

PENYFFORDD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the (Zoom) Virtual Meeting held on Wednesday 8th December 2021

Present by Video: Councillors Mr M Rothero (Chairman), Mr R Wakelam (Vice Chairman), Mr R Bestwick, Mr J Priddin, Mr D Williams, Mrs P Ransome, Mr A Ibbotson, Mr D Walker, Cllr I Challinor and Mr P Blackman

Also Present: Mrs Sarah A Hughes, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

157. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs C Hinds and S Saxon.

158. **To receive any Declarations of Interest – Members Code of Conduct**

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

159. **Visitors**

Jayne Rogers – Interim Transport Strategy Manager sent her apologies and therefore Sarah Blake – Transport Area Coordinator was requested to also attend the future meeting in which Jayne Rogers could attend.

160. **To receive and approve the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 10th November 2021**

RESOLVED: these were approved as a correct record and in accordance with guidance from the Internal Auditor will be formally signed by the Chairman by way of an electronic signature.

161. **To review and report on any Matters Arising from the previous meetings.**

Min 131 – Members were provided with information received from Jayne Rogers, Anthony Stanford and Barry Wilkinson on Job Roles.

Min 133/115 – Cllr Bestwick reported that the RBL now have the facilities needed for a hybrid meeting.

Min 135 - After consulting with other Clerks, the feedback was that other than Natwest, colleagues use Unity bank which also charges.

Min 146 - The newsletter and Place Plan questions are now printed and ready for delivery. This will be co-ordinated by the Clerk, Cllrs Ibbotson, Ransome and Wakelam.

Min 148 – the RBL and WMI have advised they have no organised plans regarding Operation London Bridge. The WMI have confirmed they are happy for the council to locate these within the WMI.

RESOLVED: the image of the Queen and condolence books will be ordered.

Min 151 - Jack Sargeant MS has contacted the North Wales Police and Crime Commissioners office and will contact us again once he receives a reply. Mark Tami MP has written to the Education Minister and will respond in due course. The Nitrous Oxide Poster has been shared and approved with the police and FCC Drugs and Alcohol team and is ready to be distributed.

**6.40pm Cllr M Rothero (Chairman) left the meeting.

162. **Public Questions**

A number of emails have been received from residents questioning the location of the Hanson Monitoring System which was agreed by the Liaison Committee to be at the Bowling Club.

Cllr Ibbotson reported under his role of Cty Cllr he has approx. 20 open cases with reference to the location and transparency of the decision.

Representative of the Liaison Committee advised that the decision was made jointly with the Liaison Committee, NRW, Hanson and the Bowling Club. This location was deemed the most suitable location together with it being able to provide the necessary security, which the Youth Club could not. It was reported that Chairman of the Liaison Committee has stated that this was a democratic vote which cannot be changed for 6 months.

There was a discrepancy between Cllrs Ibbotson and Wakelam regarding the cost of the equipment which they will seek clarification on.

RESOLVED: Hanson – Monitoring System will be included on the January agenda.

163. **Village Grounds Person**

Cllrs Ransome, Bestwick and Blackman, in consultation with the Clerk prepared and submitted a full job description for the new role, together with a proposal of hours and salary.

RESOLVED: the council approved the proposal of 16 hours per week to be included in the 2022/23 budget. Further discussion will be held before advertising the role to fully consider items such as the possibility of annualising hours, training requirements and equipment requirements.

** 7.20pm Cllr Blackman arrived.

164. **Community Council Draft Estimates for 2022/23**

The Council reviewed and considered the draft estimates for 2022/23 together with a report which detailed reasons of increases/decreases. The Chairman went through the budget headings 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 2022.

The Clerk advised that the 2022/23 Precept letter has been received from FCC and they have advised that the current Tax Base of equivalent Band D properties has increased from 2060.53 to 2171.00

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 2022/23 precept.

165. **Bank Balances and Accounts for Payment**

Accounting and payment information as at 8th December 2021.

Bank Balances Current £26,717.54 Deposit £139,846.18 Play Area £9,797.70

Payments Received

04/12/2021 HSBC – Interest £3.89

Unpresented Cheques/Payments

Poppy Appeal Poppy Wreath 2019, 2020 & 2021 £150.00

Accounts for Payment

Payee	Details	Amount
Penyffordd Beaver Scout Colony	Grant	£300.00
Penyffordd Brownies	Grant	£300.00
Butterflies After Stoke Club	Grant	£100.00
Castell Alun Friends Assoc	Grant	£200.00
Penyffordd Bowling Club	Grant	£300.00
Penyffordd Toddler Group	Grant	£300.00
Penyffordd Flower Club	Grant	£250.00
Penyffordd Tennis Club	Grant	£300.00
Penyffordd Cub Scout Pack	Grant	£300.00
Wales Air Ambulance	Grant	£500.00
WMI - Music Room	Grant	£4,000.00
Citizens Advice (Flintshire)	Grant	£300.00
Planning Aid Wales	Training - D Walker	£30.00
Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	West View Play Area Improvements - Match Funding	£1,805.04
Flintshire County Council	Election recharge (06.05.2021)	£175.52
Koptre Construction Ltd	Repairs to slabs at Millennium Clock	£917.86
Mrs S Hughes	Stationery, Travel, General Admin etc	£69.29
Mr G Davies	Bin Bags & Work Boots	£32.99
Staffing Cost	Nov-21	£2,350.54
Mega Electrical NW Ltd	7 x new Christmas bracket lights and sockets/timers	£3,360.00
Printcentre Wales Ltd	Newsletter Printing	£255.00
Printcentre Wales Ltd	Place Plan Survey Printing	£83.00

RESOLVED: The above accounts be approved and will be processed for payment. The payment schedule would be formally signed by the Chairman of Finance and/or the Chairman of the Council and countersigned by two bank signatories, however, in accordance with guidance from the Internal Auditor as the Accounts for Payments are approved at the meeting and itemised within the minutes this will be accepted during the constraints of virtual meetings.

166. To Receive the Monthly County Councillors Reports

Cty Cllrs Hinds and Ibbotson submitted a written report in advance of the meeting.

Cllr Ibbotson advised that he had spoken on a motion regarding Universal Credit at the latest FCC meeting which he has shared a recording on social media.

He also reported that he had been contacted by a number of residents following the revelations of Downing Street last year which has been reported on the news. He proposed the council to write to Government expressing the anger and disgust of the council and residents. Members were in support of this and although the 'party' is yet to be proven, the video of Westminster Government staff clearly shows a lack of professional behaviour and conduct.

RESOLVED: the council will write to Downing Street copying in The Secretary State for Wales and Mark Tami MS to register the anger and disgust of the behaviour of the Government staff clearly showing a lack of professional behaviour and conduct.

167. Planning Applications

a) There were no planning applications received from Flintshire County Council.

b) To report on the Notifications of Planning Decisions made by Flintshire County Council.

i. [Ref: 063001](#). Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval. (061182). Crown Cottage, Penymynydd Road, Penymynydd. **Approved**

ii. [Ref: 063037](#). Retrospective planning permission for the erection of an orangery to the rear elevation. Dovecote Barn, Bannel Lane, Penymynydd. **Approved**

iii. [Ref: 063359](#). Plot Substitution. Land at (North of) Rhos Road, Penyffordd. **Refused**

iv. [Ref: 063386](#). Application for approval of details reserved by condition no's 3(Noise Mitigation Scheme), 4(Acoustic Fence Detail), 5(Site layout showing Floor Levels) attached to Planning Permission reference 061981. Land at (North of) Rhos Road, Penyffordd. **Approved**

v. [Ref: 063520](#). Proposed Single Storey Rear Extension. 23 Alder Close, Penyffordd. **Permitted Development**

vi. [Ref: 063418](#). Change of Use of First floor from residential to office space in association with existing veterinary practice. Daleside Veterinary Group, 27 Hawarden Road, Penyffordd. **Approved**

c) To receive an update of any ongoing development, planning applications or appeals.

i. Vounog Hill – waiting on the appeal date.

ii. Rhos Road (South) – waiting on planning conditions to be discharged.

iii. Rhos Road (North) – work is ongoing.

d) Cllr Walker raised concern of the pathway from Hawthorn Way direct onto Hawarden Road as it does not have any safety barrier, he has previously raised this with the developer. Cllr Williams advised this would not be covered by S106 but should have been considered within the plans. This is also similar to the White Lion estate on Penymynydd Road which he has raised with FCC on numerous occasions and no action has been taken.

Cllr Walker raised a question regarding the formula for allocation of S106 payments for developments within the village? Cllrs Ibbotson and Williams responded, in brief this is discussed with developers, FCC Planning and Streetscene, Aura Leisure Services. It may be used for matters such as highways, education, play provision.

RESOLVED: Cty Cllrs Ibbotson and Hinds will look further into the gate access from the Hawthorn Way and the White Lion estate and Cllrs Williams and Ibbotson will review any outstanding S106 payments.

168. Millennium Clock

The repairs have been undertaken to the slabs around the clock. Koptre have also advised that on inspection of the clock tower footings there is no evidence of any subsidence.

A suggestion to prepare a Scope of Works form for any organisation or group wishing to install any display on the clock. The Clerk also suggested that any installations could be undertaken by the new Grounds Person so the council is confident what work is being done and that it does not damage the brickwork.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted. A Scope of Work Form will be prepared for future use. Cllr Wakelam will undertake any necessary remedial works e.g remove unnecessary nails/screws and fill holes.

169. **School Transport**

Cllr Williams provided a map detailing the split within the village for school transport to Castell Alun School which is affecting the top of the village. The council needs to continue to lobby FCC to get this policy changed/over turned.

Cllr Ibbotson advised he has met with Claire Homard – Chief Officer for Education & Youth and raised this issue.

RESOLVED: Due to FCC Transportation not being able to attend the meeting, this item will be deferred till January.

170. **Speeding Issues**

Cllr Bestwick reported that the council have been refused on several occasions by FCC for the request to change the speed limit at Dobshill. The council have attempted to also invite Anthony Stanford to a meeting to discuss this and to date for various reasons he or a representative has not attended.

Cllr Ibbotson is also attempting to communicate with Anthony Stanford.

The Vounog Hill is registered as a Go Safe site.

RESOLVED: Cllr Ibbotson will liaise with Cllr Bestwick and pursue this matter with Anthony Stanford.

171. **Play Areas**

- a) Melwood play area improvement project – Cllrs Bestwick and Williams are in communication with the contractor and installer regarding discussions to negotiate the additional charges. It has been proposed this could be by way of using the old school site for storage, dispersing the soil over a wide area which would also assist with levelling of the site (no mound) and finally to approach Hanson for the supply of crush & run stone. HAGS have agreed if these can be achieved the additional sum of £2500 will be avoided.
- b) Dobshill – the access gate has now been installed. Cllrs Williams and Challinor will review the hedging with a view to purchasing and installing additional hawthorn hedges.
- c) Members reviewed and considered the West View Play Area consultation responses. The responses were mixed with very positive comments from the users of the facility and concerns from the neighbouring properties. A resident had also provided information on the compulsory purchase order (dated 1980).

RESOLVED:

- a) Cllr Wakelam to liaise with Hanson for the supply of stone.
- b) Cllrs Williams and Challinor to review the hawthorn hedge with a view to plant additional hawthorn hedges.
- c) The council agreed to continue to monitor the play area, issues and concerns in consultation with North Wales Police. The council will also write to the neighbouring properties to provide an update.

172. **Environment Working Group**

West View - Wildlife Garden. Woodwork CIC have confirmed the following :

- They will formally commence work on 1st January 2022 (initially for 6 months)
- In the meantime, they will undertake some preliminary work
- They will submit monthly reports to the council on progress
- Working in accordance with the plan produced by Steve Shields, they will undertake clearing
- They will be producing a flier introducing themselves to neighbouring properties and the community
- They wish to attend the January meeting.

Cllr Ibbotson reported that he had been contacted by a resident advising they had been unaware of the council's plans for the wildlife garden. Cllr Blackman stated that this was already a nature area and by the community council taking ownership this will allow the area to be improved and be sustainable.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted. The council will request to work with Woodworks on the 'flier' to ensure it is a joint communication.

173. **Community Facilities**

Community Changing Rooms - Cllr Williams advised of delays due to unforeseen groundwork issues. The water should be connected in the next couple of weeks and the sewer connection will be earlier in the new year.

The Clerk advised that Cllr Rothero met with the Football Club and school and they have in principle agreed to the Football Club installing barriers (which would need to be removable). Designs will be submitted to the school by the club for approval.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted.

174. Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The council in principle wish to participate in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons - 2nd June 2022 and it was suggested to contact local community groups to establish if a collaborative approach could be made to coordinate an event.

RESOLVED: the council will contact local groups; PACA, WMI, RBL and Team Red.

175. 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 provided updates on completed issues which can now be closed off.

The traffic lights on Corwen Road was raised again due to the brightness of the lights being blinding. The Clerk advised that this has been continually reported to FCC for 2 years, latest being one week ago.

RESOLVED: the issue of the traffic lights on Corwen Road will now be escalated to Katie Wilby FCC – Chief Officer Streetscene and copied to Cty Cllrs Hinds and Ibbotson.

176. To acknowledge and note correspondence received.

The following correspondence was received and noted.

- OVW & Planning Aid Wales Training & Events.
- OVW Rachel Carter, Local Places for Nature Officer – invitation to join the Nature Forum hosted on Microsoft Teams. The forum will also be meeting regularly to discuss environmental projects, ideas, potential funding streams and all topics Nature! (emailed 15.11.2021)
- Hanson - Minutes of Liaison Committee Meeting 11th October 2021 (emailed 17.11.21)
- Letter for financial support for Denbighshire National Urdd Gobaith Cymru National Eisteddfod 2022
- Notification from Welsh that the appropriate sum for the purposes of section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 (the 1972 Act) for Community & Town Councils in Wales for the financial year 2022-23 is £8.82. (Increase from £8.41 to £8.82 per elector).
- Nightingale House Hospice Newsletter (emailed 29.11.2021)
- Menter Iaith Fflint a Wrecsam's AGM - 6:30pm, Tuesday 7th December, 2021 (emailed 30.11.2021)
- Disability Wales – Access to Politics Event (emailed 30.11.2021)
- OVW Wrexham/Flintshire Area Committee Meeting – Tuesday 7th December @ 7pm.
- Keep Wales Tidy – Dog Fouling Campaign Posters
RESOLVED: copies of the posters will be placed on the noticeboard, website and social media.
- Funding Requests - Hope House Hospice & Denbighshire National Urdd Gobaith Cymru National Eisteddfod.
RESOLVED: the council will respond to provide information on the dates of the annual grant applications.

177. Members Items/Future Agenda Items

- Cllr Challinor advised he had been contacted by residents with parking issues at The Woodlands, Dobshill and questioned whether there was any other advice to give other than reporting to 101?

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and closed at 9.30pm

Chair.....12th January 2022