



CYNGOR CYMUNED CHWITFFORDD / WHITFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of The Meeting of Whitford Community Council

Held virtually on Thursday the 9th March, 2023, at 7.00pm

The meeting scheduled to be held hybrid in St. Paul's Church, Gorsedd, was cancelled due to snowfall

1(A). 50/23

PRESENT

Councillor Billy Glynn (Chair)
Councillor Richard Dolphin (Vice Chair)
Councillor Tim Barks
Councillor Matthew Foster
Councillor Sharon James
Councillor Caradoc W. Jones
Councillor Gareth Sharp
Councillor Paul Urquhart
Councillor Joseph Williams

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

1(B). 51/23

APOLOGIES

Councillor Matthew J. Marshall
Councillor Melanie Wallis
Councillor Emma Warbrick

1(C). 52/23

ABSENT

None

2. 53/23

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

No attendance at meeting by public, no questions, comments or representations received prior to meeting.

3. 54/23

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest declared.

4. 55/23

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 9TH FEBRUARY, 2023

The Minutes were proposed as correct by Councillor Caradoc Jones and seconded by Councillor Matthew Foster and formally agreed by the Members present.

5(A). 56/23

PROGRESS REPORT ON MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) **Minute no: 5. 36/23 (2) (page 2)** – in relation to a traffic speed survey on the A5026 Road near Carmel Cricket Club. The Clerk recollected Members to an e-mail sent which attached an Excel spreadsheet following a traffic speed survey completed in November 2022. The survey had been received from Flintshire County Council in late February 2023.

The Clerk provided statistical information from the survey which included the number of vehicles travelling both Eastbound and Westbound during each hour, together with the average speed and average 85th percentile speed, as follows:

Eastbound: 5 day off peak average speed 49.4 mph / 5 day off peak average 85th percentile 57.5mph

Westbound: 5 day off peak average speed 47.9 mph / 5 day off peak average 85th percentile 55.9mph

The Clerk advised that the speed limit on this section of road is 60mph, therefore, as the figures do not indicate excess vehicle speed, the County or the Police will not consider a reduction in speed limit.

Councillor Tim Barks expressed his concern that the monitoring tubes were placed during November – at a time of inclement weather, whereas the speed figures would have been higher had the survey been carried out during the summer months.

- (2) **Minute no: 5. 36/23 (3) (page 2)** – in relation to the installation of a defibrillator and other work in the red phone box in Pantasaph. The Clerk advised that the stickering information, installation and electrical connection of the actual defibrillator had not been completed. This was due to a family bereavement by the NHS organiser.
- (3) **Minute no: 6(C). 39/23 (page 4)** – in relation to the appointment of Councillor Joe Williams as this Council's School Governor Representative at Ysgol Y Llan Primary School in Whitford. The Headteacher had confirmed, that Councillor Williams' Term of Office commenced from the appointment in February 2023 for a four year period until February 2027.

Pending Matters:

The Clerk advised, that the following matters remain in the pending file:

- (i) Active Travel: Awaiting a decision from Welsh Government in relation to funding for the footpath continuation scheme in Gorsedd.

- (ii) Village name signs: As above. The cost of the proposed village name signs are included in the project.

5(B). 57/23

COMMUNITY AWARD (UPDATE)

The Clerk provided the following update:

- ❖ A Public Notice will be advertised in the next edition of the Five Villages Chronicle, which provides information to the Community Award and how the Policy and Nomination form can be obtained
- ❖ The Public Notice has been displayed on the Council's web site, together with a downloadable Policy and Nomination form
- ❖ Public Notices displayed on all Council notice boards: Carmel x 2 / Gorsedd / Lloc / Pantasaph / Whitford.
- ❖ Councillors were provided prior to the meeting with electronic copies of the Public Notice, Policy and Nomination form. The Clerk sought Members to distribute within their respective communities.

6(A). 58/23

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been received, that was required to be either advised to, or dealt with by the Members:

- (1) The Clerk read out a report received from North Wales Police, in relation to reported criminal offences within the Community:

Carmel - 1 x Theft / 1 x Violence

Gorsedd - 1 x Violence

Lloc - No crimes reported

Lloc (Services) – 1 x Public Order / 1 x Theft / 1 x Robbery

Pantasaph - 1 x Violence

Whitford - No crimes reported

- (1) Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. Annual Report for 2023. The Clerk recollect to Members the information forwarded to Members, whereby the report provided details in relation to allowances and reimbursement amounts allowed by Town & Community Councillors in Wales. The Clerk advised that the information will be again referred to in the April Council meeting. The requirement of a policy was noted.

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

- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Local Development Plan (Further adoption information)

- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Notification of a road closure on the 21st March – from Groesffordd Farm to Fron Calcot Junction (The road is routed through the village of Pantasaph)
- ❖ Information received from a private identity in relation to the Welsh Government’s 20mph default speed limit in Wales, due to commence on the 17th September, 2023.
- ❖ North Wales Community Health Council: Notice of face to face and online events, inviting patients, their carers and their families to talk about their experiences of waiting for operations.
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Letter from Gareth Owens (County Monitoring Officer) in relation to visits to Town & Community Councils by members of the Standards Committee.

6(B). 59/23

CLERK’S REPORT

- (1) Councillor Training: The Clerk recollected Members to the Code of Conduct training for Councillors, whereby a number of sessions had been arranged by Flintshire County Council. Councillor Joe Williams was co-opted at the last Council meeting and the County are not holding any further training sessions. The Clerk advised that One Voice Wales are holding Code of Conduct training at a cost of £55.00

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to arrange a training date with One Voice Wales for Councillor Joe Williams. Payment of the above fee was confirmed.

- (2) Following the financial assistance granted to the Carmel Village Hall agreed at last month’s meeting, County Councillor Chris Dolphin – as a Hall Trustee had written to the Council expressing the tanks from the Trustees. The correspondence also advised that the funds will be utilised towards the cleaning and treatment of interior high walls in the main room that show signs of condensation; thereafter re-decoration will be arranged. Since September 2014 in excess of £150,000 has been spent on modernisation, maintenance and improvements.
- (3) The Clerk recollected Members to last month’s Council meeting whereby Councillors were asked to identify any other areas suitable for bio-diversity projects to be forwarded to Flintshire County Council Biodiversity Officer. Councillor Melanie Wallis contacted the Clerk suggesting an area in Lloc – at the junction with Dyserth Road (opposite the garage) – where a large area of highway grassed may be suitable. This information has been provided to the County.
- (4) The Clerk advised in relation to a request from the Head Teacher at Ysgol Y Llan Primary School in Whitford, for permission to erect a sign on land leased to this Council adjacent to the school.

Members were provided with details of the signage dimensions together with a photograph of the proposed area of installation. The Clerk advised that he had requested a copy of the specification quotation and cost. The School would seek further quotations.

Members agreed the following: By majority (1) Agreed to the request to install a sign on land leased by this Council - in the area as shown in the photograph with the dimensions as provided (2)

This Council will provide £250.00 towards the cost of the sign; payable upon receipt by the Clerk receiving a copy of the invoice.

STREET LIGHTING

- Faulty street light reported in Whitford Road, Whitford – between the Church and St. Mary's Court. (Now repaired)

6(C). 60/23

TO DISCUSS: CHAIR OF COUNCIL REGALIA

The Chair of Council Councillor Billy Glynn recollected to Councillors, that it had been normal practice for the name and date for the Term of Office for the Chair of Council to be placed on one of the Council Regalia links. Due to the pandemic this has not occurred for the Term of Office years: 2020 / 2021 – 2021 / 2022 and 2022 / 2023. The Clerk had received a quotation from C M Scott (Jeweller) in Holywell, at a cost of £35.90 to engrave for the aforementioned years. This Jeweller has previously completed the engraving of the Chair of Council names and dates for many years.

Members agreed the following: Accepted the quotation.

6(D). 61/23

STREETSCENE SCHEDULE (FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

The Clerk advised in relation to the following concerns that had been reported to StreetScene, since the last Council meeting:

- (1) Flashing light on stop sign as you approach the crossroads when travelling from Babel
- (2) Day burner at the end of the one way street in Lloc
- (3) Light on the left hand side needs adjusting – one way street in Lloc. Both wide based posts are in need of replacement as they are quite rusty

The Clerk provided the following update from Mr. Nigel Seaburg (StreetScene) Officer
(update in italics)

- ❖ A5026 Road: Triangular sign post lighting is flashing near entrance to Saith Aelwyd, Carmel. *Listed to be inspected and repaired*
- ❖ A5026 Road: Excessive litter on roadside in area of Misty Waters, Lloc. *Listed for Team to action*
- ❖ A5151 Road: Excessive litter on roadside – between MacDonalds roundabout and roundabout with A5026. *Listed for Team to action*
- ❖ A5026 Road: Between roundabout and entrance to services; following a road traffic accident trees have been damaged; debris from the vehicle in grass verge. *No update*
- ❖ Whitford Road – travelling from Carmel; a number of deep potholes. *Pot holes on Whitford road are due inspection this week. Several were listed for repair previously and if not completed, will be included in new inspection.*

Members brought the following concerns to the meeting:

- (i) Digital Speed Camera: The camera in Gorsedd does not appear to be working. Could this be inspected
- (ii) Pot holes: A5026 Road in Lloc at the Crossroads on the garage side – opposite the former Rock Inn

The Clerk advised, that the above concerns would be brought to the attention of StreetScene.

7. 62/23

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS (COMMITTEES, LIAISON & MEETINGS ATTENDED)

- Councillor Joe Williams as this Council's School Governor Representative at Ysgol Y Llan, Whitford, advised, that the new build at the school due to commence in March had been delayed.

8(A). 63/23

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

- (1) Application number: LBC/000128/23 – for replacement of modern rooflight with conservation rooflight replacement of modern top hung timber bathroom window with timber casement window, at 2 Gelli Fawr, Whitford.

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

- (2) Application number: FUL/000144/23 – for change of use from existing annex to holiday let, at Glan Llyn, Tan Y Lloc Lane, Lloc.

Comment by Council: Objects to the application. The building should remain as an annex, as condition contained in a previous planning application.

- (3) Application number: FUL/000132/23 – for proposed extension to provide games room / ancillary accommodation, at 2 Ffordd Aelwyd, Carmel.

Comment by Council: Objects for the following reasons: (1) The size, scale and design of the proposed development is not in keeping with the original dwelling (2) Impact on the neighbouring properties.

8(B). 64/23

PLANNING DECISIONS

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

- (a) Application number: ADV/000724/22 – for Roundabout Sponsorship Signs - 3 No Signs to be positioned to the right of the traffic chevrons, at Roundabout No 25, Crossways South (A55), Adjacent to Dragons Rest Cafe, Caerwys. Consent.
- (b) Application number: FUL/000396/22 – for Minor internal alterations, window replacement and installation of an EV charger, at 3 Monastery Road, Pantasaph. Permits.

- (c) Application number: FUL/000039/22 – for Removal of condition 4 imposed on 01/0108 to allow barn previously occupied as annexe accommodation to be occupied as an independent dwelling, at The Barn, Fachallt Farm, Whitford. Permits.

9. 65/23

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cheque Number	Payee	Net £	Vat £	Total £
	<u>Payments made – to be confirmed:</u>			
	Direct Debit: Scottish Power (February - Street Lighting Electricity Account - payment dated 20/02/2023)	255.06	51.01	306.07
	Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for February) Payments dated 01/03/2023			
	Direct Debit: HSBC Bank (charges) Payment dated: 03/03/2023	5.00		5.00
	BACS: H. M. Revenue & Customs. Clerk's PAYE & Clerk & Council NI - January, February & March – payment dated: 06/03/2023	687.03		687.03
	<u>Payments for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u>			
	Flintshire Fabricators Ltd. Hydraulic closer repair to Red Phone Box in Pantasaph – as accepted quotation	450.00	90.00	540.00
	Deeco Lighting (Street light repair in Whitford)	180.00	36.00	216.00
	Caerwys Town Council 1/4 share of Photocopier hire fee (£204.00 a year - VAT paid by Caerwys)	51.00		51.00
	R. P. Parry (Clerk) Travelling expenses from March 2022 to March 2023 (as per detailed auditor schedule)	89.10		89.10
	Flintshire County Council (VAT on work arranged by Flintshire in relation to footpath upgrade in Gorsedd and installation of Vehicle Speed Activated signage in Carmel, Gorsedd and Pantasaph).		12,921.14	12,921.14
	Note: The Community Council were previously advised that VAT would be paid by Flintshire. The County audit has stated that the Community			

	Council should be invoiced. (The Clerk will include this amount in the annual VAT reclaim to HMRC next month – April)			
	Flintshire County Council (Payment towards upgrade of Whitford Children’s Play Area – as previously agreed in ring-fenced budget)	10,000.00		10,000.00

10. 66/23

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	No applications received	

11. 67/23

Members agreed the payments of the above accounts 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:.....