

PENYFFORDD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

Present by Video: Councillors Mr M Rothero (Chairman), Mr R Wakelam (Vice Chairman) Mr R Bestwick, Mr J Priddin, 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
2 x Members of the Public

The Chairman asked members to take a moment of silence to think about the current situation and the citizens of Ukraine.

221. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr D Williams.

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

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

223. To receive and approve the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 9th February 2022

Min 211(b) Cllr Ibbotson stated that he had requested for the comment made by Cllr Williams to be recorded which was *'he considered that FCC had taken no notice of the council of what we wanted in reference to green space and social housing'*.

RESOLVED: with the above amendment, 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.

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

Min 203/182/161/146 -The Place Plan Survey was relaunched on the website and social media together with Cllrs Walker and Ransome holding sessions at Jemoleys. There have now been 190 responses. These have been circulated to all members and passed to Mr Wight – Cascade to undertake an analysis. A Place Plan Working Group meeting needs to be co-ordinate to discuss the next steps.

Min 203/91 - The necessary materials have been established for the refurbishment of the telephone kiosk and a quote has been requested for these items.

Min 207(c/i) – Cllr Ransome raised concern that the meeting of the Working Group to discuss the Vounog Appeal has yet to be held. Cllr Williams has now co-ordinated a date of the 17th March @ 7pm in the British Legion (location tbc). The purpose of this meeting is for the Working Group together with other interested parties to jointly review the responses to be submitted. Once the location has been confirmed this will be published. It was reiterated that this is not a Public Meeting, but rather a meeting for those who will be making representation at the appeal. She also reported that contact has been made with Stuart Body, FCC, regarding the very rare 'black poplar' tree on site which, if planning is approved, needs to ensure is fully protected.

**6.42pm Cllr Blackman arrived.

Min 207(c/iii) – the only response received from Castle Green to the council's letters of the 27th January and 14th February has been a holding email advising it has been passed to the Directors.

Cllr Wakelam also reported that he has been liaising with residents affected by the brook at the bottom of the development. NRW advised they have no funding to investigate this issue. The issue needs to have a camera into the culvert to prove it is coming from Castle Green, this has been costed at £445 (with no guarantees). Cllr Hinds advised that FCC are liable for the brook and contractors have been appointed to come and clear. However, FCC are not responsible for waste arising from the developers.

RESOLVED: the council will write to Castle Green regarding the issue of drainage and ask whether they would undertake an investigation of the culvert (cover the costs of the £445)?

Min 209 – further to letter sent to Eluned Morgan MS (Minister for Health and Social Services) regarding the Community pharmacies in Wales - Extended range of services as part of substantial reforms agreed by the Health

Minister a response was received from Richard Morgan – Government and Corporate Business Team. This letter was read to all members together with a response from Sam Rowlands (MS). It was noted that the letter was shared with five Senedd Members and only one responded.

Min 212 (b) - The council have responded to the emails from residents with an update on the position and that the play area will be monitored for a 12 month period.

Min 215 - No response has been received from Redrow regarding footpath no.8. Further communication has been shared with the council from Mr White. Cllr Ransome reported that Mr White is withdrawing his consent for the publicity photograph and questioned if the council should do the same. It was highlighted that if Redrow took the image, they now legally own the license for the image and withdrawing consent will have no merit.

225. Public Questions

- a) The Chair invited the two members of the public to speak. They wished to raise matters relating to [Ref: 061748](#). AMENDMENT AND/OR ADDITIONS. Proposed replacement dwelling and detached garage. Oakfield, 11 Wrexham Road, Penyffordd. Cllr Blackman proposed to bring forward this application on the agenda to view and discuss with the members of the public, which was unanimously agreed. Whilst the development of the site was welcomed they raised their concerns regarding the size of the proposed planning and concerns regarding tree protection. Cllr Ibbotson offered to talk outside of the meeting and provided his contact details.

RESOLVED: the comments and concerns will be taken into consideration when determining a response.

**7.13pm 2x Members of the Public left the meeting

- b) Approximately 24 emails were received from residents following the Precept/Budget communication circulated by Cllr Ibbotson. These have been responded to accordingly, however, there was 1 email where the resident had requested the contents to be shared with the council and a further resident who has spoken and emailed (the Clerk, Council and Councillors) on a number of occasions relating to his objection of the budget for the Memorial Garden.

A number of members expressed their discontentment in how the Precept/Budget communication had been delivered to the residents which resulted in a significant amount of unproductive time for staff and members.

RESOLVED: responses have been provided to the residents and no further action is required.

**7.28pm Cllr Blackman left the meeting.

226. Bank Balances and Accounts for Payment

Accounting and payment information as at 9th March 2022.

Bank Balances	Current £35,202.51	Deposit £133,779.70	Play Area £9,782.70
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Payments Received

09/02/2022	J Bird	Sponsor a Tree	£30.00
09/02/2022	N Green	Sponsor a Tree	£30.00
23/02/2022	R Tunicliffe	Sponsor a Tree	£30.00
24/02/2022	G Tunicliffe	Sponsor a Tree	£30.00
25/02/2022	Gary Robinson	Sponsor a Tree	£120.00
26/02/2022	A Phoenix	Sponsor a Tree	£50.00
04/03/2022	HSBC	Interest	£3.85
04/03/2022	V Socha	Sponsor a Tree	£30.00
05/03/2022	C McCormack	Sponsor a Tree	£30.00

Bank Transfers

11/02/2022	Deposit Acc	To Current Acc	£10,000.00
02/03/2022	Deposit Acc	To Current Acc	£10,000.00

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 Charitable Accounts (Jan - Feb)	£10.00
Flintshire County Council	Street Light columns upgraded x 6	£8,400.00
Smith of Derby	Annual Service of Millennium Clock	£331.20

Smith of Derby	Supply and install new ARU Board Millennium Clock	£405.60
WoodsWork CIC	Nature Area Management	£340.00
Alasdair Ibbotson	Members Allowance	£110.10
Steve Saxon (Hambleton)	Members Allowance	£90.10
Paul Blackman	Members Allowance	£120.00
Mrs S Hughes	Stationery, Travel, General Admin etc	£50.17
Staffing Cost	Feb-22	£2,350.54
HMRC	Tax & NI Members Allowances	£79.80

The Clerk reported she had been advised that Poppy Appeal cheques have now been presented to the bank and should be cleared by the financial year end.

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.

227. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales

Members reviewed the [IRPW 2022/23 Annual Report](#) and considered which of the Panel's determinations to adopt for 2022/23. Although Sections 10 and 13 relates to Town and Community Councils, the Clerk, advised members to read through the full report as following the IRPW review last year there have been some changes that will impact the council:

Table 10 – grouping/banding has now changed to the size of the electorate, so Penyffordd will now be classed as Group 4 (3704 electorate)

Taxation 3.16 – WG are liaising with HMRC regarding the taxation of the £150 members payment. Hopefully we will hear more later in the year.

Attendance Allowance 13.23 – this is not to be decided until the May AGM (determination 49).

RESOLVED: The Council will adopt from the 2022/23 Annual Report Determinations 43 - 48. With regard to Determination 45 – Senior Role Payment, this will be applicable to the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

- Payments will be made to members at the end of the financial year February or March.
- Payments will be as one lump sum.
- As payments will be made at the end of the financial year it should reduce the requirement to recover any payments made to a member who leaves their role during the financial year.
- Should a member leave part way through a year, a pro rata payment will be made.
- Payments will be processed via payroll where appropriate tax and ni will be deducted and payments will then be made via cheque or bacs.

228. To Receive the Monthly County Councillors Reports

A brief verbal report was provided of current matters being dealt with and meetings attended at FCC (Budget Meeting and Climate Change Strategy).

229. 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:

- [Ref: 064113](#). Alterations and extension to former garage. 7 New Road, Dobshill, Deeside. ***In principle this 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.***
- [Ref: 061748](#). AMENDMENT AND/OR ADDITIONS. Proposed replacement dwelling and detached garage. Oakfield, 11 Wrexham Road, Penyffordd. ***Supported in principle to development on the site, subject to comments from neighbours regarding windows overlooking adjacent property.***

- b) To report on the Notifications of Planning Decisions made by Flintshire County Council.
- i. [Ref: 063873](#). Coffee Shop - Fascia Signs, Pole Sign, Height Barrier, Post Sign, Menu Boards. Costa Coffee, Chester Road, Dobshill. **Approved**
- c) No further updates to report of any ongoing development, planning applications or appeals.

230. **Street Naming and Numbering for a Residential Development – Land at Rhos Road, Penyffordd**

Correspondence has been received from FCC requesting the council to submit observations on the proposed name of Llys Y Nant.

RESOLVED: the council does not support Llys Y Nant and will submit Rhos Y Brwyner being this is the original name of the area and has historical interest.

231. **Community Facilities**

- a) Community Changing Rooms – Cllr Rothero reported that the car park of the school can not be used for any events e.g football, bowling etc due to insurance. He also reported that the Football Club are in talks with the school regarding the fencing. It was also highlighted that due to the further extension works of the school this will obviously have some implication for the use of the changing room and field.
- b) Old School Site – Correspondence was received from FCC in relation to opening discussions for a parcel of land on the site which they would be willing to transfer to the community council and a long term lease.
- c) Memorial Garden – The clerk reported that Paul Brockley (FCC Valuation & Estates) has provided an update on the progress. He has received some feedback from Streetscene with a couple of matters which they need to look into further:
- The amount of street furniture e.g bins, dog bin, street light columns etc – these should not be too much of an issue;
 - A bigger issue is the Feeder Pillar (metal box). Officers are going to site to assess options. It may be that it could possibly be moved or it could be that if they approve a lease the council may have to alter the design to build around the pillar. He will respond again soon as possible.

RESOLVED:

- a) The report was received and noted.
- b) The council are happy to accept the proposed land on the proviso that once FCC have completed the plans for the remaining land, should any additional land be available, the community council can consider this to also be included within the Community Asset Transfer.
- c) The report was received and noted.

232. **Play Areas**

Melwood play area improvements – Cllr Bestwick reported that there had been pipework identified by the contractors which required obtaining the required service drawings. It is anticipated that the project will be completed within the next 2/3 weeks, as long as there no further delays caused by the aforementioned pipework. He wished to extend his thanks to Hanson for the supply and delivery of the stone.

RESOLVED: The report was received and noted.

233. **School Transport**

Further to the council writing to Neal Cockerton, Chief Executive FCC regarding an interpretation of the policy to allow all of our village children to attend Castell Alun, a response was received from Claire Homard, Chief Officer Youth & Education advising *'your request that the community of Penyffordd should be treated differently and all of the pupils in the village be allowed to attend Castell Alun is denied'*.

RESOLVED: at this time the report was received and noted.

234. **Consultation to Enlarge the Premises at Ysgol Penyffordd**

The Consultation will be available to view and download from Flintshire County Councils website [Flintshire County Council School Modernisation](#). This consultation will take place between 1 March 2022 and ends on midnight 11 April 2022. Concerns were raised that as this extension was not completed when the new school was built, it will cost FCC substantially more money and cause further impact on the pupils and local residents.

RESOLVED: no formal response will be submitted by the council, however, the Chairman encouraged all members to respond to the consultation.

235. **Consultation on the draft Assessment of Well-being in Flintshire**

Flintshire Public Services Board is consulting on its draft local Well-being Assessment with comments to be submitted by 20th March. [Consultation on the Draft Local Well-being Assessment](#).

RESOLVED: no formal response will be submitted by the council, however, the Chairman encouraged all members to respond to the consultation.

236. **National Day of Reflection (23rd March)**

Information was shared with members to consider supporting the [Marie Curie National Day of Reflection](#) on 23rd March 2022.

RESOLVED: the council will acknowledge the day by tying a yellow ribbon around the clock tower and will also endeavour to light the tower in yellow. Information on how residents can be involved will be shared on the council website and facebook.

237. **Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

Cllr Ransome provided an update on the council planned events together with a verbal report of the Community Jubilee Working Group meeting:

Lighting of Beacon. Thursday 2nd June

- Site still to be confirmed
- Cllr Wakelam has a beacon
- Sharon Arnold, village resident to read a poem and has agreed
- Consider if choir possible or musical accompaniment
- Consider Chair of Council opening remarks

Need to check time, site, detail, community involvement, link to venue, need to register with Bruno Peek.

Planting of commemorative tree – Friday 3rd June (am)

- Oak trees (2) provided under our Plant a Tree scheme planted in March on the Millstone Park adjacent to the newly planted orchard. This had to be planted in the Spring in order for it to survive
- Suggestion by resident that the tree be named The Royal Oak in recognition of the Jubilee and the history of the village (the Royal Oak public house stood on the site of Daleside Veterinary Practice)
- Plaque to accompany the tree to acknowledge the link. Cllr Wakelam looking at a plaque
- Seating around the tree. This may need to be deferred until the tree is established and due to budget constraints. In the interim a protective ring to help delineate the tree and protect it

Need to consider time of planting, who should plant tree (we need to confirm with any invitees), links to venue afterwards for refreshments, Chair/Vice Chair role.

Decorating the village

Together with WI, craft and Community groups most areas of village covered. Community Council has purchased some bunting. Businesses and residents encouraged to decorate own places

It was asked whether the Community Council will be a commemorative token with the children of the village? Also, what funds may be available to the Jubilee community group from Council?

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted. The council does not have a budget for the Jubilee, however, it was agreed any applications received for funding will be considered under the Annual Grants budget.

238. **Circular Walks**

Cllr Ransome reported on stock levels of the leaflets and asked if the council will be reprinting? It was suggested that QR codes could be considered for the future.

RESOLVED: 250 copies of Walks 1-4 will be reprinted.

239. **Meeting Date Change for May 2022**

RESOLVED: Due to the elections being held on 5th May, the council meeting and AGM will be postponed until Wednesday 18th May.

240. **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.

Broken signs at the roundabouts have been replaced, however, the Penyffordd Sign on Wrexham Road has not.

It was reported that there is substantial water flowing from the embankment under the bridge by Penyffordd Station causing road decay and freezing in cold weather.

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

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

The following correspondence was received and noted.

- OVW & Planning Aid Wales Training & Events.
- Correspondence had been received from FCC regarding the [#FCCBeKindOnline Campaign](#).
RESOLVED: the council considered the correspondence and will promote [#FCCBeKindOnline Campaign](#).
- WoodsWork CIC Monthly Report
 - Including issues of Litter – Ian Williams, FCC Streetscene has been contacted to ask if he could assist.
 - Invitation to members to attend a site visit – Members to confirm with the clerk if they wish to attend.
- An application has been received for the new role of Groundsperson. This is yet to be advertised so the application will be held on file until such time.
RESOLVED: Cllrs Bestwick, Ransome and the Clerk will prepare the full job description and details for the contract ahead of advertising the vacancy.
- Useful contact numbers of the Citizen Advice had been obtained and will be shared with all members, website and facebook.
- Police Report from PCSO Lewis Jones. He will also be holding a 'Cuppa with a Copper' at Jemoleys on 25th March between 1.30pm – 2.30pm.
- The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) have reported that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) has agreed the new rates of pay applicable from April 2021 and which is to be backdated as soon as reasonable possible. The increase is 1.75%.
RESOLVED: in accordance with the employee contracts, this will be processed in the March payroll.
- A Thank You letter from Penyffordd & Penymynydd War Memorial for the grant to support the music studio.
- GH James Contractors are commencing works on the A550 Wrexham Road with the new footpath/cycle path from Penyffordd to Hope from 28th March, duration is 12 weeks. The traffic management will be removed for the Easter weekend. The traffic signals will be manually controlled during peak times.
- As of 21st March 2022 physically punishing children will be illegal in Wales and Welsh Government has requested support in helping to raise awareness as far and as wide as possible.
RESOLVED: this information will be shared on the council website and facebook.

**9.28pm Cllr Hinds left the meeting.

242. **Members Items/Future Agenda Items**

- Cllr Walker reported that it is understood that the defibrillator at the Bowling Club had been used and the height of the unit was an issue and needs to be lowered.
RESOLVED: Ian Williams, FCC Streetscene will be asked if he is able to assist with this. Cllr Walker will establish whether the pads were replaced by Welsh Ambulance.

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm and closed at 9.40pm

Chair..... 13th April 2022