

PENYFFORDD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary (Hybrid) Meeting held on Wednesday 13th December 2023

- Present:** Councillors Mrs P Ransome (Chair), Mr A Sloan (Vice), Mr R Wakelam, Mr D Walker, Mr P Blackman, Mrs L Overington, Mr D Williams, Mr O Thompson, Mr A Ibbotson and Youth Rep Miss Boleyn
- By Video:** Councillor Mrs S Williams
- Also Present:** Mrs Sarah A Hughes, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
7x Members of the Public

131. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs J Priddin and M Rothero. Miss Boleyn advised that she will arrive late to the meeting.

132. To receive any Declarations of Interest – Members Code of Conduct

There were no Declaration of Interest received.

133. Chairman's Announcements

The Chair welcomed members of the public to the meeting.

Condolences on behalf of the council were expressed to Cllrs D & G Healey for their personal tragedy and bereavement.

Thanks to members for their continued work outside of full council meetings. Thanks to the RBL, WMI and all involved with the Remembrance parade, this appeared to be the largest turnout to date. Also, the RBL recently hosted an event for the Male Voice Choir which was very well attended.

134. To receive and approve the Ordinary Minutes of the 8th November 2023

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

135. To review and report on any Matters Arising from previous meetings

Min 106 - all new 3 defibs have been installed. The council has registered the St Johns and the kiosk on The Circuit and will be routinely checked by the Groundsman. The Bowling Club have yet to mark the defib as 'active'. Cllr D Williams will also be pursuing the possibility of Redrow providing a defib.

The defib at the bowling club has not been lowered due to the current siting of the framework and the boundary fence. The Bowling Club will discuss at their January committee meeting.

A provisional date for the next defib training session has been booked for Tuesday 30th January 2024 @ 6.30pm in the Royal British Legion. As soon as the trainer has confirmed, the local clubs and organisations will be contacted.

Min 115/99 – Cllr D Williams requested for parking at Ysgol Penyffordd to be included on the January agenda for further discussion.

RESOLVED: parking at Ysgol Penyffordd will be included on the January agenda.

Min 115/105 – Ysgol Penyffordd have confirmed they hold the plaque and picture in memory of Kimberley Worthington.

FCC have reported that the contractor Total Controlled Demolition Ltd have taken delivery of site cabins and security fencing. The asbestos removal and internal strip out of the building started 11th December and will be completed after Christmas with the main demolition works starting towards the end of January with the completion date in March 24. The site is now in the control of the contractor and they are aware of their responsibility for maintaining a secure site.

Min 122c - Matthew Linford, Planning Enforcement advised he visited the Millstone View site and have since chased Redrow up regarding the submission of a S73 application. He was told that they are in contact with the council's leisure consultant and case officer to discuss a potential new trigger from which they are going to submit a S73 application to vary the condition. He has requested that they suggest a timeframe for which they expect to submit the application.

Min 125 - Ian Williams has advised the dog bins cost £225 each and he will install for free. 2x have been ordered and Cllr Ibbotson has provided a marked location map.

Min 129 – Mr Darren Morris, FCC Lead Officer for Play Development confirmed his attendance to the February meeting.

Due to the public attendance, Cllr D Walker proposed that agenda item 14 be brought forward after giving the opportunity to raise questions. This was approved.

136. To receive any Public Questions/Correspondence (part 1 of 2)

Members of the public wished to express concerns and objections to planning application: [COU/001034/23](#). Change of use to a mixed use of stables, keeping of horses, a 2-pitch family traveller caravan site and 1 day room with associated gravel surface and access (part retrospective). Land adj. to Hawthorne Cottage, Little Mountain Road, Buckley.

The concerns raised were: proposed development on green belt; previous application always being refused; concerns of access either end of the road and also access onto the dirt track to the land; regular use of heavy vehicles damaging the highway; sewage connections/septic tanks; concerns that if approved this could lead to the site being extended further in the future.

Cllr Ibbotson provided information on the planning process and expected timeframes to a determination.

The Chair thanked residents for their attendance and comments, all of which will be taken into consideration when discussing the application.

137. Planning

- a) To consider planning applications received from Flintshire County Council. The Council also considered any additional applications that may have been received between the issue of agenda and the meeting:

RESOLVED:

- i. [COU/001034/23](#). Change of use to a mixed use of stables, keeping of horses, a 2-pitch family traveller caravan site and 1 day room with associated gravel surface and access (part retrospective). Land adj. to Hawthorne Cottage, Little Mountain Road, Buckley. **Objection with a recommendation for refusal:**
- **The representations of neighbours should be fully taken into account in making a determination;**
 - **That the decision by the applicant to undertake work that a reasonable person could not consider would not need planning permission indicates a disregard for the proper planning process. Appropriate weight should be given to this in determining the application, and**
 - **That the retrospective nature of the application in relation to part of the works should not be considered to support a positive determination on the basis of it being a fait accompli.**
 - **That any new temporary or permanent structures should be refused with our justification being that to agree 'would set a precedence for further development on land outside the settlement boundary.**
 - **The community council supports objections made by Cty Cllrs Ibbotson and Wakelam and neighbours.**

**7.15pm Miss Boleyn arrived and 7.20pm 7x Members of the public left the meeting.

- ii. Notification that [RES/000628/23](#), Application for Approval of Reserved Matters following Outline Approval 060076 (Conditions 2, 7 & 9), Land South of Rhos Road, Penyffordd was heard at the FCC Planning Committee meeting on 13th December.

Cty Cllr Ibbotson spoke at the meeting and Cllr Ransome attended as an observer. Unfortunately, the Planning Committee passed the planning application unanimously and has now been approved.

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

- i. [FUL/000770/23](#). Application for Removal or Variation of Condition No. 1 following Grant of Planning Permission: 045229, 057324 & 061669. Cambrian House, Vounog Hill, Penyffordd. **Approved**
- ii. [FUL/000951/23](#). A small flat roof dormer window, in an existing loft conversion to house a new bathroom. 2 Bannel Bridge, Bannel Lane, Buckley. **Approved**
- iii. [FUL/000754/23](#). First Floor Side Extension and Internal Alterations. 5 Ffordd Haearn, Penyffordd. **Approved**

138. To receive any Public Questions/Correspondence (part 2 of 2)

The council received 3 written public questions:

- a) A request from a resident for a salt bin to be installed at Millstone View.
RESOLVED: Cllr Ibbotson advised he has made a request to Ian Williams, FCC Streetscene.
- b) The standard of work relating the hedge cutting around the village, including safety issues of the pathways and highways after cutting.
RESOLVED: Cllr Ibbotson advised he has written to the Chief Officer and was informed that this work had not been completed by FCC and was undertaken by landowners. Streetscene will visit the areas.
- c) An enquiry of any commercial developments or properties to allow for a previous business to return to the community. Members identified premises in Buckley and Drury that may be suitable.
RESOLVED: as the correspondence came via Cllrs Walker and D Williams, they will liaise with the recipient.

139. Annual Grant Application

Trinity Chapel contacted the council regarding their grant application, it transpired that they had applied via an incorrect email address for the Clerk, they had also copied the email and application to the Chair but unfortunately her computer was being repaired and some emails were lost. The application for the Warm Hub has therefore been submitted for the council to consider.

The clerk advised that the Grant budget has been spent, but could be allocated against Community Support.

RESOLVED: the council approved the application and will award £246.87 (same as other grants) to be allocated against Community Support budget.

140. Bank Balances and Accounts for Payment

To report balances of all bank accounts and to review and authorise monthly accounts for payment.

Bank Balances Current £ 8094.05 Deposit £ 174378.83 Play Area £8889.70

Payments Received

Mrs Grimshaw	Defib Donation	£100.00
FCC	Match Funding	£10,000.00
HSBC	Interest	£858.76

Accounts for Payment

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Flintshire County Council	Streetlighting Maintenance (pym rd)	£474.00
Cherry Orchard Farm Ltd	2 x 10ft Christmas Trees - (Hawarden estate)	£240.00
Mega Electrical NW Ltd	Install & decorate PYF & PYM Xmas Lights (inc clock)	£2,778.00
Mega Electrical NW Ltd	Install & decorate - Dobshill Xmas Lights	£477.00
Mega Electrical	Installation of Defib Kiosk & Bowling Club	£780.00
Flintshire County Council	Streetlighting Maintenance (park lane)	£237.00
WoodsWork CIC	Nature Area Management	£340.00
Mr C Jones	Mileage and Expenses	£18.45
Mrs S Hughes	Mileage and Expenses	£17.10
Staffing Cost	Nov 2023 (inc back pay to april 2023)	£6,195.29
Hafren Dyfrdwy	Water Charges - Abbots Lane Changing Rooms	£117.16
Mammoth Workwear	Staff Uniform	£40.87
HSBC	Monthly Charge	£10.40
Trinity Chapel	Grant	£246.87

RESOLVED: the above accounts be approved and will be processed for payment. The payment schedule was signed by the Chairman/or Vice Chairman and countersigned by two bank signatories.

141. Summer Playscheme

The council reviewed and considered the new proposal and costings from Flintshire County Council for the 2024 – 2026 playscheme and the possibility of aligning with their 3-year cycle. The new proposal now only allows for either a 3 or 6 week scheme.

All options were considered including the staff ratio of 1:13 and the possibility of requiring additional staff if the scheme is more widely promoted.

RESOLVED: the council approved in principle to align with the FCC 3yr cycle and opted for the 6 week scheme (£3831.60) and will also budget for additional staff if required (£159.70 per week, per staff member). As Mr Morris FCC Lead Officer for Play Development is attending the February meeting, Summer playscheme will be included on the agenda where further information may be received and the 'in principle' decision may be revoked or amended.

142. D-Day 80

Cllr Walker submitted a proposal for the council to co-ordinate a community event involving a parade, church service and hog roast. Estimated budget £1500. On objection was submitted as it was considered D-Day a day of remembrance rather than celebration.

It was reported that the RBL will be coordinating an event and further information will be provided.

RESOLVED: the council refused the proposal.

143. Christmas Lighting and Decorations

Cllr D Williams submitted a proposal for the council to consider the quality of this year's decorations and potential improvements for next year and if changes are needed for 2024, to consider the possibility of making any purchases during end of year sales.

RESOLVED: Cllrs D Williams, Overington, Thompson and Wakelam will undertake an audit of the existing lights and prepare a proposal for any new lighting. The council approved that purchases could be made in this financial year if financial beneficial and funds will be re allocated from a used budget.

144. Community Council Draft Estimates for 2024/25

The Council reviewed and considered the draft estimates for 2024/25 together with a report which detailed reasons of increases/decreases. The Chairman invited Councillors 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 2024.

The Clerk reported that there has been a slight increase to the Tax Base of equivalent Band D properties - from 2220.75 to 2293.99.

A confidential report was also submitted for the council's consideration.

RESOLVED: the necessary adjustments (below) will be made to the draft budget and represented to the Council at the January meeting for consideration, approval and for submission of the 2024/25 precept.

- 1.2 – Summer Playscheme: increase by £2.6k
- 1.5 - Playing Fields: remove £10k (should this be required the council will utilise the Working Balance)
- 1.6 & 1.6a - Bulbs & Shrubs: increase by £500 and separate the Sponsor a Tree budget
- 1.19 - Old School Site: remove and allocate in future budget
- 1.7 - Memorial Garden: reduce project to £10k
- New - D-Day 80: remove £2k as council refused proposal
- 2.1 – Wages, HMRC & NI: increase by £350 (as per the confidential report)
- 2.17 - Training: reduce by £1.5k as budget previously not fully utilised
- 4.1 - Salt Bins: increase by £400
- 4.3 - Footpaths: reduce by £1k
- 5.0 - Grants: increase by £4k
- Working Balance - increase by £25k to bring in line with the recommended reserves.

The council also approved matters within the Confidential Report.

145. To Receive the County Councillors Report

No reports were submitted.

146. Councillor Vacancy

Following the four expressions of interests received and subsequent interviews, members voted on the vacancy.

RESOLVED: Glenys Nethercott be co-opted for the vacancy and will attend the January meeting to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllrs Sloan, Thompson, Overington, Wakelam and D Williams requested to be minuted their disappointment in the voting process having to achieve the absolutely majority.

**9.15pm Cllr Sloan left the meeting

147. Public Transport (Penyffordd, Penymynydd and Dobshill)

- a) Members were provided copies of responses received from Mark Tami MP, Jack Sargeant MS and Lee Waters MS regarding requests for support for the resumption of the direct Penyffordd to Chester bus service.
- b) Cllr D Williams proposal regarding concerns of residents over the current bus provision and proposals under consideration and to also establish the situation over Pen-y-ffordd station as a hub for the South of the County.

Cllr Ibbotson reported that there had been a clerical error in that the Penyffordd Hub had been excluded from a recent presentation, however, this has been rectified and is included within the Integrated Transport Strategy and is still an ambition of FCC.

Work still on going towards the no.3 bus to service the wider community. Responses are still awaiting from Arriva and Katie Wilby, FCC.

Cllr Walker reported that he had received numerous calls last Saturday as the Fflecsi system was down and residents could not make bookings. A system needs to be in place by FCC for when this happens.

**9.30pm Cllr Overington left the meeting

RESOLVED:

- a) The responses were received and noted.
- b) Once responses have been received from Arriva and Katie Wilby - FCC this will be included on the agenda.

**9.35pm Cllr D Williams left the meeting.

148. Newsletter

A mid term Newsletter had been drafted for the council's consideration.

RESOLVED: the council approved the newsletter for publication, with the addition of train times. This will be published on the website, facebook and a number of paper copies located in the local shops by Cllr Thompson.

149. Members Payments

As Cllr Sloan had left the meeting, an amendment was submitted to defer this item until January.

RESOLVED: this item will be included on the January agenda.

150. Community Facilities

Changing rooms - Following a site meeting with the Clerk, Groundsman and Cllr D Williams, Mr C Jones has prepared a report and costings for information. These priority works will be carried out by Mr Jones over the coming weeks/months. A subsequent report was also brought to the table of additional works.

Due to health and safety concerns for users of the facility and staff members, it was proposed that the facility to be temporarily closed with immediate effect. It was then considered whether it could remain open whilst the required work was completed.

A recorded vote was requested.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Ibbotson, Wakelam, Thompson and S Williams supported the immediate temporary closure; Cllrs Blackman, Walker and Ransome abstained.

The community changing rooms will therefore be temporarily closed with immediate effect whilst the health and safety inspections and any required works are carried out. Delegated powers were given to the Chair and Clerk to authorise any necessary costs. All cost will be reported at the January meeting.

*The Chair proposed to suspend standing orders in respect of the duration of the meeting in order to finish the agenda.
This was approved.*

****10.02pm** Cllr Blackman left the meeting.

151. Issues Raised with Flintshire County Council

A 'FCC Issue Log' has been prepared to allow the council to regularly monitoring the progress of issues raised. Members will provide the Clerk with updates on the issues.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted. Additional issues will be reported appropriately to FCC and included on the Log.

152. To acknowledge and note correspondence received.

- OVW & Planning Aid Wales Training & Events
- Woodwork CIC Monthly report
- One Voice Wales & IRPW webinar – 27.11.2023
- OPCC North Wales Newsletter #33 - 17.11.23 and #34 - 01.12.23
- Hanson –Liaison Committee Meeting 04 12 23
- PYF Tennis Club AGM
- People of North Wales urged to say how much they will pay for policing
- New consultation: Local Government Finance (Wales) Bill
- Message from the St Johns Headteacher expressing appreciation for the installation of the defibrillator and also for the councils efforts in the repainting of road markings outside the school.
- Wales Climate week 4 – 8 December.
- FCC Draft Resource and Waste Strategy.
- Invitation from FCC: meeting - A55 J36 Warren Interchange to Wales / England Border (WB & EB) - Concrete Carriageway Resurfacing Works.
- OVW Wrexham and Flintshire Area Committee meeting 7.00pm 12.12.2023.
- A number of receipts and emails of thanks relating to the recent grants awarded.
- SLCC Clerks Practitioners Conference.

RESOLVED: the council agreed to the training and will fund 50% plus subsistence costs, the remaining 50% funded by Hope Council.

153. Members Items/Future Agenda Items

- No items requested.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and closed at 10.15pm

Chair..... 10th January 2024

****a confidential report accompany these minutes but are not available to the public****