



CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN / HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Halkyn Community Council,
Held in the Halkyn Parish Hall,
On Monday the 18th March, 2024, at 7.30pm.**

**1(A). 45/24
PRESENT**

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 Nicola Richardson
Councillor Dylan H. Roberts
Councillor Wendy Sigsworth

Councillor Simon Jones (Flintshire County)

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

**1(B). 46/24
APOLOGIES**

Councillor Ray Faulder-Jones
Councillor Delyth Taylor
Councillor Bob Robinson

**1(C). 47/24
ABSENT**

None

**2. 48/24
PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS**

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

**3. 49/24
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest Declared.

4. 50/24

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH FEBRUARY 2024

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

5. 51/24

PROGRESS REPORT ON MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) **Halkyn Parish Hall:** The Clerk advised that he had eventually been pin-pointed by the Land Registry to the required form for completion to amend the name of Halkyn Parish Hall and to register the correct postal address on the deeds held by the Land Registry. The Clerk confirmed, the form had been completed and sent to the Land Registry and was advised that the change process could take a number of months to complete.
- (2) **Request for white arrow markings on A5026 Road in The Nant:** Councillors confirmed that the work had not been completed. The Clerk advised that apparently there was a lengthy list of white lining areas to be completed by the County, whereby this matter would remain in the pending file.
- (3) **Condition of adopted highway – area of Black Lion Farm to The Graig, Rhes y Cae:** The Clerk recollects Members to previous correspondence from County Highways advising that an inspection of the area roads of concern would be completed. A lengthy report had been received which was shown on screen to Members. The report advised that the County had a limited budget for resurfacing and defect rectification. Whilst the roads were subject to a County matrix assessment, there are numerous A and B roads that are in poor condition and require treatment. These roads in Rhes Y Cae will have signage installed at both entrances to highlight the current condition of the carriageway by stating that there are bumps ahead. In relation to the grassed areas, the painted stones are noted which should provide adequate protection and ensure that such drivers utilise the highway network correctly’
- (4) **Ysgol Rhos Helyg Notice Board:** The Clerk recollects Members that this Council agreed to fund a new notice board for Ysgol Rhos Helyg. The cost for the removal of the old board and installation of a new board totalled £480.00. Whilst the School had ordered the board, rather than the school settle the cost and reclaim from this Council the Headteacher is seeking if this Council kindly pay the cost direct to the company named EPD Joinery and building.

Members agreed the following: Confirmed their previous decision to fund a new notice board at Ysgol Rhos Helyg, at a cost now confirmed at £480.00. The Clerk to arrange for the invoice to be in the name of this Council and if received prior to the end of this month, to seek authorisation from two Councillor bank signatories for payment.

- (5) **Holywell Leisure Centre:** The Clerk advised Members that he had written to the Leisure Centre to enquire as to the criteria for public notices to be displayed acknowledging financial donations from local business, which did not include this Council. The Clerk further advised, that a Trustee of the Leisure Centre had replied to advise the following: ‘At

a recent meeting of the Trustees, it was agreed to display all names of sponsors to the centre’.

6(A). 52/24

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 Public order / 1 x Theft

Halkyn: 3 x Anti social behaviour / 1 x Public order

Pentre Halkyn: 1 x Burglary / 1 x Public order / 2 x Violence

Rhes-Y-Cae: No offences reported

Rhosesmor: 2 x Anti social behaviour / 2 x Violence

The Nant: 1 x Violence

The Wern: 3 x Anti social behaviour / 1 x Public order

- (2) Flintshire County Council: Climate Toolkit Launch. The Clerk recollected Members to the information forwarded and advised that any Councillor who wished to attend a Workshop could register on-line.

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

- ❖ Connah’s Quay Low Carbon Power Project: Consultation to be completed by Councillors on a personal basis
- ❖ Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: Annual Report – February 2024
- ❖ Scottish Power Energy Networks: Stakeholder Priorities Survey – 2024 (Councillors to complete on a personal basis)

6(B). 53/24

CLERK’S REPORT

- (a) The Clerk had attended a recent Welsh Government training course named: Use of IT, Social Media and Web sites virtual course for Community & Town Councils in Wales
- (b) The Clerk advised that he had asked Gwyn Jones (Joiner) to attend to the public notice board in Pentre Halkyn. The locked left hand side section where Council information is placed the door is jammed.

6(C). 54/24

COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR (VACANCY)

The Clerk advised that following the issuing of Public Notices on the Council’s notice board and web site, he had been advised by the Office of the County Returning Officer by telephone on Friday

15th March, that there had been a call for an election. To-date, this information has not been confirmed by correspondence.

6(D). 55/24

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) B5123 Road Halkyn: The Barracks (Quarry) Corner – the safety barrier is corroded and could cause an injury
- (2) Halkyn to Rhes Y Cae road: Potholes
- (3) Britannia Inn Pub, Halkyn: Pot holes on adjacent road
- (4) Martins Hill, Pentre Halkyn: Travelling up the hill near area of Bryn Eithin: Pot holes
- (5) B5123 Road Halkyn – Two areas with overhanging dead tree branches: (1) Travelling up the hill between St Mary's church and cattle grid and on the Halkyn Castle side (2) Approx 250m further south in area of the Castle grounds a dead branch is suspended in a tree overhanging the road. This position is between 30 mph repeater sign and a black door in the wall, opposite property known as, Rock Cottage. Note: The Council have written to the property owner to advise that the above concerns have been reported to Street Scene).

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

7. 56/24

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(A). 57/24

COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS (COUNCILLOR SIMON JONES)

County Councillor Simon Jones advised in relation to the following:

- (i) Pot holes in the Halkyn Council area:** Councillor Jones had discussed the numerous pot holes awaiting repair, including two areas of road that were scheduled to be resurfaced with Councillor Ian Roberts (Flintshire County Council Leader). The pot holes are listed for repair whereby the resurfacing re-arranged dates will be advised to Councillor Jones.
- (ii) Speed limit reduction in Rhes Y Cae:** Councillor Jones advised, that the reduction to the current 30mph on roads in Rhes Y Cae to 20mph will be included in the next round of funding being applied to the Welsh Government.

8(B). 58/24

TO DISCUSS: PROPOSED NEW NATIONAL PARK

The Clerk recollected Members that it was agreed at the February Council meeting to place this item on the March agenda, whereby the Clerk had written to Councillors seeking to provide any questions to be placed before County Councillor Simon Jones. The following questions has been received:

- (1) Who would fund the national park, would there be any extra costs for Flintshire or would all come from outside the County
- (2) How will it benefit the none hospitality industries in this area
- (3) Will there be any negative affects for the none hospitality business, such as: Farming, quarrying, motor vehicle repairs, industrial manufacturing and haulage, including many more none hospitality business

County Councillor Simon Jones replied as follows:

Question 1: The Local Authority will be required to fund 25% of the cost, but this should be refunded by the Wesh Government

Question 2: Based on other National Parks, there will be policies which would safeguard the none hospitality industries within the current area

Question 3: It is envisaged that farmers and others would benefit. Councillor Jones reiterated that a full consultation will be arranged by the Welsh Government / Natural Resources Wales whereby these questions together with other concerns can be addressed

County Councillor Simon Jones and Halkyn Councillors spent considerable time discussing the advantages and disadvantages of a new National Park, should the Halkyn Community Council area be included.

9(A). 59/24

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications had been received:

- (a) Application number: LBC/000954/23 - Amendments to submitted application, for Listed Building Consent - 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.

- (b) Application number: Planning application number: FUL/000953/23 - Amendments to submitted application, for 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.

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

9(B). 60/24

Members formally confirmed the above decisions.

9(C). 61/24

The following planning application was considered by Members at the meeting:

- Application number: FUL/000186/24 – for construction of 2 storey and single storey extensions, at Ty Cerrig, Parc Bychan, Rhydymwyn.

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

9(D). 62/24

PLANNING DECISIONS

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

- (i) Application number: FUL/000753/23 Demolition of existing detached outbuilding to be replaced with proposed detached garage/storage space Trem Yr Afon, Pant Y Goff, Halkyn. Approved
- (ii) Application number: FUL/000801/23 Extension of existing garden into adjacent field to provide improved vehicle access to existing dwelling Tan Y Wal, Rhosesmor. Withdrawn

10. 63/24

TO DISCUSS: PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERN – TREES ON LAND ADJACENT TO B5123 HIGHWAY (TRAVELLING FROM AREA OF ST. MARY’S CHURCH TOWARDS HALKYN VILLAGE) CLLR DAVID PALMER

Councillor David Palmer addressed Members in relation to concerns with overhanging tree branches, including a dead tree branch that overhangs the pedestrian walkway and highway on the B5123 roadway. The areas of concern are as follows:

- (1) Travelling up the hill between St Mary's Church and cattle grid overhanging branches on the Halkyn Castle side
- (2) Approximately 250m further south in area of the Castle grounds a dead branch is suspended in a tree overhanging the road. This position is between 30 mph repeater sign and a black door in the wall, opposite property known as, Rock Cottage.

Photographs of the above concerns were shown on screen.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to write to the property owner seeking that they consider procuring a survey of the trees in the area, in particular, relating to the health and safety aspect for both pedestrians and motorists.

11. 64/24

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: 01/03/2024			
	Direct Debit: HSBC Bank (charges) Payment dated: 17/03/2024	8.20		8.20
	BACS: Councillor Bob Robinson (Councillor allowance 2023/2024) Paid: 29/02/2024	208.00		208.00
	BACS: Councillor Howard Morris (Councillor allowance 2023/2024) Paid: 03/03/2024	208.00		208.00
	BACS: Councillor Brian Coleclough (Councillor allowance 2023/2024) Paid: 06/03/2024 (Allowance donated direct to RABI Clwyd)	208.00		208.00
	BACS: Councillor Glyn Coleclough (Councillor allowance 2023/2024) Paid: 06/03/2024 (Allowance donated direct to RABI Clwyd)	208.00		208.00
	<u>Payments for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u>			
	Audit Wales (External Audit fees for 2020/2021)	451.00		451.00
	Halkyn Parish Hall (£330.00 library room hire fees / £15.00 Council meeting room hire fees)	345.00		345.00
	P Morris (Pest Control Services) Mole clearance at Council Cemetery	325.00		325.00
	H. M. Revenue & Customs. Clerk's PAYE & Clerk & Council NI - January, February & March	1,339.33		1,339.53
	Caerwys Town Council 1/4 share of Photocopier hire fee (£204.00 a year - VAT paid by Caerwys)	51.00		51.00
	R. P. Parry (Clerk) Travelling expenses from April 2023 to March 2024 (as per detailed auditor schedule)	379.80		379.80
	R. P. Parry – Clerk (Re-imburement of computer security software) – as per receipts – £100.78 plus VAT £20.16 – Total £120.94 / H M Revenue & Customs (Additional Home Working Allowance - for 2023 – 2024 £312.00 (Not taxable)	412.78	20.16	432.94

	Gwyn R. Jones (Joiner) Repair of Pentre Halkyn notice board	40.00		40.00
	Direct Debit: Scottish Power (February - Street Lighting Electricity Account) Payment due: 19/03/2024	446.22	22.31	468.53

12. 65/24

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	<u>Authorised to be paid by BACS:</u>	
	Eisteddfod (Rhondda Cynon Taf) Application for donation (Section 145 LGA 1972)	£150.00
	Halkyn & District Bowling Club (Application for general donation and towards capital purchases) (Section 19 - 3 LGA (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976)	£1,000.00

13. 66/24

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.....**