

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, CILCAIN ON 18 DECEMBER 2017

Present: **Chairperson:** Cllr W Owen Thomas
Councillors: Janet Butlin J Emyr Davies
 Gwen Hardman Gareth W Hughes
 Ian Smith John Worthington
 The Clerk was also in attendance

1. **CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS**

The Chairman welcomed all, in both English and Welsh, to the December (Rhagfyr) 2017 Council Meeting. Cilcain residents Mrs Sue Jones and Mr Les Millington attended the Council Meeting. Mr Ian Williams from Flintshire Streetscene attended the meeting do update the Council on highway matters.

Prior to the commencement of the Council Meeting, the Chairman led all those present in one minute of silence to reflect on the recent passing away of former Councillor John S Douglas.

2. **APOLOGIES** - Cllr Ann Baker, Cllr Ian Hughes, Cllr Jean Ramsey.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - There were no Declaration of Interest.

4. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the 20 November 2017 Council Meeting held at the Village Hall, Cilcain were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as being correct.

5. **MATTERS ARISING** - from the 20 November Council Meeting.

(a) **Highway matters**

p67 **Llys Alyn play area** Members noted in the October Council Meeting that there were two aspects to the play area issue:

- (a) The boundary fence. Mr Williams reported that Mr Alan Roberts was checking out the land ownership position on this play area, to establish if Flintshire is responsible for the boundary fence.
 - (b) The rotting timber posts used for youngsters to climb on. This was now an issue for Mr Richard Roberts to deal with.
- Clerk to pursue item (b) with Mr Richard Roberts.

p67 **White lining** - Mr Williams reported - plans had gone to the white lining contractor. Mr Williams reported on checks made with Mr Lee Shone regarding the white lines near the Dolfechlas Rd / A541 junction. Flintshire's Traffic Section maintains that the white line configuration is currently correct, so no changes will be made.

p67 **Hendre culvert** - Mr Williams reported that the repair to the wooden railing between the culvert and the back of footway is scheduled to take place in the Spring of 2018. Joint venture agreed - with Tarmac supplying the materials, and Flintshire to arrange the traffic management and erection of the new railings

- p68 **Street lighting repairs, Rhydymwyn / Hendre** - Cllr Gareth Hughes had reported (01 Dec) two lamps out (No 11 and No 60). Lamp no 11 by the telephone kiosk was still out.
- p68 **Coping Stone, Church Meadow** - Mr Ian Williams reported - work ongoing.
- p68 **Depression in carriageway outside No 1 Church Meadow** - Mr Williams reported BT had been doing broadband work in Church meadow. Cllr Gareth W Hughes maintained the depression being referred to recently was in a separate area.
- p68 **Longitudinal crack in carriageway, Coed Du Hall entrance** - Work ongoing.
- p68 **Rose Lane, Cilcain, deteriorating road surface** - Mr Williams reported having inspected the roads in the whole of the Cilcain Ward today, following the recent snow and salting treatments. A number of new potholes have appeared. A schedule of the most critical potholes has been prepared.
- **Tar-dd y Dwr, Star Crossing Road** - Cllr J Emyr Davies referred to a nasty pothole in the wheel track part of the carriageway, near Tar-dd y Dwr.
- p68 **Seepage across road - caravan park side of junction** - No response received by Mr Ian Williams from Flintshire's Environmental Health Section. Mr Williams to send copy of e-mail to the Community Council Clerk.
- p68 **Nant Alyn** - highway water discharging into Cae'r Eithin - Works ticket raised. The provision of a length of 'dropped kerb' envisaged to positively direct the highway runoff past the property entrance. Another option would be a tarmac hump. Cllr Gareth W Hughes and Mr Ian Williams to make a joint inspection of the potholes in Nant Alyn Road.
- p68 **Potholes at Loggerheads Road, Cilcain** - Some work done. More work required between Brithdir Mawr Lane and the County boundary.
- p68 **The Pistyll** - Survey results awaited.
- p68 **Overhanging trees Ffordd y Llan** - Work ongoing.
- p68 **Village walkabout meeting held at Cilcain, 14 July 2017** - The following items were raised:
- (i) Problem surface water drain at side of Chapel - TV survey required. Cllr J Emyr Davies reported in a previous Council meeting - a lot of silt in the inspection chamber at the lower corner of the school yard. Members note the drain is very shallow so has very little cover to protect the pipe. The TV survey would identify any defects in the pipe prior to refurbishment work starting.
 - (ii) Tree affecting boundary wall by the cemetery - Access through Waen Field difficult in the Winter. Members agreed for work to be now re-scheduled to the Spring of 2018.
- p68 **Refuse collection vehicle** - Mr R Broughton to be invited to attend a future Council Meeting. Cllr Ian Smith reported that Rhydymwyn residents had recently been given plastic bags for the disposal of old batteries. It appears these batteries will not be collected until sufficient collecting vehicles can be adapted to collect the discarded batteries.
- p68 **Proposed new dog bin for Hendre** - Location agreed at a recent site meeting. Bin available in stock. Bin installation to take place.

- p68 **Road from Cilcain Church to the Waterworks** - Further work required, hopefully later on this week.
- p68 **Plas Wilkin side of Coed Du Hall entrance** - Further leaves sweeping required. Work done. Item can now be removed.
- p68 **Bryn Gollen, Rhydymwyn, split channel at entrance to estate** - Work ticket raised.
- p68 **Rhydymwyn, Leete Avenue** - Site meeting with Flintshire's Survey team to be arranged. Mr Williams reported in the November meeting that the footway surfacing is in a poor condition in this Cul de Sac.
- p69 **Overgrowing hedges, Pedair y Groesffordd and Bryn Celyn area** - Cllr J Emyr Davies reported the landowner had started to 'lay the hedge'. Mr Ian Williams to assess the position and see if more cutting back needs to be done in other nearby locations.
- **Plas Newydd, Cilcain**, drainage work and potholes - JCB to excavate some grips on Tuesday 19 December.
- **Upper Cilan Lodge Road, BT cable in highway verge**. Cllr Miss Ann Baker reported in the November Council Meeting - trees and shrubs growing in the highway verge, causing problems to the BT connections to one or two properties in this area. Mr Williams to investigate and to check if the highway verge at this section of road is being cut at the scheduled intervals. Mr Williams to take the matter up with BT. Mr Williams reported that the Public Utilities Section in Flintshire is having considerable difficulties with BT.
- p69 **Nant Alyn Road, Caravan park up to Cae'r Eithin** - Carriageway edge breaking up. Item discussed earlier.
- p69 **Church Meadow, Rhydymwyn** - Breaking up of surfacing. Financial constraints resulting in work being on hold. Item discussed earlier.
- p69 **Ffordd y Llan, between the Shop and the Square** - Mr Williams tabled a copy of the standard 14 days notice letter being sent out by Flintshire C C.
- p69 **Pantymwyn Road, near the Square** - Mr Williams tabled a copy of the standard 14 days notice letter being sent to the owner by Flintshire C C.
- p69 **A541 Hendre bends, memorial flowers** - Clerk reported on his recent discussion with Mr Derrick Charlton. Mr Charlton is scheduled to report on the matter to the appropriate Service Committee in Flintshire.
- p69 **Encroachment of green verges, Pantymwyn Road, Cilcain** - Landowners to check their deeds to seek ownership clarification.
- p69 **Road past Plas Newydd, Cilcain** - Item discussed earlier.
- p69 **Proposal of a bus shelter in Llys Alyn** - Details required for the Jan 2018 precept meeting.
- p69 **Timing of verge grass cutting on country lanes** - Item can now be deleted.

- p69 **Footway between Hendre and Rhydymwyn** - Members noted that most of the work had been done. One small section remains to be done.
- **Rhydymwyn to Rossmoor Junction** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported debris on footway following recent work by Utility Company.
- p69 **Lon Cilan, Cilcain, hedge cutting** - Members referred to an e-mail from Flintshire dated 04 December 2017. Mr Williams had looked again at the width of the path following the recent hedge cutting. Mr Williams noted that the clear width was down to 3 feet at one section. Mr Williams to pursue with the owner of the hedge concerned. Cllr W Owen Thomas reported the moss on the footway needed treating.
- p69 **Mountain Road, Cilcain** - Catchpit beneath centre of carriageway to be jetted out.
- p70 **Trial Hill, Cilcain needs brushing** - The Chairman reported the need for leaf clearing at Trial Hill. Mr Ian Williams to arrange leaf clearing as soon as possible.
- p70 **Cefn Road, by Pandy Cottage** - Cllr Mrs Janet Butlin had reported in the November 2016 Council Meeting a leaning tree near Pandy Cottage. Mr Williams had inspected and agreed the tree would need attention.
- p70 **Nant Alyn Road, Rhydymwyn** - Cllr Mrs Janet Butlin reported salt heaps now in place.
- **Coed Du Farm, Rhydymwyn** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes referred to the lack of salt heaps this year near the Coed Du Farm Junction.
- **Brithdir Mawr Lane, Cilcain** - Cllr John Worthington reported no salt heaps this year in Brithdir Mawr Lane. Mr Williams to arrange.
- **Ty Gwyn, Cilcain** - Cllr J Emyr Davies reported the need to replenish the salt heaps in this area.
- p70 **Pantymwyn road, Cilcain** - Cllr Mrs Gwen Hardman had reported in the November Council Meeting - the uneven surfacing near 'The Close'. Mr Williams had inspected. Mr Williams agreed some patching work was required at this location.
- p70 **Dolfechlas Road visibility at Church Lane junction** - Cllr Jean Ramsay had reported in the November Council Meeting - vegetation overhanging stone wall on Hendre side of the junction impairing visibility for vehicles exiting Church Road. Mr Williams to pursue.
- p70 **A541 Near Tarmac access** - Cllr J Emyr Davies had reported in the November Council Meeting - tree branches in precarious position. Cllr Davies reported branches had now been removed. Item can now be deleted.
- p70 **Llys Alyn Estate, Rhydymwyn** - Two potholes near the cross roads on the Estate. Mr Williams to pursue.
- **Fly tipping, Pedair y Groesffordd, Cilcain** - Cllr J Emyr Davies had reported (7 Dec) - over night fly tipping at Pedair y Groesffordd. Item had been reported to Flintshire Streetscene. Cllr Davies reported at the Council Meeting - tipped material removed same as the report was made to Flintshire.

- **New dog control orders** - Members noted that some new dog control signs had been erected in the area. Cllr Gareth Hughes reported the new signs by the entrance to the Football Field could do with being bigger. Provision and installation of larger signs to be considered further. Cllr Hughes to discuss the position with the Rhydymwyn Football Club.
 - **Blue bins need collecting after the Bonfires** - Chair reported the bins need to be picked up by Flintshire. Mr Ian Williams to arrange.
 - **Winnwood Gulley, Dolfechlas Road** - Cllr Ian Smith reported - gulley blocked.
 - **Statimeter Junction** - Welsh Water's rocking triangular cover still not been seen to.
 - **Ffordd y Berth** - Gulleys blocked solid. Since a few of the gulleys are new at the bottom of Berth Road, Members agreed that Mr Williams should check that these new gulleys have been included on the gulley-cleaning schedule.
- p72 **Brithdir Mawr Lane** - Mr Ian Williams tabled the standard signs that were available for erecting near the Brithdir Mawr Lane / Loggerheads Road junction. Cllr John Worthington indicated that here is a 'no through road' sign in place now, but it does not stop visitors going up Brithdir Mawr Lane, thinking they can gain vehicular access to Moel Famau. Members concluded it would be appropriate to have a meeting on site to discuss the various options.
- Members noted - To have a non-standard sign, Welsh Office permission would be needed, and the procedure for a non-standard sign could be approximately six months. The Clerk indicated that in the 'walkabout' meeting back in July, Members had taken the view that a sign indicating 'No vehicle access to Moel Famau' would be appropriate.
- p72 **Wellingtonia Tree** - Clerk to write again to Mr Stuart Body. Cllr W Owen Thomas to take up the issue of the path disruption with Flintshire Housing. Cllr Gareth W Hughes to supply Cllr Thomas with the House Number in Leete Avenue.
- p72 **Bath House, Rhydymwyn** - Clerk had made verbal contact with the Conservation Section to request a copy of the correspondence sent to Coed Du Management. Clerk to send another e-mail.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

1. Community Council observations requested on: None received.

2. Planning decisions made by Flintshire County Council:

- (a) Location: The Old Farm, 18 Nant Alyn Road, Rhydymwyn
 Proposal: Erection of detached garage and workshop
 Ref No: 057385
 Decision: Approved

7. CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS Position noted on the following:

- 1) 19/11 **Waen Field, Cilcain** - Letter received from a Cilcain resident to express concern regarding the Bonfire remains on Waen Field not being cleared away on time. Members may note that the remains were chipped on the 1st Dec and the young farmers took away the chipped material on Saturday 2nd Dec 2017. A photograph

was taken on the 2nd Dec (which will be available at the Council Meeting) of the cleared bonfire area. Members agreed to meet the Cilcain YFC in September / October 2018. In addition to the observations made in the November Council Meeting, the following comments need to be noted for next year's meeting:

- (a) No unsuitable (or green) material for burning to be brought in for the bonfire.
- (b) A Notice to be posted on the entrance gate prohibiting unauthorised material to be brought into the field.
- (c) Location for bonfire to be pegged out prior to the event, to ensure the bonfire is not located in the middle of the field, directly in line with the two goal posts.
- (d) Two weeks to be allowed for clearing the bonfire next year instead of one week.
- (e) Metal pins and bunting to be erected around the remains to keep children away from remains prior to clearing the remains.

Cllr Mrs Gwen Hardman felt the Council and the young farmers club could benefit from building upon these base guidelines, and learn from year to year.

Cllr J Emyr Davies maintained the bonfire tradition in the village had been in place for well over fifty years, and apart from the odd occasion, has not resulted in any major complaints.

Cllr John Worthington felt that the nature of the young farmers club is such that the experienced gained in previous years tends to be lost, when a new group emerges, who have not benefited from the experienced gained in previous events.

Cllr W Owen Thomas felt that despite the weather this year, the attendance was extremely good, the event attracting people from well outside the area.

- 2) 21/11 **Town and Community Council precepts 2018-19**, Information from Flintshire C C. The following items to be provisionally included in the estimates:
 - (a) Re-include a provision for the playscheme refurbishment at Cilcain £3,500.
 - (b) Bus shelter at Llys Alyn £1,500 to £2,000.
 - (c) Donation for defibrillator at Hendre - £500
 - (d) Assist with new business rate for Community building facilities (4x100) £400.
 - (e) Donation towards Village Hall garden.
- 3) 22/11 **North Wales Police** - Report received from Community Support Officer Laura Williams. Clerk to make enquiries with North Wales Police regarding the replacement Community Beat Officer for Laura Williams.
- 4) 23/11 **Cilcain Toilet block service charge** - request for annual water and electricity charge for the toilet block. Service charge donation for toilet authorised.
- 5) 24/11 **Village Hall Cilcain** - Note form Llewellyn Jones Solicitors to confirm that the application to the Land Registry had been sent to the Land Registry on the 2nd November. The Chairman had been advised that the Land Registry application can take up to three months to be processed. Position noted.
- 6) 27/11 **Cilcain Village Hall - Business Rates for the toilet block** - request for a £99.40 donation. Members noted the observations made by the Clerk in the Appendix. Clerk to seek clarification from Flintshire's Chief Rating Officer:
 - (a) Regarding the date when the new business rate is actually due?
 - (b) Are all County Council's in Wales charging this business (or non domestic) rate for community buildings?

Members noted that a budget item had been included in this year's Council precept for the additional costs becoming due for the toilet block facility.

Cllr W Owen Thomas expressed concern that this additional cost on community type buildings would impose additional pressures on all community facilities.

Members agreed, and felt that consideration may need to be given in the January precept meeting to include an item for assisting the four community facility buildings in Cilcain and Rhydymwyn to meet rising costs.

- 7) 27/11 **Waen Playing Field, Cilcain** - Letter to Cilcain resident regarding the resident's complaint about the dog sign at the Waen Field entrance. Position noted.
- 8) 11/12 **Cilcain Village Hall - Request for assistance with the Insurance Premium.** Members referred to the historical aspect of this donation in the Appendix. Members noted that prior to Dec 2014 the donation had been identical for several years. Since 2014 the donation request has increased by well more than doubled, from £227 to the current request for £542. Clerk to request a copy of the current policy and the £227 policy that applied prior to 2014.
- The Chairman maintained the total donations to the Village Hall would be known when the lease is available. This will allow the Council to make one annual payment to the Hall Ctee, instead of having to deal with repeated requests for various donations. Members discussed the current position regarding the new lease. Notes taken on the resulting discussion are detailed in the Appendix.
- 9) 01/12 **Street Lamps, Rhydymwyn to Hendre** - Report of street lamps out.
- 10) 04/12 **Lon Cilan, Cilcain - Encroachment of footway by boundary conifer hedges** - information from Flintshire Streetscene in response to the ongoing complaint by a Cilcain resident. Item discussed earlier.
- 11) 07/12 **Fly tipping, Pedair y Groesffordd, Cilcain** - Information to Flintshire regarding fly tipping incident. Rubbish removed by Flintshire during the afternoon of the 7th Dec. Item discussed earlier.
- 12) 15/12 **Purchase of Defibrillators, Cilcain and Rhydymwyn** - Advice from One Voice Wales regarding a possible VAT arrangement. Clerk reported at the Council Meeting. Members felt the advice could be understood in two ways. Clerk to seek further clarification.

8. MATTERS RAISED SINCE THE LAST MEETING –

- (a) **Hendre Traffic Measures** A site meeting took place at Cilcain Village Hall at 10.00 am on Friday 24 November 23017. Mr Lee Shone and Mr Robin Nursaw from Flintshire's Traffic and Road Safety Section were in attendance to outline all the road safety improvements that Flintshire was proposing for the section of road from the Rhydymwyn side of Hendre to the Flintshire boundary.

Cllr Gareth W Hughes had requested that the residents in Mill terrace be written to - to explain that parking restrictions would be introduced if residents continue to park in the front of Mill Terrace. However, Mr L Shone had explained in the site meeting that the extremely tight time constraints

imposed on the grant offer meant there would be no time in the programme for any informal consultation outside the statutory consultation process involved.

Mill Terrace residents could stop parking on the road for six months. Parking could start up again, but it would then be too late for Flintshire to introduce any highway safety improvement measures.

Cllr J Emyr Davies maintained that Flintshire had the traffic and highway safety expertise to come up with a solution. The Community Council must let them design the most appropriate measures to eliminate the highway safety problems at this location.

Cllr Mrs Hardman maintained the parking had becoming even worse over the recent months.

Cllr Mrs Janet Butlin referred to the previous occasion when the Council wrote to the residents. Parking was only reduced for a short period.

Cllr W Owen Thomas maintained the Community Council had been concerned about the traffic problems on the A541 for a number of years. The County Council had now been given funding from the Welsh Assembly to introduce a comprehensive list of traffic improvement measures for the A541 between Hendre and the County boundary. It would now be inappropriate for the Community Council to object to the highway safety improvement measures.

- (b) **Cilcain Cemetery, leaf clearing** - Members and two Cilcain residents met at 10.00 am on 2nd Dec, at the Cilcain cemetery to undertake the annual leaf clearing operation in the bus shelter area, school entrance, and the lower part of the cemetery. The Chairman thanked all those who had attended. Photographs of the leaf collecting group were available at the Council Meeting.
- (c) **Dolfechlas Road** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported - Street lamp out by the pedestrian entrance gate to the Donkey Field. Item reported to Deeco Lighting.
- (d) **Fly tipping, Pedair y Groesffordd, Cilcain** - Cllr J Emyr Davies reported (7 Dec) - over night fly tipping at Pedair y Groesffordd. Item reported to Flintshire Streetscene. Item discussed earlier.
- (e) **Salt Bins, Llys Alyn, Rhydymwyn** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported (12 Dec) having received a complaint form a Llys Alyn resident. The resident had been in contact with Flintshire Highways regarding the need to replenish the salt bins. The resident had been informed by Flintshire that the matter was not being dealt with by Flintshire Highways. The Clerk contacted Mr Ian Williams. Mr Williams subsequently reported all the salt bins had been replenished.
- (f) **Waen Field, Cilcain** - Arrangements were made for Ruth Cartwright and Gerwyn Davies to meet Cilcain Members at Waen Field to discuss the new dog control orders in relation to Waen Field. Item discussed earlier.

9. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

In Pursuant to Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, it was **RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting, for the following item of business:

1. **Waen Field, Cilcain** - Members discussed the land ownership status of Waen Field.

- Resolved:
- (i) Clerk to write to Flintshire to seek clarification regarding the legal status of the Waen Playing Field.
 - (ii) Cllr Mrs Gwen Hardman to visit Flintshire's Legal Office to enquire if additional information is available regarding the historical background.

RESOLVED: that the press and public be re-admitted to the meeting.

10. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS - Accounts scheduled in the Appendix were approved.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - The next meeting of the Council will be held at the Village Hall Cilcain at 7.30pm on 15 January 2018.

Signed _____ (Chairman)

Clerk

Date: _____