

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 6th NOVEMBER 2018.

PRESENT

Councillor D. Rule, Chairman (in the Chair),
Councillors J. Caruana, L.T. Coleman, D. Foster, R. Hughes, T. Hughes, L.C.
Richardson, J.E. Saul and R. Williams.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds - Clerk to the Council.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received from Councillor J. Atkinson, C. Coleman, D.K. Crowther and G. Sherwood.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST - MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

152. MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 2nd October 2018 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor J. Caruana and seconded by Councillor T. Hughes that these be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

The minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting held on Tuesday 16th October 2018 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor R. Hughes and seconded by Councillor J.E. Saul that these be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

153. POLICE LIAISON

PCSO 3684 Peter Jones was unable to attend. He had sent a report in his absence.

Crime Issues / Trends

Public Order Crime - Heol-y-Dderwen, Leeswood - report of three persons fighting. Five Officers attended but the persons involved had left the area by the time the Officers had arrived. The person who had contacted the Police was unable to give a description of those involved in the fight. Search of the area was conducted but nobody was seen.

Suspicious Circumstances - Building Site on Corwen Road, Pontblyddyn - it seemed as if someone had tried to gain entry to look at items inside, nothing was taken/no entry gained. 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.

154. CEMETERY

New Extension

It was queried as to whether the quotations requested to erect a stock proof fence in the Cemetery extension included a price for cutting back the hedge. All Councillors agreed that clarification of this should be sought. The Clerk advised that she was awaiting a price for fitting the drain. Point was made that in the future all clay spoil would need to be moved into the new extension.

Trees and Memorials

E-mail correspondence had been received from LCAS Helpline, Zurich Municipal Insurers advising of potential issues with tree liabilities and Cemetery/Memorial management: -

Tree Liabilities

A recent Court of Appeal decision has served as a reminder that any landowner has to have a risk based, planned and managed approach to the risks that trees on its land bring. It had been found that an approach to an inspection of trees on a blanket three yearly cycle was inadequate and failed to consider trees in higher risk locations. A more frequent and rigorous inspection was required. LCAS have previously advised that a tree management strategy and framework should be established and implemented. This approach cannot be a blanket, in terms of timetables, and inspection frequencies will need to be flexed to reflect risk.

All Councillors agreed that it was important to take responsibility for trees within the perimeter of the Cemetery. Councillor R. Hughes advised that he and Mr Aled Davies the Cemetery Sub-Contractor checked the trees on a regular basis and if there was any concern a tree specialist was asked to come out and examine the tree in question.

Cemetery & Memorial Safety

In July 2018 a revised version of the British Standard - BS8415 - was published, following a significant period of consultation. Amendments to the standard include updates on the recommended methodology for testing the design, construction and fixing of memorials, considering ground and soil conditions. It is established law that ownership of memorials remains with the family of the deceased. However, in discharging their duty of care to employees, visitors and other members of the public, burial ground operators need to have in place management and monitoring systems to control the risks from memorials. These systems should start with ensuring that any new memorials being erected are designed and installed in a manner that is compliant with, as a minimum, the best practice outlined in BS8415 or to at least equivalent standards. The

risk of injury or death caused by a failed or collapsing memorial remains extremely low. However, as is often the case with tree accidents where statistical risk is extremely low also, the public reaction to an incident of this nature is often quite challenging and calls into question the associated levels of risk. Those with responsibility for the operation of burial grounds and cemeteries should refresh their understanding of their responsibilities and ensure that the right questions are being asked of installers and permission to install only being granted when satisfied that the appropriate best practice standards are being met.

The Clerk reminded that an inspection of the memorials had taken place last year and there was no cause for concern reported. All memorials in the Cemetery are erected by stonemasons and drawings of these memorials are sent to the Clerk beforehand.

155. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no Planning Applications received.

Information was received that a planning application has been put in for the Laura Ashley site. This is for apartments not houses.

156. AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

The Community Café sited in the Clinic Area of the Community Centre continues to do very well and most weeks spills out into the Main Hall. Those residents that use the Café stay awhile. It had been hoped to attract some of the parents coming back from the School after dropping their children off but this has not been the case so far.

157. LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Asset Transfer is still moving slowly, Councillor R. Hughes was going to make enquiries on progress at Flintshire County Council.

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

Councillor R. Hughes advised that he would speak to Mr Lee Shone of Highways, Flintshire County Council to establish if any progress had been made with regard to the double yellow lines on Bell's Corner and the junction of Bryn Clyd/King Street.

159. CADWYN CLWYD - iBEACON PROJECT

Councillor J.E. Saul and Mrs Jo Danson will be giving an i-Beacons Project Presentation Ysgol Derwenfa on Wednesday 21st November 2018 at 3.30pm. All Councillors are welcome to attend.

160. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT, PONTBLYDDYN CROSSROADS

Councillor R. Hughes informed that he would also speak to Mr Lee Shone of Highways, Flintshire County Council to arrange a site meeting at Pontblyddyn. This would be to discuss the speed of the traffic through Pontblyddyn village.

161. PONTBLYDDYN VILLAGE SIGN

The erection of this sign is a work in progress and Mr Ian Williams, the Streetscene Co-Ordinator for Leeswood and Pontblyddyn would advise when the job had been completed.

162. NORTH WALES POLICE, SOUTH FLINTSHIRE CONSULTATION MEETING ON THURSDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2018

The Clerk reminded Council that Leeswood and Pontblyddyn Community Council will be hosting the North Wales Police, South Flintshire Consultation Meeting on Thursday 15th November 2018, 7.00pm to 9.00pm, at the Leeswood Community Centre.

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

Information from Mark Davies, The Public Sector Deposit Fund/CCLA about the Public Sector Deposit Fund and Local Authorities' Property Fund had been circulated to all Councillors. It was agreed by all Councillors that this matter be put on the Agenda for the December 2018 meeting when Councillor G. Sherwood would be present to give more explanation.

164. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - PREPARATIONS FOR THE COMING WINTER

Members had been circulated with correspondence from Steve Jones, Chief Officer, Streetscene & Transportation, Flintshire County Council. Flintshire County Council are offering a nominated member of the Community to receive daily details of the proposed gritting actions together with an accurate weather forecast for their area. County Council owned salt bins are soon to be filled, but there will be an assessment beforehand to see if these bins meet the County Council's criteria for provision of salt bins. Any bins not meeting the criteria will be removed. If the Community Council wish additional salt bins, these will be provided in a different colour to those of the County Council at a cost of £135 and each refill will cost £60. Bagged rock salt is available at £5 per bag delivered to a location of the Community Council's choice. Basic equipment to assist the local Community to help themselves during any periods of heavy snow is also available. This equipment includes eight bags of rock salt and applicators; shovels for snow clearing, also instructions/indemnity notices for those people carrying out the work.

Councillor R. Hughes advised that he would walk through the Community with Mr Ian Williams, Streetscene Co-Ordinator, to establish the best places to site salt bins. It was agreed by all Councillors that this item be put on the Agenda for the December 2018 meeting.

165. CITIZENS ADVICE FLINTSHIRE - ANNUAL REPORT 2017/2018

E-mail correspondence from Salli Edwards, Chief Executive, Citizens Advice Flintshire, also a copy of the Annual Report 2017/2018 had been circulated to all Members. Councillors commented that it was very helpful to receive this information and that the availability of the Citizens Advice Bureau should be promoted to all residents.

166. DEPARTMENT FOR WORK AND PENSIONS – HOW CAN WE SUPPORT THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY?

Members had been circulated with an e-mail from Jeremy Jenkins, Employer Advisor, Department for Work and Pensions, informing that help is available to tailor a pledge of a Covenant Promise to support the Armed Forces Community. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should attempt to adapt this document and present it at the December 2018 meeting.

167. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – CHANGES TO ARRIVA BUS SERVICE X4

E-mail correspondence received from Ruth Cartwright, Streetscene and Transportation, advising that the Arriva X4 bus service is to be extended to serve the Countess of Chester Hospital and onward to Ellesmere Port (including Cheshire Oaks) had been circulated to all Members. All Councillors agreed that this information should be put on the Community Council website and in the Leeswood & District Newsletter.

168. ONE VOICE WALES/CAME & COMPANY – INSURANCE

Members had been circulated e-mail correspondence from Paul R Egan, Deputy Chief Executive and Resources Manager, One Voice Wales, regarding insurance. Also circulated was a copy of the presentation given to One Voice Wales by Came & Company and additional information about their policies. This was accepted.

169. ONE VOICE WALES – CONFERENCES 2019

E-mail correspondence from One Voice Wales advising of their Conferences in 2019 had been circulated to all Members. These Conferences are planned as follows: -

Innovative Practice and National Awards Conference – Thursday 28th March 2019

Innovative Practice Conference – Wednesday 10th July 2019

National Conference and Annual General Meeting – Saturday 5th October 2019

This information was accepted.

170. COUNTY FORUM MEETINGS 2019

These meetings have been arranged on the following dates: -

Thursday 14th February 2019

Tuesday 25th June 2019

Monday 7th October 2019

Sam Perry, Corporate and Business Communications Support Officer, Corporate Services, Flintshire County Council also requests hosts/Chairs for any of the evenings. This information was accepted.

171. COUNTY FORUM MEETING OF 23RD OCTOBER 2018 – ELECTORAL REVIEW, LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

Members had been circulated with e-mail correspondence from Sam Perry, Corporate and Business Communications Support Officer, Corporate Services, Flintshire County Council. Also circulated was a copy of the Presentation slides from the evening; a copy of the map circulated at the meeting and a copy of the Electoral Reviews Policy and Practice document.

Correspondence had also been received and circulated to all Members from Tom Jenkins, Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales advising that the electoral arrangements for Flintshire County Council are to be reviewed. The consultation period begins on 1st November 2018 and closes on 23rd January 2019.

It was agreed by all Councillors that this was an important issue that required serious discussion. This item is to be put on the Agenda for the December 2018 meeting.

172. COUNTY FORUM MEETING OF 23RD OCTOBER 2018 - NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Presentation slides from the evening regarding the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service had been circulated to all Members. This document was accepted.

173. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - DRAFT GAMBLING POLICY, JANUARY 2019

Received from Gemma Potter, Team Leader, Licensing & Pest Control, Flintshire County Council, an e-mail advising that the draft Gambling Policy for January 2019 has now been published and the consultation period is open. This along with a copy of the draft Gambling Policy, January 2019, had been circulated to all Members. This document was accepted.

174. INDEPENDENT PANEL REVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL SECTOR

Members had been circulated with a copy of the final report following the Independent Panel Review of the Community and Town Council Sector. Also circulated was a copy of the Outline Findings and Recommendations. It was agreed by all Councillors that this matter be put on the Agenda for the December 2018 meeting.

175. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT - NORTH WALES PUBLIC SERVICES BOARDS

E-mail correspondence from Sam Perry, Corporate and Business Communications Support Officer, Corporate Services, Flintshire County Council, advising of a workshop being held by the North Wales Public Services Boards had been circulated to all Members. This is to take place at Bodelwyddan Community Centre on Friday 30th November 2018, 10am to 1pm. Councillor J. Caruana offered to attend if he was available.

176. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- a) Chester Road, near to Bridge Inn, Pontblyddyn - the highway in this area requires attention. Work is to be carried out by Flintshire County Council.
- b) Highway by the Prince of Wales, Leeswood - this section of the road also requires attention. Work is to be carried out by Flintshire County Council.
- c) White Lines on Roads in the Community - the white lining will take place once the Flintshire County Council have completed their works on the roads needing attention.
- d) 30mph Stryt Cae Rhedyn, Leeswood - there is an issue with extending the

speed limit as the drop from 60mph should be to 40mph then 30mph. This matter is still under discussion.

e) New dog walking area on Phoenix Park, Leeswood - a footpath has now been put in around the new dog walking area on Phoenix Park. Benches are also to be installed. Dogs are no longer allowed to walk on the marked football pitches at the top of Phoenix Park and fines will be issued.

f) Bush near old Pond area on Phoenix Park, Leeswood - this bush is to be cut back and the pathway to be extended.

177. MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE

a) Civic Service 2018 - Councillor R. Hughes remarked that the Civic Service had been excellent. It had been a shame that there had been no organist, but nonetheless it had gone very well. Mrs J. Phillips and Mrs. B. Kendrick were complimented for providing the buffet on the day.

b) Dog waste in the village of Leeswood - it was brought to the Council's attention that there was a considerable amount of dog waste on the footpaths in Leeswood. Observation was made that there is a lot of dog walking taking place during the period of darkness and it was believed that the walkers did not pick up the waste left by their dogs. Comment was also made that rubbish is being dumped in the village as well.

c) Syringe found on lane by the new development at Heol-y-Goron, Leeswood - this matter had received extensive coverage on Social Media. It had been reported to Streetscene, Flintshire County Council.

d) Remembrance Weekend - an Afternoon Tea Dance is to be held on Saturday 10th November 2018 at the Community Centre, 2.30pm to 4.30pm. On Sunday 11th November 2018, the parade will assemble at the Community Centre at 10pm. The Remembrance Day Service starts at 10.50am at Christ Church, Pontblyddyn, followed by a Service at the Cenotaph, Leeswood at 12 midday. A buffet is to be served at the Community Centre after the Service at the Cenotaph.

178. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Miss M Reynolds	Salary/Expenses - Oct. 2018. This also includes backdated pay increase for 2017/2018 and for the first six months of 2018/2019.	£1,007.36	£0.00	£1,007.36
Miss M Reynolds	Postage/Printing/Stationery - Oct. 2018	£220.26	£0.00	£220.26
Miss M Reynolds	Flintshire Archives	£42.56	£0.00	£42.56
Aled Davies Agricultural	Cemetery - Sept. 2018	£488.00	£97.60	£585.60
The Royal British Legion	Wreaths - Remembrance Sunday 2018	£37.00	£0.00	£37.00
Leeswood & District News	Insertions	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00
Mrs G Brand	Afternoon Tea Dance Buffet	£150.00	£0.00	£150.00

Flintshire County Council	Street lighting maintenance	£224.73	£0.00	£224.73
Scottish Power		£353.28	£17.66	£370.94
Leeswood Playgroup		£750.00	£0.00	£750.00
Christ Church, Pontblyddyn		£25.00	£0.00	£25.00
	Totals: -	£3,798.19	£115.26	£3,913.45

179. INCOME RECEIVED

None at the time of publishing the Agenda.

180. BANK BALANCES

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

The meeting was declared closed at 8.45pm.