

**THE REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS
OF THE
LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



**MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2021**

LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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THE MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2021.

PRESENT

Councillor G. Sherwood, Vice-Chairman (in the Chair),

Councillors J. Caruana, 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 Councillors J. Atkinson and L.T. Coleman.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

100. COMMUNITY COUNCIL STREET LIGHT CHANGE TO LED

Councillor G. Sherwood, Vice-Chairman, welcomed Mr Jamie Bennett, Streetlighting Officer from Flintshire County Council to the meeting. Mr Bennett informed that he has been with Flintshire County Council for 24 years and is an electrical engineer by trade. The sox lanterns that are currently in the Community Council owned streetlights are now obsolete and the price for a replacement lamp if available can be extortionate. Every Town and Community Council are obliged to do a structural test and an electrical test of the streetlights they own, this is currently carried out on our behalf by Flintshire County Council. To change the current sodium lights to LED will cost £197.50 per lantern, these carry a ten-year warranty. Light from the LED bulb is white and much clearer than the current orange light. Mr Bennett suggested that the Community Council could start to implement LED bulbs by making a decision to change the lights rather than repair what already exists. Councillor G. Sherwood, Vice-Chairman thanked Mr Bennett for his attendance and clear explanation of the option on offer to this Council.

It was proposed by Councillor R. Hughes and seconded by Councillor L.C. Richardson that Mr Bennett and his team be asked to carry out a visual inspection of the Community Council owned lights with the intention of providing a quote to replace the current sodium bulbs with LED bulbs. All Councillors were in agreement.

101. MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 7th September 2021 had been

circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor R. Hughes and seconded by Councillor L.C. Richardson that these be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

102. RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLORS DAVID CROWTHER, TERRY HUGHES AND DAVID RULE

The Clerk reported that the standard process to fill the vacancies must now be followed. This would entail advertising the notice for ten electors of the Leeswood ward to request an election. If no election was requested, then either the co-option procedure could be undertaken or due to the proximity of the local council elections scheduled for the first Thursday in May 2022 the vacancies could be left open until then.

103. TO CONFIRM COUNCILLOR G. SHERWOOD REPLACING COUNCILLOR D. CROWTHER AS CHAIR TO THE COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor J. Caruana and seconded by Councillor R. Hughes that the Vice-Chairman Councillor G. Sherwood be appointed as Chairman to the Council following the resignation of Councillor D. Crowther.

104. TO ELECT A VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR 2021/2022

It was proposed by Councillor J.E. Saul and seconded by Councillor D. Foster that Councillor L.C. Richardson be appointed as Vice-Chairman to the Council for the remainder of the 2021/2022 Council year. All Councillors were in agreement.

105. TO ELECT A SCHOOL GOVERNOR REPRESENTATIVE AT YSGOL DERWENFA

It was proposed by Councillor R. Williams and seconded by Councillor T. Hughes that Councillor J. Caruana be appointed as this Council's representative on the School Governors of Ysgol Derwenfa. All Councillors in agreement.

106. POLICE LIAISON

The Clerk advised that she had emailed PC Jo Talbot of the Neighbourhood Policing Team based at Mold. PC Talbot had responded informing that the local PCSOs are PCSO 4404 Lucy Davies, PCSO 3967 Helen Holden and PCSO 3463 Victoria Davies.

It was pointed out that two PCSOs had been seen with a speed camera on County Road, Leeswood. The speed limit coming up the Constitution Hill and into County Road was 60mph, there was no signage indicating a speed limit of 30mph.

107. CEMETERY

Councillor R. Hughes stated that he was receiving telephone calls from residents of the Community who were complimenting the way the Cemetery was being kept. It was agreed that Mr Aled Davies and his team were doing a very good job there. All Councillors were pleased that the Cemetery was receiving these favourable comments.

Councillor R. Hughes informed that the new laurel hedge planted was still not taking in some parts. He had spoken to Mr Aled Davies about this, and they had agreed that it was more stunted than growing. Mr Davies would look into what could be done to improve the growth of these. There was also an issue of moles in the Cemetery and Mr Davies was to put down traps in an attempt to resolve this issue.

The Clerk reported that she had been speaking to undertakers about their requirements in the new Cemetery in regard to the access. It was a consensus of opinion that it was necessary to have room for the hearse to travel into the new extension in particular to the upper section. At the same time consideration needs to be given to the machinery accessing the new section in regard to the digging of graves.

108. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Application – 063474

Removal of single storey side building together with rear lean-to mono pitched Conservatory. Erection of single storey side and rear extension to provide garden room, rear access lobby, w.c. and utility.

Druid Inn Cottage, Wrexham Road, Pontblyddyn, Mold, CH7 4HG.

All Councillors agreed that there was no objection to this planning application.

Planning Application – 063616

Proposed 3 to 4 bedroom dwelling on land adjacent to Queens Farm.

Queens Farm, Pontblyddyn, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 4HG.

All Councillors agreed that there was no objection to this planning application.

Planning Application – 063669

Erection of Domestic Garage.

Fron Deg, Stryt Cae Rhedyn, Leeswood, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 4SS.

All Councillors agreed that there was no objection to this planning application.

109. ANNUAL RETURN 2020/2021

It was proposed by Councillor R. Hughes and seconded by Councillor L.C. Richardson that the Annual Return for 2020/2021 be signed.

110. LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Councillor R. Hughes reported that as the Coronavirus restrictions are being lifted the Community Centre was starting to open up as per the guidelines. The Community Café had now been open for some time and residents were gradually coming back. Some of the regular organisations using the Community Centre had now returned. The Trustees were busy getting quotations in for the work needed to be done to the building. A Music Night had been held on 29th October 2021 with approximately 48 in attendance and the next one is arranged for 26th November 2021. New Year's Eve function was to

be held with tickets costing £5.00 with a maximum of sixty people allowed in, the licence for this is to 12 midnight. There would be no buffet, but baps will be sold on the night. Councillor R. Hughes hoped that the tickets would go to locals who are regular attendees at the Community Centre functions.

111. HANSON HEIDELBERG CEMENT

Councillor J. Caruana reported with reference to the liaison meeting held at Hanson Cement Padeswood Works on 11th October 2021, that in order to monitor the dust emissions from the plant, Hanson Cement is installing a dust monitor to measure the particulates of dust within the air. The monitor can measure dust particulates as small as 10 microns and even less than that. It can also detect particle emitted in the air in the form of smoke, dust, soot, acids, salts, and even metals. Everything can cause damage, therefore, the more particulates that are monitored, the better the understanding of what is in the air, and where it is coming from.

Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) can also be measured, this gets in the air from burning fuel in power stations, exhaust from motor vehicles etc. High concentration of NO₂ can irritate the respiratory in humans. Exposure to NO₂ can aggravate respiratory diseases such as asthma.

This is a step in the right direction, and it should help all of us understand what pollutants are in the air, the size of the pollutant, the volume of pollutants per cubic meter of air, and the source from where the pollutant is likely to have originated

112. DEFIBRILLATOR – LEESWOOD VILLAGE

Councillor R. Hughes advised that he was to meet with Mr Ian Bushell of Flintshire County Council on site regarding this on 3rd November 2021.

113. LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN AGE FRIENDLY STEERING GROUP – BENCH ON VERGE OUTSIDE YSGOL DERWENFA

Flintshire County Council had been asked to test the ground for any utilities before the installation of a bench.

Other suggested locations for seats in the Community were the Cenotaph and Phoenix Park to commemorate the mining heritage of the village.

114. PONTBLYDDYN CROSSROADS AND VILLAGE

No update had been received relating to the Traffic Survey undertaken at Pontblyddyn village.

115. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - PROPOSALS FOR TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS WITHIN LEESWOOD

The Clerk reported that she had invited Ms Jessica Wellstead and Mr Rob Nursaw, Officers of Flintshire County Council to attend a meeting of this Council. It was disappointing to receive a response from Ms Wellstead requesting 'a link' to attend the meeting virtually. Councillors observed that Mr Jamie Bennett had attended the meeting in person this evening so queried why Ms Wellstead and Mr Nursaw could not do the same. Councillor R. Hughes advised that he would speak to the Officers in question about this.

116. VISIBILITY ISSUES JUNCTION OF CONSTITUTION HILL, LEESWOOD

No further correspondence had been received relating to this matter.

117. MANDATORY 20MPH SPEED LIMIT OUTSIDE YSGOL DERWENFA, LEESWOOD

Members had been circulated with a copy of e-mail correspondence from Jayne Rodgers, Transport Strategy Officer, Streetscene & Transportation, Flintshire County Council reporting on the results of the traffic count recently undertaken outside Ysgol Derwenfa, Leeswood. Councillor R. Williams pointed out that he lives directly opposite Ysgol Derwenfa and he can see vehicles going past and they are definitely speeding. All Councillors agrees that a response be sent to the Flintshire County Council asking if they intended to make the 20mph speed limit outside the school compulsory.

118. TREEBILIEE TO COMMEMORATE THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE 2022

To commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, suggestions were made to plant willow trees on the dog walking area of Phoenix Park and poplars along the top hedge of Phoenix Park. A further observation was made to ask Ysgol Derwenfa if they would like a tree to be planted in the school grounds. Councillor R. Hughes would speak to the Tree Officer at Flintshire County Council about suitable trees for planting.

119. ONE VOICE WALES - TRAINING SESSIONS SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2021

Members had been circulated with e-mail correspondence from Wendy Patience, Administrator, One Voice Wales, advising of the training sessions available during September & October 2021. This was accepted.

120. WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON 20MPH SPEED LIMIT ON RESTRICTED ROADS ACROSS WALES

Members had been circulated with a copy of e-mail correspondence from Jayne Rodgers, Transport Strategy Officer, Streetscene & Transportation, Flintshire County Council advising that this Consultation is accessible via the Flintshire County Council website and is open until 1st October 2021. All Members accessible via e-mail have already been forwarded this. The Clerk completed the questionnaire as an individual.

121. CAME & COMPANY INSURERS

For their information, Members had been circulated with information from insurers Came & Company advising that they are re-branding to Gallagher on 4th October 2021. The current insurance policy terms and conditions are not affected by this.

122. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – JOINT MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE WITH TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Members had been circulated with e-mail correspondence from Tracey Cunnew, PA to Chief Officer – Governance, Flintshire County Council, advising that this meeting is to be held via the Zoom platform on Monday 1st November 2021 at 6pm. The training will commence at 6pm and the meeting will end at approximately 8.30pm. Topic for this meeting is The Role of the Standards Committee within the Council. This was accepted.

123. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – RE-INTRODUCTION OF CAR PARKING CHARGES

For their information, Members had been circulated with a copy of e-mail correspondence from Vicky Plant, Administration and Enforcement Manager, Streetscene and Transportation, Flintshire County Council. This e-mail informs that car parking charges in Flintshire's off-street car parks will be reintroduced on 1st October 2021.

124. MATCH FUNDING PROPOSAL FOR PLAY AREA TO THE REAR OF BRO ALUN, PONTBLYDDYN

Members had been circulated with a copy of e-mail correspondence received from Richard Roberts, Play Design Officer, Aura Leisure & Libraries. The proposal is for a new Slide Multi-play structure which has additional play elements such as climbing net, climbing panels, a small shop counter for role play and a viewing deck with roof. This play item would improve the play value of the play area with the variety of play features on one unit.

The supply only cost for this play item is £5,481.58, and with a total match funding budget of £6,000, the cost of installing and safety surfacing this item would be in the region of £2,500.00. The total required being £8,000.00. For that reason, a request is being made for this Community council to consider adding an additional £1,000 to the original £3,000 match funding to implement this play item at Pontblyddyn. The existing old slide would be removed and replaced with this new Play item. Additionally, a much needed Bench Seat would be installed at the play area for parents and carers to supervise their children, this cost would be met by Flintshire County Council.

It was proposed by Councillor T. Hughes and seconded by Councillor R. Williams that the match funding amount from this Community Council be increased from £3,000 to £4,000. All Councillors were in agreement.

125. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- a) Phoenix Park, Leeswood – fencing/gates – Councillor R. Hughes reported that areas of fencing that were rotted or missing had been replaced on Phoenix Park. Two self-closing gates were needed, one at the Bethel Chapel entrance and one to the rear of the Community Centre. The whole area would be closed off and safe for dogs.
- b) Skate Park, Phoenix Park - Councillor R. Hughes informed that smashed glass and bottles had been found on the Skate Park. He advised that they were looking to put cameras up in this area to keep it safe for the children.
- c) Grit Box, County Road, Leeswood – Councillor R. Hughes advised that he had been around the Community with Mr Ian Bushell of Flintshire County Council to look for sites needing grit boxes. One is to be located on County Road and Flintshire County Council will put another two in other areas where they are needed at their cost. The Community Council can have a further two grit boxes sited at a cost to this Council.

126. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Community Poppies – the poppies had been put up through the Community from the Cenotaph on Bell’s Corner to the Prince of Wales. Councillors R. Hughes and T. Hughes were thanked for doing this work. The Clerk is to order a further 100 of these in the new year as some of them were showing signs of wear and tear.
- b) Remembrance Sunday – Councillor R. Hughes advised that the Remembrance Sunday will be starting at Christ Church, Pontblyddyn at 10.00am this year. The bus will be leaving the Community Centre at 9.30am. It is the intention that everyone will be able to assemble at the Cenotaph before 11am in preparation for the two minutes silence.
- c) Council Quorate – it was proposed by Councillor R. Hughes and seconded by Councillor R. Williams that the Council Quorate should be half of the number of members plus one. All Councillors were in agreement.

127. AGENDA ITEMS AWAITING COMPLETION/FURTHER INFORMATION

- a) Environmental act 2016 – Community & Town Councils duty under section 6
This item remains on the Agenda as per Minute 127 of the October 2019 meeting. The Clerk advised that she has not received any further information.
- b) NHS, Social Care & Frontline Workers Community Council Event – this item is included as per Minute 36 of the March 2021 meeting.

128. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Payee	Detail	Net	VAT	Total
Miss M Reynolds	Salary – September 2021	£673.52	£0.00	£673.52
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Miss M Reynolds	New speaker for Community use	£89.99	£0.00	£89.99
Aled Davies Agricultural	Cemetery maintenance – September 2021	£528.00	£105.60	£633.60
Cllr. J.E. Saul	New festive lights	£866.63	£173.33	£1,039.96
HMRC	PAYE/NI Q1 2021/2022	£430.20	£0.00	£430.20
HMRC	PAYE/NI Q2 2021/2022	£430.20	£0.00	£430.20
Scottish Power	Street lighting – energy	£353.28	£17.66	£370.94
Flintshire County Council	Street lighting – maintenance (monthly inspections April to June 2021 – 44 columns)	£274.98	£0.00	£274.98
Flintshire County Council	Street lighting – maintenance (monthly inspections July to September 2021 – 44 columns)	£274.98	£0.00	£274.98
KTL Contracting Ltd	Traffic control – Festive Lights 2020	£285.00	£57.00	£342.00
KTL Contracting Ltd	Traffic control – Festive Lights 2021	£285.00	£57.00	£342.00
Royal British Legion	Wreaths – Remembrance Sunday	£37.00	£0.00	£37.00
	Totals: -	£5,202.30	£410.59	£5,612.89

129. INCOME RECEIVED

There was no income received.

130. BANK BALANCES

As at 29th September 2021 - deposit account - £94,088.09 and current account - £20,947.77.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.10pm.