

# **CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN**

## **HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



### **Local Government and Elections**

### **(Wales) Act 2021 (Section 52)**

### **Annual Report**

### **Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2025**

### **The Council**

Community Councils were established under the Local Government Act 1972 and replaced the previous system of Parish Councils. There are over 730 Town & Community Councils in Wales, with over 8,000 Councillors.

The administrative area of Halkyn Community Council covers the following villages: Halkyn, Moel Y Crio, Pentre Halkyn, Rhes Y Cae, Rhosesmor, The Nant, The Wern and The Windmill.

The population of the area is 2,314 (January 2025 Register of Electors).

During the reporting year all Council meetings were held hybrid with the face to face venue being the Halkyn Parish Hall.

Council meetings are held on the third Monday of the month (no meetings held in August and December) and commence at 7.30pm. Non-scheduled meetings can be held in an emergency or possibly in relation to an urgent planning application – especially during the months of December and August. All meetings will be publicly advertised.

The agenda for the meetings are advertised locally including the Council's web site a few days prior to the meeting. Residents of the community and press are welcome to attend all meetings. Residents are also able to address the Council Members for a reasonable period of time at the commencement of the meeting on matters appertaining to the community.

Should any resident, or press member wish to connect to a meeting by audio, please advise the Clerk to the Council by providing at least three days notice prior to the meeting date.

### **Complaints**

During the reporting year there were no complaints made against the Council, to either the Flintshire Standards Committee or the Wales Public Services Ombudsman

### **Councillors**

During the reporting year there were thirteen members of the Halkyn Community Council, with Councillor Howard Morris as Chair of Council and Councillor Delyth Taylor as Vice Chair. Councillors' Ray Faulder-Jones and Dylan Roberts tendered their resignations for personal reasons. Following display of Public Notices there was no call for elections, with the County Returning Officer authorising the vacancies to be filled by co-option. Councillors' Jennifer Parry and David Case were co-opted.

Councillor attendances at meetings can be viewed in the minutes of meetings which are available on the Council web site. The following were Council Members during the 2024 / 2025 reporting period.

### **Councillor names and contact details**

<b><u>Halkyn Mountain Ward</u></b>	Councillor Delyth Taylor 01352 781630 *
Councillor David Case *	<b><u>Pentre Halkyn Ward</u></b>
07907 578577	Councillor Brian Coleclough 01352 780271
Councillor Howard Morris 07740 922190	Councillor Glyn B. Coleclough 01352 780271
Councillor David Palmer 01352 780634 *	Councillor Colin R. D'Arcy 01352 780630
Councillor Jennifer Parry *	Councillor Matthew Lister 07792 110354
07983 933956	Councillor Nicola Richardson 01352 780353 *
Councillor David G. Roberts 01352 781448	* denotes co-opted
Councillor Bob Robinson 01352 780775	
Councillor Wendy Sigsworth 01352 780394 *	

### **Freedom of Information Act**

During this reporting year no Freedom of Information requests were received.

### **Local Committees and Outside Bodies**

Council Members who serve on Local Committees and Outside Bodies during 2024/ 2025

<b>Name of Organisation</b>	<b>Councillor Representative</b>
Aberdo and Bryn Mawr Quarry Liaison	Councillor Howard Morris

Flintshire County Council – County Forum	Councillors' Colin D'Arcy / David Roberts
Halkyn Cemetery	Councillors' Brian Coleclough / Howard Morris / Wendy Sigsworth / Nicola Richardson /
Halkyn Parish Hall Trust	(All Council Members)
Halkyn Parish Hall Management Committee	Councillors' David Palmer / Nicola Richardson / Wendy Sigsworth
Hendre Quarry Liaison	Councillors' Howard Morris / Vacancy
Pant Quarry Liaison	Councillor Howard Morris
Pant y Pwll Dwr (Cemex) Quarry Liaison	Councillor Howard Morris
Pentre Halkyn Community Centre	Councillors' Brian Coleclough / B. Glyn Coleclough / Howard Morris
Planning Sub-Committee	(All Council Members)
Police Community Consultative Group	Councillors' Matthew Lister and / or Ray Faulder-Jones and / or Delyth Taylor
Rhosesmor Institute	Councillors' Bob Robinson / Wendy Sigsworth
Rhos Helyg School Governor	Councillor David Roberts

### **Contacting the Council**

Contact details for the Clerk and Financial Officer to Halkyn Community Council

R. Phillip Parry, Ty Cornel, 51, St. Michael's Drive, CAERWYS, Flintshire, CH7 5BS.	Tel: 01352 720547  E-mail: <a href="mailto:clerk@halkyn.org.uk">clerk@halkyn.org.uk</a>  Web site: <a href="http://www.halkyn.org.uk">www.halkyn.org.uk</a>
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### **Council's objectives - 2024 / 2025**

*(Update in italics)*

During the 2024 / 2025 financial year, apart from the general powers and lawfully required duties, the Community Council have agreed the additional following priorities:

- ❖ To continue to support and enhance the Community Council area for the benefit of the residents. *The Community Council continue their support to the community, with many examples listed below.*

- ❖ To further place funds in ear-marked reserves towards Council Cemetery - Enhancement Scheme - £10,000.00 (Funds to be saved in ear-marked reserves over a period of three to five years). *Whilst funds were initially ring-fenced none were utilised. The Council will place on hold this project for future discussion.*
- ❖ To continue to provide and repair street lighting to the community. *On-going.*
- ❖ The Community Council will continue to be proactive in reporting concerns to Flintshire Street Scene, such as pot holes, fly-tipping and other highway related concerns, including public footpaths. *On-going.*
- ❖ Training budget (Councillors & Clerk). *All Councillors completed a Code of Conduct refresher course. Councillors also completed other courses.*
- ❖ To continue to provide funding for:
  - Library Service at Halkyn Parish Hall. *Completed. The Community Council also provided financial assistance to the Halkyn Parish Hall for roof repairs and installation of new water heaters.*
  - Children's Summer Play Schemes in Rhosesmor. *Completed.*
  - Local Committees and Groups, including local and national charities who support the community. *Completed, including £1,000 to Halkyn Cricket Club and £1,400 to Halkyn Junior Football Club – both for capital purchases. All financial assistance recipients are recorded in the Council's minutes of meetings*
  - Further enhancement to Children's play areas (Match funding with Flintshire County Council), with an emphasis on accessible play equipment, including picnic tables. *The sum of £25,000 was spent in the Halkyn and Rhosesmor play area with the Community Council providing 50% of the cost at £12,500.00. The County Council were unable, at this time, to include accessible equipment*
  - Halkyn Mountain News. *The Community Council provided a donation of £2,000.00 towards the quarterly printing costs of the publication – to ensure that all households within the community were able to receive a free copy*
  - Rhes Y Cae Village Hall: *This Village Hall is the smallest Hall within the Community whereby the Community Council were pleased to purchase and donate to the Hall 70 new chairs*
  - Community Award: *The Council sought from residents nominations for a Community Award. Two worthy recipients received a framed certificate and crystal glassware.*

### **Council's objectives - 2025 / 2026**

During the 2025 / 2026 financial year, apart from the general powers and lawfully required duties, the Community Council have agreed the additional following priorities:

- ❖ To continue to support and enhance the Community Council area for the benefit of the residents.

- ❖ To continue to provide and repair street lighting to the community
- ❖ The Community Council will continue to be proactive in reporting concerns to Flintshire Street Scene, such as pot holes, fly-tipping, overgrown hedges, trees obstructing visibility on highways, together with other highway related concerns, including public footpaths
- ❖ Community Award: To seek nominations for a 2025 Community Award
- ❖ To continue to provide funding for:
  - Library Service at Halkyn Parish Hall
  - Children's Summer Play Scheme in Rhosesmor
  - Local Committees and Groups, including local and national charities who support the community
  - Community / Village Halls
  - Further enhancement including equipment within the Children's play area in Rhes Y Cae (Match funding with Flintshire County Council)
- ❖ Continue to work with Flintshire Bio-diversity Officers, including others, to enhance bio-diversity within the Community Council area
- ❖ Training budget (Councillors & Clerk)

(Funding for the above projects, if required, will be utilised from the annual precept and reserves)

## **Financial**

### **Asset Register**

The value of the Community Council's asset register totals £63,989.00. A copy of the register can be obtained from the Clerk to the Council.

### **Council budget**

The Halkyn Community Council precept for the financial year 2024 / 2025 was £50,000.00. This amount is precept on residential properties within the community, and equates to a figure of £36.95 per household on a Band D property. There were 1,353 Band D household properties within the Halkyn Community area – as at January 2024.

The Band D household precept for the Halkyn Community Council area, is made up as follows:

Flintshire County Council £1,658.25  
Police & Crime Commissioner £349.65  
Halkyn Community Council £36.95

The Community Council's precept for 2025 / 2026 was set at £53,000.00

### **Financial Assistance**

Each year, Halkyn Community Council considers requests for financial assistance to support the work of its local groups, organisations and charities. Grants are specifically made by the Council in the interest of its local area and its residents. The Council allocates grants for financial assistance from the annual precept, in accordance with Section 137 (Local Government Act 1972) and other National and Wales Government Acts

During the reporting year the Community Council granted a number of applications for financial assistance, which totalled: £3,635.00 under Section 137 and £5,250.00 under various Local Government Acts. Details of these grants are included in the Council's minutes of meetings

### **Members Allowance**

Payments (Allowances) to Members of Halkyn Community Council - 2024 / 2025

In accordance with Section 151 of the Local Government Measure 2011, Community and Town Councils must publish within their authority area the remuneration received by their Members by 30<sup>th</sup> September following the end of the year to which the payment relates. The information must also be sent to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPFW) by the same date.

Halkyn Community Council provided the previous years return prior to the required date to the (IRPFW). A copy of the information can be viewed on the Council's web site at: [www.halkyn.org.uk](http://www.halkyn.org.uk) (public notices and financial). The return for this reporting year will be published on the above web page in due course

### **Publication of audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024**

Regulation 15(5) of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended) requires that by 30 September 2025, Halkyn Community Council publish its accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 together with any certificate, opinion, or report issued, given or made by the Auditor General

The Community & Town Councils in Wales – Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2025, will be submitted to Wales Audit following confirmation at the May 2025 Council meeting. A copy of the Annual Return will thereafter be published on the Council's notice board and web site at: [www.halkyn.org.uk](http://www.halkyn.org.uk) (public notices and financial). Following audit, the certificate and other documents will be uploaded to the web page

### **Environmental (Wales Act) 2016 (S6)**

Under the above Act a Public Authority in Wales must prepare and publish a biodiversity plan. This Council's plan can be found at: [www.halkyn.org.uk](http://www.halkyn.org.uk) (public notices and financial).

### **Flintshire County Council**

In 2014 the Community Council agreed to adopt the following: A Shared Community – Charter between Flintshire County Council and Town & Community Councils in the County. Two Councillors and the Clerk to the Council represent this Council at the County Forum meetings, which are generally held twice a year, together with representatives from all 34 Town & Community Councils in Flintshire. The Flintshire County Council did not arrange meetings during this reporting year.

### **Planning Applications**

The Community Council is not a planning authority and as such does not make final decisions on planning applications; this is the responsibility of Flintshire County Council.

However, the Community Council is a statutory consultee and as such receives all planning applications relating to the community. The Community Council do make their respective comments and suggestions on all planning applications, including requesting site meetings.

Details of the planning applications that this Council made comment upon, can be found in the monthly meeting minutes – on the following web site: [www.halkyn.org.uk](http://www.halkyn.org.uk) (minutes of meetings).

### **Street Lighting**

The street lighting in the Halkyn Community Council area is administered jointly between the Community Council and Flintshire County Council. Whilst the majority of the street lights on the adopted housing estate roads are the responsibility of Flintshire County Council, the street lighting, generally sited on roadside wooden poles, are the responsibility of the Community Council.

To report a Community Council faulty street light, please contact the Clerk. Contact details for Flintshire County Council: 01352 701234, or e-mail the Street Scene Department on:

[streetscene@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:streetscene@flintshire.gov.uk) or by completing an on-line form at:

[www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Streetscene/Street-lighting.aspx](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Streetscene/Street-lighting.aspx)

### **Training plans**

Under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 Section 67 - all Town & Community Councils in Wales are required to produce a training plan for Councillors and Clerk. This Council's Training Plan can be found at: [www.halkyn.org.uk](http://www.halkyn.org.uk) (public notices and financial).

**This End of Year report was adopted by the Members of Halkyn Community Council,  
on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2025 - Minute number: 10(E). 106/25**