

PEN-Y-FFORDD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held in the War Memorial Institute on Wednesday 15th January 2020

Present: Councillors Mr A Wight (Chairman), Mr R Bestwick (Vice Chairman), Mr J Priddin, Ms C Hinds, Mr D Walker, Mr D Williams, Mr R Wakelam, Mrs P Ransome, Mrs M Jones, Mr M Rothero, Mr P Blackman, Dr J Smith-Bellis, and Mr A Bakewell (Youth Representative)

Absent:

In attendance: Mrs S Hughes, Clerk & RFO to the Council
Jamie Sant - Borderlands
Sally Richards & Emma Woolfall – PPD Community Hwb (Youth Club Project)

241. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs E Davies.

242. Visitors

- i. PCSO Andrea Ellis – did not attend the meeting
- ii. Jamie Sant – Borderlands Line (Wrexham – Bidston). There will be a new diesel train introduced in Dec 2021 and new 230 class trains in Feb/March 2020 which will offer an increased capacity from 292 – 426 seat. The trains will have air condition, phone charging ports and additional space for bicycles.

They are looking at a pedestrian bridge for access to Penyffordd Station which FCC have agreed will be assessed. Also the disabled access at the station and car park are being reviewed.

They have been working with Castell Alun who have adopted the Hope Station and made improvements to the station.

Cllr Walker asked whether the increased capacity of the new trains will increase the number of carriages? JS advised the number of carriages will remain the same.

Cllr Bestwick questioned whether a hybrid (electric/diesel) direct train to Liverpool has been considered? JS advised this had previously been assessed but there are issues with diesel trains going through the tunnel, hybrid options are being considered for long term improvements.

Cllr Williams stated that FCC have for over 5 years been looking into improvements for pedestrian access to Penyffordd Station so any additional support from Borderlands would be appreciated. Also was there possibility at looking to link with bus services between Liverpool, Chester and Wrexham?

Cllr Hinds raised the issue of the timetable needing improvements to assist with commuters getting to/ from work.

Cllr Wight stated that the fundamental failing is that the service is unreliable; issues with the line, bridges, trains being removed to take down to Cardiff for big events. This is not reliable for commuters, Effort needs to be made the service consistent and reliable.

JS was asked what was the timeline for the Hub at Penyffordd Station? He replied that the application for funding was submitted in November 2019 and a response should be received by March 2020.

JS suggested writing to Ken Skates to make a request to Network Rail for the amount of bridge strikes along the line at Shotton, Penyffordd & Cefn y Bedd and ask for Network Rail to assess whether there is need for an investment in a crash barrier. He has previously done this, however the results at the time was that the number was lower than required for a need for a crash barrier

The Chair reported a letter received from pupils of Ysgol Penyffordd regarding an educational trip for approx 85 pupils to visit TechniQuest in Wrexham via train, however, unfortunately, the aspect of health and safety prevented their plans from being fulfilled, as the journey would've taken them over the busy A550 at the roundabout with A5104. They have contacted Jack Sargeant and intend to start a petition which will highlight the proposal for a footbridge over the A550 to enable safe access to the station.

JS informed members that there has been a locked display board at the station which is the council or school wishes to use to advertise event they are able to do so.

RESOLVED: a letter will be written to Ken Skates to request information on the number of bridge strikes along Shotton, Penyffordd & Cefn y Bedd and ask for Network Rail to assess whether there is need for an investment in a crash barrier.

Cllr Ransome will pass on Jamie Sants contact details to Ysgol Penyffordd.

- iii. Sally Richards & Emma Woolfall – PPD Community Hwb. SR explained that the Working Group is making good progress and has a very good mix of skills. There was a meeting last night and Cadwyn Clwyd also attended.

The Group had expressed cautiousness regarding the proposed future extension for the scout building and whether the community council would be in support of this? The Chair confirmed that the council would be in support.

**JS left the meeting 6.55pm

EW explained that Cadwyn Clwyd had provided information that match funding was available for a feasibility study with 30% (£3000) being required from the Community Hwb and 70% (£7000) from Cadwyn Clwyd. This application could be submitted March 2020. Cllr Ransome questioned whether the feasibility study would include the fabric of the building? SR confirmed that yes it would and that on completing the request you state what you want including in the study.

Cllr Wight asked whether Cadwyn Clwyd advised of any potential funding for the building? SR/EW advised that Cadwyn Clwyd could assist them on advice where funding could be applied for.

Cllr Williams wished express he has been very impressed with the efforts from both SR & EW, Shaun Darlington (FLVC) has also expressed how impressed he is with the progress so far. Cllr Williams summarised the requests from the Group from the meeting the previous evening:

- a. Could the £3000 towards the feasibility study be funded by the council from the £10,000 (£106 money) held in reserves?
- b. Would it be acceptable that funds from the remaining £7000 be used to cover costs of the public consultations as currently they are being covered by individual members of the PPD Community Hwb Working Group?

Cllr Ransome asked whether the Scouts are onboard, which SR/EW and Cllr Williams all advised that they were fully on board and are working very closely with the scouts.

The Chairman thanked SR and EW for attending the meeting and their update report. The financial requests above will be discussed later in the meeting and will be reported back to them as soon as possible.

SR & EW left the meeting at 7.15pm

243. To Receive any Declaration of Interest – Members Code of Conduct

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

244. Minutes of the Council Meetings held on 11th December 2019

The Chairman reported that the wording under Min 221 should state '1800 visits from different users'.

RESOLVED: noting the above amendment, these were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

245. Matters arising

Min 184 – Two suggested dates have been provided to Jack Sargeant for a meeting. Friday 24th or Friday 31st January.

Min 212/184 Cllr Wight acknowledged that letters were still outstanding to Claire Homard – FCC Education and Julie James AM.

Min 212/180 -The Bus timetable and newsletter has been received from the printers and is currently being distributed. It was suggested that the remaining distribution could be undertaken by Mr G Davies – Streetscene Operative.

There were concerns and complaints received in the way the timetables have been dealt with by FCC. FCC confirmed the final timetable with the council before Christmas which was sent to print (at the cost of the community council who had chosen to do this to ensure residents were kept well informed) and then last week Sarah Blake (FCC) met with Cllrs Williams and Walker and advised there had been slight changes to this timetable. Cllr Blackman feels that FCC has made a mockery of the community council with the council printing and distributing outdate

timetables and also it has been reported that the drivers have told passengers that the timetable will be changing again. Very frustrating.

Cllr Walker asked whether the council could request a list of the fares from Sarah Blake which can be advertised to residents?

Cllr Wakelam reported that Castell Alun made an announcement early today that 6th form students will no longer be able to use the school transport and will have to now use the no.29.

RESOLVED: Cllr Walker will liaise with the Clerk to establish the required areas for distribution and request Mr Davies to complete the delivery. This additional work will be undertaken where possible during his normal working hours, however, the council agreed should it be necessary additional hours will be paid.

Cllr Walker will contact Sarah Blake for a list of fares which will then be advertised on the website.

Cllr Williams will ensure that all revised timetables are displayed on the noticeboards.

Min 217 - Notification from FCC was received that in relation to Ref: 060762. Detached single storey garage. Cambria, Station Way, Vounog Hill, Penyffordd they did receive a couple of objections (access, overlooking, wildlife), however, these objections did not warrant a refusal and therefore on the delegated powers will be approved.

Min 219i(d) - FCC have confirmed the kissing gate has been installed. Information has now been passed to Cllrs Bestwick and Ransome as there was uncertainty whether they have been installed in the correct location.

Min 221 - The date of the January Drop in Event has been changed from the 16th to the 23rd January.

Min 228 – The Clerk reported that the insurance claim has now been passed to FCC.

Min 229 - Mr Ingham acknowledged and appreciated the card sent by the council.

**Cllr Walker left the meeting 7.30pm

246. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman wished to acknowledge and express thanks to members of the community who were involved with community Christmas events.

He also wished to personally thank Cllr Walker for all of his efforts and work on the bus timetables and leaflet distribution.

247. Minutes of the Committees

To receive the drafts minutes from the War Memorial Institute Refurbishment Committee meeting held on Monday 13th January 2020.

RESOLVED: the minutes were received and noted.

248. Reports from County Councillors

Cllr Hinds reported she had information on grass cutting and climate change that she will pass to the clerk to circulate. FCC Will be appointing a Manager to look at climate change and FCC will also be holding a Workshop.

It was suggested that the Community Council should also start to look at climate change. Cllr Williams proposed this be a future agenda item 'Actions for Environmental Change'. The Chairman supported this and asked all members to think about actions that could be taken and to bring them to the February meeting.

Cllr Williams reported that there has been correspondence with the Planning Inspectorate and Andrew Farrow regarding the very poor notification of the appeal notice on the Vounog development. The letter sent from FCC was dated 23 Dec 2019 yet only received on 11 Jan 2020. He has been advised that the closing date has now been extended.

Both Cty Cllrs have requested that the Redrow planning application for amendments go to Committee.

RESOLVED: Actions for Environmental Change will be included on the February agenda.

249. Public Questions

There were no public questions.

250. Planning Applications

- a) To review and consider Planning Applications received.
- i. Ref: 060776. Extension to sides and rear. Pear Tree Farm, New Road, Dobshill. https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060776 **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'. The Council request feedback should any concerns be raised. The Council would also request that reasonable working hours are incorporated with any planning approval. Suggested hours being Monday – Friday 8.00am – 5.30pm, Saturday 8.00am – 1.00pm and no Sunday working.**
- b) To receive Notifications of Planning Decisions made by Flintshire County Council.
- i. Ref: 060178. Erection of 3no. dwellings. Rhos Y Brwyner Farm, Rhos Road, Penyffordd. **Approved**
- c) To review Ongoing and Proposed Planning Applications.

Vounog – as mentioned in the Cty Cllrs Report. This is now an informal hearing where the council can attend and make representation.

251. Penyffordd War Memorial Refurbishment Project (Section 106 Agreement)

An informal meeting was held on 19th Dec to meet with the WMI and potential contractor.

The WMI Refurbishment Committee met again on the 13th January and a copy of the draft minutes were circulated to all members. The contractor has relooked at their quote to see where they can make cut backs/alterations to bring within budget.

In order for the project to be within budget it has been necessary for the WMI and Council to compromise on the desired build, therefore, the proposed storage extension and velux windows have been withdrawn from the quote. The WMI Refurb Committee made a recommendation to the full council to appoint Bryn Build as the main contractor for Phase 1 who have submitted a final quote of £190,455.56. This final cost includes £1500 fee for the necessary Principle Designer and CDM.

The WMI have confirmed that will cover the internal work costs (phase2) estimated approx. £25,000.

Discussion were had as the final quote is over budget and where the council could source the additional funds. The Chair proposed that the incorporated fee of £1500 for the Principle Designer & CDM could be covered by the WMI and the remaining difference of c£9100 could be drawn from the annual donation to the WMI of £4000 and the balance from the Community Buildings budget.

Start date is to be confirmed as the WMI have to liaise with service providers water, gas & electric. A provisional date is set as 10th February 2020.

RESOLVED: the council unanimously agreed to appoint Bryn Build as the main contractor and approved the quote of £188,955.56 (exc Principle Designer & CDM fee to be paid by the WMI), the council will cover the additional costs of c£9100. The Council will formally write to Bryn Build and also to the WMI to provide an explanation of how the overspend will be met and that the WMI will be required to fund the appointment of the Principle Designer & CDM.

252. Community Town Councils - OWL Cymru Service Support Flintshire

Correspondence has been received from OWL regarding financial funding. In brief, OWL have previously received funding which is now being withdrawn and therefore they need to obtain funds from elsewhere. They are asking whether T&CC will support their communities and fund this service. Should the council support this, it will mean that it will continue to be available to all of our residents, businesses and schools.

They have presented the following options for the council to consider:

- A. OWL system for alerts & responses £350
- B. + additional charge of a community event £100 - £150 dependant on requirements
- C. Package of above to include A. with 3 events £650
- D. We apply for an annual fee to the public who wish to continue receiving OWL support/services from us.

RESOLVED: the council agreed they would be willing to support option A which would allow all residents, businesses and schools within the community to register and have access to OWL. This would fall under the Community Improvements budget.

253. Reforestation Community Offsetting

Cllr Wight provided information to members in advance of the meeting for consideration. He proposed that from the council's investment fund, they pay for the planting of one tree for every resident as part of our VE Commemoration.

Wales has declared a climate emergency and if the forecasts are true, the consequences of climate change will affect all of us. Eden Reforestation are a non-profit organisation based in California who have so far planted over 250 million trees funded through business and other partnerships. They charge \$0.10 per tree. The trees are planted through the employment of local people to replant lost forests, many of them mangroves. They plant in Madagascar, Mozambique, Kenya, Haiti, Nepal and Indonesia. In 2020 we will have close to 5,000 residents, 5000 trees will cost £391 (based on today's exchange rate of \$1.28 / £1). It will pay for 500 days' work and the trees will sequester 61,500 Kg of CO2 each or 1,542 tonnes of CO2 over 25 years life. The proposal was fully supported and seconded by Cllr Wakelam.

RESOLVED: the council approved to pay for 5000 trees to be planted via Eden Reforestation.

254. Community Council Draft Estimates for 2020/21

The amendments discussed at the December meeting have been made and a revised copy issued. The Clerk reported that she has also increased the website budget to cover costs for the New Accessibility Regulations which the council have to comply with by September 2020.

The final budget was considered and Cllr Wight proposed the 2020/21 precept to be £98,374, an increase of 12.05% and in monetary terms would equate to an increase of £5.26p per year based on a Band D property.

Cllr Wight has also prepared information on a breakdown of the council's budget/precept for residents which he will circulate to all members.

RESOLVED: that this Council's precept requirement for 2020/21 be approved as £98,374 (ninety-eight thousand three hundred and seventy four pounds) and that Flintshire County Council be informed accordingly. This equates to the Band D sum of £48.89p per year which is an increase of 12.05%. The Chairman and Clerk be authorised to sign the declaration of precept requirement for submission to Flintshire County Council.

Cllr Wight will make the necessary amendments to the breakdown information and circulate to all members. This will then be advertised on the council's website.

255. Street Name and Numbering

The developers for the development at Land of Hawarden Road has provided FCC with the following names of the proposed new street;

- Holly bank / Glan Celyn
- The Meadows / Y Dolydd
- Millbrook Close / Clos Nant y Felin
- Olive Grove / Llwyn yr Olewydd
- The Hawthorns / Y Ddraenen Wen

Members highlighted that there were already street names referring to Holly and Meadow within the village and was unsure of the relevance behind Olive Grove or Millbrook Close.

RESOLVED: the Council support the street name The Hawthorns/ Y Ddraenen Wen.

256. PPD Community Hwb (Youth Club Project)

This item had been discussed with the visitor's attendance. The Council did consider the financial requests:

- a. Could the £3000 towards the feasibility study be funded by the council from the £10,000 (£106 money) held in reserves?
- b. Would it be acceptable that funds from the remaining £7000 be used to cover costs of the public consultations as currently they are being covered by individual members of the PPD Community Hwb Working Group?

RESOLVED: the above report was received and noted. The council support the request for the 30% (£3000) contribution to assist with the Cadwyn Clwyd match funding for a feasibility study to be undertaken and will be withdrawn from the £10,000 £106 money held in reserves for the Youth Club. The Council at this time are unable to support their request for a 'float' as they have no organisational bank account. Cost relating to Public Consultation/Promotion Events will be reviewed again as and when.

257. Community Amenities

The Welsh Water legal agreement is yet to signed as the Council are awaiting formal and written confirmation from the land owners, FCC. Cllr Williams this is due imminently.

Cllr Williams advised that he had met with the football club who have expressed concerns regarding access, bookings and usage. The Chair reported he had met with the school and it was a very positive meeting. He has suggested installing the community access gate which the school supports. Issues around parking have not yet been resolved. Cllr Ransome is taking this up with the Hiring and Lettings.

It was reported that the school have closed the gates for school pick up due to safety reasons, although the gates remain open for school drop off.

Cllr Wight stated that when the field is being used there should be no litter left, no dogs allowed and no foul language.

Cllr Blackman expressed concern that the investment into the portcabins was for a community facility alongside the community school, however, it feels as though the school is controlling and dictating the process. Cllr Wight understands the concerns of the school and their issues/concerns with the community use of the field, but positive talks are being had.

RESOLVED: Cllr Williams to continue to liaise with FCC and pursue the formal agreement. Once this is received the legal agreement with Welsh Water can then be signed.

258. North East Wales Digital Trail

Cllr Wight gave a brief report on the proposal of participation of this initiative. Communities across Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham have developed their own digital trails to encourage local people and visitors alike to explore the local area and find out more about their heritage. Funding can be sought from Cadwyn Clwyd which would reduce the cost to the Community Council to £750 which could be assigned to the Community Improvements budget.

He requested that members look into this initiative further which will be considered at the February meeting.

RESOLVED: members to look at the North East Wales Digital Trail which will be included on the February agenda for consideration.

259. Working Groups

- i. Environment – Cllr Bestwick sought approval for addition circular walk 1 & 2 leaflets to be printed.

Cllr Williams reported that the information is ready to be advertised for 'Adopt a Tree'. The information will be advertised on the noticeboards, website and social media. Ian Williams Streetscene has confirmed he will assist with the planting near main roads and roundabouts and the community can be involved with planting at the grassed areas within the village

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st January.

RESOLVED: council approved for a further 250 copies to be printed @ £112. Cllr Williams will co-ordinate the advertisement of 'Adopt a Tree'

- ii. Infrastructure – Cllr Wight reported that a meeting will be called within the next fortnight.

260. Millstone Playing Field & Play Areas

A copy of the play area questionnaire was circulated to all members (91 responses were received). The Chair proposed that this is studied in detail by the Infrastructure Working Group to review the possible options of equipment for the play area improvements. As this as FCC owned play areas they will need to follow the FCC procurement procedure.

RESOLVED: the Play Area Questionnaire will be reviewed by the Infrastructure Working Group and their next meeting and proposal brought back to the council to consider.

** JP left the meeting at 9.15pm

261. SSAFA – VE Day Celebrations

Cllr Blackman advised that no meeting has been held to date and asked on the request of Cllr Walker whether the council would consider a budget for this event? The Chairman reported that the Red Lion are interested in holding an event and suggested that Cllrs Blackman and Walker liaise with the Red Lion.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Blackman and Walker to liaise with the Red Lion regarding an event for VE Day.

262. Dobshill Defibrillator

Cllr Walker has received confirmation from Dobshill Garage that they are happy for the defib to be installed on their premises. The Council needs to approach a local electrician to ascertain if they would be willing to install free of charge? Cllrs Blackman and Williams advised there were aware of local electricians to approach.

RESOLVED: Cllr Blackman to co-ordinate the installation of the defibrillator at Dobshill garage.

263. Training

During the Clerks annual appraisal, it was agreed in principle by the Chair and Vice Chair to support the Clerks attendance of the 2 day Annual Practitioners Conference which will take place on Wednesday 26th & Thursday 27th February at Chesford Grange, Kenilworth. £464 + travel, other costs & additional hours.

RESOLVED: that the Clerk be authorised to book a place and attend the Conference as part of her continued professional training and the delegate’s fees, travel and other costs and the additional hours incurred by the Clerk for attending the Conference be paid.

264. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received, acknowledged and noted.

- Receipts and thank you’s for the Grants: Pontblyddyn Cricket Club, Beaver Scouts, Toddlers, Friends of Penyffordd School, Brownies, Bowling Club, Flower Club, Trinity Chapel, Tennis Club, Cubs, St Johns School and Citizens Advice.
- Hafren Dyfdwy will be holding a drop in event on 28th January 1pm – 4pm to talk to residents about the changes to how their water bills will be paid.
- Children’s Wales Air Ambulance letter request of financial support.
- Email and phone calls thanking the council for the recent newsletter.
- Planning Inspectorate Wales and Planning Aid Wales will be holding an event on 24th January in Llandudno designed to introduce Community Councils to the work of the Planning Inspectorate and explore how Community Councils can effectively engage with the planning system.

RESOLVED: Cllr Ransome has previously confirmed her attendance. Cllr Wakelam also expressed an interest.

- Correspondence from FCC asking whether the council will be participating in the 2020 summer Playscheme.
RESOLVED: the council will be participating and dependant on what, if any funding will be received from FCC will depend on how many weeks the council can provide within budget.

265. Members Items (AOB)

- Cllr Wight reminded members of the Drop In Event being held Thursday 23rd January, Royal British Legion 6.30pm – 8.00pm.

The finance and ordinary meetings were closed at 9.45pm

Chair..... 12th February 2020