

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, CILCAIN ON 18 FEBRUARY 2019**

**Present:**           **Chairperson:** Cllr Jean Ramsay  
                          **Councillors:** J Emyr Davies           Pauline Douglas  
  Greg Foster                   Gwen Hardman  
  Ian Hughes                   Ian Smith  
  W Owen Thomas           John Worthington  
  The Clerk was also in attendance

1.       **CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS**

'Croeso i bawb i Gyngor Mis Chwefror'. The Chairman welcomed all to the February Council Meeting. 'Croeso yn ol i Owen Thomas'. Welcome back to Owen Thomas.

2.       **APOLOGIES** - Cllr Ann Baker, Cllr Janet Butlin, Cllr Gareth W Hughes.

3.       **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - Cllr Pauline Douglas and the Chairwoman declared an interest in item No 16 in the Correspondence. Both Rhydymwyn Ward Members explained that they were on the Rhydymwyn War Memorial Institute Committee.

4.       **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** - The Minutes were proposed as correct by Councillor John Worthington and seconded by Councillor Gwen Hardman and formally agreed by the Members present, subject to an addition being added to clarify Cllr Greg Foster's views on the balance carried forward in the 2019/2020 precept item.

5.       **MATTERS ARISING**

(a)      **Highway matters 'action plan'** - Mr Neil Hickie was not present at the Council Meeting, so the current Action Plan would be discussed later in the Council Meeting, under the correspondence item.

(b)      **Matters arising - non highway matters**

p213   **Cilcain Notice Board** - Cllr Gwen Hardman gave an update on the position regarding the new notice board being produced by Mr J Bateson. Cllr Gareth Hughes to be informed when the existing metal frame notice board was ready to be taken to the Football Club premises in Rhydymwyn.

p213   **Pedestrian Crossing, Rhydymwyn** - Clerk reported that written confirmation on Flintshire's position regarding the pedestrian crossing proposals was still awaited.

p214   **Tarmac Quarry Liaison Meeting** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes to attend meeting scheduled for 23 January. Items to be discussed at the liaison meeting :

(a)      Fence alongside culvert at Hendre - arrangement proposed for renewal / repair.

(b)      White limestone dust on carriageway between quarry exit and Rhydymwyn. A set of recent photographs taken by Cllr Ian Smith were available at the Council Meeting.

p215   **Ground Work, North Wales** - Invitation for Mr Thomas to be now postponed until the April Council meeting. Mr Barry Wilkinson to be invited to the March Meeting.

p215 **North Wales Police, crime reports** - Cllr Ian Hughes reported oil having been stolen from a supply tank on the Parc y Llan estate.

-- **Pen y Cefn Farm, Rhydymwyn** - Clerk indicated that a report had been received from a Rhydymwyn resident regarding the dormer windows having been removed. Clerk had been requested to establish if the removal of the dormer windows had been authorised. Clerk reported that Flintshire's Conservation Officer and a CADW Officer had visited the site and were investigating the position. Historical checks had shown that the dormer windows were not part of the original building.

## **6. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **1. Community Council observations requested on:**

- (a) Proposal: Proposed siting of 6 Camping pods (Extension to existing Camping and Caravan site) including access Works and Landscaping  
Location: Land at Leete Valley Caravan Park, Nant Alyn Mill, Rhydymwyn  
Ref No: 059259

The Community Council has **no objection** to the application.

However, the Council wishes to draw the Planning Officer's attention to the following issues:

- (i) The land at this location is sloping away from the public highway on the North West boundary of the site. One assumes that to provide a level site for Pod No. 4 to Pod No. 6 will involve excavating into the bank adjoining Nant Alyn Road. The Council trusts that structural advice will be sought to ensure that excavation will not detrimentally affect the structural stability of the adjoining public highway.
- (ii) The Council notes the lack of drainage details shown on the application drawings. In view of the close proximity of the River Alyn to the site, the Council trusts that suitable provision will be made for foul drainage disposal on this development. The River Alyn is dry for most months of the year, so care will be necessary with the siting of septic tanks to ensure pollution of the river is avoided.
- (iii) The Council trusts the Planning Officer will take into account any detrimental effect the development may have on the adjoining dwellings on the North boundary of the site.
- (b) Ref No: 059261  
Proposal: Erection of extension to dwelling and construction of dormer window in roof  
Location: Bwlch Cottage, Bwlch Lane, Cilcain  
The Community Council has **no objection** to the application.

### **2. Planning decisions made by Flintshire County Council:**

- (a) Ref No: 059267  
Proposal: Erection of detached garage  
At: Hill Top, Star Crossing Road, Cilcain, Mold, CH7 5NP  
Decision: Approved Decision Level: Delegated-Officer
- (b) Ref No: 059243  
Proposal: Erection of single storey extension to rear of property.

At: Parc Bychan Cottage, Rhosesmor, Mold, CH7 6PE  
Decision: Approved Decision Level: Delegated-Officer

(c) Ref No: 059266  
Proposal: Application for approval of details reserved by condition. (058434)  
At: Post Office, Ffordd Y Llan, Cilcain, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 5NW  
Decision: Approved Decision Level: Delegated-Officer

7. **CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS** The following items of correspondence were considered:

- 1) 18/01 **Cilcain Show, 26 Aug 2019** - Request for a donation to assist with the Annual Show. Members made the following observations:
- (a) The absence of information regarding the overall profit for last year's Village Show was noted.
  - (b) The Council also gives donations every year to a number of community organisations, so duplications of grants could be taking place.
  - (c) The Council, by custom and practice, has over the years given permission to the Show Committee for free use of the Waen in lieu of a contribution.
  - (d) Strictly speaking any organisation seeking a donation should make its accounts available.
  - (e) The Council paying for cutting the hedge last year could be regarded as a contribution. The Community Council could have been in trouble last year by making a contribution to an activity that might have contravened nesting regulations. Members felt the Council was not justified in cutting the hedge twice per year.
  - (f) The kissing gate will need repairing after last year's Show. The cost might have to be regarded as a contribution.
  - (g) If the Village Show suddenly made an unexpected loss, then it would be more appropriate for the Council to assist on a one-off basis.
- 2) 3/01 **Waen Field hedge on top side of field** - Photograph taken by Cllr John Worthington in late January 2019 showing the tidy condition of the hedge. Flintshire normally cut hedges in late Sept to November. Flintshire Streetscene has been requested to check its records to establish if this particular hedge was cut in the Autumn of 2017.
- 3) 27/01 **Bob the Postie's bench** - Update provided with photographs from Cllr Gwen Hardman. Members noted that the seat was now in place at the Bowling Club. Cllr Hardman referred to photographs having been put on the local Village Facebook page and the number of 'likes' had been extremely high.
- 4) 28/01 **Town and Community Councils Summer Play Scheme Programme** - Information from Flintshire County Council detailing the cost options available for the summer 2019 programme. Members noted that an allocation had been included in the budget for the same amount as last year's scheme.
- 5) 30/01 **Bryn Sholyn, Cefn Road, Cilcain** - Email sent to Flintshire's Planning Section to follow the initial report sent to Flintshire Planning Enforcement on 19 December 2018. The Clerk reported having been informed by Flintshire Planning that a site inspection was scheduled to take place on the 19 February 2019. Clerk to write again to seek an update on the position. Cllr W Owen Thomas reported he had also sent an email to the Planning Officer to express concern regarding the unsatisfactory position.

- 6) 01/02     **Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, Sir Conwy** - Request for financial assistance. £100 donation agreed.
- 7) 02/02     **Flintshire 50+ Advisory Group** - Request for donation from the Action Group's Chairman. More information required.
- 8) 04/02     **Cilcain cemetery brown bins** - Reminder from Cilcain resident. Clerk reported that two bin stickers had been ordered.
- 9) 05/02     **Cilcain Clean and Lock** - Thank you note from Cilcain Clean and Lock for the recent £600 donation. Position noted.
- 10) 06/02    **Cilcain Village Hall** - Update information from the Community Council's Solicitor. Cllr Gwen Hardman reported further at the Council Meeting. See note in Appendix 'B'. Clerk to arrange a meeting with the Council's Solicitor.
- 11) 06/02    **Visit to Town and Community Councils by Independent Members of the Standards Committee** - Feedback information from Flintshire's Chief Governance Officer following further recent visits that have been carried out. Position noted.
- 12) 07/02    **County Forum Meeting 14 Feb 2019** - Agenda and supporting papers for Forum Meeting scheduled for Connah's Quay Town Council Offices.
- 13) 08/02    **Flintshire Streetscene 'Action Plan'** - Revised action plan dated 22 January 2019. Any additional items not included in the 'Action Plan' were raised by Members at the Council Meeting. Cllr Gareth W Hughes had requested for the following items to be noted:
- (a) Salt bin at the former Ysgol y Ddol had now been moved.
  - (b) New refuse bin / dog bin had been provided by the Institute
  - (c) Supply of dual bin stickers required from Flintshire
  - (e) Path in Leete Avenue next to the Wellingtonia tree needs dealing with. Members noted that this item is not related to the 'Action Plan'. Cllr W Owen Thomas to take the item up with Flintshire's Housing Section
  - (f) Tree in Llys Alyn needs dealing with. Members noted this is also an item for Flintshire's Housing Section. Cllr Thomas to pursue.

Cllr J Emyr Davies noted that the dangerous tree by Bryn Awelon was not on the current list.

Cllr John Worthington reported that the salt heaps in Loggerheads Road and Brithdir Mawr Lane had now been replenished.

Cllr Gwen Hardman expressed concern that the recent repair works in the village centre and by the pensioners bungalows had not been up to an acceptable standard. The Council would need to discuss this further with Mr N Hickie.

- 14) 11/02    **Excavation in highway controlled land - former Post Office, Cilcain** - Reminder sent to Flintshire Planning Section requesting a response to the initial email sent 17 January 2019.
- 15) 11/02    **Rhydymwyn Football Club, Terms of the Lease** - Email from a Rhydymwyn resident to express concern regarding a recent notice which has been posted on the entrance gate to the Rhydymwyn Football Club premises. Members had been given a copy of the letter received

from the resident prior to the Council Meeting. Members felt the lease between the Football Club and the County Council was a matter for the two parties involved. The recently issued licence for the retained land was also a matter between the Flintshire and the Football Club. Therefore, the Community Council would unfortunately have to respond to the resident that the Community Council was not in a position to become involved in this issue.

- 16) 11/02     **Rhydymwyn War Memorial Institute** - Request for donation from the Chairman of the Institute Committee to assist the Committee with proposed structural maintenance to the fabric of the building. Cllr Jean Ramsay and Cllr Pauline Douglas left the room whilst this item was being discussed. The Vice Chairman took the Chair when Cllr Jean Ramsay left the room. Members noted that a £600 allocation has been included in the Council's Precept for the 2018/2019 financial year. Members unanimously agreed to donate £600 to the Memorial Institute Committee.
- 17) 11/02     **Chwarae Teg - Leadership Programme** - Invitation from the Delyn Assembly Member for young women aged between 16 to 22 to shadow the Assembly Member for a day on 26 March 2019. Applications closing date - Friday 14 February 2019. Cllr Gwen Hardman and Cllr Jean Ramsay had arranged for the details and an application form to be posted on the local Facebook pages.
- 18) 12/02     **New Developer Advice Note Consultation** - Invitation from Flintshire to comment on the Developer Advice Note. Members noted that a copy of the Advice Note was available on Flintshire's website. Position noted.
- 19) 12/02     **Defibrillator training in Cilcain** - Update information from Cllr Gwen Hardman regarding the position with defibrillator training. Cllr Hardman reported on three very successful training sessions which had taken place in Cilcain, whereby over 30 residents had completed the Cilcain defibrillator training, together with members of the Young Farmers Club. Another training session was being planned.
- 20) --/--     **Exclusion of the press and public from the Council on certain items** - An extract from the book 'Local Council Administration' by Charles Arnold Baker (Eighth Edition) had been circulated to members prior to the Council Meeting. The guidelines identified in the extract made reference to the four categories of discussion items which are generally regarded as confidential. Members noted that the items listed in the Payment of Accounts are not regarded as confidential.

Cllr Gwen Hardman referred to the Charles Arnold Clerk book used by the Council being the Eighth Edition. Cllr Hardman indicated she had a copy of the Tenth Edition. Cllr Hardman felt it would be useful if the Council acquired a copy of the current Twelfth Edition. Clerk explained the Eighth Edition currently being used by the Council had been passed on to him from another Community Council. Clerk to check if the current edition can be purchased for a discounted price from the Clerk's Society or from National Association of Local Councils (NALC).

## 8.     **MATTERS RAISED SINCE THE LAST MEETING** -

- (i)     **Cilcain cemetery tree** - A photograph of the work done to remove the tree boughs which had been resting on the cemetery boundary wall was tabled at the Council Meeting. Members noted the stone

wall could now be repaired. Repair of the wall by Flintshire to be discussed in the scheduled Cilcain walkabout meeting.

- (ii) **Waen Field - damage to kissing gate** - The kissing gate had not been closing properly, as a result of the gate being removed to accommodate last year's annual Village Show. In the last few days, someone had done some work, so the gate was upright again. Members agreed the gate would be loose again in not time if a proper repair was not done, involving the gate being bolted to the adjoining stone wall. The gate could then be unbolted every year for the Show. Cllr W Owen Thomas maintained it would be necessary for the three main uprights members of the fixed part of the kissing gate to be anchored, otherwise the fixed part would swing from side to side. Members agreed it would be appropriate to discuss the required repair at the annual Village Walkabout meeting in a few weeks time.
- (iii) **Cilcain Cemetery** - Photograph (taken on 6 February) was tabled at the Council Meeting, showing work in progress on felling the evergreen tree near the Biere House. Cllr John Worthington reported further at the Council Meeting. Treatment of the stump would take place to accelerate the rotting of the stump.
- (iv) **Fallen tree, Bont Newydd, Cilcain** - Cllr Ian Hughes had reported (11.10am -10 Feb) a fallen tree partially obstructing the road on the Pantymwyn side of Bont Newydd. Item reported to Flintshire's out of hours emergency service. (Tel No: 01344 786590). Cilcain resident, Mrs Sue Jones and Cllr Ian Hughes subsequently reported - Tree removed on Sunday 10 Feb.

9. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS** - The accounts scheduled in the Appendix were approved.

10. **TOPICS TO BE REFERRED TO THE MARCH MEETING**

The following items are to be included on the 18 March Council Agenda:

- (i) Cllr W Owen Thomas raised:
  - (a) The coping stones on Cilcain cemetery wall should have been repaired when the tree was taken down. Cllr John Worthington maintained that there were no loose stones on the wall which could pose a danger to youngsters using the Waen Field.
  - (b) The steps between the Cilcain Village Hall car park and the Hall entrance do not conform to regulations and will need reconstructing, by having two small steps instead of the existing one large step.
  - (c) Handrail required alongside the steps, now that more elderly residents are visiting the Shop.
  - (d) The paving slabs on the entrance to the Village hall need to be repaired / replaced.
  - (e) The Cilcain Village Hall car park needs resurfacing, plus gulleys provided with a connection to the surface water culvert that runs down past the rear of the Chapel.
  - (f) When is the Cilcain cemetery path going to re-surfaced and new kerbs provided?
- (ii) Cllr Ian Smith referred to the increased pedestrian traffic using the Shop in Rhydymwyn. Cllr Smith wanted information regarding the measures Flintshire County Council is contemplating for addressing the pedestrian safety concern, and the likely timescale for implementing the urgently required safety measures.

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting of the Council will be held at the Village Hall Cilcain at 7.30 pm on 18 March 2019.