



CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN / HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Halkyn Community Council,
Held Virtually by Video and Telephone Conference,
On Monday the 16th March, 2026, at 7.30pm.**

No Council meeting was held in February

1(A). 26/26

PRESENT

Councillor Delyth Taylor (Chair)
Councillor Brian Coleclough (Vice Chair)
Councillor David Case
Councillor B. Glyn Coleclough
Councillor Colin R. D'Arcy
Councillor Matthew Lister
Councillor Howard Morris
Councillor Jennifer E. Parry
Councillor Nicola Richardson
Councillor David G. Roberts
Councillor Bob Robinson
Councillor Wendy Sigsworth

County Councillor Simon Jones (Flintshire County Council)
County Councillor Frances Lister (Flintshire County Council)

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

1(B). 27/26

APOLOGIES

Councillor David Palmer

1(C). 28/26

ABSENT

None

2. 29/26

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

- (1)** Request for update in relation to the provision of a bus shelter in Halkyn (opposite the Bluebell Inn). Correspondence forward to County Councillor Simon Jones. Councillor Jones

advised that he had further contacted the Office of the County Transportation Officer and was awaiting an update.

- (2) Report of fly tipping in the area of Pant Quarry, Halkyn. The Clerk advised that whilst this was reported to Street Scene, it is not in this Community Council's remit to report fly tipping. This is a criminal offence and is required to be reported by the person, or person's who discover the tipping, as the discoverer could be a potential witness in court. However, the fly-tipping is not on County Council adopted highway. Street Scene have forwarded the details to the Grosvenor Estate.
- (3) Concern expressed by a resident in relation to the increase of off-road biking in a number of areas, and in particular, in the woods at the top of Rhes Y Cae. The resident has been asked to report such instances to the North Wales Police on 101. County Councillors' Fran Lister and Simon Jones were copied into the residents reply. County Councillor Simon Jones advised that he had spoken to the resident and offered advice, which included reporting to the North Wales Police any future incidents.
- (4) Request from a Rhes Y Cae resident who wishes the Council to install a number of bench seats within the village including creating a community garden. The Clerk advised that whilst acknowledging the request he had asked Councillor Nicola Richardson to kindly make arrangements to meet with the resident and to view the areas of the request and to report at the March Council meeting.

Councillor Nicola Richardson provided a report following a site meeting with the resident (Minute number 6(D). 36/26 on page 6 below)

3. 30/26

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest Declared

4. 31/26

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH JANUARY, 2026

The Minutes were proposed as correct by Councillor Brian Coleclough and seconded by Councillor David Roberts and formally agreed by the Members present.

5. 32/26

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 Vesting Procedure is in progress with the Council's legal representative.
- (2) **Street Lighting Energy Supply:** The Clerk advised that whilst forms have been completed to join the UK Government Procurement Contract for the street lighting electricity supply, the Council has to join the contract firstly and thereafter provisionally gain access to the supply on a provisional basis. This is due to only being able to join during two occasions in a year. The procedure will take a number of months.

The Clerk has written to OFGEM with a formal complaint as the current energy supplier Scottish Power together with other suppliers had advised that they no longer offer street lighting supply due to the OFGEM rules. The Clerk also referred to in the complaint the

Council's street lighting costs had increased over £3,000.00 a year due to their regulations. The Clerk read out the reply from OFGEM.

- (3) **Highway Concern - A55 Road in The Nant Area:** The Clerk advised that whilst further contact had been made with the Office of Ken Skates MS (Cabinet Secretary for North Wales and Transport) seeking an update to the progress to alleviate traffic concerns in the area of The Nant on the A55 road in Pentre Halkyn, there had been no reply. The Clerk further advised that the pre-election period commences on the 23rd March for the Welsh Government elections – when thereafter no correspondence will be replied to until the new appointments by the elected Government.

County Councillor Simon Jones advised that he had been in further contact with Hannah Blythyn MS (Welsh Government Member) who had advised, that a review of the A55 road in general will take place and will include the A55 at the Nant.

- (4) **Request for additional street lighting in area of Rhosesmor Children's Play Area and B5123 Road in Rhosesmor:** The Clerk recollects Members to the request which had been received from a Rhosesmor resident who had written to Hannah Blythyn (Welsh Government Member) requesting additional street lighting due to their child, or children walking to / from the play area during darkness. At the January Council meeting it was agreed that Councillors' Delyth Taylor and David Roberts to kindly visit the area and provide a report to the Community Council.

Members were shown on screen a number of photographs taken by Councillor Delyth Taylor – who reported in relation to the number of existing lanterns, both on Northop Road and the B5123 Village Road in Rhosesmor. Both these roads border the play area, with the entrance on Northop Road.

The two Councillors tasked with perusing the area regularly accompany their children and grandchildren to the play area. The area was visited during daylight and nighttime.

The Chair of Council ensured that all Council Members were given the opportunity to provide their thoughts and recommendations.

Members agreed the following: Not to install additional street lighting lanterns. In reaching their decision the Council took into consideration, the following:

- Adjacent to the play area in Northop Road, there was only one suitable wooden pole that is sited in-between the current two lanterns in this area
- If this wooden electricity pole was utilised, whilst it would create additional illumination, this could also cause anti-social behaviour, including excessive illumination as the current two lanterns are in close proximity
- The lanterns sited on the B5123 Rhosesmor Village Road are evenly spaced
- There are no electricity wooden poles along the B5123 road that additional lanterns could be erected on. Therefore, additional lanterns would be of the metal column type and together with the underground wiring, connection fees and new lantern columns, each lantern would be cost prohibitive for the Council
- A number of Councillors stated; that they would not allow their children and grandchildren to use the play area after darkness

The Clerk was asked to write to Hannah Blythyn MS (Welsh Government Member) with the Council's decision and reasons.

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: 1 x Vehicle crime

Halkyn (The Catch): 1 x Anti social behaviour / 1 x Criminal damage / 1 x Violence

Pentre Halkyn: 1 x Public order / 1 x Vehicle crime / 1 x Violence

Rhes-Y-Cae: No offences reported

Rhosesmor: 1 x Other theft

- (2) Flintshire County Council: Code of Conduct training for Town & Community Councillors in Flintshire to be held virtually on 16th April between 5.30pm to 7.30pm. The County Legal Officer confirmed, that the training is in response to updates to the Code of Conduct and requests that all Councillors attend.
- (3) The Clerk advised that the Service Level Agreement for the Friday Library Service administered by Flintshire County Council and held in the Halkyn Parish Hall has been received for the period from 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2027. The current cost for the library service is £4,228.00. This figure was agreed in the budget setting process for 2026 to 2027. However, the cost will increase by an unknown amount due to the library staff member's salary which has not been agreed by the County Council to date.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to sign the Service Level Agreement for the period 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2026.

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

- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Consultation of their Draft Planning Enforcement Policy 2026. Councillors to compete on a personal basis.
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Community Review 2026 – Draft proposals for Town & Community Councils in Flintshire. No change to the Halkyn Community Council area.
- ❖ Remuneration Panel for Wales: Annual report for 2026 to 2027. No changes were noted for Town & Community Councils in Wales.
- ❖ Halkyn Mountain Nature Conservation Group: Invasive hornets information.
- ❖ Parc Gwysaney Luxury lodge Park: Notification of public meeting to be held on Tuesday 24th February at Sychdyn Village Hall to discuss the proposal. The Clerk had written to the agents seeking a legible plan to confirm the area, or areas of the development to ascertain as to which Community Council area(s) the proposed development lies within.
- ❖ Flintshire County Council – Notice of road closures:
 - (i) From 27th January 2026 for 3 days, subject to a maximum period of 5 days, no vehicles shall proceed; Buxton Lane - between its junctions with Brynford Road and

Buxton Lane Jct Martins Hill for an approximate distance of 513 metres. The reason for the closure is to facilitate tree clearance with associated works for National Grid

- (ii) From 15th April 2026 for 2 days, subject to a maximum period of 5 days, no vehicles shall proceed; Lleprog Lane Junction To Lygan Y Wern A5026 Junction - between its junctions with Bryntirion Road and A5026 for an approximate distance of 727 metres. The reason for the closure is to facilitate work on overhead power lines with associated works for National Grid
- (iii) At Pentre Halkyn from 24th March 2026 for 2 days, subject to a maximum period of 5 days, no vehicles shall proceed; Brynford Road - between its junctions with Brynford Road and B5123 Pentre Road for an approximate distance of 153 metres. The reason for the closure is to facilitate safe access to works on overheads with associated works for National Grid.
- (iv) At Rhosesmor from 7th April 2026 for 2 days, subject to a maximum period of 5 days, no vehicles shall proceed; Ty Eugrain Junction To B5123 Junction - between its junctions with B5123 Junction and Flat Lane for an approximate distance of 246 metres. The reason for the closure is to facilitate a pole replacement in the verge with associated works for Openreach Ltd.

6(B). 34/26

CLERK'S REPORT

- (i) The Clerk advised that he had attended the following courses:
 - Bio diversity action plan – facilitated by One Voice Wales
 - Climate reduction action plan – facilitated by Flintshire County Council
- (ii) **STREET LIGHTS**
 - ❖ The following street light was reported faulty: Near Pentre Halkyn Village Shop and Post Office. Lantern repaired.

6(C). 35/26

HALKYN PARISH HALL TRUST –TRUSTEES MEETING

- (iii) HSBC Bank Mandate: Councillor Nicola Richardson advised Members that whilst endeavouring to change the HSBC Bank signatories on the Halkyn Parish Hall Management Committee bank account, the HSBC required all Trustees (Halkyn Community Councillors) to sign the new mandate form and authorise the changes. Councillor Richardson further advised that she will make contact with the Trustees (Councillors) personally in due course to obtain signatures.
- (iv) The Clerk advised that the Business Rates for the Halkyn Parish Hall had been received from Flintshire County Council, at a cost of £3,413.80. Fortunately the Hall has a mandatory relief of 80% and a discretionary relief of 20%. Therefore, there is no business rates payable.
- (v) The Clerk advised Members in relation to an e-mail received from the Secretary to the Halkyn Parish Hall Management Committee. At a recent meeting of the Management

Committee was discussed to making the Hall more cost effective, together with upgrading the facilities.

The Management Committee wish to reorganise the Committee Room – by removing the existing long tables and heavy chairs and replace with lightweight chairs with their own writing arms. These type of tables are currently used by the cinema group and are stackable. The room would be recarpeted with Wi Fi installed, including a remote control that could heat only the committee room. Councillor Nicola Richardson provided additional information.

Members agreed the following: Whilst in principle, the Council would be pleased to make the room more accessible for others, the application is adjourned to the April Council meeting to be held on Monday 20th March, for the following reason: The Councillors wish to view personally the suggested replacement chairs which are currently utilised for the cinema nights at the Hall.

- (vi) The Clerk recollected Members to the Annual Meeting held with the Parish Hall Management Committee in late 2025, and in particular, to the insurance policy for the building. The Parish Hall Management Committee suggested that the policy should be paid for by the Community Council. The current policy cost was £1,356.48 with the renewal due in August 2026.

The Clerk advised that he had contacted three other Hall Management Committees whose buildings were of a similar size to ascertain their premium costs, which were £643.00, £674.00 and £945.00.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to seek a cost for the Halkyn Village Hall Insurance cover during the Council's own policy renewal in early June.

- (vii) The Clerk advised that during an inspection of the Halkyn Parish Hall general and emergency lighting, concerns were identified that required urgent repairs. The work was authorised by the Parish Hall Management Chair to All Electric Contractors Ltd (Greenfield) to complete the repairs, at a cost of £456.00 VAT £91.20 = total £547.20. The invoice is provisionally listed on this evenings list of payments that had previously been sent to Members for perusal.

Members agreed the following: Due to the urgency of the work required, it is accepted that an immediate decision was required. The invoice payment is approved.

6(D). 36/26

REQUEST FOR BENCH SEATING AND COMMUNITY GARDEN IN RHES Y CAE: (COUNCILLOR NICOLA RICHARDSON TO REPORT)

Councillor Nicola Richardson advised Members that she had met with the local resident who had requested three wooden bench seats in the Village of Rhes Y Cae, including the provision of a Community Garden. Councillor Richardson advised of the reasons and suggested areas for the bench seating together with a photograph of an area of land adjacent to the Rhes Y Cae Village Hall as a potential Community Garden (Photograph of this area shown on screen).

Members agreed the following: (1) Councillor Nicola Richardson to kindly provide the Clerk with copies of a Goggle Street View with the suggested bench seating areas clearly marked (2) Thereafter, the Clerk to send to the Grosvenor Estate to seek their views on the bench seating installations (3) The Clerk to thank the resident for offering to make enquiries with the Rhes Y Cae Village Hall Committee, and to seek their views in relation to a Community Garden. To also discuss with the Committee as to the ownership of the land, the provision of water for the proposed

garden, together with the Committees views on a rota system to maintain the area (4) To be further discussed at the April Council meeting.

6(E). 37/26

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) Pot holes: B5123 Road with junction at A541 in Rhydymwyn
- (2) Damaged sign: Northop Road, Rhosesmor – the sign indicating Children’s Play Area has been damaged
- (3) Pot holes and damaged road which requires upgrading: Middle Mill Lane, Pant Y Gof
- (4) Pot holes: Halkyn to Rhes Y Cae Road (some dangerous)
- (5) 30mph speed limit sign damaged: Near Black Lion Farm. Rhes Y Cae – sign lying in roadside ferns
- (6) 40mph / National mph sign damaged: Bryn Tirion Road and Near The Hall, Lygan Y Wern
- (7) Damaged sign (knocked over) Top of Middle Mill Lane and opposite The Barricks, Pant Y Gof
- (8) Damaged barrier (with sharp edges): At The Barracks, Middle Mill Lane, Pant y Gof
- (9) Gully blocked causing flooding: Jerusalem Hill, Rhosesmor. Gully cleared in late 2025, but blocked again

Other reported concerns:

- (i) Request for sycamore tree to be removed: In Northop Road, Rhosesmor - due to light blocking a private property (Referred to County Tree Officer)
- (ii) Non-collection of bins: Middle Mill Road. Pant Y Gof. Collections missed on numerous occasions (County Councillor Simon Jones to take forward)
- (iii) Parking concerns in Buxton Lane, Pentre Halkyn (Councillor Simon Jones advised that County Highways say it is the responsibility of the North Wales Police. The Police have refused to take any action).

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

7. 38/26

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. 39/26

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

County Councillor Simon Jones advised in relation to the following:

- (a) Notification in relation to the following: Funding secured to resurface the following road areas before the end of this financial year – 31st March 2025
 - Halkyn (From Britannia Inn to Church Hill Junction)
 - Halkyn Village to Windmill Junction, Halkyn
- (b) Re-modelling of the junction at the B5123 road and A541 road in Rhydymwyn
- (c) Shone's Lane on B5123 road has been requested for pot holes repair
- (d) Request to the Grosvenor Estate for signage in the parking areas on the mountain stating 'Dogs to be kept on leads'
- (e) Additional and larger rocks to be placed in areas to deter 4 x 4 type vehicles from parking in the mountain area
- (f) Both County Councillor Simon Jones and Fran Lister have been contacted further by residents who expressed their concerns with the Tiger Tim planning application. Whilst the objections do not object in principle, to the application, the main concern relate to safety.

9(A). 40/26

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications had been received:

- (a) Application number: FUL/001040/25 for proposed North/north-west extension to the quarry to extract additional limestone reserves, and the associated dismantling, re-construction and repositioning of the existing overburden mounds, erection of internal crib walls, widening of existing access, relocation of the internal haul road, and the permanent diversion of sections of public footpaths, at Pant Y Pwll Dwr Quarry, Pentre Halkyn / Brynford.

Comment by Council: Whilst there is no objection, in principle, to the proposals - as referred to in the above paragraph, as long as planning policies and planning guidance notes are complied with. However, the Community Council support the following holding objection that County Planning have received from Ramblers Cymru, as follows:

'It is our understanding the paths 32 and 36 were diverted in c. 2016: one along track, one over mound. Also mound is Open Access on foot as part of Common. Proposal to retain only one path amounts to a path Extinguishment, with no off-setting benefits to path network. We would be happy to discuss alternative network benefits e.g. moving path 34 alongside quarry frontage road, rather than on it, and improvements to other paths on company controlled land e.g. paths 16 and 17 off Brynford Road.

The Community Council wish that a suitable resolution will be agreed with Ramblers Cymru in relation to the footpaths.

- (b) Application number: FUL/000040/26 – for proposed removal of glazed conservatory and erection of 2 storey extension, at Fernside Cottage, Nant Road, Pentre Halkyn.

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

- (c) Application number: FUL/000072/26 – for proposed rear extension & alterations to existing dwelling, at Spring Cottage, Nant Road, Pentre Halkyn.

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

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

9(B). 41/26

Members formally confirmed the above decisions.

9(C). 42/26

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

- ❖ Planning application number: FUL/000111/26 – For proposed conversion of existing barn to form ancillary accommodation to dwelling. Dwelling - two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, single storey extension to replace agricultural building, dormers to existing roof, porch to front elevation, at Tan y Foel, Rhes-y-Cae.

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

9(D). 43/26

PLANNING DECISIONS

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

- (i) Application number: DET/000925/25 - Approval of Details Reserved by Condition 23, 24, 25 & 30, at Aberdo Quarry, Buxton Lane, Pentre Halkyn. Withdrawn
- (ii) Application number: LDC/000716/25 – Certificate of Lawfulness Sec 191, that The Chalet sited on the southwest corner of the plot at Ashford Farm, Caeau Gleision Lane, Halkyn, has been used as a dwellinghouse since 1996. Refused

10. 44/26

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cheque Number	Payee	Net £	Vat £	Total £
	<u>February</u>			
	<u>Payments made by BACS – to be confirmed:</u>			
	J E Davies & Son (Funeral Directors) Refund of overpayment of a Cemetery fee. Payment dated: 26/01/2026	25.00		25.00
	Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for January. Payments dated: 02/02/2026			
	Flintshire County Council (Gwella). Halkyn Council Library recharge for April, 2025 to March 2026	4,687.08		4,687.08

Deeco Lighting (Street light repair in Village Road, Pentre Halkyn)	180.00	36.00	216.00
R P Parry (Clerk) Reimbursement of ¼ share of Microsoft 365 business renewal – as per Microsoft receipt	28.80	5.76	34.56
Direct Debit: Scottish Power (January - Street Lighting Electricity Account - payment due: 16/02/2026)	695.12	139.02	834.14
<u>Above payments authorised by two Councillor</u>			
<u>Bank Signatories</u>			
<u>March Payments</u>			
<u>Payments made – to be confirmed:</u>			
Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for February) Payments dated: 02/03/2026			
BACS: H. M. Revenue & Customs. Clerk's PAYE & Clerk & Council NI (Payment dated: 06/03/2026)	1,434.63		1,434.63
<u>Payments for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u>			
Halkyn Parish Hall (Library hire £275.00 and Council meeting room hire £10.00)	285.00		285.00
Caerwys Town Council: Quarter share of photocopier hire	55.00		55.00
All Electric (Emergency lighting repairs, replacement batteries and other essential repairs in Halkyn Parish Hall)	456.00	91.20	547.20
R. P. Parry (Clerk) Re-imburement of Zoll AED Plus defibrillator batteries and Rescue Ready Kit – as requested urgently by First Responder – for Pentre Halkyn unit) – as per Defib Store receipt	74.99	15.00	89.99
R. P. Parry (Clerk) Travelling expenses from April 2025 to March 2026 (as per detailed auditor schedule)	128.70		128.70
R. P. Parry – Clerk (Re-imburement of computer security software – as per receipts – £170.78 plus VAT £34.15 – Total £204.93 / HMRC - Additional Home Working Allowance - for 2025 – 2026 - £312.00 (Not taxable)	482.78	34.15	516.93

	Direct Debit: HSBC Bank (charges) Payment due: 18/03/2026 (All invoices listed have been ‘examined, verified and certified’ by the Clerk)	0.80		0.80
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**11. 45/26
APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	No applications received	

**12. 46/26
Members agreed the payments of the above accounts as listed.**

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

**SIGNED BY THE
CHAIRMAN.....**

**DATE OF
APPROVAL.....**