



CYNGOR CYMUNED CHWITFFORDD / WHITFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of The Meeting of Whitford Community Council

Held Virtually by Video and Telephone Conference,

On Thursday the 7th April, 2022, at 7.00pm

1(A). 63/22

PRESENT

Councillor Richard L. Dolphin (Chairman)
Councillor William Glynn (Vice Chair)
Councillor Timothy A. Barks
Councillor Chris Dolphin (Community & County)
Councillor Caradoc Wyn Jones
Councillor Matthew J. Marshall
Councillor Gareth W. Sharp
Councillor Paul Urquhart
Councillor Miss. Emma Warbrick
Councillor Joseph W. Williams

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

1(B). 64/22

APOLOGIES

Councillor Mrs. Sharon E. James

2. 65/22

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

- Complaint received from resident in relation to overhanging brambles / roots in the area of Carmel Road, Carmel. The Clerk advised that the concern had been forwarded to the Street Scene Officer together with the County Tree Inspector for their observations.

The Street Scene Officer had advised the Clerk; that the concern was raised by a property owner last year whereby a site visit was made. The brambles were cutback. It was noted that a wooden post may have moved and if so requires securing. The Tree Inspector has been asked for his views as to the use of an appropriate weedkiller to eradicate the brambles, which will be carried out in due course. The resident has been advised of the above.

3. 66/22

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest declared.

4. 67/22

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 3RD MARCH 2022

The Minutes were proposed as correct by Councillor William Glynn and seconded by Councillor Matthew Marshall and formally agreed by the Members present.

5. 68/22

PROGRESS REPORT ON MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) **Minute no: 5. 51/22 (2) (page 2)** – in relation to the lower field adjacent to Ysgol Bro Carmel. The Clerk read out a letter to Members that had been received from the Chair of Ysgol Bro Carmel School Governors. The letter firstly provided details in relation to the funding for signage at the School, which totalled approximately £172.00 plus VAT (includes installation).

The letter posed three questions to the Community Council in relation to the usage of the lower field, should the School agree to either a Community Asset Transfer or Transfer of Control Agreement.

Members agreed the following:

- (i) Confirmed the Council would fund the signage in total.
- (ii) Provided the following response to the three questions:
- The Council wish the area to be utilised as an ‘Open space for community use’. The Council would consider the installation of activity equipment.
 - The security of the school would be upmost, whereby the Council would ensure adequate arrangements are made.
 - The Community Council would provide the necessary security, at no cost to the school.
- (2) **Minute no: 5. 51/22 (4) (page 2)** – in relation to an abandoned car in Carmel. It was reported that the car had been removed, but was back in situ.
- (3) **Minute no: 5. 51/22 (5) (page 2)** – in relation to the increase in street lighting energy charge by Scottish Power. The Clerk recollected Members to an exchange of e-mails and in particular, an Excel spreadsheet which provided the current and increased supply cost from Scottish Power, together with supply costings from other suppliers - including the UK Government Procurement Department. Two national energy supply Companies advised that they were not providing quotations due to the current unstable energy market. The Clerk also referred to other information contained within the spreadsheet, in relation to lengths of contracts.

Members agreed the following: Due to the current electricity energy market conditions, it would be unwise to enter into a long-term contract. The Council will further review the situation in July 2022.

- (4) **Minute no: 5. 51/22 (6) (page 2)** – in relation to applying for planning and conservation permission for change of use for the Red K6 Telephone Box on Monastery Road in

Pantasaph. The Clerk advised, that the two planning applications had been validated by County Planning and were currently listed for consultation.

- (5) **Minute no: 6(B). 53/22 (page 3)** – in relation to a request from the Flint and Holywell Rotary Club, to plant a tree in Lloc. The Clerk advised that the Rotary Club had planted the tree.

6(A). 69/22

CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) The Clerk advised, that the following criminal offences had been reported to the North Wales Police, that had occurred within the Whitford Community Council area:

Carmel - 10 x Violence / 4 x Anti social behaviour / 1 x Theft

Gorsedd - 2 x Violence / 1 x Criminal damage

Lloc - No crimes reported

Pantasaph - No crimes reported

Whitford - 1 x Violence

- (2) Flintshire County Council (Chief Officer – Governance): Notification of Code of Conduct training for Councillors, to be held virtually on the following dates: Tuesday 24th May; Monday 30th May; Tuesday 14th June – held between 6.00pm and 8.00pm. Under Section 67 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2011 (Community Council Training Plans) the training should be regarded as compulsory, whether or not any Councillor has attended training previously.

- (3) One Voice Wales: Membership request received for 2022 / 2023, at a cost of £372.00.

Members agreed the following: Not to become a member of One Voice Wales

The following correspondence was forwarded by e-mail to Members:

- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Ending physical punishment in Wales (Welsh Government publication)
- ❖ Benthgyl Cymru: Wales' Library of Things
- ❖ Holywell Leisure Centre: Information from Dr. Mark Rowlands (Trustee)
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Car parking charges payable by phone

6(B). 70/22

CLERK'S REPORT

- (a) The Clerk recollects to Members an invitation received from Police Inspector Stephen Roberts (Flintshire North), for one Councillor to attend a Virtual Police Forum meeting on the 29th March. It had been agreed by e-mail in-between meetings that Councillor Paul Urquhart would attend to represent this Council.

The Clerk advised that the day prior to the above meeting date, the Inspector had e-mailed to cancel, due to the lack of interest, with only three Councils confirming attendance. Another meeting will be arranged during the summer period.

- (b) The Clerk advised that the National Association of Local Councils had agreed the 2021 salary increase for Clerk's in early March 2022. The increase takes effect from the 1st April 2021. Members were shown virtually the agreement documents, including the Clerk's current salary scale. The Clerk further advised, that the 12 months increase back payment following deduction of PAYE was reflected in the accounts section of these minutes. To ensure that this amount was paid during this financial year, the payment to the Clerk and HMRC had been authorised by the Chair and Vice Chair of Council.

The Clerk sought that the salary standing order was amended to show the monthly increase.

Members agreed the following: (1) Confirmed the National Association of Local Councils directive (2) Confirmed the decision by the Chair and Vice Chair to ensure payments were made before the end of this financial year (3) The Clerk's salary standing order be amended accordingly, commencing from April with the first increase on the 1st May 2022.

- (c) **The Clerk brought to the attention of Members the following information received from County & Community Councillor Chris Dolphin:**
 - (i) Carriageway resurfacing programme: Due to utility works the resurfacing of the road named Lon Y Waen, Gorsedd, will now commence on Tuesday 15th March (for two days weather permitting).
 - (ii) Carmel Village Hall Car Park: The Hall car park will be closed for approximately three weeks from the 28th March, to facilitate a new stone wall to be built. Alternative parking has been arranged at the nearby Welsh Chapel. Members were shown photographs of the previous wall and work in progress on new wall.

6(C). 71/22

TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS FOR 2021 / 2022

The Clerk, as Financial Officer, had provided Members by e-mail prior to the meeting, with copies of the end of year Statement of Financial Accounts - for the year ending 2021 / 2022. The Clerk advised Members further, in relation to the budget analysis, together with the end of year balances, including a number of outstanding work orders that had not been completed to date, which total £3,321.44.

Members agreed the following: Approved the end of year accounts for the financial year 2021 / 2022. As the Council meeting was held by video conference, the Clerk to obtain the signature of the Chair of Council on the Statement of Accounts in due course.

6(D). 72/22

STREETSCENE SCHEDULE (FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

The Clerk advised in relation to the following concern(s) that had been reported to StreetScene, since the last Council meeting:

The only matter referred to Street Scene since the March Council meeting, is included in Minute number 2. 65/22 on page 1 above – in relation to concerns with brambles / roots at a property on Carmel Road, Carmel.

Update: The damaged Monastery Road sign at the junction with Babell Road, has been replaced.

Members brought the following concerns to the attention of the meeting:

- (i) Councillor William Glynn advised, that one of the new speed activated signs on the Brynford side of Pantasaph Village did not appear to be working correctly.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to seek that the sign is re-calibrated.

- (ii) Councillor Chris Dolphin advised, that the replacement sign on Monastery Road - as (i) above, was not bilingual. Councillor Dolphin has sought that a bilingual sign is installed.

7. 73/22

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS (COMMITTEES, LIAISON & MEETINGS ATTENDED)

- (i) Councillor Emma Warbrick, as the Council's representative School Governor at Ysgol Bro Carmel advised Members, that whilst meetings had been held, she was unable to provide any feedback.

Members agreed the following: Were concerned that for the past three years or so, there had been no report available from Ysgol Bro Carmel. The Clerk to write to the Chair of Ysgol Bro Carmel School Governors, expressing concern with the lack of liaison between the School and Community Council. The Clerk to copy into the mail Senior Officers at Flintshire Education Department.

- (ii) Councillor Joe Williams, as the Council's representative School Governor at Ysgol Y Llan in Whitford, advised Members of his attendance at a recent meeting. Councillor Williams provided feedback on a number of non-confidential matters, including the further delay with the building of additional classroom accommodation.

8(A). 74/22

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning application had been received:

- Application number: 064118 - for the operation of a dairy vending machine / farm shop and all associated works, at Mynydd Mostyn, Berthengam, Nr. Holywell.

Comment by Council:

Supports the application, in particular, taking into consideration the following policies: RE4 Small Scale Rural Enterprises and RE5 Small Scale Farm Diversification, as contained in the current Flintshire County Council Unitary Development Plan. However, the Community Council suggest, the highway access and egress risks are mitigated.

(The above application was sent to Members for consultation in-between meetings, due to statutory time limits for observations from County Planning).

8(B). 75/22

Members formally confirmed the above decision.

8(C). 7622

The following planning applications were considered by Members at the meeting:

- (a) Application number: 064210 – for overhead lines from Holywell Grid Station through Lloc to Point of Ayr, Talacre.

Comment by Council: Subject to compliance with relevant policies and planning guidance notes, then no objections raised.

- (b) Application number: 064264 – for listed building consent for the installation of a fire suppression system, at Plas Ucha Farm, Tre Mostyn.

Comment by Council: Subject to compliance with relevant policies and planning guidance notes, then no objections raised.

Following two applications to be noted:

- (c) Application number: 064262 – for change of use from BT payphone box to house a defibrillator unit, at phone box on Monastery Road, Pantasaph.

- (d) 064156 – for change of use in a Conservation Area from BT payphone box to house a defibrillator unit, at phone box on Monastery Road, Pantasaph.

8(D). 77/22

PLANNING DECISIONS

The following planning decisions have been received from Flintshire County Council:

- (i) Application number: 063639 – for amended application for construction of annex, at Glan Llyn, Lloc. Approved.
- (ii) Application number: 063761 – for listed building application for replacement of modern bathroom window with traditional side hung casement and replacement of broken roof light with similar. Refused.

9. 78/22

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cheque Number	Payee	Net £	Vat £	Total £
	<u>Payments – to be confirmed:</u>			
	Direct Debit: Scottish Power (February - Street Lighting Electricity Account - payment dated 18/03/2022	135.96	27.19	163.15
	Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for March) Payments dated 01/04/2022			
	H. M. Revenue & Customs. Clerk's PAYE & Council NI - Extra payment following national increase in salary	54.10		54.10

R. P. Parry (Clerk) Payment of back pay from April 2021 to March 2022 – following national award and deduction of PAYE	129.00	129.00
R. P. Parry (Clerk) Reimbursement of Flintshire County Council Planning fee for change of use of BT telephone box in Pantasaph (as per receipt)	230.00	230.00
Flintshire County Council (Vehicle activated signage in Carmel & Gorsedd) As previously agreed by Council	7,860.00	7,860.00
Flintshire County Council (Vehicle activated signage in Pantasaph) As previously agreed by Council	11,780.00	11,780.00
K. Fricker (Treetops Environmental) Clearance of undergrowth inside and outside BT Red phone box in Pantasaph. As previously agreed by Council	75.00	75.00
(Above invoices were authorised for payment by the Chair and Vice Chair of Council – as bank signatories)		
<u>Payment for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u>		
R. P. Parry – Reimbursement of purchase of 50 first class stamps (as per receipt)	47.50	47.50

10. 79/22

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	<u>Authorised to be paid by BACS:</u>	
	Five Villages Gardening Club (Application for annual financial assistance) (Section 19 - 3(a) LGA (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976)	£250.00
	Kids Cancer Charity (Swansea) (First application)	No grant

11. 80/22

Members agreed the payments of the above accounts and financial support as listed.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

SIGNED BY CHAIR OF COUNCIL:.....

DATE OF APPROVAL:.....