

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT CAPEL GAD,
CILCAIN ON 15 DECEMBER 2025**

Present: Chairperson: Karen Parker
Councillors: Pauline Douglas Malcolm Down
John Doyle Gwen Hardman
Gareth W Hughes Ian Hughes
Tim Mitchell Michael Parr
Christine Vaughan J V Worthington
The Clerk was also in attendance

1. CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS

Croeso i bawb i Gyngor Mis Rhagfyr. The Chairperson welcomed Members to the December Meeting. The Chair also extended a welcome to two observers and Flintshire County Councillor Andrew Parkhurst.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - All Members present.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST -

Cllr J Emyr Davies declared an interest in Item 1A) 15/11 in the Correspondence Section.

4. MINUTES OF LAST COUNCIL MEETING - Cllr Ian Hughes proposed, Cllr Gareth W Hughes seconded and all Members present agreed to approve the November 2025 Minutes.

5. MATTERS ARISING -

- p64 Brithdir Mawr Reservoirs - Cllr J V Worthington reported that one salt bin had been provided by Dwr Cymru's Contractor as a result of the recent discussion between Cllr Andrew Parkhurst, Cllr Worthington and Dwr Cymru's Gwenan Davies.
- p64 Antelope Industrial Estate, Rhydymwyn - Large shed still in place. Clerk had received a reply from Flintshire's Planning Enforcement Officer. Enforcement warning notice being pursued by Flintshire CC requesting an application be submitted or the shed be removed.
- p65 Rhydymwyn Flood Protection - proposed camera relocation. NRW's Mr Dafydd Roberts scheduled to meet one of Dwr Cymru's Maintenance Engineers on Wed 19 Dec to discuss progress.
- p65 Vehicle speed results Hendre - Cllr Andrew Parkhurst reported that he had an on-line meeting scheduled with Mr Lee Shone on Wednesday 19 Dec 2025.
- p65 Link Path Rhydymwyn. Cllr Gareth W Hughes maintained the path is in need of cleaning. Clerk to pursue with Mr Neil Hickie.

- p65 Flooding in Hendre - Cllr Karen Parker reported that she had sent a reminder email to Mr Paul Reeves and Waterco to seek an update on the installation of the flow monitors. Quarry Liaison meeting with Tarmac scheduled for week starting 22nd Dec.
- p67 Street Light not working, Cilcain car park - Clerk reported that a new LED lamp had been provided.
- p67 Road and pavement obstruction Hendre - Chair reported that a photograph had been sent to North Wales Police
- p68 Bench for Cilcain cemetery. Offer of a bench from a Cilcain resident. Cllr Ian Hughes and Cllr J V Worthington reported that they were scheduled to meet relative of the seat donor in a few days. Cllr Hughes had already identified a location in the cemetery for a bench.
- p69 Footway near the War Memorial Institute, Rhydymwyn - Cllr Gareth W Hughes had taken a photo of the highway footway near the entrance. Cllr Andrew Parkhurst had sent the photo to Mr Neil Hickie. Cllr Parkhurst will pursue the issue with Mr Hickie.
- p71 Cilcain Bonfire 5 Nov 2025 - Cllr Ian Hughes had been to check the re-seeded area. The grass seed was still in place. Cllr Gareth W Hughes maintained that in Rhydymwyn the ash area was normally seeded twice, once following the bonfire and again in early Spring.
- p71 Draft Biodiversity Plan for Cilcain CC (prepared by the Chair, Cllr J V Worthington and Cllr Malcolm Down).

The Chair explained that the submission prepared had been looked at by Mr Sam Langdon, the local One Voice Wales Biodiversity Officer based in Ruthin. For this year, the idea is to prepare a report to identify what has been done. Mr Langdon will visit all the items already identified in Cilcain CC's submission and visit the sites if necessary to give advice / guidance on each of the listed items.

- p71 Flintshire Streetscene Action Plan, dated 17 November 2025.
- Sheet 1 - The Chair noted that several of the Item Numbers did not include comments on the actions proposed / taken.
- Sheet 2 - Cllr Michael Parr referred to the horizontal rail which had recently come apart again in the top section of Trial Hill galvanised railing. Members also noted that one of the posts mid way up Trial Hill railing had recently been hit and was leaning over. The two issues were probably connected.
- New Items
- (i) Blocked gulleys in Dolfechlas Road need attention
 - (ii) Roadside channel grille on the top side of the Bryn Gollen housing Estate needs cleaning out
 - (iii) Hedge cutting required in Dolfechlas Rd at playing field boundary and by the cemetery.

- (iv) Sweeping in Dolfechlas Rd required.
- (v) Leaves sweeping in Cilcain car park required - either by Oswald Roberts or Flintshire CC's mechanical brush. Cllr Ian Hughes volunteered to clean the leaves by the steps in the next day or two.
- (vi) Members expressed concern regarding the potholed condition of the section of road between Bont Newydd and Pantymwyn. Cllr Parkhurst volunteered to email the Streetscene Supervisor for the Pantymwyn Area.

6. **PLANNING MATTERS** -

- (i) Ref No: Amendments to submitted application FUL/000461/25
 Proposal: Proposed Conversion and Change of Use of Redundant Barns to form 9 Bedroom Holiday Let
 Location: Tyddyn y Gwynt Farm, Rhydymwyn, Mold, CH7 6PE

Cilcain CC has no objection to the application subject to the Planning Officer ensuring that the development does not infringe on any bat conservation regulations.

Members expressed concern that there was insufficient information in the application regarding the bat relocation structure to allow a judgment to be made on the bat conservation aspect of the proposal.

- (ii) Ref No: FUL/000946/25
 Proposal: Re-roofing works to the existing flat roof over the utility, and replace with a pitched roof. also extend the utility area, in line with the existing kitchen.
 Location: Hillcrest, Cilcain, Mold, CH7 5NW

Cilcain CC has **no objection** to the application **subject to** the Planning Officer considering whether or not removal (and not replacing) the down stairs toilet amenity complies with planning guidelines.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1A) 15/11 Concern from a resident regarding the height of the roadside hedge in a section of road between Cilcain Church and the Pump House. (opposite Nyth y Wennol). Members agreed to refer the matter to Mr Neil Hickie. The resident also raised the possibility of providing poppies on lampposts in Cilcain next year. Clerk to contact the Nannerch C C Clerk to obtain an indication of the cost. Clerk to reply to the resident at Nyth y Wennol
- 1B) 17/11 Waen Village Green, Cilcain - Email from the Cilcain CC's Chairperson to Sian Jones at Flintshire CC. Chair reported on the response from Flintshire CC.

- (i) The dog warning signs which had been supplied recently by Mr Kevin Crumplin can be used in any public areas even areas, where there is no specific prohibition in force
- (ii) As owner of the land, Community Councillors have no authority to enforce the requirements depicted on the signs.
- (iii) Regarding evidence of fouling, the matter must be passed on to Flintshire CC Environmental Enforcement team.
- (iv) Defacing of notices - Mr K Crumplin has been asked to assist the Community Council to provide advice on dealing with the defacing issue.
- (v) Regarding threatening dogs, the Council is requested to contact North Wales Police on 999 or 111, depending on the nature and severity of the threat.

Cllr Ian Hughes reported having posted notices on a Friday and the signs had been damaged by the Monday. The Chairperson maintained that even the signs on the roads in Cilcain had been damaged / removed.

- 2) 17/11 New non-return valve fitted by Nant Alyn Mill, Nant Alyn, Rhydymwyn - Information and photo from Mr Neil Hickie. Position noted.
- 3) 18/11 Cilcain Community Council Tax Base 2026-27. Please note that the deadline for responding is 28th January 2026. To enable the Clerk to prepare a draft budget and precept for consideration at the January 2026 Council meeting. Members are requested to advise the Council of any specific items / suggestions that have not already been mentioned at the Council Meetings during the last nine months.
 - (i) Members agreed that the main item to be included in the budget for next year is surfacing the car park in Cilcain
 - (ii) Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported that there is more work to be done in the Institute in Rhydymwyn. Members agreed for an item to be included if possible
 - (iii) Members noted that the Council's precept for the past two years had essentially been a standstill one. This should be taken into account in any discussion regarding accomodating the above two items in the precept.
 - (iv) Cllr Gwen Hardman reported that she had been recently requested to look for the availability of a grant for the car park surfacing. There was no obvious funding available right now, but Cllr Hardman would pursue the grant availability issue further.
- 4) 19/11 FOI response. Copy of the Community Council's Chairperson's response to a Cilcain resident. Position noted.
- 5) 20/11 Report of damaged Keep Wales Tidy sign at Pedair y Groesffordd. Email from a Cilcain resident. Sign repaired / replaced.

- 6) 23/11 Mountain Road drainage, Cilcain. Copy of email from Cllr Andrew Parkhurst to Flintshire CC. Response received 24 Nov. Cllr Parkhurst reported at the meeting:
- (i) Flintshire CC takes the view that there are not many properties at risk of flooding as a result of the issue so a drainage scheme would be difficult to justify on flooding priority grounds.
 - (ii) Cllr Parkhurst indicated that he would try and escalate the issue.
 - (iii) Cllr Parkhurst indicated that another option would be to persuade the residents to submit a petition to Flintshire CC

Observations made by Council Members

- (a) Cllr J V Worthington suggested that one way to get rid of the problem of water crossing the road and freezing on the surface is to lay a pipe from the gulley on the LHS (as one looks up the hill) to a new gulley on the RHS. The highway water would then run down the RHS of the road towards the village.
 - (b) Cllr Gwen Hardman to speak to a local resident to see if he would be prepared to initiate a petition.
- 7) 23/10 Road and footway obstruction, Hendre - Copy of email from Cllr Karen Parker to North Wales Police. Reminder sent on 02 Dec. Item discussed earlier
- 8) 24/11 Moles, Waen field, Cilcain. Concern from a Cilcain resident. Members agreed that Cllr Parker should seek advice from Sam Langdon.
- 9) 24/11 5th November 2025 Bonfire, Cilcain. Concern from a Cilcain resident. The email had been circulated to all Members of the Council.
- (i) Members agreed for the conditions imposed on the size of the bonfire to be reviewed for next year.
 - (ii) Cllr Christine Vaughan maintained the diameter, circumference and shape of the bonfire depended on the materials available for constructing the bonfire.
 - (iii) Members agreed it would not be practical to limit the size and shape of the bonfire to any exact dimensions.
 - (iv) The Chairperson felt the revision of the condition imposed on the bonfire Ctee would need to request the CYFC to be mindful of the amount of damaged area in the Waen Field.
 - (v) Cllr Gwen Hardman maintained that Cilcain always held their bonfire on the 5th Nov regardless of the day of the week. Other communities hold the event on the weekend. If other bonfire events took place on the 5th, the crowds attending the Cilcain event would be less in number.

- (vi) Cllr Gareth W Hughes suggested - If all events took place on the 5th Nov it would impose a greater strain on the emergency services. Also, most residents are working during the week so the bonfire organisers find it more convenient to build the bonfire on a Saturday.
- 10) 24/11 FOI response from a Cilcain resident to the Chairperson's response sent on 19 Nov 2025. Position noted.
- 11) 25/11 Bin suggestion, Pedair y Groesffordd, Cilcain. Email from a Cilcain resident. Members noted that since the location was a cul-de sac it would not be easy for Flintshire CC to service a bin at this location.
- 12) 26/11 Keep Wales Tidy sign repaired. Report from Cilcain resident. Position noted.
- 13) 30/11 Rhydymwyn and Hendre Community Group (RHCG). Thank you note for the Community Council's donation made to fund the defibrillator pads. Members agreed to include a nominal / provisional sum in the Council's budget every year to cover incidental cost for batteries / pads associated with the three defibrillator units the Council currently supports. Nominal sum of £500 agreed.
- 14) 01/12 New artwork for Pedair y Groesffordd. Information from Mr Richard L Jones Suggested map for the Community Council to comment on.
Observations made:
 - (i) Informative and pleasing looking sign.
 - (ii) The words 'you are here' should be moved slightly to the right so that it does not obstruct the Pedair y Groesffordd 'cross roads', the cross roads being useful for visitors to orientate themselves with the roads shown on the map.

Clerk to remind Mr Richard L Jones of the need to repair / replace the Tourist Information Notice Board in the Cilcain Car Park.
- 15) 01/12 Street Light not working at Hendre (lamp opposite Mill Terrace) - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported lamp at Hendre still not working. Another lamp on the A541 on the village side of the Antelope not working. Clerk to pursue with Mr Jamie Bennet at Flintshire CC Street Lighting Section.
- 16) 02/12 Dog Control Signage - Concern from a Cilcain resident. All Members had received a copy. Cilcain CC now awaiting feedback from Mr Kevin Crumplin
- 17) 02/12 A couple of mole hills have recently appeared near the entrance to the Waen Field. Item discussed previously.
- 18) 03/12 Gulleys and soakaways, Loggerheads Rd, Cilcain - Report from Cllr J V Worthington - gulleys and soakaways cleaned out by Flintshire CC. Cllr Worthington reported that Flintshire CC had done a good job. The gulleys and soakaways had been full of silt and mud. Thank you email sent to Mr Hickie.

- 19A) 05/12 Cilcain, Rhydymwyn and Hendre Community Council. Suggestion received from a Cilcain resident. A copy of the email had been forwarded to all Council Members.
- (i) The Cilcain resident was suggesting dividing or splitting the Council into two: One Council would be Cilcain Community Council.
The Other Council would be Hendre and Rhydymwyn Community Council
 - (ii) The Chairperson maintained that a radical proposal would need to be given some thought and that the suggestion could be discussed in the January 2026 Council meeting.
 - (iii) Both the Vice Chair, Cllr Ian Hughes (Cilcain Ward) and Cllr Gareth W Hughes (Rhydymwyn Ward) felt at this time of austerity it would be most inappropriate for the Council to entertain such a proposal. The cost to residents could be nearly doubled.
 - (iv) Cllr Gareth W Hughes maintained the one option that could be looked at is - change the name on the letter heading to reflect that Cilcain Council includes Rhydymwyn and Hendre. This proposal would have zero cost implications to the ratepayer.
 - (v) Cllr Gwen Hardman maintained that splitting the Council would involve a number of issues, including present and historical links, and there would definitely be losses involved.
 - (vi) Cllr Ian Hughes referred to an inaccuracy in the numbers quoted in the email from the resident. Cllr Ian Hughes referred to figures 22 + 37 + 8 add up to 67, not 87 as stated in the resident's email.
- 19B) 05.12 Governance Concern - Another email had been received from a Cilcain resident to express concern regarding the lack of consultation between the Council and residents.
- The Chairperson reported on a list of issues where consultation with residents had taken place. The Chairperson suggested the most appropriate way to respond to the resident would be supply the resident with a full list of recent consultation that had taken place by the Council.
- The Chair envisaged preparing the list in due course.
- 20) 07/12 Proposed Glyndwr National Park - Copy of an extract from Cilcain CC's submission made to NRW as part of the Statutory Consultation process.
A copy of the submission had been emailed to Council Members. Position noted.
- 21) 08/12 New salt bin on Brithdir Mawr Lane.
- Email and photo from Cllr J V Worthington showing a new filled salt bin provided by Dwr Cymru's Contractor, as a result of the recent discussion

between Cllr Andrew Parkhurst, Cllr Worthington and Gwenan Davies, Dwr Cymru. Position noted.

--) -- / -- Salt Bins and Salt Heaps Cilcain.

- (i) Cllr Michael Parr referred to the lack of consultation / discussion this year with Flintshire CC regarding the location of salt heaps. Cllr Parr also referred in particular to the lack of salt heaps this year at Bottom Road, Cilcain.
- (ii) The Chairperson referred to an email and photo received from a Cilcain resident regarding a broken salt bin. The Clerk confirmed that the report had been passed on to Mr Neil Hickie at Flintshire Streetscene. A copy had been sent to Cllr Andrew Parkhurst and all Cilcain Members.

- 22) 08/12 Planning Enforcement - Antelope Industrial Estate, Rhydymwyn - New Shed - request for an update made to Flintshire CC's Planning Enforcement. Reply received on 08 Dec. Planning Enforcement Officer pursuing the matter with the owner.
- 23) 09/12 Free Councillor Training - Information sent to Wendi Patience at One Voice Wales. Item discussed earlier. The Chair reported that one of the training modules she has put her name down for is entitled 'Community Engagement'.
- 24) 09/12 Highway footway A541 by the Gas Depot - Photo from Cllr Gareth W Hughes showing condition of footway. Copy of email Cllr Parkhurst sent to N Hickie. Item discussed earlier.
- 25) 09/12 Loggerheads Rd, Cilcain - Flintshire CC's boundary with Denbighshire CC. Cllr J V Worthington reported (with photo) the verge drainage grip on Flintshire CC's side of the boundary needs cleaning out. Report had been forwarded to Flintshire Streetscene.
- 26) 09/12 Footway from Rhydymwyn to the Institute - Concern email from Rhydymwyn resident received by Cllr Gareth W Hughes. Item discussed earlier.

9. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS** - The accounts scheduled in the appendix were approved.

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting of the Council will be held at Capel Gad, Cilcain (Cilcain Chapel) on Monday 19 January 2026. 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.

Appendix - Payment section not for publication until approved at the Council Meeting

1. Payment of Accounts - (December 2025)

(i)	A E (sal + fixed exp) for Nov 2025	745.85
(ii)	HMRC - PAYE (L.G.A.1972 S112) confirmation of the BACS payment made	118.45
(iii)	Office equipment and stationery - (L.G.A.1972 S111)	141.02
(iv)	AE - web fee	18.00
(v)	Urdd Eisteddfod Anglesey 2026 - donation approved, but not paid, in Nov 2025 Council Meeting	200.00
(vi)	Scottish Power Street Lighting energy - Additional standing charge of £32/ month is now being made by Scottish Power. £32 / month for Nov and Dec. Therefore, total Dec payment = £99.11(estimated monthly charge) + (2 x £32) = £99.11 + £64 = £163.11	163.11
(vii)	Deeco Lighting - repair / replace lamp in Cilcain car park £280 + £56 VAT =	336.00
(vii)	Defibrillator sign for Cilcain Defib at the Village Hall entrance (£95+ VAT). Note - Payment was not made following the November 2025 Council Meeting.	-- --

Please Note: Payment for the above items being made by BACS - authorised by the following two signatories.

Chairperson Vice Chair (or 2nd Councillor)

2. Current Council Bank Balance. Please note that the closing balances in the Council's Bank Accounts on 08 December 2025 were:

Current Account: £156

Deposit Account: £42,784

Chair Clerk Date