



# **CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN / HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

---

**Minutes of the Meeting of Halkyn Community Council,  
Held in the Halkyn Parish Hall,  
On Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2023, at 7.00pm**

**1(A). 206/23  
PRESENT**

Councillor David G. Roberts (Chair)  
Councillor Brian Coleclough  
Councillor Colin R. D'Arcy  
Councillor David Palmer  
Councillor Dylan H. Roberts  
Councillor Bob Robinson  
Councillor Wendy Sigsworth  
Councillor Delyth Taylor

Councillor Simon Jones (Flintshire County)

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

**1(B). 207/23  
APOLOGIES**

Councillor B. Glyn Coleclough  
Councillor Jean S. Davies  
Councillor Ray Faulder-Jones  
Councillor Howard Morris  
Councillor Nicola Richardson

**1(C). 208/23  
ABSENT**

None

- The Chair of Council Councillor David Roberts welcomed Councillors to the meeting, including members of the Halkyn Parish Hall Management Committee.

**Standing Orders were suspended**

**1(D). 209/23  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – HALKYN PARISH HALL (SEPARATE MINUTES)**

## **Standing Orders were re-instated**

### **1(E). 210/23**

#### **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.

### **2. 211/23**

#### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS**

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

### **3. 212/23**

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest Declared

### **4. 213/23**

#### **TO APPROVE (A) GENERAL MINUTES AND (B) SUPPLEMENTARY MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 16TH OCTOBER, 2023**

**The Minutes were proposed as correct (A) General Minutes** by Councillor Brian Coleclough and seconded by Councillor Delyth Taylor and **(B) Supplementary Minutes** by Councillor Brian Coleclough and seconded by Councillor Delyth Taylor – with both sets of minutes formally agreed by the Members present.

### **5. 214/23**

#### **PROGRESS REPORT ON MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) Television installations in Parish Hall:** The Clerk advised that both televisions had been wall mounted in the Committee Room and Main Hall of The Parish Hall. HDMI wall sockets has also been installed adjacent to each television. The ceiling mounted projector and wall mounted white board had been removed, with the projector donated to the Halkyn Community Cinema Group. The whiteboard deposited in the County waste disposal unit.
- (2) Halkyn Parish Hall – Land Registry name amendment:** The Clerk advised that the County had changed the Business Rates details to Halkyn Parish Hall. The Charity Commission name had also been changed to Halkyn Parish Hall. The Clerk further advised, that now the above changes have been made, an application with supporting evidence will be submitted to the Land Registry.
- (3) Bus Shelter in Wern Y Gaer:** The Clerk advised that following a request made to the County Council for the provision of a bus shelter in the Wern Y Gaer area, the following reply had been received. ‘The bus company firstly install a bus shelter, thereafter the County Council will maintain’. The Clerk further advised, that the reply was surprising as this is quite clearly not the policy of the County Council.

**Members agreed the following:** County Councillor Simon Jones be forwarded the thread of e-mails to discuss with the County Council.

- (4) **Request for white arrow markings on A5026 Road in The Nant:** The Clerk advised that whilst the request had been acknowledged by Street Scene and passed to Highways, there had been no further update received.

**Members agreed the following:** County Councillor Simon Jones be forwarded the thread of e-mails to discuss with the County Council.

**6(A). 215/23  
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:** 2 x Anti Social behaviour / 1 x Criminal damage / 1 x Other crime / 4 x Violence

**Rhes-Y-Cae:** 2 x Criminal damage / 1 x Violence

**Rhosesmor:** No offences reported

**The Nant:** 1 x Public order / 1 x Violence

**The Wern:** 1 x Public order

- (2) Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: Draft Annual Report. The Clerk recollected to Members that the report had been forwarded to Councillors, whereby the Councillor allowance is £156.00, together with a payment of £52.00 a year towards office consumables. These payments are mandatory unless the Councillor provides in writing to the Clerk that the payment(s) will not be accepted. The payment of £52.00 can be increased subject to the Clerk receiving receipt(s). As these payments are for the financial year 2024 / 2025, the Clerk will further refer in the April, 2024 Council meeting.
- (3) Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: Further correspondence in relation to Councillor allowances and in particular, the HMRC income tax aspect.
- (4) Flintshire County Council: Summer Play Scheme Annual Report on attendee numbers and other information. The Clerk read out the report in full to Members and was shown on screen. Members were provided with the following attendance figures:

**Pentre Halkyn:** Total attendance over a three week period: 39 children / Average daily attendances: 3

**Rhosesmor:** Total attendance over a four week period: 236 children / Average daily attendances: 12

- (5) Flintshire County Council: Summer Play Scheme for year 2024. The Clerk brought to the attention of Members correspondence from the County Lead Officer for Play Development in Flintshire. The County wish Town & Community Councils to consider a three-year cycle in principle, for funding the summer play scheme. Members were shown the three-year cycle costings on screen. The scheme would only be available for either a three or six week period.

**Members agreed the following:** To commit to a one year six week programme in Rhosesmor for 2024. Council decided not to hold a play scheme in Pentre Halkyn due to the low number of attendees. The Clerk to complete the required form and return to the County.

- (6) Flintshire County Council. Information in relation to a joint virtual meeting held between the Flintshire Standards Committee and Town & Community Councils. Councillor David Roberts together with the Clerk attended on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November. Letter received from the Chief Officer Governance following the meeting was circulated to Councillors.
- (7) Correspondence received from a Member of Brynford Community Council seeking that this Council support the return of the Halkyn Mountain Consultative Board meetings. The Clerk advised Members that the Board was established decades ago whereby this Council's representatives were Councillors' Brian Coleclough and Wendy Sigsworth. The quarterly meetings were facilitated by the Grosvenor Estate and Flintshire Countryside Services. Since the pandemic the Board have not met, hence the request from Brynford Community Council. Councillors' Brian Coleclough and Wendy Sigsworth provided further information, which included the past work and importance of the JCC to the area. The proposed new National Park designation project for the area was also referred to, whereby the JCC would be an asset during this Welsh Government project.

**Members agreed the following:** To support the resurrection of the Joint Consultative Committee.

- (8) Welsh Government: Notification of the appropriate sum under Section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 – Section 137 Expenditure limit for 2024-2025. The current limit for 2023 / 2024 of £9.93 increases to £10.81 per elector for financial year 2024 / 2025.
- (9) Flintshire County Council: Completion of installation of new equipment in Rhosesmor Children's play area, following match funding with Halkyn Community Council.

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

- ❖ One Voice Wales: Review of Democratic Health in the Community & Town Council sector. Councillors to complete the questionnaire on a personal basis

## **6(B). 216/23**

### **CLERK'S REPORT**

- (a) Newspaper report link forwarded to Members received from Councillor David Palmer in relation to refuse and other bin collections from properties sited on unadopted roads. County Councillor Simon Jones provided details in his report (**Minute number 8. 220/23 (iv) on page 6 below**)
- (b) Councillor Colin D'Arcy enquired in relation to the Speed Indicator Devices in Pentre Halkyn which are currently not effective. The Clerk advised, the County Council have to either recalibrate or replace the devices following the 20mph speed limit reduction. The County are currently completing their requirements.

### **(c) STREET LIGHTS**

Reported faulty street light on Halkyn to Rhos Y Cae Road - just prior to the junction and near to Summerhill Cottage and Mountain View.

### **6(C). 217/23**

#### **PRECEPT AND FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR 2024 / 2025**

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:** £1,000.00 – Picnic table in Rhosesmor play area.

The following items to transfer from the current 2023 / 2024 ear-marked reserves budget for the financial year 2024 / 2025: £10,000.00 – Upgrade of children's play area in Rhosesmor – with an emphasis on accessible equipment / £5,000 - Street lighting inspections and repairs (Flintshire County Council) / £10,000 – grants to four village halls (up to £2,500 each, if requested, to cover additional electricity, heating & other costs) / £2,000.00 – Training budget.

The £10,000 currently held in relation to the Council Cemetery enhancement scheme, to be placed in a new heading with the figure amended: £5,000 - Cemetery (General upkeep & future work) / £15,000 - Council Buildings (General, maintenance & future work).

Other possible ring-fenced and general reserves – to be agreed in January 2024 budget setting.

### **6(D). 218/23**

#### **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.

**The Clerk provided the following update from Mr. Neil Hickie (StreetScene) Officer**

- No update in relation to previously reported concerns had been received from Street Scene.

**Members brought the following concerns to the meeting:**

- (1) A55 Slip Road to Britannia: The 30 mph sign is misaligned and obscured
- (2) B5123 Road in Rhosesmor: Pothole – North of Church and near slow sign
- (3) Rhosesmor: Tarmac eroding on Church Lane
- (4) Rhosesmor: Tarmac eroding at the junction of Church Lane – following building work at the Church
- (5) Halkyn: Pot holes on road from area of Blue Bell to double bends – travelling down Middle Mill Lane
- (6) Halkyn: Pot holes on road leading to the Barracks area

(7) Rhosesmor Play area: The rubbish bin is always full due to the usage of the play area, could there be an extra emptying each week please

(8) Berth Ddu Bus shelter: Could the graffiti please be removed

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

**Members agreed the following:** Neil Hickie (Flintshire Street Scene) to be invited to the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 Council meeting.

#### **7. 219/23**

#### **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.

#### **8. 220/23**

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

Councillor Simon Jones advised in relation to the following:

- (i) Provided an update in relation to the 20mph speed limit. The Rhys Y Cae area still has a 30mph limit; an emergency order is in process to reduce the limit to 20mph
- (ii) County Council budget deficit for next financial year is approximately £14 million pounds
- (iii) Missing bus shelter seating in Pentre Halkyn will be replaced in January 2024
- (iv) New County policy in relation to waste collection from properties sited on unadopted roads. There are a number in the Halkyn Council area. Roads will be assessed with householder and general stakeholder consultation will be held
- (v) Update provided in relation to a possible further National Park in Wales which could include the Halkyn Mountain area

**Members agreed the following:** The Clerk to write to Natural Resources Wales, to enquire as to why there was no public meeting held in the area of Halkyn Mountain Common.

#### **9(A). 221/23**

#### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**The following planning application had been received:**

- ❖ Ref No: Ful/000917/23 – for detached double garage, at Bryn Y Gaer, 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). 222/23**

**Members formally confirmed the above decision.**

**9(C). 223/23**

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

- (1) Ref No: FUL/000931/23 – for erection of a field shelter / stable block complex to allow the stabling of two horses, plus tack room and feed room to the rear, at Keepers Cottage, Groes Farm, Pant Y Goff, Halkyn.

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

- (2) Ref No: FUL/000919/23 – for erection of new oak timber frame garage with slate roof to south west corner of the plot, at The Sawmill, Rhosesmor.

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

- (3) Application number: FUL/000633/22 – amended plans for proposed conversion of outbuilding into holiday accommodation, at The Granary, Pant Y Goff, Halkyn.

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

- (4) Application number: FUL/000953/23 – for proposal: Conversion of existing barn into 2 Holiday Cottages, along with amenity space and parking within the curtilage of Grade 2 Listed Farmhouse, at Ffagnallt Farm, Lixwm.

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

- (5) Application number: LBC/000954/23 (Listed Building Consent) – for proposal: Conversion of existing barn into 2 Holiday Cottages, along with amenity space and parking within the curtilage of Grade 2 Listed Farmhouse, at Ffagnallt Farm, Lixwm.

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

**9(D). 224/23**

**PLANNING DECISIONS**

**The following planning decision(s) have been received from Flintshire County Council:**

- ❖ No decisions received from Flintshire County Council

**10. 225/23**

**APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

October) Payments dated: 01/11/2023			
<b>BACS:</b> Flintshire Aerials (Installation of wall mounted televisions in Parish Hall Committee Room and Main Hall, removal of overhead projector and installation of HDMI ports – as agreed quotations for £350.00 and £350.00. Payment made: 02/11/2023 (Payment agreed by two Councillor bank signatories)	700.00		700.00
<b>Direct Debit:</b> HSBC Bank (charges) Payment dated: 15/11/2023	5.00		5.00
<b><u>Payments for confirmation and consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u></b>			
Society of Local Council Clerks (Clerk’s annual membership renewal – shared with other Councils)	74.50		74.50
<b>Direct Debit:</b> Scottish Power (October - Street Lighting Electricity Account payment due: 20/11/2023)	478.42	23.92	502.34

### 11. 226/23

#### APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	<b><u>Authorised to be paid by BACS:</u></b>	
	Halkyn Mountain Cinema Group (Application for funding to purchase advertising banners) (Section 137 LGA 1972)	£162.00 *
	* <b>Note:</b> The Clerk to order the advertising banners directly with the preferred Company named: CATNMOUSE Design and Print, at a cost of £135 plus VAT (total £162). The Clerk is authorised to pay the invoice when received. The banner to be donated to the Halkyn Mountain Cinema group	
	Community Outpost Shop & Café, Rhosesmor (Application for funding to purchase external ‘A’ frame advertising sign) (Section 137 LGA 1972)	£89.99 *
	* <b>Note:</b> The Clerk to order the preferred advertising board directly with the Company named Signpromax through Amazon. If not possible for the Company to issue an invoice in the Council name; the Clerk to purchase personally and claim reimbursement from Council. The board to be donated to the Community	



	Outpost Shop & Café.	
--	----------------------	--

**12. 227/23**

**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.....**