

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL AT THE VILLAGE HALL
CILCAIN ON 21 NOVEMBER 2022.

Present: Chairperson: Cllr Gwenda Hardman

Councillors: J Emyr Davies, Malcolm Down
John Doyle Gareth W Hughes
Karen Parker Cllr Michael Parr
Christine Vaughan John V Worthington

The Clerk was in attendance

1. CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed Members to the November Council Meeting. Croeso i bawb i Gyngor Mis Tachwedd. The Chair also welcomed Flintshire Councillor Andrew Parkhurst and two residents to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr Pauline Douglas, Cllr Ian Hughes, Cllr Jean Ramsay.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - Cllr Gareth W Hughes and Malcolm Down declared an interest in the Institute Item.

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING - Cllr Gareth W Hughes proposed acceptance, Cllr J Emyr Davis seconded and all Members agreed to approve the Minutes.

5. MATTERS ARISING (HIGHWAY MATTERS)

- (i) Trial Hill, Cilcain - Build up of leaves on Trial Hill creating a dangerous road condition - need to clear leaves more than once per Winter period.
- (ii) Church Meadow, Rhydymwyn - Potholes in carriageway opposite No 17 Church Meadow, plus potholes near No 20 / 24 Church Meadow.
- (iii) A541 Rhydymwyn - Footway / pavement from the Antelope Industrial Estate Junction to the Rhosesmor Junction - build up of limestone silt and leaves on footway - very slippery surface for pedestrians.
- (iv) Nant Alyn - build up of leaves - Caravan Site up towards Cae'r Eithin + Bath Hill.
- (v) Dolfechlas Road - hedge cuttings / leaves by play area - where hedge recently cut by Flintshire CC.
- (vi) Blocked Culverts - Trelan, and also by Maes y Groes Bella.
- (vii) Berth Road, Cilcain - broken stile by Pumping Station - top of Berth Road - item to be reported to Mr John Hill.

- (viii) Loggerheads Rd, Cilcain - 200 m Cilcain side of Maes y Groes Bella - dead branch above highway (LHS going towards Loggerheads).
- (ix) Pentre Farm Cilcain towards the Waterworks - edge of tarmac eroding both sides of the road.
- (x) Pentre, Cilcain - Overhanging trees - danger to high sided vehicles from Pentre Cottage going up towards Cilcain on LHS.

6.00 MATTERS ARISING

p47 Hendre Traffic -

- (a) Cllr Karen Parker reported on her recent liaison work with North Wales Police.
- (b) Training session scheduled for the middle of the week.
- (c) Seven local operatives in place to participate in the speed surveillance / alleviation scheme for Hendre.

p47 Trimm Rock former quarry - site security

- (a) County Cllr Andrew Parkhurst reported on the re-scheduling of a meeting between Hannah Parish (Flintshire Minerals) and Mr Gerald Taylor.
- (b) The Clerk reported having written on several occasions to the Health and Safety Executive at the Cardiff Office. A reply had just been received. The information received from the HSE confirms that Flintshire County Council does have legal powers in accordance with the Mines and Quarries Act 1954 (Section 151) to enforce the landowner to secure and maintain the site boundary to prevent trespassers from gaining access to the site.
- (c) The Information received from the HSE had been forwarded to Flintshire Minerals.

p47 Repair of village car park boundary wall. Clerk reported having been in contact with the stone mason to enquire about a start date.

p47 Play Areas - Cilcain and Rhydymwyn -

Chair reported on a site meeting held on 19 Oct 2022 with Mr Richard Roberts of Aura - The Chairperson, Cllr J Emyr Davies, Cllr Christine Vaughan, Cllr J V Worthington and the Clerk had attended. A very productive meeting had taken place.

Members agreed on site:

- (i) On the location of the new play unit.
- (ii) Mr Roberts was requested to proceed with ordering of the play unit.
- (iii) Members gave consideration to a possible 'stage 2' for next year, whereby a slide facility or an alternative unit could be located in the area currently occupied by the raised shrubbery planting facility (on the right hand side of the play area entrance). The timber posts supporting the raised bed are rotting at the base and would need replacing soon.
- (iv) Mr Roberts to replace (free of charge) one of the existing items for the under 5 age group.
- (v) Council to liaise with Power Systems regarding re-locating one of the pole 'stays' considered to be interfering with the play area.

- (vi) Council to consider applying for a grant for 'stage 2' work, once costs have been identified.

Members agreed and confirmed the decisions taken at the site meeting.

For the benefit of new Members to the Council, the Clerk explained that the play equipment in Cilcain and Rhydymwyn is maintained by Flintshire (Aura) and inspected by Flintshire CC for 'safety' on a weekly basis.

- p47 Housing survey, Rhydymwyn - Cllr Gareth Hughes referred to an email recently received from a Rhydymwyn resident (JB) regarding survey work carried out by Flintshire's contractor. Clerk requested to forward the email received to all Council Members. Flintshire CC Cllr Parkhurst was invited by the Chair to comment on the issue. Cllr Parkhurst reported having informed the appropriate Flintshire Officer that survey work should not take place anywhere until the housing need survey had been undertaken.
- p47 Permits for trailers in Flintshire's skip sites. County Cllr Andrew Parkhurst reported that the appropriate Flintshire CC Committee had made recommendations regarding modifying the rules. These recommendations would be submitted to the main Council Meeting in a few weeks time. Whilst some progress had been made in modifying the size and shape of trailers allowed in the recycling sites, not everyone is likely to be entirely satisfied with the extent of the changes.
- p48 Former Quarry - Lloyds Quarry - Concern expressed about Lloyds Quarry
- Cllr Pauline Douglas to contact the adjoining residents to seek their views on the dust, noise and heavy goods traffic concerns.
- p48 Dolfechlas Road, foul smell from drainage system. Clerk had contacted Mr Ronnie Kelbrick at Dwr Cymru.
Dwr Cymru will arrange to:
- (i) Seal manhole cover with 'visquine' type sealer.
 - (ii) Replace the absorbing filter provided in the manhole further up the system in Dolfechlas Road.
- Once the work detailed in (i) and (ii) has been undertaken, another site visit can be arranged.
- p48 Summer Playscheme - Total attendance figures from Flintshire CC have been received and forwarded to Members. In previous years, daily figures have been provided which were more useful than the total figures provided this year. Clerk had sent an email to Mrs J Roberts (who arranged the playscheme) to request daily figures. Mrs Roberts has retired, so the Clerk will write to another Aura Officer who appears to be dealing with the playscheme. Clerk to be authorised to pay the invoice if it is received before the next meeting.
- p48 Cilcain cemetery - Clerk reported having requested Edward Davies to top up one particular grave space by approximately 10 inches with subsoil. This topping up work had been completed since the October Council Meeting. Even though the grave was over twenty years old, the settlement had only appeared in the last three months. The grave space would now be monitored for further settlement until April / May prior to considering top soiling and seeding.

The Chair referred to an item of correspondence (item no 3 in the correspondence pack) from a Cilcain resident (DF) who expressed concern that an item of correspondence submitted to the

October Council Meeting had not been fully discussed. Secondly, an offer to participate in the remedial work being undertaken in the cemetery by a group of volunteers had not been considered.

The Chair explained that most of the significant items of felling dangerous trees and repairing the stone boundary wall on the two sides of the cemetery had been undertaken. Topping up settlement areas would continue as the need arises. Clearing leaves and twigs in the cemetery would need to be considered in the next few weeks when all the leaves have fallen for this year.

Members were pleased with the offer from the community to assist with work in the cemetery. However, the insurance and the risks involved would need to be clarified.

Cllr Michael Parr questioned if Council Members who had been doing leaf clearing work in the cemetery over the years were covered by the Council's insurance. Surely the same rules would apply to volunteers. Cllr Gareth Hughes maintained that Councillors were covered by the Council's insurance. Work by volunteers was unlikely to be covered by the Council's insurance. Clerk to confirm this position with the Council's Insurance Company.

A Member felt that anyone working in a cemetery would need to be aware of the risks involved, so a 'risk assessment' would be required. Clerk to enquire regarding an appropriate risk assessment.

Regarding the suggestion of dealing with the kerbstones stacked against the top wall of the cemetery, the Clerk referred to a legal requirement in all cemeteries for kerb stones not to be disposed of for a hundred years. That is why the Council arranged to stack the kerb stones by the top wall.

What sort of work could be done by the volunteers? Cllr Gareth Hughes felt it would not be appropriate for volunteers to deal with the re-profiling or dealing with settlement of grave spaces. Cllr Worthington maintained that dealing with the settlement of grave spaces was an on-going issue anyway.

Cllr Hughes felt the obvious work for a volunteer group would be clearing of leaves and twigs at the end of the leaf falling season.

p49 Street Lighting Schedule - Cllr John Worthington enquired regarding the current position with seeking a grant from the AONB. Clerk explained that a location plan had been sent to Deeco for:

- (a) The wattages can be established for each lamp.
- (b) The total number of lamps that still require conversion to LED can be established.

All Members were in favour of proceeding with LED conversion at Cilcain.

Regarding, the Rhydymwyn lamps, Clerk had written to Flintshire CC to seek clarification about the lamp at the Dolfechlas Road A541 junction in Hendre.

p49 Former Antelope, Rhydymwyn - Chair invited Flintshire CC Cllr Andrew Parkhurst to give an update on the dangerous roof slates. Cllr Parkhurst reported the matter was being pursued on a regular basis with Flintshire's Dangerous Structure Officer. Cllr Parkhurst explained that Flintshire had enforcement powers for doing the work on a rechargeable basis if the owner does not undertake the required safety repair work.

- p49 Land Registry - Apology received from the Council's Solicitor regarding the delay in responding - The Chair explained the background to the work that the Council needed the Solicitor to undertake. Position noted.
- p52 Cilcain village walkabout meeting - Any progress regarding a date? Clerk reported that Neil would not now be available until after 5 Dec 2022 at the earliest.
- p53 Cilcain Shop - Cllr Karen Parker reported that there had been another productive meeting with the Shop Ctee representatives since the October Council Meeting. Cllr Ramsay and Cllr Parker had also had a meeting with the Council's Solicitor the previous week. Cllr Parr declared an interest in the discussion, and indicated that he had been invited to attend a meeting with the Shop Ctee to discuss the pending agreement. The Chair felt that there was a conflict of interest because she and Cllr Parr were Members of the Council as well as both being Members of the Cilcain Village Hall Management Committee. Members agreed for the Clerk to write to the County Solicitor to seek his views on the conflict of interest issue and related matters.

6b Site meetings attended by Members of the Council.

The Chair mentioned that there had been three site meetings since she had been Chair.

- (a) Date - 19 October 2022
 Location - Cilcain Play Area
 Council Minutes - The 21 November 2022 Minutes will include the names of the Councillors who attended the site meeting.
- (b) Date - 15 September 2022
 Location - Pedair y Groesffordd parking area
 Council Minutes - The 26 September 2022 Minutes identified the Chair and Cllr J V Worthington as having attended the site meeting.
- (c) Date - 28 June 2022
 Location - Cilcain Village Hall, new tarmac and drainage alterations.
 Council Minutes - The 18 July 2022 Minutes referred to 'four Cilcain Ward Members' attending the site meeting but unfortunately the four Members were not named.

Since the inclusion of the Members' names attending meetings is a mandatory requirement, the Council authorised the inclusion of the four Members who attended the Cilcain Village Hall site meeting in the Council Minutes: Cllr Gwen Hardman, Cllr J Emyr Davies, Cllr Ian Hughes and Cllr J V Worthington.

7.00 PLANNING MATTERS:

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

Community Council observations requested on:

- (a) Proposal: New car port and gym with office over

Location: Plas Ucha, Cilcain, Mold, Flintshire
Ref No: Case FULL/000482/22

In view of the time constraints imposed on submitting the Community Council's submission the Clerk had taken the views of Members into account and submitted the following:

The Community Council **strongly objects** to the development because:

- (i) The proposal can be easily converted to a separate dwelling in due course, or can be easily converted to extend the existing dwelling even further, by the construction of a glass connecting corridor between the existing dwelling and the proposed car port. There is a significant future risk to this development.
- (ii) The dwelling has already had substantial additions in the past. Planning guidelines allow for a 50% addition to an existing dwelling. The extension of this particular dwelling is nearer 250% than 50%. The argument in the supporting statement that the proposal replaces a previous building on the site - this was a single storey building not the two storey proposed.
- (iii) This development is regarded as over development of the site and therefore contravenes Flintshire's planning guidelines.

If the Planning Authority is minded to give planning permission for this proposal, the Community Council requests a condition be included in any permission to ensure that conversion to a separate dwelling does not occur in the future. Also, a condition should be added to ensure the connection of the car port to the existing dwelling does not eventually take place.

- (b) Proposal: Proposed extension
Location: Rhydymwyn Service Station, Rhydymwyn
Ref No: Case FULL/000540/22

In view of the time constraints imposed on submitting the Community Council's submission the Clerk took the views of Members into account and submitted the following:

Cilcain Community Council **fully supports** the application. The premises is a successful business serving the local community.

8.00 CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

- 1) 17/10 Street Lamp out at 23/25 Ffordd y Llan - Chair had reported a lamp out. Item referred to Deeco lighting. Report received from Deeco on 19 Oct - lamp repaired. Position noted.
- 2) 19/10 Cilcain Play Area, site meeting with Mr Richard Roberts of Aura - Item dealt with earlier.
- 3) 19/10 Concern from Cilcain resident (DF) - Item dealt with earlier.

- 4) 20/10 Cilcain Bowling Club Land and Pavilion - update from Cilcain CC's Solicitor regarding the Land Registry - Item dealt with earlier.
- 5) 21/10 Concern from Cilcain resident (DF)
- Request for the Council to expedite replacement of the existing car park signage. Chair felt the Council now had all the information to move forward with requesting Flintshire's Sign Design Officer to prepare a mock up of the signs. Members noted that the White Horse had not responded to the request made regarding shutting the public house car park. Members took the view that it would have been useful to have received the views of the Public House, but the Council can proceed without having a response.
- 6) 23/10 Cilcain Bonfire - Thank you note from Cilcain YFC Chairperson for granting permission to use Waen Field for the event scheduled for 5 Nov. Position noted.
- 6B) 23/10 Night Road Rally (13Oct -16 Oct) - Letter of concern sent to Mr Eddie Blackwell, Publicity Officer, Clwyd Motor Club regarding the noise disturbance in Hendre between 12 midnight and 2.00 am in the morning. Cllr Karen Parker reported further at the Council Meeting. The Rally Publicity Officer promised there would be improved advertising and communication with the community prior to the next Night Rally.
- 7) 26/10 Cilcain YFC advertising banner affecting visibility at Star Crossing Road junction. Concern from a resident via Cllr Andrew Parkhurst. Clerk passed the concern on to Cilcain YFC Chairperson, Charlotte Owens. Confirmation and photo received from Charlotte on the evening of the 26 Oct to show that the visibility issue had been dealt with. Position noted.
- 8) 26/10 A541 / Dolfechlas Road junction, Hendre - Report received from Hendre resident (JLT) regarding a street lamp at the junction not working. Item reported to Deeco Lighting on 26 Oct. Lamp repaired by Deeco on 27 Oct. This lamp has been maintained by Cilcain CC in the past. However, the lamp was also shown on Flintshire CC lamp column records plan. Clerk had written to Flintshire Street Lighting Engineer (JB) to clarify the lamp ownership status.
- 9) 27/10 Rhydymwyn Bonfire Ctee - Thank you note for the Community Council's donation towards the cost of the event. Position noted.
- 10) 28/10 Hendre Land Drainage Scheme - copy of an update Cllr Andrew Parkhurst had received from Flintshire County Council - Consulting Engineers working on a baseline review of the scheme. Flintshire CC Cllr Andrew Parkhurst reported having requested the Hendre resident mentioned in previous correspondence to contact Mr Andy Roberts in Flintshire CC regarding a possible meeting.
- 11) 31/10 Antelope Inn, Rhydymwyn - dangerous roof slates - copy of an email giving a position update sent to Flintshire CC Councillor Andrew Parkhurst from Flintshire's Dangerous Structure Officer. Item discussed previously.

- 12) 01/11 Fly tipping near Ty Cerrig, Cilcain - Cllr J Emyr Davies had reported fly-tipping between Ty Cerrig and Trelan Bach. Report forwarded to Flintshire Street Scene. Cllr Davies reported fly tipping had been collected straight away on the following day, which was very quick. Position noted.
- 13) 03/11 Cilcain Bowling Club - Receipt and thank you note for the recent £600 donation to assist with renovation work. Position noted.
- 14) 06/11 Donkey Field Play Area, Rhydymwyn defective pedestrian gate - report received from Cllr Gareth W Hughes regarding the opening / closing mechanism on the pedestrian gate not working - Concern emailed to Mr Richard Roberta at AURA. Gate repaired on Tuesday 8th Nov.
- 15) 07/11 Concern from Cilcain resident (DF) - Parking Area at Pedair y Groesffordd. Copy of the email forwarded to all Members of the Council. Chair expressed thanks to the resident for the information. The Chair repeated her previous observation that adding to the parking facility at Pedair y Groesffordd was not at all imminent. The Clerk reported that on Saturday mid day on the 19 November the Water Works informal parking area was full (7 cars). 17 cars were parked at Pedair y Groesffordd, and one vehicle was even parked on the grass verge, presumably because there was no space available on the tarmac area when the visitor arrived. Muddy verge tyre marks were also evident adjoining the 2nd car park suggesting that visitors wanting to park are often forced to use the roadside verges for parking.
- Cllr J Emyr Davies maintained - if the AONB comes up with a scheme, the Council would be very foolish to turn the scheme down. Cllr Gareth Hughes expressed his full agreement with the sentiments expressed by Cllr Emyr Davies.
- Cllr John Worthington referred to the comments recently made by the AONB. Any parking provision funded by the AONB would not have tarmac surfacing, but a surfacing that allows grass to grow through the parking surface. Such a surface would assist in lessening any negative impact that tarmac surfacing may have on the environment.
- 16) 10/11 Loggerheads Road Cilcain - Cllr J V Worthington reported that the pothole repair by Flintshire CC had taken place along the whole length of Loggerheads Road. Cllr Worthington commented that the pothole repair work was unfortunately not of a very high standard. The Chair commented that the answer is usually - fewer potholes would be repaired if a 'Class 1' patching was done. Position noted.
- 17) 11/11 Pedestrian safety, Cilcain - Copy of email received by Flintshire CC's Cllr Andrew Parkhurst from Robin Nursaw (Flintshire Traffic Section) regarding possible pedestrian safety remediation measures in Cilcain. Cllr Parkhurst outlined the various suggestion which had been made by residents regarding the issue.

Cllr Parkhurst invited the Community Council Council's views on the issue.

- (i) Cllr Michael Parr wondered if there was any appetite for lessening the width of the carriageway between Lon Cilan and the School and using the reduced width arrangement to provide a footway or a cycle lane.
- (ii) Cllr John Doyle enquired if there had been any speed control issues considered. Cllr Parkhurst indicated that speed limit reduction initiative in villages would commence in April 2023, whereby 20 mph limits would be introduced in the whole of Wales. There was therefore very little appetite for Flintshire to consider speed reduction outside the Welsh Assembly scheme.
- (iii) Cllr Christine Vaughan felt that introducing shared road signs would have more of an immediate effect than any proposal involving physical road construction work such as narrowing the width of the carriageway road to provide a pedestrian footway.
- (iv) The Clerk referred to one suggestions which had been discussed by the Community Council in recent years which involve dealing with the dark section in Bwlch Lane between the Park y Llan pedestrian entrance and Ffordd y Llan. Youngsters on their way home from school in the dark Winter evenings could benefit from a lamp, possibly funded from the Safe route to School funding, still available in Flintshire.
- (v) Another item which had been discussed recently in the Community Council was the muddy verge by the bus shelter which deterred youngsters being 'dropped off' for school on the verge side of the parents' vehicles. Provision of a footway from the Bus Shelter to the cemetery boundary could also be paid for from the Safe route to School fund.

- 18) 13/11 Road issues, Cilcain - Photos received from Flintshire CC Cllr Andrew Parkhurst, and further suggestions for pedestrian safety measures in Cilcain. Item dealt with above.
- 19) 14/11 Former Trimm Rock Quarry - Update received from Flintshire CC Cllr Andrew Parkhurst regarding the security of the site. Item dealt with previously.
- 20) 14/11 Cilcain Bonfire - confirmation received from a Cilcain YFC Committee Member (DS) - Bonfire remains now cleared. Position noted.
- 21) 14/11 Rhydymwyn War Memorial Institute - Request for financial assistance with renovation work to the building. Cllr Gareth W Hughes and Cllr Malcolm Down declared an interest in the item. £600 donation approved.
- 22) 16/11 Former Trimm Rock Quarry - new suggested email address received from Hannah Parish for the Health and Safety Executive. Item dealt with earlier.
- 23) -- -- Flintshire Streetscene Action Plan Notes from Mr N Hickie. Action Plan not received this month.

24) 17/11 Waen Field - Dates of Flintshire grass cuts in 2022 - information from Mr Neil Hickie. Item to be dealt with when Mr Hickie is present at the Meeting.

9.00 LATE ITEMS (WITH NO FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL) -

Warm Hub initiative - Flintshire CC Cllr Andrew Parkhurst had sent information regarding funding being available for Warm Hub arrangements. Council to make the information available to the appropriate organisations in the Council's area.

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

11.00 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for the Village Hall, Cilcain at 7.30 pm Monday 19 December 2022.

SignedChairman Date: Clerk

APPENDIX - MATTERS OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE - PAYMENT SECTION NOT FOR PUBLICATION UNTIL APPROVED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING -

Payment of Accounts

(i)	A E (sal + fixed home allowance exp) for Oct	625.85
(ii)	HMRC - PAYE (L.G.A.1972 S112)	97.45
(iii)	Bloomin Gardens grass cutting in Cilcain cemetery	220.00
(iv)	Office Equipment and stationery - (L.G.A.1972 S111)	166.51
(v) **	Rhydymwyn War Memorial Institute - donation to assist with renovation work to the building	600.00
(vi)	AE - web fee (Goto Meeting)	18.00

** **Please note** - The following is an extract from the allocation list agreed at the precept time in January 2022:

<i>Summer playscheme</i>	2,858
<i>Rhyd play area refurbish match funding scheme</i>	4,000
<i>Community buildings (B Club, Inst, Rhyd FC)</i>	1,800
<i>Village Hall - public toilet - annual donation</i>	600
<i>Village Hall additional lease enquiries</i>	400

Chair

Clerk

Date