



CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN / HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Halkyn Community Council,
Held in the Halkyn Parish Hall,
On Monday the 15th April, 2024, at 7.30pm.**

**1(A). 67/24
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 Delyth Taylor

County Councillor Frances Lister (Flintshire County Council)

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

**1(B). 68/24
APOLOGIES**

Councillor Ray Faulder-Jones
Councillor Bob Robinson

County Councillor Simon Jones (Flintshire County)

**1(C). 69/24
ABSENT**

None

- The Chair of Council Councillor David Roberts welcomed and congratulated County Councillor Frances Lister on her un-contested election as County Councillor for the Brynford and Halkyn Community Council areas. Councillor Lister provided Members with her background information together with her future role as County Councillor.

1(D). 70/24

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – HALKYN PARISH HALL (SEE SEPARATE AGENDA)

The Clerk advised that following the taking of advice, the month of the Annual General Meeting between the Community Councillors – as Trustees of Halkyn Parish Hall, together with the Parish Hall Management Committee can be change by resolution at a future meeting.

The Clerk had consulted with the Chair of the Management Committee who had confirmed, there was no objection to the Annual Meeting to continue to be held in November each year.

The Clerk further advised, that an agenda item will be formally placed on the November joint meeting agenda to confirm the above

2. 71/24

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

- (1) Two reports of a burnt out vehicle on Halkyn Mountain Common, with one request seeking that Community Councillors tow the vehicle to the public highway where the Police will be able to take action. The Clerk had replied to advise, that this was not possible, as the Community Councillors could potentially commit both a criminal and road traffic offences.

- (2) Photographs provided by a concerned member of the public in relation to footpaths numbered 40 and 41 – running from the Quarry to the area of the former Pen Y Henblas quarry. The area is being used by vehicles including off road bikers which has caused a muddy quagmire and almost impossible to walk along. (Photographs were shown on screen).

The Clerk advised that he had sent the photographs to the County Footpaths Officer. There had been no reply to date.

3. 72/24

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest Declared.

4. 73/24

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 18TH MARCH, 2024

The Minutes were proposed as correct by Councillor Colin D’Arcy and seconded by Councillor Glyn Coleclough and formally agreed by the Members present.

5. 74/24

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 the Land Registry had requested the following information to enable the change of name and postal address for the Halkyn Parish Hall to be completed (i) Identification form to be signed; the Member of the Welsh Government has been approached (ii) Certificate from Flintshire Street Numbering Department; an application has been made with a cost of £70.00 for the certificate.

- (2) **B5123 Road – Overhanging tree branches:** The Clerk advised that a letter had been sent to the property owner (copy provided to Councillor David Palmer) seeking that the

overhanging branches are removed and also seeking a survey of the trees that overhang the highway. The Clerk advised that there had been no response.

Members agreed the following: Adjourn to the May meeting to await a reply.

- (3) **Halkyn Community Councillor – Vacant Seat:** The Clerk advised that the Office of the County Returning Officer had stated the following: Should there be more than one candidate for the position an election will be held on Thursday 16th May. The Public Notice had been displayed on the Council's web site and Pentre Halkyn notice board.

6(A). 75/24

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 Other theft / 1 x Public order

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

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

Rhes-Y-Cae: No offences reported

Rhosesmor: 2 x Anti social behaviour / 2 x Violence

The Nant: 1 x Violence

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

- (1) **One Voice Wales:** The Clerk advised that a request letter had been received to join One Voice Wales membership for year 2024 / 2025 a cost of £526.00, with a 50% discount for the first year at £263.00.

Members agreed the following: Not to join.

- (2) **North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils:** Correspondence providing details of the work currently being dealt with by the Association, which includes the Railways, County Council future delivery of services and Welsh Government proposals to increase representation of the management of charities, together with local health services. Invitations to join the Association at a yearly current fee of £65.00, including an invitation to attend their next meeting to be held in the Civic Hall, Connah's Quay on Friday 19th April at 10.30am, with an optional lunch at £12.00.

Members agreed the following: Not to join

- (3) **Scottish Power:** Notification that from later this year to early 2025 Scottish Power will cease to provide a contract for un-metered street lighting supply.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to make contact with other electricity suppliers and to seek quotations.

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

- ❖ Urdd Gobaith Cymru: Information in relation to the Urdd's Fund for all, which this year offers 300 free places at the Urdd summer camp for children and young people in Wales. Councillors were asked to forward to residents for information
- ❖ North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority: Public consultation on continuing to prevent and respond to emergencies. Councillors to complete on a personal basis

6(B). 76/24

CLERK'S REPORT

- (a) The Clerk recollected Members to a previous discussion in relation to placing white painted stones on grass verges across the mountain area. Councillor Wendy Sigsworth had received comments in relation to a number of areas whereby further white painted stones have recently appeared. The Clerk advised, that following previous enquiries, the Flintshire County Highways confirmed; as the areas where the white painted stones are sited is not highway adopted, and therefore, were not able to make comment. The Grosvenor Estate were approached and their view was: there was no concern but residents should be conscious of not placing stones too near the roadside.
- (b) A sign has been sited on a gate leading to a track from the cattle grid in Berth Ddu to Middle Lane and headed as follows: Police Notice and advises, that under the Police Reform Act 2002 vehicles may be issued with a maximum fine of £1,000.00 for using the public track / footpath. This is causing difficulty for two local farmers in particular, who use this track to gain access to a number of their fields. The County Footpath Officer has been asked to consider relocating the sign to another part of the track, which would allow access for the farmers. (Photograph of the sign shown on screen).
- (c) The Clerk advised that a new Service Level Agreement had been received from Aura Leisure to continue the Friday afternoon library service in Halkyn Parish Hall. The Clerk recollected Members to the budget setting process held in January of this year, whereby Council agreed to include the library recharge in the budget for 2024 / 2025. The Clerk further advised, that the recharge for year 2023 / 2024 was £3,776.16 – and is included in the list of payment for consideration later in this meeting.

Members agreed the following: To continue with the Library Service at Halkyn Parish Hall. The Clerk to sign the Service Level Agreement on behalf of this Council.

6(C). 77/24

TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS FOR 2023 / 2024

The Clerk, as Financial Officer had provided Members by e-mail prior to the meeting with copies of the end of year Statement of Financial Accounts - for the year ending 2023 / 2024. The Clerk advised Members further, in relation to the budget analysis, together with the end of year balances.

Members agreed the following: Approved the end of year accounts for the financial year 2023 / 2024, with the financial spreadsheet signed by the Chair of Meeting – Councillor David Roberts.

6(D). 78/24

TO CONSIDER: ANNUAL REPORT – YEAR ENDING 2023 / 2024

The Clerk recollects Members to the draft Annual Report for the year ending March 2024, that had been forwarded prior to the meeting for perusal. The Clerk advised that the report had followed the guidance issued by the Welsh Government in relation to the contents.

Members agreed the following: Confirmed the Annual Report for the year ending March 2024. There were no amendments. The Clerk advised that the report would be made available on the Council's web site. The Clerk was thanked for completing the substantial report.

6(E). 79/24

PAYMENT TO MEMBERS: INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES RECOMMENDATION – YEAR 2024 / 2025

The Clerk recollects Members to the Independent Remuneration Panel Report that had been sent to Members and discussed at a previous Council meeting. The Clerk advised in relation to the mandatory allowances for Town & Community Councillors in Wales, whereby the Clerk provided all Members with a claim form. The Clerk sought that the claim form was completed by either completing the claim section details or signing the opt out clause.

6(F). 80/24

COMMUNITY AWARD: TO ARRANGE PROCESS TIMELINE

The Clerk discussed with Members the timeline for the Council's 2024 Community Award.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to issue a Public Notice in the next edition of the Five Villages Chronicle, with copies placed on the Council's notice boards and web site. The closing date to be approximately two to three weeks following the publication and distribution of the Chronicle. The Council thereafter will consider applications received at the subsequent Council meeting.

6(G). 81/24

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:

- (i) Potentially dangerous cattle grid sited on the B5123 road in Berth Ddu – travelling towards Rhosesmor. The concern has been previously reported last year, however, the defects have increased with cracks and metal which appears to have broken and fallen off. The rattling aspect of the grid has increased tremendously when driven over by vehicles. (Photographs shown on screen).

The Clerk advised that due to the urgency, the above concern has been reported together with two photographs direct to Flintshire Customer Services. A reply received from Street Scene on the morning of this meeting advised, that the County are awaiting quotations for the repair to the grid

- (ii) Pot holes in a number of areas in Rhosesmor that were reported to County Councillor Simon Jones and forwarded to Street Scene. Could you please advise, as to when these pot holes will be repaired
- (iii) Berth Ddu Bus shelter: The metal gate requires urgent attention

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

7. 82/24

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS (COMMITTEES, LIAISON & MEETINGS ATTENDED)

- (i) **Hendre Tarmac Quarry Liaison Meeting:** Councillor Dylan Roberts advised of his attendance at a recent liaison meeting held at the Hendre Quarry. Councillor Roberts provided the topics discussed which included the following:
 - ❖ The tonnage currently being extracted from the quarry, including over the past four years
 - ❖ Possible nineteen years of production time remaining at the quarry
 - ❖ Dust concerns; the quarry do water spray vehicles
 - ❖ Concerns with vehicles queuing on the A451 road awaiting entry into the quarry
 - ❖ Substantial financial investment proposed, to include new administration offices and other work at the quarry

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to enquire with the Quarry Management, as to why the Halkyn Community Council are not formally advised in relation to the dates of the Quarry Liaison meetings.

8. 83/24

COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS (COUNCILLORS' SIMON JONES & FRANCES LISTER)

The Clerk provided the following information on behalf of County Councillor Simon Jones:

- (1) At the request of Brynford Community Council Councillor Jones has sought a meeting with the North Wales Police to address concerns with off-road biking in the area. Councillor Jones is extending the invitation to one of more Halkyn Councillors to attend this meeting, as this concern affects the Halkyn Council area.

The Clerk advised that the Police had replied to the Clerk to Brynford Council suggesting a meeting on either Thursday or Friday of this week.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to advise both County Councillor Simon Jones and Clerk to Brynford Community Council that Councillors' Howard Morris and David Palmer wish to attend the site meeting with a North Wales Police representative. This Community Council also have consistent concerns with off-road vehicles causing annoyance to residents and damage in the area.

- (2) Various road repairs within this Council area, the County have advised that the repairs will commence towards the end of May to early June.

County Councillor Frances Lister advised in relation to the following:

- (i) As this was County Councillor Frances Lister’s first attendance at a Community Council meeting, the Councillors held a general discussion in relation to the area.
- (ii) Discussion held in relation Police Consultative meetings that were previously facilitated by the local Police Inspector in Mold, and held between Town & Community Councils in the Mold Police district area.

Members agreed the following: Thanked Councillor Lister for offering to liaise with the North Wales Police to discuss the re-commencement of the Police Liaison meetings.

9(A). 84/24

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

- Application number: FUL/000237/24 – for installation of 6 solar panels to the front roof on the property (southside) and installation of a 6KW heat pump, at 2, Church Terrace, Rhes Y Cae.

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

9(B). 85/24

PLANNING DECISIONS

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

- (1) Application number: DET/000053/24 - for Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Condition No. 15, Planning Ref: 059596, at Pen Y Parc Farm, Pant Y Gof, Halkyn, Approved
- (2) Application number: DET/000099/24 – for Discharge of Conditions 3 & 4 Planning Ref: FUL/000917/23, at Bryn Y Gaer, Rhosesmor. Approved
- (3) Application number: DET/000077/24 – for Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Condition No. 5, Planning Ref: No. 5, Planning Ref: 039592, at Nant Farm Barn, Nant Road, Pentre Halkyn. Approved

10. 86/24

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 March) (Quarterly payment for Cemetery administration – January, February & March) Payments dated: 02/04/2024			
	BACS: EPD Joinery & Building (New notice board	480.00		480.00

	in Rhos Helyg School, including removal of old board – as previously agreed by Council Paid: 22/03/2024 (Authorised by two bank signatories)			
	<u>Payments for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u>			
	Deeco Lighting (Street light repair in Rhos Y Cae in 2023)	180.00	36.00	216.00
	Wilday Construction Ltd (Roof repairs to Halkyn Parish Hall – as previously agreed by Council in 2023)	250.00	50.00	300.00
	CatNmouse (Design & Print) Advertising banners for Halkyn Mountain Cinema Group in 2023))	135.00	27.00	162.00
	Aura Leisure & Libraries (Recharge for Halkyn Parish Hall Library service – 2023 / 2024)	3,776.16		3,776.16
	Councillor Mandatory Allowances for 2024 / 2025:			
	Councillor Brian Coleclough (Donated to RABI Clwyd)	208.00		208.00
	Councillor Glyn Coleclough (Donated to RABI Clwyd)	208.00		208.00
	Councillor Colin D’Arcy	208.00		208.00
	Councillor Howard Morris	208.00		208.00
	Councillor David Palmer	52.00		52.00
	Councillor Nicola Richardson	208.00		208.00
	Councillor David Roberts	208.00		208.00
	Councillor Wendy Sigsworth	208.00		208.00
	Direct Debit: HSBC Bank (charges) (Payment due:15/04/2024)	5.00		5.00
	Direct Debit: Scottish Power (March - Street Lighting Electricity Account payment due: 18/04/2024)	477.01	23.85	500.86

11. 87/24

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	<u>Authorised to be paid by BACS:</u>	
	Rhosesmor Village Hall (Application for funding towards a Rhosesmor Community ‘Proms in the Car Park’ concert on May 26 th) (Section 19 LGA 1976)	£300.00

12. 88/24

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.....**