



CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN / HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Halkyn Community Council,
Held in the Halkyn Parish Hall,
On Monday the 21st November, 2022, at 7.00pm**

1(A). 210/22

PRESENT

Councillor Colin R. D’Arcy (Chair)
Councillor Ray Faulder-Jones
Councillor Howard Morris
Councillor David Palmer
Councillor Nicola Richardson
Councillor Wendy Sigsworth

Councillor Simon Jones (Flintshire County)

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

1(B). 211/22

APOLOGIES

Councillor David G. Roberts
Councillor Brian Coleclough
Councillor B. Glyn Coleclough
Councillor Jean S. Davies
Councillor Dylan H. Roberts
Councillor Bob Robinson
Councillor Delyth Taylor

1(C). 212/22

ABSENT

None

- The Chair of Council Councillor Colin D’Arcy welcomed Councillors to the meeting, including members of the Halkyn Parish Hall Management Committee and one resident of Halkyn Village.

1(D). 213/22

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – HALKYN PARISH HALL (SEPARATE MINUTES)

1(E). 214/22

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

The Clerk brought to the attention of Members, an application on behalf of Councillor Jean Davies, under the above referred to Act, in relation to the non-attendance at Council meetings over the past six months.

Members agreed the following: Confirmed the non-attendance of Councillor Jean Davies due to medical reason.

2. 215/22

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

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

3. 216/22

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Declaration of Interest was Declared: Councilor Wendy Sigsworth (**Minute number 11. 229/22 on page 8 below**)

4. 217/22

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 17TH OCTOBER, 2022

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

5. 218/22

PROGRESS REPORT ON MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) Minute no: 1(D). 190.22 (page 2)** – in relation to dust concerns emanating from the Cemex Quarry. The Clerk advised that following complaints made to the Quarry management, the following has been arranged: **(1)** The road cleaning vehicle will be deployed on more regular occasions **(2)** A liaison meeting has been arranged on 29th November, whereby this Council's representative Councillor Howard Morris will attend and report back to the Council in the January 2023 meeting.
- (2) Minute no: 5. 195/22 (2) (page 3)** – in relation to parking restrictions in The Nant area.
- (3) Minute no: 5. 195/22 (2) (page 3)** – in relation to a request to Flintshire County Council to consider a one way system in the area of Buxton Lane, Pentre Halkyn.
- (4) Minute no: 5. 195/22 (2) (page 3)** – in relation to speed monitoring tubes in Pentre Halkyn.

The Clerk advised that the Chair of Council and himself attended a virtual meeting with Lee Shone (Flintshire Highways) during the afternoon of this meeting. The above outstanding three items were discussed. Both the Chair of Council and Clerk provided the following report:

- Parking restrictions in the Nant. The area did not reach the criteria to be placed on the County Council list for improvements. However, the North Wales Police have requested the County further review.

- Buxton Pane, Pentre Halkyn. The County Officer is seeking funding to carry out a survey using cameras whereby vehicles will be identified if they are local or others such as delivery vehicles.
 - Speed monitoring tubes in Pentre Halkyn. The current tubes have not been placed by the County, but by the North Wales Police Go Safe Team. Once the results are sent to the County they will be shared with the Community Council, whereby a comparison can be made for the previous survey almost a year ago.
- (5) **Minute no: 6(C). 198/22 (page 5)** – in relation to receiving a quotation for the cutting of a hedge and tree branches in the Council Community Cemetery. The Clerk advised that whilst the contractor had stated a quotation would be forthcoming, it had not been received. The Clerk will make further contact.
- (6) The Clerk advised in relation to a previous decision to match-fund the sum of £10,000.00 with Flintshire County Council for the upgrade of the Pentre Halkyn play area, which included equipment and a new security fence. A design plan had been received from Aura Leisure whereby a decision was requested and had been made by the Chair and Vice Chair of Council to accept the design. Councillors were shown a copy of the plan.

Members agreed the following: Confirmed the acceptance of the play area plan.

**6(A). 219/22
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:

Berth Ddu: 1 x Criminal damage

Halkyn: No offences reported.

Pentre Halkyn: 3 x Drugs

Rhes-Y-Cae: No offences reported.

Rhosesmor: 1 x Violence

- Councillor Nicola Richardson discussed with Members complaints in relation to off-road bike activities across the Halkyn Mountain. A post of a local Facebook page advised that complaints of this nature should be reported to a Halkyn Community Councillor.
 - The Clerk advised, that it is an offence to ride a bike or other on the mountain common, and should be reported to the Police using the number 101.
- (2) Boundary Commission for Wales: Revised proposals for Wales' new parliamentary constituencies, including this Council area in Clwyd East.

Members agreed the following: No comment.

- (3) Flintshire County Council (Aura Leisure): Report on attendance figures during the 2022 Summer Play Scheme held in Pentre Halkyn and Rhosesmor over a three week period:

Pentre Halkyn:

- 149 - Total attendances
- 10 - Daily attendances
- 27 - Registrations

Rhosesmor:

- 380 - Total attendances
- 25 - Daily attendances
- 71 - Registrations

- (4) Flintshire County Council (Aura Leisure): Information and cost in relation to the 2023 Summer Play Scheme. The Clerk provided to Members the initial cost of a three week scheme at £1,595.80, with additional weeks at £531.00.

Members agreed the following: Pentre Halkyn – a three week summer play scheme and Rhosesmor a four week play scheme.

- (5) Flintshire County Council Standards Committee: Code of Conduct training for Councillors. The following Councillors advised of their attendance at the training sessions in October:

- **The Clerk advised that all Councillors had completed the Code of Conduct training.**

- (6) Flintshire County Council: Notification of County Forum virtual meeting to be held on Thursday 1st December at 6.30pm. Councillors' Colin D'Arcy and David Roberts notified as this Councils representatives.

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

- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Information in relation to 'Warm Hubs' in Flintshire
- ❖ Citizens Advice Flintshire: Invitation to attend a cost of living workshop. Councillor members invited to register on a personal basis
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Link to view a recording of the Code of Conduct training held for Town & Community Councillors
- ❖ Office of Rob Roberts MP. Covid Commemoration Consultation. Council members to complete on a personal basis
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Feedback from the County Standards Committee in relation to visits to Town & Community Councils, in particular, relation to the Code of Conduct
- ❖ Holywell Town Council: Copy of letter received from Andrew Farrow (Chief Officer – Planning) in relation to the below standard level of service currently being provided to Town & Community Councils.
- ❖ Charity Commission: Charity Commission Newsletter

**6(B). 220/22
CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk advised of the following deposit to be made into the Council's bank account: £110.00 received from the Librarian at the Parish Hall Library, following sales of the Queen's Jubilee Mugs.

(a) (i) The Clerk advised in relation to the 2022 / 2023 National pay salary award that had been notified to Council by the National Association of Local Councils, to take effect from the 1st April, 2022. A copy of the new salary scales had been forwarded to Members prior to the meeting. The Clerk provided Members with the backdated figure increase in salary and requested that the Bank salary standing order be amended to reflect the increase from the next payment dated the 1st December.

(ii) The Clerk further advised that he had successfully completed the Certificate in Local Authority Administration (CiLCA) – and provided information in relation to the number of modules, the time frame, together with information contained in the Clerk's Contract of Employment. The Chair of Council Councillor Colin D'Arcy read out a number of the assessors complimentary comments made on the modules the Clerk had submitted.

Members agreed the following: (1) Congratulated the Clerk (2) Accepted the national salary increase (3) Authorised the backpay from April to October (4) Increased the Clerk's salary point from 17 to point 18 (5) Bank standing order to be amended to include the new salary increase together with the increase in salary to point 18 - from the next payment date of 1st December (for November salary and thereafter).

6(C). 221/22

TO CONSIDER: TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT POLICY (DRAFT)

The Clerk recollects Members to the recently adopted Training Plan, whereby a Training & Development Policy was required to be considered. The Clerk further recollects to Members the draft policy sent prior to this meeting.

Members agreed the following: To adopt the Training & Development Policy.

6(D). 222/22

PRECEPT AND FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR 2023 / 2024

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: £10,000.00 – Council Cemetery Enhancement Scheme / £10,000.00 – Children's play area – Match finding with Flintshire County Council / £5,000.00 - Street Lighting inspections & repairs – as FCC notice / £10,000.00 - Grants to various Village Halls (due to increased electricity and heating costs) / £2,000.00 – Training budget

Ring-fenced and general reserves (includes property upkeep) – to be agreed in January 2023 budget setting.

Councillor Nicola Richardson suggested that consideration be provided for the painting of the white marker stones that are scattered around the mountain roads. The Clerk was asked to place on the January 2023 agenda. Councillor David Palmer advised that he would endeavour to find out the County Highway rules and regulations.

6(E). 223/22

STREETSCENE SCHEDULE (FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

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

- Junction at Bryn Alyn travelling towards Rhydymwyn – the temporary road diversion signage is obliterating the view of drivers at this junction (Reported directly by Councillor Delyth Taylor). *Signage was repositioned.*

Members brought the following concerns to the meeting:

- (1) Overhanging trees: On the road between the Church and the Britannia Inn. A number of branches are really low, with one large branch almost touching the wall on the opposite side of the road.
- (2) Could the trees travelling from the cattle grid to the Church on the B5123 road also be inspected
- (3) Water running down hill from Moel Y Crio to Rhes Y Cae. This is washing away the wall at Black Lion Farm
- (4) Dog fouling concern in a number of areas in Pentre Halkyn. Could it be arranged for the Dog Warden to visit the village
- (5) Low hanging cable - possibly electricity or BT in Rhes Y Cae – travelling past the former pub towards the Church

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

7. 224/22

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. 225/22

COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (COUNCILLOR MISS. JEAN DAVIES & COUNCILLOR SIMON JONES)

There were no reports from both County Councillors.

9(A). 226/22

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

- (a) Application number: FUL/000601/22 – for demolition of existing bungalow to be replaced with new dwelling and garage, at Oakdene, Buxton Lane, Pentre Halkyn.

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

- (b) Application number: FUL/000534/22 – for proposed two storey rear extension and single storey side extension, at Cefn Y Gildia, Ffordd Y Graig, Rhes Y Cae.

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

- (c) Application number: 000537/22 – for proposed change of use from outbuilding into two residential units, at Cefn Y Gildia, Ffordd Y Graig, Rhes Y Cae.

Comment by Council: Whilst the Community Council have no objection to the application, as long as planning policies and planning guidance notes are complied with, concern is expressed in relation to the access road to the property.

(d) Application number: 000659/22 – for the erection of storage / garage, at Halkyn Old Hall Mews, Pentre Halkyn.

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

9(B). 227/22

PLANNING DECISIONS

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

- (i) Application number: FUL/000476/22, for full - building works - modifications to existing patio area and erection of replacement fence to Eastern, at 12 , Bryn Y Gwynt, Pentre Halkyn. Approved
- (ii) Application number: FUL/000054/22 – for change of Use and conversion of the existing detached storage outbuilding to a proposed 1 bed holiday let, at Trem Yr Afon, Pant Y Goff, Halkyn. Approved.
- (iii) Application number: FUL/000166/22 – for provision of stand alone solar PV panels, at 3 Bryn Teg Cottage, Halkyn. Approved.

10. 228/22

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 October) Payments dated: 01/10/2022 (Quarterly payment for Cemetery administration – August, September & October)			
	Direct Debit: HSBC Bank (charges) Payment dated 15/11/2022	7.00		7.00
	Direct Debit: Scottish Power (October - Street Lighting Electricity Account payment due: 29/11/2022	225.12	11.26	236.38
	<u>Payments for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u>			
	Deeco lighting (Repair faulty light near Bryn Awel, Pentre Halkyn)	245.00	49.00	294.00
	Wilday Construction Ltd (Repairs to Halkyn Parish Hall – as accepted quotation)	540.00	108.00	648.00

	R. P. Parry – Clerk (Back pay from April 2022 to October 2022 – less HMRC)			
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11. 229/22

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	<p><u>Authorised to be paid by BACS:</u></p> <p>Holywell Leisure Centre (Application for annual grant) (Application adjourned to the January 2023 Council meeting for production of copy bank statement)</p> <p>Urdd National Eisteddfod (Application for annual grant) (Section 145 LGA 1972)</p> <p>Halkyn Parish Hall (Application for reimbursement of costs in relation to an event held at the Hall - during HM Queen Elizabeth’s Jubilee Celebrations) (Section 137 LGA 1972)</p> <p>Note: Councillor Wendy Sigsworth Declared an Interest in the above application (Minute number 3. 216/22 on page 2 above)</p>	<p>£250.00</p> <p>£859.75</p>

12. 230/22

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.....