

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



**MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 8th MARCH 2022**

LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNED COEDLLAI A PONTBLYDDYN

THE MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 8th MARCH 2022.

PRESENT

Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman (in the Chair),
Councillor L.C. Richardson, Vice-Chairman,
Councillors J. Atkinson, J. Caruana, D. Foster, R. Hughes, T. Hughes, J.E. Saul and R. Williams.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor L.T. Coleman.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

195. MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 8th February 2022 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor J. Caruana and seconded by Councillor J. Atkinson that these be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

196. POLICE LIAISON

The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood welcomed PCSO Helen Holden to the meeting. PCSO Holden informed that she worked out of Mold Police Station along with two other PCSOs and two PCs. The area covered was Saltney, Saltney Ferry, Broughton, Kinnerton, Penyffordd, Hope, Caergwrle, Abermorddu, Ffrith, Llanfynydd, Treuddyn, Coed Talon, Pontybodkin, Leeswood and Pontblyddyn. PCSO Holden has been a PCSO in this area for a year. It has been a difficult two years due to the pandemic which has prevented face to face communication with Community Councils. The editor of the Leeswood and District Newsletter has the contact details for the PCSOs which will be included in the next edition. PCSO Holden informed that contact details would also be put on the Community notice boards. Cuppa with a Copper was an event organised for 24th March 2022.

A poster competition has been organised with the children of Ysgol Derwenfa in an attempt to foster a good relationship between the School and the PCSOs. This poster is to encourage motorists to drive at the speed limit, the winning entry will be put up in

the village. Go Safe have been in attendance on County Road, Leeswood. There is a lack of signage on County Road to indicate that this has a 30mph speed limit, although that it is a residential area should be sufficient notice. Issues have been noted relating to the parking congestion in the Community, but it is difficult to get a Traffic Officer out.

Reference was made to an issue with dogs being out loose on Bronallt, Leeswood. PCSO Holden advised that the Police could only do something about this problem if there was an offence associated with the dogs being loose, otherwise it was a matter for the Flintshire County Council Dog Wardens.

It was known that there was ongoing anti-social behaviour taking place in the area of the Pensioners' Bungalows, Leeswood. Bottles and glass had been smashed in the area, also throwing eggs at bungalows and slashing tyres. Cameras had been put in place in the area by Flintshire County Council for a 28-day period in the hope of catching those involved with the anti-social behaviour. PCSO Holden informed that she was not aware about the cameras being in place. This area is on the PCSO patrol plan and has been identified as a 'hot spot'. Some youths have been approached about this problem and PCSO Holden stated that if they live in social housing a report will be made to tenant enforcement.

Councillors commented that it was difficult to contact the Police via the 101 service. A number of Councillors had tried to contact the Police on behalf of residents, but it was very difficult when you were unable to get through. PCSO Holden advised that the Police could only take complaints from the victim and not via a third party ringing up on their behalf. Councillor J.E. Saul made observation that the crime map on the Police website was out of date, what was the point of this if it was not updated on a regular basis. PCSO Holden agreed that this is something that needs doing.

PCSO Holden informed that she would attend Community Council meetings when she was available. The Clerk was to provide her with a list of meeting dates. Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman, thanked PCSO Holden for attending the meeting.

197. CEMETERY

Councillor R. Hughes reported that he and the Clerk had met with Mr Aled Davies and a member of his team to discuss the new access into the Cemetery extension and subsequent pathways. Mr Aled Davies is to provide the Clerk with a costing of putting an extension of the roadway and a turning circle from the existing Cemetery into the new section and the pathways to extend from the roadway. The Clerk explained that she had requested a price for just the extension of roadway and turning circle and a price for the whole job. Council could then decide on what work would be carried out depending on the finances that were available. Councillor R. Hughes advised that Mr Aled Davies and his team would be digging some trial holes to see if the drain put in

along the top of the new section was sufficient. Councillor J.E. Saul pointed out that the information from trial holes was not always satisfactory as it depended on the weather conditions.

198. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Application – 063616

Proposed 3/4 bedroom dwelling on land adjacent to Queens Farm
Queens Farm, Pontblyddyn, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 4HG.

All Councillors agreed that there were no observations in regard to this Planning Application.

199. LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman, reported that the Brownies, Rainbows and Guides have started back face to face meetings since Tuesday 18th January 2022. The Ladies Guild are now going to meet once a month and the Senior Citizens may be returning every six weeks. Although it is not as busy as previously, it is closer to normal service since the start of the pandemic. Music Nights are continuing to be held on the last Friday of the month, the next one will be on Friday 25th March 2022. The Community Centre is also open with bar for the Welsh matches in the Six Nations Rugby.

200. HANSON HEIDELBERG CEMENT

Councillor J. Caruana reported that with reference to the new air monitor which has been installed by Hanson Cement, he had been in contact with Hanson Cement on a regular basis. The monitor transmits the data electronically and it did transmit some data successfully. However, there has been occasions where the transmitter did not function properly. The suppliers have been contacted and they are looking into the issue. Councillor Caruana will keep this Council informed with any developments.

201. DEFIBRILLATOR – LEESWOOD VILLAGE

The Clerk advised that she had ordered a defibrillator and cabinet with Mr Tomos Hughes of the Welsh Ambulance Service. This has now been paid for and confirmation of delivery was being awaited.

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

Mr Aled Davies had provided a quote of £1,230 + VAT for siting the bench on the verge outside Ysgol Derwenfa and associated works. Councillor R. Hughes advised that he had asked Mr Davies for an amended quote as he believed that it would be better if the bench was fixed to concrete rather than tarmac. Mr Richard Roberts of Aura Libraries and Leisure was also going to provide a quote for putting the bench in place.

203. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

A Zoom meeting was held with Ms Jessica Welstead on 1st March 2022. The following items were discussed: -

a) Proposals for Traffic Regulation Orders within Leeswood

Money is available from the Welsh Government to improve bus service times. Some of this is available to make the route Wrexham-Mold better. TROs have been suggested outside the Doctor's Surgery on Queen Street and outside the Co-Op on Queen Street. It was believed that by the Doctor's Surgery, the parking was viewed as dangerous and impeded bus journey time saving measures. Double yellow lines outside the Co-Op were viewed by this Council as excessive as the parking there acted as a speed restriction. The double yellow lines still to be put on Bell's Corner by the Cenotaph was discussed, Ms J. Welstead to speak with the Flintshire County Council TRO officers, Joanne Barrie and Nick Williams regarding this. Any TROs would be put out to public consultation but there had to be a valid objection for them not to go ahead. It was agreed that a site meeting be arranged with Flintshire County Council to look at these areas.

b) Pontblyddyn Crossroads and Village

It had been some time since members of this Council had met with Mr Lee Shone of Flintshire County Council about the issues regarding speeding in Pontblyddyn. Nothing had come from this meeting. Discussion followed over the benefit of average speed cameras or staggered traffic lights. Ms J. Welstead suggested appointing consultants who would appraise the situation to see what options are available. There is Welsh Government money available in the form of road safety grants.

c) Visibility issues junction of Constitution Hill, Leeswood

There is a substantial car park located at the Motorbike Café but there was still an issue with vehicles parking on the road and impeding the visibility of those turning out of the Constitution Hill onto the Corwen Road. It was agreed that this issue would benefit from a site meeting.

d) Mandatory 20mph speed limit outside Ysgol Derwenfa, Leeswood

By March 2023, advisory 20mph signs will be picked up and made mandatory. Query was raised as to whether the 20mph speed limit could be extended throughout the village of Leeswood. Main arterial routes would not have speed reduced to 20mph.

Councillors expressed disappointment that Ms J. Welstead had not been in touch as she had promised to e-mail the Clerk with a progress report by 8th March 2022. It was agreed by all Members that the Clerk e-mail Ms Welstead asking her for an update.

204. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

a) Treebilee – suggestions for areas in the Community to plant trees are as follows: -
Near the bench on Pontblyddyn Crossroads,

Grassed verge on Dingle Road,
Leeswood,

Grassed area by the Notice Board outside Ysgol Derwenfa, Leeswood,

Cenotaph on Bell's Corner, Leeswood and

Grassed verge by Haydock Close, Leeswood where Councillors thought there could be room for two.

Councillor R. Hughes advised that he would speak to the Tree Officer at Flintshire County Council about putting trees in the areas suggested.

b) Queen's Platinum Jubilee Big Lunch 2022 – the Clerk informed that this was in the process of being organised.

c) Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 gifts for children in the Community of Primary School age – the Clerk advised that she and Councillor L.T. Coleman had been looking for suitable gifts for the children to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This had been unsuccessful and the gifts available were felt to be of a poor choice considering what they were produced to celebrate. All Councillors agreed that it may be an idea for this Council to fund a party for the children in the Community of Primary School age. Councillor R. Hughes was to approach Mr A. Jones, Headteacher, Ysgol Derwenfa about this.

205. MILLENNIUM CLOCK – SMITH OF DERBY

The Clerk will report that the work on the Clock and fitting of new LED bulbs had taken place on 2nd March 2022.

206. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS MAY 2022

Members had been circulated with a copy of e-mail correspondence from Lynn Phillips, Team Leader, Democratic Services, Flintshire County Council. Also enclosed was the Election timetable and guidance on the Community Council elections. The Clerk advised that the election packs were not yet ready and as soon as they had been obtained, each Councillor would receive one.

207. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT ASSESSMENT OF WELLBEING IN FLINTSHIRE

Members had been circulated with a copy of e-mail correspondence from Joanne Pierce, Executive Manager, Flintshire County Council, advising that the consultation on the draft Assessment of Wellbeing in Flintshire will be taking place from 21st February to 20th March 2022. Also enclosed was a copy of the draft Assessment of Wellbeing in Flintshire. All Councillors agreed that this they would provide comments as individuals.

208. COUNCILLOR R. HUGHES - COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

a) Phoenix Park, Leeswood – fencing/gates – Councillor R. Hughes reported that the new gates on Phoenix Park had now been installed. Fencing has also now been

replaced to make the dog walking area secure. Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman, pointed out that where the old fence was still in place there were sufficient gap underneath that would allow a small dog to get through. Councillor R. Hughes advised that this would be looked into.

b) Pontybodkin Hill – water running down Hill – Councillor R. Hughes informed that an Officer of Flintshire County Council would be attending that area the following day in order to investigate the problem.

209. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) DEC Ukraine Appeal – Councillor J. Atkinson expressed a wish to do something to help the Ukrainian refugees. Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman pointed out that the official fund was the DEC Ukraine appeal. As the Councillors did not take the remuneration set aside in the Precept for them, they expressed a wish for the balance remaining following the purchase of Defibrillator and Cabinet to be donated to the DEC Ukraine Appeal. The Clerk advised that there was approximately £500 available. It was proposed by Councillor J. Atkinson and seconded by Councillor L.C. Richardson that a sum of £500 be given to this Appeal. All Councillors were in agreement.

b) Junction Queen Street/County Road, Leeswood – parking on pavement by bench – it was brought to the Council's attention that vehicles were parking on the pavement by the Bench located on the junction of Queen Street and County Road. All Councillors agreed that this was illegal parking, and the matter should be investigated.

c) Age Friendly Communities Open Day/Evening – Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman, reported that Mrs Helen Jones, Flintshire County Council and the Age Friendly Communities Team wished to hold either an Open Day or Open Evening where they can meet with people from the Citizens Advice Bureau, Warm Wales, Well Fed and the Flintshire County Council Benefits Team. The Clerk was to e-mail Mrs Jones and inform her that the Community Council would be happy to sponsor the evening.

210. 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.

211. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Payee	Detail	Net	VAT	Total
Miss M Reynolds	Salary – February 2022	£776.08	£0.00	£776.08
Miss M Reynolds	Zoom subscription 2022	£143.88	£0.00	£143.88
Aled Davies Agricultural	Cemetery maintenance – February 2022	£264.00	£52.80	£316.80
Miss M Reynolds	DEC Ukraine Appeal	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00
Flintshire County Council	Street lighting maintenance	£197.50	£0.00	£197.50
HMRC	PAYE Q3	£434.41	£0.00	£434.41
	<u>Totals: -</u>	<u>£2,315.87</u>	<u>£52.80</u>	<u>£2,368.67</u>

212. INCOME RECEIVED

There was no income received.

213. BANK BALANCES

As at 29th December 2021 - deposit account - £94,090.44 and current account - £10,255.24.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.20pm.