

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL AT THE VILLAGE HALL CILCAIN ON 15 MAY 2023.

Present: Chairperson: Cllr Gwen Hardman

Councillors: Emyr Davies Pauline Douglas
John Doyle Malcolm Down
Gareth W Hughes Ian Hughes
Karen Parker Michael Parr
Christine Vaughan John Worthington
The Clerk was also in attendance

1. **CHAIRPERSON'S WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS** - The Chairman welcomed Members to the May Council Meeting. Croeso i bawb i Gyngor Mis Mai. The Chair also welcomed two Members of the public to the meeting.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - None. All Members present

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - There was one Declarations of Interest made:

Cllr John V Worthington declared an interest in the Planning Item 10 (ii).

4. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING** - Cllr Karen Parker drew attention to the need to change a date on the last page of the April Minutes (page 109 Item 2 (viii) to 2022/2023). Subject to changing the date, Cllr Gareth W Hughes proposed, Cllr J Emyr Davies seconded acceptance and all Members agreed to approve the Minutes of 16 April 2022 meeting. The Chairperson signed the Minutes.

5. **ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON FOR THE ENSUING YEAR 2023/2024 (RHYDYMWYN WARD)**

Before leaving the Chair, Cllr Gwen Hardman took the opportunity to thank all Councillors for all their hard work throughout the year, and for the support given to her as Chairperson over the last difficult 12 months

It was proposed by Cllr Pauline Douglas, seconded by Malcolm Down that Councillor Gareth W Hughes be elected to be the Chairperson of the Community Council for the ensuing year. There were no other nominations. All Members present agreed with the proposal.

Resolved: Cllr Gareth W Hughes be elected Chairman.

Upon his election, Cllr Gareth W Hughes signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

6. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR THE ENSUING YEAR 2022 / 2023 (RHYDYMWYN WARD)**

In his opening remarks the new Chairperson thanked Cllr Gwen Hardman for all the hard work she had undertaken during the year, especially the enormous effort made with dealing with the anaerobic digestion facility pre-planning application for Rhydymwyn.

Election of Vice Chairperson: It was proposed by Cllr J Emyr Davies, seconded by Cllr Ian Hughes that Cllr John V Worthington be elected Vice Chairperson. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that Cllr John V Worthington be elected Vice Chairman
Upon his election, Cllr John V Worthington signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

7. TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON THE FOLLOWING BODIES:-

- (i) (a) Cilcain Cemetery Overseers (6) - six Cilcain Ward Members.
- (b) Rhydymwyn Cemetery Overseers (6) - six Rhydymwyn Ward Members.
- (ii) School Managers - Ysgol y Foel, Cilcain (1) -

Resolved - Cllr Gwen Hardman to continue to undertake this role as the Council's representative on Ysgol y Foel Governors Committee.

- (iii) Cilcain Village Hall Management Committee (1)

Resolved - Cllr Christine Vaughan nominated to undertake this role as the Council's representative on the Village Hall Management Committee.

- (iv) Cilcain Bowling Club Management Committee (1)

Resolved - Members agreed for Cllr Ian Hughes to continue as the Council's representative on the Cilcain Bowling Club Management Committee.

Clerk to notify Bowling Club Secretary.

- (v) Former Trimm Rock Quarry Land (Now owned by Coed Du Hall owner) .

Whilst Members accepted it was unlikely there would be any future quarry liaison meetings arranged, it was agreed that one Member of the Council should be responsible for participating in any discussions between the Community Council and Flintshire CC Minerals Section.

Resolved: Cllr Pauline Douglas to continue to be the Council's representative in any future discussion / correspondence between the Community Council and Flintshire Minerals Section about the former quarry site.

- (vi) Hendre Quarry Liaison Committee - Tarmac (2) - **Resolved:** Cllr Gareth W Hughes and one other Rhydymwyn Member that is available to be the Council's representatives on the Hendre Quarry Liaison Committee.
- (vii) Cefn Mawr Quarry Pantybuarth Liaison Committee (1) - **Resolved:** Cllr Ian Hughes be the representative on the Cefn Mawr Liaison Committee.
- (vii) Rhydymwyn Football Club Management Committee (1)
Resolved - Cllr Gareth W Hughes and one other Rhydymwyn Member who is available at the time to be the Community Council's representatives on the Rhydymwyn Football Club Committee. Cllr Gareth Hughes reported that invitations to attend Club meetings had recently been rare.
- (viii) Rhydymwyn Institute - Item to be discussed in future meeting.
- (ix) One Voice Wales - Wrexham / Flintshire Area Committee - Cllr Gwen Hardman was happy for her name to go forward. Members agreed for Gwen + one other to attend as necessary.
- (x) AONB Committee - The recent change in AONB constitution does not accommodate a One Voice Wales representative on the AONB Executive Committee.
- (xi) Rhydymwyn Flood Sub-Committee (6 No) - Rhydymwyn Ward Members. The subcommittee also covers flooding in Hendre.
- (xii) Rhydymwyn Nature Reserve - DEFRA had not held any meetings for well over three years. DEFRA handing the site over to the Land Trust had reached a stalemate. Cllr Gareth Hughes referred to the arrangement whereby the Land Trust wanted a dowry, so that it could use the interest money for maintaining the site. But with interest rates being so low in recent years it was difficult to agree on a dowry amount. Cllr Gareth Hughes to attend + one other Rhydymwyn Member had attended meetings in the past.
- (xiii) Flintshire Forum - Cllr Gwen Hardman and Cllr Ian Hughes were prepared to attend the Flintshire Forum.

8. **RHYDYMWYN WARD MEMBER VACANCY** - Clerk reported on the current position. Members noted that there is one vacancy in the Rhydymwyn Ward. Flintshire CC had informed the Community Council prior the Council Meeting that the vacancy can now be filled by co-option. Where the vacancy is to be filled by co-option, Members authorised the Clerk to erect the appropriate notice on the Notice Boards and on the Council website.

9. **MATTERS ARISING (Highway Matters)**

Orchard Area, Rhydymwyn - Cllr Malcolm Down reported that the grass / bramble cutting on the boundary of the Village Orchard had been done by Flintshire CC. Cllr Down had sent a note to Neil to thank him for the excellent work done.

Pothole repairs Loggerheads Road, Cilcain. Cllr John V Worthington reported that the worst pot holes had been repaired along Loggerheads Road last week. More repairs required.

Neil's List, possible changes:

- (1) Bottom Road - edge of tarmac degrading, particularly near the entrance to Hesb Alyn
- (2) Between Coed Du Hall and Caravan Park (by Pren Teg) edge of road degrading.
- (3) Item No 17 on Neil's list refers to a BT manhole cover. Check required regarding the manhole cover in the road centre by No 1 Glan yr Afon Terrace.
- (4) Cilcain car park sign update. Order placed with sign manufacturer.
- (5) Sign with map by car park entrance - update required.
- (6) On-line meeting required with AONB - to discuss funding for changing Cilcain street lamps to LED.

10. MATTERS ARISING (Non Highway Matters)

p111 Proposed solar panels - Clerk reported application sent to Flintshire's Conservation Area Section on 17 April 2023. Reminder sent on 05 May 2023. Clerk to pursue further.

p111 Anaerobic Digestion proposal -

- (i) Clerk had written to Mr Andrew Roberts on the 24 April 2023 at Flintshire Planning to request guidance on the planning status of the application site as indicated in the current version of the Local Development Plan. Copy sent to Cllr Andrew Parkhurst. Clerk to pursue a response.
- (ii) Clerk had contacted Halkyn Community Council to establish the identity of the Chair and Vice Chair. Information would be available following the Halkyn CC's AGM.
- (iii) Cllr Gwen Hardman had checked her notes on the Cilcain Housing pre-planning application to establish if there was any obligation mentioned at the County Forum Meeting (she and Cllr Ian Hughes had attended) for the applicant to put forward the views of the residents in the PAC of the Planning Application. The applicant is only obliged to cover the views received from the statutory consultees, which includes the Community Council.

The residents who submitted their objections to the Applicant will need to submit their observations again to Flintshire, if and when a planning application is made for the digester. The Community Council can refer to resident's responses in its submission.

p112 Dolfechlas Rd, Rhydymwyn, drainage odour

Chair reported that there had been no odour detected in Dolfechlas Road since Dwr Cymru had sealed the manhole cover opposite Impala. Further monitoring will be appropriate. Dwr Cymru had initially indicated the sealing would be done using a visquine sheeting material beneath the cover. The sealing had eventually been done with a black mastic sealing material.

Mr Kelbrick had supplied the Community Council with a plan of the drainage system in the area, which will be useful to identify the various manhole covers, if further problems occur.

p112 Cilcain Shop - Cllr Karen Parker reported that a plan requested by the Shop Ctee had been supplied. A copy of the draft license would be sent to the Village Hall Management Committee after the Hall Ctee's AGM scheduled for 24 May 2023.

p113 Hendre Quarry - Chair reported that the sweeping by GoPlant was down to once per week. The Chair indicated that the road was swept daily at one time. Daily sweeping should still be the target.

The Clerk referred to the response received from Flintshire Minerals to indicate that twelve months ago the road was being swept daily. However, the sweeping frequency was not conditioned in the Planning Permission.

Tarmac was currently monitoring GoPlant's performance for a two week period.

Chair noted that Cllr Andrew Parkhurst was approaching Tarmac regarding the funding for the Llys Alyn bus service facility.

Cllr Karen Parker had spoken to former councillor Jean Ramsay's family regarding the provision of a seat at the Donkey Field. The family was more than happy with the suggestion. Typical wording to be looked at.

Site meeting arranged on site for Tuesday next with Mr Richard Roberts. Wording on a similar seat can be looked at in the site meeting (10.00 am).

p113 Cilcain cemetery - Cllr Ian Hughes to make the occasional check to ensure that bushes do not encroach the central path.

Cllr Gwen Hardman to arrange for dates suitable for two Members to join herself to look at amending the risk assessment for the cemetery.

p113 Cilcain and Rhydymwyn LED lamps - Regarding the LED lamps for Cilcain, Clerk and the Vice Chair arranging to have an online meeting with the AONB to agree the electrical specifications for the 'dark sky' LED street lighting units.

p113 Play Area, Cilcain - Cllr Gwen Hardman reported she had received very positive feedback from residents regarding the new units installed. The grass around the base of the unit was growing well. Mr Richard Roberts from Flintshire CC had been requested to come up with option sketches for Stage 2 of the Cilcain play area improvement scheme. Dwr Cymru had made the Community Council aware of grant funding being available for community projects in the Cilcain Area.

p113 Gwysaney Arms, Rhydymwyn - Chair reported on the site meeting which had taken place on Tuesday 18 April 2023.

The photographs taken at the site-meeting by Cllr John Doyle had been emailed to all Council Members. The site meeting had been arranged by Cllr Andrew Parkhurst.

The Chairman reported that the developer proposed to submit an application for nine houses. The inclusion of affordable houses in the proposal was not discussed. Cllr Pauline Douglas had also been in attendance at the site meeting.

p114 Defra Flood Gates - Recent 'brown sludge' pollution incident in the River Alyn.

The Clerk had received an initial report from the NRW Pollution Officer (24 April 2023) to indicate that the preliminary tests were showing the pollution sludge was as a result of natural causes.

A further verbal report had been received - water sample tests and analysis confirmed natural causes.

The Clerk had requested a written report from the NRW so that a copy of the report could be given to the village residents who had reported the pollution incident.

p118 Mill Terrace - Chair enquired if there had been any updates regarding a flooding scheme for Mill Terrace. Clerk reported that Cllr Karen Parker and himself had received a copy yesterday of an email Cllr Parkhurst had received from Mr Andy Roberts (Service Manager Strategy, Flintshire CC)

A meeting had recently taken place on site attended by Flintshire's Drainage Consultant, Mr Roberts and a Hendre resident. The Consulting Engineer (Waterco) has been instructed to prepare a feasibility study to look at the options available to arrive at a solution for the Hendre drainage problem.

Cllr Karen Parker emphasised the need to take other residents views into consideration as opposed to having a site visit with one resident who lived upstream of Mill Terrace.

p118 Flintshire CC potholes. Clerk reported that a letter had been written to Katie Wilby, Chief Officer for Streetscene and Transportation and a copy sent to Cllr Dave Hughes, Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Regional Transport. Response awaited.

p118 Coed Du Hall, Nant Alyn, Rhydymwyn -

- (i) Cllr Pauline Douglas reported on further police activities which had occurred in the Nant Alyn area since the first incident (Thursday before Easter).
- (ii) Clerk reported that he had uncovered recent correspondence to indicate that the Hall is not licensed by Flintshire CC, and that North Wales Police only respond to incidents at the Hall. North Wales Police do not arrange regular visits to the Hall.
- (iii) Cllr Parker had been on the Hall's Website and established the body which registers the Nursing Home. Monitoring of the Nursing Home is undertaken by the Health Inspectorate for Wales. The Hall does not have locked doors or high walls anymore. The Nursing Home relies on therapeutic relational support to keep the patients from going out into the community without permission.

- (iv) The Chair and Cllr Pauline Douglas reported on a recent annual visit to the home. Another meeting to the Nursing Home to be arranged.

11. PLANNING MATTERS:

Planning Applications received from Flintshire County Council.

- (i) Proposal: Proposed extensions, dormer roofs & general internal and external alterations
Location: Meadow Barn, Cilcain, Mold, CH7 5PG
Ref No: FUL/000356/23

The Community Council has **no objection in principle** to the application.
However:

- (a) Community Council assumes the Planning Officer will assess whether or not the extent of the proposed extension in comparison to the original footprint of the dwelling exceeds the 50% planning guidelines.
- (b) The Community Council has concerns that the proposed timber external cladding of the extension will not be in keeping with stone fabric of the existing dwelling.
- (ii) Ref No: COU/000309/23
Proposal: Temporary siting of a static caravan
Location: Brithdir Bach, Cilcain, Mold, CH7 5PH

The Community Council has **no objection** to the application **and fully supports** the application.

12. CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS

- 1) 12/04 A541 Caravan Rhydymwyn - complaint No 217425 - Reminder sent to Planning Enforcement, Flintshire CC. Response received on 13 April 2023. The van had been moved to the site entrance. Position noted.
- 2) 14/04 Parking in Cilcain - Email from Cilcain resident (DF) regarding parking. A copy of this email has been forwarded to Members. Position noted.
- 3) 14/04 Parking in Cilcain - Email from Cilcain resident (DF) regarding parking. A copy of this email has been forwarded to Members. Position noted.
- 4) 16/04 River Alyn, Rhydymwyn - brown sludge pollution. Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported on reports received from two separate Rhydymwyn residents of a brown sludge in the River Alyn by the DEFRA bridge - Item reported to NRW's Pollution Telephone hotline. Item dealt with earlier.

- 5) 17/04 Pre-planning advice application for photovoltaic panels on the Cilcain Village Hall sent to Flintshire's Conservation Area Section. Item dealt with earlier.
- 6) 18/04 Former Antelope Hotel Rhydymwyn - Photos taken at the site-meeting by Cllr John Doyle. The site meeting which had been arranged by Cllr Andrew Parkhurst was held on 18 April. Photos received were forwarded to all Members. Cllr Gareth W Hughes and the two other Rhydymwyn Ward Members who attended reported at the Council Meeting. Item dealt with earlier.
- 7) 20/04 Rhydymwyn Ward Vacancy - Copy of Vacancy Notice sent to the Returning Officer. Position noted. Item dealt with earlier.
- 8) 22/04 Road Sweeping of the A541 through Rhydymwyn by Tarmac - Request to Flintshire to check the planning condition requirements for Tarmac to sweep the A541. Item dealt with earlier.
- 9) 22/04 Garth Lane signage - Request to Flintshire Streetscene to erect a 'no through road' sign on top of the proposed black on yellow sign so that the combination arrangement is similar to the combination that was successful at Brithdir Mawr Lane a few years ago. Position noted.
- 10) 23/04 20 mph exemption proposed for Hendre - Email from Cllr Andrew Parkhurst to inform Cllr Karen Parker that Flintshire CC Traffic Section is recommending that the 30 mph through Hendre is not lowered to 20 mph unless strong objections are made by the 5 May 2023. Cllr Parker was liaising with Cllr Andrew Parkhurst to ensure that Hendre residents are given every opportunity to express their opinion before the final decision is taken. The feeling at present in the village is mixed. The final decision will be taken by Flintshire CC towards the end of June / early July. Cllr Parker maintained there would be an issue coming down from a 60 mph limit down to 20 mph.
- 11) 23/04 Empty Council House 32 Maes Cilan - request for information on the timescale for re-letting. Reply received from Flintshire. For reply - see correspondence item No 16 later.
- 12) 24/04 Rhydymwyn King's Coronation Celebrations - Thank you note from the Rhydymwyn and Hendre Community Group for the £300 donations. Position noted.
- 13) 24/ 04 Rhydymwyn and Hendre Community Group. Thank you note for the £140 donation to assist with the purchase of a replacement battery for the defibrillator.
- 14) 24/04 'Concrete Road', Cilcain (Off Loggerheads Road) - Abandoned Caravan in highway verge - reported by Cllr J V Worthington. Information forwarded to Flintshire Streetscene. The abandoned caravan was removed by Flintshire CC.
- 15) 24/04 River Alyn brown sludge pollution - initial update from Natural Resources Wales about the pollution reported by Cllr John Doyle on the 14 April and the Clerk on the 16 April 2023. Item dealt with earlier.

- 16) 24/04 Empty Council House 32 Maes Cilan - reply from Flintshire CC to the Community Council's request for information regarding the timescale for re-letting.
Response - The timescale for re-letting is unknown, since the property has been taken out of the usual Voids refurbishment process due to the construction of the building. The extent of timber in the construction made assessing the refurbishment difficult.
- 17) 25/04 Anaerobic Digestion Facility proposal for Rhydymwyn - Request sent to Flintshire CC for guidance on the planning status of the site as indicated in the current version of the Local Development Plan. Item dealt with earlier.
- 18) 26/04 20 mph exemption for Hendre - Request from Cllr Karen Parker to Cllr Andrew Parkhurst to stress the importance of local residents being consulted regarding the proposed speed limit changes. Item dealt with earlier.
- 19) 27/04 Cilcain Speed limit signs - copy of request from Cllr Andrew Parkhurst to cover up the 20 mph sign that is scheduled to come into force later this summer. Position noted.
- 20) 28/04 Road Sweeping of the A541 through Rhydymwyn by Tarmac - Reply from Flintshire Minerals to the Council's request to check the planning condition requirements for Tarmac to sweep the A541. Item dealt with earlier.
- 21) 28/04 Biere House roof repair - Mr Tom Smith had fixed the roof slates. Only one new slate was required. Even though there is no charge for the work on this occasion, two Cilcain Members were requested to inspect to assess if the work done was satisfactory.

Cllr Ian Hughes and Cllr J V Worthington had inspected the repair work and found the repair work satisfactory. Mr Smith had reported that the battens inside had some woodworm infestation and should ideally be replaced. Cllr Ian Hughes requested to inspect the roof timber battens in due course to assess if the battens need replacing.
- 22) 30/04 Community Transport for Llys Alyn, Rhydymwyn - Copy of email from Cllr Andrew Parkhurst to Tarmac requesting the Quarry to fund a monthly bus service to Mold. Position noted.
- 23) 30/04 Cilcain Bier House roof repair - Note from Cilcain Resident (DF) to thank the Council for repairing the roof slate damage. Position noted.
- 24) 01/05 Star Crossing Junction A541 - Vehicle activated speed limit sign still not repaired - copy of reminder sent from Cllr Parkhurst to Flintshire Traffic Section. Position noted.
- 25) 04/05 Pothole repair in the Cilcain Community Council Area. Letter sent to the Chief Officer for Streetscene and Transportation to express concern regarding the number of potholes left unrepaired in the Council's area. Item dealt with earlier.
- 26) 05/05 Pre-Planning advice application for photovoltaic panels on the Cilcain Village Hall - Reminder sent to Flintshire's Conservation Area Section. Item dealt with earlier.

- 27) 06/05 Cilcain Village Hall - Receipt and thanks for £325 Council donation to assist with the annual insurance premium for the Village Hall contents. Position noted.
- 28) 07/05 Cilcain Village Hall Management Ctee - AGM scheduled for 24 May 2023 - Request for the Community Council's representative to be identified by 19 May 2023. Clerk to write to Hall Ctee before the 24 May 2023.
- 29) 08/05 Cilcain View Point car park - parking survey information from Cilcain resident (DF). A copy of this email has been forwarded to Members. Position noted.
- 30) 10/05 Caravan A541 - Report of suspicious activity forwarded to Flintshire. Response received from Planning Enforcement - Removal notice served on landowner.
- 31) 10/05 Cilcain Coronation Cafe - Note from Cilcain resident (JP) to inform the Council about the successful Coronation event held at the Village Hall on Sunday 7 May 2023 - nearly 300 people attended the event. Position noted.
- 32) 10/05 'Concrete Road', Cilcain - abandoned caravan - Cllr J V Worthington reported the abandoned van had now been taken off site. Item discussed earlier.
- 33) 10/05 Donkey Field clearing of brambles near the boundary hedge - Cllr Malcolm Down reported excellent work done by Flintshire Streetscene for the Village Orchard boundary. Item dealt with earlier.
- 34) 12/05 Vacancy Rhydymwyn Ward - Information from Flintshire CC to indicate the Community Council is now entitled to proceed with the procedures for co-option. Item dealt with earlier.
- 35) --/-- Flintshire Streetscene Action Plan - Item dealt with earlier.
- /-- Cllr Christine Vaughan enquired regarding the whereabouts of the seat staining materials for Cilcain. Clerk reported some materials had been passed on to Cllr J V Worthington and some materials had been left in the Biere House. Chair reported that the Rhydymwyn stain and materials had not yet been passed on to the local person who was going to stain the Rhydymwyn seats.
- /-- Covid snake, Donkey Field, Rhydymwyn - Cllr John Doyle expressed concern that the edge of the Covid 19 snake was breaking away, and would need looking at. Members attending the site meeting with Mr Richard Roberts in a week's time would be able to have a look at the issue and take it from there.

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

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for the Rhydymwyn Football Club building, at 7.30 pm Monday 19 June 2023.

SignedChairman Date: Clerk

**APPENDIX - MATTERS OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE - NOT FOR PUBLICATION
UNTIL AFTER THE MEETING HAS TAKEN PLACE**

1. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:**

(i)	A E - sal + expenses (L.G.A.1972 S112)	665.85
(ii)	HMRC (Customs and Excise) - PAYE Clerk's salary (L.G.A.1972 S112)	98.45
(iii)	Bloomin Gardens grass cutting at Cilcain and Rhydymwyn cemeteries, plus around two Rhydymwyn seats.	220.00
(iv)	A E - Office equipment and stationery (Invoices available at the Council Meeting)	120.96
(v)	A E - Web Fee	18.00
(vi)	AT - Rhydymwyn - Donkey Field - Covid 19 snake - confirmation of payment approved by Chair and Vice Chair since the April Council Meeting	200.00
(vii)	Cem materials (Cilcain and Rhyd)	40.83
(viii)	Hire of Rhydymwyn Church for three meetings in relation to the Anaerobic Digestion facility	60.00

2. **CURRENT COUNCIL BANK BALANCE.** Please note that the closing balance in the Council's Bank Account on 29 April 2023 was:
Current Account: £11,022
Deposit Account: £ 26,320
Dep. Acc. interest (April £30.04) (March £26.85) (Feb £21.53) (Jan £19.08) (Dec £15.52)

3. **LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AT VILLAGE HALL CILCAIN**

At the close of the Meeting the Chairman invited all Members and their partners to partake of light refreshments.