

PEN-Y-FFORDD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held in the War Memorial Institute on Wednesday 11th April 2018

Present: Councillors Mr D Williams (Chairman), Mr J Priddin, Ms C Hinds, Mr D Walker, Mrs M Jones, Mr A Wight, Mr R Wakelam, Mr R Bestwick, Mrs E Davies, Mrs L Vidamour and Dr Smith-Bellis

Absent:

In attendance: Mrs S Hughes, Clerk & RFO to the Council
Mike Eastwood – FCC Streetscene
7 x Members of the Public

338. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr S Kenworthy and Cllr M Rothero has submitted his apologies for the next 3 months due to having to work out of the country.

339. Declaration of Interest – Members Code of Conduct

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

340. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14th March 2018

RESOLVED: these were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

341. Matters arising

Min 311/278 – the Clerk reported that Microshade have undertaken the GDPR audit and provided her with necessary documents to be reviewed and applied. She advised that there is a substantial amount of work involved and this will be actioned over the next few months.

Min 316 – the Clerk reported that Mrs Davies has commenced her employment with the Council. The appropriate PPE equipment has been purchased.

Min 327 - An invitation to the April meeting was offered to Flintshire County Council in respect of the 3.5 million in funding to help the most vulnerable residents of Flintshire. Unfortunately, they are already committed to another meeting that day, so it has been arranged they will be attending in June.

342. Public Questions

There were a number of public present at the meeting. The Chairman was aware of a number of concerns which were to be raised and provided a brief update on the main concerns and invited the public to comment/ask questions as he went along:

Bins – The Brown Bin charges have now come into force, unfortunately there is nothing more the Community Council can do. Cllr Jones informed members that she personally has paid for the bin to be collected but is yet to receive her sticker. Her bin was not collected, however, she called FCC and they arranged for the bin to be collected. The Chairman suggested that if anyone has any issues regarding bins to call direct to Streetscene.

Dog Fouling – Cllrs Priddin is in possession of spray from FCC which allows him to spray and highlight the mess. This has been actioned on footpath no.3 and Cllr Priddin has seen an improvement. Cllr Williams advised himself and Cllrs Hinds are awaiting issue of the spray, he is happy for residents to contact him and he will visit the area and spray. He stressed that any incidents of dog fouling should be reported to FCC Streetscene to assist in them building up areas which are 'hotspots'. Also if residents witness an incident, they should report as much detail to FCC as possible, such as time, type of dog, description of the owner), this will assist the Enforcement Team

Traffic – there have been ongoing complaints regarding parking by the Spar on Hawarden Road. This is under review by FCC with the options of No Parking or Restricted Parking, this will go to consultation within the next few months.

The priority passing at the top of Penymynydd Road is also being reviewed by FCC.

Pot Holes - these are an issue all over the county. A resident highlighted that there is a major pot hole on Abbotts Lane, which is also the route used by trucks accessing the single sit school. Cllr Williams made a suggestion of approaching the Contractors to see if they could assist with the repairs.

Council Tax – the Council have provided information for the justification in the precept rise which is available on the website. A resident expressed his unhappiness at the rise and asked the Council if they had tried to make savings through inefficiencies. The Clerk and Chairman provided explanations. The resident questioned the amount which is spent on Christmas Lighting, the Chairman explained that this expenditure had been at the request of residents. To move the meeting forward the Chairman offered that if members of the public wished to discuss this matter in further detail they could contact him direct and he would be happy to discuss this further.

** Mike Eastwood – FCC Streetscene arrived 7.30pm and 2 x members of the public left

343. Visitors

The Chairman provided ME a brief report of the issues raised under Public Questions.

ME confirmed that all pot holes have been recorded and FCC are focussing on the A, B & C roads, then progressing to the estates. He advised that the large pot hole on Abbots Lane will be patched under the Patching Programme in May, until then it will be kept in a safe condition. He has requested for full resurfacing of the Vounog Hill.

A member of the public asked ME to advise what measure are in place of the public wished to make a claim against FCC due to damage from the pot holes? ME advised all claims are to go through Streetscene which in turn will be passed to their insurance company.

Cllr Hinds & Wakelam advised of recent flooding on the by-pass, Penymynydd Road, Corwen Road and under the railway bridge.

Cllr Wakelam queried the removal of a bollard from the bridle path on Penymynydd Road, ME will pass this query to Rights of Way. Cllr Wakelam also advised that there have been syringes in the layby on the Warren Road. ME advised this is not his area but will pass on to his colleague to arrange for this to be cleared.

Cllr Jones and Williams reported incidents of fly tipping on Terrace Lane and Dobshill.

Cllr Wight asked whether ME would be able to offer any assistance in the Melwood Close play area land which when wet it is extremely swampy. ME will speak to Alan Roberts – FCC to ascertain if there is any available funding.

Cllr Hinds asked whether the Community Council would need approval from FCC to plant the daffodil blubs for the 2019 Project Daffodil? He advised yes ideally approval would be needed due to visibility and maintenance. Cllr Smith-Bellis also asked for approval for small fruit bushes. He would be happy to hold a site meeting to review the locations.

** Mike Eastwood left the meeting at 7.50pm

344. Community Transport/Bus Services

On Wednesday 4th April, members of the Community Council met with Arriva to discuss the bus services in Penyffordd in particular the loss of the 3A evening service and the re-routing of the 3 service. Cllr Williams provided a summary report.

Arriva provided confidential facts and figures which supported their decision in the withdrawal and amendment of the routes which they deemed no longer commercial viable.

The main concern of members was that some statistics of use was taken from just January of this year where numbers using the busses was very low. It was pointed out to Arriva that this sample was not a fair reflection of the annual use and would not have given the full picture. Unfortunately, this was not accepted and other statistics were referred to by Arriva to support their decision. Members contested what they were shown but unfortunately did not have conclusive evidence to support their argument.

Due to the above and the effect for elderly and vulnerable residents of Meadowslea and down the Vounog Hill Flintshire Social Services are to be involved to see if they can assist in getting this service back.

Cllrs Williams under his County Councillor capacity attended a Transport Workshop earlier in the day and will provide a written report to members as soon as possible.

Next steps.

1. Request the subsidy that is currently on the 3A be moved to the number 3 to enable it to take the bypass and Vounog Hill route again.

2. Community Council Transport Working Group will discuss possible viable options for a new route that may generate more use of the number 3 to make it more commercially viable and also liaise and explore options with FCC Community Transport.
3. A meeting is to take place with FCC Social Services and Streetscene to discuss the situation and how both departments can support the village to get these services back.
4. Arriva have agreed to review the situation again later in the year and if services, are getting more use they will consider putting some back. On the new route for the number 3, if Flintshire can support the Vounog Hill route they will look into fast tracking the recommencement of the service.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted. The Transport Working Group will continue to pursue this matter and report to the Council. Cllr Williams will provide members with a written report of the FCC Transport Workshop.

** 2 x members of the public left 8.05pm

345. Working Groups

The Council reviewed and considered the creation of Working Groups in line with ambitions of the Community Place Plan. The idea of creating Working Groups is to allow work to be done outside of the meeting by these group, who will then report back to the Council. The list is not exhaustive and can/will be added to for specific projects. These Group will not have any delegated powers.

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| • Community / History / Social | Cllrs: Priddin, Williams, Davies & Jones |
| • Transport | Cllrs: Walker, Hinds, Williams & Priddin |
| • Environment | Cllrs: Smith-Bellis & Wakelam |
| • Economy / Business | Cllrs: Walker & Wakelam |
| • Housing / Planning | Cllrs: Wight, Wakelam, Bestwick, Priddin, Williams, Hinds & Smith-Bellis |

Cllr Wight proposed that this be included on the May agenda in order for members to review the actions in the place plan and for the Council to approve what projects are to be worked upon. This was unanimously agreed.

The Chairman also stated that as two members were absent they will be invited to join the above Working Groups.

RESOLVED: Working Groups will be included on the May agenda for the Council to approve what projects are to be worked upon.

As Cllrs Kenworthy and Rothero were absent from the meeting, upon their return they will be invited to join any of the above working groups.

** 1 x member of the public left 8.15pm

346. Millstone Playing Field

- i. Cllr Hinds obtained a quote for the replacement of the chain link fencing. Option 1 - £1550 for a 3ft fence which would sit on top of the wall or Option 2 - £1950 for a 6ft fence which would sit in front of the wall. Cllr Williams advised that they would be looking for volunteers to assist in clearing the bank for the fence to be installed. Cllrs Williams & Hinds will be having a site meeting with the contractor within the next few weeks.
- ii. There were no issues to report.

RESOLVED:

- i. Cllrs Williams and Hinds will meet with the contractor to establish which will be the best option. The Council approved the works of the replacement fence up to the value of £2000.

347. Melwood Close Play Area – Match Funding

Richard Roberts has confirmed that if the Council wishes to hold the monies from 2017/18, they would be happy to transfer their £5k match funding to the Community Council on the condition that it was held in reserve solely for improvements to Melwood Close Play area.

The Clerk also asked the possibility of obtaining a quote from contractors direct for the installation in case it was a cheaper option, which he advised he would be able to do this.

Cllr Wight has received a number of comments from residents to the ideas they wished to see on the Melwood Play Area. He will prepare a report of the comments and circulate.

The land at the old Melwood Clinic is extremely overgrown and an eye sore to the area.

RESOLVED:

- i. the Council approved that the match funding from FCC should be requested and held in reserves until additional investment can be sourced.
- ii. Cllr Wight to circulate the suggestions received from residents.
- iii. A letter will be sent to the Pharmacy to request that the land be cleared and tidied up.

348. Land at the Old School Site, Penyffordd

The Chairman proposed that as the planning application has now been approved for the Council to submit again an Expression of Interest for the land which will become surplus. The request will include that the Community Council wish to obtain the land or at a minimum have an active involvement in the decision of the use of land.

RESOLVED: an Expression of Interest will be submitted to FCC for the land that will become surplus on completion of the single site school, this will include the request for the Community Council to obtain the land or at a minimum have an active involvement in the decision of the use of land.

349. Consultations

Copies of the below consultations were provided to members with the agenda.

i. Edition 10 of Planning Policy Wales

The Welsh Government is proposing to revise Planning Policy Wales (PPW) in light of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Welsh Government is conducting a public consultation on edition 10 of PPW. Comments to be submitted by 18th May 2018.

Cllr Wight commented that the Consultation has been very well written and is relatively easy to understand.

ii. Green Paper; Strengthening Local Government: Delivering for People

To review the green paper which explains the ambitions for local government. It presents options which could lead to larger and more sustainable local authorities in Wales, which can deliver effective and sustainable public services. Comments to be submitted by 12th June 2018.

The Chairman requested that members review these consultations and advised that comments can be made either individually or if members wish to bring comments to the May meeting the Council will submit formal responses.

RESOLVED: Members can either respond to the consultation individually or bring their comments to the May meeting where the Council will prepare and submit a formal response. This will be included on the May agenda.

350. Planning Applications

- a) To review and consider Planning Applications received.
 - i. Ref: 058117. Conversion of barn to 1no. residential dwelling with associated parking. Rhydd Farm, Rhos Road, Penyffordd. **Approved, subject to no concerns raised by neighbours.**
 - ii. Ref: 058136. Change of use from 1no. dwelling into 2 no. dwellings and erection of a garage for dwelling 1 and garden store for dwelling 2. Pheasant Fields, Lower Mountain Road, Penyffordd. **The Council are happy for a delegated decision but request that they ensure it is in keeping with the rural area.**

** 1 x member of the public left 8.40pm

- iii. Ref: 058164. Outline application for residential development. Land East of Vounog Hill, Penyffordd. **The Council strongly object to this application and will be submitting a separate letter.** Cllr Wight advised that the Community Group will be holding a public meeting on Wednesday 18th April at 7.30pm at the British Legion.

RESOLVED: the above comments will be reported to Flintshire County Council Planning.

Cllr Wight suggested that the Council should take an interest on commenting on neighbouring planning applications which would have an impact on our community's amenities. For example Buckley currently have a live planning application for Spon Green for 435 dwellings (Ref: 058237) and Alltami Road for 14 dwellings (Ref: 058229) and Abermorddu (Ref: 058163) for up to 80 dwellings whereby they would have access to the same secondary schools and doctors as Penyffordd.

- b) To receive Notifications of Planning Decisions made by Flintshire County Council.

- i. Ref: 058003. Amendments to the previous planning permission for the erection of 1no. dwelling with new vehicular access. Land to North of Rhos Cottage, Rhos Road, Penyffordd. **Approved**

RESOLVED: the above be received and noted.

- c) To review Ongoing and Proposed Planning Applications.

Cllr Williams provided a brief report of the status of the below:

- i. Penyffordd Single Site School - application approved. He proposed that the Council write to FCC expressing their concerns that some of the recommendations submitted by the Design Council have been ignored and not taken on board, such as; no action taken on the Traffic Impact Assessment, no nature light & poor ventilation from the western elevations, energy efficiency measure within the school were not good enough and the external materials used would not last.
- ii. Land at Chester Road, Penymynydd – nothing further to report at this stage.
- iii. Rhos Road (Retirement) – nothing further to report at this stage.
- iv. Rhos Road (40) – nothing further to report at this stage.
- v. Vounog Hill – planning application submitted.
- vi. Dobshill (former Council Depot) – developers are looking to assess if they are able to relocate the higher building to the back of the development and bring forward the bungalow. The developers are working with the community and listening to the feedback given. This application should go to planning in the near future.

RESOLVED: the above was received and noted. (i) a draft letter will be drawn up for the Council's approval to submit to FCC regarding the concerns raised whereby FCC have disregarded the recommendations made by the Design Council for Wales. These will be reviewed monthly and included as monthly agenda items.

351. Youth Club Building and Surrounding Site

The Chairman advised that a meeting will be held at the Youth Club on Thursday 12th April at 7pm for representatives of the main users; Scouts, Junior Football Club and Youth Club to discuss the potential of the building and options to involve more users of the facility. All members are welcome to attend.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted.

352. Steering Group

This item has now been superseded by the Working Groups.

353. Community Council's Year End Report

The Clerk provided members with a starting point for the report and circulated a draft with items of interest. She advised that these may need expanding on further with the help from members.

Members were satisfied with the draft report. It was proposed that this report should be included on the Newsletter as the Chairman's Report.

RESOLVED: the Chairman and Clerk will liaise to finalise the report in preparation for the inclusion in the Newsletter.

354. Community Newsletter

Following on from the above, it was proposed by Cllr Walker and agreed that the first Newsletter will also include the Chairman's Year End Report and the explanation of the rise in precept.

Cllrs Williams, Wight and the Clerk will collate the information and prepare the draft.

The Council will review the response received from the newsletter to ascertain if this will be produced either once or twice a year.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Williams, Wight and the Clerk will collate the information and prepare the draft Newsletter which will be presented at the May meeting. The Council will review and consider the public's response to ascertain if this should be produced on an annual or biannual basis.

355. Best Kept Communities Competition

Entries for the Best Kept Competition this year need to be returned by Friday 1st June 2018. Judging will take place the week commencing 2nd July 2018 and the Presentation / Awards Evening will take place on Friday 21st September 2018.

RESOLVED: the Council will submit the below applications. The competition will be advertised and promoted on the Council's website and included as an agenda item for May and June.

Community or Small Town	Section A:	Village Centre, Millstone & Millennium Clock
Population over 1000 & under 5000	Section B:	Penyffordd, Penymynydd & Dobshill (individual entries), Bowling Club, Park Crescent, Abbots Lane School
Senior Citizen Estate	Section D:	Park Crescent, Meadow Rise & Corwen Way (individual entries)

356. Telephone Kiosk – Alyn Drive

Due to a number of requests, the Council considered whether the kiosk could be refurbished and used by the community eg. A book exchange. Cllr Williams suggested speaking to the local community to request assistance from local joiners and volunteers.

RESOLVED: initially Cllr Williams will make enquires with local joiners.

357. Meeting Dates

A request from a member of the public has been received to ask members if they would consider varying the day of the monthly meetings which was considered by members. The Chairman requested a vote on this request and it was unanimous that the day of meeting remain the same.

RESOLVED: unanimously agreed that the day of the meeting will remain as a Wednesday.

358. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received, acknowledged and noted.

- PCSO Ellis provided a recent crime report.
- SLCC & OVW Joint Conference will be held on 16th May at Llandrindod Wells at a cost of £75. No members expressed an interest in attending. The Clerk did express an interest but was uncertain at this time if she would be able to attend.

RESOLVED: the Council approved for the Clerk to attend should she be able to.

- Friday 20th April at 7pm, the Chairman of FCC will be hosting a Fashion Show at the Mold & District Ex Servicemen's Club.
- A letter received from a resident with regard to the concerns of the bus service sent to Cllrs Williams, Hinds and a copy to the Clerk.
- Upcoming OVW Training Events. Cllr Williams expressed an interest in may be attending the Devolution of Services/Community Asset Training on Thursday 19th April. He will liaise with the Clerk.
- Kathleen Graham the Editor for Hope Parish Church Magazine will be retiring following 26 years of service. Currently the extracts from the Council Minutes are published in the magazine following approval, therefore, being a month out of date, the Clerk requested approval to supply the magazine 'notes' from the monthly meeting to enable more up to date information being published.

RESOLVED: the Council approved the Clerk to supply 'Meeting Notes' to Hope Parish Magazine and to also publish these Notes on the Council's website.

359. Members Items (AOB)

- Cllr Wight raised the matter of Nature Reserve on the old White Lion estate, currently there is an unused noticeboard and all accesses (gates) are locked.

RESOLVED: a letter will be sent to Andrew Farrow and Colin Everett – FCC.

The meeting was closed at 9.25pm

Chair..... 9th May 2018