

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL AT THE FOOTBALL CLUB
IN RHYDYMWYN ON 16 OCTOBER 2023.**

Present: Chairperson: Cllr Gareth W Hughes

Councillors:	John Emyr Davies	Pauline Douglas
	Malcolm Down	John Doyle
	Gwenda Hardman	Ian Hughes
	Tim Mitchell	Karen Parker
	Michael Parr	Christine Vaughan
	John V Worthington	
	The Clerk was also in attendance	

1. CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed Members to the October Meeting. Croeso i bawb i Gyngor Mis Hydref. The Chair also welcomed two Cilcain resident (DF and SJ), County Cllr Andrew Parkhurst and Mr Neil Hickie (Flintshire Streetscene) to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - There were no apologies. All Members were present.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST -

- (i) Cllr Tim Mitchell declared an interest in the Hendre drainage scheme item. Cllr Mitchell was employed by Waterco.
- (ii) Cllr Gwen Hardman declared an interest in the solar panel application. Cllr Hardman was on the Hall Cee.
- (iii) Cllr Malcolm Down declared an interest in the correspondence item regarding the Rhydymwyn village orchard.

4. HIGHWAY MATTERS -

Members discussed the Items on Neil's Action list.

5. MINUTES OF LAST COUNCIL MEETING (DATED 18 SEPT 2023) - Cllr Christine Vaughan proposed acceptance, and Cllr Karen Parker seconded and all Members agreed, subject to the following corrections:

- (i) page36 Hendre Quarry item - near miss involved a 'vehicle' as opposed to a 'bicycle'.
- (ii) page 33 Village Hall item - typo on the word 'work' on the slates.
- (iii) page 30 Cllr Tim Mitchell name to be added to Members present.

Whilst the Minutes of the additional (AD) Council meeting which took place on the 19 July 2023 were considered and corrected at the 18 Sept 2023 Council meeting, the Minutes were not formally adopted.

Cllr Karen Parker proposed acceptance, Cllr Gwen Hardman seconded and all Members agreed to adopt the 19 July 2023 (AD) Minutes.

6. **MATTERS ARISING (NON HIGHWAY MATTERS)**

p31 Proposed solar panels, Village Hall roof, Cilcain - Cllr Gwen Hardman reported that it was now six months since the application was submitted to Flintshire CC. It was still difficult to obtain a response from the Flintshire's Conservation Section. Cllr Hardman reported that the Chairman of the Hall Cee had written to Mr A Roberts at Flintshire CC since the last meeting, but had not yet received a response. Clerk, Cllr Hardman and the Village Hall Ctee Chairman to pursue. Cllr Hardman to pass on copies of the relevant correspondence to Cllr Parkhurst.

p31 Anaerobic digestion facility - Cllr Parkhurst reported that the date for a visit to the St Asaph facility was now fixed for Friday 12 Oct at 11.00 am.

p31 Cilcain Shop - Cllr Gwen Hardman reported that the licence issue had not yet been dealt with but was getting closer to the top of the Agenda. Hall Ctee meeting scheduled for the next couple of weeks.

p31 Cilcain cemetery - Cllr J V Worthington had been to check on the grass cutting position since the September Council Meeting. Next scheduled cut - end Oct / start Nov.

Cllr Gwen Hardman to arrange a meeting with two other Cilcain Members to prepare the cemeteries risk assessment.

p31 Play Area refurbishment match funding scheme, Rhydymwyn, - site meeting with Mr Richard Roberts arranged for 12.30 pm Wed 25 Oct.

p31 Former Antelope Hotel Rhydymwyn - Cllr Andrew Parkhurst reported that he had received an email from the owner to indicate that he was waiting for Flintshire Planning to respond to a request for a site visit.

p32 Bier House, Cilcain - Cllr Ian Hughes reported that Cilcain Church did not want the 'bier'. Cllr Hughes to take a photo of the item so that the Council can decide on the next step.

p32 Hendre Speed Limit - Cllr Karen Parker reported that vehicle speeds through Hendre were getting worse on balance. There were conflicting views regarding the likely police action being taken against speeding vehicles. Cllr Parker had emailed John Morris (Community Speed Watch Officer) from North Wales Police requesting information about the official policy being followed by the Police.

Cllr Michael Parr reported that on his regular trips into Mold he was being overtaken by impatient drivers overtaking his vehicle.

p33 Cilcain cemetery, leaning headstone - Clerk to pass the information regarding the leaning headstone to the Chairman. The Chairman was due to meet a memorial mason in Cilcain cemetery in a few days time.

p35 AONB Lanterns for Cilcain - Clerk reported having made enquiries with Flintshire CC Street Lighting Section. Flintshire had recently erected two solar powered lamps on a footpath in Saltney on a trial basis. One solar powered lamp had recently been erected in Ffordd Y Llan in Cilcain.

Solar powered lamps had been used since there was no power available on that section of road. Where power is available, Flintshire will not use solar powered lamps because they are much more expensive and their warranty period does not come close to the warranty given for the non solar powered lamps.

Members agreed not to pursue the solar powered lamps.

p36 Tarmac Hendre Quarry - Cllr Karen Parker reported on her discussions with the Quarry Manager about obtaining an update on the 'near miss' involving a quarry wagon mentioned in the September Council meeting. New signage is being proposed for the traffic island area at the Nant Road / Quarry Rd junction.

p36 Speed limit issues Cilcain - Cllr Parkhurst had emailed Anthony Stamford (Flintshire CC Traffic Section) to request a site visit for all the areas mentioned in the September Council meeting.

Cllr Tim Mitchell maintained it is not correct to indicate that the law allows motorists to travel down to the Pentre at 60 mph. The nature of the road restricts the speed and if a motorist was to drive down to the Pentre at 60 mph, it would be regarded as dangerous driving. It is better to regard the section of road as being 'derestricted'.

Cllr Gwen Hardman enquired regarding the nature of the public consultation. Was Flintshire CC consulted? Cllr Andrew Parkhurst reported that the consultation with the County Council was limited to suggesting exemptions to the 20 mph proposals.

Members noted that the residents adjoining the section of roads included in the exemptions list had been given the opportunity to submit their views.

p37 Cilcain Public Toilet - Senedd £500 grant - The Chair noted that the £500 grant from the Welsh Assembly had been received at last. The Clerk reported that the Clean and Lock's organiser and himself had written on a few occasions to achieve the eventual result.

p37 Rhydymwyn Orchard - Chairman noted that an 'apple press' event was scheduled for Sunday 22 October 2023. The Clerk had supplied information to the Orchard Organiser.

p39 Rhydymwyn school bus affected by the introduction of the 20 mph speed limit - Cllr Andrew Parkhurst reported having taken the matter up with Flintshire CC. Cllr Parkhurst explained that the arrangement whereby the school bus uses the Industrial Estate lay-by has now been formalised, whereas it was an informal arrangement previously. The concern that arose due to the introduction of the 20mph speed limit has now hopefully been sorted.

p39 Covid Snake - Cllr Doyle reported on his idea for a new 'covid snake' arrangement. Members agreed for Cllr Doyle to proceed with preparing a sketch and an approximate estimate before the January 2024 Council Meeting.

p40 ADF Meeting Minutes for the 16 July Meeting at the Football Club - Cllr Tim Mitchell indicated that the reference on p10 (third line from bottom) should read 'sulphur dioxide'.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

- (a) Ref No: LBC/000891/23
Proposal: Listed building application to change previously approved external wall finish from stone to oak boarding
Location: Ty Isaf, Cilcain, Mold, CH7 5NP

The Community Council objects to the application on the basis that the use of wooden cladding is out of character with the existing property.

- (b) Ref No: FUL/000896/23
Proposal: Construction of agricultural building
Location: Fron Farm, Hendre, Mold, CH7 5QW

The Community Council has **no objection** to this application.

- (c) Ref No: FUL/000885/23
Proposal: Replacement conservatory
Location: 1, Bryn Awelon, Cilcain, Mold, CH7 5NE

The Community Council has **no objection** to this application.

8. CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS / ITEMS DISCUSSED -

- 1) 14/09 North East Wales National Park Designation - Press release by NRW regarding the arrangements for consultation. A copy of the email had been forwarded to all Community Council Members on 14 Sep 2023. Position noted.
Cllr John Worthington reported on the local concern. A number of the Cilcain Members intended to attend the first meeting. Chair indicated that the information gained by attending can then be considered in the November 2023 Council meeting.
- 2) 17/09 Cilcain Bonfire and Fireworks display 5 Nov 2023 - Letter from Cilcain YFC Chairperson. Members may wish to note that a sum of £375 has been included in the Community Council's budget for a donation. Donation of £375 agreed.

Cllr Pauline Douglas reported on a request she had received from a Halkyn resident for information regarding the possibility of receiving financial assistance for holding a charity event in the Rhydymwyn FC on 06 July 2024 to raise awareness and funds for Diabetes UK. Is the Community Council able to provide financial assistance towards organising such an event.

The Chairman maintained that a request for donation needs to come from a local organisation, as opposed to a private individual.

- 3) 20/09 River Alyn, Rhydymwyn - Email to NRW to seek clarification regarding the report received about the pollution incident which occurred in April 2023. Position noted.
- 4) 20/09 Plas Ucha, Cilcain, tree Branch obstructing highway - Cllr J Emyr Davies reported that the high winds had bent a branch as low as the car windscreens. Item reported to Flintshire Streetscene. Cllr Davies reported branch taken down later on the same day. Position noted.
- 5) 20/09 Welsh Government Legislation is now in force - Information from Flintshire CC (Joanne Pearce) regarding the Welsh Government's latest speed restrictions' initiative. Position noted.
- 6) 21/09 Rhydymwyn Bonfire, 4 November 2023 - Request for permission to use the Donkey Field for the event. Also request for consideration to be given to assisting the Bonfire Committee with financial support. Members may wish to note that a sum of £375 had been included in the Community Council's budget for a donation. £375 donation approved.
- 7) 22/09 20 mph Exemption - Information from Flintshire CC (Joanne Pearce) regarding the Welsh Government's latest speed restrictions' initiative. Position noted.
- 8) 22/09 Roadside verge fenced off, Rhydymwyn - Email from Rhydymwyn Ward Member concerned about two section of the highway verge being fenced off. This item had been discussed previously.

A meeting had been held at Rhydymwyn FC with Mr Darrell Jones approximately two years ago. The Community Council had not been able to convince Flintshire CC's representative that an encroachment of the highway verge had taken place. Chairman suggested that another meeting with Mr Darrell Jones should be arranged to see if Flintshire CC was prepared to reconsider its position.

A photograph of the fence with the barbed wire dangerously close to the edge of the carriageway had been attached to the Agenda. Clerk to ask Flintshire CC Legal section if there is any legislation governing the proximity of a barbed wire fence adjacent to a public highway. Also, is there any legislation to prohibit the barbed wire being on the highway side of the fence.

Clerk and Cllr Gwen Hardman to make further enquiries with the Land Registry regarding 'The Title' and the Land Registry 'Plan'.

- 9) 22/09 Email from a Cilcain resident (DF) regarding the Welsh Government's latest 20 mph speed restrictions' initiative. A copy of the email has been forwarded to all Community Council Members. Position noted.
- 10) 29/09 Email from a Cilcain resident (DF) regarding a 30 mph sign which had been obstructed by a hedge on the Pantymwyn Road side of The Square in Cilcain. Request forwarded to Flintshire Streetscene. Sign subsequently replaced by a 20 mph sign by Flintshire CC. Position noted.
- 11) 04/10 Community Review - Information from Flintshire CC regarding the need to review the Community Council's electoral arrangements. A copy of the email had been forwarded to all Community Council Members. The Chairman maintained that 8/11 properties on the Pantymwyn side of the DEFRA bridge should be included in the Rhydymwyn Ward of the Cilcain Community Council. Chairman to list the names so that a request can be made to Flintshire CC. The Ruby brickwork site should also be included.
- 12) 07/10 Salt bin request - Church Lane, Rhydymwyn - Email from Cllr Andrew Parkhurst enquiring if the Community Council would be prepared to fund the provision of a salt bin in Church Lane (unadopted road). The Chair had explained that Flintshire CC would not be able to provide a bin on an unadopted road by the entrance to the Church.

The Clerk recalled an Insurance Company representative had made a presentation at a Council Meeting in Cilcain some time ago and advised the Council: If the Council did not spread salt on a cemetery path, the Council would could not be held responsible if there was an accident. However, if the salt was applied to a cemetery path by the Council, the Council could be held responsible for an accident. On that basis, since the advice being given by the Insurance Company, the Council has not spread salt in a cemetery or at a cemetery entrance.

Giving a donation to the Church towards the purchase of a locked bin for the use by the Church for the Church entrance was considered. The Church was being used for a number of community meetings, the Council itself having held a recent Council Meeting in the Church.

The request for a salt bin had been received from a resident of the unadopted St John's Park estate. Members agreed that Council expenditure for providing salt on the unadopted road could be regarded as 'ultra virus'.

Members noted that the salt bins provided by Flintshire are invariably on a gradient. This section of Church Lane by the Church entrance was completely flat.

Chair to arrange for the Church to make a request to the Council for a donation.

- 13) 08/10 Cilcain Calendar 2024 - Request for a donation. Members may wish to note that a sum of £60 was donated in Sept 2022 for this item. Donation approved.
- 14) 08/10 National Park Status for AONB - Email of concern from Cilcain resident (DF). A copy of the email has been forwarded to all Community Council Members. Position noted. Item discussed earlier.
- 15) 09/10 Hendre drainage scheme - survey notice received by Cllr Karen Parker from Flintshire CC's Consulting Engineers. Cllr Parker reported at the Council meeting. Flintshire CC's Consulting Engineer have commenced survey work in the village that day. The survey work included interviews with residents and was scheduled to take two weeks.
- 16) -- Flintshire Streetscene Action Plan - Item discussed earlier.

9. ADDITIONAL ITEMS RAISED WITH THE CHAIRMAN'S PERMISSION

- (a) Dolfechlas Road, Rhydymwyn - Cllr Tim Mitchell reported that a bin had gone missing adjoining the seat at the top of Dolfechlas Road. There was a concrete base where the bin had been, but no sign of any fixing arrangement in the concrete base. This suggested that Flintshire may have been in the process of replacing the bin. Clerk to make enquiries with Flintshire Streetscene.

10. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS - The accounts scheduled in the Appendix were approved for payment.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - The next meeting of the Council is scheduled to be held on the 20 November 2023. However, the Chair and Vice Chair reserve the right to change the date, having regard to the three clear working days statutory notice being given for any new date.

PAYMENT SECTION NOT FOR PUBLICATION UNTIL APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL

1. Payment of Accounts

(i)	A E (sal + fixed exp) for June 2023	665.85
(ii)	HMRC - PAYE (L.G.A.1972 S112) Confirmation of the BACS payment made required.	98.45
(iii)	Bloomin Gardens - grass cutting at Cilcain and Rhydymwyn cemeteries, plus around two Rhydymwyn seats.	220.00
(iv)	Office Equipment and stationery - (L.G.A.1972 S111) (Invoices available at the Council Meeting)	158.30
(v)	AE - web fee	18.00
(vi)	Cilcain Clean and Lock. NB - £500 had been received from Flintshire CC during this month. The Community Council needs to forward this amount on to Cilcain Clean and Lock	500.00
(vii)	Cilcain Bonfire and Fireworks display	375.00
(viii)	Rhydymwyn and Hendre Fireworks display	375.00
(ix)	AE - cem and non-office materials	78.96
(x)	O Roberts - grass cutting around the seats in Cilcain (4 times per year) Please note - the central hedge in Cilcain cemetery is scheduled to be cut just before the 5 Nov bonfire. The boundary hedge in Waen field behind the seat has already been cut.	110.00
(xi)	Scottish Power - street lighting energy	936.47
(xii)	P Rushforth - Painting of seats in Rhydymwyn	125.00
(xiii)	Cilcain Village Hall Ctee - Donation towards annual calendar	60.00

Payments to be made by BACS - authorised by the following two signatories:

Chairman Vice Chair (or 2nd Councillor)

- 2. Budgetary Control** - Members noted that the balance held by the Council at the end of the first six months (29 Sept 2023) of the financial year was £38,894.23. Members noted that the total balance on 29 Sept 2022 was £42,961.84.

The computerised version of the list of payments made in the first six months ending in 29 Sept 2023 and a list of the income received during the same period was considered. Members noted that the difference between the total payments and total income matched the balance in the Council's HSBC Bank account.

- 3. Current Council Bank Balance.** Members noted that the closing balance in the Council's Bank Account on 09 Oct 2023 was:

Current Account: £12,392

Deposit Account: £26,503

Dep. Acc. interest:

(Sep £42.94) (Aug £40.61) (Jul £34.56) (June £33.51) (May £30.79) (April £30.04)

(March £26.85) (Feb £21.53) (Jan £19.08) (Dec £15.52)

Chair Clerk Date