

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CILCAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT CILCAIN VILLAGE HALL ON 19 OCTOBER 2015

Present: **Chairperson:** Mrs Janet Butlin
 Councillors: J Emyr Davies John Douglas
 Ian N Hughes Derek May
 Mrs Susan Sawyer W Owen Thomas
 The Clerk was also in attendance

1. CHAIRPERSON'S OPENING REMARKS

Cllr Mrs Janet Butlin took the chair in the absence of Miss Ann Baker and Cllr Gareth W Hughes. The Chairperson welcomed all, in both English and Welsh, to the October 2015 Council Meeting. The Chairperson welcomed two Cilcain residents (Mrs Sue Jones and Mrs Gwen Hardman) to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES - Cllr Miss Ann Baker, Cllr Mrs Andrea Davies, Cllr Mrs Joanna Hobson, Cllr Gareth W Hughes

Absent - Cllr John White

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST - None received.

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the 21 September 2015 Council Meeting held at the Rhydymwyn Football Club premises were confirmed and signed by the Chairperson as being correct.

5. MATTERS ARISING including the following items:

p24 **Potholes at the Pentre / Loggerheads Road, Cilcain** - Mr Ian Williams reported that pot-hole repairs in this area were still ongoing.

p24 **Potholes, Nant Alyn** - Mr I Williams reported he had not yet identified the two worst lengths of road in the Cilcain and Rhydymwyn area that would be considered for re-surfacing this year.

p24 **Gulleys in Berth Road** - Mr I Williams and Cllr W Owen Thomas had checked the gulleys in Berth Road. The new gulleys needed cleaning out.

-- **Bwlch Lane, highway surface water discharging into private yard.** Cllr Derek May reported on the need to look into this complaint. Mr Williams had investigated. Entrance kerb line to be raised.

p25 **Coed Du to Plas Wilkin** - Mr I Williams reported the leaves in the channel had been cleared. However, a build-up of leaves was regularly re-occurring at this location near the Bath House.

p25 **Seepage by Bryn Teg (between Coed Du Hall entrance and the Caravan Site)** Mr Williams reported having inspected the seepage. Water samples might be appropriate. Clerk maintained

that Natural Recourses Wales should be asked to put the location on their watch list for regular sampling. Mr Williams to pursue.

- p25 **The Graig to Coed Du entrance** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes and Cllr Mrs Janet Butlin had reported in the September Meeting that edge repair work had been done. Item can now be removed from the Agenda.
- p25 **Cilcain Toilets** - Mrs Sue Jones of Cilcain Clean 'N Lock had previously reported the problem of highway surface water flowing into the Village Hall car park entrance from the highway. Mr Williams had investigated and agreed that the kerb line would benefit from lifting by a couple of inches.
- p25 **Lon Cilan hedge, Cilcain** - Mr Williams reported having inspected the hedge. Two lamp columns were affected, but Mr Williams was satisfied that recent cutting of the hedge by the owner meant the street lamps were no longer obstructed.
- p25 **Street Lighting, A541, Rhydymwyn** - Mr I Williams reported that 32 lams had recently been identified as not working between in the section of the A541 between Mold and Nannerch. Five days of repair work had started in the Mold end of the section two weeks ago. Unfortunately, the repair team had to be diverted to other work, when they had reached the Rhosesmor Junction. Traffic Management was again being arranged for this week.
- p25 **General weed growth in roadside channels** - Item can now be deleted.
- p25 **Additional dog bin, Brithdir Lane, Cilcain** - Item can now be deleted.
- p25 **Church Meadow, depression in footway opposite No 7** - Members felt the item should still stay on the Council's Agenda. Mr Ian Williams reported that an inspection of this road and footway was due this coming month.
- p25 **Repair to boundary wall, Donkey Field** - Position to be monitored further by Cllr Gareth W Hughes in heavy / severe rain conditions.
- p26 **Potholes, Ffordd y Llan, Cilcain** - Cllr W Owen Thomas reported the pot-hole at Crown Farm had not been repaired. Cllr J Emyr Davies reported a pothole near the Tyn y Caeau entrance needing repair. Mr Williams to pursue.
- p26 **Mountain Road, Cilcain, ice across carriageway** - Cllr J Emyr Davies reminded Mr Williams of the need to deal with the poor drainage at Mountain Road, whereby water flows across the carriageway from one blocked gulley to the gulley on the opposite roadside channel. Cllr J Emyr Davies maintained the item had been on the Council's Agenda for at least eight years, and no progress had been made to alleviate the potential danger.
- Mr Williams indicated he would familiarise himself with this longstanding problem.
- p26 **Overhanging trees Ffordd y Llan** - Cllr J Emyr Davies had reported in the Sept 2015 Council Meeting having followed the school bus entering the village from the Star Crossing direction. The bus had to keep to the middle of the road to avoid the overhanging trees.

Cllr Davies felt these overhanging trees could result in an accident. Mr Williams reported he had undertaken a joint inspection with Mr Dewi Ellis (Flintshire Tree Officer).

The trees needing to be cut back had been identified. Mr Williams anticipated the work would be done before Christmas.

- p26 **Water ponding near top of Trial Hill** - Grip into the field probably blocked.
Cllr W Owen Thomas felt the road has been sinking and needed to be lifted, or a gully provided with a connection into the field. The depression holding water was on the right hand side of the road as one approached Cilcain from Pantymwyn (in the dip in the road). The location was also on the Cilcain side of the top of Trial Hill. Mr Ian Williams to pursue.
- p26 **Water Works, Pentre, Cilcain (need for painting first reported to 20 Oct 2014 Council Meeting)** - Item can now be deleted from Agenda.
- p26 **Water Works, Pentre (need to have a larger bin first discussed at 20 July 2015 Council Meeting)**. Mr Ian Williams and Cllr Derek May confirmed that the larger bin was now in place. Item can now be deleted.
- **Dog bin, entrance to millennium wood** - Cllr Derek may reported that the dog bin just inside the entrance to the Millennium wood was not being emptied. Mr Ian Williams to check if this bin is on Flintshire's bin emptying schedule.
- p26 **Heavy goods sign, A541 Rhydymwyn** - Item can now be deleted.
- p27 **The Graig to Coed Du entrance** - Mr Ian Williams to arrange for the longitudinal cracks in carriageway to be sealed to prevent further deterioration. Mr Williams intended to use a liquid sealer, which has a low enough viscosity to seep into the cracks.
- p27 **Dolfechlas Road, blocked gully near the Berllan** - Mr Williams reported the gully and connection had recently been cleaned out. Item can now be deleted.
- p27 **Dolfechlas Road, untidy roadside verge near Football Club** - Item can now be removed from Agenda.
- p27 **Nant Alyn Road, Rhydymwyn, blocked gully** - Item can now be removed from Agenda.
- p27 **Star Crossing Road, untidy verge at the Quarry Road junction** - Cllr J Emyr Davies reported that the verge area at this junction had now been trimmed and looked very tidy. Item can now be removed from Agenda.
- p27 **Star Crossing / A541 junction** - In the September Council Meeting, Cllr J Emyr Davies had reported on the need to cut back the hedge at the junction to improve the visibility for vehicles coming from Cilcain out on to the A541. Mr Ian Williams reported that some cutting of the hedge had been done. Members agreed there was a need to de-clutter the signs at the junction. Mr Williams to pursue.

p27 **Gritting routes cut backs** - Cllr Thomas indicated it was still his intention to discuss the position with the appropriate person in Flintshire, to emphasise the importance of some rural roads needing to be pre-gritted.

Mr Williams submitted a plan at the Council Meeting showing in yellow all the routes in the Cilcain and Rhydymwyn area which had been pre-gritted last year with a tractor and spreader. These yellow routes would not be pre-gritted this coming winter.

Mr Williams emphasised that if 'prolonged' ice or snow was forecasted, the tractors and spreader would go out as usual. Chair enquired what is regarded as 'prolonged' and who decides? Mr Williams explained - the decision would be taken by the coordinator on duty at the time of the forecast. Prolonged means 'a few days'.

Cllr J Emyr Davies expressed concern that Trial Hill, the most dangerous road in Cilcain, which could only be done by a tractor and sprayer, would not be pre-gritted. Mr Williams reported that more salt heaps would be provided this coming winter. Members felt that a section of road such as Trial Hill was too long and dangerous to be gritted by local residents.

Cllr Mr Ian Hughes expressed concern that the road providing access to the pensioners was not being gritted. Members enquired if properties housing 'disabled' residents were being given any additional consideration? How would fire or ambulance emergencies be dealt with? Mr Williams indicated - Streetscene would need to give further consideration to procedures for dealing with emergency vehicles.

Mr Williams emphasised that improvements in gritting procedures were in place by Flintshire for the coming winter. The use of molasses in the salt mixture will ensure the effect of the salt is more long lasting. Leasing of gritting machines instead of purchasing new Flintshire equipment will ensure that expensive gritting machines are not standing idle in the Council Depot for a large part of the year.

Resolutions:

- (i) Mr Williams to report the points of concerns back to Flintshire Streetscene.
- (ii) Cllr W Owen Thomas to take the Council's concern up with Flintshire
- (iii) Clerk to write to Flintshire to express the Council's concern regarding Flintshire's pre-gritting cuts.

p27 **Noisy Manhole cover by the Antelope** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes had reported a 'clacking' manhole cover to the September Council. Mr Williams explained a notice had been served on the Fibre band Contractor, and the repair work should take place in the next few weeks,

p27 **Verge and hedge cutting, Nant Alyn** - Item can now be deleted from Agenda.

p27 **General tidying of grass verges in Rhydymwyn** - At the September Council, Cllr Gareth W Hughes had enquired if Mr Williams could have a look at the tidying up the visibility splay by Welsh Water's Treatment Plant entrance. Item to be left on Agenda.

p27 **White posts to indicate SSSI** - Mr Ian Williams to have available at the November Council Meeting a plan showing the locations of the 'white posts sections' in the Council's area.

- **Street Lamp not working, A541 Rhydymwyn** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes had reported (2 Oct) a lamp opposite the bus shelter in Rhydymwyn not working. Item reported to Mr Ian Williams.
- **Rhosesmor Junction Rhydymwyn** Cllr W Owen Thomas had reported to the September Council Meeting having received a concern from Mr Jones, Gwysaney Farm regarding the lack of a footway and 40 mph repeater signs. Clerk tabled a plan to show Members the exact location of the Council's boundary adjoining the Rhosesmor Junction. Extending the path aspect of the item to be discussed at the next annual Rhydymwyn village walkabout meeting. Mr Ian Williams to consider if a 40 mph repeater signs was needed / justified on the Mold side of the Rhosesmor Junction.
- **Village Walkabout meeting for Cilcain and Rhydymwyn** - Most appropriated day with Members was Friday with a 2pm start. Clerk to arrange two separate meeting, one for Rhydymwyn followed by a Cilcain walkabout. Clerk to contact Members.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Williams for attending the Council Meeting.

6. **GAS PROPSALS, RHYDYMWYN** -

The Chairperson welcomed Mrs Shelley Webber from Flintshire's Housing and Regeneration Strategy Section to address the Council on the current position / proposals regarding the work by Wales and West Utilities in Rhydymwyn.

Mrs Webber explained that at one time, if a householder 'A' wanted a gas supply, the utility supplier would give householder 'A' a price for a connection from the nearest supply point to 'A'. A's close neighbour could subsequently benefit from having a short connection, at A's expense.

Wales and West Utility's current proposal is much fairer. Approximately four years ago, a survey was conducted in Rhydymwyn to ascertain who would be interested in a gas supply. At the time of the survey, a 70% uptake (over a 20 yr span) was required to justify prompting a gas infill scheme. The 'initial' uptake requirement has subsequently been reduced to 30%.

By dividing the village into two halves, North and South, and taking into account that 36 Council Houses (still owned by Flintshire) are in the Northern part of the village, the northern part of the village was able to reach Wales and West's new 30% (35 actual properties) target criterion for scheme implementation.

Criterion conditions are scheduled to change in April 2016, and since another scheme in Flintshire had fallen through, Rhydymwyn was rushed through to start in its place (from a Jan 2016 start).

Total connection cost per property in Rhydymwyn is £3,961. (Total cost to Flintshire properties = 36 x 3,961= £142,596). Vouchers for £3,300 are available if householder qualifies. Vouchers available for - over 70's, certain disabilities, housing benefit, fuel poverty (if more than 10% of annual income is spent on household energy). 20 other criteria are identified for vouchers.

Internal costs for Council tenants - if new kitchen capital scheme is scheduled - free internal work available for tenant.

Mrs Webber responded to questions from Council Members regarding costs to individual properties. Mrs Webber would be arranging a Public Meeting in the village in the next few days/weeks. Mrs Webber would also be sending connection cost and financial criteria details through to the Council Clerk.

The Chairperson thanked Mrs Webber for attending the Council Meeting.

7. **MINUTES CONTINUED (from Item 5)**

p26 **Defra site, Rhydymwyn** - Item not discussed.

p28 **Bath House, Coed Du Hall, Rhydymwyn** - Item not discussed.

p28 **Rhydymwyn Flood Committee** - Item not discussed.

p28 **Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd, Flint, 2016, fund raising** - Item not discussed.

p28 **Cilcain Play areas, refurbishment** - Clerk reported that Mrs Sue Jones had found a reference on the internet to the £19 million wind turbine funding mentioned by Cllr W Owen Thomas in the September Council Meeting. Chair read out an extract from the internet information. The grant was available to coastal communities for community improvements. Clerk to check if Cilcain and Rhydymwyn were classified as 'coastal communities' for grant applications compliance.

p28 **Rhydymwyn play areas, refurbishment** £5,000 of the £8,900 grant requested was available from Flintshire. Clerk to respond to Flintshire to accept the grant offer.

p28 **Rhydymwyn Football Club, dog fouling** - Item not discussed.

p28 **Kiosk door** - Item not discussed.

p29 **Village Hall conveyance plan** - Position discussed in the correspondence item 12) 12/10.

p29 **Cilcain seat** - Seat to be purchased from P and A, and delivered to Mr Les Williams.

p29 **Antelope Industrial Estate, recycling plant** Cllr W Owen Thomas reported having received several complaints, since the October Community Council Meeting, from residents regarding the increasing noise and dust from the premises. External storage appeared to be increasing instead of decreasing. Cllr Thomas explained that complying with the pollution conditions was being dealt with by Natural Resources Wales (NRW). Cllr Thomas intended to arrange a meeting with NRW. Clerk to request Flintshire Planners to arrange a Liaison Meeting with the firm, every 6 months being recommended.

p34 **Request for support for Rhydymwyn Church refurbishment scheme** - Clerk referred to the decision taken at the September Council to make a donation of £200. Including the cheque in

the September payments was overlooked. Cheque needs to be included in the payments list for November.

8. PLANNING MATTERS

Community Council observations requested on:

- (i) Location: Casgliad Cerrig, Cilcain, Mold, Flintshire
Proposal: Erection of garage with storage above
Ref No: 054 354
Decision: The Council has **no objection** to the proposal, subject to the extension materials matching the materials used in the existing building.

Planning Decisions made by Flintshire County Council: None received

9. CORRESPONDENCE / COMMUNICATIONS - Position noted on the following items:

- 1) 14/09 Cylch y Foel (nursery group at Ysgol y Foel) - request for donation to assist with purchase of materials. Members referred to a note in the Appendix regarding the Council's budget. £200 donation approved.
- 2) 22/09 Cilcain Young Farmers Club, request for permission to use Waen Field for Bonfire. Permission given. Clerk to write and remind the Club of the usual conditions. £375 donation confirmed.
- 3) 25/09 Ysgol y Foel PTA - request for information regarding the historical background of the nature area adjacent to the school, with a request for a donation to assist with replacing wooden railing and decking. History of original nature area and pond detailed in the extracts taken from the Council Minutes. Information to be sent to the PTA. Council expressed concern regarding
 - (i) the security aspect of the pond.
 - (ii) lack of information regarding insurance cover (public indemnity)
 - (iii) lack of information regarding who is responsible for the nature area (including the pond) maintenance.
- 4) --/-- Community Asset Transfer - invitation to attend free training session on 20 Oct 2015.
- 5) 06/10 Heatherdene, Vicarage Road, Rhydymwyn - opportunity to attend and speak at Planning site meeting.
- 6) 22/09 Match funding scheme, Rhydymwyn Play area - information regarding the match funding being made available from Flintshire. Item discussed earlier.
- 7) --/-- Leeswood Community Council - invitation to a Civic Service on 1st Nov 2015.
- 8) 05/10 Rhydymwyn Fireworks Display 2015 - request for permission to use the Donkey Field, and a request for donation. £375 donation confirmed.
- 9) 07/10 Preparation for the coming Winter - Details of services offered by Flintshire to improve Flintshire's resilience and readiness for the coming winter. Members may wish to note that bagged rock salt is available to the Council at £5 per bag delivered.
- 10) 08/10 AONB invitation to a meeting at Loggerheads on Fri 11 Dec 2015 to discuss achievements of the last twelve months.

- 11) 12/10 Request by Flintshire Officer to make a presentation to the Council - regarding gas main construction affecting the community. Item discussed earlier.
- 12) 12/10 Village Hall Conveyance - Information from Mrs Gwen Harman to indicate the Village Hall conveyance had been found in the Hawarden's Record Office. Members noted that Mrs Hardman had previously looked through the Council Minutes up to April 1979 at the Hawarden Records Office. The results of Mrs Hardman's investigations up to 1979 were reported to the June 2015 Council Meeting. The 'post April 1979' Council Minutes belonging to former Councillor D Julian Hughes were gone through by the Clerk. Reference was found in the June 1983 Minutes to 'records and documents' being deposited at the Hawarden Record Office in June / July 1983. Mrs Hardman visited the Records Office on 12 October 2015 and reported on the discovered documents at the Council Meeting.

Reference was made to all the land in the vicinity of the village Hall now being covered by documentation. The Bowling Club land, the Car Park, Waen Field, and the Village Hall itself were all covered by ownership / registration documents.

Members referred to the Village Hall Ctee Chairman having initially asked for sight of the plan referred to in the Management Agreement – 'land coloured pink in the 1978 conveyance'.

When the original conveyance is recovered from the Records Office and tabled at the November Council Meeting, the Council will then be in a position allow the Village Hall Committee to have a copy of the conveyance.

Members noted there are 13 years left on the current 25 year management agreement. The first 25 year management agreement, and the current agreement had been of mutual benefit to the Hall Ctee and the Council. Members felt there was no obvious need for a new agreement to be drawn up at this time.

On behalf of the Community Council, the Chairperson thanked Mrs Hardman for all the effort, and hard work she had made to bring matters to a successful conclusion.

- 13) 1610 Ordnance plan of Council boundary in the vicinity of Rhosesmor junction - plan obtained from Flintshire Mapping.
- 14) 16/10 Donkey Field Rhydymwyn - location of former Rhosgoch to Stanlow Shell pipeline
- 15) 16/10 County Forum Meeting scheduled for 22 October 2015.
- 16) -- Menu for Xmas Dinner at the Cherry Pie on 18 Dec 2015
- 17) 10/10 Flintshire Planning notification regarding Cefn Melyn Farm, Cefn Road - Prior notification not required.
- 18) 28/10 Cilcain Show - letter of thanks for continued support
- 19) 02/10 Flintshire County Council invitation to Charity evening 12 Nov 2015
- 20) 05/10 Eisteddfod yr Urdd Flint - Letter of thanks for donation

10. MATTERS RAISED / ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE LAST MEETING:

- (i) **Street Lamp not working, A541 Rhydymwyn** - Cllr Gareth W Hughes had reported (2 Oct) lamp opposite the bus shelter in Rhydymwyn not working. Item reported to Mr Ian Williams.

Mr Williams had inspected 32 lamps in total (not working) between Rhydymwyn and Nannerch on Monday 28 Sept. Repair scheduled for week beginning 5 Oct 2015.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS / REPORTS -

- (i) **Council's Historical Saturday café session** - Cllr Derek May referred to the historical village Hall café session, held to raise funds for the WI plaque. Cllr May reported that the proceeds after paying the Hall Fees amounted to £166. The cash collected was handed over at the council meeting to Mrs Hardman for the WI account. Chair thanked the Cilcain Members who had attended, and in particular expressed the Council's thanks to Cllr May for making most of the arrangements on the Council's behalf.

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

- 13. COUNCIL BALANCE AT HALF WAY THROUGH THE 2015/2016 BUDGETYEAR -** Members considered and approved the Council's financial position at the half way stage (6 months) by referring to the details attached to the Agenda. Another balance normally is (will be) available at the end of nine months (Dec 2015), to enable the Council to assess its precept requirements for 2016/2017 in the January 2016 Council Meeting.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING -

The next meeting of the Council will be held at 7.30 pm in Cilcain Village Hall on Monday 16 November 2015.

SignedChair Date Clerk

APPENDIX - MATTERA OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE - NOT FOR PUBLICATION

1.0 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

(i)	Rhydymwyn Bonfire Committee	375.00
(ii)	Cilcain Young Farmers bonfire donation	375.00
(iii)	A Evans sal + exp	501.25
(iv)	Bloomin Gardens Cilcain cem and (Rhydymwyn bench + cem)	185.00
(v) *	Cylch y Foel - £200 can be accommodated in Council's budget	200.00
(vi)	Canon UK - Printing machine - 3 mths (01-11-2015 to 31-01-2016)	127.04
(v)	A Evans - Office stationery and equipment (Amazon)	195.26
(vi)	A Evans - Office stationery and equipment (Asda)	23.57
(vii)	Scottish Power Street Lighting energy charges 3 mths to 30 Oct 2015	251.50
(viii)	HMRC - PAYE for Sept 2015	72.00
(ix)	Chairman's account	400.00

* Cylch y Foel nursery group - Members noted that an allocation of £400 has been included in this year's budget for 'non-regular donations'. The Council's existing policy on the distribution of this £400 allocation was on a 'first come first served' basis.

Members noted that the Council had two requests to be considered this month - 'Cylch y Foel' and 'Ysgol y Foel PTA'

With regard to the Ysgol y Foel PTA - one possible solution discussed was to give the PTA a commitment of £150 to £200, and to suggest to the PTA they may wish to make a Land Fill Tax application for 90% of the £1,500 they are looking for, with the Community Council assisting with the remaining 10% of the total cost.

However, Members noted the historical background of the nature pond area (extracted from the Council Minutes). Members noted there was no mention made in the historical background information regarding the insurance aspect in relation to the pond area.

Members discussed the insurance and maintenance aspect of the PTA proposal to refurbish the railing and the timber decking. Mr Alan Roberts (Flintshire Leisure) had informed the Clerk that the nature area and pond was not maintained by Flintshire County Council. Photographs were available at the Council meeting to show the railing and decking area.

Members discussed the recent alleged incidence whereby a school pupil left the school early, and could very well have wandered into the pond area with potential serious consequences.

In conclusion, in view of the concerns regarding (i) Security (ii) Insurance (iii) Maintenance, Members resolved to pass the historical information on to the PTA, but not to offer a contribution for refurbishing the pond area.

2. XMAS DINNER -

(Cherry Pie, Friday 18 December

Members agreed the following:

- (i) Cost per person agreed at £20
- (ii) In view of the limited space available at the Cherry Pie, if no information is submitted regarding attendance by the 16 Nov Council Meeting, it will be assumed that the Member will not be attending. Any spare spaces can then be offered to past Members etc.
- (iii) Appropriate (but not essential) for Members to inform the Clerk by the 16 November Council Meeting of their selections for starter, main and sweet.
- (iv) Decision to be taken in November Council regarding which past Members (or wives) are to be invited.