



CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN / HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Halkyn Community Council,
Held Virtually by Video and Telephone Conference,
On Monday the 15th March, 2021, at 7.30pm.**

**1(A). 48/21
PRESENT**

Councillor G. T. Robinson (Chair)
Councillor Brian Coleclough (Vice Chair)
Councillor Colin Barker
Councillor B. Glyn Coleclough
Councillor Colin R. D'Arcy
Councillor Miss. Jean S. Davies (Community & County)
Councillor L. Howard Morris
Councillor Mrs. Nicola Richardson
Councillor David G. Roberts
Councillor Mrs. J. Wendy Sigsworth
Councillor Mrs. Delyth Taylor

Councillor Colin Legg (Flintshire County)

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

**1(B). 49/21
APOLOGIES**

Councillor Dylan Roberts
Councillor John Thomas

**2. 50/21
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest Declared.

**3. 51/21
TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 15TH FEBRUARY,
2021**

The Minutes were proposed as correct by Councillor Delyth Taylor and seconded by Councillor Wendy Sigsworth and formally agreed by the Members present.

4. 52/21

MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) Minute no: 4. 34/21 (1) (page 2)** – in relation to vehicle activated signage in Pentre Halkyn. The Clerk advised, that the monitoring tubes had been placed in a number of locations in the Pentre Halkyn area; unfortunately, despite requests to Lee Shone (Flintshire County Council); the statistical information had not been provided. The Clerk further advised; that there had been a substantial delay, in firstly, the monitoring tubes being installed and now the receipt of the information captured. Whereby, another Council area that the Clerk is employed; had requested monitoring tubes after this Council's request; with the statistical information being provided a number of weeks ago.

Members agreed the following: County Councillor Jean Davies to contact the Officer concerned, to ascertain the delay in providing the information to this Council. The Clerk to forward to Councillor Davies the thread of e-mails.

- (2) Minute no: 4. 34/21 (3) (page 2)** – in relation to flexible and reflective verge markers on Halkyn Mountain. The Clerk advised, that he had been contacted by Councillor Dylan Roberts seeking that the thread of e-mails be forward again; the Clerk had completed this. As Councillor Roberts was not in attendance at the virtual meeting this evening; it is not known if a site meeting has taken place.

Members agreed the following: As this matter has been pending since November, 2020; the Clerk to place in the pending file.

- (3) Minute no: 5(A). 35/21 (1) (page 3)** – in relation to the Clerk requesting from the North Wales Police; more informative details of reported criminal offences within the Community Council area; together with the number of reported breaches of non-compliance to the current Covid restrictions. The Clerk recollected to Members, the exchange of e-mails between PCSO Connor Freel and the Clerk; which had been forwarded to Council Members and included links to various Police information. The correspondence from PCSO Freel stated: that both the Inspector and Sergeant had agreed; that there will no further monthly reports provided to the Community Council.

Members were perturbed to receive this information; which had been provided to the Council for at least the past 14 years. Whilst the Council appreciate that information can be obtained from the Police UK web site; this information is posted between four and six weeks following the alleged offences. The Members felt that as community elected representatives; the information should be provided by the Police; which in turn would alert the Council Members to any areas of concern and in particular, that both Councillors and residents can be more vigilant.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to write to the North Wales Police Commissioner; to ascertain, if the decision by the local Police Division, is a global decision by the North Wales Police.

- (4) Minute no: 10. 46/21 (page 7)** – in relation to the grant funding of £10,000.00 to Rhes Y Cae Village Hall. The Clerk advised; that the Village Hall Management Committee were pleased to receive the funding and were in the process of collating various quotations. The Committee would keep the Community Council informed as to their progress. The Committee were also pleased that Councillor Mrs. Richardson, together with the Clerk will meet with the Committee when social-distancing permits.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been received, that was required to be either advised to, or dealt with by the Members:

- (1) The Clerk advised, that the following criminal offences had been reported to the North Wales Police, that had occurred within the Halkyn Community Council area:

Halkyn: 2 x Public Order / 1 x Anti-social behaviour / 1 x Violence – sexual offences

Pentre Halkyn: No offences reported.

Rhes-Y-Cae: 2 x Anti-social behaviour / 1 x Violence

Rhosesmor: No offences reported.

- (2) Public Services Ombudsman for Wales: New draft guidance on the Code of Conduct for members of Community & Town Councils in Wales. The Clerk advised, that the notification had not been received direct from the Office of the Ombudsman; but from a third party. The Clerk had written to the Office of the Ombudsman to express disappointment; in particular, as the draft code related to Councillors, whereby a number of Council Clerks had not received the notification from the third party.
- (3) Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: Annual Report for 2021. The Clerk referred to Section 13 at 13.14 on page 42: Determination 42: All Community and Town Councils must make available a payment to each of their members of £150.00 per year as a contribution to costs and expenses. The Clerk had sent prior to the meeting to all Councillors a claim form and requested that Councillors complete the form and return to the Clerk; whereafter the payment will be made in April, 2021.
- (4) Flintshire County Council: Notification from The County Highway Network manager; that the Street Scene Area Co-ordinator for this Council area; will be available to virtually attend Council meetings when requested.
- (5) Grosvenor Estate: Notification of a number of measures being taken in the area of Pen Y Henblas Quarry; due to anti social behaviour in the area.
- (6) Grosvenor Estate: Notification from the Arboricultural Officer advising; that a leaning rowan tree will be removed; which is sited at the perimeter of Halkyn Village Green. A replacement tree will be planted next winter.
- (7) Notification from Halkyn Cricket Club: The Club wish to upgrade their current facilities. Should any Councillor be aware of a business which could assist ; please contact the Club Treasurer.
- (8) Draft Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill. The Clerk recollected to Members; a link to the Draft Bill had been set prior to the meeting by e-mail for perusal. The Clerk highlighted a number of proposed recommendations that were contained in the document; which included the following paragraphs: General Power of Competence and Promoting Access to Local Government.

The following correspondence was forwarded by e-mail to Members:

- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Two vacancies for Independent Members on the Standards Committee.
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Information in relation to the 2021 census that will take place on the 21st March of this year.
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Information in relation to 'Be Mighty. Recycle'
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Information in relation to Parents and Carers.
- ❖ Hannah Blythyn MS/AS: March update for Town & Community Councils

**5(B). 54/21
CLERK'S REPORT**

- (a) The Clerk advised Members; that the WebEx (Virtual meeting software) renewal was due shortly. The annual Microsoft 365 renewal was also due. The Clerk further advised, that a subscription for a Microsoft 365 Business version had been subscribed; which included Microsoft Teams (Virtual meeting software). The cost of this annual subscription between four Councils amounted to £26.04 plus VAT. By combining both subscriptions together, there was a total saving of over £80.00 which has been split between the various Councils.
- (b) Report from resident in relation to the following: Fencing around an open mineshaft in the area of Buxton Lane, Pentre Halkyn, had been damaged. Area was made secure within a few hours.
- (c) Several complaints received by the Clerk via e-mails and telephone calls; in relation to residents concerns following the placing of 'marker pegs' in the area of the Cemex Quarry. This matter was discussed under County Councillors report (**Minute number: 7. 57/21 on page 6 below**)
- (d) The Old Bier House; New roof. The roofing contractor had contacted the Clerk to advise the following: Due to the inclement weather over the past number of weeks; the companies work schedule has been amended. The work on the Bier House will not be listed until late March to early April. The Clerk advised Members; that that payment for this would therefore be made in the new financial year.

The contractor requires to place scaffolding around the building. Whilst the owner of a neighbouring property has agreed permission for scaffolding on their driveway side; the horse box at the front of the building requires removing away from the front door.

Councillor Colin Barker advised: Following a request from the Clerk; he had made arrangements with the Parish Hall Caretaker; whereby the horse box has been moved to the grounds of the Parish Hall.

**5(C). 55/21
TO CONSIDER STREET LIGHTING QUOTATIONS: BS: 7671 ELECTRICAL
INSPECTIONS / GENERAL CALL-OUT AND REPAIRS CONTRACT**

The Clerk advised, in relation to a further virtual meeting with the Flintshire Street Lighting Manager, together with information received from a Scottish Power Project Manager: The Clerk further advised, that costs from two Electrical Contractors who specialise in Street Lighting repairs had been received. Whilst a third costing had been requested; no details had been received.

Members perused the costings virtually; which were contained in a list of general fees charged by the contractors.

Members agreed the following:

- (1) To appoint Flintshire County Council Street Lighting Department; to carry out the following: BS:7671 Electrical inspections on 128 Street Lanterns within the Community Council area; at a cost of £16.00 each lantern; Total £2,048.00. The Clerk to issue a work order.
- (2) To continue with the present contractor for general call-out and street lighting repairs.
- (3) In reaching their decision; Members took into consideration the Financial Regulations; whereby the Clerk had strived to obtain three quotations; which was difficult due to the specialist contractor aspect. However, the Members were of the opinion; that as the BS:7671 inspection fee was contained in a price list; quotations were not specifically required; but by receiving more than one quotation, the Council had received best value for their public funds.

5(D). 56/21

HALKYN PARISH HALL – TRUSTEES MEETING

The Clerk advised; that the Hall is currently closed under the Welsh Government restrictions; there was no further update since the November joint meeting with the Management Committee.

5(E). 57/21

STREETSCENE SCHEDULE (FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

Members brought the following concerns to the meeting:

- (1) Garden waste fly tipping on road from Halkyn to Rhes-y-Cae; after the Windmill junction. This concern has apparently been reported to Street Scene previously by a resident; the waste has not been removed. The Council were advised, that further deposits have been made since the original dumping.
 - (2) The previously reported pot holes near the Cenotaph in Rhosesmor have not been filled in.
- **The following items of concerns which were reported and forward to Street Scene in February; have not been attended to.**
 - (a) Condition of the road in Ffordd Y Graig, Rhes Y Cae (Also known as Ffordd Y Gefn); many pot holes and tarmac has disappeared. (Photograph sent to identify the road).
 - (b) Cattle grid near Black Lion Farm, Rhes Y Cae; also on Ffordd Y Graig. Apparently some repair work was commenced a long time ago; but was never completed (Plan sent to identify the area of the cattle grid).
 - (c) Oxygenated cylinders have been deposited on the following road: Halkyn to Rhes Y Cae – near the Lime Kiln.

The Clerk advised that the above concerns would be brought to the attention of StreetScene.

6. 58/21

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS (COMMITTEES, LIAISON & MEETINGS ATTENDED)

There were no reports specific to the Local Committees and Outside Bodies schedule, or Council Members who had attended meetings on behalf of the Council.

7. 59/21

COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (COUNCILLOR MISS. JEAN S. DAVIES & COUNCILLOR COLIN LEGG)

Councillor Miss Jean S. Davies advised in relation to the following:

- (1) A number of concerns received from residents in relation to the Cemex Quarry; and in particular, a number of 'marker pegs' in the area of the quarry boundary. Planning permission had been granted to the Quarry in 2015 for expansion.

Councillor Davies advised, that Flintshire County Council have not received any adverse complaints in relation to the operations at the Quarry. Councillor Davies has asked Flintshire to obtain the number of complaints received from local residents, who have complained directly to the Quarry over the past five years.

- (2) Councillor Davies will be arranging a litter pick in Pentre Halkyn; when social-distancing and other restrictions are relaxed. Flintshire County Council will kindly supply the necessary equipment; such as pickers and bags.

8(A). 60/21

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning application was considered by Members at the meeting:

- (a) Application number: 062612 – for proposed cattle shed and feed store, at Fron Farm, Hendre.

Comment by Council: No objection to the application, as long as the proposal is not detrimental to neighbouring properties; and planning policies and planning guidance notes are complied with.

8(B). 61/21

PLANNING DECISIONS

The following planning decisions have been received from Flintshire County Council:

- (a) Application number: 061863 – for the erection of a summerhouse, at 2 Fulbrooke Villas, Halkyn. Approved.
- (b) Application number: 062367 – for application for approval of details reserved by conditions no's 4 (Routing Agreement) / 5 (Signage) 7 Noise Monitoring Scheme; attached to planning permission reference 050313. Approved

9. 62/21

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cheque Number	Payee	Net £	Vat £	Total £
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<u>Payments made – to be confirmed:</u>			
Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for February) Payments dated: 01/03/2020			
Standing Order BACS: H. M. Revenue & Customs. Clerk's PAYE & Clerk & Council NI - January, February & March 2021 – payment dated: 08/03/2020	775.23		775.23
<u>Payments for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u>			
Direct Debit: Scottish Power (February - Street Lighting Electricity Account payment due: 18/03/2021)	112.80	5.64	118.44
Caerwys Town Council 1/4 share of Photocopier hire fee (£204.00 a year - VAT paid by Caerwys)	51.00		51.00
R. P. Parry (Clerk) Re-imburement of 1/4 share of Microsoft 365 Business Office for 2021 / 2022; (includes Microsoft Teams for Video meetings) (as per receipt)	26.04	5.20	31.24
R. P. Parry (Clerk) Re-imburement of 1/4 share of Viking / Office Depot Stationery and printer ink (as per receipt)	44.35	8.87	53.22
R. P. Parry (Clerk) Travelling expenses from October 2019 to February 2021 (as per detailed auditor schedule)	284.40		284.40
R. P. Parry – Clerk (Re-imburement of computer security software – as per receipts (not all carry VAT) – £108.23 plus VAT £7.66 – Total £115.89 (as per receipts) / H M Revenue & Customs; Home Working allowance for 2019 – 2020 £312.00	420.23	7.66	427.89

10. 63/21

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	Macmillan Cancer Care (London). (Council Members agreed not to provide a grant. Previous financial assistance granted to Macmillan Cancer Care were received from their local office). The Clerk to advise the London Office; that an application made from their local office will be considered favourably.	

11. 64/21

Members agreed the payments of the above accounts as listed.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

**SIGNED BY THE
CHAIRMAN.....**

**DATE OF
APPROVAL.....**