

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, CILCAIN 20 JANUARY 2014

Present: **Chairperson:** Cllr W Owen Thomas
 Councillors: Cllr Miss Ann Baker Mrs Janet Butlin
 Cllr J Emyr Davies John S Douglas
 Cllr Mrs Joanna Hobson Cllr D Julian Hughes
 Gareth W Hughes Derek May
 Cllr John White
 The Clerk was also in attendance

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed Members to the January 2014 Council Meeting. The Chairperson also welcomed two Cilcain residents to the Meeting.

2. APOLOGIES - Cllr Mrs Andrea Davies

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST - There were no declaration of interest.

4 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the 20 December 2013 Council Meeting held at the Village Hall Cilcain were confirmed and signed by the Chairperson as being correct.

5. MATTERS ARISING - STREETSCENE MATTERS:

p53 **Pot Holes, Berth Road** - Clerk read out the written response he had received from Mr Lightfoot.

--/-- **Highways General** Annual site meeting to be arranged with Messrs Lightfoot and Charlton. Members referred to the poor condition of the road between Coed Du and Plas Wilkin. The other highway concern which needed raising at the annual walkabout was the water crossing Mountain Road near Greystones.

Members referred to last year's drainage schemes. There were three drainage schemes identified for Cilcain - Berth Road, Cilan Lodge Road and the Trelan culvert. The Community Council were informed when the first two schemes were being undertaken that the Contractor would be returning to undertake the Trelan culvert after completing the other Flintshire schemes. This year's programme will not necessarily include the Trelan culvert as a priority. Issue to be discussed at the annual walkabout meeting.

p53 **Nant Alyn debris on road** - Mr Lightfoot had reported the debris would be cleared when a crew becomes available.

p53 **Cilcain Toilets** - Mrs Sue Jones commented on the high water usage in the Cilcain toilet. Monitoring of the water meter between September 2013 and January 2014 had identified the water consumption at 19,000 litres, the footfall being very low at this period of the year.

Cllr D Julian Hughes maintained the gents urinal system used to flush each time the tank was full. Mrs S Jones and Clerk to check with Flintshire why the automatic detection system was not functioning in the Gents urinal.

- p53 **Dolfechlas Road - concrete ramp** - Mr Lightfoot was in the process of writing to the property owner.
- p54 **Street Lamps A541 Mold side of Bus Shelter** - Mr Lightfoot had forwarded a defective lamp list to the Street Lighting Section.
- p54 **A541 Culvert by Treatment Works** - Clerk reported that the main obstructions had now been cleared by Natural Resources Wales. Further work on tree removal would be required when the woodland was more accessible to tractor equipment. Item to stay on Agenda so the Council could remind NRW when ground conditions improve.
- p54 **Flintshire waste and recycling service** - Whilst the collection service had initially improved, Cllr Derek May maintained the problem with windblown paper during the collection process had started to become an issue once again. Clerk to refer the matter to Mr Lightfoot or Mr Russell Broughton (Recycling Supervisor)
- p54 **Road traffic accidents at Fforrest Farm Junction** Response received from Mr G Powell. Clerk to write to Mr Powell to express the Community Council/s disappointment regarding the 'high skid resistance' surfacing work not been included in last year's list of schemes.
- p54 **Sunken manhole cover, The Pentre** - Cllr Derek May reported the sunken manhole cover mentioned in the December 2013 Council Meeting had now been repaired.
- p55 **BT Openreach works in Cilcain** - An inspection was currently being undertaken by Mr Lightfoot to identify the extent of the repair work required.

5. MATTERS ARISING - GENERAL ITEMS

- p55 **Width restriction Nant Alyn** - Clerk confirmed having sent a reminder to P C Aldous. The Council had been informed in July 2013 that a heavy goods sign was scheduled to be erected on the A541 in Rhydymwyn. Mr Lightfoot had indicated in his report to the Council Meeting - the sign will be erected in a matter of days.
- p55 **Tarmac entrance, Rhydymwyn** - Clerk confirmed having written to Natural Resources Wales to express the Community Council's disappointment regarding NRW taking the view that landfilling on a floodplain would have no detrimental effect on the risk of flooding in Rhydymwyn.
- p55 **Rhydymwyn Play area, skating facility** A site meeting was arranged on Friday 3rd January with Mr Alan Roberts and 3 Rhydymwyn Ward Members to discuss the requirements of the Rhydymwyn Kids Club in terms of the layout and items required to be included in the proposed scheme. Unfortunately, the representative from the Kids Club failed

to attend the site meeting so a decisions regarding any proposed changes to the £28,000 layout could not be considered. Meeting to be re-scheduled for a Saturday morning.

- p55 **Additional Notice Board, Rhydymwyn** - Price lower than previously estimated. New cheque to be issued and the previous check to be cancelled.
- p56 **Trimm Rock Quarry** - Cllr John Douglas to telephone Quarry Management to enquire about the likely timescale for the reinstatement proposals.
- p57 **Meeting at Coed Du Hall** - Meeting to be arranged in Feb / March.
- p58 **Play area sign** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported two signs had been erected on 17 Jan.
- /-- **Play area, Rhydymwyn** - Clerk reported that two separate Tree Lopping Contractors were scheduled to undertake work in the Donley Field in the next few weeks. Work to be done:
- (a) Tree lopping and felling adjoining Winnwood
 - (b) Tree lopping by Ben Rhydding
 - (c) Tree lopping under overhead power line on the back boundary.
- /-- **Heavy Goods Sign A541 Rhydymwyn** - Note received from Flintshire Streetscene Section prior to Council Meeting - Heavy good sign to be erected by Antelope Industrial Estate in next few days.

6. PLANNING MATTERS

Community Council observations requested on -

- (i) Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension
Location: 18 Lon Cilan, Cilcain
Ref No: 051577

The Community Council has **no objection** to the development, subject to the materials used for the extension being in keeping with the existing dwelling and the adjoining properties.

- (ii) Proposal: Retention of external cladding and alterations and extensions
Location: Y Fron Bungalow, Mountain Road, Cilcain
Ref No: 051552

The Community Council has **no objection** to the development.

- (iii) Proposal: Listed Building Application - Conversion of 2no barns into 2no dwellings in association with existing farm
Location: Maes y Groes, Loggerheads Road, Cilcain
Ref No: 051511

The Community Council **fully supports** the development detailed in the Listed Building Application, since the development will considerably enhance the general appearance of the existing premises.

- (iv) Proposal: Replacement of a single storey detached dwelling with a detached dormer dwelling.
Location: Danetre, Loggerheads Road, Cilcain
Ref No: 051602

The Community Council has **no objection** to the proposed development.

- (v) Proposal: Erection of link corridor with utility and insertion of one window into annex building
Location: Barn at Bryn Farm, Plas Yw Road, Nannerch
Ref No: 051666

The Community Council has **no objection** subject to the development not being contrary to any existing planning policy regarding bringing barns into habitable use.

Planning Decisions made by Flintshire County Council: -

- (i) Proposal: Siting of a DIY timber shed /workshop with 2 No undercover car bays on existing garden.
Location: 2 Ty Uchaf, Cefn Road, Cilcain
Ref No. 051420
Decision: Withdrawn
- (ii) Proposal: Application for prior notification for installation of a PCB cabinet
Location: Telephone Exchange, Star Crossing Road , Cilcain
Ref No 051524
Decision: Prior Approval Required / Refuse
Please Note - The Planning Ref No. for this refusal (051524) is different from Ref No. of the application considered by the Community Council on 18 Nov 2013 (051391) and the Refusal Notice (051391) reported to the 16 Dec 2013 Council Meeting.
- (iii) Proposal: Erection of an agricultural building
Location: Mars Alyn, Loggerheads Road, Cilcain
Ref No: 051392
Decision: Approved
- (iv) Proposal: Extension to study
Location: Bwlch Cottage, Bwlch Lane, Mold
Ref No: Approved

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED The following items were considered:

- 04/12 Section 137 Expenditure : Limit for 2014/15 - Information from Welsh Assembly.
16/12 Rhydymwyn Football Club - Letter of thanks for recent donation.
18/12 Buckingham Palace Garden Parties - May / June 2014 - Thirty invitations for Wales Community Council Chairpersons - successful 30 will be drawn from a hat.

- 19/12 Central Point of Contact - Flintshire County Council - Contact Officer for enquiries regarding Flintshire Committees - Tracy Waters - 01352 702331- tracy.waters@flintshire.gov.uk
- /-- MP and Assembly Member - Jan 2014 to March 2014 - surgery details.
- 20/12 Tree cutting, Donkey Field, Rhydymwyn - Information from Scottish Power regarding scheduled tree maintenance work. Item discussed previously.
- 06/01 Summer Playscheme 2014 - Information regarding approximate cost of this year's playscheme from Flintshire Leisure. Grant being applied for.
- 07/01 Resignation of Council Member - Clerk explained the procedure to be followed by the Council regarding the co-option of a new Member. Notice to be posted up in Rhydymwyn for 14 working days. Clerk to write to former Councillor to thank her for the good work she had undertaken during her time as a Councillor.
- 09/01 Development of Community Council Website - new deadline of 'end of Feb' from Flintshire.
- 13 /01 Chair's Annual Charity Ball - Invitation from Flintshire's Chairperson.
- 14/01 Vacancy of a Councillor - Information from Flintshire's Returning Officer. Item discussed previously.
- 16/01 Fforrest Farm junction accidents - update position from Flintshire Traffic Section.
- 16/01 Cilcain Show - Request for permission to use Waen Field. Clerk to approve with the usual conditions.

8. MATTERS RAISED / ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE LAST MEETING:

- (a) **Street Lighting, Rhydymwyn** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported three street lamps not working. Item reported to Mr Andrew Lightfoot at Flintshire Streetscene.
- (b) **Rhydymwyn - proposed skating facility** Item discussed earlier.
- (c) **Rhydymwyn Football Club** - Mr Alan Roberts and three Rhydymwyn Ward Members met Mr Keith Barron on site on Friday 3 January 2014. Water ponding in stone area near the emergency door. Solution identified. Mr Roberts to arrange for the import of fine crusher run material. Football Club volunteers to spread material into depression area.
- (d) **Dolfechlas Road play area sign** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported (14 Jan 2014) the new signs for the play area had been erected by Flintshire.
- (e) **Street Lamp A541 by 40 mph flashing light** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported (15 Jan) lamp out on Denbigh Road in Rhydymwyn. Item reported to Mr Lightfoot at Flintshire Streetscene.
- (f) **Blocked Gully, adjoining Winnwood, Dolfechlas Road** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported (15 Jan) gully blocked by Winnwood. Item reported to Mr A Lightfoot at Flintshire Streetscene.
- (g) **Dolfechlas Road, street lamp out** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported (16 Jan) street lamp not working by the pedestrian entrance gate to the Donkey Field play area.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS / REPORTS - Items raised following the Chairman's permission.

- (i) **Contents for Council's Website** Members considered the draft contents for the Council's Website, and made suggestions for the following additions : Rhyd cemetery, Cilc conservation area, AONB, Rhyd Summer fair, Rhyd Football Club.
- (b) **Village Hall, fire signs** - Cllr May enquired about the Community Council paying for the new fire signs required in the Cilcain Village Hall. Members referred to the Rhydymwyn Football Club having to replace the fire door in the Club premises. Flintshire County Council, being the Landlord for the Football Club premises did not provide financial assistance. Reference was made to the request received from Mr D Johnson last autumn. The Community Council had sponsored a Saturday café event in the Village Hall. Half the proceeds had been donated to the Village Hall, and the other half been donated to the Toilet Voluntary Group. Clerk to seek informal legal advice.
- (c) **Drainage, Coed Du to Plas Wilkin** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported - gulleys need clearing of leaves.
- (d) **Nant Alyn debris on Road** - Cllr Mrs Janet Butlin reported accumulation of debris on road surface in Nant Alyn - Bobcat required.
- (e) **22 - 23 Llys Alyn Rhydymwyn** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported moss growth on the footway surface, resulting in the footway being slippery.
- (f) **Tree surgery required in Rhydymwyn cemetery** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes referred to the need for tree surgery near the water indicator post. Blooming Gardens to undertake lopping work. Cllr Hughes and Cllr J White to assess extent of work required.
- (g) **25 Ffordd y Llan, gulley blocked** - Cllr Mrs J Hobson indicated the problem had been reported previously, but the gulley was still blocked. Item to be reported again to Flintshire Streetscene.
- (h) **Crime Commissioner for North Wales** - Cllr Dereck May reminded the Council of the need to take the Quod Bike thefts issue up with North Wales Police.

10. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS** - Accounts scheduled in the Appendix were approved.

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** -

The next meeting of the Council will be held at the Village Hall, Cilcain on 17 February 2014.

Signed
Chairman

Date

Clerk

APENDIX - MATTERS OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE - NOT FOR PUBLICATION

1. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

(i)	Canon Photo copy machine (1 st Feb 2014 - 30 April 2014)	127.04
(ii)	A Evans - Office equip + stationery (Amazon) (L.G. A.1972 S111)	139.06
(iii)	Customs and Excise PAYE - salary £4,200/12 = £350/m. Tax = 350 x 0.2 = £70 (L.G. A.1972 S112)	70.00
(iv)	Rhydymwyn Football Club - Hire of Hall fees for 2013 summer 4 No Council meetings and 1 No Flood Ctee meeting	85.00
(v)	A Evans - Expenses for two months (1 st Nov 2013 to end Dec 2013) 2541/6 = £423	423.00
(vi)	Rhydymwyn Service Station - donation towards cost of Notice Board (LGA 1972 s137) Clerk will report. Revised invoice much less than the £250 cheque made out in December 2013 Council Meeting. Previous cheque to be cancelled.	160.00
(vii)	Cilcain Village Hall Mang Ctee - donation towards contents insurance	227.15
(viii)	A Evans - office stationery (Asda)	59.70
(ix)	Zurich Municipal - Insurance premium	2,097.19
(x)	Cilc Village Hall Mang Ctee - service charge for toilet (6 months 1/Jan /2013 to 31/Dec 2013. Members may wish to note £250 payment will be forthcoming from Flintshire for operating the toilet for 6 months.	267.93
(xi)	Registration of Website. Members should note - total cost of website can be recovered from Welsh Assembly before end of Feb 2014	130.80

NB - The Clerk's was paid the incorrect salary in the December 2013 Council Meeting. The salary item had not deducted the normal PAYE payments. An appropriate deduction will be made in the February 2014 Council Meeting salary payment.

2.0 BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS FOR 2014/2015

Flintshire C C's part of the Council Tax has not yet been decided. Last year Flintshire's Council Tax increased by 2.9%. Last year Community Council precept increase was 3 %.

The table below shows how the 'Council Balance' has changed against the 'Precept' over the last 20 years.

Members noted that the 'Balance' figure had been climbing reasonably steadily from £152 at the end of 1994/1995 to £9,456 in 2001/2002. In 2000/2001 the precept was lowered by £1,000 and the balance then dropped to approximately £3,000. The Council then had to increase the precept by a substantial percentage, over and well above inflation, each year to bring the balance back up to the £12,000 level.

Financial year	Precept £	End of year Balance in Bank £
2013/2014	19,900	7,347 (estimated)
2012/2013	19,300	10,020
2011/2012	18,750	13,317
2010/2011	18,500	11,262
2009/2010	18,200	8,080
2008/2009	17,730	6,366
2007/2008	16,460	3,424
2006/2007	15,000	3,190
2005/2006	14,150	3,561
2004/2005	13,650	9,889
2003/2004	13,000	7,885
2002/2003	12,500	7,619
2001/2002	12,000	9,456
2000/2001	13,000	8,466
1999/2000	13,000	9,406
1998/1999	13,000	7,810
1997/1998	13,000	6,956
1996/1997	13,000	7,316
1995/1996	12,500	5,033
1994/1995	12,500	152

An item which has recently been discussed by the Council is the wall at Rhydymwyn Donkey Field. The cost of re-building this wall, in the event of a failure, would pose quite a problem, without the Council having an adequate balance. A 'balance' should be used as a contingency, and not used to accommodate a cost which the Council knows is likely to occur.

The estimates for 2014/2015 does not include for any repairs to the Village Hall which may become necessary. These estimates do not include for any contribution to any grant applications proposed by the Village Hall Committee. Members noted that £1,120 has been included in the 'Community Facilities and Playscheme' heading to accommodate the new skating facility proposed for Rhydymwyn. £500 has also been included to assist the Cilcain Toilet voluntary group.

Increasing the Community Council's precept by 5 % will increase the precept to £20,900. The estimated balance of £9,838 at the end of 2014/2015 will be close to the target balance of £10,000 agreed by the Council in the December 2013 Council Meeting.

Resolution: The draft budget and precept requirement which had been circulated to Members with the Agenda was agreed by the Council. The budget details are shown on page 61 of these Minutes.