

PENYFFORDD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the (Zoom) Virtual Meeting held on Wednesday 9th February 2022

Present by Video: Councillors 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, Ms C Hinds and Mr P Blackman

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

200. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr M Rothero.

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

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

202. To receive and approve the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 12th January 2022

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.

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

Min 182/161/146 - The Place Plan Survey has been relaunched on the website and social media and pleasingly there has been a more positive response. Cllr Walker is also co-ordinating community engagement sessions in February and he and Cllr Ransome attended Jemoleys last weekend.

The Clerk reported that she had a telephone meeting with Alan Wight – Cascade and he considers that with the information collated by the end of February, together with Cllrs feedback, this will be sufficient to commence a review of the plan. He does not consider it necessary to produce a full community questionnaire similar to what was produced with the first plan. Mr Wight will be providing in writing confirmation of this and a proposed timeline. Further discussion will be held at the next Place Plan meeting following the completion of the survey.

**Cllr Ibbotson arrived 6.35pm

Min 182/161/151 – Cllr Ransome wished to express her concern at the response from Mark Tami regarding nitrous oxide and considers that that this remains an issue for concern.

Min 192(b) – Cllr Williams reported additional hawthorn hedges have been purchased to fill gaps on the Dobshill play area hedge but considers that fencing would also be required until the hedges grow. The clerk advised that on reviewing previous communication with William Hall & co, they are aware of the work to be carried out.

Min 91 – the materials have yet to be purchased for the refurbishment of the telephone kiosk. Cllr Wakelam provided information on where this can be sourced.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Williams, Hinds and the Clerk will co-ordinate the works.

204. Public Questions

Correspondence was received from two residents regarding their issues with West View play area which was read to members. It was proposed by Cllr Williams and approved by members for these to be considered and discussed under agenda item 13 – Play Areas.

RESOLVED: the concerns raised within the correspondence will be considered under Agenda item 13.

205. Bank Balances and Accounts for Payment

Accounting and payment information as at 9th February 2022.

Bank Balances	Current £21,641.99	Deposit £153,425.85	Play Area £9,787.70
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Banks Transfers

31/01/2022	Deposit Acc	To Current Acc	£10,000.00
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Unpresented Cheques/Payments

Poppy Appeal	Poppy Wreath 2019, 2020 & 2021	£150.00
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Accounts for Payment

Payee	Details	Amount
HSBC	Bank Charges & Fee Charitable Accounts (Dec)	£5.40
Flintshire County Council	Street Light columns transferred x 16 commuted sum	£12,000.00
Flintshire County Council	Electricity Charges – July - Dec 2021	£158.10
Pottles Premier Plants	Trees for Sponsor a Tree	£1,141.74
Flintshire County Council	Street light Repairs (Watts Road) Jan 22	£197.50
Roy Wakelam	Members Allowance & Snr Role	£520.00
Ian Challinor	Members Allowance	£110.10
David Walker	Members Allowance	£120.00
David Williams	Members Allowance	£120.00
Jeff Priddin	Members Allowance	£120.00
Mark Rothero	Members Allowance & Snr Role	£520.00
Pat Ransome	Members Allowance	£120.00
Richard Bestwick	Members Allowance	£120.00
Mrs S Hughes	Stationery, Travel, General Admin etc	£54.90
Mr G Davies	Bin Bags	£4.20
Staffing Cost	Jan-22	£2,350.54
HMRC	Tax & NI Members Allowances	£437.40
WoodsWork CIC	Management of West View Nature Area	£340.00

Members questioned why the Poppy Appeal cheque have still not banked and requested this to be chased.

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.

The Clerk will contact the Poppy Appeal to ascertain when the cheque will be banked.

206. To Receive the Monthly County Councillors Reports

Cllr Ibbotson submitted a written report in advance of the meeting. He reported on FCC, Police and Crime Commissioner, Network Rail and Hanson meetings. The resurfacing of Abbott's Lane is due to be undertaken 15th – 22nd March. He is continuing his work regarding matters such as drainage, speeding and planning.

FCC are yet to confirm the council tax increase for 2022/23, however, a 3.95% increase has been proposed.

Cllr Williams questioned the process of appointing a new Local Authority Governor to Ysgol Penyffordd. This is a two member ward and the other war member was not consulted. On the matter of School Governors Cllr Williams also questioned why the decision was made to wait until the elections to appoint a new member. The Clerk responded that on consulting with the Chair and Head Teacher it was proposed to wait until after the elections to ensure the member who was appointed was re-elected at the election.

**Cllr Blackman arrived 6.55pm

207. Planning Applications

a) To report and consider planning applications received from Flintshire County Council. The Council will also consider any additional applications that may be received between the issue of agenda and the meeting:

RESOLVED:

- i. [Ref: 063950](#). Rear and side extension to existing property. Creating a family kitchen/living room, 2x bedrooms and family bathroom. Car parking space will be kept and proposed plan to build above. Stile End, Chester Road, Penymynydd, Pen-Y-Mynydd. **The council requests that any concerns of local residents be forwarded to the council for consideration. The council reserves the right to make further comments should any issues or concerns be raised. Provided the proposal does not negatively impact on neighbours or local environment, streetscene etc and complies with all relevant policy, they will be happy for a delegated decision.**
- ii. [Ref: 064035](#). Replacement boundary walls and gates. Orchard House, Penymynydd Road, Penymynydd. **Although the council supports this application they do raise a concern of the pedestrian access opening onto a private road (without pavements) and request that this be reviewed.**

- iii. [Ref: 064057](#) Extension to existing shelter to provide storage cover for cattle feed. Land at Barracks Lane, Penymynydd. **The council requests that any concerns of local residents be forwarded to the council for consideration. The council reserves the right to make further comments should any issues or concerns be raised. Provided the proposal does not negatively impact on neighbours or local environment, streetscene etc and complies with all relevant policy, they will be happy for a delegated decision.**
 - iv. [Ref: 064063](#). Single storey extension that wraps around two sides of the building with additional parking spaces. Daleside Veterinary Group, 27 Hawarden Road, Penyffordd. **The council requests that any concerns of local residents be forwarded to the council for consideration. The council reserves the right to make further comments should any issues or concerns be raised. Provided the proposal does not negatively impact on neighbours or local environment, streetscene etc and complies with all relevant policy, they will be happy for a delegated decision.**
- b) To report on the Notifications of Planning Decisions made by Flintshire County Council.
- i. [Ref: 063727](#). Extension to Garage. Osborne Barn, Wrexham Road, Penyffordd. **Approved**
- c) To receive an update of any ongoing development, planning applications or appeals.
- i. Cllr Ibbotson reported that the Vounog Appeal date has been confirmed as 22nd March 2022 and will last for 3 days. This will be a virtual meeting. To date the community council have not officially been notified of this appeal date. Cllr Ransome proposed that that given covid restrictions are lifting, the working group (and interested parties) meet in person to prepare.
RESOLVED: Cllr Williams will circulate information and co-ordinate a meeting.
 - ii. Cllr Walker raised concern that the council planning application for the Memorial Garden was approved some months ago but the council are unable to proceed any further due to the delays from the FCC as the land owners. The Clerk reported that this is continually being chased by Cllr Bestwick and herself.
RESOLVED: Cty Cllrs Ibbotson and Hinds will also pursue this with FCC.
 - iii. Cllr Wakelam reported of an incident resulting from poor health and safety by Castle Green developers on Rhos Road. The herras fencing had not been safely secured and came down hitting a young child in the face. Also a number of members reported that complaints had been received regarding the mud and dirt on the road together with the continued parking by contractors on the road and pavements. These are resulting in an extremely unsafe road for car users, cyclists and pedestrians. The Clerk reported that a letter was sent regarding the parking issues and to date no response has been received back.
RESOLVED: the council will again write to Castle Green to raise the above safety issues and also ask why Castle Green is not in the Considerate Construction Scheme like many other developers. A copy of the letter will be shared with FCC Planning Enforcement.

208. Councillor Vacancies

The closing date for the vacancies was 2nd February and unfortunately no applications were received.

RESOLVED: due to the May elections, the vacancies will not be re-advertised.

209. Community pharmacies in Wales - Extended range of services as part of substantial reforms agreed by the Health Minister.

As from April there will be a wider range services to be provided by all Pharmacies in Wales. They will become the first point of call regarding all minor ailments. This according to the Welsh Government will free up the doctors time to enable them to see more serious cases. There are obviously extreme difficulties currently to get a doctor's appointment, whether this will improve matter only time will tell.

Cllr Walker reported that he has asked the Minister if there would be a procedure issued as to how this would be implemented and also would Welsh Government be writing to every household in Wales explaining these changes the reply he received to both of these questions was 'no'.

There were a number of problems identified that these changes will have on residents of Penyffordd:

1. There is one pharmacy serving approx. 5000 residents (plus the further development plans for the village which will increase the population).
2. The pharmacy does not have a waiting room so people will have to queue outside or on a bad weather day will sit and wait in their cars and there is not a lot of room for parking.
3. There will be privacy issues for residents wishing to consult with the pharmacist.

4. Limited public transport for residents to use alternative pharmacies.
5. These changes will take the pharmacist away from doing the job of prescribing prescriptions for our residents.

Cllr walker has spoken with the local Pharmacist who is apprehensive about the changes but states there is not a lot he can do and the decision has been made.

RESOLVED: the council will write an 'open letter' to Eluned Morgan MS (Minister for Health and Social Services) and copied to: Jack Sargeant MS, Mark Isherwood MS, Sam Rowlands MS, Carolyn Thomas MS and Llyr Gruffydd MS detailing the identified problems these changes will have and to also ask that these changes are communicated and highlighted to all residents.

210. Summer Playscheme

FCC are planning delivery for the summer playscheme, COVID 19 restrictions permitting. They are awaiting notification of the level of grant funding from Welsh Government for 2022/2023, however, in order to commence recruitment for the summer they require an 'in principle' response for participation in this year's programme.

Estimated costs are based on the level of grant funding received from Welsh Government for 2021. Cost of a 3 week playscheme from Monday 25th July, 2022 - £1,540.00 with additional weeks at a cost of £513.00.

RESOLVED: the council approved to provide an 'in principle' provision of a 4 week summer Playscheme.

211. Community Facilities

- a) Community Changing Rooms – Cllr Williams had provided a written update circulated with the agenda and also reported that the water and sewer connection will be completed 21st February. The Football Club are dealing with the electrics, plumbing and internal fittings and it is anticipated to be completed for April 2022.
- b) Old School Site – Cllr Ibbotson reported that it is hoped that information from FCC will be received shortly. Cllr Williams expressed concern that the community council for a number of years have been pursuing this with FCC and have prepared a number of preferred options. The council has asked FCC to consult with the council and the Cllrs and this has not been done to date. It appears that a consultation will be after FCC have made a decision. Cllr Hinds reported that she has again contacted FCC but has not received a response.

RESOLVED: the reports were received and noted.

212. Play Areas

- a) Melwood play area improvements – Cllr Bestwick reported that due to delays with the contractor, the work has been delayed 1 week and will now commence 21st February 2022. He is challenging this and is awaiting a response. He will ensure members are kept updated.
- b) With reference to Min 204 – the council had received two emails from residents regarding the ongoing concerns at West View play area since the improvements were completed.

It was stated that the council has made resolutions on this matter and in accordance with Standing Order cannot be revisited for a period of 6 months. The installation was approved and accepted by FCC and has now been included on their assets.

Cllr Williams suggested a meeting with the contractors and FCC, however, it was subsequently proposed that this should be reviewed in 12 months (12 months from the date of hand over to FCC). Members were also reminded that they did not approve a budget for West View play area for 2022/23.

RESOLVED:

- a) Cllr Bestwick will continue to liaise with the contractor and ensure the council is kept updated on the commencement date.
- b) The council will keep the play area and the issues under review for a period of 12 months (from the date of hand over to FCC). After this time, the council will undertake a review and look at potential options if required. Should any works be required the council would need to ensure that a budget for 2023/24. This will be communicated with the residents who have written to the council.

213. Hanson Monitoring System

During the Liaison Meeting on 31st January, where a resident from the Groves also attended to represent the Groves Estate, technical information was provided to support the chosen location of the Bowling Club. It was

unanimously agreed the monitoring system will be installed at the end of the month, initially at the Bowling Club and will be reviewed again in April.

They are looking at a further monitoring systems to establish the types of dust which will be installed in 5 locations around the site.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted.

214. **Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

Cllr Ransome provided a written report and meeting notes on the plans for the Jubilee. It was confirmed that the council's participation will be:

- Planting of commemorative oak tree (donated by Cllr Hinds) – suggested location of the Millstone Play Area to tie in with the community orchard. The tree will require planting before June, however, there will be a symbolic planting at a date/time tbc over the 4 day jubilee period.
 - It was also proposed to install fencing around the orchard and oak tree.
- Lighting of community beacon – this is to be co-ordinated with Cllr Wakelam who can provide the beacon. The location is yet to be confirmed and are looking at a number of options.
- Decorating of village – green /clock tower

Cllr Ransome questioned that although the council does not have a budget for the event, would the council be able to offer financial support to other groups if needed and to also consider purchasing a commemorative item for the children?

The next meeting of the community groups will be taking place in March to discuss the community events further.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted. The fencing around the orchard and oak tree will be included as part of the Millstone skate park project. A site meeting will be co-ordinated to agree the actual location of the tree. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be included on the March agenda.

215. **Temporary Traffic Order (TRO) – public footpath 8 Higher Kinnerton/Millstone View Redrow estate.**

Following receipt of further correspondence shared by Mr White/The Ramblers regarding the above, Cllr Ransome proposed the council should again write to Redrow regarding why the temporary order is still in place; what are the health and safety issues preventing public footpath 8 being reopened and what are their reasoning; and could partial re-opening be an option as proposed by Mr White.

This was a temporary order under the planning conditions and Redrow should be held to account on the conditions imposed by Planning.

It is not commensurate with their community board displayed on the site promoting their work within the community on public footpaths.

RESOLVED: the council will write to Redrow with the above questions and a copy will be shared with Andrew Farrow - Chief Officer of Planning, FCC.

216. **Penyffordd Youth Council**

Cllr Ibbotson presented a full written proposal to the council for the abolishment of a Youth Representative and the formation of a Youth Council.

Members discussed and considered the proposal with a number of questions and concerns put to Cllr Ibbotson. Whilst in principle members supported the proposal, Cllr Walker proposed that this should be deferred until after the May elections when it could be considered further.

RESOLVED: Cllr Ibbotson's proposal of the Penyffordd Youth Council will be included on the June 2022 agenda.

217. **Speeding and Highway Issues**

FCC Transportation department is struggling immensely with staff at the moment due to absence and vacancies. They currently have 4 vacancies which have been advertised for twice.

Katie Wilby was unfortunately unable to attend the February meeting but the Clerk had a telephone meeting with her on Friday 28th January where a few of our concerns were raised.

- Vounog Speeding – there has been a further survey undertaken and this is still a Go Safe site. KW was asked if she is able to gain any data from Go Safe regarding how often they attend and whether any penalties have been issued. FCC are continuing to put pressure on Go Safe to attend this site.

Due to the new 20mph restrictions that will be introduced in 2023, Buckley are piloting this from the end of February, so FCC are looking to see if they can get the VAS signs from Buckley which could be relocated on the Vounog. There would more than likely be costs involved in this, which the council would either need to cover in full or contribute to. KW will get estimated costs for this and full costs for new VAS signs.

- Reduction in speed limit Dobshill – this was last reviewed in August 2021 and as it stands there is no option available to reduce this limit. The Clerk asked once the new garage has been completed, which may affect traffic etc, whether another survey could be done. KW advised this could be an option.
- Speed limit on Wrexham Road –has previously been considered and there in no option to reduce the limit.
- Road surfacing Wrexham Road – KW will check with Rob Nurshaw, may be a possibility to tie in with the A55 improvements.

It was reported that since the initially communication with FCC to reduce the speed limit on Chester Road Dobshill, there have been 2 accidents.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Williams, Challinor, Ibbotson and Bestwick will review the explanations from A.Stanford for the reasoning behind the refusal to reduce the speed limit on Chester Road, Dobshill and will review the guidance to support the justification for this to be reduced.

**Cllr Ibbotson left the meeting 9.30pm

218. **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 the Clerk with updates on the issues. It was also reported that there is an additional village road sign down on Chester Road and a request for FCC to clear the brook/water cause along the edge of the Millstone.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted and appropriate amendments made. Additional issues will be reported appropriately to FCC.

219. **To acknowledge and note correspondence received.**

The following correspondence was received and noted.

- OVW & Planning Aid Wales Training & Events.
- Meeting invitation from FCC regarding the Welsh Government & North Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency who will carry out the next phase of the Concrete Carriageway Major Resurfacing programme, from Junction 35 Dobshill to Junction 36 Warren Bank (Eastbound and Westbound). Emailed 26.01.2022
- An invitation from Menter Iaith to participate in celebrating St David's Day – copy provided to members.
- WoodWorks CIC – Monthly report for the Wildlife Garden – provided to members.
- Police Report from PCSO Lewis Jones. He also wished to promote the '[Community Alerts App](#)'.
- Email from OVW: Welsh Water's Draft water Resources Management Plan 2024 – Pre Consultation.

RESOLVED: this will be shared with members and included on the March agenda if consider appropriate.

- Marie Curie – National Day of Reflection (23rd March).

RESOLVED: this will be included on the March agenda.

220. **Members Items/Future Agenda Items**

- Cllr Hinds advised that she had personally thanked the Beavers on behalf of the council for installing dog poo dispensers around the village.
- The Clerk informed members that due to the Election on the 5th May, the May council meeting will not be held on 11th May and the new date will be confirmed as soon as possible.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and closed at 9.45pm

Chair..... 9th March 2022