

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2018.

#### **PRESENT**

Councillor D. Rule, Chairman (in the Chair),  
Councillors J. Caruana, L.T. Coleman, D.K. Crowther, D. Foster, R. Hughes, T. Hughes, J.E. Saul and G. Sherwood.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds - Clerk to the Council.

#### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

These were received from Councillor J. Atkinson, C. Coleman, L.C. Richardson and R. Williams.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **184. MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor J. Caruana and seconded by Councillor R. Hughes that these be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

The minutes of the full Council meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2018 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor T. Hughes and seconded by Councillor D.K. Crowther that these be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

#### **185. POLICE LIAISON**

PCSO 3684 Peter Jones was in attendance. He presented his monthly report.

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

(From last month) Suspicious circumstances on building site on Corwen Road, Pontblyddyn - looks like somebody has tried to gain entry in order to look at items inside - nothing was taken/no entry gained. Suspect identified.

(This month) Theft from vehicle on Bronallt, Leeswood - a van has been broken into, nothing has been taken from within. Enquiries are on-going.

Unlawful access gained to property on Dingle Road, Leeswood - access to a property has been gained, nothing has been taken. Suspect vehicle has been identified, enquiries are on-going.

#### **ASB Issues**

None to report.

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

There has been a spate of thefts/people trying to enter properties in the Flintshire/Wrexham areas. Any suspicious activity should be reported to the 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.

A problem has been identified with Constitution Hill junction with Corwen Road, Pontblyddyn. Flintshire County Council have received many complaints regarding drivers being abusive around this junction. Query raised as to whether signage can be looked at, nothing to say the junction is coming up. It is especially bad coming from Pontblyddyn. Comment was made that there is a sign indicating a junction. Query was raised as to whether the issue related to drivers unfamiliar with the area. Councillor R. Hughes offered to meet on site with Officer of the County Council. PCSO Jones advised that the County Council had contacted North Wales Police on 101 regarding the problems.

PCSO Jones was asked if the Police had been aware of a needle found on Jenny Parry's lane to the rear of the new development on Heol-y-Goron. He informed that he knew nothing of this. It was pointed out that Streetscene, Flintshire County Council had been contacted about it and they had been on site within the hour. Councillor R. Hughes advised that when reports are made of needles there is a team from Flintshire County Council who attend immediately.

The Chairman, Councillor D. Rule, thanked PCSO Jones for attending the meeting this evening.

### **186. CEMETERY**

Councillor R. Hughes reported that the work on the tree at the Cemetery had been completed. The Clerk informed that she had received a quote of £800 + VAT from Mr Aled Davies for moving the clay from the existing Cemetery into the new extension and at the same time re-instate the ground where the clay is at present with topsoil and seed in the Spring. All Councillors agreed that this be accepted. Mr Davies had also supplied a quote of £450 + VAT for removing the existing boundary fence from the Cemetery once the new fence was in place. Councillors pointed out that they would like to keep a demarcation line between the existing Cemetery and the new extension but were happy to see the fence go. Councillor R. Hughes offered to meet Mr Davies on site to explain what the Council wanted. At the same time, he would also advise Mr Davies that a temporary access could be made on the first bend of the road into the existing Cemetery for the movement of clay. All Councillors in agreement that Councillor R. Hughes should meet with Mr Davies.

### **187. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Application number: - 058946

Proposed Residential Development

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

This development was for 26 properties as follows: -

Type 1 housing - semi-detached - 8 units

Type 2 housing - semi-detached - 4 units

Type 3 housing - semi-detached - 2 units

Type 4 housing - terraced with underground garages - 4 units

Type 5 housing - terraced - 4 units

Type 6 housing - apartments - 4 units

The apartment block was to be two storey and these would be nearest the road.

Councillors observed that the properties would be sympathetically built. It was proposed by Councillor J. Caruana and seconded by Councillor D.K. Crowther that this Community Council support this planning application as it is in line with the sustainable growth of the village. All Councillors in agreement.

#### **188. AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES**

Councillors R. Hughes and G. Sherwood are to have a meeting with Mrs Helen Jones, Older Peoples Strategy Co-Ordinator, Flintshire County Council and Mrs Shereen Devine, Age Friendly Communities Co-Ordinator. The Community Centre Management Committee have turned down to a request for discounted rent for start up groups. Councillors agreed that it is very difficult for the Community Centre to provide discounted rent, especially as the hire charges are very reasonable in the first place. The Age Friendly Communities Tablet Course that had been held in conjunction with Coleg Cambria was free to those attending. Unfortunately, the Age Friendly Communities Group do not have enough money to pay for the cost of rent and because of this the Community Centre Management Committee will not allow another Course to take place until this rent is paid.

Members had also been circulated with a copy of an e-mail from Ageing Well in Wales and a copy of the Older People's Commissioner's Newsletter for Autumn 2018, A Guide to Respite for People Affected by Dementia and the Welsh Government Consultation Document on 'Connected Communities - Tackling Loneliness and Social Isolation'. These documents were accepted.

#### **189. LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

The Asset Transfer is still moving slowly. Councillor R. Hughes advised that Flintshire County Council had sent the draft lease through to the Community Centre Trustees' Solicitor, but all the relevant documents had not been passed on.

There is to be a New Year's Eve Dance again this year, the cost of tickets are £10.

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

The Clerk reported that Mr Lee Shone of Highways, Flintshire County Council had informed that the advertisement regarding the double yellow lines on Bell's Corner and the junction of Bryn Clyd/King Street will be put in the press before

Christmas. If the work is to be carried out it will be sub-contracted out, but under the supervision of Flintshire County Council.

**191. CADWYN CLWYD - iBEACON PROJECT**

Councillor J.E. Saul and Mrs Jo Danson had given the i-Beacons Project Presentation at Ysgol Derwenfa on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018. A training session is to take place on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 3.30pm. This is open to the teaching staff and Councillors.

**192. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT, PONTBLYDDYN CROSSROADS**

The Chairman, Councillor D. Rule, Councillors R. Hughes, G. Sherwood and the Clerk met with Mr Rob Nursaw, Mr Lee Shone and Mr Ian Williams, Officers of Flintshire County Council in Pontblyddyn on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 3pm. During the meeting a local resident stopped to complain about the speed of the lorries travelling through the village at 5am. It was agreed by those present that a speed survey is required and old data on speed would be looked into. A mini-roundabout would not be suitable. Traffic modelling would establish if traffic lights on the crossroads were feasible, also if there was money available in the budget. Residents of the village were intending to put in a petition complaining about the speed of traffic through the village. Observation was made that the speeding through the village was more of a problem than the crossroads. The Go Safe team had been seen in Pontblyddyn at 5.45am one morning. Comment was made that the Companies who have lorries travelling through Pontblyddyn could be approached and asked if their drivers would keep to the speed limit while going through Pontblyddyn. However, it was pointed out that all Companies would need to be contacted and Council would have to know who they were.

**193. PONTBLYDDYN VILLAGE SIGN**

There had been no further report on the progress of the erection of this sign.

Councillor R. Hughes advised that the damaged village sign on the Chester Road, Pontblyddyn had now been replaced at no cost to this Council.

**194. NORTH WALES POLICE, SOUTH FLINTSHIRE CONSULTATION MEETING ON THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**

Members had been circulated with a copy of the slide show given at the Consultation Meeting. Councillor R. Hughes stated that it had been a very informative meeting and Inspector D. Whibberley along with his team had given an excellent presentation. It was also a pleasure to meet with the new Chief Constable of North Wales, Carl Foulkes, who had also attended the meeting.

The Clerk reported that Inspector Whibberley had been very pleased with the venue and grateful to this Council for hosting the evening.

**195. ONE VOICE WALES/CCLA - PUBLIC SECTOR DEPOSIT FUND AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES' PROPERTY FUND**

Councillor G. Sherwood advised that this fund provided investment opportunities for Town and Community Councils. Flintshire County Council

were already investors. The Public Sector Deposit Fund required a deposit of £25,000 and the interest rate for this was 0.73%. This interest rate was much bigger than those offered by the banks. An account with the Public Sector Deposit Fund would be supplementary to the bank accounts. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should prepare a cash flow statement and the matter be put on the agenda for the Precept Meeting to be held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019.

196. **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – PREPARATIONS FOR THE COMING WINTER**  
Councillor R. Hughes reported that he would be meeting with Mr Ian Williams of Streetscene, Flintshire County Council, to discuss potential sites for salt bins in the communities of Leeswood and Pontblyddyn.

197. **COUNTY FORUM MEETING OF 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER 2018 – COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTORAL REVIEW, LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES**

This matter relates to the reduction of Flintshire County Councillors from 70 in number to 63. It was pointed out that this is a very important matter and the Community Council should comment on this. Previously, there had been a suggestion of tagging Leeswood and Pontblyddyn onto Hope and Caergwrle. This was considered as not feasible as Leeswood and Pontblyddyn has no connection with Hope and Caergwrle apart from the odd farm. Observation made that Leeswood and Pontblyddyn do not fall much short of the required numbers and that thought should be given to how the ward could be supplemented. Comment was made that even though Leeswood and Pontblyddyn do not quite make up the required numbers, a lot of distance is covered with this being a rural ward. It is understood that the Boundary Commission may look more favourably to those community wards in rural areas. There is a lot going on in this Community; new Council properties have been built and we are a pilot scheme in North Wales for Age Friendly Communities, to name but two. All Councillors agreed that the Clerk should prepare a response for the next meeting. The closing date of the consultation is 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019.

198. **INDEPENDENT PANEL REVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL SECTOR**

All Councillors agreed that this item be put on the Agenda for the January 2019 meeting.

199. **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – REVISED RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2018-2028, ALSO PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Flintshire County Council have opened a consultation period on the revised Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2018-2018, also the Public Rights of Way Policies and Procedures. Members had been circulated with these documents. The consultation period closes on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019. This was accepted.

Councillors pointed out that the Flintshire County Council interactive map is a very useful tool. This can be used from a mobile phone and you are able to see

whether you are on the correct footpath. It was considered by all Councillors that the use of the interactive map should be promoted.

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

Members had been circulated with a copy of correspondence from Mr Andrew Jones, Headteacher, Ysgol Derwenfa. This letter explains that the School is looking to fundraise for new IT equipment. The current IT equipment, which includes laptops, ipads, teacher's computers and classroom interactive whiteboards are very old and out of date, no longer supported for repairs. Ysgol Derwenfa will need to continually raise funds to replace this equipment. Consideration of a donation from this Council would be very much appreciated.

It was proposed by Councillor G. Sherwood and seconded by Councillor D. Foster that a donation of £500 be given subject to the Clerk contacting Mr G. Owen of Legal Services, Flintshire County Council to check that a Community Council can give money to a School. All Councillors in agreement.

The Chairman, Councillor D. Rule and Councillors D.K. Crowther and R. Hughes did not vote on this matter as they are Governors of Ysgol Derwenfa.

**201. WELSH GOVERNMENT - SECTION 137 EXPENDITURE LIMIT 2019/2020**

Councillors had been circulated with a copy of correspondence from Judith Cole, Local Government Finance & Workforce Partnerships Division, Welsh Government detailing the Section 137 Expenditure Limit of £8.12 per elector for 2019/2020. Section 137 permits Town and Community Councils to spend on activities for which it has no specific powers, if the Council considers that such expense will bring direct benefit to, the area or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants, providing that the benefit is commensurate with the expenditure. This was accepted.

**202. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

None other than those already discussed during the meeting.

**203. MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE**

- a) Remembrance Weekend - the Afternoon Tea Dance held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at the Community Centre, had been very poorly attended. This was very disappointing. Councillor R. Hughes thanked Councillors for attending the annual Remembrance Sunday Parade. It was agreed by all that the buffet following the Service at the Cenotaph was very successful. The Clerk stated that there were at least 60 members of the Community who had returned to the Community Centre. Councillor J. Caruana proposed and Councillor R. Hughes seconded that the buffet be made an annual event. All Councillors in agreement.
- b) Standing Tommy - it was agreed by all Councillors that a Standing Tommy be purchased for next year's Remembrance Day, to be sited at the Cenotaph. The Clerk is to make enquiries in the new year.
- c) Christmas Lights - these have now been put in place.

#### 204. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Leeswood Methodist Church - Festival of Angels - this is to take place on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Organisations are requested to design a 3d angel for display. This was accepted.

b) Request for funding re Welsh lessons at the Community Centre - Mr Stephen Rule had requested funding towards the rent of the Community Centre for the programme of Welsh lessons currently taking place. It was agreed by all Councillors that the rent of £75 would be paid by the Community Council. The Chairman, Councillor D. Rule did not take part in this discussion.

c) Reindeer Lodge, Leeswood - e-mail correspondence had been received relating to the first weekend opening of the Reindeer Lodge, Leeswood. Councillors agreed that the issues were not a matter for this Council and the correspondence was acknowledged as accepted.

#### 205. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
Miss M Reynolds	Salary/Expenses - Nov. 2018.	£616.16	£0.00	<b>£616.16</b>
Miss M Reynolds	Postage/Printing/Stationery - Nov. 2018	£174.35	£0.00	<b>£174.35</b>
Aled Davies Agricultural	Cemetery - Oct. 2018	£488.00	£97.60	<b>£585.60</b>
Aled Davies Agricultural	Cemetery - Nov. 2018	£1,788.00	£357.60	<b>£2,145.60</b>
Flintshire County Council	Playscheme Summer 2018	£2,930.00	£0.00	<b>£2,930.00</b>
Flintshire County Council	Street lighting maintenance	£234.81	£0.00	<b>£234.81</b>
Leeswood Community Centre	Hire charges for Community Council meetings	£105.00	£0.00	<b>£105.00</b>
Leeswood Community Centre	Payment of rent re Welsh Classes	£75.00	£0.00	<b>£75.00</b>
Councillor G. Sherwood	Travel expenses re One Voice Wales Conference	£75.15	£0.00	<b>£75.15</b>
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>£6,486.47</b>	<b>£455.20</b>	<b>£6,941.67</b>

#### 206. INCOME RECEIVED

None at the time of publishing the Agenda.

#### 207. BANK BALANCES

As at 29<sup>th</sup> September 2018: - Deposit account - £59,160.03 and current account - £7,333.04.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.55pm.