

Regular JCB meetings had been tried before, but unfortunately JCB meetings did not work.

DEFRA meeting the stakeholders in a separate meeting, on a once per year basis was an option.

DEFRA had given permission for a two metre strip around the listed building to be cleared.

Last Stakeholder Meeting was attended by Cllr W Owen Thomas and Clerk in November 2012.

Members agreed the lack of consultation with stakeholders was of concern

Clerk to write to MP to express the Council's concern regarding inadequate consultation meetings

- p52 **Potholes, bottom of Nant Alyn** - Mr A Lightfoot had reported - Flintshire have just completed considerable works on the Rhydymwyn Straight (A541). Flintshire are scheduled to provide a complete overlay from Coed Du to Plas Wilkin. In view of the financial constraints – Flintshire is unlikely to approve an additional patching scheme for Nant Alyn. However, Mr Lightfoot would carry out maintenance repairs when availability permits.
- p52 **Rhydymwyn Flood Committee** - Clerk to arrange a Flood Committee Meeting.
- p52 **Pot Holes, Berth Road and potholes in general** - Mr Lightfoot reported - overlay works completed as scheduled.
- p52 **Repair to tarmac around water cover near Glasfryn** - Mr A Lightfoot had submitted a report to indicate that he had provisionally pencilled in to attend to any urgent repairs at the Pentre in the next 2 weeks.

Cllr Derek May was concerned that some roads in Cilcain that had no passing traffic, with the road not going to anywhere in particular, were being surfaced to motorway standards. Down at the Pentre, the road was falling apart, and the potholes had not been attended to for months. Cllr May maintained that tractors will not be able to use the road before too long.

The Chairperson maintained the Community Council often had to wait for several years for a road before surfacing takes place. The Plas Wilkin to Coed Du road had been on the Community Council's Agenda for two or three years, but eventually things look promising for Plas Wilkin.

Cllr Miss Ann Baker maintained it was up to Flintshire to decide which roads are to be surfaced and which roads are to be patched.

Nevertheless, Cllr May felt that roads going nowhere should not have priority over through roads.

Cllr W Owen Thomas referred to Berth Road being signposted to the Cilcain viewpoint.

Member agreed the Council should continue to press for all roads in poor condition to be repaired and resurfaced. It was up to Flintshire to take a final decision on priorities.

p52 **Coed Du to Plas Wilkin** - Mr Lightfoot had reported - full overlay Coed Du Hospital to Coed Du Farm has received internal approval. Cllr W Owen Thomas confirmed having been informed that £54,000 had now been allocated to surface this section of road. Cllr Gareth W Hughes confirmed having walked the length with Mr Lightfoot that morning. Mr Lightfoot's attention had been drawn to a wall damage nearly opposite the Coed Du Bath House.

p52 **Cilcain Toilets** - Meeting to be arranged with Mr Charlton in the next few weeks. Door handles had been fixed to thin tongue and groove door panels with no proper support at the back of the door. Members felt the contractor should be requested to provide adequate timber bracing to accept the handles. One of the downpipe brackets had not been fixed very well. The wall fixing hole on one side of the bracket was approximately three quarters of an inch out of horizontal alignment with the hole on the other side of the bracket. This misalignment had imposed an unnecessary twisting stress on the thin plastic bracket.

Mrs Sue Jones had received an e-mail from Flintshire to suggest that the toilet hand over had already taken place.

Members agreed, once the final repair works have taken place there will be a meeting to agree that all works are complete. The Council can then write to Flintshire to confirm the agreed works are acceptable.

Regarding the invoice received from the Village Hall Management Committee, Cllr W Owen Thomas questioned the electricity bill. Mr Scholes explained that the service corridor sub metre is currently running backwards, but the defective metre is going to be looked at, with a view to repair or a replacement metre provided.

Mr Scholes explained there is sub-meter in place for the bowling green as well as the toilet block, and the deductions from the main Village Hall supply metre is used to allocate the bill to each party.

Mr Scholes explained that standing charges is shared between the Village Hall and the toilet block on a 50/50 basis.

Members felt the Village Hall Management Committee should look again at the unfair way the new Clean 'n Lock volunteer group was being billed for standing charges. Cllr Thomas felt there was no comparison between the electricity consumption used in the Village Hall and the toilet block.

Regarding the cost of dealing with the wasp nest, Members agreed to give a 100% donation towards the cost. The Clerk read out the paragraph in the lease that the Village Hall Committee was responsible for repair and maintenance of 'the premises'. However, that condition in the lease did not prevent the Community Council from giving a full 'donation'. The lease did not distinguish between the fabric of the building and the contents. The word 'Premises' includes both building and contents.

The Clerk maintained that the misunderstanding between the 'building' and 'contents' may have arisen because of the way the insurance premium was being paid. Prior to 15 years ago, the Community Council paid the total insurance bill for the building and the contents. The Council

had a presentation from a Zurich representative, who explained the Community Council should not be paying for the contents. The committee who operates the building should pay for the contents. The VHMC controls the way in which the building is used.

To comply with the Insurance Company's condition, the VHMC had to pay the contents premium. Since that insurance separation time, the Council have subsequently given a full 'donation' towards the contents insurance premium.

- p53 **Flintshire Streetscene, general** - Item not discussed :
Sunday Working option
Lon Cilan hedge
Area Changes for Supervisors
- p53 **Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd, Flint, 2016, fund raising** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes gave Members an update on the fundraising activities of the local fund raising group. The next Village Hall Saturday café event is scheduled for 21 February 2015.
- p53 **Cilcain Play area refurbishment** - Clerk reported on his discussion with Flintshire – no match funding fixed for next year, Clerk to pursue match funding by Landfill Tax.
- p53 **Revision of Cemetery Fees** - Clerk to pursue revision of Fees.
- p53 **Rhydymwyn Play area refurbishment** - Clerk reported on his discussions with Flintshire Leisure. No carry over to next year. Clerk to pursue Landfill Tax match funding. Flintshire's match funding allocation next year is likely to be used to encourage Community Councils to accept the playing area function.
- p46 **Street Lighting Rhydymwyn, lamp day burning - Street lamps, A541, Rhydymwyn to Hendre** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported - the eight street lamps which were last reported to Flintshire in December 2014 (between Hendre and Rhydymwyn) had now increased to 'eleven'. Report had been sent to Mr Darell Jones in Flintshire's Street Lighting Section. No change to lamp day burning by the Service Station. Mr Lightfoot had sent the Clerk a note to indicate Flintshire was still having difficulties in arranging Traffic Management due to gritting callouts and the trained operatives being on winter rotas. Cllr Miss Ann Baker maintained that the dark patches on the bends near Hendre were particularly hazardous. Chairperson maintained another letter should be sent if the repair works is not undertaken in the next two weeks.
- p53 **Rhydymwyn Football Club, dog fouling signs** - The enlarged A4 signs supplied by Mr Andrew Lightfoot at the November Council Meeting had now been laminated. Signs still required to indicate 'No dogs allowed in the Playing Field'. Clerk to pursue with Mr A Roberts in Flintshire Leisure. Two signs required - one for the Dolfechlas Road access and one for the A541 access. Signs to be dropped off at Rhydymwyn Service Station.
- p53 **Additional dog bins** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported having had a site meeting with Mr A Lightfoot on the morning of the Council Meeting, and agreed a suitable position for the dog bin in the highway verge near the grassed triangular area by Plas Wilkin Farm. Mr A Lightfoot had been requested to look at the feasibility of placing the second bin where the telephone kiosk in Hendre used to be located.

- p53 **Parking in Hendre** - Item not discussed.
- p53 **River Walk, River Alyn** - Clerk reported having written again to Natural Resources Wales regarding the need to remove the fallen tree resting on the main inlet sewer into the works. Chiara had explained to the Clerk that there had been issues with the access track into the works, thus making it difficult to tanker away surplus sludge from the final sludge settlement tanks. Clerk to pursue.
- p54 **Width restriction sign, Bont Newydd** - Mr A Lightfoot had reported to the Clerk - Item not a high priority, but will be dealt with when availability allows.
- p54 **Cilcain Seats** - Clerk confirmed that the P and A seat recently purchased by Cllr Derek May was of a very good quality. Cllr W Owen Thomas to check the position by calling at P and A. Cllr Gareth W Hughes to enquire regarding the origin of the inscription plaque recently fixed to the new seat at Rhydymwyn cemetery. Clerk to check on the inscriptions used previously on previous Council commemoration seats.
- p54 **Surfacing undertaken by Tarmac entrance on A541** - Item can now be deleted
- p54 **Water Pumping Station, Pentre, Cilcain** - Clerk contacting Mr John Powell in Welsh Water's Cardiff Office. Welsh Water to paint over the silver / white area with a grey colour (as close as possible to the original grey).
- p54 **Welsh Water re-instatement near Star Crossing** - Item can now be deleted.
- p54 **Cilcain Village Hall** - Members felt it was more appropriate for the Village Hall Management Committee to consider a total renovation, to include new windows, eaves timbers etc. Members did not consider the one window to the left of the entrance door to be dangerous. Council to recommend to the Village Hall Ctee that consideration be given to requesting Mr Jon Bateson to assess the total requirement for refurbishing the building. Photographs of the various external items which will need attention in due course were available at the Council Meeting.
- p55 **Heavy goods sign, Rhydymwyn** - Clerk confirmed having written to Mr Gerwyn Powell regarding the ambiguous Heavy Goods sign near the Antelope in Rhydymwyn.
- p57 **Church Meadow, depression in footway** Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported having met Mr A Lightfoot on the morning of the Council Meeting and drawn his attention to the depression. Mr Lightfoot had subsequently submitted a note to the Clerk - AI had assessed no immediate danger and will monitor,
- p57 **Damage to wooden bollards at Bont Newydd** - Clerk reported having sent Cllr May's photographs to Flintshire Streetscene, Mr Lightfoot had reported – In view of the continued damage to the bollards, Flintshire does not consider it viable or cost effective to pursue an insurance claim.

7. PLANNING MATTERS

Community Council observations requested on: -

- (i) Proposal: Application to vary condition No 12 attached to planning permission ref: 051375 in relation to materials to be used for hard standing areas
 Location: Fron Farm, Rhesycae Road, Hendre
 Ref No: 052918
 The Community Council has **no objections** to the proposal.
- (ii) Proposal: Erection of crematorium building with associated car parking, new access landscaping and garden of rest
 Location: Land east of A2119 and south of Tyddyn Starkey, Starkey Lane, Northop
 Ref No: 053025
 Resolved: The Community Council **fully supports** the application for the following reasons:
 (a) The site has good access from the A55 expressway without crematorium traffic having to go through local villages.
 (b) The facility of a crematorium in Flintshire is well overdue.
- (iii) Proposal: Siting of mobile home for use in connection with main dwelling
 Location: Swyn yr Awel, Loggerheads Road, Cilcain
 Ref No: 053034
 Resolved: The Community Council **supports** the development, because there is a clear agricultural need for the accommodation.
- (iv) Proposal: Application for prior notification of agricultural development - erection of new building
 Location: Plas Wilkin Farm, Rhydymwyn, Mold
 Ref No: 053127
 Resolved: The Community Council **supports** the application, because there is a clear agricultural need for the development to improve the amenity of the farm and adjoining public highway.
- (v) Proposal: Application for prior notification of agricultural development - erection of new building
 Location: Ysgubor Goch (Plas Newydd Barn), Pen Line Road, Cilcain
 Ref No: 053128
 Resolved: The Community Council **supports** the application, because there is a clear agricultural need for the development.

Planning Decisions made by Flintshire County Council:

- (i) Location: Y Llety, Pen Line Road, Cilcain
 Proposal: Installation of 6kw wind turbine (hub height 9m, tip height 11.8m)
 Ref No: 052726
 Decision: Approved
- (ii) Proposal: Listed Building Application - conversion of existing outbuildings into two dwellings
 Location: Maes y Groes Bella, Loggerheads Road, Cilcain

Ref No: 051817
Decision: Approved

- (iii) Proposal: Conversion of existing outbuildings into two dwellings
Location: Maes y Groes Bella, Loggerheads Road, Cilcain
Ref No: 051816
Decision: Approved

8. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED The following items were considered:

- 21/12 Eisteddfod yr Urdd, 2016 - Thank you letter for donation.
- 31/12 Cilcain Village Hall - request for insurance donation etc. Donation approved.
- 05/01 Co-option for vacancy - No call for an election - Council can now co-opt new Cilcain Ward Member. Co-option Notice to be posted on Notice Board.
- 05/01 Cilcain Bowling Club - Information from Flintshire regarding ownership and the various leases involved. Members recalled that that the Bowling Club had been included in Flintshire's original Asset Transfer List to transfer ownership from Flintshire to the Community Council. The Council had taken the view that Flintshire's Asset Transfer list was not entirely accurate. However, to be on the safe side, enquiries were made with Flintshire's Legal Section to confirm that the land and building is owned by the Community Council. Members noted that the cover page (attached to the Agenda) of the 25 year lease from Cilcain Community Council to Delyn Borough Council (now Flintshire County Council) was dated 22 March 1996. Flintshire will need to study this lease and decide whether or not they wish to pursue early termination of the lease. Members agreed that the Community Council do not need to take any action at present.
- 06/01 Zurich Municipal - annual insurance premium.
- 06/01 Erection of crematorium, Northop - request from Edward Davies for support for the Northop proposal. Item dealt with under Planning Matters.
- 08/01 WI - 'Cilcain's Century of Memories' project - information giving update on grant application. Mrs Gwen Hardman reported at the Council Meeting on the grant application made to the Heritage Lottery (Approx. £9,000) and the AONB.
- 09/01 Proposed tree cutting at Dolfechlas Road Play area, Rhydymwyn - Information and request for permission. Permission given. Members referred to the base of the stone boundary wall being undermined and this problem had been identified and included in Flintshire Streetscene programme of commitments following one of the recent annual inspections. Clerk to remind Mr Lightfoot of the need to repair.
- 12/01 Asset Transfer Procedures - Clarification from Mr Neal Cockerton, Flintshire's Chief Officer (Organisational Changes). Since Mr Cockerton has added his responses to the e-mail sent to Flintshire dated 14 Dec 2014, a copy of the Community Council's 15 Dec letter was also attached to the correspondence to enable Members to clearly distinguish between the clarification questions posed to Flintshire and the Flintshire's responses to each topic item. Regarding the Football Club - Clerk to write to Mr N Cockerton to suggest that any Asset Transfer discussions should be directly between Flintshire and the Football Club.
- 12/01 Community Asset Transfer - Further information from Flintshire regarding asset transfer.
- 14/01 Holywell Town Council, Asset Transfer meeting - Invitation to a meeting of twelve Town and Community Councils to discuss each community authority's approach to Flintshire's proposals. Since there are numerous unanswered questions regarding Flintshire's proposal, it was initially felt it would be useful for the Chair and Clerk to attend. However, the Clerk had spoken to the Town Clerk of Holywell. The presentation by Flintshire was likely to concentrate

mainly on the Holywell Leisure Centre. Therefore, Members felt there was no need for the Chair and Clerk to attend.

15/01 Damage to bollards at Bont Newydd - Information from Mr A Lightfoot (Flintshire Streetscene) Item discussed earlier.

15/01 Pothole repair, Rhydymwyn Service Station - information from Flintshire regarding repair. Cllr Gareth W Hughes confirmed works completed.

9. MATTERS RAISED / ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE LAST MEETING:

- (i) **Street Lamp, Hendre** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported (17 Dec 2014) lamp not working at junction of Dolfechlas Road and the A541. Fault reported to DEECO. Cllr Gareth W Hughes had reported on 03 Jan 2015 - lamp repaired.
- (ii) **Street Lamp out outside No 17 Nant Alyn, Rhydymwyn** - Cllr John S Douglas reported lamp out. Fault reported to Deeco. Cllr Gareth W Hughes had reported on 03 Jan 2015 - lamp repaired.
- (iii) **Potholes, Ffordd y Llan, Cilcain** - Cllr W Owen Thomas reported the worsening condition of a series of potholes outside the shop at Cilcain - Item reported to Streetscene.
- (iv) **Llys Alyn, Rhydymwyn** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported a series of street lamps out on the Llys Alyn Estate (from Dolfechlas Road down towards the former school). Item reported to Flintshire Streetscene. Mr Jamie Bennett reported back on 05 Jan to indicate that the fuse repeatedly blows on the connected supply for four lamps. Mains supply fault suspected - reported to Scottish Power. Clerk and Cllr Hughes to monitor.
- (v) **Street lamp out adjoining bus shelter in Ffordd y Llan Cilcain** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes had reported (05 Jan 2015) lamp not working. Fault reported to Deeco.
- (vi) **Bath House, Coed Du Hall** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes had reported (05 Jan 2015) a crack in the stone lintel above one of the openings in the Bath House. Since this building is of historical interest and possibly attracts the occasional visitor, it was considered appropriate to bring the potential danger to the attention of Flintshire's Conservation Section. Item reported to Miss Diane Strong at Flintshire. Miss Strong was hoping to make a site inspection fairly soon.
- (vii) **Mountain Road, Cilcain, Ice across carriageway** - Cllr J Emyr Davies had reported (5 Jan) the recurring problem of ice across the carriageway, as a result of water discharging from the roadside gully on the LHS (travelling up hill). Clerk confirmed having e-mailed Mr Lightfoot regarding this problem. Mr Lightfoot had reported verbally on the position: Options considered
 - (i) Excavate around the gully to try and revive the swallow hole.
 - (ii) A permanent solution is a new sewer down Mountain Road as far as the Village Hall car park. (Approx. cost £21,000).
 - (ii) Construct a soakaway under the carriageway (Approx. cost £18,000). Prior to constructing a soakaway, a trial hole would be required to assess the bedrock's suitability for a soakaway.

The solution suggested by the Community Council was to provide a channel across the road, with a grid on the surface, from the blocked gully on the left hand side (LHS) to the gully on the opposite side of the road. A surface grid across would prevent surface water crossing the road and forming an ice sheet at this location. The County Council does not favour a pipe or a grid across the road, because such a provision would not be not regarded as a conventional solution.

Cllr W Owen Thomas to speak to Mr Charlton regarding this problem and to arrange a site meeting if necessary.

- (viii) **Street lamps, A541, Rhydymwyn to Hendre** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported on 13 Jan 2015 - the eight street lamps which were last reported to Flintshire on the 17 December 2014 between Hendre and Rhydymwyn have now increased to 'eleven'. Item discussed earlier.
- (ix) **Pot hole Rhydymwyn Service Station** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes reported (14 Jan) repairs by Flintshire Streetscene operatives completed.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS / REPORTS -

- (i) **Overhanging trees, Ffordd y Llan** - Cllr J Emyr Davies reported the overhanging trees in Ffordd y Llan, especially in the vicinity of Cilan Lodge, needing cutting back. Cllr Davies maintained that high sided vehicles are not able to keep to the edge of the road, and tend to travel nearer the road centreline, thus creating a potential highway safety hazard. Clerk to inform Flintshire Streetscene.
- (ii) **Overhanging tree by Bier House** - Cllr J Emyr Davies and Clerk referred to an ornamental type tree located in the highway verge and overhanging into the highway. Clerk to pursue with Flintshire Streetscene.
- (iii) **Council Meeting held in Village Hall** - Cllr W Owen Thomas maintained the Council Meetings had traditionally been held in the Committee Room. Last month and this month, the meeting had to be held in the main Hall, which was much colder, noisier and not as convenient. Cllr Derek May to take the matter up with the Village Hall Mang Ctee.
- (iv) **Minutes on website** - Cllr Miss Ann Baker had noticed a reference on the village website to the Council Minutes not being on the Council Website since April 2014. Clerk to pursue.

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

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - The next meeting of the Council will be held on 16 February 2015 at the Village Hall, Cilcain.

APPENDIX - MATTER OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE - NOT FOR PUBLICATION

1. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

(i)	A Evans - sal + expenses (Nov 2014) (Sal = £360/m)	501.25
(ii)	Cilcain Village Hall Management Committee - annual insurance	227.15
(iii)	A Evans - Amazon - office equipment + stationery	138.06
(iv)	Cilcain Village Hall Mng Ctee - annual service charges - elec £116.93 + Water - £288.80	405.73
(v)	A Evans - Asda - office equip + stationery	79.55
(vi)	Zurich - annual insurance premium	2,142.34
(vii)	H M Revenue and Customs	72.00
(viii)	Cilcain Village Hall - wasp nest destruction	55.00
(ix)	Deeco - replacement lantern - Ffordd y Llan, Cilcain	511.20
(x)	Canon photocopying machine (01.02.2015 to 30.04.2015)	127.04
(xi)	Scottish Power - energy charges	251.50

2.0 SUGGESTED BUTGET AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS FOR 2015/2016

Last year Flintshire's Council Tax increased by 3 %. Last year Community Council precept increase was 5 %. The table below shows how the 'Council Balance' has changed against the 'Precept' over the last 20 years.

Financial year	Precept £	End of year Balance in Bank £
2014/2015	20,900	11,970 (Estimated)
2013/2014	19,900	10,066
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

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.

At the Community council Meeting on 15 December 2014 discussions took place regarding the uncertainty regarding the timing of the asset transfer from Flintshire to the Community Council. The Clerk had been requested to prepare the budget based on the total possible requirements in terms of grass cutting of the cemeteries, play areas and the playing field, but to increase the precept by 50% of the total requirement and the other 50% to be taken out of the Councils balances.

Increasing the Community Council's precept by 7.2 % will increase the precept by £1,500 to £22,4 00.

The estimated balance at the end of 2015/2016 will be £9,459.

Members noted that the Council's precept was £12,500 in 1994.

It was noted, adjusted for UK inflation between 1994 and 2015 would result in the precept being £22,222, whereas the Council precept increase over the same 20 year period has been kept well below UK inflation arriving at £20,900 in March 2015.

Also, the Council balance during that period has increased from £152 in 1994 to £11,970 (estimated) for March 2015.

Cllr Gareth W Hughes and Clerk had obtained a budget price for grass cutting from P and W, Mold.

Cllr Gareth W Hughes referred to his current 'band G' rate demand for the Community Council being £47.08 per year, which is less than £1 per week. If the precept is increased by 7.2 %, the weekly amount paid towards the Community Council will still be below £1 per week.

The precept form received from Flintshire showed the tax base for Cilcain having increased slightly this year, so that the 7.2 % precept increase demanded by the Community Council will result in a 6.9% increase demanded from the rate payer.

The tax base increase had been more pronounced last year and had the effect of reducing the 5% increase in the Council precept to 3.65% increase in the rate demand issued to the Community Council ratepayer.

Cllr Gareth Hughes **proposed the Council accepts the recommended draft precept of £22,400.**
Cllr J Emyr Davies seconded the proposal and the remaining Members, apart from one objection, agreed with the proposal.

Cllr W Owen Thomas referred to the possibility of residents being asked to pay for the brown bin collection next year.

SignedChair Date Clerk