

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON LINE ON 20 SEPTEMBER 2021.

Present: Chairperson: Cllr Gareth W Hughes

Councillors: Cllr J Emyr Davies Pauline Douglas
Cllr Greg Foster Gwen Hardman
Cllr Ian Hughes Cllr Jean Ramsay
Ian Smith W Owen Thomas
Cllr John Worthington
The Clerk was 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 September Council Meeting. Croeso i bawb i Gyngor Mis Medi.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr Janet Butlin, Cllr Ann Baker

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

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING Cllr Gwen Hardman proposed acceptance, Cllr Ian Smith seconded and all Members agreed to approve the Minutes of the 19 July 2021 Council Meeting. The Chairman signed the 19 July 2021 Council Minutes.

5. MATTERS ARISING - (Highway Matters)

Streetscene Action Plan - dated 21 July 2021 - Mr Neil Hickie was invited by the Chairperson to comment on the items on the Action List.

6. MATTERS ARISING (Non - Highway Matters)

p27 **Foul Smell, Dolfechlas Road** - Clerk reported - Clerk had contacted Mr Ronnie Kelbrick for an update. Reply awaited. Clerk to write again to Welsh Water.

p28 **Village Hall Lease** - The Chairman reported that he had good news regarding the Lease. The Chair and Vice Chairwoman had signed the lease on behalf of the Community Council. The two persons form the Hall Ctee have now to sign. Exchange can then take place, probably in mid October.

p28 **Bowling Club, Cilcain** - Clerk to write to Flintshire to provide the four contact persons from the Bowling Club, so that Flintshire can obtain quotations for further internal work.

Clerk to liaise with Cllr Gwen Hardman to discuss and clarify the discrepancy in the existing Land Registry documents. An approach would initially be made by telephone to the Land Registry Office to enquire the extent and nature of the information it requires from Flintshire and the Community Council to rectify the position. There might also be cost implications involved. Flintshire could then be consulted regarding its part in the process.

p28 **Rhydymwyn Public Cemetery** - water main easement - Clerk had now spoken to the person in the Welsh Water Estate Section. Welsh Water maintains that it has a prescriptive right to a 3 metre easement from the pipe. The Council needed this information in writing, before it can pursue the possibility of claiming compensation. The Chairman felt that the Council set up the cemetery in good faith, and now it finds that it cannot use part of the cemetery. The Clerk mentioned that there was an indicator post on the boundary, so it would be difficult for the Council to maintain it was not aware of the possibility of there being a water main running alongside the hedge. Cllr W Owen Thomas maintained he could recollect a new water main being constructed in Church Lane. The plan available at the site meeting attended by Cllr Gareth Hughes and the Clerk did in fact show the main to be in Church Lane. The Council would need to discuss the possibility of a new main having been provided, but the old one not being taken away. Clerk to pursue further.

p28 **Mill Terrace, Hendre** - Clerk reported that there was an acute shortage of staff in the drainage section. Chair maintained that the Council had been promised progress on the scheme, and it was important that the Community Council expresses concern regarding the lack of progress. Clerk to write to Head of the Planning Section, H Blyddyn (Delyn AM) and Carolyn Thomas (AM) to express concern regarding the continued delay for the Hendre culvert renewal drainage scheme.

p28 **River Alyn** - Clerk had attempted on several occasions to obtain an update from NRW. Clerk to email NRW to express concern that the pollution report had been made during the first week in June 2021 and the Council were now anxious to learn if the source of the pollution had yet been established.

p28 **Cilcain Play area** - Cllr W Owen Thomas had not yet been able to speak to Flintshire Leisure to seek clarification why Cilcain had not been included in the play areas for grant aided refurbishment schemes. Cllr Thomas to pursue.

The Clerk reported on the site meeting which had taken place with Mr Paul Jones and Mr Richard Roberts at Rhydymwyn play area. Four sources of funding would appear to be available for upgrading the Rhydymwyn play area:

- (i) The 50 / 50 grant mentioned in recent correspondence.
- (ii) Part of Flintshire's Capital Programme money (Total £200,000 for Flintshire) for upgrading selected play areas.
- (iii) Flintshire's revenue budget for undertaking general maintenance / repair work on existing equipment.

- (iv) Going forward, if the second play area in Rhydymwyn is closed, there would be a compensation amount forthcoming from Flintshire towards the Donkey Field scheme.

- p28 **Bryn Sholyn, Cefn Road** - The Planning Appeal had started on the 16 July 2021. Clerk reported having written to Flintshire on the 6 September to request an update on the Planning Appeal. Cllr Pauline Douglas reported that the static caravan had been re-located within the site, but had not been moved off the site.
- p28 **North Wales Police / Trimm Rock quarry** - Cllr Pauline Douglas reported that things had been very quiet at the former Trimm Rock site.
- p28 **Commemorative seats** - Cllr W Owen Thomas reported that the Kinsey Miles commemorative seat had been fixed at the Cilcain Bowling Club. The Chairman was arranging with Cllr J Emyr Davies for the Jack Morris commemorative seat to be taken to Rhydymwyn Football Club on Wednesday 22 September.
- p29 **Faded tourist sign in Cilcain** - Clerk had recently enquired with Mr Hickie. Mr Hickie had not yet received an instruction form Mr R Jones in Leisure. Clerk to check the position with Mr R Jones.
- p29 **Cilcain cemetery - wall repair required** - The Chairman reported that a quotation had now been received from a stone mason who had built a substantial length of wall in Nant Alyn. Cllr Pauline Douglas confirmed that the wall in Nant Alyn was excellent. Cllr Thomas had obtained one price and attempted again to obtain a price from a builder in the village. Cllr Thomas felt that the price quoted for 6 metres of wall was acceptable. The Clerk had contacted the stone mason to enquire about a lead time for the work. Ten weeks had been estimated. Cllr J Emyr Davies proposed the Council accepted the quotation. Members unanimously agreed. Clerk to write to the stone mason to accept the quotation. The Chairman had spoken to Cllr Ian Hughes. Cllr Hughes had agreed to keep an eye on the work.
- The Chair referred to a comment recently made by the Clerk regarding the Standing Orders. It was becoming extremely difficult obtaining prices for work, and the Council would in due course need to review the Standing Orders again with a view to raising the limit whereby three prices were required, especially for certain types of emergency work where children's safety implications were involved.
- p29 **Covid snake for Rhydymwyn Donkey Field** - The Chair reported that Mr Richard Roberts (Flintshire Leisure) indicated he was aware of a Covid 19 commemorative installation being provided in Flintshire. Mr Roberts would enquire regarding the Bailey Hill proposal to establish what sealant was being proposed for the Mold snake.
- p30 **Hendre Quarry Planning Application** - The Clerk reported on Flintshire's Planning Committee. Flintshire's Officers disagreed with most of the issues raised by the Community Council. Flintshire's Highway Officer saw no problem with the access. Even the double camber on the quarry access road was considered to be environmentally friendly by a Flintshire Officer, on the basis that the double camber ensured that the limestone laden water stayed in the middle of the access road instead of discharging into the verge on each side of the access road.

- p30 **Availability of Lateral Flow devices** - Chair confirmed that notices had been posted up in Cilcain, Rhydymwyn and Hendre.
- p31 **Dolfechlas Road safety issues at Play Area access** - Chair reported on the recent letter received from Flintshire's Traffic Engineer to indicate that the road width was insufficient to accommodate a priority route traffic calming measures arrangement.
- p31 **Coed Du Holdings** - Clerk to write again to Flintshire.
- p32 **Chapel Hedge** - Cllr J Emyr Davies confirmed that the hedge had now been cut.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

(i) (i) Planning Applications received from Flintshire County Council.

Proposal: Proposed detached garage - Amendments to and resubmission of application no. 062263
 Location: Penallt, Cilcain, CH7 5NN
 Ref No: 063442

Members referred (see last item in the correspondence pack) to the previous observations submitted by the Community Council to Flintshire Planning on 4 Feb 2021.

Clerk to add the observation regarding the wood material being proposed for the fabric of the garage not being in keeping with stone and slate roofs of the adjoining buildings. Members noted that Cllr Owen Thomas' sound system failed whilst this item was being discussed. Clerk to discuss the Council's amended observations with Cllr Thomas before submitting the Council's observations.

(ii) Planning Decisions made by Flintshire County Council -

(1) Proposal: Change of use of existing barn to residential office space
 Location : Siamber Wen, Cilcain, CH7 5NU
 Ref No: 062587
 Decision: Approved
 Decision date: 28/07/2021

(ii) Proposal: Extensions and alteration to existing dwelling and the addition of a new field access
 Location : Bryn Celyn, Cilcain, CH7 5NE
 Ref No: 062919
 Decision: Approved
 Decision date: 26/07/2021

(iii) Proposal: 2no. self catering tourist accommodation units and installation of septic tank.
 Location: Frith Farm, Loggerheads Road, Cilcain

Ref No: 061177
Decision: Approved
Decision date: 10/08/2021

8. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Paper copies of the correspondence were distributed to Members on Friday 16 July 2021.

- 1) 25/07 Disruptive youth, Rhydymwyn - Information received by Cllr Ian Smith from Connor Freel (North Wales Police). Position noted. The Chairman reported that the Police were called out to a further incident in Rhydymwyn last week.
- 2) 09/08 Hendre Notice Board - Photo of repair to the door opening mechanism by Cllr Ian Hughes. The Chairman thanked Cllr Ian Hughes for undertaking the door repair. Cllr Jean Ramsay and the Chair reported that opening the door was now proving to be a bit of a struggle.

The Clerk referred to a latch type closing arrangement put in by Cllr W Owen Thomas at Llys Alyn. The design of the closing latch at Llys Alyn accommodated well any relative movement between door frame and the Notice Board. Cllr Ian Hughes to liaise with the Chairman to assess how this new issue can be dealt with.

- 3) 25/08 Launch of Flintshire Digital Flintshire Hub - Information regarding an online resource to help residents to discover digital technology, and build confidence in digital skills. Position noted.
- 4) 27/08 Play areas' independent survey - Invitation from Aura's Play Design Officer to a site meeting to discuss the proposed grant aided work. Members noted that the site meeting took place at 9.30 am on Wednesday 15 September 2021.

Prior to the site meeting, the Clerk reported on having received a request from Cllr Janet Butlin for consideration to be given to a path between the two pedestrian access points. There was heavy dew on the day when the site meeting took place, so the heavy dew conditions emphasised the need for such a path. The position regarding funding a path was discussed earlier in the Council Meeting. The Chair mentioned that the path would improve access for disabled youngsters.

The suggestion for additional benches was taken on board by Flintshire.

Mr Roberts would now draw up a proposed scheme and bring the proposal back to the Council in due course. Mr Roberts gave the impression that the funding and scheme implementation could take place over a two to three year period.

Regarding the Llys Alun Play area, Flintshire was unlikely to be able to fund any required major future repairs. In view of Flintshire's position, the Community Council would need, in due course, to have a view on the play area's future. The Chair was going to have a word with some local residents to enquire how much use is currently being made of the play equipment.

- 5) 04/09 Ivy and wooden bench at Is y Mynydd, Cilcain - request for information from a Cilcain resident. Flintshire's Streetscene Supervisor (Mr N Hickie) reported earlier that Flintshire would be replacing the broken seat.
- 6) 06/09 Bryn Sholyn, Cefn Road - Planning Appeal - email to Flintshire Planning to request an update on the appeal procedures / enforcement action by Flintshire. Position noted.
- 7) 08/09 North Wales Community Alert Scheme - Invitation to join on line reporting of Police issues. Cllr Ian Smith had joined the scheme, but was not yet certain whether or not the benefits of the scheme outweighed the disadvantages of receiving a number of spam emails. Position noted.
- 8) 08/09 Quotation for central area planting in Cilcain Cemetery. Chair reported he had spoken to a number of Cilcain Members prior to the meeting. The scheme proposed did appear to be slightly too elaborate. Cllr Jean Ramsay maintained she had not seen anything as elaborate in other cemeteries she had visited. Cllr Gwen Hardman maintained that there had been insufficient maintenance undertaken in the past. It was also important to ensure slow growing plants were used to ensure that the maintenance was manageable.
- Cllr J Emyr Davies felt that there had recently been a considerable amount of money spent in the cemetery, and we needed to come up with a much simpler option.
- In conclusion, Members agreed that a site meeting was required so the Council could take advice regarding the slow growing plants appropriate for the central area.
- Cllr Davies felt there was a reasonably urgent need to cut back the bush encroaching on to the central path, in case someone tripped on it. Cllr Ian Hughes indicated the he would cut back the encroaching bush on the next Saturday morning.
- 9) 08/09 Boundary Commission for Wales - Initial Proposal Published - Position noted.
- 10) 12/09 Cilcain Post Lady - Letter from Cilcain resident regarding new arrangements for Cilcain area staff. The Vice Chairwoman has spoken directly to the exiting post lady and reported to the Council on the results of her discussion.

The Vice Chair agreed to post a notice on the Cilcain Notice Board to reflect the Community Council's position.

- Note - The Clerk's internet connection with the meeting was lost for seven minutes half way through the above item.
- 11) 13/09 Use of Waen Field by Cilcain YFU on 26 Sept 2021 - Chair and Cilcain Ward Members consulted and permission given. Position noted.
- 12) 13/09 Cilcain Village Hall lease - Email to Council's Solicitor regarding preparation of the Lease. The Chairman subsequently received the Lease on 14 Sept. The Chairman signed the Lease on that day and the Vice Chairwoman signed the Lease on the 17 Sept 2021. Item discussed earlier.
- 13) 13/09 Ty Gwyn Lane - Damage to culvert and railing at side of carriageway. Item reported by Mr B Weston - Email sent to Streetscene with a request for a Streetscene Officer to check highway safety concerns reported by Mr Weston. Item discussed earlier.
- 14) 14/09 Cilcain Village Hall Lease - Communication from the Secretary of the Village Hall Management Ctee regarding the Licence between the Hall Ctee and the Community Shop. Item discussed earlier.
- 15) -- Streetscene Action Plan - Neil's updated Action Plan dated 21 July 2021 was discussed earlier.
- 16) 14.02.21- Copy of planning observation made by the Community Council on the previous Penallt, Cilcain application. Item discussed earlier under Planning Matters.

9. MATTERS RAISED SINCE THE JULY COUMNCIL MEETING

1. Maes Cilan, Cilcain - Chairman had expressed concern regarding the lack of response from Flintshire Property Services regarding a report made regarding an Ash die-back tree at Maes Cilan, Cilcain. Clerk telephoned Mr Dewi Ellis on 13 Sept to establish if he had been requested by Property Services to look into the reported concern. Chairman reported on the current position.

Note - The sound system for Cllr W Owen Thomas and the Clerk's was restored at this point.

2. Cilcain cemetery - Cllr John Worthington had reported on the 14 September the urgent need to fence off the gap in the cemetery boundary wall. Chair and Vice Chair had authorised work by Mr O Roberts to fix a fence across the opening in the wall. Cllr J V Worthington reported that the fencing work had now been completed.

Cllr W Owen Thomas referred to having received complaints regarding the cemetery not recently been cut on the 1st of the month. Clerk to contact the contractor to express concern regarding the cutting frequency recently going off schedule.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 1 **Mold Roundabout** - Chair felt the Council should write to Flintshire Traffic and North Wales Police to express concern regarding the traffic danger. Cars are parked on the roundabout waiting to go into Macdonald. A number of local Rhydymwyn residents have had a narrow escape at this location.

Councillor Ian Smith felt that the issue came about when the ALDI alterations took place affecting the ALDI access layout. The alteration resulted in less room being available for the Macdonald user to park on the way in to McDonalds.

2. **Demolition of toilets, New Street Cart Park, Mold** - Cllr J Emyr Davies felt it was a disgrace to decide to demolish the toilet. Clerk to find out which Authority decided to demolish.

The Chairman had heard that Shops and Public Houses could receive an annual donation of £500 from the Welsh Assembly / Flintshire CC for making their toilets available to the public. The Clerk recalled £500 / yr being offered to the Public House in Cilcain when the Cilcain Public Toilets were being considered for closure. So the £500 per yr grant offer has been in place for some time.

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

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for 7.30 pm Monday 18 October 2021.

SignedChairman Date: Clerk