



CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN / HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Halkyn Community Council, Held Virtually by Video and Telephone Conference, On Monday the 21st March, 2022, at 7.30pm.

1(A). 47/22 PRESENT

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

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

1(B). 48/22 APOLOGIES

Councillor Colin Barker
Councillor Miss. Jean S. Davies
Councillor David G. Roberts
Councillor John Thomas

2. 49/22 PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

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

3. 50/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest Declared.

4. 51/22 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 21STFEBRUARY, 2022

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

5. 52/22

PROGRESS REPORT ON MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) Minute no: 5. 33/22 (1) (page 2)** – in relation to two vehicle speed activated signs to be installed in Pentre Halkyn – in the Willowfield area and on Brynford Road. The Clerk advised that following further correspondence whereafter a telephone call had been received from a County Highways Officer, who advised, that the installation would commence during week commencing 7th March. Councillor Colin D’Arcy advised that the units had not been installed. Councillor D’Arcy further advised that the monitoring wires were in situ on Martin’s Hill and Springfield Hill areas in Pentre Halkyn.
- (2) Minute no: 6(B). 35/22 (b) (page 4)** – in relation to an increase of electricity energy supply for the Council’s street lanterns. The Clerk recollected Members to an exchange of e-mails and in particular, an Excel spreadsheet which provided the current and increased supply cost from Scottish Power, together with supply costings from other suppliers - including the UK Government Procurement Department. Two national energy supply Companies advised, that they were not providing quotations due to the current unstable energy market. The Clerk also referred to other information contained within the spreadsheet, in relation to lengths of contracts.

Members agreed the following: Due to the current electricity energy market conditions, it would be unwise to enter into a long term contract. The Council will further review the situation in July 2022.

- (3) Minute no: 6(B). 35/22 (d) (page 4)** – in relation to the difficulty in opening the doors to the Rhes Y Cae notice board. Following inspection by the Council’s contracted joiner, the doors had swollen with the increased rainfall but have now been eased.
- (4) Minute no: 6(B). 35/22 (e) (page 4)** – in relation to the Clerk contacting the Grosvenor Estate, seeking either ownership and or responsibility of the white stones which are sited across the Halkyn Mountain. The Clerk advised, that following an initial automated acknowledgement, there had been no further reply. The Clerk recollected to Members that the Grosvenor Estate had not replied to a number of communications for the past three years, whereby the Clerk had made a formal complaint to the Estate.

A reply from the Estate advised the name and contact details of the following person: Annabel Farbon (Agent: Eaton and Halkyn Estates). This person had advised, that since the retirement of Rachael Watson (Halkyn Ranger), the Estate were unable to seek Rachael’s historical knowledge and were making enquiries with the Flintshire Countryside Services.

The Clerk recollected to Members, that they had previously agreed to invite the new Agent to attend a Council meeting; the Clerk has extended the invitation to Ms. Farbon.

6(A). 53/22

CORRESPONDENCE

- (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: The Catch area: 1 x Anti Social Behaviour / 1 x Criminal Damage / 1 x Theft

Pentre Halkyn: 1 x Public Order

Rhes-Y-Cae: 2 x Criminal Damage / 1 x Burglary

Rhosesmor: 1 x Anti Social Behaviour

(2) One Voice Wales: Letter and application form for membership – 2022 / 2023 at a cost of £459.00 with a 50% reduction to £229.50 for the first year.

Members agreed the following: Not to become a member.

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

- ❖ One Voice Wales: Survey report in relation to multi location meetings
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Guide to Town and Community Council elections in Wales
- ❖ Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: Annual Report 2022
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Draft Assessment of Well-being in Flintshire. Members to complete on-line survey on a personal basis
- ❖ HyNet North West: Pre-application publicity, in relation to the Liverpool Bay CCS proposals to develop and install a new carbon dioxide pipeline between – Ince and Flint and repurpose an existing pipeline between Flint and Point of Ayr.
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Welsh Government ‘Ending Physical Punishment in Wales’
- ❖ Benthg Cymru Wales’ Library of Things
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Queen’s Jubilee celebrations – applying for licences. Information forwarded to the Jubilee Committee

6(B). 54/22

CLERK’S REPORT

- (a) Freedom of Information request received: Seeking the number of British Muslims employed by the Council, including other information.
- (b) The Clerk advised, that the national Association of Local Councils had agreed the 2021 salary increase for Clerk’s in early March, 2022. The increase takes effect from the 1st April, 2021. Members were shown virtually the agreement documents, including the Clerk’s current salary scale. The Clerk further advised, that the 12 month increase back payment, following deduction of PAYE was reflected in the accounts section of these minutes. The Clerk sought that the salary standing order was amended to show the monthly increase.

Members agreed the following: (1) Confirmed the National Association of Local Councils directive (2) The Clerk’s salary standing order be amended accordingly, commencing from April with the first increase on the 1st May, 2022.

6(C). 55/22

HALKYN PARISH HALL TRUST – TRUSTEES MEETING

The Clerk advised that the Management Committee had increased with a number of local residents co-opted. Councillor Bob Robinson advised that there was a Management Committee meeting to be held on the 11th April.

6(D). 56/22

TO RECEIVE UPDATE & FURTHER DISCUSS: QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

The Clerk advised that an application was listed for consideration later in the meeting which had been received from the Rhes Y Cae Village Hall Committee, for financial assistance towards a function in June. There had been no further contact from the Group in Pentre Halkyn to date.

Councillor Wendy Sigsworth advised, that an event is being arranged in Rhosesmor.

Councillor Delyth Taylor advised, that a request had been made for the number of pupils of school age within the community to the County Admissions Team, whereby the information will be received later this week.

Discussion in relation to the purchase of commemorative mugs to be provided for children.

Members agreed the following: To purchase commemorative Queen's Jubilee boxed mugs to the value of approximately £6.00 to £8.00 each. Once the Clerk is aware of an approximate number of pupils, the Chair and Vice Chair to agree the purchase number and final costs.

6(E). 57/22

STREETSCENE SCHEDULE (FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

The Clerk advised in relation to the following concerns that had been reported to StreetScene, since the last Council meeting:

- (1) Concern received from a resident of Pentre Halkyn. Overgrown hedge in the area of Hafod Park, Pentre Halkyn.
- (2) Concerns received from a resident in Halkyn:
 - (i) Track adjacent to the B5123 in Halkyn – leading to the former Halkyn Post Office and Village Green – where an old metal seat is positioned. Request for the seat to be repainted. (Members viewed a photograph of the seat virtually). The Clerk advised, that this seat was most probably from a former project in the village. The Clerk had written to the Grosvenor Estate seeking their views. To date, no reply or acknowledgement had been received. The Clerk had also written to Street Scene seeking their views.

Members agreed the following: As the metal seat has been in situ for around 20 years, it will have been part of a project at that time, with no current ownership. The Clerk to arrange a quotation for the renovation of the bench, to be straightened and painted, with a cost also to relocate to possibly the Halkyn Village Green area, where the seat would be more useful.

- (ii) Road signage at the corner of B5123 and Rhos Y Cae turning in Halkyn, which is rusted with a request to provide a new signage. (Members viewed a photograph of the signs). The Clerk had written to Street Scene seeking their views.

The following update had been received from Street Scene:

- Damaged road sign on the B5123 as approaching Rhosesmor. Mr. Neil Hickie advised the following: A work order has been issued for a new replacement 76mm post and re-fit existing junction sign, but are presently awaiting resources to become available to complete the work.

The following concern was raised at the meeting:

- ❖ Councillor Delyth Taylor advised of the following concern by residents: Dust in the area of Bryn Y Foel in Rhosesmor, which is leaving a thick grey deposit both outside and on internal window sills. One resident has reported the concern to Flintshire Pollution, but has received no feedback.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to request Flintshire County Council Pollution Department, to consider installing equipment to monitor the dust levels in the Rhosesmor area.

7. 58/22

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. 59/22

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

- ❖ No reports available.

9(A). 60/22

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning application had been received:

- Application number: 064098 – for Single storey rear extension with replacement roof over existing Kitchen, 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.

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

9(B). 61/22

Members formally confirmed the above decision.

9(C). 62/22

The following planning application(s) were considered by Members at the meeting:

No applications received from Flintshire Planning for consideration by Council

9(D). 63/22

PLANNING DECISIONS

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

- (a) Application number: 060579 – for creation of a track to provide vehicular access, at land adjacent to Nant Cottage, The Nant. Approved.
- (b) Application number: 063321 – for proposed erection of 8 handmade glamping pods for guests, together with other work, at Top Pen Y Parc Farm, Pant Y Gof, Halkyn. Refused.
- (c) Application number: 063652 – for erection of single storey porch to side elevation and other work, at Tai Newydd, Rhosesmor. Approved.
- (d) Application number: 063940 – for retrospective application for a rear extension to the Post Office / Convenience stores, Pentre Halkyn. Approved.

10. 64/22

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cheque Number	Payee	Net £	Vat £	Total £
	<u>Payments made – to be confirmed:</u>			
	Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for February) Payments dated 01/03/2022			
	BACS: H. M. Revenue & Customs. Clerk's PAYE & Council NI - January, February & March (Payment dated 08/03/2022)	773.16		773.16
	<u>Payments for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u>			
	H. M. Revenue & Customs. Clerk's PAYE & Council NI - Extra payment following national increase in salary	54.30		54.30
	Caerwys Town Council (Quarter share of photocopier hire – with other Councils. VAT paid by Caerwys)	51.00		51.00
	Halkyn Parish Hall (Library charges from December 2021 to February 2022 – 12 weeks at £27.50)	330.00		330.00
	Flintshire County Council (Community Council contribution towards Halkyn children's play area upgrade)	10,000.00		10,000.00

Direct Debit: Scottish Power (February - Street Lighting Electricity Account) Payment due 18/03/2022	112.80	5.64	118.44
HSBC Bank (Bank charges)	5.80		5.80
R. P. Parry (Clerk) Payment of back pay from April 2021 to March 2022 – following national award and deduction of PAYE	129.00		129.00
R. P. Parry (Clerk) Travelling expenses from April 2021 to March 2022 (as per detailed auditor schedule)	143.10		143.10
R. P. Parry – Clerk (Re-imburement of computer security software – as per receipts – £104.90 plus VAT £20.99 – Total £125.89 / HM Revenue & Customs; Home Working allowance for 2021 – 2022 £312.00	416.90	20.99	437.89

11. 65/22

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	<u>Authorised to be paid by BACS:</u>	
	Rhes Y Cae Village Hall Committee (Application for financial assistance towards Queen’s Jubilee Celebrations) (Section 137 LGA 1972)	£500.00
	Kids Cancer Charity (Swansea) (Section 137 LGA 1972)	£150.00
	Note: The Clerk to forward details to the charity to the Headteacher at Ysgol Rhos Helyg, with a request to advise parents and guardians of the charities work	

12. 66/22

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.....