delivered by our Community Council and any assets that have been transferred from local authorities to Town/Community Councils. Members had been circulated with a copy of the survey. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should undertake the survey on this Council's behalf.

**298. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

a) New Council Houses on old garage site to rear of Heol-y-Goron – five of these houses had now been let. There is a new system at Flintshire County Council called a Local Lettings Policy. Officers picked Leeswood residents from the Housing list to occupy these new houses.

b) Street Lights out – observation was made that street lights were still out. Councillor R. Hughes confirmed that this is no longer just a County Council issue as there is a problem underground which has to be dealt with by Scottish Power. This can take between 28 and 35 days to resolve.

c) County road improvements – Councillor R. Hughes reported that £1.4million had been made available for road improvements in the County.

d) Drainage issues in the Community – it was noted that there are issues in Pontblyddyn near the Vicarage and in Leeswood on Stryt Cae Rhedyn and by the Prince of Wales Public House. These are being dealt with.

**299. MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE**

a) Dual Carriageway Pontblyddyn to Hope – query was raised as to why this was still named as a dual carriageway because it is a single lane from Pontblyddyn to Hope. It was pointed out that the road is deemed to be a dual carriageway as there is an island in between separating the roads.

b) Public Footpath to the rear of 26 to 42 Heol-y-Goron, Leeswood – comment was made that although the footpath was now open, it had narrowed considerably due to the new development on the old Garage site at Heol-y-Goron. It was pointed out that the footpath would not be the same as before, but it was hoped that remedial work would be carried out to widen it a little.

### **300. CORRESPONDENCE**

None at the time of publishing the Agenda.

### **301. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
Miss M Reynolds	Salary/Expenses – January 2018	£567.89	£0.00	<b>£567.89</b>
Miss M Reynolds	Postage/Printing/Stationery – February 2018	£125.50	£0.00	<b>£125.50</b>
Aled Davies Agricultural	Cemetery – February 2018	£284.00	£56.80	<b>£340.80</b>
Flintshire County Council	Street lighting maintenance	£81.63	£0.00	<b>£81.63</b>
	<b><u>Totals</u></b>	<b><u>£1,059.02</u></b>	<b><u>£56.80</u></b>	<b><u>£1,115.82</u></b>

### **302. INCOME RECEIVED**

None at the time of publishing the Agenda.

### **303. BANK BALANCES**

At 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018: - Deposit account - £80,944.97 and current account - £5,185.07.

There being no other business the meeting was declared closed at 8.10pm.