



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 November, 2021, at 7.00pm**

**1(A). 192/21
PRESENT**

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

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

**1(B). 193/21
APOLOGIES**

Councillor Miss. Jean S. Davies
Councillor Dylan Roberts
Councillor John Thomas

**1(C-1). 194/21
Standing Orders were Suspended:**

**1(C-2). 195/21
VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE AT MEETING BY SHAUN DARLINGTON (FLINTSHIRE
LOCAL VOLUNTARY COUNCIL) (TO ADDRESS BOTH COUNCIL & PARISH HALL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE)**

The Chair of Council, Councillor Brian Coleclough welcomed Shaun Darlington (Flintshire Local Voluntary Council) (FLVC) to the meeting.

Shaun advised in relation to his role and work of the FLVC, in particular, the services offered to Groups and Committees. The FLVC is primarily funded by the Welsh Government.

The FLVC are able to assist with policies, procedures and training; assisting people in the community, weekly e-bulletins; together with assistance in completing grant applications, and have a data base of funders. The FLVC hold a register of volunteers, whereby any individual can enter their name and also Groups and Committees are able to access the data base should they be seeking volunteers.

Karen Morgan-Reed advised of her membership to a Welsh Government Stakeholder Group and offered her assistance with information gained from her work within the Group. Following a number of questions posed to Shaun, which included the volunteers data base, it was agreed that the Clerk forward to the Parish Hall Management Committee, Shaun's contact details.

The Chair of Council Councillor Brian Coleclough thanked Shaun for his virtual attendance, together with the useful information supplied.

1(D-1). 196/21

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – HALKYN PARISH HALL (SEE SEPARATE MINUTES)

1(D-2). 197/21

Standing Orders were Re-instated:

1(E). 198/21

APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 85 (1) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (NON-ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS) CLLR JOHN THOMAS

The Clerk brought to the attention of Members, an application by Councillors John Thomas, under the above referred to Act. The letter of application advised, in relation to the non-attendance at Council meetings over the past six months.

Members agreed the following: (1) Confirmed the non-attendance of Councillor John Thomas due to medical reason.

2. 199/21

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

No attendance at meeting by public, no questions, comments or representations received prior to meeting.

3. 200/21

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest Declared.

4. 201/21

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 18TH OCTOBER, 2021

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

5. 202/21

MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) **Minute no: 5. 174/21 (3) (page 2)** – in relation to a site meeting at Halkyn Children’s Play Area. Councillor Nicola Richardson advised, that she had attended the site meeting on Tuesday 26th October with Richard Roberts (Aura Leisure), whereby a number of play area equipment options were discussed. The Clerk advised, that following the site visit Richard Roberts had provided alternative suggested play equipment. Members viewed virtually the items.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to advise Aura Leisure of their agreement to the suggested items of play equipment.

Pending Matter:

- The Clerk recollected Members, that the Work Order for the installation of the two vehicle activated signage in Pentre Halkyn remained outstanding. Councillor Colin D’Arcy confirmed, that the signage had not been installed.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to further contact Street Scene seeking an installation date.

**6(A). 203/21
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: No offences reported.

Pentre Halkyn: 1 x Violence (A55) / 1 x Anti-social behaviour / 1 x Criminal damage / 1 x Vehicle crime / 1 x Theft

Rhes-Y-Cae: 1 x Violence

Rhosesmor: 2 x Criminal damage / 1 x Burglary / 1 x Violence

- (2) Welsh Government: Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 Section 47 Multi-Location Meetings. The Clerk advised, that the Wales Government have commenced a questionnaire on Survey Monkey, in relation to the concerns expressed by Town & Community Councils in Wales, with the current restrictions to holding Council meetings. The Clerk confirmed, that he had completed the survey.
- (3) Welsh Government: Electoral Arrangements for the County of Flintshire. The new County Council Ward for the area will be named Brynford & Halkyn, with two representative County Councillors.
- (4) Rural Housing Enabler – (on behalf of local authorities, housing associations and others). Review in relation to affordable housing in the Pentre Halkyn area. Members were show virtually a plan indicating a possible development site.

- (5) Flintshire County Council: Request from Marianne Lewis (Planning & Development Officer) to attend the February Council meeting, to provide an update on the Micro-care project.

Members agreed the following: Confirmed the attendance of Marianne Lewis at the February 2022 Council meeting. The meeting to commence at 7.00pm.

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

- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Your Council News
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Digital Flintshire – Have your Say – Consultation
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Consultation of the review of Council Tax premium for long term empty properties and second homes. (Councillors to complete survey on a personal basis)

**6(B). 204/21
CLERK'S REPORT**

- (a) The Clerk advised, that he had attended the virtual Flintshire County Standards Committee, annual training and meeting with Town & Community Councils in Flintshire on Monday 1st November.
- (b) Complaint received from resident in Pentre Halkyn, requesting CCTV and extra street lighting in area of the Community Centre. The Clerk had suggested to the complainant to contact the North Wales Police for security advise.
- (c) Information received together with photographs from Councillor Bob Robinson, in relation to a number of water wells sited across the mountain. One well in the area of Berth Ddu had deteriorated and was a concern for its future heritage. Members were shown virtually a map identifying the locations of the wells, together with a photograph of the Berth Ddu well. Councillor Bob Robinson provided further details and also advised, that Rachael Watson was making enquiries as to the wells ownership and or responsibility.
- (d) Councillor Brian Coleclough advised, that Rachael Watson, Halkyn Mountain Ranger was due to retire from the position. Councillor Coleclough stated; that Rachael had been of great assistance both with various projects and advice over many years.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to send Rachael Watson a letter, expressing the gratitude of the Council for her work and assistance to the Council on the Halkyn Mountain Common over a substantial number of years. To wish Rachael a happy retirement.

- (e) The Clerk recollected Members to the financial decisions agreed during the joint meeting with the Halkyn Parish Hall Management Committee.

Members agreed the following: Confirmed the following:

- (1) The Community Council to purchase a metal container at an approximate cost of £3,520.00 plus VAT £704.00 = Total £4,224.00. Andy Wood advised, that this figure would be lower as the supply company will remove the current container and apply a small credit, as they will refurbish the unit.

- (2) Andy Wood to seek a credit note from the oil tank suppliers together with an invoice in the name of Halkyn Community Council; to enable the Council to make a refund to the Parish Hall account. Cost of new oil tank £1,180.31 VAT £236.06 = Total £1,416.37. The Community Council to pay the invoice once received in the name of the Council.
- (3) The Community Council to pay for the disconnection of the old oil tank, other work, including re-connection of the new tank, at a quoted cost of £389.00 VAT £76.00 = Total £456.00

6(C). 205/21

TO CONSIDER: THE FOLLOWING POLICY & STATEMENT UNDER THE ENVIRONMENT (WALES) ACT 2016 SECTION 6; BIODIVERSITY AND RESILIENCE OF ECOSYSTEMS DUTY

The Clerk recollects Members to an e-mail in relation to the above Policy, which attached a draft Biodiversity template that had been kindly produced for Town & Community Councils in Flintshire, by Sarah Slater (Flintshire County Council Biodiversity Officer). Two other biodiversity policies were also perused.

Members agreed the following: To provisionally adopt the Biodiversity template received from Flintshire County Council. Members were asked to consider expressing an interest in taking the lead with this biodiversity project.

6(D). 206/21

PRECEPT AND FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR 2022 / 2023

The Clerk advised that this exercise was to enquire with the Members of the Council, if there were any items of expenditure, extra to the present allocation in the 'Earmarked Reserves' to be included in the next financial year. A copy of the current ear-marked reserves was provided to Members.

Members agreed the following: To include the following items: £10,000.00 – Play area equipment match funding with Flintshire County Council / £10,000.00 – towards funding for the various Village Halls.

Ring-fenced and general reserves (includes property upkeep) – to be agreed in January 2022 budget setting.

6(E). 207/21

STREET SCENE (FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

Members brought the following concerns to the meeting:

- (i) The tree canopies on the B5123 road travelling from the area of St. Mary's Church towards Halkyn; the area near the cattle grid the tree branches are catching high sided vehicles. Also, on the slip road from near the Church to the Britannia Inn a branch is touching the wall. The Clerk advised, that he would contact both Neil Hickie (Street Scene) and Stuart Body (Flintshire Tree Inspector).
- (ii) Discussion in relation to the white painted stones sited across the Halkyn Mountain Common. It was reported that a number of the stones whereby the paint had completely faded. The Clerk advised, that he would contact both Neil Hickie (Street Scene) and Rachael Watson (Halkyn Mountains Ranger), to ascertain as to whose responsibility.

7. 208/21

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.

8. 209/21

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

- The Clerk advised, in Councillor Miss. Jean S. Davies' absence, that she had no report to bring to the attention of Council.

9(A). 210/21

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications had been received:

- (a) Application number: 063647 – for Change of use from Agricultural Outbuilding and Convert to Ancillary Accommodation, at Quarry Farm, Northop.

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

(The above application was sent to Members for consultation in-between meetings, due to statutory time limits for observations from County Planning).

9(B). 211/21

Members formally confirmed the above decisions.

9(C). 212/21

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

- (a) Application number: 063652 – for Erection of a Single storey porch to side elevation, and single storey link between existing house and outhouse to front elevation, at Tai Newydd, Rhosesmor

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

- (b) Application number: 063683 – for Demolition of conservatory - Proposed Single storey rear extension with balcony over, installation of 1st floor window/doors to rear elevation, at 2, Hen Gapel, Berth Ddu, Rhosesmor

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

- (c) Pre-consultation for proposed development of land at Fron Farm Caravan Park, Hendre, by John Williams (Planning Consultant) Holywell

Comment by Council: To await a formal planning application to be validated, whereafter this Council will provide an appropriate response.

**9(D). 213/21
PLANNING DECISIONS**

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

- (a) Application number: 062847 – for change of external materials, at Catch Farm, Lleprog Lane, Pentre Halkyn. Approved.
- (b) Application number: 063112 – for change of use from existing detached hobby room annex to a proposed holiday let, at Bron Deg, The Catch, Halkyn Approved.
- (c) Application number: 063285 – for approval of details reserved by conditions 4 (planting scheme) 5 (lighting) attached to planning permission reference number - 062027, at Fron Farm, Hendre. Approved.
- (d) Application number: 063564 – for increase size of garage, at School House, 1 Bryn Rodyn, Rhes Y Cae. Certificate of Conformity – Refused.

10. 214/21

TO CONSIDER: AMENDMENT TO SECTION 9. (B) FEES AND CHARGES OF THE CEMETERY REGULATIONS – ADJOURNED FROM OCTOBER COUNCIL MEETING (CLLR WENDY SIGSWORTH)

Councillor Wendy Sigsworth recollected Members, to the current Cemetery Regulations paragraph that related to the fees charged for non-residents, and in particular, residents who have resided within the Community Council area and moved outside the area within a three year period. Councillor Sigsworth wished the Council to reconsider the three year period.

Members agreed the following: As Councillor G. T. Robinson was instrumental in the drawing up of the Cemetery Regulations, Councillor Robinson to kindly draft an appropriate amendment for further discussion.

11. 215/21

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cheque Number	Payee	Net £	Vat £	Total £
	<p><u>Payments made – to be confirmed:</u></p> <p>Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for October) Payments dated: 01/11/2021</p> <p><u>Payment for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u></p> <p>Direct Debit: Scottish Power (October - Street Lighting Electricity Account payment due: 18/11/2021</p>	124.92	6.25	131.17

**12. 216/21
APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	<p><u>Authorised to be paid by BACS:</u></p>	
	<p>Wales Air Ambulance (Application for annual donation) (Section 137 LGA 1972)</p>	<p>£250.00</p>
	<p>Rhes Y Cae Community Craft Club (Application towards start-up costs) (Section 137 LGA 1972)</p>	<p>£240.00</p>
	<p>Note: Members agreed to provide the funding direct to the Rhes Y Cae Village Hall Committee bank account; to pay the Village Hall for six months of fortnightly room hire fees – as the Craft Group’s bank account has not been opened to date.</p>	

13. 217/21

Members agreed the payments of the above accounts and financial support as listed.

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

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

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