

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, CILCAIN ON 15 APRIL 2019

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

1. **CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS** - The Chairwoman welcomed all to the April Meeting. Croeso i bawb i gyfarfod y Cyngor Mis Ebrill. Mr Neil Hickie from Flintshire Streetscene and Mrs Sue Jones from Cilcain Clean and Lock were welcomed to the Meeting.
2. **APOLOGIES** - Cllr Ann Baker, Cllr Pauline Douglas, Cllr John Worthington,
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - There were no Declaration of Interest.
4. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** - The Minutes were proposed as correct by Cllr Ian Smith, seconded by Councillor Gwen Hardman and formally agreed by all the Members present.
5. **MATTERS ARISING**
 - (a) **Highway matters 'action plan'** - Mr Neil Hickie went though the Rhydymwyn walkabout action plan. noted the following:
 - (b) **Matters arising - non highway matters**
 - p235 **Cilcain Notice Board** - Item to remain on the Agenda.
 - p235 **Pedestrian Crossing, Rhydymwyn** - Item to remain on the Agenda
 - p235 **Tarmac Quarry Liaison Meeting** - Item to be discussed under the Correspondence item.
 - p235 **Ground Work, North Wales** - Item to remain on the Agenda.
 - p236 **North Wales Police, crime reports** - Item to be discussed under the Correspondence item.
 - p237 **Town and Community Council Play Scheme Programme** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes noted that no mention was made in the correspondence regarding the date Flintshire want to know if a Council wishes to participate in a scheme. The Clerk explained that the letter dated 28 January was to inform Council's of the amount they would need to include in the precept. The Clerk indicated that an allocation had been included in the Council budget that would cover a similar scheme to last year. Last year's scheme was three weeks duration in total, mornings in Cilcain and the afternoons in Rhydymwyn.
 - p237 **Bryn Sholyn** - Item to be discussed under the Correspondence item.

- p238 **Flintshire 50 + Advisory Group** - The Chairwoman thanked Cllr Ian Smith for supplying the information detailing the activities of the 50+ group. Item to be discussed under the Correspondence item.
- p238 **Cilcain cemetery brown bins** - Clerk reported that the stickers had been fixed to the two brown bins in the cemetery, in time for the first collection on the 11 March.
- p238 **Cilcain Village Hall** - Meeting with the Council's Solicitor scheduled for Wednesday 27 March.
- p238 **Visit to Town and Community Councils by Independent Members of the Standards Committee** Clerk reported that Councils who have had visits from a Member of the Standards Committee received an email on the day before the visit.
- p238 **Flintshire Streetscene 'Action Plan'** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes referred to the path in Leete Avenue next to the Wellingtonia tree. The resident had taken the problem up with David Hanson MP. Cllr Hughes reported that the repair work was done within a couple of weeks of the resident taking the matter up with David Hanson.
- Members noted that the tree in Llys Alyn still needs to be dealt with. Cllr W Owen Thomas to pursue with Flintshire's Housing Section.
- p238 **Excavation in highway controlled land - former Post Office, Cilcain** - Item to be discussed under the Correspondence item.
- p240 **Waen Field - damage to kissing gate** - A quotation had been received from Mr W Topley for the work detailed in the February Council meeting. Members agreed to accept the quotation for £50.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

1. Community Council observations requested on:

- (a) The application received was not included on the Agenda, so Members concluded they should not be commenting on the application. Cllr Gareth W Hughes referred to page 20 of the Good Councillor's Guide which indicated - 'it is not possible to make a decision to spend money or a recommendation relating to a planning application, without three clear days warning'.

2. Planning decisions made by Flintshire County Council: Position noted on the following:

- (a) Ref: 058812
 Proposal: Application for the approval of details reserved by condition no's 3, (window details), 4,(Bi-fold door details) 5,(materials) 6,(rainwater goods) 7,(photographic survey)attached to planning permission references 057496
 At: Penallt, Cilcain, Mold, CH7 5NN
 Decision: Approved Decision Level: Delegated-Officer
- (b) Ref: 058825
 Proposal: Application for a non-material amendment to planning permission ref: 057496
 At: Penallt, Cilcain, Mold, CH7 5NN
 Decision: Approved Decision Level: Delegated-Officer
- (c) Ref: 059184

Proposal: Application for approval of details reserved by condition No's 3,4,5,6,7)
attached to Planning Permission ref:057497
At: Penallt, Cilcain, Mold, CH7 5NN
Decision: Approved Decision Level: Delegated-Officer

- (d) Ref: 059308 Area:
Proposal: Application for the approval of details reserved by condition no. 4
(materials) attached to listed building consent ref. 056277
Location: Brithdir Mawr, Loggerheads Road, Cilcain, Mold, CH7 5PH
Decision: Partially Discharges Decision Level: Delegated-Officer

7 AGENDA ITEM REQUEST

- (i) **Chairwoman, Any Other Business Item** - The Chairwoman had requested an extract from 'A Good Councillor's Guide' (page 20) to be added to the Agenda correspondence pack. Members considered it appropriate to refer to the guidelines regarding the raising of additional items at the end of a Council Meeting, especially items involving expenditure. On the basis that the 'Any Other Business' is not an appropriate item for the Council Agenda, Members agreed that Members should request the Clerk to put an item on the Agenda.

Members questioned - If a Member wants to report a street lamp not working after the Agenda has been issued, or report a new pothole, does such a report have to wait until the next meeting?

Cllr Janet Butlin felt that Members should be able to report a problem at any time, where a Council decision was not required. In the case of a street lamp not working, the Clerk would report the lamp to Flintshire or to Deeco without a Council 'decision' being required to instruct the Clerk to pass on the report to the County or to DEECO.

Cllr W Owen Thomas maintained that when items have been brought up in the past, most of the items raised did not require a Council discussion or decision. The Clerk would make a note of the issue raised, which would be included on the Minutes of that Meeting. If the required action by the Clerk did not need a Council discussion or decision, the Clerk would act on the issue raised in the AOB item.

Cllr Gareth Hughes referred to an item recently disappearing off the Minutes. Cllr Hughes enquired where in the Council Meeting does he request the item to be reinstated? The Chairwoman explained that items sometime disappear from the Minutes because a particular Member was not present resulting in the item not being discussed at the Meeting. Where items are not discussed, they are then usually left off the Minutes.

Cllr W Owen Thomas reported he had spoken to the Bus Service Officer in Flintshire. A survey had been conducted and it had been established that the service which used to call in Llys Alyn was not very well used. There would be a considerable disruption to the service route if a bus had now to be diverted into Llys Alyn. The Officer was looking into the matter and would be having a discussion with current bus operator.

The Chairwoman reported having discussed the Llys Alyn bus issue with David Hanson MP. David Hanson indicated he would be looking into the matter.

Members agreed for this item to be restored on to the Agenda.

(ii) **Cllr Ian Smith** - Cllr Smith has requested an update on the following items:

- (a) **Pedestrian crossing, Rhydymwyn** - Clerk reported having written to Flintshire's Traffic Engineer on three separate occasions since the February Council Meeting. The reply received from Flintshire (received and dated 18 March 2019) to confirm the current position was distributed to Members at the start of the Meeting.

Cllr W Owen Thomas explained a proposed crossing could not be located directly opposite the Service Station, but would have to be moved towards the Bus Shelter.

Cllr Pauline Douglas and Cllr Mrs Janet Butlin wondered whether or not the funding could come from the Flintshire's 'safe route to schools' grant.

The email from Mr L Shone also indicated that Flintshire is currently investigating the option of purchasing a VAS (Vehicle Actuated Sign) sign for rotation among the various sites within the County.

Cllr Gwen Harman suggested the Council invites Flintshire's Traffic Engineer to the 15 April 2019 Council Meeting. Members agreed.

- (b) Current position regarding plaques on Council owned benches. Cllr Gareth Hughes reported that the details for one remaining inscription should be available in the next few weeks.
- (c) Latest position regarding the pothole repairs in Dolfechlas Road. Photographs of the repair looked at earlier in the Council Meeting. Item to be considered further in the Rhydymwyn walkabout meeting.

(iii) **Cllr W Owen Thomas** - raised a number of items at the end of the 18 February Council Meeting. Members considered it appropriate to discuss these aspirations at the Council Meeting.

Cllr Thomas explained that these items referred to issues which residents had recently brought to his attention:

- (a) Need to repair or re-surface the Cilcain Village Hall car park. Cllr Thomas explained that the use of the car park has increased, as a result of residents visiting the Shop. Repair to the entrance potholes has been carried out in the last few weeks. Cllr Thomas maintained the rest of the surfacing could benefit from a slurry seal treatment.
- (b) Need to reconstruct the steps between the car park and the Village Hall entrance.
- (c) Need to provide a handrail by the steps identified in item (b) above.
- (d) Need to provide edging kerbs and resurface the central path in Cilcain cemetery. Cllr Thomas explained that the resurfacing had been included in Council precept for several years.

Cllr Gareth Hughes agreed with Cllr Thomas that the cemetery path had been included in the precept for several years. Unfortunately the allocation was vired last year to deal with a tree in the cemetery that was considered by the Council to be a potential danger.

Regarding the car park, Cllr Gareth Hughes agreed the entrance to the car park has had to be repaired on a fairly regular basis. Cllr Hughes felt it would be more appropriate to look at surfacing a

rectangular entrance area, possibly 2 or 3 metres wide. Cllr Thomas felt the rest of the car park was starting to show signs of failure. Cllr Thomas felt advice should be sought regarding the appropriate solution for surface treatment.

The Clerk reported on the discussions which had taken place in the recent Cilcain walkabout meeting with Mr Neil Hickie. A budget price was scheduled to be prepared for the various items. The various budget prices could then be used for the Council to decide how each item could be funded either this year or next year.

At the recent cemetery site meeting, Members agreed to obtain a budget price for flush concrete kerbs to replace the wooden fir edging and to macadam the lower section, from the central shrubs section down to the entrance gate. Members accepted that the amount included in the precept may be nowhere near the budget price. Once the Council has the budget price available, three quotations can then be invited.

Regarding the concrete steps, the surface of the step was crumbling and Cllr W Owen Thomas felt the 'drop' in the lower step was greater than it should be. At the recent walkabout meeting an option of replacing the steps with a macadam ramp was considered. Consideration was also given to providing two gulleys on the car park side of the stone wall, with a gulley connection constructed under the wall foundation, to connect into the surface water sewer that goes down pass the rear of the Chapel. Members noted that the surface water sewer going pass the Chapel had unfortunately already caused problems in the recent past. Another option was to bring a drain connection down below the proposed macadam ramp and connect the gulley connections to a soakaway in the field.

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

- 1) 18/02 Flintshire 50 + Action Group - Information from Cllr Ian Smith and a link to the Group's website. Members felt unable to support the Group with a donation.
- 2) 18/02 Excavation works in highway control land, Cilcain - Information from Flintshire Planning Section to indicate that the matter had been passed on to the Planning Enforcement Officer and the Highways Development Section for instigation. Cllr W Owen Thomas explained that the system had changed recently whereby some of the enforcement issues are now being dealt with by various Development Control Planning Officers. Cllr W Owen Thomas maintained that it was made clear in the planning permission that the controlled strip had to be kept clear. Cllr Thomas indicated he would speak to the Planning Director. Draft copy of a letter to Flintshire's Chief Executive to be prepared by the Clerk.
- 3) 21/02 Local Council Administration - A book by Charles Arnold Baker at a discounted price. Members agreed to purchasing a copy of the latest 11th edition of this extremely useful textbook which comprehensively covers administrative procedures and legislation for Community Councils
- 4) 26/02 Crime Update Jan /Feb - Enquiry from Cllr Ian Smith regarding a recent police incident in Rhydymwyn. Clerk reported that when PC Gary Aldous was the Community Police Officer for the Council's area, PC Aldous used to report to the Council on his regular visits to Coed Du Nursing Home. Members agreed for the Clerk to enquire with Connor Freel if there is regular contact currently being made with Coed Du Hospital.

Annual visit by two Community Councillors to be arranged.

- 5) 01/03 Rhydymwyn Football Club - Request from a Rhydymwyn resident for a copy of the February 2019 Minutes to be made available. Members had a further look at the letter from the Rhydymwyn resident (dated 18 Feb 2019).
- Members agreed to request the Football Club to arrange a meeting of the interested parties, and some Rhydymwyn Ward Members of the Community Council would be in a position to attend. Clerk was also requested to write to the Rhydymwyn resident to explain the Community Council's current position.
- 6) 01/03 Former Valley Works Site, Rhydymwyn - Introduction to the Land Trust and Consultation on Future Management Arrangements. Position noted.
- 7) 06/03 Bryn Sholyn, Cefn Road, Cilcain - Update information from Flintshire regarding the current position on the concern reported to Flintshire on 19 December 2018. Cllr W Owen Thomas explained that Flintshire Planning has 'advised' the owner to stop his activities on site.
- Cllr W Owen Thomas had requested an extract of the SSSI protected area plan to be made available at the Council Meeting. An extract from the NRW's website identifying the location of the SSSI had been attached to the Agenda.
- Members recalled that when Mr Frazer Roberts was the local Streetscene supervisor, an excavation by Flintshire to provide a much needed passing place near Bont Newydd in Cilcain had to be filled in again, due to the excavation encroaching into a SSSI area.
- Members noted that when the edge of the SSSI area adjoins a public highway, encroachments are easily spotted. If encroachments take place on the rear or side boundary of a property, it becomes very difficult for members of the public to identify any encroachment.
- The Community Council resolved to write to NRW to report earthworks taking place in close proximity to the SSSI protected land.
- The Clerk to contact Mr D Glyn Jones to enquire if any conclusions has been reached regarding the development.
- 8) 06/03 Street Lamp knocked down between Rhydymwyn and Hendre in September / October 2018 - Update information regarding likely replacement from Flintshire's Street Lighting Section. Clerk to pursue with Flintshire.
- 9) 10/03 Rhydymwyn Football Club - Terms of the Lease - enquiry from Rhydymwyn resident requesting information on the Community Council's involvement in the Dog Control regulations. Item discussed earlier.
- 10) 11/03 Blocked gulleys, A541 Rhydymwyn - Email from Mr Neil Hickie to confirm that a gully emptying request has been made for the section of road between the Rhosesmor Junction and the Alyn Fireplace Centre in Hendre. Position noted.

- 11) 13/03 Hendre Quarry - Liaison Meeting - Next Meeting scheduled for 12.00 pm, 5 June 2019.

Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported on the recent Liaison meeting. The presentation about the blasting was most informative and very interesting. The wheel wash had been broken, but was now repaired. Cllr W Owen Thomas had reservations regarding the wheel wash working properly. Cllr Thomas had noticed a loaded wagon exiting the quarry last Tuesday, and the wagon had clearly not been through a wheel wash. Mr Neil Parry at Flintshire Minerals to be requested to investigate the position.

- 12) 08/03 Rhydymwyn War Memorial Institute - Thank you letter from the Institute Committee Chairman for the recent Council donation. Position noted.

- 13) 15/03 Funding Opportunity - Funding of up to £1,000 for local government sector women is available - Information from Flintshire CC. Position noted.

9. MATTERS RAISED SINCE THE LAST MEETING -

- (i) **Dead badger, Nant Alyn, Rhydymwyn** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported (22 Feb) a dead badger on the road between The Graig and Church Meadow. Item had been reported to Mr Neil Hickie. Carcass removed.
- (ii) **Brithdir Mawr Lane, Cilcain** - Cllr John Worthington reported (23 Feb) a drainage problem at Brithdir Mawr Lane, Cilcain. Item had been emailed to Mr Neil Hickie. Cllr Worthington had reported (14 Mar) that the catch pit at Bryn Ffynnon had been cleaned out.
- (iii) **Brithdir Mawr Lane** - Cllr John Worthington had reported concern of residents regarding four individuals undertaking a recent survey/inspection of a building remain. Members referred to a note in appendix 'B'.
- (iv) **Street Lamp, Ffordd y Llan, Cilcain** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes had reported (6 Feb) a lamp not working between the Square in Cilcain and Chapel Gad. Item reported to Mr Gareth Edwards in Deeco Lighting. Cllr Hughes reported at the Council Meeting that the lamp was now working.
- (v) **Cilcain Walkabout meeting with Mr Neil Hickie** - Three Cilcain Ward Members and the Clerk met Mr Neil Hickie on 1 March 2019. Item not discussed.
- (vi) **Dangerous gulley pot grid, A541 Rhydymwyn** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes had reported (5 Mar) a crumbling tarmac and concrete gulley grid surround on the Mold side of the exit to the Rhydymwyn Service Station. Item reported to Mr Ian Williams in Flintshire Streetscene. Mr Williams reported within a few hours that temporary tarmac fill had been provided, pending a permanent repair being arranged. Position noted.
- (vii) **Drain blocked. A541, by the former water pump house** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported (10 Mar) gulley / gulleys blocked on the Pump House side of the A541. Report with photograph reported to Flintshire Streetscene. Position noted.
- (viii) **Blocked gulleys, near Maes Alyn, Loggerheads Road, Cilcain** - Cllr J Emyr Davies reported (10 Mar) blocked gulleys (50 yds from Maes Alyn towards Loggerheads) Item reported to Mr Neil Hickie in Flintshire Streetscene. Position noted.

- (ix) **Potholes by Post Box, Dolfechlas Road** - Cllr Jean Ramsay reported (11 Mar) on observations she had noted on the Rhydymwyn and Hendre Facebook pages regarding the recent poor repair works undertaken by Flintshire at the Dolfechlas Road junction. Item had been reported to Mr Neil Hickie at Flintshire Streetscene. Item discussed earlier. Item to be looked at again in Village walkabout meeting.
- (x) **Blocked gulleys Trelan, Cilcain** Cllr J Emyr Davies had reported (10 Mar) that a gulley suction wagon had recently been emptying the roadside gulleys near Trelan, but had not cleaned the gulleys in the dip approx 40 meters down from Trelan Farm entrance.

The entrance to the highway culvert at this location also needed looking at. Members recalled that approximately six to eight years ago - an obstruction had occurred at the culvert entrance. Storm water then discharged across the road in the dip and started eroding away the embankment on the outlet side of the road culvert.

A length of the recently provided 4 inch water main in the highway verge had been exposed and at one point was precariously suspended in mid air. A quick fix had to be done by Flintshire to prevent the water main collapsing.

Cllr Davies had reported that the highway verge and embankment on the outlet side of the culvert had started to erode again. The concern regarding the stability of the embankment and the water main had been reported to Flintshire Streetscene.

Mr Neil Hickie reported (14 Mar) that the culvert entrance had now been cleaned out.

- 10. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS** - The 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 7.30 pm on 15 April 2019.