



CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN / HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Halkyn Community Council, Held Virtually by Video and Telephone Conference, On Monday the 19th July, 2021, at 7.30pm.

1(A). 129/21 PRESENT

Councillor Colin R. D'Arcy (Vice Chair)
Councillor Miss. Jean S. Davies (Community & County)
Councillor L. Howard Morris
Councillor Dylan Roberts
Councillor G. T. Robinson
Councillor Mrs. J. Wendy Sigsworth

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

1(B). 130/21 APOLOGIES

Councillor Colin Barker
Councillor Brian Coleclough
Councillor B. Glyn Coleclough
Councillor Mrs. Nicola Richardson
Councillor David G. Roberts
Councillor Mrs. Delyth Taylor
Councillor John Thomas

2. 131/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest Declared.

3. 132/21 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 21ST JUNE, 2021

The Minutes were proposed as correct by Councillor Bob Robinson and seconded by Councillor Colin D'Arcy and formally agreed by the Members present.

4. 133/21 MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) **Minute no: 4. 113/21 (1) (page 2)** – in relation to vehicle activated signage in Pentre Halkyn. The Clerk advised, that despite further exchanges of e-mails, the Highways Officer had again reneged on his promises. Copies of the correspondence had also been sent to the Officer's line manager.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to formally complain to the Officer's line manager, and to copy the Chief Office (Street Scene & Transportation) into the correspondence, together with County Councillor Jean Davies.

- (2) **Minute no: 4. 113/21 (4) (page 2)** – in relation to 3 x bilingual Pentre Halkyn Village name signs. The Clerk advised, that the signs would be installed in the near future.
- (3) **Minute no: 5(B). 115/21 (a) (page 4)** – in relation to Lottery funding. The Clerk advised, that the sum of £950.00 had been withdrawn from the Lottery account and had thereafter been deposited into this Council's bank account. The ear-marked reserves schedule had been amended to include this funding towards new children's play area equipment in Halkyn.

5(A). 134/21 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: 1 x Anti-social behaviour

Pentre Halkyn: 4 x Violence offences / 2 x criminal damage

Rhes-Y-Cae: 3 x Anti-social behaviour

Rhosesmor: No offences reported.

- (2) Cemex Quarry Liaison meeting: Minutes of meeting held on 21st June held remotely. Sent to Councillor Howard Morris who had attended the meeting.
- (3) Flintshire County Planning: Virtual planning meeting in relation to planning application number : 062110 Re Tarmac Quarry, Hendre.

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

- (i) Flintshire Local Voluntary Council: Question and answer session with Welsh government, in relation to the reopening of meeting venues; to be held virtually on Wednesday 9th June at 12 noon.
- (ii) Flintshire County Council: 2021 Summer Play Scheme update.
- (iii) North & Mid Wales Trunk Road Agent: Notification of proposed works on A55 between Halkyn and Junction 31 at Caerwys; commencing 28th June to 9th July. Road will be closed on occasions during the evening period.

- (iv) HyNet North West: Further information in relation to a CO2 pipeline proposals. Members to complete on a personal basis.
- (v) Flintshire County Council: Your Council News – June 2021.
- (vi) Flintshire County Council: Increasing Covid-19 infections in the County.
- (vii) Flintshire County Council: New collection points for free Covid-19 Lateral Flow Device test kits.
- (viii) Welsh Government: Consultation to proposals to reduce speed limits to 20mph in residential areas.
- (ix) North Wales Police: Community Alert. Members to register on a personal basis.

5(B). 135/21 CLERK'S REPORT

- (a) The Clerk recollects to Members, an e-mail forwarded from the Welsh Government (WG) in relation to a Clerk's qualification consultation. Whilst this has been contained in a number of reviews for approximately eight years, it is only recently that the WG have agreed that a qualification is required.

The qualification is part of a range of measures that WG wish to provide Town & Community Councils in Wales with a 'General Power of Competence'. Apart from the Clerk qualification, the following is also required for a Council to be eligible:

- at least two-thirds of the total number of members of the council have been declared to be elected, whether at an ordinary election or at a by-election
- the clerk to the council holds such qualification or description of qualification as may be specified by the Welsh Ministers by regulations
- the council has received unqualified auditor's opinions from the Auditor General for Wales, for two consecutive financial years. The latest unqualified auditor's opinion must have been received during the 12 months preceding the day on which the council's resolution is passed.

The Clerk further advised, that the General Power of Competence is presently scheduled to commence from May 2022. Whilst there are many Clerks in Wales who hold various qualifications, such as the qualification held by the Clerk to this Council; however, the Clerk's qualification was gained a considerable number of years and is not included in the current consultation. The Clerk expressed his willingness to complete the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA). The Welsh Government have agreed a bursary to 50 Clerks to cover the CiLCA registration at a cost of £410.00, together with other training costs at £250.00. The Clerk had applied for the bursary and was pleased to advise Members, that the application had been successful for the full amount of £660.00. The course will commence in September of this year. There would be minimal costs incurred by this Council i.e., stationery and training hours, which would be shared with other Councils.

Members agreed the following: To support the Clerk during his training period, together with the ancillary costs for this Council.

STREET LIGHTS

- ❖ The Clerk advised, that a street lantern on the B5123 road, in the area of the entrance to Halkyn Castle was illuminated 24/7. The Council's street lighting engineer had visited and replaced the sensor. However, the lantern is surrounded by a tree canopy which results in the area receiving limited daylight, which in turn activates the sensor.

5(C). 136/21

TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE QUARTERLY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO THE 30TH JUNE 2021

The Clerk, as Financial Officer, provided Members with a copy of the Quarterly Statement of Accounts, as at the end of June, 2021, together with copies of the two Council Bank account statements. The Clerk further provided Members, with a breakdown in relation to the budget headings, which included income and expenditure to-date.

Members agreed the following: Approved the Statement of Accounts, whereby the document was agreed to be signed by the Vice Chair of Council; Councillor Colin D'Arcy.

5(D). 137/21

COMMUNITY COUNCIL CEMETERY

(i) To receive Cemetery Inspection Report

The Clerk advised, that the Annual Cemetery Inspection, had taken place on Tuesday 29th June. The following Councillors' were in attendance: Brian Coleclough, Mrs. Nicola Richardson and Mrs. Wendy Sigsworth - together with the Clerk.

No Memorial Stones were found to be loose or damaged.

(ii) Review of Cemetery Charges

The Clerk brought to the attention of Members virtually the current Council Cemetery fees, together with a number of fees for other Council Burial Authorities in Flintshire. Members also discussed the current fees for residents who had moved outside this Council area.

Members agreed the following: (1) Not to increase the burial fees for the year 2021 to March 2022 (2) During the annual review of the Cemetery Regulations at the October Council meeting, the fees charged for residents who have moved outside this Council area will be reconsidered.

(iii) To Consider Cemetery Signage

The Clerk recollects Members to a complaint discussed at the Council meeting held on the 21st June, in relation to dogs being allowed by owners to run loose within the cemetery grounds, together with dog fouling not being removed. This concern was further discussed during the above referred to Cemetery annual inspection. The Inspecting Councillors wish Council to consider placing an additional sign at the entrance to the Council Cemetery from the St. Mary's Church Cemetery. Members were shown virtually provisional wording, together with photographs of the area.

Members agreed the following: (1) The Clerk to liaise with Councillor G. T. Robinson and to formally agree the wording (2) The Clerk thereafter, to obtain a sign quotation for Members consideration.

(iv) To Consider: Refurbishment of Cemetery Bench Seat

The Clerk advised, that following the above referred to Cemetery inspection, the Inspecting Councillors agreed that a quotation be sought for this evening's meeting, to consider the refurbishment of the bench seat. A quotation had been received from the Council's joinery contractor for the sum of £495.00. The work required to the seat: To be dismantled on site, carefully removed to a workshop, power-wash and thoroughly clean the cast end supports, power-wash timber slats, allow to dry, sand all of the timber slats, in readiness to accept 2 Coats of Sadolin Extra UV protection and allow to dry. Return seat parts and re-assemble on site and securely fix seat to existing concrete pad by four bolts.

Members agreed the following: Accepted the quotation for the sum of £495.00. The Clerk to issue a Work Order.

**5(E). 138/21
STREETSCENE SCHEDULE (FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)**

Concerns reported to Street Scene since the last meeting.

The Clerk advised, that there had been no reports made to Street Scene in-between the June to July meetings.

Update from Street Scene:

The Clerk advised, that following the June list of concerns sent to Street Scene and despite a reminder; no update had been received.

There were no Street Scene concerns brought to the attention of the meeting.

**6. 139/21
REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS (COMMITTEES, LIAISON & MEETINGS ATTENDED)**

- (i) Tarmac Hendre Quarry: Councillor Dylan Roberts advised of his attendance at a Quarry Liaison meeting held recently. The following items were discussed: (1) Dust emanating from the quarry (2) The quarry will be installing a new updated wheel wash system (3) Complaints from local property owners to the ever increasing noise and vibrations from quarry blasting.

**7. 140/21
COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (COUNCILLOR MISS. JEAN S. DAVIES &
COUNCILLOR COLIN LEGG)**

- Councillor Miss Jean S. Davies advised, in relation to the following: A further litter pick has been arranged in the Pentre Halkyn area. Further details will be provided in due course.

**8(A). 141/21
PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following planning applications were considered by Members at the meeting:

- (1) Application number: 063112 – for change of use from existing detached Hobby Room annex to a proposed Holiday Let, at Bron-Deg, The Catch, Halkyn.

Comment by Council: No objection to the application, as long as planning policies and planning guidance notes are complied with.

- (2) Application number: 063125 – for the erection of a first floor rear and side extensions, together with front and rear dormer windows and rooflights, at 4, Buxton Lane, Pentre Halkyn.

Comment by Council: No objection to the application, as long as planning policies and planning guidance notes are complied with.

- (3) Application number: 063079 – for the erection of a double integral garage, at Meadowview, Rhosesmor.

Comment by Council: No objection to the application, as long as planning policies and planning guidance notes are complied with.

- (4) Application number: 062640 – for erection of a rear single storey side extension consisting two storey double garage (bedrooms at first floor), at The Paddocks, Rhosesmor.

Comment by Council: No objection to the application, as long as planning policies and planning guidance notes are complied with.

- (5) Application number: 062976 – for conversion of garage into a beauty salon, at 23 Bryn Eithin, Pentre Halkyn.

Comment by Council: No objection to the application, as long as planning policies and planning guidance notes are complied with.

- (6) Application number: 063094 – for siting of 18 static caravans and associated development on land adjacent to existing caravan site, at Glasdir View, The Nant.

Comment by Council: Objects to the application for the following reasons: Under the current Flintshire County Council Unitary Development Plan: T5 - Extension of Existing Static Caravan and Chalet Holiday Sites. The application appears to contravene sub sections (a) the increase in the number of standings / units is not marginal; the increase is substantial (b) the proposal does not involve a modest physical extension to the site area; the area is increased by approximately 100%. (c) the scheme does not significantly improve the environment of the site or the impact on the surrounding landscape; the impact is increased.

The Community Council are also concerned with the loss of agricultural land within a rural community, which would ultimately change the characteristic appearance of the local landscape.

NOTE: Councillor Dylan Roberts abstained from voting on the above planning application.

8(B). 142/21

PLANNING DECISIONS

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

- (a) Application number: 062027 - for variation of condition number 1 attached to planning permission ref: 49756, at Fron Farm, Hendre. Approved.
- (b) Application number: 062314 – for removal or variation of a condition following grant or planning permission ref: 082300 – at Old Church School, Halkyn. Approved.

- (c) Application number: 062747 – for alterations and extensions to dwelling and external works, at Ty Newydd, Pany Y Gof, Halkyn. Approved.
- (d) Application number: 062910 – for the erection of a single storey extension to form new kitchen, at Tan Y Fron, Pentre Road, Pentre Halkyn. Approved.

9. 143/21

HALKYN PARISH HALL TRUST

The Clerk advised, that the following information had been received from the Parish Hall Management Committee:

- The Parish Hall Management Committee have in place a current Risk Assessment. The assessment covers the current guideline issued by the Welsh Government. The Risk Assessment is reviewed regularly.
- The current risk assessment is for the main room only. This room under the current guidelines can hold a maximum of 15 people. The smaller meeting room known as the Council meeting room is currently not available for bookings.
- The Parish Hall whilst re-opened following relaxation of the guidelines; each booking a lead person has to complete a risk assessment of their activity and are provided with a copy of the Hall assessment.
- The Library Service recommenced on Friday 28th May. Joint risk assessments were completed with Aura Leisure & Libraries, together with the Hall Committee.

10. 144/21

TO DISCUSS: QUEEN’S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS IN 2022 (CLLR G. T. ROBINSON)

Councillor G. T. Robinson addressed Members, in relation to the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in 2022. Councillor Robinson had initially been approached by a Rhosesmor Village Committee, with a suggestion of a ‘Community Walk’ from village to village.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to place a Public Notice inviting local Committees and Groups within the Council area who wish to arrange celebratory events, to apply to this Council for financial assistance. The Clerk to prepare the notice and to be agreed with Councillor Robinson. The notice to be sent to Councillors and known committee / group contacts in the area. To also be uploaded to the respective village Facebook pages.

11. 145/21

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

| Cheque Number | Payee | Net £ | Vat £ | Total £ |
|---------------|--|-------|-------|---------|
| | <u>Payments made / due – to be confirmed:</u> | | | |
| | Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for June) | | | |

| | | | |
|---|--------|-------|--------|
| (Quarterly payment for Cemetery administration) Payments dated: 01/07/2021 | | | |
| Standing Order BACS: H. M. Revenue & Customs. Clerk's PAYE & Clerk & Council NI - April, May & June 2021 – payment dated: 06/07/2021 | 773.16 | | 773.16 |
| Direct Debit: Scottish Power (June - Street Lighting Electricity Account payment due: 20/07/2021) | 120.96 | 6.05 | 127.01 |
| <u>Payments for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u> | | | |
| Deeco Lighting (repair to night sensor; lamp on B5123 Road, near entrance to Halkyn Castle) | 180.00 | 36.00 | 216.00 |
| R. P. Parry – Clerk (Re-imburement of book of 100 postal stamps – as per receipt) | 85.00 | | 85.00 |

12. 146/21

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

| Cheque Number | Name of organisation | Amount granted £ |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | No applications received | |

13. 147/21

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.....**