

# PEN-Y-FFORDD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held in the War Memorial Institute on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019

**Present:** Councillors Mr A Wight (Chairman), Mr R Bestwick (Vice Chairman) Mr J Priddin, Ms C Hinds, Mr D Walker, Mr R Wakelam, Mrs P Ransome, Mrs M Jones,

**Absent:**

**In attendance:** Mrs S Hughes, Clerk & RFO to the Council

The Chairman wished to recognise and make a number of acknowledgements for work within the community. PACA (Cllr Hinds) had organised a successful Pensioners Christmas Lunch with support for the Red Lion. The Scouts for bringing the Christmas spirit to the village with the Santa Float. The children from Ysgol Penyffordd who attended and sung at the Pensioners Christmas Meal and also the Memory Café. Finally a thank you to Glyn Davies our Streetscene Operative for his hard work and commitment to the village. A letter of 'thanks' will be sent to all of the above.

### 208. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs E Davies, Mr D Williams, Dr J Smith-Bellis, Mr M Rothero, Mr P Blackman and Mr A Bakewell (Youth Representative)

### 209. Visitors

There were no visitors to the meeting.

### 210. To Receive any Declaration of Interest – Members Code of Conduct

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

### 211. Minutes of the Council Meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019

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

### 212. Matters arising

**Min 180(i)** Cllr Walker reported that he had attended a meeting with Arriva to request an extension for the No.13 withdrawal, this was refused as they stated it had already been reported to the Transport Commissioner.

The timetables have now been received for the new services No.29 and LT8, however, Dobshill has not been include on the LT8 which is currently being questioned. He advised that he has worked extremely hard to secure a service of 7.45am and 5.45pm to assist with residents who need to commute to Chester for work.

**RESOLVED:** as soon as the revised LT8 timetable is received both the LT8 and No.29 timetables will be advertised on the website, noticeboards and the council approved for 2000 copies to be printed which will be hand delivered to the residents. Cllr Wight and the Clerk will liaise with the printers.

**Min 184** Cllr Wight acknowledged that letters were still outstanding to Claire Homard – FCC Education and Julie James AM.

**Min 191** Cllr Ransome advised that herself and Cllr Rothero in their roles of School Governors have not yet been able to hold a meeting of the Hiring and Lettings Committee for the community access of the new school, therefore is unable to confirm costs, booking procedure etc. They are continually liaising with the school regarding this matter.

**Min 194** The lights have now all been installed, the two Christmas trees purchased and additional lights were also purchased for the clock tower. Mega Electrical have advised that they may only be 1 or 2 electrical sockets to be replaced due to FCC replacing the columns, however, those sockets would not have been used this year anyway as the lights have been relocated as agreed by the working group/council.

**Min 197** Jamie Sant – Borderlands Line has confirmed his attendance to the January meeting.

### 213. Minutes of the Committees

The War Memorial Institute Refurbishment Committee has held no meeting.

## 214. Reports from County Councillors

Cllr Hinds advised that a report had not been prepared this month but has received information on Climate Change which she will circulate to all members. With regard to Council Tax, although not confirmed, at present it is looking positive that FCC will receive appropriate funding from the Welsh Government.

She liked to take this opportunity of wishing everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Hinds will circulate to all members the information she has received on climate change.

## 215. Public Questions

There were no public questions.

## 216. Community Council Draft Estimates for 2020/21

The Council reviewed and considered the draft estimates for 2020/21 together with a report which detailed reasons of increases/decreases. The Chairman went through the budget heading individually where Councillors were invited to comment on the estimates before them and discuss any amendments which they would wish to be included in the final figures before considering approval of the final budget and the precept in January 2020.

The budget that the Clerk had prepared lead to a potential precept increase of 14%, following the in-depth review and the amendments proposed, it is anticipated that this will be reduced to an approx. 8-9% increase.

Cllr Ransome suggested that on completion of the agreed precept information should be prepared to publish which will give an easy to read explanation of the councils budget and intended expenditure.

The Clerk advised that the 2020/21 Precept letter has been received from FCC and they have advised that the current Tax Base of equivalent Band D properties has decreased from 2035.92 to 2012.19

**RESOLVED:** the Clerk will make any necessary adjustments to the draft budget and represent to the Council at the January meeting for approval and for submission of the 2020/21 precept.

On completion of the budget, the Clerk and Chairman will prepare an 'easy to read' breakdown of the councils precept, budget and expenditure.

## 217. Planning Applications

a) To review and consider Planning Applications received.

- i. Ref: 060631. Single storey rear extension and conversion of garage into living accommodation. 7 Lion Court, Penymynydd. **Support and agree to a delegated decision with rider of 'subject to no objections that indicate a breach of policy, or objections from neighbours who may be impacted by the proposal. Council request feedback should any concerns be raised.**  
[https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC\\_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060631](https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060631)
- ii. Notification of amendment to submitted application. Ref: 060560. 1st floor side extension over existing single storey and single storey rear extension. Mountain View, Penymynydd Road, Penymynydd. **Support and agree to a delegated decision with proviso of 'subject to no objections that indicate a breach of policy, or objections from neighbours who may be impacted by the proposal'. Council request feedback should any concerns be raised.**[https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC\\_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060560](https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060560)
- iii. Notification of amendment to submitted application. Ref: 060050. Bryn Yr Haul, Wrexham Road, Penyffordd. **The Council object to the size and scale of this proposal. The Council would support the demolition and rebuild of a bungalow as previously stated in the original response.**  
[https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC\\_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060050](https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060050)
- iv. Ref: 060658. Proposed Garage. 31 Poppy Field Drive, Penyffordd. **Support and agree to a delegated decision with proviso of 'subject to no objections that indicate a breach of policy, or objections from neighbours who may be impacted by the proposal'. Council request feedback should any concerns be raised.**  
[https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC\\_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060658](https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060658)
- v. Ref: 060762. Detached single storey garage. Cambria, Station Way, Vounog Hill, Penyffordd. **Support and agree to a delegated decision with proviso of 'subject to no objections that indicate a breach of policy, or objections from neighbours who may be impacted by the proposal'. Council request feedback should any concerns be raised.**  
[https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC\\_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060762](https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060762)
- vi. Notification that an appeal has been made to the Planning Inspectorate (*Appeal Reference: APP/A6835/A/19/3240671*) in respect of Ref: 060319. Outline application for residential development. Land East of Vounog Hill. Cllr Wight advised that the closing date for the appeal is Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December. In advance of the meeting he had circulated to all the updated Community Statement of Case for Penyffordd Council. He also advised that a public enquiry should be requested rather than it being dealt with by the Planning Inspectorate.

**RESOLVED:** this was fully supported by the council. Cllr Wight will finalise and submit the Statement of Case on behalf of the council.

- b) There were no Notifications of Planning Decisions made by Flintshire County Council received.
- c) To review Ongoing and Proposed Planning Applications.

Redrow, Chester Road – Due to the amendment to the planning application currently issued, Cllr Wight requested Cllr Hinds under her capacity of Cty Cllr to request this to go to committee. Members are aware that although this amendment has not yet been approved by FCC Planning, Redrow are in fact building to these plans. Cllrs Hinds and Wight are regularly receiving and meeting with residents to hear complaints, concerns and issues.

**RESOLVED:** the above was received and noted. Cty Cllr Hinds will request for the amendment to planning to be heard at committee.

## 218. Penyffordd War Memorial Refurbishment Project (Section 106 Agreement)

Cllr Wight circulated written reports in advance of the meeting. In summary:

- The tender was advertised on Facebook and in the Evening Leader - the last date for submissions was on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Cllr Wight and the Clerk met Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> to open the sealed bids, made a record of the companies and total amount of each bid. Cllr Wight then met with Claire Huber to review the submissions in detail (who has expertise in recognising the differences between the submissions).
- We received 13 qualifying bids. One was received by email, but not in a sealed envelope, despite the Clerk reminding them of the process and has not been considered.
- Of the remainder, several have been discounted because they lack sufficient detail to indicate what is included or excluded from the bid. A number were discounted because they were significantly over-budget.
- There were two stand-out bids which contain sufficient detail for us to be reassured that they know what they are quoting for and indicate a level of care and interest in the project. Of those two bids, the preferred one contains the most detail including CDM health and safety references. In addition, the Quantity Surveyor from the company had met with the Clerk at the site and asked a number of questions following that visit (two companies visited the site in total). The company has capacity to start the project in late January if successful and is based in Mold.
- The preferred company at this stage was invited to a meeting at the WMI on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss the project and their bid. They have made them aware that there is a fixed budget. They have quoted over that budget. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how the bid will be brought within the budget. Present at the meeting was Clare Huber, Stuart Guy (WMI), Cllrs Wight and Priddin, the Clerk was unable to attend.
- The meeting was positive, the Contractor was very open about their costings, assumptions and motivations.
- After reviewing the drawings and discussing some of the details they have taken their quote away to go and work on where direct savings can be made in their own costings and equally, make suggestions where savings can be made in changes to the specification i.e. in flooring materials, numbers of windows etc.
- They are open to working with materials sourced directly from suppliers or through other contractors.
- The likelihood is that our remaining budget of £180k will buy the main construction, flooring, internal and external walls, roof, insulation, windows and external doors.
- It is likely that additional funds will be needed for the internal fitting: e.g Kitchens, Bathrooms, Internal doors, Plastering, Plumbing and heating, Electrical, Audio visual and Dividing partition wall
- The Contractor are looking at their main costing on this basis. They will provide us with volumes of materials needed so that we can approach builders active in the community to seek materials or support – particularly Hanson for cement and Redrow, Wates, Wynn and Co-operative for interior doors, bathrooms and kitchens.
- WMI are reviewing their mechanical and electrical requirements for the building.
- Penyffordd Community Council need to check whether this project qualifies as VAT exempt.

A further meeting has been arranged with representatives from the Council and WMI to meet with the contractors again on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December. It is expected that should the contractor be able to provide the service within the budget and the representative from the WMI and Council are satisfied, it will then be brought to full council for consideration and approval.

**RESOLVED:** the above report was received and noted. Cllrs Wight, Priddin and Clerk will attend the meeting.

## 219. Working Groups

- i. Environment –
  - a) Cllr Bestwick reported that the Working Group met on the 27<sup>th</sup> November. The circular walks are progressing very well and they are looking to establish two further walks next year with one being accessible for pushchairs and wheelchairs. They will be linking up with the Penyffordd Ramblers.

Discussions were had regarding the potential new Hwb at Penyffordd Strain Station with concerns of how pedestrians would safely access this. Cllr Hinds advised that whilst the Hwb is being discussed this has not yet been ratified by FCC.

All the planters have now been distributed and the circular discs have been applied to some. Being mind of the Best Kept Village for next year they would like to purchase additional planters for areas within Dobshell, Hawarden Road, Vounog and the entrances to the villages.

It was suggested that as there are developments either ongoing or due to commence at pretty much all the entrances to the village, that the council approach the developers to ascertain if they would be willing to install a planter at the entrance closest to their development.

**RESOLVED:** the council approved for a further 10 x planters to be purchased.

- b) Cllr Ransome reported that they have reviewed the Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty report and consideration is being made to how it can be applied.

Cllr Bestwick advised that information has been received from FLVC that there may be an opportunity to secure funding for Environmental Improvement Projects through landfill grants. Consideration could be made for improvements to the wildlife area (on the old school site).

**RESOLVED:** the report was received and noted. The Working Group will continue working on the Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty report.

- c) This initiative is being dealt with by Cllr Williams and Adam Bakewell who have both submitted their apologies to this meeting.
- d) To enable a circular walk accessible for pushchairs/wheelchairs the access gate on Chester Road would need replacing. Cllr Wight has been informed by Redrow that they have in fact already financed this to be done through FCC.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Wight will pass onto the clerk the correspondence he has regarding Redrow advising they have financed the replacement gate on Chester Road and the Clerk will then write to FCC.

Finally, Cllr Bestwick reported that the Working Group have been contacted by a local resident asking for support from the council in his bid to reinstate a public right of way which passes directly through Hanson Cement. Members had commented that this particular walk had not been used for a substantial amount of years. FCC have previously advised that this right of way would not be reopened.

**RESOLVED:** unfortunately, on this occasion the council are unable to offer their support for this request and Cllr Bestwick will respond to the resident.

ii. Infrastructure

- a) No meeting has been held. The next meeting will be held in January 2020.

## 220. PPD Community Hwb (Youth Club Project)

Cllrs Wight and Wakelam explained that there had been a long delay with this process due to FCC having two expressions of interest, however, now that one has been withdrawn the process should now progress. There are a number of individuals involved with this project which also includes residents who are new to the village.

Advice is currently being sought from OVW's Legal Team regarding the financial and management arrangements the Community Council need to have in place regarding the CAT.

**RESOLVED:** the above report was received and noted.

## 221. Community Engagement

- i. Cllr Wight proposed for the Council to trail two Drop In Events; Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January, 6.30pm – 8.00pm and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Februarys, 6.30pm – 8.00pm in the Royal British Legion. They are to be informal where residents can pop in and chat with the Councillors.
- ii. Statistical information for the past month was provided to members which details our online reach to the community via the facebook page, twitter and Instagram all of which covering a cross section of ages. It shows the importance of not underestimating the importance of the online reach. The website alone the past month has received 1800 visits and the WMI Tender Advertisement reached 24,000 users (this was a paid advertisement).

**RESOLVED:**

- i. The Clerk will confirm the availability and booking of the Legion and the events will be promoted in the Council Newsletter, Facebook, website and noticeboards. Cllrs Wight, Wakelam, Priddin, Ransome and Walker all confirmed they will attend.
- ii. The report was received and noted.

## 222. Community Amenities

The Clerk reported that the legal agreement for the temporary 5 year Agreement with Welsh Water for the sewage connection has now been received. In accordance with the Councils Standing Orders it requires any two councillors to sign, on behalf of the Council and the Proper Officer shall witness their signatures.

Cllr Ransome advised that a site meeting was held regarding the installation of a fence to prevent the school children accessing the community facility area for safety reasons. This has now been passed to the Local Authority.

Cllr Walker informed members that the Council had contacted the school to request use of the Community Room to host the Flintshire County Forum in February, however, the school advised that this would be at a cost of £40. The school did come back to offer a discount for the room. FCC were surprised to hear that it would cost the Community Council to host this event and advised that no costs should be incurred for any hosting Council and therefore should not pursue this any further. A number of members were appalled to hear this report. Cllr Ransome reiterated that herself and Cllr Rothero in their roles of Governors have attempted to hold a meeting with the Hiring and Lettings Committees without success. This will be taken up with the school.

**RESOLVED:** the Council approved for Cllrs Wight and Bestwick to sign the agreement which will be witnessed by the Clerk once the document has been fully reviewed.

## 223. Millstone Playing Field & Play Areas

The Questionnaire has now been published and to date has received 90+ responses. Cllr Wight proposed that the results of the questionnaire be circulated to all member but to be scrutinised by the Infrastructure Working Group who will then report back to full council.

Cllr Bestwick informed members that he will be meeting Sutcliffes Play at the Millstone on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> in preparation for the Youth Shelter to be installed w/c 16<sup>th</sup> December.

**RESOLVED:** the results from the questionnaire will be compiled and circulated to all members with the Infrastructure Working Group scrutinising the results and preparing a report to full council.

## 224. Dobshill Defibrillator

As Cllr Blackman had submitted his apologies to the meeting Cllr Walker advised that he will contact Dobshill garage to ascertain if they would be willing to have the defibrillator installed on their premises.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Walker will to speak to the owners of Dobshill garage to ascertain if they will be willing to have the defibrillator installed on their premises.

## 225. Traffic Calming

Cllr Wight proposed for traffic calming to initially be discussed by the Infrastructure Working Group in detail and a report prepared for full council.

**RESOLVED:** this was agreed by the council and will be discussed by the Infrastructure Working Group and their next meeting.

## 226. SSAFA – VE Day Celebrations

Further to correspondence received, the Clerk made enquires to how the community council could be involved. The selection of choice is as follows:

**Piping Battle's O'er** - Battle's O'er will be played by pipers from the top of the four highest peaks in the UK - Ben Nevis, SCOTLAND; Scafell Pike, ENGLAND; Mount Snowdon, WALES, and Slieve Donard, NORTHERN IRELAND – and also at the five furthest points in the UK. Local parishes are encouraged to you try and source a local piper to play at a location of your choice at 3pm.

**Sounding The Last Post** - Those planning services will be encouraged to ask a representative from their local community to read out the Tribute to the Millions and involve a local bugler or trumpeter to play the Last Post and Reveille.

**Ringling Out for Peace** - Bells in churches and cathedrals will ring out at 7pm in a collective celebration of VE Day 75.

**Church Service**

**Cry for Peace Around the World** - Town Criers and members of local communities will be undertaking 'A Cry for Peace Around the World,' and will be performed at 6.66pm local time in locations around the world, starting in New Zealand

**Nation's Toast to the Heroes of World War 2** - To coincide with the playing of Battle's O'er, and from a location of their choice, local mayor's and other civic leaders are being encouraged to lead their local communities in the 'Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW II' paying 'tribute' by raising a glass and toasting the millions at home and abroad that gave so much for our freedom.

**Party** - Parties and celebrations could take place in pubs, clubs and hotels, on town and village greens and in our streets, bringing the communities of the nation together in common celebration and friendship

**RESOLVED:** the Council are in support of a Street Party and Cllr Walker confirmed that he and Cllr Blackman would be happy to take the lead on organising this event. This will be included as a regular agenda item.

## 227. Annual Newsletter

The draft Newsletter has been circulated to all members for consideration which will be A3 colour.

A couple of amendments are required and confirmation is required for booking of the Royal British Legion for the two Drop in Events. Once these are received the newsletter will go to print and be circulated as soon as possible together with the bus timetables.

**RESOLVED:** the newsletter will be updated and confirmation of the venue for the Drop In Events. Printing of the newsletter has been approved and circulation will be undertaken by all members as soon as possible.

## 228. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received, acknowledged and noted.

- Codgers Quarterly Newsletter – 50+Action Group Flintshire.
- Community Health Council – they will be holding a number of events inviting NHS staff, patients, their carers and families to talk about Vascular Services. The local events will be held 24th January 2020 from 10.30am – 12.30pm at Aberconwy MIND, 3 Trinity Square, Llandudno, Conwy LL30 2PY and 28th January 2020 from 2.00pm – 4.00pm at Colwyn Bay Cricket Club, 77 Penrhyn Avenue, Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn Bay, Conwy LL28 4LR.
- An email from Welsh Government advising the appropriate sum for the purpose of Section 137(4)(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 for Community and Town Council in Wales for 2020/21 is increasing from £8.12 per elector to £8.32 per elector.
- An email from the High Sheriff Clwyd regarding High Sheriff Awards 2020 – Nominations.
- An email received from a resident reporting damage to a coat from a street light column. The Clerk advised that she is investigating the claim and has visited the column in question. She met with FCC early in the day and raised the matter with them that although the column may be owned by the Community Council, the Council does in fact pay FCC to maintain, repair and inspect these columns and actually a full inspection has only just been undertaken.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk will continue to look into this claim and liaise with FCC and Zurich.

## 229. Members Items (AOB)

- Cllr Hinds requested the council send their best wishes to Mr Ingman who has served on the WMI Committee for many years.  
**RESOLVED:** a card will be sent to Mr Ingman.
- Cllr Hinds reported that she has been liaising with members of the community to establish if anyone would benefit from the FCC Free Meal Scheme being offer to isolated or deprived individuals or families.
- Cllr Wakelam advised that there were a few street lights out at the bottom of n Penymynydd Road.  
**RESOLVED:** these will be reported to FCC.

The finance and ordinary meetings were closed at 9.40pm

Chair..... 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020