

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL AT THE FOOTBALL CLUB BUILDING, RHYDYMWYN ON 25 APRIL 2022.

Present: Chairperson: Cllr Gareth W Hughes

Councillors: Cllr Janet Butlin J Emyr Davies
Pauline Douglas Gwen Hardman
Ian Hughes Jean Ramsay
Ian Smith. W Owen Thomas

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 April Council Meeting. Croeso i bawb i Gyngor Mis Ebrill. The Chair also welcomed four members of the public to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Cllr Ann Baker.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - There were no Declarations of Interest received.

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING - Cllr J Emyr Davies proposed acceptance, Cllr Ian Hughes seconded and all Members agreed to approve the Minutes of 21 March 2022 meeting. The Chairman signed the Minutes. Cllr Jean Ramsay requested that the reference to the Rhydymwyn and Hendre 'website' needed to be changed to the Rhydymwyn and Hendre 'Facebook'.

5. MATTERS ARISING - (Highway Matters)

Streetscene Action Plan - dated 21 March 2022

Mr Neil Hickie was invited by the Chairman to comment on the highway matters on the Action List.

Clerk to write -

- (i) Regarding the Ffordd y Llan tree pruning - Clerk to contact Mr Stuart Body to pursue. Copy Neil in on the correspondence.
- (ii) Berth Road - Cllr W Owen Thomas suspected that Berth Road gulleys had not been done in the last twelve months. Mr Hickie to check the date that Ffordd y Llan was cleaned.
- (iii) A541 Denbigh Road - Clerk to remind Planning Enforcement regarding the caravan in the field next to the Institute.

6. MATTERS ARISING (Non - Highway Matters)

Mr Facer - The Chairman invited Mr Facer to make his presentation, and the Council would discuss the points raised after the presentation. Mr Facer indicated that he had been expecting to be able to listen to the Council debate and not be asked to leave as he thought the Shop Committee had to do in the November 2021 Council Meeting.

The Chairman explained that the Shop Committee representatives had been given the option to leave. In fact one Member had stayed. Mr Facer indicated that the one person who stayed was also asked to leave the meeting later on. The Chair recalled that this person was not asked to leave until near the end of the meeting, when the Council had to discuss an item which had legal / financial implications.

Mr Facer referred to an email he had sent on 19th March when the car park had been chock-a-block with cars. He had mentioned in the email that he thought the old sign was rude, arrogant, unfriendly and could have been worded better. He was therefore horrified to see the two new signs with similar wording. There was no need for that sort of signage in Cilcain. The sign put people off.

Mr Facer thought everyone in the village agrees that we don't want vehicles clogging up the car park but the new signs are bright, ugly and give mixed messages. He had had 96 likes on Facebook with comments that people don't like the look of the signs and they should be bilingual. He wanted the Council to admit in tonight's meeting that the signs were a mistake, and have the signs removed straight away.

He thought the direction signs to the viewpoint car parks were a great idea but the words and colour needed changing to reflect their rural location as the ones erected were of the type normally used in urban areas such as Connah's Quay'.

Mr Weston - The Chairman invited Mr Bruce Weston, who had also indicated prior to the Meeting that he would like to say a few words in support of the replacement sign.

Mr Weston explained that he lived at the Gors which is on the outskirts (one and a half miles) from the village centre. As a long-time resident he feels very much part of the village but has to use his car these days to use facilities at the centre of the village. He is conscious of parking in people's way on the road.

Mr Weston felt the number of cars visiting Cilcain has increased in recent years. He referred to one occasion when he spoke to visitors who were obviously going to walk toward Moel Famau but were leaving their vehicles in the community car park. These visitors became very abusive and physically threatened him.

Mr Weston maintained there must be a way of having the signage to ensure that the car park is for village use only. The arrows sending vehicles up to the Mountain Road car park seem to be working. He suggested that the car park at Pedair y Groesffordd could be doubled in size at very little cost, and would be most useful.

The Chairman invited Members to comment on the Agenda item.

Cllr W Owen Thomas - Cllr Thomas stood to respond. He explained that he had lived in the village for 58 years. Three Community Council Members, including himself, had been on the Council for over thirty years and knew the history of the Village Hall and other village facilities.

Cllr Thomas recalled the bowling green being built, the labour and materials being provided by local residents. The same applied to the car park. All the other facilities in the village such as the play areas had been provided as a result of the efforts made and good relations between the community and the Community Council.

People in the community had also devoted a lot of time and effort to volunteer their services to support village facilities that had been put in place, including keeping the public toilets open. The toilets have been run by Mrs Sue Jones and volunteers for quite a few years now and Mrs Jones and the volunteers do not get the thanks they deserve.

During the thirty years that Cllr Thomas had been on the Community Council, there had never been the kind of criticism that we are suddenly confronted by today on Social Media. He maintained the signs look harsher because they are new. The 'P' symbol is a standard symbol for car parking.

Cllr Thomas felt it was not appropriate to condemn the Community Council on Social Media for replacing the car park sign.

Cllr John Worthington - did not find the signs objectionable at all. They are informative and advise visitors where to find alternative parking. The previous sign had been erected as a result of discontent in the village.

Cllr Worthington thought that some visitors appear to be oblivious to the events taking place in the village. He referred to the evening mentioned in Mr Facer's email. Wales were playing Italy and the match was on the TV in the White Horse. Only two of the vehicles in the community car park belonged to people in the White Horse, the other vehicles in the car park were assumed to be visitors parking. Cllr Worthington agreed the signs should have been bilingual, and the change would have to be made.

Cllr Emyr Davies - Agreed with the need to have bilingual signs. Congestion in the road outside the car park can occur, thus preventing emergency vehicles gaining access to Mountain Road. If the congestion leads to a fatality, residents would soon point a finger at the Community Council for not doing something about it. That is why the Council needs to have the means to persuade visitors to the village to use the Pedair Groesffordd parking areas.

Cllr Emyr Davies explained that he had been on the Community Council for thirty years and had never been previously offended by such derogatory remarks made about the Council on the current village social media pages.

Cllr Davies maintained that there were approximately 600 electors in Cilcain and only 100 comments had been made on social media. Why have we not had any complaints about the sign from the remaining 500 residents?

Cllr Davies recalled a funeral that took place in the Church, when the service was disturbed by a visitor who marched into the Church during the burial service, demanding the cars that were blocking

the car park be moved straightaway. Cllr Davies referred to another incident outside the Chapel when a visitor was changing into his walking boots. When confronted about blocking the chapel entrance for use by a wheelchair, the visitor completely ignored the request not to block the entrance and wandered off.

Cllr Davies felt it was a shame that the residents who had complained about the sign had not approached Councillors directly to enquire about the reason for the wording on the sign, instead of going on social media to stir things up and insult the Council.

Cllr Jean Ramsay - Responding to Mr Facer's comment that the sign was the sort of sign that would be more suited for Connah's Quay than Cilcain, Cllr Ramsay maintained that the visitors to the village were people from outside Cilcain who would be reading the sign. That was one of the reasons why the sign had to be more forceful than if the sign was addressing village residents.

Cllr Gwen Hardman Cllr Gwen Hardman reported that even though she was a relative new comer to the village having lived in Cilcain for over 20 years, she had learned a lot from long term residents and researched the history of the village.

The car park was established for use by the community. Incidents like the disruption of the funeral service by visitors have unfortunately not stopped. Numerous other such incidents have occurred through the decades, the most recent one being during Covid 19 when Government guidance was for everyone to stay within a certain distance from their home and visitors were ignoring guidance and regulations.

What it boils down to is that the car park can only accommodate 8 to 10 vehicles. Our role as a Council was, first and foremost, to look after the interests of community residents.

Cllr Hardman was upset by the inference made on social media that the Community Council was against visitors to the village. This was not true. The Council supports all the facilities at the centre of the village including the public toilets, and the main users of the toilets are visitors. She was offended by some of the comments made about the Council on social media which were not helpful in attempting to reach agreement on matters.

In recent years the Council had looked at possible parking areas outside the village centre and will continue to do so, including discussing with County possible extension of the parking area at Pedair y Groesffordd.

Regarding the new car park signs, the Community Council will need clarification from Flintshire CC regarding the legal and planning aspects of the new signs. Once the Community Council has clarity, the information will be passed on to community residents. What we need in these circumstances is to maintain mutual respect between the Council and residents.

Mr Weston - Before leaving the meeting the Chair allowed Mr Weston to have a final word. Mr Weston explained that he was in the car park one day and overheard a visitor asking a resident if he was likely to be locked in. The visitor was told by the resident not to worry about the sign - 'they never lock the gate'. Mr Weston maintained the Council needs that warning, to avoid the car park being abused by visitors.

Mr Facer - was also invited by the Chairman to make a final comment. Mr Facer felt that we all want the same thing. We do not want visitors parking in the car park and going off towards Moel Famau for the day, so that village residents who live on the outskirts of the village cannot park. It is the wording on the sign that gets people's backs up. Mr Facer apologised for the language he had used on social media - His comment 'Community Council gone mad' was said in jest more as banter or in a light hearted sort of way. He had not meant to upset anyone.

- p82 **Bowling Club, Cilcain** - Community Council has instructed. the Solicitor.
- p82 **Mill Terrace, Hendre** - The Clerk had not received a written update from Flintshire. However, a telephone conversation with Mr Andy Roberts at Flintshire CC revealed that the Welsh Assembly had not approved the Mill Terrace application. Because of the undertaking given by Mr Ruairi Barry, Flintshire would be funding the feasibility work for the scheme, the work being undertaken by Consultants.
- p82 **Mill Terrace, Hendre Traffic issues** - The Clerk reported having written to Flintshire Traffic to seek an update on the proposal whereby a speed camera would be used for a month in four or five locations in Flintshire and then return in six months' time for another month's session.
- p83 **Trimm Rock former quarry** - Clerk had not yet received a reply to the email sent to Flintshire's Minerals Section to enquire if Flintshire CC had a Public Protection Officer who could serve a Notice on the owner to make the site safe. Flintshire had also been requested to check if the Mines and Quarries Act could be used to force the landowner or the owner of the mineral rights to make the site safe.
- p83 **Faded tourist sign in Cilcain** - Clerk reported that the faded tourist signs issue was now being dealt with by Mr J Bennett in Flintshire Streetscene. Clerk reported having sent location details to Mr Bennett.
- p83 **Cilcain cemetery** - Chair reported that the Cilcain Members had met a Contractor in Cilcain cemetery. A price had been obtained for clearing all the surplus stone away - £550. Members agreed to accept the quotation. Clerk to instruct the Contractor. Clerk reported a broken slate in the Bier House roof. Cllr Worthington suggested the builder doing the stonework removal at the top end of the cemetery be requested to replace the slate. The Clerk reported that the headstone relating to the War Memorial request was leaning badly. Member authorised the Clerk to take this issue up with the War Graves Commissioner.
- p83 **Covid snake memorial for Rhydymwyn Donkey Field** - Cllr Janet Butlin reported that a Covid Snake has been provided in Buckley. Clerk to enquire with Streetscene Officer covering the Buckley area.
- p84 **Coed Du Holdings** - Clerk to pursue.
- p84 **Caravan and shed, Field adjoining the Institute** - No reply received from Flintshire to the Community Council's recent request for a position statement.
- p84 **Coed Du, Bath House** - Waiting for Flintshire to reply to the Community Council's correspondence.

- p84 **Rhydymwyn Public Cemetery** - Clerk to pursue the possibility of compensation in due course.
- p84 **Cilcain reservoirs** - No change reported.
- p84 **Cilcain Bowling Club fence** - Item can now be deleted.
- p84 **Ruby Villas Surface Water Drainage issues** - Cllr W Owen Thomas reported - no response to his correspondence had been received from Flintshire.
- p84 **Bowling Club, Cilcain** - Cllr W Owen Thomas reported that he had spoken to Mr Brockley in Property Services. Some of the redecoration and internal work had already been let out to contract. Replacing the windows was an outstanding issue. Cllr Thomas had explained to Mr Brockley that the building was brand new when the 25 year lease was signed, and it was to be expected that the windows should be in an acceptable condition at the end of the lease. One option to be considered was to change the design of the windows from the small panes to larger sized panes. Such a change would reduce substantially the cost of new windows.
- p85 **Wooden bench at Is y Mynydd, Cilcain** - Clerk reported having written a chasing email to Flintshire since the March Meeting. Cllr Worthington had taken the plaque off the old seat for safe keeping. The Chair felt that if the seat was taken away, it could be easily forgotten by Flintshire. Members agreed to chase Flintshire again. The Chairman reported that the Community Council had written to Flintshire on a monthly basis.
- p85 **Summer Playscheme 2022** - Item to be discussed later under the Correspondence item.
- p85 **River Alyn Rhydymwyn** - Reply received. Cllr Ian Smith and the Chairman reported that all the trees had now been cleared.
- p85 **Notice Board in Hendre** - Chair thanked Cllr Ian Hughes for sorting out the damp issue. Item can now be deleted.
- p87 **Tree at 47 Llys Alyn** - No response received from Flintshire's Housing Section to the Community Council's recent e-mail.
- p87 **Cilcain cemetery** - The weeds / twigs in the front wall are to be sprayed with roundup in a few weeks time. Cllr Worthington to arrange.
- p88 **New LED Lamps** - Rhydymwyn - Clerk reported that the four new LED lanterns proposed for Rhydymwyn comply with the Dark Sky policy. Council authorised the Clerk to instruct Deeco Lighting to provide and fix four lamps in accordance with his quotation for £1,000 plus VAT. Cllr Hughes reported that there were 'three' lamps in the former school lane as opposed to the 'two' noted in the 21 March 2022 Minutes.

07. PLANNING MATTERS:

- (i) **Planning Applications received from Flintshire County Council.**
- (a) Proposal: Access track and store provision for maintenance of fields.
Location: Pedair Groesffordd, Mountain Road, Cilcain

Ref No: 064207

NB - In view of the time constraints on the application, local Members were consulted and a 'no objection' observation was submitted.

08. CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

- 1) 28/03 Cilcain Show, 29 August 2022 - Request from Show Ctee Treasurer for permission to use Waen Field. Clerk to confirm that permission to use the Field is given, with the usual conditions to apply. Cllr Thomas reported that the Cilcain Show was having difficulty in encouraging individuals to volunteer to take on various tasks. It would be a shame if the Show which has been going for over a 100 years was to die and go at this stage. Once you lose the date, another local village will grab that date and it is then very difficult to start again. Cllr Thomas reported that he had been involved in the Show for over fifty years. and he was hoping that village folk will come forward and volunteer.
- 2) 02/04 Is y Mynydd, Cilcain Wooden bench - reminder sent to Flintshire, requesting an indicative date for seat replacement.
- 3) 02/04 Mill Terrace, Hendre - Proposed Land drainage Scheme - copy of email sent to Flintshire CC to request an update on the scheme. Clerk reported on the telephone conversation update with Flintshire's Mr A Roberts on 08 April 2022. Item discussed earlier.
- 4) 02/04 Coed Du Bath House, Rhydymwyn - Reminder sent to Flintshire's Conservation Section. The Council wants to know if the Bath House is of a sufficiently high category to justify forcing the owner to undertake restoration work. Item discussed earlier.
- 5) 02/04 Representations at the 15 Nov Meeting - Email from the Shop Ctee Chairwoman regarding a proposed meeting with the Council Chairman. Meeting to be arranged.
- 6) 03/04 Land Registry - upgrade of titles for the Bowling Club - Instruction to Solicitor to proceed. Position noted.
- 7) 04/04 Trees across River Alyn, Rhydymwyn - email sent to NRW requesting an update. Reply received. Trees had now been cut up and cleared - photo of work being done included in the correspondence pack distributed to Members.
- 8) 04/04 Cilcain Bowling Club, - email sent to Flintshire's Housing and Asset Section requesting an update on the renovation work proposed by Flintshire. Reply received. Item discussed earlier in the Meeting.
- 9) 04/04 Cilcain Bowling Club - email from the Bowling Club Secretary to thank the Council for the £600 donation towards the new replacement fence. Position noted.

- 10) 05/04 Photographs provided by the Chairman regarding the concerns received from village residents about the deteriorating condition of the Antelope in Rhydymwyn. The loose slates on the roof constituted a potential danger to pedestrians using the adjoining public footway. Item brought to the attention of Flintshire's Public Protection Section. Acknowledgement from Flintshire received. Position noted. Cllr Janet Butlin had received a telephone call from a part owner of the property. The planning status of the property had been mentioned, and the current position regarding security of the site and property was discussed. The Clerk had written to the Conservation Section to request information on the Conservation status of the building but no reply had been received. Cllr Thomas reported on the planning position in relation to the flood plain.
- 11) 05/04 Is y Mynydd seat, plaque - In accordance with the discussion that took place in the 21 March 2022 Council Meeting the seat plaque was taken down by Cllr John Worthington for safe keeping.
- 12) 06/04 Cilcain cemetery - removal of builders bags. Cllr John Worthington reported that the two builder's bags have now been disposed of from inside the cemetery wall. Chairman thanked Cllr Worthington for arranging for the work to be done. Cllr Worthington reported further at the meeting.
- 13) 06/04 Nant Road, Rhydymwyn - pollution incident reported to NRW - Response email sent to NRW following the discussion which took place at the 21 March 2022 Council Meeting.
- 14) 07/04 Dark Sky policy - Request sent to Flintshire to check if the proposed LED lights specification for Rhydymwyn complies with the Dark Sky regulations. Item discussed previously.
- 15) 07/04 Funding assistance for LED lanterns to comply with Dark Sky policy - request to Clwydian Range AONB. Reply received. Position noted. Item discussed earlier.
- 16) 07/04 Community Council Training. Code of Conduct. Information from Flintshire CC. Position noted.
- 17) 08/04 Speed camera installation for Hendre. Request for an update sent to Flintshire Traffic Section. No reply received. Item discussed earlier.
- 18) 08/04 The Antelope, Rhydymwyn. Email from Cllr Ian Hughes suggesting the Council should consider drawing the building owner's attention to the deteriorating condition of the building and suggesting the boarding up of the doors and windows should be considered to prevent further damage. Item discussed earlier.

- 19) 08/04 Cilcain Car Park Signs (Freedom of Information request) regarding the nature of the replacement sign and concern that the replacement sign was not discussed in the Council Meeting. Reply sent.
- 20) 08/04 Good Councillors Guide - digital copy received from One Voice Wales. The Clerk had brought four 'hard copies' to the Council Meeting. Distribution took place.
- 21) 09/04 Bilingual sign for Cilcain Community Car Park. Cllr Worthington received a request from a Cilcain resident for the new replacement sign in the Car Park to be bilingual. Clerk had written to Flintshire CC regarding the bilingual aspect of the sign. Reply received but clarification required on the letter received from the County Solicitor.
- 22) 09/04 Antelope Public House, Rhydymwyn. Email received from Flintshire CC to confirm that Building Control will arrange for the dangerous condition of the roof slates to be investigated within four or five days. Position noted
- 23) 10/04 Cilcain parking - Letter sent to Cilcain resident regarding parking in Cilcain. This Council letter was in response to the resident's letter (dated 19 March) regarding parking. Position noted.
- 24) 11/04 Dark Sky initiative in the AONB - Information from the Area Manager of the AONB regarding assistance with finding funding. The Clerk suggested that If there is a possibility of receiving grant assistance for lights in the AONB, it may be appropriate to deal with the lamps in Cilcain first and delay the Rhydymwyn LED conversions at this time. The Council considered introducing LED lights in Cilcain a few years ago. Members recalled that the Council had the opportunity of benefiting from Flintshire paying for conversion of some street lamps to LED with the 'safe route to schools' scheme. However, concerns were raised by a local resident, and the Council had to abandon the conversion offer that was in place at the time. Position noted.
- 25) 11/04 Wall mortar coping damage in the Cilcain car park - photo and report received from Cilcain resident. Resident also reported damage in the Waen Field surface by wheeled vehicles. Mr Hickie informed of the issue and requested to investigate. Members may recall from last year that youths were reported making quite deep skid marks in Waen Field. The damage stopped when Flintshire filled in the skid mark hollows. Cllr W Owen Thomas had spoken to Mr Hickie. Mr Hickie had indicated that he would consider arranging for the repair in due course if /when resources become available.
- 26) 11/04 Town and Community Elections - Results of Uncontested Election - information from Flintshire CC Electoral Service Section. Position noted.
- 27) 12/04 Cilcain parking - Email from Cilcain resident to question the observations made by the Community Council in the communication sent to the resident on

10 April 2022. Members noted that the words on the new sign were identical to the words on the twenty year old sign it replaced.

28) 13/04 Flintshire Play scheme 2022. Information from Flintshire Leisure. Members should note that acceptance of scheme decision was scheduled for the 22 April 2022. Clerk to respond to accept the scheme.

28B) 13/04 Cilcain Village Car Park. Email from Cilcain village resident to seek the Council's interpretation / clarification on the wording on the recently installed replacement sign.

Cllr Janet Butlin enquired if the Council was legally entitled to lock the car park at any time?

Cllr Thomas maintained that it was legal to close the car park for a specific reason such as maintenance or to accommodate a large funeral etc. Members noted that not a single vehicle had ever been locked in the car park.

The Chairman reported that the Council had to shut the gate first thing in the morning a few weeks ago for the mechanical sweeper to clean the build up of loose chippings in the car park.

Clerk to write to the County Solicitor to seek his views on the legality of the sign. Clerk to respond to the letter from Mr H.

29) 14/04 Carriageway settlement repair carried out in Loggerheads Road - Cllr John Worthington reported that the long outstanding carriageway settlement near Maes Alyn has now been completed by Flintshire Streetscene.

30) 15/04 Children's play area on the Waen - Legal Note from NALC found by Cllr Gwen Hardman to indicate that extending the play area into the Waen Field (which has Village Green status) is legally allowed. Cllr Hardman elaborated on the new information received. Members recalled that the Council enquired with a Welsh Assembly Member in Nov 2021 regarding the possibility of the Welsh Assembly resurrecting the 80% Aggregate Mineral Grant. Members agreed to remind the Assembly Member.

31) 19/04 Cilcain WI Jubilee Celebrations - Thank you note from local WI President for the £400 Community Council donation.

32) 19/04 Cilcain Play area - Members noted that Flintshire would shortly be writing to the Community Council regarding the availability of a 50/50 grant for the Cilcain play area in 2022/2023. Limit of grant is £10,000.

Mr Roberts confirmed that all items that had been take away for repair had been returned on every occasion. Cllr Thomas recalled a small item on a spring. The spring was defective and had to be taken away for repair, but the item was not replaced.

Cllr Hardman maintained what was needed here was to:

- (i) identify the items that were needed for the under five age group.
- (ii) prepare and cost a scheme.
- (iii) examine where an additional grant to assist with the cost could be identified.

- 33) 19/04 Cilcain Cemetery Bier House roof. Broken slate noted. Daylight seen from inside the building. Slate repair required. Item discussed earlier.
- 34) 19/04 Entrance to Rhydymwyn Cemetery - Chairman provided an update regarding previous discussions about the need to undertake surfacing repair following a service connection planned for the Rhydymwyn Church. Chair elaborated further at the Council Meeting. The Church was having a drain provided, and while the contractor was on site it would be appropriate to fill the pot-holes in the Cemetery entrance access road. The verbal estimate was £600. Members agreed to the expenditure.
- 35) -- -- Flintshire Streetscene Action Plan (21 March 2022). For Members to comment on, and to add to as appropriate.
- 36) 19/04 Parking sign in Cilcain car park - email sent to Flintshire CC's Planning Officer to request confirmation regarding the Community Council's understanding of the planning status of the signs.

Before the residents left the Council Meeting:

- (a) A question was posed by Mr P regarding the comment made by Cllr W Owen Thomas in the previous meeting regarding the acceptance of Ukrainian refugees. Had Flintshire imposed a limit regarding the numbers? Cllr Thomas asked for this to be put in writing so that he could clarify the matter with Flintshire.
- (b) With regard to the 'drop in' session from Dwr Cymru - will the public participation exercise be too late? Cllr Hardman explained that Welsh Water would be selecting the date and it was not up to the Community Council to do so.
- (c) Regarding the proposal for the play area refurbishment, can public participation take place, so that mothers can be consulted regarding the appropriate equipment for the different age groups? The sandpit and a number of the items which were ideally suited for the under five age group were taken away in the last Minerals Cilcain scheme and not replaced with new items for the same age group.

Cllr Pauline Douglas indicated that in all previous schemes the Council has relied on the long term experience and expertise of Flintshire's Play Area Design Officer to recommend equipment to cater for the full range of age groups.

The Chair suggested that following a meeting with the Play Area Design Officer, Cllr Gwen Harman would take up the options with the School Governors or the PTA.

- (d) Mrs S Jones of Clean and Lock referred to the need to have a self standing basket ball facility in Waen Field to encourage youngsters to move from constantly kicking a football against the gable end, door and barge board of the toilet block. Chair and Cllr W Owen Thomas recalled this issue being discussed in the last site meeting with Mr Richard Roberts. The suggested location at the time was by the seat area on the Bowling Club side of Waen Field. This matter would be taken up again with Mr Richard Roberts at Flintshire CC.

Mrs Jones said farewell to all the Members who were leaving the Council. Her final comment was that the retiring Members and those Members who were staying had done a wonderful job over the years.

- 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 is scheduled for the Rhydymwyn Football Club building, at 7.30 pm Monday 16 May 2022.

SignedChairman Date: Clerk

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

1.

March 2022, salary + expenses (Sal = 443.3 / month) (and part annual expenses - for travel, office allowance, telephone etc.	584.55
HMRC - PAYE (L.G.A.1972 S112)	88.70
O Roberts - Removal of green waste from cemetery and treatment of green growth and ivy in stone boundary wall	30.00
Cilc Cem - setting out pegs and yellow road spray for row alignment	19.98
Office stationery and equipment - (L.G.A.1972 S111)	124.41
Flintshire CC - Cilcain cemetery rates	184.58
Transfer from main account to Chairman's Account	250.00
Canon - printing cost - 01/05/2022 to 31/07/2022	117.18
Bloomin Gardens - Grass cutting in Cilcain and Rhydymwyn cems. Clerk explained that £15 was for trimming around the headstones in Rhydymwyn cem and around the Dolfechlas Rd seat	198.00

2) **ACCOUNTS FOR 2021/2022 FINANCIAL YEAR**

- (i) The computerised version of the Payments and Income and the Council’s ‘balance’ for the year ending 29 March 2022 was attached to this month’s Agenda. Members may note the ‘balance’ on 29 March 2022 was £33,730. (Balance in 29 March 2021 was £33,342)
- (ii) The accounts would shortly be submitted to the Internal Auditor. The current system involves the Accounts being audited by the Internal Auditor prior to being considered and approved by the Community Council. However, the Council needed to note the following:
- (iii) Risk Assessment - The Council reviewed its schedule of risk assessment which identifies the risk, the potential consequence of risk, the assessment of impact, the likelihood of risk occurring and the controls in place to manage the risk. The Council considered every aspect of the risk assessment in detail and was satisfied that all possible action to keep risk to an absolute minimum was being taken.
- (iv) Council’s System of Internal Controls - The effectiveness of the Council’s system of internal controls was reviewed and approved.
- (v) Investment Strategy - The Council’s Investment Strategy was reviewed and approved.
- (vi) Standing Orders / Financial Regulations - The Council’s Standing Orders was approved by the Council.
- (vii) The Council approved the Council’s Asset Register and approved the basis on which the Register was drawn up.
- (viii) The Council authorised the Clerk to appoint JDH, Business Services Ltd, Pantymwyn to undertake an internal audit of the Council’s 2021/2022 accounts. The Council needs to request the Internal Auditor to provide an updated statement to confirm their independence from the Council.

3. **Concluding remarks** - Chairman thanked all the Members who were retiring from the Council. Your good work has been appreciated.

Signed Chair _____

2nd Cllr Signatory _____