

THE REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS
OF THE
LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN
COMMUNITY COUNCIL



MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON

TUESDAY 8th OCTOBER 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 8th OCTOBER 2019.

PRESENT

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

DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

111. MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 3rd September 2019 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor G. Sherwood and seconded by Councillor D.K. Crowther that these be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

112. POLICE LIAISON

PCSO 3684 Peter Jones was unable to attend this evening. He had forwarded a report.

Incident update - (from 29/08/2019 to 20/09/2019)

Crime Issues / Trends

This Month

Queen Street, Leeswood – shoplifting. A known male has tried to steal some alcohol from a store on Queen Street. The male was identified, and enquiries are on-going.

Queen Street, Leeswood – vehicle handbrake had been left off while the owner went into the shop. The vehicle had then rolled into another a vehicle causing damage.

ASB Issues

None to report – PCSO Jones has regularly been attending the Community Centre and Bowling Club. He has not been made aware of anyone causing issues since the last meeting.

113. RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR CLARE COLEMAN

A 'Notice of Co-Option' in the community area would now be advertised on the Community notice boards.

114. DEFIBRILLATOR AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, LEESWOOD

Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman, reported that the defibrillator has now been re-sited outside the Community Centre. The Clerk advised that she had received the invoice for the cost of electrical installation, £141.60 + £28.32 VAT.

115. 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 are very pleased with the Cemetery.

Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman reported that the drain had now been installed in the new extension. All clay had been removed off site. The spoil was being loaded up in the Church car park. This had been cleaned up this evening and Mr Aled Davies had sent photographs to the Clerk. It was queried as to whether test holes would now be dug. All Councillors agreed that some time should lapse before this was done.

A meeting with Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman, the Clerk and Mr Aled Davies, Aled Davies Agricultural Contracting had taken place at the Cemetery to discuss the removal of the boundary wall separating the Cemetery and Church car park and other necessary work required following said removal. Mr Aled Davies had provided a quotation of £3,700 + VAT for the removal of the wall, grading of the bank with the topsoil taken to new extension and graded, supply and lay kerbs, construction of concrete bin store, supply and plant laurel hedge along kerb edge. The Clerk advised that the stone from the car park wall was going to be used at Nercwys Church with no charge made. It was proposed by Councillor R. Williams and seconded by Councillor G. Sherwood that the quote be accepted but any additional costs incurred in taking the stone from site to Nercwys Church should be paid by the Church. All Councillors in agreement.

The Clerk reported that she had also received a quote from Mr Aled Davies for planting laurel hedging around the boundary of the new extension. This was £2,700 + VAT. Councillors expressed a wish to maintain the new extension in keeping with the existing Cemetery. It was proposed by Councillor G. Sherwood and seconded by Councillor J. Caruana that the Clerk inform Mr Aled Davies that it would be preferred if the hawthorn/holly hedge at the top of the existing Cemetery be extended into the new extension and that the new laurel hedge replacing the wall be extended into the new extension. The sides to be left as they are for the time being. All Councillors were in agreement.

116. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No planning applications had been received.

117. AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

The Lunch Club Taster Session had taken place on 2nd October 2019, this was free. Following the initial session, the Lunch Club is to be held monthly on the first Wednesday with the cost being £4.50. The Clerk reported that there were just over 30 residents who had attended the first session.

Mrs S. Devine is now winding down as Age Friendly Communities Co-Ordinator. The next Steering Group would be held on Monday 4th November 2019.

Councillor J.E. Saul advised that he had attended the County Forum meeting held on Monday 7th October 2019. Reference had been made to a Micro-Care Group which is an initiative that Flintshire County Council are paying for. This is to encourage people to take up care work on a part-time basis. Further, it would be Community based which would reduce travelling time, leaving Carers with more time to spend with the people who needed it. It was pointed out that there is an extreme shortage of Carers in Wales.

118. LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Flintshire County Council have produced revised documents but the boundary had been drawn straight so needs to be re-drawn. This is in progress.

119. LEESWOOD MEMORIAL CENTENARY FIELDS

The Clerk reported that there had been some difficulty trying to establish a date for the Ceremony at the Cenotaph. Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman, offered to get in touch with Fiona Mocko to discuss the date.

120. 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOLD RIOTS, 2019

Mr Kevin Matthias, Chair of the Daniel Owen Festival had sent e-mail correspondence to keep us updated and ask a couple of questions. Four of them had walked from the Community Centre yesterday using roughly the path that Mike Stevens had described in the Leeswood News. An earlier plan was to keep to the roads, but Flintshire County Council discouraged this as being too dangerous as there are no pavements on busy roads at certain points. The walk will now be mainly across fields finishing at Tyddyn Street chapel in Mold for a cup of tea and the bus back to Leeswood at 5.30pm as planned. Flintshire will help with crossing the B5444 safely near the Black Gates. The route will be published on the Festival website.

It was realised yesterday that the walk is not suitable for small children and it was thought that a number might be attracted to join the walk as Theatr Clwyd are doing banner-making workshops at Leeswood, Nercwys and Treuddyn primary schools next week. The plan is for those who wish to join the event and do not want to walk from Leeswood, to meet at the Snowdonia Windows car park on the

Bromfield Industrial Estate for the walk into town. Those doing the full walk will be at the meeting point by 3.30pm and everyone will walk to the chapel together.

Mr. Matthias requested that the Community Centre be open on the Sunday afternoon at 1.00pm to brief the marshals before the start of the walk. Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman advised that he would open the Community Centre.

Secondly, he asked if the Community Council's insurance covers walks? The Festival has its own insurance, of course but it would be good to check if this Council's did too.

Councillor G. Sherwood is not able to help with marshalling, but Mr Matthias would be grateful if the word could be spread in Leeswood that any help and/or support would be appreciated. Councillor L.C. Richardson advised that she would assist with marshalling.

121. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL STANDARDS COMMITTEE – VISITS TO TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Members had been circulated with a copy of correspondence from Gareth Owens, Chief Officer Governance, Flintshire County Council. This is Mr Owens' seventh 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 three further visits, undertaken in June and July 2019 were received by the Committee. As with previous reported visits, the four Independent Members agreed that these had been positive experiences and again praised the level of commitment and contributions by those in attendance.

As had been discussed previously, the setting and administrative arrangements for meetings can have a large impact on whether the meeting proceeds in a smooth and orderly fashion. Members have seen good examples where the formality of proceedings helped generate a conducive atmosphere to calm and considered debate without stifling input.

Conversely, they have also found that less structured meetings can be both confusing for members of the public and can contribute to unruly behaviour. An important part of that structure which will help Councillors to comply with the Code of Conduct, is to have an agenda item early in the running order for Members to declare an interest. Such an item not only prompts Members to consider whether they need to declare an interest but also reminds them to do so. It is routinely included as an item after apologies and minutes in most Councils.

Again, the Members have encountered some difficulties in finding the precise location of meetings. Clearly, this could make it difficult for members of the public to attend as well. Mr. Owens concludes his correspondence by stating that the

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

This correspondence was accepted.

122. MATCH FUNDING SCHEME – IMPROVEMENTS TO CHILDREN’S PLAY AREAS 2019/2020

Members have been circulated with a copy of correspondence from Paul Jones, Business Improvement & Performance Manager, Aura. This correspondence advises that Flintshire County Council has allocated £105,000 from the 2019/2020 for match funding of improvement works to children’s play areas. The match funding is on a £ for £ basis. Expressions of interest had to be in by 30th September 2019 and the Clerk advised that she has informed Richard Roberts of Aura that this Council had budgeted £3,000 for play area improvements in 2019/2020.

123. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – PREPARATIONS FOR THE COMING WINTER

Correspondence from Steve Jones, Chief Officer, Streetscene & Transportation, Flintshire County Council had been circulated to all Members. 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. The Clerk advised that she would sign up to receive the daily details of proposed gritting actions and an accurate weather forecast.

124. NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY – DEVELOPING A LONG-TERM ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY

Members had been circulated with information relating to a consultation being undertaken by the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority. The closing date for this is 31st December 2019. All Councillors agreed that the Clerk should complete the consultation on behalf of this Council.

125. FLINTSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE

E-mail correspondence from Andrew Roberts, Service Manager – Strategy, Flintshire County Council had been circulated to all Members. This correspondence advises that the Deposit Flintshire Local Development Plan (LDP) six-week consultation will

start on 30th September 2019. The consultation ends at 5pm on Monday 11th November 2019 and late representations will not be considered. It was agreed by all Councillors that this item be included on the Agenda of the next monthly meeting to take place on 5th November 2019.

126. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – RECYCLING AND WASTE COLLECTIONS CONSULTATION

Members had been circulated with e-mail correspondence from Flintshire County Council advising that a survey of their recycling and waste collection service is taking place. The closing date for this is 31st October 2019. This correspondence was accepted.

127. ENVIRONMENTAL ACT 2016 – COMMUNITY & TOWN COUNCILS DUTY UNDER SECTION 6

Members had been circulated with a copy of e-mail correspondence from Shan Bowden, Development Officer, One Voice Wales. This correspondence advises that public authorities (including Community & Town Councils) are required under the Environment Wales Act 2016 Section 6 to prepare and publish a plan setting out what it proposes to do to comply with the duty to Maintain and Enhance Biodiversity within their current work areas. Welsh Government gave a presentation on this subject at the One Voice Wales Innovative Practice Conference on 10th July 2019 when those present were informed that a FAQs, Good Practice Guide and Reporting Guidance would be circulated to Community & Town Councils. This Guidance will be issued shortly but in the meantime, One Voice Wales have provided a copy of FAQs and a draft Reporting Template that will be included with the Reporting Guidance, as an Annex. Welsh Government advise that the template should not be seen in any way as being prescriptive, as it is just an example of how the report might be compiled and what could be included in it. Every public authority (Community & Town Council) is free to decide how they should report on the duty and although the template will be useful by itself, the guide will provide more detailed information on the reporting framework and will give clarity on the various fields in the template. All Councillors agreed that this item should be put on the Agenda for the next monthly meeting to be held on 5th November 2019.

128. FLVC – BEST KEPT COMMUNITIES COMPETITION 2019

An e-mail from Shaun Darlington, FLVC had been circulated to all Members. In this e-mail he explains that he wanted to follow up our entries to the Best Kept Communities awards – the Judges had a very difficult time this year choosing between the entries and unfortunately our entries were not amongst the finalists. However, there are Certificate of Merit awards that he would like to present to us for certain categories and to also feedback the Judges' comments. He would also really like to meet the Community Council to discuss the competition and any suggestions/thoughts on how FLVC can improve the impact going forward and their

role in general. All Councillors agreed that Mr Darlington be invited to attend the next monthly meeting on 5th November 2019 at 6.00pm.

129. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- a) Bridge at top of Constitution Hill, Leeswood – work on this has now been completed.
- b) Grids/Gulleys in the Community – these have now been cleared ready for the winter.
- c) Hall Hill pot holes – these have now been repaired.
- d) Re-surfacing of highway from Bell's Corner to Haydock Close, Leeswood – this will take place within a couple of weeks. Work will be carried out over a weekend.

130. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- a) Grids sunk back into the paths – report was received that the grids had sunk back into the paths by the Lodge, Pontblyddyn and the old Smithy, Pontblyddyn.
- b) One Voice Wales Conference 2019 – Councillor G. Sherwood had attended the conference and will be providing a report at the next meeting.
- c) School bus to Alun School, Mold – comment was made that the children attending the Alun School, Mold were having to use the commercial bus service provided by Arriva in order to get to School. Those attending Castell Alun High School, Hope had a designated bus provided solely for transportation of the children to that School. It was pointed out that this was unfair, especially as those attending the Alun School, Mold were left waiting for the bus home as often it was late. Parents were unhappy with this situation and concerned about their children having to hang around waiting for the bus. Councillor R. Hughes, Chairman, reported that efforts were being made to provide a bus solely for the children attending the Mold Schools. There is a bus that covers Ffrith, Llanfynydd and Treuddyn. It was hoped that Leeswood children could be included on this bus.
- d) Visibility issues junction at bottom of Constitution Hill, Leeswood – report was received that that cars are parked on the highway outside the old New Inn car park and opposite causing problems with visibility of traffic travelling from the right hand side. It was agreed by all Councillors that this matter be raised with Steve Jones of Streetscene, Flintshire County Council.

131. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Flintshire County Council, Chairman's Charity Fashion Show – this is hosted by Simmi Womenswear and will take place on Thursday 10th October 2019 at Theatr Clwyd, Mold. Tickets are £5.00 per person. This was accepted.

132. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Payee	Detail	Net	VAT	Total
Miss M Reynolds	Salary/Expenses – September 2019.	£616.16	£0.00	£616.16
Miss M Reynolds	Postage/Printing/Stationery – September 2019	£70.45	£0.00	£70.45
Miss M Reynolds	Purchase of books	£120.01	£0.00	£120.01
Aled Davies Agricultural	Cemetery – September 2019	£488.00	£97.60	£585.60
HMRC	PAYE/NI Q2 2019/2020	£406.00	£0.00	£406.00
Mrs B Kendrick	Civic Service refreshments	£575.00	£0.00	£575.00
Leeswood Methodist Church	Donation re Civic Service	£25.00	£0.00	£25.00
Mr R. Bryan	Organist – Civic Service	£25.00	£0.00	£25.00
Mr B. Williams	Allotment rent	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00
Flintshire County Council	Play equipment match funding 2017/2018	£3,000.00	£0.00	£3,000.00
Leeswood Angling Club	Donation 2017/2018 – replace cheque	£150.00	£0.00	£150.00
Leeswood Playgroup	Balance of grant 2018/2019	£750.00	£0.00	£750.00
Ffranc Electrician	Installation of Defibrillator	£141.00	£28.32	£169.32
	Total: -	£6,866.62	£125.92	£6,992.54

133. INCOME RECEIVED

None at the time of publishing the Agenda.

134. BANK BALANCES

At 29th August 2019 - deposit account - £57,704.07 and current account - £11,763.19.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.20pm.