



CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN / HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Halkyn Community Council, Held in the Halkyn Parish Hall, On Monday the 15th May, 2023, at 7.00pm

Community Award

Prior to the commencement of the Council Meeting Councillors held a Presentation Ceremony to present to Mrs. Jean Roberts (Individual Award) and to Mr. David Wright (Committee / Group Award). These Community Awards were presented following public nominations received by the Community Council.

The retiring Chair of Council Councillor Colin D'Arcy in presenting Mrs. Jean Roberts with a Community Award, reflected on her service to the community for over 40 years and in particular, to the 35 years of both co-ordinating a voluntary car scheme for local residents and driving her personal vehicle to ensure that appointments were kept.

Councillor D'Arcy in presenting Mr. David Wright (who was accompanied by Members of the Halkyn Mountain News Team) with a Community Award, reflected on the almost 40 volunteers who cover the editorial, production and delivery of the quarterly editions of the Halkyn Mountain News to over 2,000 properties. The newspaper is a credit to the Community.

Framed Community Award Certificates together with bouquets of flowers were presented to Mrs. Jean Roberts and Mr. David Wright; Refreshments were provided.

Annual Council Meeting

1(A). 92/23

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON FOR THE PERIOD 2023 / 2024

Councillor David Roberts was proposed and seconded, as Chair of Council. There were no further nominations. Councillor Roberts accepted the nomination.

Members agreed the following: Councillor David Roberts be appointed as Chair of Council for the period 2023 / 2024.

The retiring Chair of Council, Councillor Colin D'Arcy thanked both the Councillors and Clerk for their support during his year of office.

1(B). 93/23

SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE (CHAIR OF COUNCIL)

Councillor David Roberts signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was duly witnessed by the Clerk.

The new Chair of Council David Roberts, thanked Councillors for his appointment.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Chair of Council David Roberts offered the Council's condolences to Councillor Ray Faulder-Jones, on the sad passing of his mother.

2(A). 94/23

PRESENT (FOR BOTH ANNUAL AND GENERAL MEETINGS)

Councillor David G. Roberts (Chair)
Councillor Howard Morris (Vice Chair)
Councillor Brian Coleclough
Councillor B. Glyn Coleclough
Councillor Colin R. D'Arcy
Councillor David Palmer
Councillor Bob Robinson
Councillor Wendy Sigsworth

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

2(B). 95/23

APOLOGIES (FOR BOTH ANNUAL AND GENERAL MEETINGS)

Councillor Jean S. Davies
Councillor Ray Faulder-Jones
Councillor Nicola Richardson
Councillor Dylan H. Roberts
Councillor Delyth Taylor

Councillor Simon Jones (Flintshire County)

2(C). 96/23

ABSENT

None

3. 97/23

APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRPERSON FOR THE PERIOD 2023 / 2024

Councillor Howard Morris was proposed and seconded. There were no further nominations. Councillor Morris accepted the nomination.

Members agreed the following: To appoint Councillor Howard Morris, as Vice Chair for the year 2023 / 2024

4. 98/23

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON THE 16TH MAY, 2022

The Clerk advised Members, that the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting were formally proposed, seconded and agreed at the 20th June, 2022 meeting; under Minute number: 4. 122/22.

Members agreed the following: Re-affirmed the above decision.

5. 99/23

NOMINATIONS TO SERVE ON LOCAL COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES

Members received prior to the meeting a copy of the current list of Liaison, Local Committees and Outside Bodies for year 2022 / 2023.

Members agreed the following: The Joint Consultative Committee was deleted; the remainder of the current list to continue for year 2023 / 2024.

General Council Meeting

6(A). 10023

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

- ❖ Report from resident advising that The Nant road name sign has disappeared.

6(B). 101/23

COMMUNITY AWARD PRESENTATION

The Community Award presentation took place prior to the commencement of the Council meeting. Details at the top of page one of these minutes. Council thanked the Clerk for the arrangements.

7. 102/23

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Declarations of Interest were Declared: Councillor Brian Coleclough and Councillor Glyn Clough (**Minute number: 15. 120/23 on page 9 below**)

8. 103/23

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 17TH APRIL, 2023

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

9. 104/23

PROGRESS REPORT ON MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) Minute no: 5. 73/23 (1) (page 2)** – in relation to speed monitoring tubes in Pentre Halkyn. The Clerk advised in County Councillor Simon Jones absence, that Councillor Jones has requested the speed survey, however, the information has not been received.
- (2) Minute no: 5. 73/23 (2) (page 2)** – in relation to correspondence to the North & Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency seeking a survey be carried out on the A5026 road to the A55 at The Nant. The Clerk advised that a reply had now been received from the above Agency. The Clerk read out the contents of the reply to Members, which referred to the following: Meeting held with the Welsh Government, North & Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency and owners of Hafod. Discussed concerns with horses / riders mixing with traffic on the slip road and parked HGV's. The accident record on the slip road does not record any incidents during the last five years; the Agency will continue to monitor the area.

- (3) **Minute no: 5. 73/23 (3) (page 2)** – in relation to the white marker stones on Halkyn Mountain. Councillor Glyn Coleclough advised Members, that the Whitford Young Farmers will complete the painting of the white marker stones during the summer months.
- (4) **Minute no: 6(A). 74/23 (3) (page 3)** – in relation to request for assistance form Ramblers Cymru. The Clerk advised that replies have been received from the following: Tarmac Quarries, County Minerals Officer and Rights of Way Officer. The correspondence confirmed that a site meeting had been held, whereby the County Council are considering a restoration plan and outstanding footpaths issues. The Clerk further advised that he had forwarded the various correspondence to Ramblers Cymru, who had replied and thanked the Community Council for their assistance.
- (5) **Minute no: 6(I). 82/83 (page 6)** – in relation to repair / replacement to the table inlays in the Parish Hall meeting room. The Clerk advised that a quotation had now been received to remove the existing vinyl inserts and replace with blue vinyl inserts, including a polish to the wood, at as cost of £360.00. The Clerk recollects Members to other requests for quotations that had been brought to their attention at the April meeting, including a more recent request from a Wirral Company, whereby non had been received.

Members agreed the following: Accepted the quotation from Alex Webster Restoration (Colwyn Bay) for the sum of £360.00. The Clerk to issue a Work Order.

10(A). 105/23 CORRESPONDENCE

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

- (1) The following report had been received from PCSO Connor Freel, in relation to reported criminal offences within the Community:

Halkyn (The Catch): 1 x Anti social behaviour

Pentre Halkyn: 3 x Anti social behaviour / 2 x Other crimes / 3 x Public order / 5 x Violence

Rhes-Y-Cae: 1 x Anti social behaviour

Rhosesmor (The Wern): 2 x Anti social behaviour

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

- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Notice of road closure in Wern Y Gaer, Rhosesmor
- ❖ Welsh Government: Bilingual written statement: Democratic Heath of Community and Town Councils
- ❖ North & Mid Wales Road Traffic Agency: Notification in relation to essential carriageway works planned to take place on the A55 from Halkyn to Caerwys J31 - from 9th May to 17th May

10(B). 106/23 CLERK'S REPORT

- (a) The Clerk advised Members in relation to the following deposits to the Council's bank account:

- £16,666.66 - Flintshire County Council: First precept payment for financial year 2023 / 2024
 - £1,336.00 - Flintshire County Council: Cemetery grant.
 - £2,529.79 - HM Revenue & Customs: VAT Refund for financial year 2022 / 2023
- (b) The Clerk advised that Councillor David Roberts had received information from an Exclusive Rights Burial Plot holder, that the plot was no longer required. The plot was purchased in 2002. The Clerk had written to the Exclusive Rights holder to express the Council's thanks for advising.
- (c) Councillor David Roberts had attended a Chair of Council Chaining Skills – virtual course.
- (d) The Clerk advised that the new litter signage had been erected in the Council Community Cemetery. Councillors were shown a photograph on screen.
- (e) The Clerk advised that the Annual Return – Published Allowances / Statement of Payments made to Councillors, had been sent to the Office of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, as required under Section 151 of the Local Government Measure 2011. The return had been acknowledged.
- (f) Meeting closed Pursuant to Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, it was **RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting, for the following item of business:

Local Facebook comments and legal advice which was received at no cost to the Council were the only matters discussed during this closure of the meeting to the press and public.

Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, **RESOLVED** that the press and public be re-admitted to the meeting.

10(C). 107/23

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.

10(D). 108/23

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES IN WALES – ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

The Clerk advised Members that Sections in the above document named: Accounting Statements for 2022-23, together with the Annual Governance Statement had been completed by the Clerk prior to the return being presented to the Internal Auditor. The Council Approval and Certification Section was now required to be signed by the Clerk and formally approved by Council for signature by the Chair.

Members confirmed the following: The Approval and Certification Section of the Annual Return, to be signed by both the Chair and Clerk.

10(E). 109/23

TO RECEIVE: INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT – YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

The Clerk recollects Members to a copy of the recently received Internal Audit report for year ending March 2023 - that had been sent to Councillors prior to the meeting.

The Council noted the following comments in the report: 'No internal control issues identified. The Council has maintained a robust set of books and records for the financial year'.

Members agreed the following: Congratulated and thanked the Clerk for his work over the past year.

10(F). 110/23

TO FURTHER DISCUSS: COUNCIL'S TRAINING PLAN

The Clerk recollects Members to the agreement to pay a quarter share with three other Councils for a Planning Aid Wales 20 Licence training fee. The Clerk seeks Councillors to attend the on-line course.

Members agreed the following: Councillors' to attend the Planning Aid Wales training: Colin D'Arcy and David Palmer. The Clerk to enquire with Councillor Ray Faulder-Jones if he wishes to attend.

10(G). 111/23

TO ARRANGE: ANNUAL CEMETERY INSPECTION IN JUNE

The Clerk advised that this agenda item is to arrange the Annual Inspection of the Council Cemetery adjacent to St. Mary's Church, Halkyn.

Members agreed the following: Inspection to take place on Wednesday 14th June at 7.00pm. The Clerk to advise the Cemetery Sub-Committee.

10(H). 112/23

STREETSCENE SCHEDULE (FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

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

- No matters of concern had been received and reported since the last Council meeting.

Members brought the following concerns to the meeting:

- (1) Sign at top of Springfield Hill, Pentre Halkyn – Letters missing
- (2) Condition of road surface – Halkyn to Rhes Y Cae road. Pot holes and road raised in parts
- (3) Concern had been expressed to Councillors by residents in relation to the increasing number of vehicles / motorhomes that park overnight in a number of areas across the Halkyn Mountain.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to write to the Grosvenor Estate to seek their thoughts in relation to this practice and also the legality aspect.

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

11. 113/23

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.

12. 114/23

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

Councillor Simon Jones advised in an e-mail the following:

- The section of road from the Britannia to the lower Church Hill junction is programmed for resurfacing during this financial year.
- The stolen village names and direction signage across the Halkyn Mountain area will be replaced by the County

13(A). 115/23

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning application had been received:

- Application number: FUL/000307/23 – for proposed single storey & rear extension at 1, Pen Y Parc Bungalows, Berth Ddu.

Comment from 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).

13(B). 116/23

Members formally confirmed the above decision.

13(C). 117/23

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

- (a) Application number: FUL/000363/23 – for extension to form sun lounge to front of dwelling, at The Nook, Rhosesmor.

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

- (b) Application number: 000392/23 – for erection of a new house to replace an old house destroyed by fire, at Bryn Gwiog Cottage, Hendre.

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

- (c) Application number: 000416/23 – for two storey extension (in part retrospective) at Halkyn Old Hall Mews, Pentre Road, Halkyn.

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

(d) Application number: LBC/000417/23 – for listed building application (in part retrospective) at Halkyn Old Hall Mews, Pentre Road, Halkyn.

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

(e) Application number: 000355/23 – for application for removal or variation of condition 2 – Reference number: FUL/000476/22 – at 12 Bryn Y Gwynt, Pentre Halkyn,

Comment by Council: The application does not open on the Planning Portal, therefore: No observation.

13(D). 118/23

PLANNING DECISIONS

The following planning decision had been received from Flintshire County Council:

- ❖ Application number: FUL/000062/23 – for demolition of existing garage and erection of two storey extension to front/side, single storey extension at rear and double garage, at Llys Hywel, Rhes Y Cae. Permits.

14. 119/23

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 April) Payments dated: 02/05/2023			
	BACS: Palm Signs (new Cemetery sign – as agreed by Council (Payment dated: 25/05/2023)	163.00	32.60	195.60
	BACS: Rhosesmor Village Hall (Application towards funding for King’s Coronation Celebration (Agreed in-between meeting by Council) (Section 137 LGA 1972)	500.00		500.00
	Councillor Allowance:			
	Councillor David Roberts (Payment dated: 24/04/2023)	208.00		208.00
	Councillor Wendy Sigsworth (Payment dated: 27/04/2023)	208.00		208.00
	Councillor Dylan Roberts (Payment dated 10/05/2023)	208.00		208.00
	Councillor Colin D’Arcy (Payment dated 16/05/2023) (Consumables)	52.00		52.00

<u>Payments for confirmation and consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u>			
BHIB Councils Insurance (Community Council Insurance Policy 2023 / 2024)	793.11		793.11
Shaw & Sons (Local Government Stationers) Exclusive Rights of Burial Certificate book	128.00	25.60	153.60
Caerwys Town Council (Re-imburement of quarter share of Planning Aid Wales (Subscription for 20 on-line training licences at £150.00)	37.50		37.50
JDH Business Services Ltd (Internal Audit – 2022 / 2023)	275.00	55.00	330.00
Councillor Colin D’Arcy (Retiring Chair of Council allowance)	400.00		400.00
R. P. Parry (Clerk) Re-imburement of items for Community Award - Refreshments & other items / Certificate frames / 2 x Bouquet flowers (as per receipts)	114.48		114.49
Direct Debit: HSBC Bank (charges) Payment due: 16/05/2023	7.80		7.80
Direct Debit: Scottish Power (April - Street Lighting Electricity Account payment due: 18/05/2023)	441.83	22.09	463.92

15. 120/23

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	<u>Authorised to be paid by BACS:</u>	
	Caerwys Agricultural Show (Application for annual grant) (Section 144 of the LGA 1972)	£250.00
	Rhes Y Cae & Moel Y Crio Sheepdog Trials and Show (Application for annual grant) (Section 144 of the LGA 1972)	£1,000.00
	Declarations of Interest: Councillors’ Brian Coleclough and Councillor Glyn Coleclough declared an interest in the above application for financial assistance) (Minute number: 7. 102/23 on page 3 above)	

16. 121/23

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.....**