Item 8

Bank Balances and Accounts for Payment -	Janaury 2024	
Bank Balances	Current	£6,243.78
	Deposit	£204,219.16
	Play Area	£8,884.70
Payments Received		
28.12.23 FCC	Precept	£39,840.33

Bank Transfers

Unpresented Cheques/Payments

Payment Method	Рауее	Details	Amount
Bacs	Mr C Jones	Mileage and Expenses	£18.45
Bacs	Mrs S Hughes	Mileage and Expenses	£209.09
Bacs	Staffing Cost	Dec-23	£4,468.49
Bacs	Avow	Payroll Charges Oct - Dec	£73.14
Bacs	WoodsWork CIC	Nature Area Management	£340.00
	нѕвс	Monthly Charge	£5.00
		-	£5,114.17

PLAY AREA ACCOUNT Payment Method Payee Details Amount Bacs Flintshire Fabrications Ltd Repairs to the exercise equip & muga £360.00 HSBC Monthly Charge £5.00

Note:

Cherry Orchard Farm Ltd - invoice reissued and reduced from £240 to £164

Chairman of Council:

Vice Chairman of Council:

Clerk & RFO:

Date:

Payments Authorised by two Bank Signatories

Bank Signatory:

Bank Signatory:

Changing rooms – essential work update – Jan 2024

Since the December council meeting a lot of work has taken place to rectify the issues of concern.

- Spoke to The Football Team was received positively and they are happy that the council are taking appropriate action and also working to complete the facility
- The electrician who undertook all the electrical work has provided the Electrical Safety Certificate
- NW Fire & Rescue were extremely helpful, the requirements for facility are very achievable and ClIrs D Williams, Thompson and Mr Chris Jones have completed a Fire Risk Assessment
 - The required actions will be completed this week (which will be along the lines of smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and signage)
- An overall Risk Assessment has also now been completed by Cllrs D Williams, Sloan, Mr Chris Jones and the Clerk.
 - Again, the required immediate actions will be completed this week and remaining works will follow

Taking into consideration all of the above and once the required actions have been completed, the facility will re-open.

Item 9c



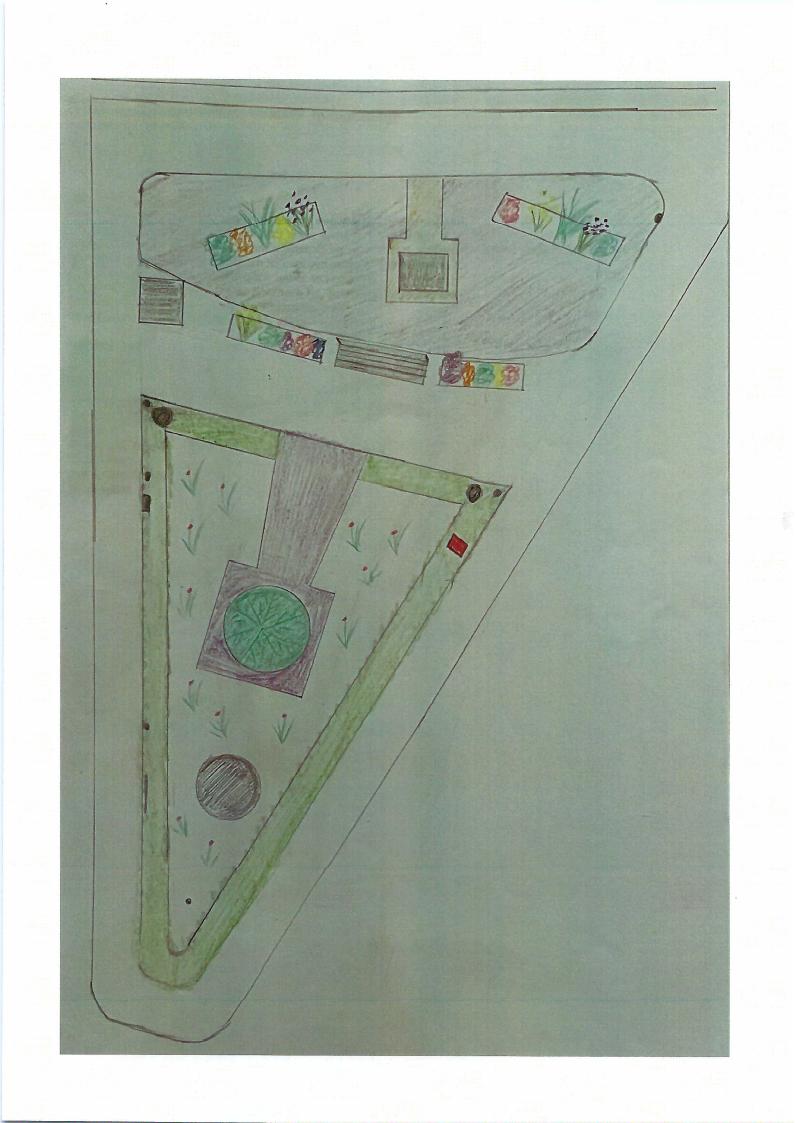
Proforma for Councillors to add items to the Agenda.

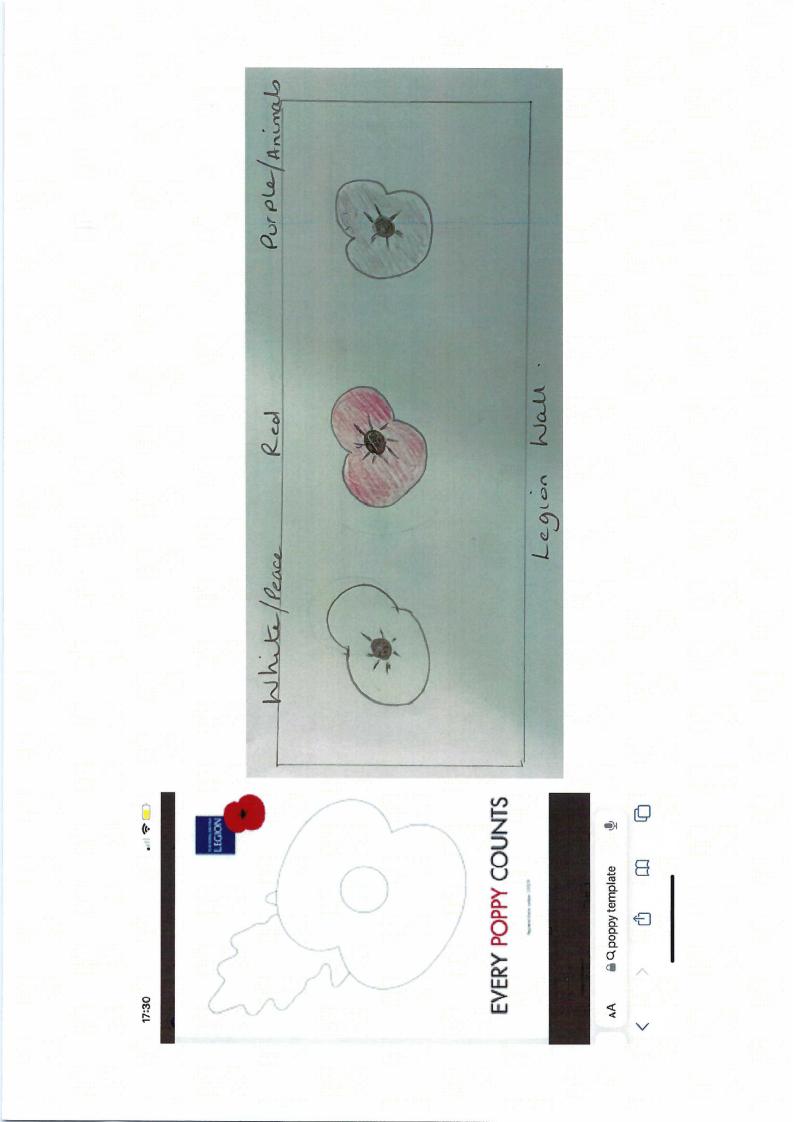
Name of Councillor	Lisa Overington
Title of Proposal	Plans for millennium garden by Mrs Carol Bewley (resident) supported and brought to council by Cllr Lisa Overington
Purpose and details of the Proposal	Detailed plans of a design drawn up By Carol. Costings will be brought to meeting by Carol. Photos attached.
Background to this request	After Council agreeing to look at reducing costs. Carol is very interested in gardening and looked at the area. There are a number of ideas she has put together to improve the area. Recycling materials that are already there to reduce cost.
Financial Implications	Reducing the projects budget from £27,000 to roughly less than £5000. Carol will bring costings to the meeting.
Environmental Implications	Majority of materials will be recycled. Only slate or stone chippings used on the ground. Meaning drainage to the site will not be effected.
Equality Implications	
Advantages of this proposal	This design. Incorporates a number of ideas others have suggested. No need to employ a landscaper as Carol is happy to carryout works with other volunteers. Improvements that will not impact the environment.
Disadvantages of this proposal	The removal of the 2 trees either side of the clock. But this is due to them growing taller and wider than the clock in the future.
Date submitted	20/12/23

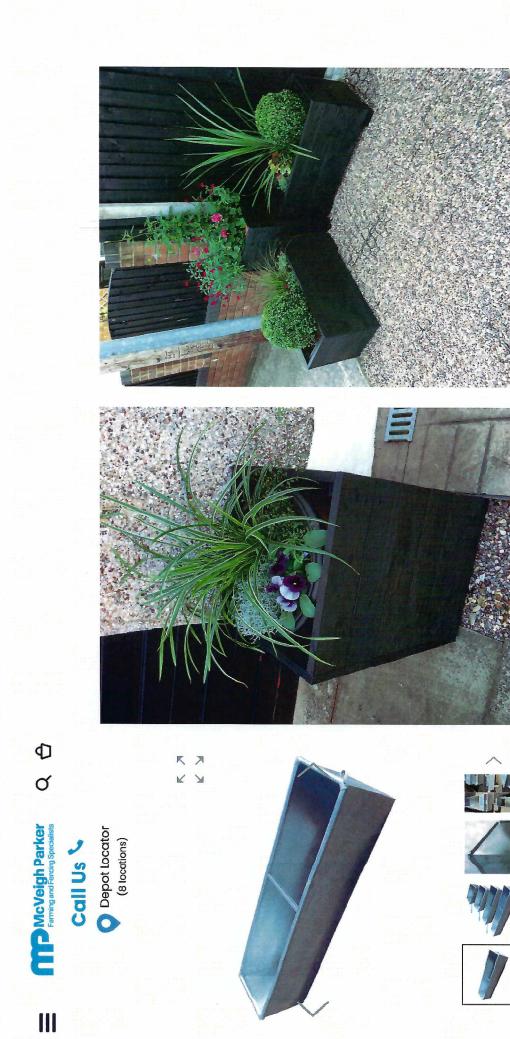
Please note that this proposal will be included with the Supporting Papers and will be made available to the Public

Clock Tower Garden Proposal: Carol Bewley

- 1. Remove some shrubs from slate garden around clock tower. Remove silver birch trees to a more suitable location as they will grow to be too large for their present location. Fill holes which have been left from removal of shrubs and birch trees. Weed through slate chippings and replenish as necessary.
- 2. Move the NHS Covid Snake Planters to the area around the clock tower (not shown on plan).
- 3. Install two 8ft galvanised metal planters sitting on breezeblocks for drainage and height as per drawing, including timber surrounds which should be raised off the ground on metal feet in order to avoid rotting and coated in a wood-preserve of chosen colour. The planters should be filled with stone-chippings at the bottom (for drainage), membrane, a layer of upturned grass sods (see item 5 below), and top-soil. These should then be populated with shrubs and herbaceous plants.
- 4. Remove the two stone benches as the sides are causing a trip-hazard, leaving only Merv's bench. Install a further two 8ft galvanised metal planters as described above. There will be space between the planter and the phone box for another bench in the future if required. Block paving will need to be repaired/patch-up, but this will be minimal given the size of the planters.
- 5. Ilex Crenata Hedging (aka Japanese Holly Hedging: looks like Box Hedging but without the disease which Box is prone to getting) to be installed around the boundary of the 'triangular' grass area. The grass sods recovered from planting this hedge should be used in the planters as described in item 3 above.
- 6. Create a new path, made of miniature slate chippings, from in front of Merv's bench to the centre of the grassed area, circumnavigating the existing Christmas Tree as shown on the drawing. The path should be edged with the stones recovered from removing the two benches (item 3 above). The path is suggested to allow the children to decorate the Christmas Tree without trampling on potentially wet and muddy grass.
- 7. The Christmas Tree should have its skirt raised slightly.
- 8. The grassed triangular area should be sown with meadow grass incorporating red poppies.
- 9. The Soldiers silhouette should be located on the grass halfway between the Christmas Tree and the southerly point of the garden, thereby being clearly visible to all passing vehicle and foot traffic.
- 10. The wall for the RBL carpark at the north end should be decorated with three poppies, white, red and purple for peace, remembrance, and the war animals respectively. These should be constructed using coloured broken tiles in a mosaic effect, and should be mounted on marine quality plyboard and using weather resistant grouting. Ideally these should be made by the local schools and youth organisations, thereby giving the youngsters of the village a sense of purpose (and less likelihood that they will be damaged, stolen or vandalised.
- 11. All paved areas to be fully jet-washed and all other areas given a good weeding.
- 12. The Clock Tower is to be given a good clean and repointing work where necessary.
- 13. Photos covering the above ideas are attached.









McVeigh Parker

HOW TO MAKE A WATER TROUGH PLANTER

Think a water trough is just for the delights of farm animals? Then think again. Here are just 5 reasons why a galvanised steel trough from McVeigh Parker makes the perfect garden planter!

1. Strong and Robust

Our steel troughs are made of tough galvanised steel, the perfect material to withstand both the weight of a fully planted trough and the rusting deterioration all to commonly are heavy to install they provide a strong support at a very seen with similar yet inferior planters

2. Contemporary Design

Rolled top edges and sheet steel galvanised structure, its strong lines will add a sleek and streamlined look to any garden, be it a balcony in Clapham or a cottage garden in Headcorn

3. The Look

Although very shiny when new, they will soon dull down with A water trough from McVeigh Parker features age and become a very soft grey look, alternately you can accelerate the process to give an authentic aged appeal earlier by using toilet cleaner and a wire brush (see various web sites on ageing galvanised steel for guidelines). Or alternatively why not add some distinctive effects with gloss paint to your design

4. The Ease

Why not add ready made concrete supports made to carry and suit our standard range of troughs. Although these convenient height for planting and weeding. Alternatively a cheaper option would be to put your planter on timber or breeze block supports.

5. Striking display with minimal effort

In less than 1 hour you will have created a focal point admired throughout the year with minimal upkeep and maximum effect

- > Heavy galvanised finish
- > Pre-drilled drain hole
- > Roll top soft edges



Scaled down clock tower proposals

Proposed additions:

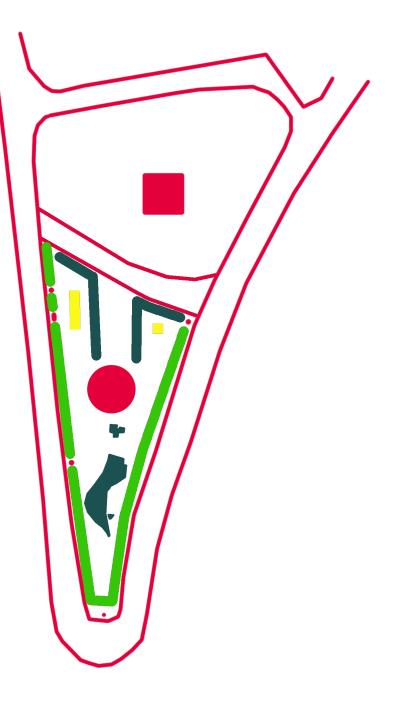
Low box hedge (green) installed on boundary of green area New floral borders (dark blue) dug Install two mountings - one (East) with names from silent soldier, one (West) with covid snake

Additional undertakings:

Professional clean of clock tower (pressure washing plus clock clean) Remove stone chippings from rockery area, add native wildflower meadow Removal of existing planters, silent soldier, clock tower heart, potentially phone kiosk depending on BT. Resite litter bins North of footpath to improve outlook from benches Repointing of benches / wall / clock tower as required Cleaning of "Broughton" sign at Southern tip, potentially replacement Removal of lowest branches from Christmas tree Weeding of paving at North of clock tower

Retentions:

Dog poo bin Stonework Benches All streetlights Telegraph Pole Signpost Christmas Tree Clocktower Hawarden Rd sign Most grass



From: Cllr Alasdair Ibbotson <contact@alasdairibbotson.wales>
Sent: 22 December 2023 15:57
To: Clerk <clerk@penyfforddcouncil.org>
Subject: Re: Millennium clock

Dear Sarah,

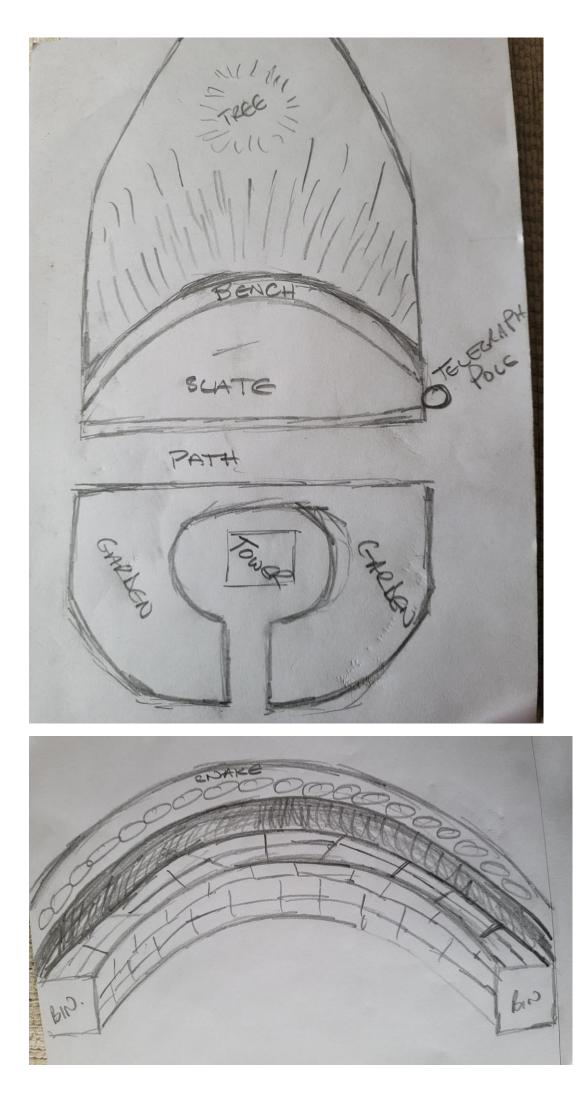
Further to our phone call, please find below a summary of items included in the hybrid option from me and Paul:

- New bench, as on Paul's drawing
- Soakaway (Paul's)
- Tree pruning (both)
- Clean clock tower (both)
- Repoint clock tower as required (both)
- Wildflower mix (Wildflowers inc on both, but this version would be as on Alasdair's)
- Floral borders to the South (Alasdair)
- New bins (Paul)

All the best,

Alasdair

Cllr Alasdair Ibbotson County Councillor for Penyffordd, Penymynydd & Dobshill 07907 879764 // <u>contact@alasdairibbotson.wales</u>



Item 11a

Penyffordd Community Council - Summary Accounts		
2023 - 24 Financial Year		

Income

	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Precept	119,521.00	119,521.00	0.00
Bank Interest	2,042.31	200.00	1,842.31
Refunds/Other	11,563.50	0.00	11,563.50
Grants/Funds(Play Area)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sponsor a Tree	385.00	0.00	385.00
VAT Refund	11,981.02	11,842.39	138.63
Total	145,492.83	131,563.39	13,929.44

Expenditure

	Actual	Agreed Spend	Balance
Parks & Open Spaces	13,615.70	113,719.00	100,103.30
General Admin etc	5,872.92	14,116.00	8,243.08
Office Costs	1,296.15	1,740.00	443.85
Staffing Costs (wages, hmrc, pension)	38,164.45	47,610.00	9,445.55
Street Lighting (inc Christmas Lights)	6,987.57	37,570.00	30,582.43
Highways & Footpaths	0.00	2,200.00	2,200.00
Grants & Donations	5,299.92	5,300.00	0.08
Investing in Youth	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Community Buildings	4,286.99	23,000.00	18,713.01
Community Improvements	8,644.98	2,000.00	-6,644.98
Provision of Balances	0.00	2,385.00	2,385.00
Total	84,168.68	252,640.00	168,471.32

Note: the above agreed spend includes all the reserved funds carried over (details on budget summary)

nt Summary	
Balance c/f as at 31 March 2023	158,023.49
(+)Income Receipts for 2023/24	145,492.83
(-)Total Expenditure for 2023/24	84,168.68
Gross Balance as at 31 Dec 2023	219,347.64
Current	£6,243.78
Deposit	£204,219.16
Millstone Play Area	£8,884.70
Reserved - Millstone Play Area Improvements	8,894.70
Reserved - Sponsor a Tree payments	385.00
Reserved - Skate Ramps (match funding)	20,000.00
Reserved - 2022/23 Street Light Upgrades	11,170.00
Reserved - Kays Group - Noticeboard	250.00
Net Balance as at 31 Dec 2023	178,262.9
VAT Costs for 2023/24 Financial Year	5,650.82

RESERVED - Skate Ramps/pamp £35,000 £000	Penyffordd Community Council	Budget Sum	mary 2023/	24		
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Footpaths £2,000.00 £0.00 £2,000.00 £2,000.00 Grants/Donations Image: Constraint of the state o		£200.00	£0.00	£0.00	£200.00	
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	Provision of balance	£2,385.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,385.00	
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	Financ	e Committee - Q	uartley Budget Review as at 31 Decem	ber 2023		
Current Ac	c Bal B/f			£6,243.78		
Date Cashed	Cheque No	Payee	Details	Amount	Uncleared Cheques	
					£0.00	Total uncleared
					£6,243.78	Bank Statement Balanc
			Balance Carried Forward	£6,243.78		
Deposit Ad	c Bal B/f			£204,219.16		
Date	Туре			Amount		
			Balance Carried Forward	Total £204,219.16	£204,219.16	Bank Statement Balanc
Play Area	Acc Bal B/f			£8,884.70		
Date	Туре		Details	Amount		
			Balance Carried Forward	Total £8,884.70	£8,884.70	Bank Statement Balanc
						Total Bank Balance In
			Total Available Balance of All Accounts	£219,347.64	£219,347.64	Uncleared Cheques

Account overview	Last Updated 02 Jan 2024 11:50 🧲 💿
Account	Balance ⑦
40-16-01 01285645 Charitable - Penyffo Play	gbp 8,884.70 >
40-16-01 43035867 Bmm Account - Peny Comm Counc	gbp 204,219.16 >
40-16-01 91029770 Charitable - Peny Comm Counc	gbp 6,243.78 ►

Penyffordd Community Council DRAFT Budget for 2024/25 - v2 - 02.01.2024

Item 12

	Budgeted Expenditure	Budgeted Expenditure	Budgeted Expenditure	Budgeted Expenditure	Expected Budget for	Proposed Budget for	
Details of Expenditure	for 2020/21	for 2021/22	for 2022/23	for 2023/24	2023/24	2024/25	Variance
Parks & Open Spaces							
Gardening/Grounds Maintenance	£1,000	£1,000	£500	£1,500	£0	£1,500	
Play Leadership	£2,200	£2,200	£2,200	£2,200	£2,127	£4,800	£2,0
Dobshill Rent	£5	£5	£5	£5	£5	£5	· ·
Bus Shelter Repairs	£250	£250	£100	£100	£0		
Playing Fields	£5,000	£5,000	£0	£0	£0	£0	
Bulbs/Shrubs	£400	£400	£500	£1,100	£735		£
	£400	£400	2500	£564		£1,200 £500	
RESERVED - Sponsor a Tree	0400	004 500	007.000		£677		
Seat/ Memorial Garden(clock)	£100	£21,500	£27,000	£27,000	£0		-£17,
Equipment - ground staff	£150	£150	£1,150	£1,150	£1,233	£1,500	£
Millstone Play Area	£5,000	£5,000	£0	£0	£360	£0	
CCTV	£300	£500	£550	£1,000	£1,050	£1,500	£
Enviromental Improvements	£4,000	£4,000	£1,000	£1,000	£100	£1,000	
Pump Track/Skate Ramps		£25,000	£0	£35,000	£0	£40,000	£5,
		£2,500	£8,100	£8,100	£5,074	£6,560	-£1,
Old School Site/West View Wildlife Garden							
Tree Maintenance				£2,000	£0	£2,000	
NEW - Dobshill Play Area Improve				£20,000	£0	£20,000	
NEW - Additional CCTV for Millstone				£3,000	£3,474	£0	-£3.
NEW - Nature Area pathway				£500	£51	£0	-£
NEW - Old School Site						£0	^
						20	
Staff, Office Costs & Admin							
Staffing Costs							
Wages, (inc Employee Pension) HMRC &	£22,500	£23,928	£34,637	£37,828	£40,460	£43,482	£5
NI							
Payroll	£350	£350	£330	£330	£407	£420	
Employer Pension	£4,500	£4,500	£5,600	£7,100	£7,579	£8,105	£1,
Clerks Expenses - Home Allow & Travel	£1,700	£1,750	£1,780	£2,352	£2,336	£2,500	£
Office Costs							
Postage	£50	£70	£80	£120	£120	£120	
Stationery	£300	£300	£300	£300	£280	£300	
Office Machinery	£200	£150	£200	£200	£80	£700	£
IT Services & DPO Services	£660	£690	£1,080	£1,120	£1,081	£1,150	
General Administration	2000	2000	21,000	2.,.20	2.,001	2.,.00	
Insurance	£1,800	£1,800	£1,900	£1,724	£1,968	£2,200	£
Civic Service	£250	£250	£1,300	£1,724	£0	£0	- Î
	£230 £600	£230 £600	£700	£825			-£
Audit Fee					£1,054	£570	
Chairmans Name Board	£150	£150	£150	£50	£0	£50	
Elections	£500	£4,000	£5,000	£500	£0	£500	
Clock Tower	£500	£500	£900	£500	£360	£500	
Annual Subscriptions	£550	£880	£900	£992	£1,056	£1,060	
Training	£1,500	£1,500	£2,500	£2,500	£1,250	£1,000	-£1
Website	£3,200	£500	£300	£250	£225	£250	
Members Allowance	£5,000	£5,000	£3,450	£3,450	£3,450	£3,450	
Newsletter/Annual Reports	£500	£500	£500	£1,000	£0	£1,000	
Community Awards	£400	£400	£0	£0	£0	£0	
Council Email Accounts	£1,000	£1,100	£1,100	£1,200	£1,356		£
Bank Charges			£120	£125	£125	£125	
Place Plan			£3,000	£2,500	£1,500	£500	-£2
Street Lighting & Defibs							
Electrical Supply	£600	£450	£250	£5,400	£530	£4,300	-£1
Electrical Testing/Inspections	£1,500	£500	£250	£250	£0		
Repairs & Maintenance	£10,000	£10,000	£12,750	£12,750	£12,750	£12,750	
Christmas Tree/ Lighting	£8,000	£8,000	£8,000	£8,000	£7,000	£15,000	£7
Reserves - Street light upgrades	20,000	20,000	20,000	£11,170	£11,170	£0	-£11
NEW - Defibs				211,170	211,170	£1,000	£1
Lichwove and Eastnaths							
Highways and Footpaths Salt Bins	£200	£200	£200	£200	£0	£400	£
Noticeboards	£250	£250	£0	£0	£0	£1,000	£1
Footpaths	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000	£450		-£1
Community							
Grants/Donations		a= - / -		A ·			
Grants	£4,000	£5,515	£6,000	£4,000	£4,000	£10,000	£6
CAB	£300	£300	£300	£300	£300	£300	
Investing in Youth	£5,000	£5,000	£3,000	£3,000	£0	£3,000	
Kings Coronation				£1,000	£1,000	£0	-£1
NEW - D-Day 80						£0	
Community Buildings							
Community Centre -Youth Club	£6,350	£15,000	£15,000	£15,000	£0	£15,000	
Community Centre - Youth Club Reserved	20,000	~10,000	2.10,000	~ 10,000	20	£7,000	£7
Commenter Comme - routir Olub Reactiveu	1	1	1			21,000	L 21
£7000 S106 money							

6.2 Community Changing Rooms		£5,000	£4,000	£4,000	£1,800	£4,000	£0
7.0 Community Improvements/Support	£7,500	£5,000	£1,000	£10,000	£9,257	£2,000	-£8,000
8.0 Provision of balance	£5,000	£5,000	£2,500	£2,385	£0	£2,385	£0
Total Expenditure	£127,965	£182,638	£164,882	£252,640	£131,829	£243,432	-£9,208
Balance as at 1 April 2023	£158,023						
Reserved - Millstone Play Area							
Improvements	-£8,930						
Reserved - Sponsor a Tree payments	-£564						
Reserved - Millstone Skate Ramps	-£40,000						
Reserved - Street lighting	-£11,012						
	£97,518						
Income 2023/2024	£		Expenditure 20	23/2024		£	
Balance 1 April 2023	£158,023		Probable expen	diture 2023/2024	1	£131,829	
Precept 2023/2024	£119,521						
Estimated interest 2023/2024	£2,712						
Refund of VAT	£11,842						
Sponsor a Tree	£385						
Other (defib, noticeboard, vat)	£1,702						
Skate Ramp Match Funding	£10,000						
Total income	£304,185		Total expenditu	ure		£131,829	
Estimated Balance as at 1 April 2024	£172,356						
Reserved - Millstone Play Area	-£8,869						
Reserved - Sponsor A Tree	-£385						
Reserved - Noticeboard	-£250						
	£162,852						

Recommended precept requirement for 2024/2025 (Based on estimates submitted)

Precept for 2023/2024	£119,521
Amount recommended to be met from precept 2024/25	£129,580
Less estimated VAT claim for 2023/24	£6,000
Less estimated available balance as at 1 April 2024	£162,852
Total revenue resource requirement	£298,432
Working balance for 2024/25	£55,000
Estimated expenditure for 2024/25	£243,432

The Tax Base for 2024/25 financial year of equivalent Band D Properties is: 2293.99 (higher than 2023/24 which was 2220.75)

Note: The annual charge for Band 'D' properties for 2024/25 would be as follows:

Examples of how the precept affects Band D properties

Based on the above figures

£129580 -:- 2293.99 (Council tax base for 2024/25) = £56.49 (£53.82 - 2023/24) (+£2.67p/+4.96% increase)

Based on a requriement if reduced working balance by £5k

£124580 -:- 2293.99 (Council tax base for 2024/25) = £54.31 (£53.82 - 2023/24) (+£0.49/+0.91% increase)

Based on a 0% amount to Band D Properties

£123463 -:- 2293.99 (Council tax base for 2024/25) = £53.82 (£53.82 - 2023/24) **(£0.00/0.00%)**

NOTES:

Please note that should the council purchase additional christmas lights this year, it will obviously impact the budget



Name of Councillor	David Williams
Title of Proposal	Consider various issues about highway safety around Ysgol Pen-y-ffordd
Purpose of Proposal	Serious concerns are consistently reported to members about highway safety on Abbotts lane, Park Crescent and Watts road and the fact that the drop of facility of the school is closed off, causing congestion and danger in streets around the school.
Background to this request	Some residents and members consider the justification given for closing the drop of facility are causing more issues than they are preventing. With the drop off point closed off, serious congestion occurs in the streets that children walk through and the dangers could be reduced if the drop off facility was available for use.
Financial Implications	To be established
Environmental Implications	Potential improvements
Equality Implications	Potential improvements
Advantages of this proposal	Potential improvements to highway safety around the school
Disadvantages of this proposal	None envisaged
Date submitted	02-01-24.

Proforma for Councillors to add items to the Agenda.



Name of Councillor	David Williams
Title of Proposal	Review of responses for requests for support in improving public transport provision in the Ward.
Purpose of Proposal	To discuss the content and value of responses received and consider actions for no responses.
	Review situation regarding Pen-y-ffordd station as being a hub for the South of the County.
Background to this request	Letters have been sent by the Council to various individuals and bodies to seek support for a resumption of a direct service from the ward to Chester. Some responses have been received that need discussion about, and at least two responses are currently outstanding!
	At the last meeting, an explanation was given about the station not being on the list of aspirations for the County, and further information on this is required!
Financial Implications	To be established
Environmental Implications	Potential improvements
Equality Implications	Potential improvements
Advantages of this proposal	Potential to be involved in improving public transport in the ward.
Disadvantages of this proposal	None envisaged
Date submitted	02-01-24.

Proforma for Councillors to add items to the Agenda.

From: Paul.Andrews@gov.wales <Paul.Andrews@gov.wales> On Behalf Of DeputyMCC.GovernmentBusinessUnit@gov.wales
Sent: 30 November 2023 13:21
To: Clerk <clerk@penyfforddcouncil.org>
Cc: Correspondence.Lee.Waters@gov.wales
Subject: Welsh Government ref TO-LW-02903-23

Yr Adran Newid Hinsawdd Department for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Dear Sarah A Hughes

Thank you for your correspondence of 06 November to the Deputy Minister for Climate Change, Lee Waters MS, regarding bus services in Flintshire. I have been asked to respond on the Deputy Ministers behalf.

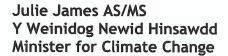
Currently in Wales, we have a privatised bus system meaning that companies make decisions on their routes and timetables based on commercial grounds. Since the pandemic, fewer people are travelling by bus and very few bus routes are profitable. As a result, we have provided over £200m in additional funding to local authorities and operators to help maintain key services for communities.

Looking ahead, we are proposing a new model for bus services in Wales which will allow us to work with local authorities to design the bus networks our communities need and put contracts in place to deliver them. Transport for Wales is currently working with local authorities across Wales to develop new regional bus plans. We have asked them to consider your suggestion as part of this work.

Whilst legislation takes time, and this doesn't give us an immediate answer to the challenges we're facing, the current situation only goes to highlight the scale of reliance on public support for a network over which we have very little control and the scale of our reliance on a deregulated service. Ours is the most far-reaching plan across the UK and a vital step to reverse the damage of deregulation. The Welsh Government wants to make sure people have a bus service they can rely on, which is easy to use, and puts people before profit.

Yours sincerely

Public Transport & Integrated Transport Division





Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref JS3593 Ein cyf/Our ref LW/03034/23

Jack Sargeant MS Member of the Senedd for Alyn & Deeside Senedd Cymru Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1SN Jack.Sargeant@senedd.wales

14 December 2023

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter dated 14 November regarding bus services to Penyffordd.

As you know, the privatised bus system sees companies make decisions on their routes and timetables on a commercial basis.

Fewer people are travelling by bus since the pandemic and very few bus routes are profitable. Through the Bus Emergency Scheme, and more recently the Bus Transition Fund, we've provided over £200m to help protect bus services, but a number of operators have made changes to routes and frequencies in recent months.

While it is disappointing that Arriva Buses Wales have withdrawn their service through Penyffordd, I note that M & H Coaches still operate the service 29 - linking Penyffordd five times daily on weekday and Saturdays to both Mold and Wrexham. As Flintshire County Council have the responsibility for co-ordinating local bus services in your area, they have an important role in determining if additional bus services should be provided through your community.

As you will be aware, we are developing a new model for bus services in Wales that will allow us to work with local authorities to design the bus networks our communities need and put contracts in place to deliver them. Transport for Wales is currently working with local authorities across Wales to develop new regional bus plans. We have asked them to consider your suggestion as part of this work.

> Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay Caerdydd • Cardiff CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre: 0300 0604400 <u>Gohebiaeth.Lee.Waters@llyw.cymru</u> <u>Correspondence,Lee.Waters@gov.wales</u>

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Whilst legislation takes time, and this doesn't give us an immediate answer to the challenges we're facing, the situation in Penyffordd shows that despite the industry's reliance on public funding, we have limited power to protect bus services and design a better network for the future. By reversing the damage of deregulation, the Welsh Government wants to make sure people have a bus service they can rely on, which is easy to use, and puts people before profit.

I hope this is a helpful response. Please get in touch if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,

ames rle

Julie James AS/MS Y Weinidog Newid Hinsawdd Minister for Climate Change

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The Office of Jack Sargeant

Aelod o'r Senedd dros Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy Member of the Senedd for Alyn and Deeside

Senedd Cymru

Bae Caerdydd, Caerdydd, CF99 1SN jack.sargeant@senedd.cymru senedd.cymru/JackSargeant

Welsh Parliament

Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1SN jack.sargeant@senedd.wales senedd.wales/JackSargeant



@jacksargeantms

@jacksargeantam 🔰

JackSargeantMS 🧗

14th November 2023

Mrs Sarah A Hughes 3 Old Chester Road Ewloe Flintshire CH5 3RU

Dear Sarah

Support for better bus services to Penyffordd/ Casework reference JS3593

Thank you for your recent email on behalf of the Penyffordd Community Council in its efforts to bring about a resumption of a direct bus service for the residents.

Your case for a direct service is one I am keen to support. I have written to Lee Waters in his role as Deputy Minister for Climate Change asking him to support your case going forward. A copy of that letter is included in this correspondence.

I will be back in touch as soon as I hear back from the Deputy Minister.

BEST WISHES, JACK SARGEANT.

Jack Sargeant MS/AS Member of the Senedd for Alyn & Deeside Aelod o'r Senedd dros Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy



Senedd Cymru Welsh Parliament

Welsh Labour ¹²⁸Llafur Cymru

The Office of Jack Sargeant

Aelod o'r Senedd dros Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy Member of the Senedd for Alyn and Deeside Bae Caerdydd, Caerdydd, CF99 1SN jack.sargeant@senedd.cymru senedd.cymru/JackSargeant

Welsh Parliament

Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1SN jack.sargeant@senedd.wales senedd.wales/JackSargeant



@jacksargeantms

@jacksargeantam 🗾

JackSargeantMS 🧗

14th November 2023

Lee Waters MS Deputy Minister for Climate Change 5th Floor Ty Hywel Cardiff Bay CF99 1NA

Dear Deputy Minister

Resumption of Bus Service to Penyfford village in Alyn & Deeside / Casework ref JS3593

I am writing to you on behalf of Penyffordd Community Council and its residents in after being recently contacted by the Clerk to the Council. The members of the Council are trying to re-establish a permanent bus route through the village to go direct to the nearby border city of Chester.

The Service was taken off by Arriva in 2019 despite compelling evidence provided by the council to Arriva to reintroduce this much missed service.

Deputy Minister can you please advise what help the Welsh Government can provide to the Community Council in Penyffordd to help its residents in their quest to get a vital and much needed service back to a village of over 5000 people.

Please see the attached information provided by the Council which outlines why the service should be reintroduced as soon as is possible.

I look forward to your reply on the matters raised above.

BEST WISHES, JACK SARGEANT.

Jack Sargeant MS/AS Member of the Senedd for Alyn & Deeside Aelod o'r Senedd dros Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy



Senedd Cymru Welsh Parliament

Welsh Labour 🖓 Llafur Cymru

Senedd Cymru



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Sarah Hughes Clerk Penyffordd Community Council 3 Old Chester Road Ewloe Flintshire CH5 3RU

Our Ref: MT38243

8 November 2023

Dear Mrs Hughes

Re: Bus Service

Thank you for your letter regarding the bus service in Penyffordd.

I have long had concerns regarding the level of provision of public transport in Penyffordd, Penymynydd and Dobshill, and have written to bus companies and Flintshire County Council regarding this matter.

I am glad that following a period without any direct connection to Chester, the Community Council area now has had bus service restored thanks to the Traws Cymru route from Transport for Wales. These long distance, direct services offer competitive journey times compared with cars, and indeed the T8 service offers direct connections further into Wales than Penyffordd and Penymynydd has previously had, while also restoring a connection similar to the former X55 service to Chester. However, with more direct, long distance services, ensuring connectivity to stops from the wider area is vital and I am aware of concerns regarding this service stopping in Penymynydd and not Penyffordd.

Public transport in Wales is currently in a state of significant change, and I believe a long term view is needed to ensure the best possible outcome for Penyffordd, Penymynydd and Dobshill at the end of this process. At present, a number of commercial services are at risk of withdrawal when additional Welsh Government subsidy to support services to rebuild ridership after the pandemic ends. There is also s63(5) of the Transport Act 1985 which would mean that the T8 service would likely need to be withdrawn from Broughton and Penyffordd communities, which may result in the loss of the service altogether, if a commercial service was to be extended from Broughton to Penyffordd. I am keen that we don't lose the T8, only to then subsequently lose the commercial service which forced its cancellation soon afterwards.

Instead, I believe that calling for a diversion of the T8 service, such that it serves the centre of Penyffordd, as an interim measure, is the most sensible option. Over the medium term, the focus should be on ensuring the community council's case for strategic transport links is as strong as possible when this power is taken over by the CJC. Penyffordd's place plan is one of the most impressive in North Wales, and a similarly well presented approach to transport planning will be vital at this next stage of strategic transport planning.

However, most important of all is ensuring that the basis of any case, however well presented, is sound. I firmly support the proposals to upgrade Penyffordd railway station into a

Deeside Enterprise Centre [] Rowleys Drive Shotton, Flintshire CH5 1PP

[] House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

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Tel: (0207) 219 8174

multimodal transport hub, which would advantage not only Penyffordd but all of Southern Flintshire. At present, the area between Wrexham and Mold lacks a strategic hub and interchange. Fixing this would dramatically increase the number of bus routes through Penyffordd, as well as improving bus connections between other communities and the railway network.

Cllr Alasdair Ibbotson has pressed for this to be included in the council's integrated transport strategy, which I fully support, and I would encourage Penyffordd Community Council to add the council's weight to this request as well. I have enclosed a copy of his letter. I have consistently supported this propsal, including in multiple rounds of leveling up bids, and I believe that this is key to unlocking sustainable, long term public transport improvements.

The experience of communities like Penyffordd during the last 13 years of austerity has shown how risky relying on commercial services is, with their sudden withdrawal leaving people isolated. Instead I firmly support the development of a joined up network, operated for people, not profit, in place of sticking plaster solutions. I will continue to press for this in Penyffordd, Penymynydd and Dobshill, and I would welcome the Community Council's support in this.

Yours sincerely

Win

Mark Tami MP

Cllr Alasdair Ibbotson Penyffordd, Penymynydd & Dobshill

Katie Wilby Chief Officer, Streetscene & Transportation Flintshire County Council *Via email only*

CllrAlasdairIbbotson contact@alasdairibbotson.wales 22nd October 2023

07907 879764

Dear Mrs Wilby,

Re: Integrated Transport Strategy & Penyffordd Station

I am writing following the integrated transport strategy meeting, and further to the presentation. Firstly, I would like to note my appreciation of the work that has already gone in to the review of the strategy, and my firm support for an ambitious expansion of Flintshire's public transport network.

As you are aware, development of Penyffordd station as a transport hub has long been backed as a priority scheme to both enhance transport links within Penyffordd, creating a strategic bus hub, connect rural communities such as Leeswood, Higher Kinnerton and Pontblyddyn into the rail network via bus, and create a park and ride rail service for outlying communities, especially with the planned Deeside Parkway station.

I welcome the bids which have been submitted to the levelling up fund to carry out this improvement, and I know you share my disappointment that the UK Government has chosen not to invest in Flintshire. I am keen to see this project taken forwards, and so I am concerned that the project was not listed as being amongst the "Station Aspirations & Improvements" in the initial stages of the strategy.

I would be grateful if you would reaffirm Flintshire's commitment to working with partners to deliver the upgrades at Penyffordd, which, in my view, offer a potential for greater return on investment than others listed. At present the South of the county is without any integrated transport hub, which is a significant barrier to increasing ridership on public transport both in my community and further afield. Connecting the bus services presently operating in Southern Flintshire together, and with rail services, will lead to a virtuous cycle of better connectivity leading to greater usage, and greater usage allowing expansion of services, with more and better services again driving increased uptake.

I look forward to receiving your reassurance on this point.

Yours Sincerely,

Alasdair Cllr Alasdair Ibbotson

Standing up for our village on Flintshire Council









Published and promoted by and on behalf of Alasdair Ibbotson, 8 Westfield Drive, Penyffordd, Nr Chester, CH4 0HY

Item 18



Proforma for Councillors to add items to the Agenda.

Name of Councillor	Cllr Alasdair Ibbotson
Title of Proposal	Strategic Response to local flooding
Purpose and details of the Proposal	 For the council to agree a desired outcome to pursue in relation to flooding. There are a number of options that the council could choose to press for. Choosing a more ambitious option would require us to identify a suitable funding stream, or face the prospect of no action. However, choosing a less ambitious option may fail to fully resolve the problem. In order to achieve action, rather than simply pushing other agencies with limited capacity and resources to look at the problem, the council should settle on a preferred approach, establish costs and produce a reasoned case to present together with palatable budgetary options, as undertaking this in advance is significantly more likely to secure the changes necessary.
Background to this request	 Broadly, there are six options: 1) A complete revamp of the drainage system in the village. This would segregate surface water drainage and sewerage fully, and mean we never again have sewage bubbling up. It would also mean adequate drainage for surface water is put in, ending all types of flooding locally. This would need to be a combined FCC / Welsh Water project and would take years of digging up the village to complete. It would also cost approximately millions of pounds, with an annual cost per household in the village in the four figures for a decade. Given the relative severity of flooding in other communities in Flintshire and across Wales, it seems highly unlikely that funding for this could be secured by means of reallocation from other areas, and so we would need to identify suitable alternative funding schemes if we were to choose to pursue this option. 2) Widening the drain from the junction of Hawarden Road and Chester Road for a distance past the Scout Hut and Youth Club. This would prevent the burst manhole and the flooding of the centre of the village. However, it would just move the problem somewhere else, unless we replaced the drain all the way to the sewage works on Lower Mountain Road, which would cost millions. 3) Install a bolted down manhole cover at the Clock Tower. Welsh Water are willing to look at this, but all this will do will move the problem backwards in the system, up Chester Road and Hawarden Road. It may leakage will be spread over a wider area. 4) Attempt to maximise capacity of existing systems through more frequent cleaning. FCC and DCWW budget for regular upkeep, but this doesn't keep the systems at 100% capacity all the time; rather, work is carried out when capacity is estimated to be below a certain level (realistically, on a regular schedule). In other words, they wait for a certain degree of built-up waste before removing it. We could, as a community council, raise funds through the precept to, for example, double the amou

	 5) Encourage householders with surface water drainage into sewers to remove this. We could look to fund a grant scheme to pay some or all of the cost of alternative measures such as soakaways or water butts. A significant proportion of the water that causes flooding comes from residents' own properties discharging drains from rooves, driveways and patios straight into the sewer, or running off their properties onto the road and into highway drains. If that water was diverted from the sewers altogether, or even held back and released after the storm, then this would likely be enough to solve the problem altogether. This would cost money and would need the participation of residents. 6) A public information campaign on emergency measures people can take when extreme weather hits. When we get heavy rain, people stay indoors and do housework. They have a shower, put the dishwasher on, or do some laundry that will go in the tumble dryer. That water drains into the sewers which adds to the problem caused by the surface water. If we managed to build an understanding that you minimise your water usage in heavy rain, that could help reduce the scale of the problem, although not solve it altogether. This is the cheapest option, but is not a fix, and may well have limited impact on people's behaviour and be unpopular.
Financial Implications	There are no financial implications to the council in determining a preferred course of action. If the council's decision was to promote an option including a financial contribution from the Community Council, a separate decision would be required to authorise any spending after agreement
Environmental Implications	There are no direct environmental implications to making a determination on preferred course of action. Depending on the outcome of the determination, once a strategy has been developed a full environmental impact assessment may be necessary in a subsequent decision to implement a fully developed policy.
Equality Implications	In making a decision there is a need to balance competing interests. The community council does not have detailed demographic information on affected residents to be able to conduct a full equality assessment with regards to protected characteristics however councillors should ensure compliance with equality provisions in the code of conduct in coming to a decision.
Advantages of this proposal	Without making this decision, there is likely to be limited progress on securing a viable flood strategy for the community. Pursuing any option fully is vastly more likely to deliver progress than the 'do nothing' option from the community council, or the pursuit of improvements without a preferred strategy and a costed proposal with identified funds simply by lobbying for a unspecified decision to be taken and funded elsewhere.
Disadvantages of this proposal	Council capacity in developing the chosen option(s), with potentially no return on investment if unsuccesful
Date submitted	8/12/23

Please note that this proposal will be included with the Supporting Papers and will be made available to the Public

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Proforma for Councillors to add items to the Agenda.

Name of Councillor	Andy Sloan
Title of Proposal	Proposal for Members payments to be made direct and not via payroll
Purpose and details of the Proposal	The proposal is for council members to receive payments directly and not through payroll to avoid taxation issues for PAYE individuals in their main jobs. It would be the responsibility of members who receive payment to inform HMRC of any income received in lieu of council activities thus avoiding tax coding errors and inconvenience caused. There will also be a small savings not processing through payroll.
Background to this request	 To help with the background section of the form: March 2023 – Min 205, the council resolved that Payments will be processed via payroll where appropriate tax and ni will be deducted and payments will then be made via cheque or bacs. Nov 2023 – Min 120, It was reported The Panel has received guidance from HMRC, regarding the treatment of tax on councillor allowances. The exemption to the £156 payment made under the Determination of the Independent Remuneration Panel and the flat rate consumables payment of £52. Nov 2023 – Min 120, I had made the suggestion that payments should not be paid via payroll and it should be members responsibility to inform HMRC
Financial Implications	There will be a small saving on not processing via payroll (approx. £30-40) No budget implications
Environmental Implications	N/A
Equality Implications	N/A
Advantages of this proposal	Fair treatment of taxation regardless of employment status
Disadvantages of this proposal	Councillors would need to declare income via self assessment
Date submitted	22/11/23

Please note that this proposal will be included with the Supporting Papers and will be made available to the Public