

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL AT THE VILLAGE HALL**  
**CILCAIN ON 19 DECEMBER 2022.**

Present: Chairperson: Cllr Gwenda Hardman

Councillors: Pauline Douglas                      John Doyle  
                  Karen Parker                         Christine Vaughan  
                  John V Worthington  
                  The Clerk was also in attendance

**1. CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS**

The Chairperson welcomed Members to the December Council Meeting. Croeso i bawb i Gyngor Mis Rhagfyr. The Chair also welcomed two Cilcain residents to the meeting. The Chair reported having received a letter from Cllr Ian Hughes. Cllr Hughes had lost his mother and wife in the last few months and was requesting an extension to the period allowed for absence from the Council. All Members agreed to an extension of time.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Cllr J Emyr Davies, Cllr Malcolm Down, Cllr Gareth W Hughes, Cllr Ian Hughes, Cllr Michael Parr, Cllr Jean Ramsay.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - There were no declarations of Interest declared.

**4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** - The Chair referred to two amendments required to the 21 November 2022 Minutes:

- (i) On page 69 the words 'A Member' needed to be replaced with 'Cllr Michael Parr'.
- (ii) The month 'December' on page 63, correspondence item No 15. needs to be changed to 'November'.

Subject to the above amendments being made, Cllr J V Worthington proposed acceptance of the 21 November 2022 Council Meeting minutes. Cllr John Doyle seconded acceptance and all Members agreed to approve the Minutes.

**5. MATTERS ARISING (HIGHWAY MATTERS)**

(i) Mr N Hickie referred to the Action Plan included in the Correspondence pack supplied to Members.

(ii) New items discussed:

(a) Mr Hickie referred to a proposal to put the Bobcat in the Cilcain car park on Friday am on 23 Dec. Two road cones to be dropped off so that the car park can be closed early on Friday morning. Shop staff to be alerted.

(b) Location of new dog bin - Members agreed to locate a new dog bin at the bottom of Bwlch Lane where Bwlch Lane meets the Bottom Road.

- (c) Cllr Pauline Douglas referred to big pothole in Nant Alyn, left hand side further up than the Caravan site
  - (d) Mr Hickie explained that the gritting salt will not work if the temperature drops below -5 to -6 degrees.
  - (e) No salt heap had been dropped at the top end of Brithdir Mawr Lane and also at the Vardo.
- (iii) Waen Field Cilcain, grass cutting at the Waen Field, Cilcain in 2022. - The Chair referred to an item mentioned in the November Council regarding the grass cutting in Waen Field.

Mr Hickie explained:

- (i) That there had been an issue with the tractor that was hired in.
  - (ii) The tractor hired in would not go through a few standard width gates so a few cuts were missed.
  - (iii) Cilcain was the only grass complaint received throughout Mr Hickie's area.
  - (iv) The Chair enquired how many cuts had been done. The policy did not specify the a minimum number of cuts, just a maximum. Mr Hickie referred to an extra cut being done on the Wednesday leading up to the Village Show.
  - (v) The Chair asked if Waen Field entrance width was an issue. Neil explained that the entrance was a standard width. The tractor that was used previously had gone in for repair. Due to Covid, the only replacement tractor the fleet supplier had available would not go in through a standard width gate.
  - (vi) Next year the tractor used in previous years will be used.
  - (vii) Mr Hickie had looked at the photographs taken, and he did not consider the surplus grass to be much different to other playing fields. If the grass is cut in wet conditions then the surplus grass will look worse. At home one tends not to cut the grass when it is wet, but Flintshire is not in a position to adjust the cut timing to accommodate the weather conditions.
- (iv) Road salting in Winter conditions

A plan of the 'priority 1' gritting routes was distributed at the Council meeting. Flintshire has 12 gritting machines in total and the 'priority 1' gritting routes cover approximately 40% of the road network. The extent of gritting the 'priority 1' routes is governed by the forecast temperature at any particular time. Priority 1 routes are gritted 3 hours before the forecast reaches down to +2 degrees C. If the priority 1 routes are completed (say in 3 hours) and the weather forecast prediction shows they need doing again, the secondary routes end up not being done that night. Neil was allocated a tractor for three days for the week.

## 6.0 MATTERS ARISING (NON HIGHWAY MATTERS)

p57 Hendre Traffic - Cllr Karen Parker reported on the speed measurements:

- (i) 29 speeding offenders were caught in an hour.

- (ii) Speeds of the 29 vehicles caught varied from 35 mph to 48mph in the 30mph limit area.
- (iii) Exact time, the Reg No, car make, car colour, speed etc. are noted.
- (iv) A letter would be sent from North Wales Police to the offenders.
- (v) Further sessions had to be cancelled due to the adverse slippery road conditions.
- (vi) In slippery road conditions, some motorists apply their brakes when they see the monitors, which could be dangerous.
- (vii) Three monitoring persons on duty at the same time.

p57 Repair of village car park boundary wall. Clerk reported having been in contact with the stone mason to enquire about a start date.

p58 Surveys in Rhydymwyn - Chair explained that survey work by Flintshire had taken place on an unadopted road in Rhydymwyn. A resident had expressed concern about residents not having been consulted by Flintshire CC. Regarding any future surveys, the resident concerned had been given some reassurance by Flintshire CC.

p57 Trimm Rock Quarry - Cllr Pauline Douglas had given the Clerk the contact details for the resident who lives close to Trimm Rock and Lloyds Quarry. Clerk to liaise with the resident to establish the exact nature of her concerns. The Chair reported that the diligence of the Clerk in pursuing the issue with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) had resulted in a response confirming that Flintshire CC does have legal powers in accordance with the 1951 Mines and Quarries Act to force the landowner to secure and maintain the site boundary. The Community Council had held this view all along. The information from the HSE had been forwarded to Flintshire Minerals Section.

p58 Dolfechlas Road, foul smell from drainage system. Email received from Dwr Cymru. The email contradicted the comments made by Mr Kelbrick in a telephone conversation between the Clerk and Mr Kelbrick prior to the November Council meeting. Clerk to seek clarification from Dwr Cymru regarding the way forward.

p58 Summer Playscheme - Daily figures required instead of the total figures the Council had received,

p58 Cilcain cemetery - (Item 18 in the correspondence pack)  
Clerk reported on the information he had had been requested to obtain in the Nov Meeting.  
Decisions taken:

- (i) Check and amend the example entrance notice used by Flintshire CC.
- (ii) Pin a laminated paper copy to the Bier House door for the time being. A permanent sign can be considered in due course.
- (iii) Two examples of a risk assessment had been provided by Flintshire CC, Members agreed Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk to amend/adapt the risk assessment provided by Flintshire CC to accommodate the position in Cilcain cemetery. The amended document will be brought back to a future meeting for discussion.

p59 Street Lighting Schedule - Clerk reported:

- (i) Letter received from the AONB to indicate that the LED lamps in Cilcain are likely to be provided by the AONB, and the Community Council would only have to fit them.
- (ii) Wattage survey by Deeco completed for Cilcain.

- (iii) The cost of energy for the streetlamps has increased from £251 per quarter to £940 per quarter, so the sooner we proceed with the work the better.

p59 Former Antelope, Rhydymwyn - (Item 14 of the Agenda Correspondence) - Information from Flintshire County Councillor Andrew Parkhurst - Premises ownership change had taken place. Item to be discussed further when Cllr Andrew Parkhurst is in attendance to give an update.

p60 Cilcain village walkabout meeting - Any progress regarding a date?  
Suggested Cilcain - 2nd Wed in Jan  
Suggested Rhydymwyn - 2nd Thurs in Jan  
Preferred time 11.00 am

p60 Cilcain Shop - Following the November Council Meeting, the Clerk had written to the County Solicitor for his views on the conflict of interest issue. Response:

- (i) Is there a conflict of interest? Yes.
- (ii) Is the Conflict of interest prejudicial? Yes
- (iii) Can the Chairman of the Village Hall M C be a signatory to the licence? - Yes he can be a signatory to the Licence.
- (iv) What is the status of rules accompanying the licence? - They can be an adjunct to the licence.

p62 Cilcain car park signage - see correspondence item No 21.  
Chair reported:

- (i) The Council had a duty to take the different views of residents into account.
- (ii) Observations had also been sought from the following:
  - Flintshire CC Legal
  - Flintshire CC Conservation Area
  - Flintshire CC Business and Tourism
  - Flintshire CC Planning
  - Flintshire CC Advertisements
  - Flintshire CC Streetscene (Highways)
  - AONB
- (iii) Integrated approach had been taken for the signs in the car park and the signs leading to, and at Pedair y Groesffordd.

Flintshire Streetscene had agreed to lower the sign at the Church Junction.

- (iv) Traffic direction sign to be sited near the car park entrance - mock up sign provided by Flintshire CC Design Officer was considered:
  - Cllr Worthington was happy with the white on brown compared to the previous black on white.
  - Cllr Christine Vaughan maintained the white on brown colour was what tourist associated with a tourist destination.
  - Members noted that the words 'Cilcain view point car park' avoided the need for a blue on white parking symbol, the 'blue P' symbol having been objected to by some residents.
  - Cllr Worthington proposed, Cllr Christine Vaughan seconded and all Members agreed to adopt the left hand side option shown on the mock-up plan.
- (v) Sign in the car park on the Bowling Club boundary fence.
  - The mock up sign provided by Flintshire CC Design Officer was considered:
  - There were four options for the words on the sign - A B C and D.

- Cllr John Doyle suggested the words 'can be locked' should be changed to 'may be locked' in option 'D'. Clerk to check if the Welsh translation can be readily made.
- Cllr Christine Vaughan, proposed, Cllr John Doyle seconded and all Members agreed to adopt option 'D' wording for the sign.
- Clerk to check the position regarding the financial implications for the sign on the Bowling Club fence.
- The colour on the printed copy of the sign was more blue than the gray / blue shown on the screen in the email. Clerk to see if a sample paint card can be provided by the AONB.

p65 Late Items with no financial implications for the Council - The Chair reported that she had received an e-mail from Cllr Michael Parr on the evening prior to the meeting. An email had been received from Flintshire County Councillor on the morning of the November Council meeting. The Chair had taken the view that because of the nature of the information raised by Cllr Parkhurst, the item could be discussed as a late item.

Normally, 'Late Items' or 'Any Other Business' are not discussed. Cllr Parr had also raised two late items, that had not been on the Agenda. The two items which Cllr Parr had raised would therefore need to be an Agenda item in the January 2023 Council meeting. All the guidance given to Community Councils indicates that it is not good practice to introduce an AOB item. This means that notice of Agenda items should normally be raised by dropping a note to the Clerk well before the Agenda is issued.

## **7.00 PLANNING MATTERS:**

Ref No: 000748/22  
 Proposal: The continued use of a barn, including an extension to its original form, to allow for its future conversion to form holiday letting accommodation  
 Location: Garreg Boeth, Rhydymwyn

Members agreed to have a further look at the application. Members to contact the Clerk after the Council Meeting so that an appropriate observation can be submitted.

## **8.00 CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS**

- 1) 15/11 Leete Park Rhydymwyn Survey work by Flintshire CC - For members information. Position noted. Item dealt with earlier.
- 2) 16/11 S137 Donations - Information from the Welsh Assembly regarding the current limit on annual total of donation payments. Copy emailed to all members. Position noted.
- 3) 20/11 Cilcain Bowling Club - Request made to Flintshire CC for an update on bringing the building up to a reasonable standard for the lease termination. Position noted.
- 4) 21/ 11 Play area attendance figures - Reminder sent to Aura to request attendance figures and to request an invoice for the 2022 playscheme. Invoice now received. Item dealt with earlier.
- 5) 21/11 Former Trimm Rock Quarry, Cefn Road - Item dealt with earlier.
- 6) 22/11 Un-adopted Roads in Rhydymwyn - Item dealt with earlier.

- 7) 22/11 Broken stile near the Pumping Station, Berth Road, Cilcain - Email sent to Flintshire's Footpath Inspector regarding the required stile replacement. Cllr J Emyr Davies had reported a brand new galvanised stile had been provided within three or four days of the 21 Nov 2022 Council meeting. Position noted.
- 8) 23/11 Street Lamps Cilcain, Conversion to LED - Item discussed earlier.
- 9) 23/11 List of highway concerns reported to Mr Hickie that were reported by Members in the 21 Nov Council Meeting. Item dealt with earlier.
- 10) 24/11 Blocked gulley /soakaway reported by Cllr Worthington - Item had been referred to Flintshire Streetscene. Cllr Worthington reported that the carriageway standing water does eventually go down slowly. Clerk reported having been informed by Mr Hickey that the soakaways are cleaned out on a once per year basis.
- 11) 24/11 Bont Newydd, Cilcain - Message had been sent to Flintshire Streetscene Supervisor regarding the leaf debris concern reported in the November 2022 Council meeting on the Pantymwyn side of Bont Newydd. Cllr J V Worthington had reported two Flintshire operatives brushing leaves in the bridge area on Thursday afternoon 24 Nov 2022. Position noted.
- 12) 24/11 Street Lamp topside of the Church in Cilcain - Lamp reported as possibly working intermittently. Last checked by Cllr Worthington on 24 Nov - Repair required. Request for repair sent to Deeco Lighting. Members agreed to delay the repair until information regarding the timing of funding by the AONB is clarified.
- 13) 29/11 Ruby Brickworks, Rhydymwyn - Copy of an email to Flintshire Planning Section from the County Councillor to enquire about the current position regarding the planning application considered by Flintshire CC in February 2022.

Members referred to the Community Council's observations letter dated 22 Feb 2022 regarding the application.

Clerk reported having received an email from the County Councillor on the morning of the Council meeting to indicate that a drain connection had been installed since the 2019 floods. Clerk to arrange to request a local resident (SB) to check on the culvert to see if the entrance is being maintained.

The Clerk reminded Members about the background to the current planning issue. The previous application had lapsed and the applicant was now seeking an extension of time.

Cllr John Doyle requested the Clerk to make the residents aware of the information given on page 13D of the correspondence pack.

- 14) 29/11 Antelope Inn, Rhydymwyn - dangerous roof slates - Information from Flintshire CC Cllr Andrew Parkhurst regarding the change of ownership of the premises. Item dealt with earlier.

- 15) 01/12 Consultation on the Draft Well-being Plan 2023 / 2028 - Invitation from Flintshire CC to participate in the Well-being plan. Members discussed the contents of the Plan. The Chair and Cllr Karen Parker had been through the lengthy document. Another look required. Deadline for submissions was in early February.
- 16) 02/12 Church Meadow, Rhydymwyn, streetlamp not working - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported the Flintshire's street lamp (outside No 15) not working. Item forwarded to Mr Jamie Bennett in Flintshire's Street Lighting Section. Cllr Gareth W Hughes had subsequently reported that the lamp had now been repaired.
- 17) 04/12 Street Lamps, Rhydymwyn Wattage Survey required - Request sent to Deeco lighting for wattage information. Clerk to pursue with another email if necessary, to emphasise to Deeco the urgency of the work.
- 18) 05/12 Information from Flintshire CC Cemetery Superintendent - Item already dealt with earlier. Clerk requested to amend Flintshire's version of the entrance notice to suit the Cilcain cemetery and erect amended notice on the Bier House door.
- 19) 06/12 Garth Lane, Cilcain - Copy of an email received by Flintshire County Councillor Andrew Parkhurst from a Cilcain resident (HW) regarding regular traffic reported going up Garth Lane late at night searching for Moel Famau. Clerk reported on a similar problem being dealt with by Flintshire CC Traffic Section and the Community Council at Brithdir Mawr Lane some four years ago. Members agreed to:
- (a) Report the potential night time issue at Moel Famau to Connor Freel.
  - (b) Request Flintshire CC to erect a sign at the entrance of Garth Lane to indicate 'No Vehicular access to Moel Famau'. This proposed sign would need to face vehicles coming from the Loggerheads direction. Cllr JV Worthington confirmed that the a similar sign had been very effective in dealing with the late night traffic at Brithdir Mawr Lane.
- 20) 06/12 Brithdir Mawr Lane, Cilcain. - No salt heaps left by Flintshire CC - Cllr J V Worthington had reported that salt heaps had been replenished along the Loggerheads Road, but as in previous years, no road salt heaps had been left in Brithdir Mawr Lane - Item reported to Flintshire Street Scene Supervisor. Reminder sent to Flintshire on 11 December 2022. Cllr Worthington had reported - salt heaps in place on Monday afternoon 11 Dec 2022. Position noted.
- 21) 07/12 Cilcain Car Park entrance signage - Item dealt with earlier.
- 22) 08/12 Maes Cilan, Cilcain - buses having difficulties using the half circle road in Maes Cilan, due to parked vehicles in Maes Cilan. Members agreed to:
- (i) Report the issue to Connor Freel.
  - (ii) Invite Flintshire CC Cllr Andrew Parkhurst to update the Council on a similar parking problem he was currently dealing with at Leete Avenue in Rhydymwyn.
- 23) 08/12 Cilcain Village Hall, new entrance doors - Request from Cilcain Village Hall Management Committee for the Council's agreement, in accordance with the lease, to the

front entrance door replacement. Members noted that it was a 'like for like' door replacement. No objections raised.

- 24) 09/12 Cllr Ian Hughes - Letter received by Chair from Cllr Ian Hughes. Item dealt with earlier.
- 25) 12/12 Xmas and New Year greetings to the Community Council from Flintshire County Council's Chairman. Position noted.
- 26) --/-- Flintshire Streetscene Action Plan - Item dealt with earlier.

**9.00**            **PAYMENT 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 Village Hall, Cilcain at 7.30 pm Monday 16 January 2023.

Signed .....Chairman      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 exp) for November 2022	625.85
(ii)	HMRC - PAYE (L.G.A.1972 S112)	97.45
(iii)	Canon - photo copy equip (3 months up to 31/10/22)	43.60
(iv)	Office Equipment and stationery - (L.G.A.1972 S111)	115.25
(v)	Power Systems - Street lamp energy for 3 months	951.22
(vi)	J D-Keene - Council website	60.00
(vii)	Flintshire Playscheme summer 2022 ( Members may recall the Clerk was authorised in the Nov Council Meeting to pay Flintshire CC by BACS on receipt of the invoice. Members are requested to confirm the payment made.	3,080.00
(viii)	Transfer to Chair's Account from main account	160.00
(ix)	Zurich - annual insurance premium Members noted that the premium was approximately 7% higher than last year, whereas inflation was currently about 11% in the UK.	2,458.77

Chair .....

Clerk .....

Date .....