

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON LINE ON 21 JUNE 2021.**

Present: Chairperson: Cllr Gwen Hardman

Councillors: Emyr Davies Pauline Douglas  
Greg Foster Jean Ramsay  
Ian Smith Owen Thomas  
John Worthington  
The Clerk was also in attendance  
Mr Neil Hickie from Flintshire Streetscene joined the first part of the meeting.

**1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS**

The Chairman welcomed Members to the June Council Meeting. Croeso i bawb i Gyngor Mis Mehefin.

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

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

**4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** Cllr Ian Smith proposed, acceptance, Cllr J Emyr Davies seconded and all Members agreed to approve the Minutes of the 17 May 2021 Council Meeting. The Chairman signed the 17 May 2021 Council Minutes.

**5. MATTERS ARISING - (Highway Matters)**

**Streetscene Action Plan - dated 17 May 2021** - Mr Neil Hickie was invited by the Chairperson to comment on the items on the Action List.

**6. MATTERS ARISING (Non - Highway Matters)**

p10 **Foul Smell, Dolfechlas Road** - Clerk reported - Mr Ronnie Kelbrick had telephoned the Clerk on 16 June to give an update to the Community Council on Welsh Water's current position:

- (1) Only three of the seven peak odour days highlighted by Cllr Ian Smith coincided / corresponded to the odour peaks in the drainage System as picked up by the data loggers.
- (ii) Mr Kelbrick had requested the laboratory staff involved in testing the incoming effluent at the Rhydymwyn STW to analyse the effluent to look for a possible chemical source for the odour in the sewer.
- (3) Welsh Water to have a look at the pump cycles in the Hendre Pumping Station to see if it was practical to increase the frequency of the pump cycle. Increasing the frequency could reduce the time the effluent was at a standstill in the pumping main.
- (4) Next verbal report from Ronnie Kelbrick promised on the 5 July 2021.

p11 **Village Hall Lease** - Cllr Gwen Hardman reported:

1. Draft lease had been approved by the main Hall Ctee.
2. Licence required between Hall Ctee and Shop Ctee.
3. Sub Ctee of three Members was now preparing the draft licence.
3. Draft licence will then need to be approved at the next main Hall Ctee.

p11 **Bowling Club, Cilcain** - A site meeting took place on Wednesday 9 June 2021.

Council Members in attendance - Cllr Gareth W Hughes, Cllr Gwen Hardman, Cllr W Owen Thomas, Cllr J V Worthington. Clerk was also in attendance.  
Flintshire County Council (Property Services) - Mr Paul Brockley.  
Bowling Club - John Robinson, Rob Armstrong, Jim Mash.  
Members who attended reported at the Council Meeting.

Members noted at the site meeting that a number of remedial works had already been undertaken by Flintshire. Cllr W Owen Thomas expressed concern regarding the condition of the wooden windows. The double glazing panes were misted up and the wooden frames were rotten.

Mr Brockley had been requested to replace the windows at the site meeting. Clerk to write to Flintshire to establish if the window replacement work had yet been authorised.

Cllr Gwen Hardman explained the position with the two counter-part leases for the Bowling Club. One counter-part lease is between the Community Council and the Bowling Club (for the green). The second counter-part lease is for the club pavilion, between Delyn (now Flintshire) and the Bowling Club Trustees. Flintshire do not intend to renew the second lease. Flintshire is therefore obliged to undertake repairs to bring the building up to a reasonable condition before passing the building over.

There are also land registry documents in existence appertaining to the Bowling Club. The land registry document for the pavilion will have to be altered and this could be fairly costly. Mr Brockley was requested to check with Flintshire Legal if it was prepared to pay the cost of changing the registry document that had Flintshire on the document.

The two counter-part leases need to be combined / transformed into one new lease.

Cllr Hardman referred to the list of works provided by Mr John Robinson (see correspondence item below). All works had been done apart from replacing the windows. At this point the sound system was interrupted, so the information given at the Council Meeting may need to be modified or added to in due course.

Cllr Hardman maintained that there needs to be a transfer document / conveyance in relation to the pavilion. Such a document would clarify the discrepancy between the lease and the existing Land Registry document.

The Clerk mentioned that discussions also took place at the site meeting regarding an element of double rating applying here. Flintshire own and maintain the Mold Bowling facility, so the

general rate payers are paying for the Mold facility via the general rates. In future the rate payer in Cilcain will now also be paying for the maintenance of the bowling club at Cilcain. In the same way as the Council receives a lump sum for cemetery maintenance, the Council needs to request an annual contribution from Flintshire for the Cilcain Bowling Club.

Cllr Thomas maintained that any arrangements agreed with Flintshire has to be brought to the Council Meeting for approval.

Cllr Hardman referred to the renewal of maintenance equipment at the Club. Cllr Hardman indicated that the Council would not be responsible for funding, but assistance / advice could be given for grants.

p11 **Rhydymwyn Public Cemetery** - water main easement - Cllr W Owen Thomas enquired if there had been any progress with the easement issue. Clerk confirmed that a reminder had been sent (27 May 2021) since the May Council Meeting (see item 3 in correspondence item below). A follow up telephone enquiry with Welsh Water headquarters established that the initial contact person the Clerk was corresponding with had had now moved on. Clerk to pursue.

p12 **Mill Terrace, Hendre** - Cllr W Owen Thomas enquired regarding the current position.

Clerk referred to a letter from Flintshire CC which had been considered in the May Council Meeting, giving an update on the current position. Mr R Barry had indicated in the correspondence item that he was envisaging appointing Consulting Engineers in the next few months. Clerk to seek another update from Mr Barry.

p12 **River Alyn** - Cllr W Owen Thomas maintained that when the sealing of the river bed proposal was considered, the main concern was the lack of Summer river flow for the Sewage Treatment Works. However, in the Winter months, the Milwr tunnel take a considerable amount of flood water, so sealing (or interfering with) the river bed could create a lot of flooding problems.

p14 **Cilcain Play area** - Cllr W Owen Thomas enquired regarding the current position. The Clerk indicated that no detailed proposal for an additional pedestrian gate to the play area had been received.

p14 **Planning matters** - Cllr W Owen Thomas reported that the Plas Ucha planning application, recently considered by the Community Council had been refused by Flintshire CC.

## **7. PLANNING MATTERS**

### **(i) Planning Applications received from Flintshire County Council:**

Proposal: Erection of a single storey extension and porch with pitched roof

Location : Swyn y Gwynt, Pantymwyn Road, Cilcain, CH7 5NL

Ref No: 063012

The Community Council has **no objection** to the proposal. subject to the following issues being looked at:

- (a) Proximity of the extension to the adjoining properties not contravening any planning guidelines.
- (b) The need to have sufficient distance between the extension and the nearby public sewer, so as to comply with any easement requirements Welsh Water may have in place. OR: the owner satisfies Welsh Water that a building over agreement (if required) is acceptable.  
OR: the owner satisfies Welsh Water that a sewer diversion (if required) is acceptable.
- (ii) Bryn Sholyn, Cefn Road, Cilcain - Email received from Flintshire Planning. Cllr Gwen Harman to prepare details of additional observations that the Community Council can submit.

## 8. CORRESPONDENCE

1) 20/05 **North Wales Police** - Community outreach - site meeting at Cefn Road, Trimm Rock entrance on 20 May 2021 - the three main items discussed were -

- a) - Difficulty in contacting the Police. Cllr Ian Smith reported on his conversation with the Connor Freel at the site meeting. The 101 non emergency telephone system for contacting the Police is always manned. However, if the system is busy, then the 101 contacting system can be a waste of time.

With reference to the general lack of support from North Wales Police, Cllr W Owen Thomas expressed concern that Police rates was increasing substantially every year, but the service was deteriorating. In due course, something will have to be done to rectify the position.

On the positive side, Cllr Smith had occasion to contact the Police recently on the 999 system. The response was quick and very good. Connor had subsequently followed up the issue by regular email contact.

- b) - Can the Police assist in prosecuting vehicles ignoring the heavy goods signs at the Trimm Rock entrance end of Cefn Road? Cllr Pauline Douglas reported - The Police cannot take action unless they witness the vehicle ignoring / disobeying the traffic signs.
- c) Regarding access to the former Trimm Rock Quarry land, Cllr Pauline Douglas reported on her discussions with the Police and Mr Gerald Taylor (Coed Du Hall). Mr Taylor had been requested to give consideration to introducing dye into the quarry pond. Mr Taylor was seeking the views of the Land Owner and would respond in due course.

Members who attended - Cllr Gareth W Hughes, Cllr Ian Smith, Cllr Owen Thomas, Cllr Janet Butlin, Cllr Pauline Douglas, Cllr J Emyr Davies.

- 2) 27/05 **Land Trust Meeting** - Update information from Mr John Anderson regarding the DEFRA site. Position noted.
- 3) 27/05 **Rhydymwyn Public cemetery** - Easement for water main - reminder sent to Welsh Water on the 27 May 2021 to follow the previous correspondence dated 12 March 2021 and 8 April 2021. Clerk reported that the Welsh Water Liaison Officer the Council had been corresponding with had now moved on, so contact needed to be made with another Liaison Officer. Clerk to pursue.
- 4) 31/05 **Play Areas Match Funding Schemes - 2021/2022** - Letter to confirm the Community Council's Expression of Interest. The Chairman explained that Flintshire, and not the Community Council had identified the play areas selected for the match funding schemes. The Chair felt it might be appropriate for Cllr Thomas, as County Councillor, to contact Mr Richard Roberts to establish / clarify what criteria had been used to identify the play areas selected.
- 5) 03/06 **Cilcain Bowling Club Pavilion** - Item discussed previously, under 'matters arising'.
- 6) 04/06 **Drain smells, Dolfechlas Road** - Request to Welsh Water to provide an update on the cleaning and monitoring work on the foul drainage system. Item discussed previously, under 'matters arising'.
- 7) 04/06 **Trial Hill bridge** - Report from Cllr Ian Hughes of weeds and saplings growing out of the crack between the parapet wall and the bridge pavement. Item reported to Andy Lightfoot (Flintshire Streetscene). Andy reminded on Monday 13 June 2021. The saplings were nearly 3 feet high. Clerk to remind Mr Lightfoot again. Cllr W Owen Thomas maintained that the growth either side of the bridge was now affecting the visibility for vehicles crossing the bridge. Clerk to discuss with Mr Neil Hickie. Clerk explained that Mr Lightfoot is responsible for the bridge itself, but Mr Hickie will be responsible for the verge growth on the Cilcain side of the bridge.
- 8) 04/06 **Pollution River Alyn Rhydymwyn** - Report received from Cllr Gareth W Hughes of black sludge in the river bed either side of the DEFRA bridge in Rhydymwyn. Item discussed previously, under 'matters arising'.
- 9) 09/06 **Commemorative seats need replacing** - The seat that was provided by the Community Council over twenty five years ago (for former Councillor M Kinsey-Miles) was noted to be completely rotten in the Bowling Club ground. Members who were in attendance felt it was imperative that the seat be replaced as soon as possible. Another seat in memory of former Cllr Jack Morris in the Football Club ground needed replacing. The Clerk was requested to order two seats from P and A Fencing. The seats are scheduled to be delivered in week beginning Mon 21 June 2021. Cllr W Owen Thomas to liaise with a local contractor to assemble and erect the Bowling Club seat. Cllr Gareth W Hughes arranging for the Rhydymwyn seat to be fixed. Seats to be delivered to Tre Lan Farm for temporary storage.

Members confirmed / authorised the seat purchase decision taken in the Bowling Club site meeting.

- 10) 09/06 **Faded tourist sign in Cilcain** - Clerk reported the faded sign in the Village Hall car park to Flintshire CC. Positive response received from Flintshire. Cllr John Worthington had been to inspect the sign at Pedair y Groesffordd. The wood was in good condition, but a coat of varnish was required. Flintshire was prepared to replace the sign at the Village Hall car park.
- 11) 10/06 **Cilcain Cemetery** - Tree felling in top corner. Cllr Ian Hughes reported that tree felling in the cemetery is scheduled to commence on Tuesday 15 June 2021. Cllr W Owen Thomas maintained that the School Governors should initially be approached to establish if they were in a position to fund the wall repair. Cllr Greg Foster explained that the Governors were able to use money from a 'devolved' budget in England. Cllr Hardman to pursue with School Governors. Cllr Thomas indicated that the Community Council should obtain 3 prices for the wall repair. Cllr Thomas named two local builders that should be approached for a price. Cllr Thomas indicated that he would also approach Flintshire CC for repair funding, as a separate request to the Governors.
- 12) 14/06 **Cilcain Bowling Club** - Email from Cllr Ian Smith attaching a map showing that the Bowling Club building and land is within the designated Cilcain Conservation Area. This means that replacing any existing windows will have to be in wood, as opposed to plastic. Vice Chair reported on her fairly recent site meeting with the Conservation Officer regarding replacing wooden windows in the Village Hall.
- 13) 14/06 **Cilcain Bowling Club** - Email from The Bowling Club listing the work requested to be undertaken by Flintshire prior to the handover. Position noted.
- 14) 14/06 **Pollution, River Alyn, Rhydymwyn** - Reminder sent to Natural Resources Wales and a request for an acknowledgment and an update. Item discussed earlier.
- 15) 14/06 **Bryn Sholyn, Cefn Road Cilcain** - Request for an update on the enforcement procedures Flintshire are pursuing with the 'owner / occupier' of Bryn Sholyn. The Community Council's request for the Enforcement Officer to take action had now been overtaken by subsequent events. Item discussed earlier. The landowner had decided to appeal to the Welsh Office, so presumably any enforcement action by Flintshire would be put on hold.
- 16) --/-- **Neil's Action Plan** - Neil's Action Plan for Members to comment on, and to add to as appropriate. Item discussed earlier.
- 17) 16/06 **Pollution of the River Alyn Rhydymwyn** - Response from National Resources Wales regarding the pollution either side of the DEFRA Bridge. Cllr Pauline Douglas referred to her recent conversation with Cllr Janet Butlin. Cllr Butlin could remember the river bed stones being covered with a black sludge a few years ago.

**08. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 1) **Covid 19 Snake** - Cllr Pauline Douglas reported on a request by Cllr Janet Butlin for an update on the proposed Covid 19 snake memorial facility. Cllr Ian's Smith sound system was not functioning so the Clerk reported that Cllr Gareth W Hughes and Cllr Ian Smith had met a Contractor on site to discuss a suitable detail for the Covid 19 memorial construction. There had been some uncertainty regarding the type of varnish which could be used to weather proof the stones / mortar surface. A price was being sought from the Contractor for the construction. The original pebble stones were stored in Cllr Ian Smith's garage. Cllr Ian Smith confirmed the information given by the Clerk.
- 2) **Arrangements for the On Line Meeting** - Cllr Gwen Hardman thanked Cllr Ian Smith for arranging the on-line meeting once again. Cllr Smith had also lent Cllr Hardman an up to date lap-top that allowed the Chair to see all the Members present.

**09. PAYMENTS OF ACCOUNTS** - The accounts scheduled in the Appendix were approved for payment.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting of the Council will be an online meeting and is scheduled for 7.30 pm Monday 19 July 2021.

Signed .....Chairman      Date: .....      Clerk .....