

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL AT THE FOOTBALL CLUB BUILDING, RHYDYMWYN ON 18 JULY 2022.

Present: Chairperson: Cllr Gwenda Hardman

Councillors: Malcolm Down John Doyle
 Karen Parker Michael Parr
 Jean Ramsay

The Clerk was in attendance

Mr Neil Hickie from Flintshire Streetscene joined the first part of the meeting.

1. CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed Members to the July Council Meeting. Croeso i bawb i Gyngor Mis Gorffennaf. The Chair also welcomed two residents and Flintshire CC Cllr Andrew Parkhurst to the meeting. Chair announced the sad passing away of Eileen Proffitt from Cilcain village, and also Barbara Hughes who was Cllr Ian Hughes' mother. Barbara was a member of the first Village Hall Ctee.

Clerk to supply Cllr John Doyle with the Good Councillor's guide and the Code of Conduct document.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - J Emyr Davies, Pauline Douglas, Gareth W Hughes Ian Hughes, Christine Vaughan, John V Worthington.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None received. Clerk had given Cllr Parr a paper copy of the Declaration of Interest form in the June Council Meeting. Clerk to email a digital copy of the form to Cllr Parr for future use.

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING - Cllr Jean Ramsay proposed acceptance (subject to 'advise' instead of 'advice' on page 17). Cllr John Doyle seconded and all Members agreed to approve the Minutes of 20 June 2022 meeting. The Chairperson signed the Minutes.

MATTERS ARISING (HIGHWAY MATTERS)

(i) **Hendre Quarry Liaison Meeting - 5 July 2022.** The following items were discussed:

(a) Wheel washing - Cllr Jean Ramsay reported that a barrier was being installed on the exit of the wheel wash facility that would only allow wagons to leave after waiting a certain amount of time to 'drip dry' before leaving the quarry. Mr N Hickie reported that there had been a vast reduction in the amount of water being carried out onto the A541 in recent weeks.

(b) Extending the daily sweeping as far as the Rhosesmor junction - Tarmac's Manager promised to look again at the possibility of the sweeper going as far as the Rhosesmor junction instead of turning round at the Antelope Industrial Estate Junction.

(c) Speeding quarry wagons through Hendre - Cllr Ramsay had taken the Reg. No. of a quarry wagon speeding through Hendre, and forwarded the information on to the Quarry

Manager. Mr Hickie explained that all drivers reported in this way are usually banned for a week initially and permanently banned if the reports are repeated.

(d) Vehicle activated speed sign - County Cllr Andrew Parkhurst had spoken to Mr Lee Shone regarding the installation of a vehicle activated speed limit sign for Hendre. Lee had explained that two speed signs are funded in Flintshire each year. A sign for Hendre was 8th on the list at present. The cost of such a sign varied depending on the proximity of an electrical supply and the sophistication of the sign chosen. The cost of a basic sign was approximately £2,500. The Clerk suggested it would be advantageous if more wagons could be identified speeding through Hendre. Tarmac could then be requested to consider making a contribution towards the provision of a vehicle activated speed sign.

Cllr Parkhurst was aware of a 'community fund' grant arrangement that could be considered by Tarmac.

(e) Community speed training - Whilst not directly related to the Tarmac liaison meeting, Cllr Karen Parker reported on enquiries she had recently made with North Wales Police regarding a North Wales Police initiative whereby volunteers could be provided with a speed gun, either hand held or tripod mounted to check on vehicle speed through villages. Information collated would be used by NWP to issue warning letters to offenders. High-vis jackets and insurance cover would be provided by the Police.

Cllr Jean Ramsay maintained that vehicle speeding through Hendre had been talked about for about five years, but with no progress made. An initiative such as the one detailed by Cllr Parker would at least help to draw attention to the issue and may assist in highlighting the need for a more long term speed control measures by Flintshire CC.

Cllr John Doyle felt that there was a definite need for some form of financial penalty or a ban from the quarry, otherwise wagon drivers were unlikely to respond to a vehicle activated speed sign.

Gors Farm, Cilcain - Arrangements had been made for a temporary wooden post for the fence to make safe. Concrete post and tubular rails had been ordered for a more permanent solution.

Loggerheads Road Gulley - the part of the gulley grid which had been reported by Cllr Worthington had fallen into the gulley pot. A new square gulley grid 600 mm x600 mm had now been fitted. The bigger size gulley grid would have a better bearing than the previous smaller gully grid.

Manhole cover in footway between Hendre and first quarry turning - Cllr Karen Parker reported a damaged cover needing attention - Neil Hickie provided with photo of damaged cover.

Grass cutting in Waen Field - Clerk enquired if the grass cutting regime was back to normal. Mr Hickie explained there had been a misunderstanding. The new tractor used by Flintshire CC cannot fit into the Cilcain field entrance so the cutting had been done with a lighter self drive mower. Waen Field cutting is now on a three week cycle. The Chairperson enquired if there was any possibility of the grass being collected and disposed of off-site. Mr

Hickie explained it was not Flintshire's policy to collect, and it would be an almost impossible task. Waen Field would be cut approximately five days before the Village Show. Clerk enquired if the school fields were cut with same equipment as used in Waen Field. Mr Hickie explained the school fields are contracted out to a private contractor so different gang mowers are used.

5.0 MATTERS ARISING (NON HIGHWAY MATTERS)

p16 **Misleading information on Cilcain Facebook** - Cllr Jean Ramsay noted that there had been four co-option candidates for one vacancy in Cilcain as stated in the Minutes. However, a local Cilcain resident who had attended the Council meeting had misreported the information on Cilcain Facebook.

p17 **Mill Terrace Hendre Traffic Tissue** - County Councillor Andrew Parkhurst reported having discussed the position with Mr Lee Shone. The idea of a rotating camera (moving from site to site) had now been abandoned by Flintshire since the cost was too high. Mr Shone had indicated he would conduct another speed survey. The Clerk understood that the rotating camera had been a Mr Steve Jones initiative, and now there was a new Head of Streetscene in post, the policy had changed.

The prospect of the Community Council funding a speed activated sign was discussed. The possibility of a contribution from the quarry had been discussed earlier. An estimated cost of the sign to be provided by Flintshire CC.

p17 **Trimm Rock Quarry** - Chair referred to item No 7 in the correspondence pack. Hannah Parish had established that Mr Hartey was not only the landowner, but was also the owner of the mineral rights in this instance. Hannah had tried several times to contact Mr Hartey. Clerk to contact HSE. Cllr Doyle reported having recently seen in the press a report of a teenage quarry death in South Wales this month. Reminder to be sent to Hannah regarding contacting other Local Authorities in North Wales to seek advice regarding dealing with the issue elsewhere in disused quarry areas in North West Wales. The Clerk maintained that it is easier for the Local Authority to deal with the issue if both landowner and the owner of the mineral rights is the same person.

p18 **Repair to the mortar coping on the wall between the village car park and the Village Hall.**

An estimate had been obtained from the stone mason that repaired the cemetery boundary wall.

Clerk to discuss the specification with Cllr Ian Hughes and the stone mason to ensure a camber is provided on the coping. Clerk authorised to accept the quotation.

p18 **Cilcain Play Area** -

Flintshire Leisure had supplied information regarding a suitable play tower item that would fit into the space available in the play area. The play tower was suitable for toddlers in the under five age group. The estimated cost of the play item (purchase, fixing and the provision of flexible safety surfacing around the unit) could be accommodated in the budget the Council had in place for this financial year.

Cllr John Doyle was concerned regarding the indicated cost of the play tower. Cllr Doyle had been on the internet and found the equipment for sale at a significantly lower purchase price. The Clerk to bring this concern to the attention of Flintshire Leisure, so that an explanation could be discussed in due course at a site meeting with Flintshire's Play Area Design Officer.

Clerk to inform Flintshire of the Community Council's intention to participate in the current year's grant scheme.

- p18 **Grass cutting in Waen Field** - Cllr Jean Ramsay referred to grass cutting in general and to the very useful and comprehensive list provided in Item 4 of the correspondence giving Flintshire's policy on grass cutting in different areas.

Cllr Ramsay indicated that several residents from Cilcain had reported to her that the cemetery in Cilcain was one of the best maintained cemeteries in the area. The grass looked really beautiful and was very well maintained.

The Chairperson referred to the tremendous amount of effort that had taken place in the cemetery in recent years, with several dangerous trees having been taken down and a section of the boundary wall having been repaired / replaced. The surplus stone at the top part of the cemetery had been removed last month and soiling and seeding would take place in the next few months. The chair reported having recently been informed by a visitor to the village that the village cemetery looked charming.

The Clerk explained that it was normally too dry to sow grass seed in the Summer. The Council has usually topped up depressions and seeded in the Autumn. Top soil purchase had already commenced.

- p19 **Permits for trailers in Flintshire's skip sites.** County Councillor Andrew Parkhurst was invited by the Chair to update the Council on the position regarding the permits - A meeting between Members and Officers had been scheduled for September. Cllr Parr was aware of an application being recently refused by Flintshire simply because the trailer had 'mesh' sides. Cllr Parr to drop a note to Cllr Parkhurst to detail the incident.

- p19 **Meeting with the Shop Ctee** - The Chair and Cllr Parr declared an interest in this item. Since Cllr Gareth W Hughes and Cllr Ian Hughes were not in a position for personal reasons to attend a meeting with the Shop Chairperson, it was agreed that the Vice Chair of the Council (Cllr Jean Ramsay) and one other Council Member would arrange to meet the Shop Ctee Chairperson in the next few weeks.

- p19 **Pedair y Groesffordd, Site Meeting** -

The Chair referred to a suggestion made by Mr Richard L Jones of Flintshire CC. A scheme should be prepared by Flintshire CC for extending the car parks. If funding suddenly becomes available, the scheme details and cost could be take off the shelf and used in a grant application.

The question had been raised in the July Council Meeting if the Irish Sea windmills could be seen from the summit of Moel Famau. The Clerk had checked with Google and the answer via Google was 'yes'.

A question had also been raised in the July Council Meeting if the Moel Famau summit view point was outside the Cilcain Boundary. The Clerk had checked on the Ordnance Map and established that the summit is on the Council boundary.

The Clerk referred to the occasion when a local quarry applied for planning permission to extend the quarry some time ago. The quarry company had to undertake an 'environmental assessment'. The Environmental assessment involved the preparation of a map indicating the boundary around the application site where the quarry extension could be seen from. The Council should therefore check if a similar environmental assessment had to be prepared for the windmill schemes in the Irish Sea. Such a map would indicate whether or not the view from the summit included the windmills.

The Chair indicated there was a need to check if the grant criteria for these various grants could be met, including the distance from the various local quarries.

Closely related to the parking issue at Pedair y Groesffordd parking areas were the signs recently erected to direct visitors to the view point parking areas. The Chair reported that the Clerk had managed to speak with the Mr C Rees-Jones from the Conservation Section. The signs erected had permitted development status, and did not require observations from the Conservation Section. However Mr R-Jones was prepared to comment on the revised signs eventually proposed and agreed by the Community Council.

The Chair explained that another outstanding views on the 'signs' had been the observations from the AONB. Again observations from the AONB was not required since planning permission was not required for the sign erected by the local authority (Community Council / County Council). Black on a white background signs had been erected by Denbighshire County Council in the new Loggerheads car park. Nevertheless, the Chair felt it was advisable to seek the views of the AONB on the colour etc. recommended by the AONB.

6.0 MATTERS ARISING (HIGHWAY MATTERS)

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

Action for Clerk to pursue:

- (i) Arrange an annual walkabout meeting with Neil.
- (ii) Contact Lloyds Spar to check if the internal traffic sign is still in place within the quarry to advise drivers not to turn right at the quarry exit.

7.0 PLANNING MATTERS:

1. Proposal: Listed Building application for the refurbishment of redundant building to provide an annex to main house within the existing building footprint. New slate roof and windows installed to existing openings.
Location: Hesp Alyn Farm, Cilcain, Mold
Ref No: 064324

Community Council's observations: **No objections.**

2. Proposal: Refurbishment of redundant building to provide an annex to main house within the existing building footprint. New slate roof and windows installed to existing openings.
Location: Hesp Alyn Farm, Cilcain, Mold
Ref No: 064323
Community Council's observations: **No objections.**

8.0 CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

Exclusion of Press and Public - In pursuant of Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, it may be appropriate for a number of the correspondence items below to be discussed after the press and public have been excluded.

- 1) 11/06 Cilcain car park - email from Cilcain resident PG and MJ - signage concern. Position noted.
- 2) 14/06 Community Shop entrance widening project - Request from Cllr M Parr for the Community Council to approve structural alterations to the Village Hall building. Members agreed it was appropriate for Cllr Ian Hughes to be included in any site visit to discuss building structural alterations.
- 3) 20/06 Tree at rear of No 47 Llys Alyn Rhydymwyn - update received from Cllr Andrew Parkhurst regarding the current position with regard to the tree in the rear garden of No 47 Llys Alyn. A tree specialist had been requested to inspect the tree and assess whether or not the tree was structurally sound.
- 4) 21/06 Flintshire CC Grass cutting policy - Information from Streetscene to detail Flintshire Grass cutting policy for various areas. A copy of the very useful policy document had been circulated to all members for their information.
- 5) 21/06 Dam discontinuations works at Brithdir Mawr - Information received from Cllr Worthington regarding scheme now being put back until 2025-2030 investment programme. Cilcain Reservoir 1 and 2 postponed until the Spring of 2023. Position noted.
- 6) 21/06 Allotments proposal, Former Ysgol y Ddol site. Information from Flintshire CC Cllr Andrew Parkhurst regarding a proposed site meeting at 5 pm on 5 July. Three Rhydymwyn Members attended. Cllr Parkhurst was invited by the Chair to update the Council on the current position. The question of the site being suitable for Ukrainian refugees would appear to have gone out of the equation. There was probably a more appropriate site elsewhere in Flintshire that was closer to a concentration of refugees. The development of the site for housing was discussed at the site meeting. A resident survey would initially be needed to establish the 'local' need for housing in the village.
- 7) 21/06 Former Trimm Rock Quarry - Information from Hannah Parish regarding the owner of the Minerals Rights. Item dealt with earlier in the Council Meeting.

- 8) 23/06 Gulley repaired Loggerheads Road, Cilcain - email and photo from Cllr JV Worthington to report that the gulley near Tai Newydd Hill has been repaired. Position noted.
- 9) 23/06 Street Lamp outside Winnwood, Dolfechlas Road. - Cllr Gareth W Hughes had reported a lamp not working. Lamp repaired within two days of the report being submitted to Deeco. Position noted.
- 10) 23/06 Hendre Quarry Liaison Meeting - Information sent to Hendre Quarry Manager regarding the need to invite Cllr Jean Ramsay to future Quarry liaison Meetings. Cllr Ramsay attended the Liaison meeting on the 5 July 2022. Cllr John Doyle referred to a general practice in most quarries whereby the Quarry Manger arranges for wagon drivers to be informed of local issues they need to be aware of regarding speeding and dust etc. Cllr Doyle suggested that Cllr Ramsay checks on the process at Hendre Quarry at the next Liaison Meeting to establish if regular meeting with the wagon staff were taking place.

Cllr Michael Parr referred checks being needed to see if Lloyds Quarry are required to have a similar arrangement in place for their internal staff. The Clerk mentioned that there were was no liaison meeting in place for Lloyds - because the retail outlet yard was not a Quarry. Even operating quarries do not have to have liaison meetings. When the Council had a dust issue with Lloyds a few years ago, Flintshire Minerals Section had a site meeting with Lloyds manager at the time, and the issue was sorted. When a quarry has proposals for a planning application for extensions, there is an incentive for the quarry to have a good relationship with the County's Minerals Section so the Quarry Manager does tend to listen to the concerns of Flintshire Planning Section.

- 11) 27/05 Drainage proposal for Village Hall Entrance - Information from a Member of the Village Hall Committee regarding a proposal to undertake tarmac surfacing work and alterations to the drainage system. A site meeting was arranged for 6.30 pm on Tuesday 28 June 2022. The meeting was attended by four Cilcain Ward Members. Mrs Sue Jones of Cilcain Clean and Lock was also in attendance. The Chair reported that the works proposed prior to the meeting had ignored the presence of the surface water sewer crossing underneath the site, and connecting the surface water into the foul sewer. Such work would be unlawful if Dwr Cymru / Welsh Water was not consulted and could have led to tremendous costs if the foul sewer had to be repaired as a result of surface grit being washed into the foul sewer. Fortunately, by the time of the site meeting the proposal put forward by the member of the Hall Ctee had changed, in that no new connection would be made into the foul sewer.

The Clerk explained that surface water sewers normally have grit catch pits in the system that can be cleaned out on a regular basis. The reason for the need for grit chambers is that grit and sand do not readily flow along a pipe but tend to settle in the bottom of the pipe and will eventually block the piped sewer.

Regarding the proposed macadam surfacing, Council Members at the meeting recommended that the macadam surfacing should have a base course and wearing course layer, and that the specification should be of a parking area standard that would accommodate the occasional vehicular traffic encroaching onto the entrance pathway.

Unfortunately, the Village Hall Member who had drawn up the plans decided to leave well before the conclusion of the meeting. However the decision / conclusions reached at the site meeting were approved by the Council.

- 12) 30/06 Waen grass cutting - Concern received from a Cilcain resident regarding the grass cutting by Flintshire CC at Waen Field this year. This concern had been discussed in the 20 June 2022 Council meeting when Mr Hickie explained the Flintshire's procurement of equipment early in the grass cutting season had affected sites throughout the County this year. The Vice Chair felt it was important for the Community Council Minutes to make it quite clear that any perceived problem of grass surplus being left on the Waen Field was not an issue that could have been dealt with by the Community Council. Mr Neil Hickie (Flintshire County Council) had explained earlier that the delay involved in repairing the equipment had caused the problem.
- 13) 02/07 Cilcain Play area - reminder to Flintshire leisure requesting measurements to be taken to assess if an under-five item of equipment can be fitted into the space available. Mr Richard Roberts had recommended that the Council writes to Flintshire to make an expression of interest (that can be withdrawn at any time). This commitment / expression of interest would apply to the scheme at Rhydymwyn and Cilcain. Members agreed.
- 14) 03/07 The Antelope, Rhydymwyn, dangerous structure. Request to Flintshire to deal with loose slates as a separate issue to the remaining condition of the property. Clerk reported that both the Community Council and the County Councillor had written to Flintshire. Cllr Jean Ramsay reported that the windows had been boarded from the inside of the property, which was of little use for stopping broken window panes from blowing down on to the public footway. Boarding from the inside was obviously much cheaper to arrange than boarding from the outside.
- The matter was in hand with Flintshire CC but there was no indication that a Notice had been served and how much time the owner had been given to make safe.
- 15) 03/07 Coed Du Bath House - Reminder sent to Flintshire Conservation Section to request an answer to the question sent on 02 April 2022. Position noted.
- 16) 04/07 Cilcain and Rhydymwyn Summer Playscheme - Posters received from Flintshire Leisure. Cllr Gwen Hardman erected posters in Cilcain and Cllr Gareth W Hughes erected posters in Rhydymwyn and Hendre. Cllr Jean Ramsay arranged for the details to be included on the local social media pages. Position noted.
- 17) 04/07 Coed Du Bath House - Response from Flintshire Conservation Section - Possible option for making safe / restoration could start by Cilcain CC discussing with the landowner a possible restoration scheme. The Council has discussed the condition of the Bath House with the Coed Du Hall Manager in several of the recent annual meetings. The item may need to be discussed again this year.
- 18) 04/07 The Antelope Rhydymwyn, dangerous structure - Copy of an email from Flintshire County Councillor to Flintshire CC to support the Community Council's request to deal with the slates as a matter of urgency. Item discussed earlier.

- 19) 04/07 Schedule of Cilcain CC street lamps - reminder sent to Deeco Lighting for wattage survey to be undertaken. Clerk to pursue again with DEECO.
- 20) 04/07 Schedule of Cilcain CC street lamps - request sent to Scottish Power for additional information / clarification regarding the schedule supplied by Scottish Power last month. Position noted.
- 21) 05/07 Coed Du Bath House, Rhydymwyn - email from A Roberts at Flintshire CC to confirm that a direct approach from Cilcain CC may be an appropriate solution to preventing further deterioration of the historically interesting structure. Item discussed earlier.
- 22) 05/07 Cilcain cemetery - Work of clearing the stone from the top end of the cemetery completed by D Morris. Cllr J V Worthington, Cllr J Emyr Davies and the Clerk have inspected the site and confirmed that the work quoted for had been completed satisfactorily. Photo taken. Payment can now be made for the work. Bags of topsoil may need to be purchased in September / October to cover over the subsoil exposed following the removal of the surplus stone.
- 23) 06/07 Cilcain Play Area, details of toddlers play equipment and estimate. Item discussed earlier.
- 24) 07/07 Unmetered supply - response from Scottish Power re. records kept regarding street lamps. No further details held by Scottish Power. Position noted.
- 25) 07/07 Email received from Flintshire Building Control Office to confirm that a Section 77 Notice has been served for the roof slates. No indication given when the notice was served or how long a time period the owner has been given to make safe. Item discussed earlier.
- 26) 08/07 Cilcain car park - Response from AONB - Confirmation that there was no requirement to consult the AONB. The black on white sign in the Loggerheads car park was installed by Denbighshire County Council. Item discussed earlier.
- 27) 11/07 Speeding quarry wagons in Hendre - Quarry Manager response to a report made of a Tarmac wagon speeding through the 30 mph limit in Hendre. Item discussed earlier.
- 28) 11/07 Waen Field grass cutting - Information from Flintshire Streetscene regarding grass cutting dates. Item discussed earlier.
- 29) -- -- Flintshire Streetscene Action Plan - Action plan discussed earlier.

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

10.00 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for the Rhydymwyn Football Club building, at 7.30 pm Monday 19 Sept 2022.

SignedChairman Date: Clerk

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

(i)	A E (sal + fixed exp) for June	625.85
(ii)	HMRC - PAYE (L.G.A.1972 S112)	97.45
(iii)	Bloomin Gardens grass cutting in Cilcain cemetery	233.00
(iv)	Office Equipment and stationery - (L.G.A.1972 S111)	127.47
(v)	Equipment for cem and drainage survey	30.10
(vi)	O Roberts - Cilcain 5 seats varnished at £32.50 per seat + Weed spray front wall (£10)	172.50
(vii)	A E - web fee	18.00
(viii)	Flintshire County Council - May election costs	396.62
(ix)	D Morris clearing stone and dispose of off site as per quotation	550.00

Cllr Michael Parr requested the Clerk to provide the balance in the Council's Bank account at the end of each month. Clerk to arrange.

SignedChairman Date: Clerk