

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 20th FEBRUARY 2018.

PRESENT

Councillor J. Caruana, Chairman (in the Chair),
Councillor D. Rule, Vice-Chairman,
Councillors J. Atkinson, C. Coleman, D.K. Crowther, R. 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 Councillors C. Coleman, L.T. Coleman and R. Wil.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

232. MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 5th December 2017 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. All Councillors in agreement.

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233. 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

Garage, Wrexham Road, Pontblyddyn – a vehicle had driven off without paying for fuel. This was an error by the garage attendant. No crime.

Top of Pontybodkin Hill, Leeswood – a child's bike has been kicked by another child causing him to fall into the road. The Police believe that there is an independent witness to this and enquiries are still on-going.

Padeswood – a theft of a small number of tools. No CCTV and no evidence remained for CSI. All enquiries investigated but unfortunately no suspect has been identified.

ASB Issues

Bryn Clyd, Leeswood – youths throwing items at a window.

An issue was brought up relating to Bryn Clyd, Leeswood. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should report this to PCSO Peter Jones.

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

The Clerk informed that there had been no expressions of interest to fill this vacancy, she went on to advise that the process for filling a vacancy should be re-started. All Councillors agreed that the notices to request an election to fill the vacancy be placed on the Community notice boards.

235. ACQUISITION OF LAND – CEMETERY REQUIREMENTS

E-mail correspondence had been received from Mrs Sian Jones of the Legal Department, Flintshire County Council advising that she was awaiting the results of the various searches, e.g. coal mining search and local search, from the Flintshire County Council Planning Department. However, she did recommend that these searches should be updated. All Councillors agreed that Mrs Jones should be sent a £200 cheque as per her request to cover the cost of these necessary searches.

The following obligations were imposed in the transfer deed:

- a) You must not use the land/property for anything else than as an extension to the Cemetery at Christ Church Pontblyddyn.
- b) You must not cause, permit or suffer anything to be done in or upon the property anything that may become a nuisance, annoyance danger or detriment to the land that remains in the ownership of Mr Owens and which is shown edged black on the plan.
- c) There is an obligation on you to erect and forever maintain a good and sufficient stock proof fence along the boundary of the land marked A-B-C-D on the plan.
- d) As part of the transfer you will not be entitled to any rights of access of light and air.

Mrs Jones had also sent the draft contract and the draft transfer for Council's approval. All Councillors agreed that these were acceptable.

236. CEMETERY

Councillor R. Hughes reported that he had met with the Cemetery sub-contractor, Mr Aled Davies on site. All Christmas floral tributes that had been left on the graves in the form of wreaths had been removed as they had now died. It had been noted that some graves were spreading out the floral tributes beyond the headstone. The intention is for Mr Davies and his team to place these floral tributes near to the headstone. It was proposed by Councillor G. Sherwood, seconded by Councillor D.K. Crowther and agreed by all Councillors that letters should be sent to the relevant grave owners explaining this.

237. NON-CHARGE OF BURIAL FEES FOR A CHILD OF UNDER 18

The Welsh Ministers committed earlier this year to make sure fees are no longer charged by local government in Wales in relation to the burial of children. This was in recognition of the significant variation in the approach currently adopted by councils – in terms of whether fees are charged, what fees are charged and even how a child is defined for these purposes. It is hard to justify that a family burying a child in one part of Wales could pay hundreds of pounds in local government fees while a family in another part of Wales would pay nothing. This commitment has been taken forward in close partnership with local government, recognising and building on the action already taken by a number of councils on this issue. The Welsh Government signed an agreement with the Welsh Local Government Association and One Voice Wales on 23rd November 2017 to end burial and cremation fees for children. This will ensure a fair and consistent approach is put in place across Wales.

The Memorandum of Understanding sets out a shared commitment that local government in Wales will not charge fees in relation to the burial or cremation of a person under the age of 18. This includes the fees for interment but also those for exclusive right of burial, when required, and any other fees which might be incurred such as permission to erect a memorial. The expectation is that these fees will be waived in all circumstances – including whether the child was a resident of the area or not, and when the intention would be for further interments to be made at a later date. All councils who are responsible for cemeteries and crematoria are encouraged to ratify and implement this agreement locally. To support local government in making this step, the Welsh Government is making funding available in recognition of the financial implications of not charging these fees. This funding will be provided to local authorities, who will then distribute it to any community councils, and other providers of cemeteries and crematoria, in their area who undertake a child burial or cremation and agree to waive the fees specified in the Memorandum of Understanding. Local authorities will be responsible for putting in place arrangements to distribute this funding in way that is appropriate to local circumstances.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Atkinson and seconded by Councillor G. Sherwood that this agreement be ratified and implemented in respect of the Community Council run Cemetery at Pontblyddyn. All Councillors in agreement.

238. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Application – 057722

Conversion of existing former public house into café including internal remodelling, rear extension and provision of parking area. New Inn, Corwen Road, Pontblyddyn, Mold, CH7 4HR.

Comment was made that this would be bringing another facility to the community. In principal there was nothing wrong with the development, but the

car park seemed to be rather big. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Planning Department at Flintshire County Council be reminded of the 1976 flood in order that it is ensured that the car park development is of a strong enough structure to avoid such an occurrence again.

Planning Application – 058016

Relocation of caravan.

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

All Councillors agreed that there was no objection to the relocation of the caravan.

239. AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Councillor G. Sherwood advised that the Steering Group meeting held on Thursday 30th November 2017 had not been very well attended. A fundraising Afternoon Tea event was held on Saturday 17th February 2018. Mrs S. Devine, Age-Friendly Communities co-ordinator, has organised a Community working party to clear out the Clinic space in the Community Centre.

240. COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

The Clerk advised that she had not received a response from Treuddyn and Llanfynydd Community Councils regarding a meeting relating to the lack of public transport in the evening. It was agreed by all Councillors that a reminder e-mail should be sent.

241. LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Councillor G. Sherwood reported that the Christmas Social Night held on 23rd December 2017 and the New Year's Eve Buffet Dance had been successful events. At present, the Community Centre Management Committee are opening up for the Wales Six Nations matches during February and March. This is bringing a different group of residents into the Community Centre. Wi-fi has now been installed in the building and it was hoped that this would increase Community Centre users.

Part B of the Asset transfer process has taken place and it is going for next stage consideration on 7th March 2018.

242. PARKING ISSUES – BELL'S CORNER AND JUNCTION OF BRYN CLYD/KING STREET

The cost of putting yellow lines on Bell's Corner had been discussed at the last monthly meeting. Councillors expressed concern that it was a significant outlay of money for something that may not happen if residents' objections were upheld. Comment was made about putting railings along the section of pavement next to the Cenotaph in an attempt to stop the vehicles parking part on and part off the highway. It was pointed out that this would be a matter for the Royal British Legion and Flintshire County Council.

Observation was made that the indiscriminate parking on the junction of Bryn Clyd/King Street was denying the residents of the bungalows a service in regard to the buses if they are unable to travel around the estate. If this Council was to fund provision of yellow lines on Bell's Corner, it would be necessary to consider doing the same in the Bryn Clyd/King Street junction. It was pointed out that the Flintshire County Council had considered yellow lines on Bell's Corner as more important from a Health and Safety point of view. Query was raised as to whether both schemes could be advertised at the same time, this reducing the administration costs.

All Councillors agreed to monitor the situation for the time being.

243. CADWYN CLWYD – iBEACON PROJECT

Councillors taking part in this project reported that progress continued to be made with the preparing of information for the iBeacons. It was important that the information be uploaded as soon as possible as the end date for finishing the project was the end of March 2018. The meeting with Jo Danson which was to take place on Tuesday 30th January 2018 had to be cancelled and another date was yet to be arranged.

244. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - BEST KEPT COMMUNITIES COMPETITION 2018

Entry forms for the competition had been received. The Clerk reported that information on the Community should be submitted with the forms. It was suggested that a map of the village be drawn up to highlight areas of the Community for the Judges attention. Comment was made that a meeting should be arranged to prepare this Council's entry form and the information to be supplied. All Councillors in agreement.

245. FORMATION OF A VILLAGE PLAN

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

246. MATCH FUNDING SCHEME – IMPROVEMENTS TO CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS

Councillor R. Hughes advised that new equipment more suited to younger children would be sited on the Ffordd Siarl play area.

Work had already been carried out on the Ffordd Siarl and Bro Alun play areas where the sand pits had been removed, levelled and grassed. It was noted that the play area at Bro Alun was very rarely used.

247. INDO LIGHTING – UPGRADE TO LED STREET LIGHTING

Councillor R. Hughes pointed out that the LED street lighting reduced the energy bills by approximately 30%. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should obtain a quote for the upgrading of the Community Council owned street lighting from INDO Lighting and prepare a spreadsheet showing the reduction in

street lighting energy charges in comparison to an upgrade for the next Finance Committee meeting.

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

Following discussion it was agreed that a celebration event would be held on Sunday 15th April 2018. The Clerk was to attend to the organisation of this.

249. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT, PONTBLYDDYN CROSSROADS

The Clerk reported that Barry H Wilkinson, Highway Network Manager, Flintshire County Council had e-mailed stating that he was happy to meet with members of this Council on site at Pontblyddyn Crossroads at a date/time suitable. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should contact Mr Wilkinson requesting a meeting either at around 8.30am or 5.30pm on a date convenient to him.

250. PONTBLYDDYN VILLAGE SIGN

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

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

Correspondence had been received from Claire Homard, Interim Chief Officer, Education & Youth, Flintshire County Council outlining the cost of provision of the annual Summer Play Scheme.

With the level of financial challenge that the County Council is facing this year, there will be no element of any matched funding for summer play schemes across the county in the summer of 2018.

Estimated costs for next year's scheme would be in the region of £1,309 – this is the basic costs for a standard 3-week scheme (5 x 2 hours AM or PM) per setting. There is also the potential to extend the scheme for a fourth and fifth week for an additional £355 per week. The cost of providing the Playscheme 2018 in total would have to be borne by this Community Council. However, a small amount of funding through the Welsh Government's Play Opportunities Grant is being made available to the sum of £911 for each Council who makes a commitment to provide a Playscheme in the summer.

Each scheme would comprise:

2 x Community Play Team Members x 2 hours per session x 5 sessions x 3 weeks (Monday to Friday)

Supervision

Access to a bank of reserves (if number and ratios increased)

Kit/Equipment/Mobile phones

All training

Buddy scheme for children with disabilities to play out in their own community with support

It was proposed by Councillor T. Hughes and seconded by Councillor G. Sherwood that the Playscheme go ahead for five weeks. All Councillors in agreement. The cost has been budgeted for in the Community Council Precept.

252. NOTE OF COUNTY FORUM MEETING – 12TH OCTOBER 2017

Members had been circulated with a copy of the note of the County Forum Meeting held on 12th October 2017. This were accepted.

Future meetings will take place as follows:

- a) Wednesday 28th February 2018 at 6.30pm–8.30pm. Hosted by Saltney Town Council at Douglas Place Community Centre, Woodall Avenue, Saltney, CH4 8NB
- b) Tuesday 19th June 2018 at 6.30pm–8.30pm. Hosted by Leeswood & Ponblyddyn Community Council at the Leeswood Community Centre, King Street, Leeswood, CH7 4SB
- c) Thursday 4th October 2018 at 6.30pm–8.30pm. Hosted by Connah's Quay Town Council at the Town Council Offices, Quay Building, Fron Road, Connah's Quay, Flintshire, CH5 4PJ

253. LAW COMMISSION – REVIEW OF PLANNING LAW IN WALES

E-mail correspondence received from Neil Hemington, Chief Planner, Welsh Government advising that the Law Commission is undertaking a review of Planning Law in Wales. Also enclosed is the document 'Planning Law in Wales – Consultation Paper Summary'. This was accepted.

254. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – FLINTSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD DRAFT WELL-BEING PLAN CONSULTATION

Members had been circulated with a copy of the draft Well-being Plan. This draft plan is an outline of what it is the Public Services Board would like to achieve and why. This was accepted.

255. WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT – REVIEW OF COMMUNITY/TOWN COUNCILS

A copy of the December 2017 Newsletter had been circulated to all Councillors. This was accepted.

256. COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL – OPTIONS PAPER: NHS WALES PERFORMERS LIST

From the Community Health Council a letter regarding registration of GPs in Wales. Current arrangements present a barrier to recruitment at a time when GP Surgeries across North Wales are closing because they cannot replace retiring doctors.

Observation was made that locum GPs who practice under an English certificate are unable to apply in Wales which does not help the shortage of GPs in Wales. Supply nurses can move about between England and Wales. The Betsi Cadwaladr Health Trust suffers from a shortage of actual employed nursing staff, using supply nurses at a considerably higher cost. It was observed that this

particular Health Trust was too big and because of this struggling to provide the medical care that the patients need.

257. COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL – WAITS IN ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS – HEALTH WATCHDOG SEEKS FEEDBACK FROM PATIENTS

The Board of Community Health Councils in Wales and the seven local Community Health Councils are undertaking a review of patient experiences with waiting times and ambulance hand over times at Accident and Emergency (A&E) departments. CHCs regularly receive reports that waiting times in A&E can be lengthy and uncomfortable; some reports also indicate that patients can experience delays in admission to A&E whilst waiting outside in Ambulance vehicles. This was accepted.

258. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL STANDARDS COMMITTEE – PROMOTING GOOD CONDUCT AT TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS

E-mail correspondence from Gareth Owens, Chief Officer, Governance, Flintshire County Council advising that the Independent Members (co-opted by the Council following open advert) of the County Council's Standards Committee (non-Councillors) are keen to visit every Town and Community Council within Flintshire. This is to observe how meetings are conducted in order to understand the issues facing Councils and how the Members' Code of Conduct is applied. Councillors accepted this.

259. WELSH GOVERNMENT INDEPENDENT REVIEW PANEL – SERIES OF ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

From the Welsh Government Independent Review Panel, e-mail correspondence regarding a Series of Engagement Events being held across Wales. The North East Wales event will be held on 7th March 2018, 9.30am to 12.30pm at the War Memorial Hall, Wrexham. This was accepted.

260. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – BETTER COMMUNICATION FOR EVENTS BEING HELD IN FLINTSHIRE

Correspondence received from Richard Jones, Business Development Officer – Tourism, Flintshire County Council, advising that the County Council is working in partnership with tourism trade associations to open up better lines of communication for events which are taking place in Flintshire, especially in regards to promoting more community events in the County. This was accepted.

261. OFFICER OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER – EARLY INTERVENTION FUND

Information from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner advising that a new scheme is being launched which is specifically aimed at supporting early intervention projects in the region.

It was pointed out that there had been a Hallowe'en Event in the Community Centre on Saturday 28th October 2018, which had been funded by North Wales Police. All Councillors agreed that this would be of benefit to the Communities.

262. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- a) Street Lights out – there is a problem underground which has to be dealt with by Scottish Power. This can take between 28 and 35 days to resolve.
- b) Highway white lines – these are to be completed where needed throughout the village.
- c) 30mph on Stryt Cae Rhedyn – Councillor R. Hughes reported that they do not generally change the speed limit from 60mph to 30mph. It is possible that rather than extend the 30mph speed limit, they will change it to 40mph around the corner and leave the 30mph where it currently is.
- d) 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.
- e) Apartments on old garage site to rear of Maes-y-Meillion – the four apartments will be ready for occupation by the end of February 2018 and the new bungalows will be ready by the end of March 2018.
- f) £30 charge for Brown Bin collection – Flintshire County Council have introduced an annual charge of £30 for collection of the garden waste brown bin. Fines are also being introduced of £75 for residents putting out black bin bags alongside their black bin. This is because there are some residents who are not recycling which is more noticeable by the amount of black bin bags that are being left out. Concern was expressed that residents may leave their bin bags by other peoples' black bins in order to avoid a fine.
- g) Flintshire County Council, Council Tax 2018/2019 – this has increased by 6.7% for the new financial year. For Band D residents this is an approximate rise of £1.42 per week. It has been necessary for the increase as it would be illegal for the Flintshire County Council to operate on a deficit budget.

263. MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE

- a) Phoenix Park – water is oozing out of the man hole where the pond has been filled in. Councillor R. Hughes advised that a heavy-duty drain is to be put in place.
- b) Fence Ffordd Y Glo/Phoenix Park – a panel is missing on this fence and rubbish is being tipped onto the Park from there. Councillor R. Hughes stated that he would report this matter.

264. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Caerwys Town Council, Mayor's Charity Variety Evening with two course Hotpot Supper – this is to take place at Caerwys Town Hall on Saturday 24th February 2018 at 7.00pm. Tickets are £15.
- b) Holywell Town Council, Mayor's Charity Event – this is to take place at the Stamford Gate Hotel, Holywell on Saturday 3rd March 2018 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £25.
- c) Flintshire County Council, Chairman's Charity Dinner – this is to take place on

Friday 16th March 2018 at the Beaufort Park Hotel, New Brighton, 6.30pm for 7pm. Tickets are £35.

265. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Payee	Detail	Net	VAT	Total
Miss M Reynolds	Salary/Expenses – January 2018	£567.89	£0.00	£567.89
Miss M Reynolds	Postage/Printing/Stationery – January 2018	£37.65	£0.00	£37.65
Aled Davies Agricultural	Cemetery – December 2017/January 2018	£792.00	£158.40	£950.40
Welsh Audit Office	External Audit fee 2016/2017	£202.65	£0.00	£202.65
KTL Contracting	Traffic control re Christmas Lights	£657.00	£131.40	£788.40
Scottish Power	Street lighting energy	£352.39	£18.55	£370.94
Flintshire County Council	Street lighting maintenance	£81.63	£0.00	£81.63
Mega Electrical	Christmas lights	£2,920.00	£584.00	£3,504.00
Blackwell's Stonecraft Ltd	Re-align stones	£500.00	£100.00	£600.00
One Voice Wales	Membership fees 2018	£291.00	£0.00	£291.00
Flintshire County Council	Search fees	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00
	Totals: -	£6,602.21	£992.35	£7,594.56

266. INCOME RECEIVED

No income had been received.

267. BANK BALANCES

As at 29th January 2018: - Deposit account - £80,944.97 and current account - £5,185.07.

There being no other business the meeting was declared closed at 8.45pm.