



CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN / HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Halkyn Community Council,
Held Virtually by Video and Telephone Conference,
On Monday the 20th April, 2026, at 7.30pm.**

**1(A). 46/26
PRESENT**

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

County Councillor Frances Lister (Flintshire County Council)

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

**1(B). 47/26
APOLOGIES**

Councillor B. Glyn Coleclough
Councillor Howard Morris
Councillor David G. Roberts

County Councillor Simon Jones (Flintshire County Council)

**1(C). 48/26
ABSENT**

None

**2. 49/26
PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS**

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

3. 50/26

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest Declared.

4. 51/26

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 16TH MARCH, 2026

The Minutes were proposed as correct by Councillor Colin D'Arcy and seconded by Councillor Bob Robinson and formally agreed by the Members present.

5. 52/26

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 still in progress with the Council's legal representative.

- (2) Additional bench seats & Community Garden in Rhes Y Cae:** The Clerk advised that following the March meeting he had written to the resident who had requested the additional bench seating and community garden to advise, that the Council were provisionally amicable to both. The resident was asked to make contact with the Rhes Y Cae Village Hall Committee to seek their views as to a community garden adjacent to the Village Hall.

Councillor Nicola Roichardson advised, that a further meeting is to be arranged with the resident to finally agree the areas for the bench seating, whereafter, a plan of the areas would be provided to the Clerk.

- (3) Request for tree to be cut down in Rhosesmor:** The Clerk advised that he had written to the County Tree Officer following the March Council meeting seeking that he kindly visit the area of the tree and to provide their professional opinion as to whether the tree is blocking light from a nearby residents property. The County Tree Officer had visited and advised, that the tree is on land in the ownership of The Grosvenor Estate. The Clerk had provided Councillor Delyth Taylor with a copy of the correspondence and sought that the resident be advised.

- (4) Halkyn Parish Hall Insurance:** The Clerk advised that he had contacted this Council's Insurance provider seeking the cost to place the Halkyn Parish Hall on the Council's policy. The insurance Company sought a number of questions, whereby these had been sent to the Chair of the Parish Hall Committee for reply.

Pending Matters:

The Clerk advised, that the following matter remains in the pending file:

- **Street Lighting electricity supply:** The Clerk advised Members to a reply from OFGEM in relation to the increase in units being used for the Council's street lighting electricity supply; which was apparently due to the change to a half hourly meter reading which provided a more accurate consumption calculation.

6(A). 53/26

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: 1 x Vehicle crime / 1 x Anti social behaviour / 1 x Criminal damage / 1 x Violence

Pentre Halkyn: 1 x Anti sociable behaviour / Vehicle crime / 1 x Violence

Rhes-Y-Cae: No offences reported

Rhosesmor: 1 x Other theft

- (2) Flintshire County Council: Match funding 2026 / 2027 for Children's Play Areas. Request for match funding for the Rhosesmor Children's Play Area – between £1,000.00 to £10,000.00. The Clerk provided details of match funding previously granted by this Council.

Members agreed the following: Not to match-fund any improvements to the Rhosesmor Children's Play Area this financial year, for the following reasons: Over the past five years the Council have spent funds to upgrade the following play areas – Halkyn, Rhosesmor, Pentre Halkyn and Rhes Y Cae. In reaching their decision Members also took into consideration, that currently, there was no identified need for additional equipment in the Rhosesmor play area.

- (3) Notification from Flintshire County Council that the Halkyn Parish Hall business rates have been revalued by the Welsh Government from £5,700.00 to £6,800.00 The Business Rates Revaluation and Discretionary Rates Relief of 80% and 20% for 2026 / 2007 will continue. However, all properties with a ratable value of over £6,000 will loose their 20% discretionary rate commencing from 2027 / 2028 financial year.

The Clerk advised that based on the new business rates figure and with the removal of the 20% discretionary rate, the Hall will be required to pay £1,360.00 from 1st April, 2028.

- (4) One Voice Wales: The Clerk advised in relation to a Civility and Respect Pledge being launched by One Voice Wales who are seeking that all Town & Community Councils in Wales consider agreeing to sign the pledge. Members received a copy of the one page pledge prior to the meeting for perusal and shown on screen at the meeting.

Members agreed the following: To sign the Civility and Respect Pledge.

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

- ❖ North Wales Police: Police cadet and leader recruitment posters. Councillors asked to upload to the various Village Facebook pages
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Link to Code of Conduct training on Thursday 16th April at 5.30pm
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Information in relation to a repair and reuse scheme being facilitated by the County

**6(B). 54/26
CLERK'S REPORT**

- (i) The Clerk advised that the VAT reclaim of £1,250.97 - for financial year 2025 / 2026 had been completed and sent to HMRC (VAT)
- (ii) The Clerk advised Members that he had written to the Headteacher at Ysgol Rhos Helyg Primary School to congratulate the school on being awarded the Flintshire & Wrexham County Primary School of the Year Award. Rhos Helyg was recognised for their commitment to environmental education and wildlife conservation, together with their efforts to promote sustainability and environmental awareness, together with hands-on learning for pupils. Councillor Bob Rbinson provided additional information.

6(C). 55/26

TO APPOINT A COUNCILLOR TO VERIFY, SIGN AND DATE BANK STATEMENTS

The Clerk recollected to Members that this process is required under the Council's Financial Regulations.

Members agreed the following: (1) Councillor David Palmer appointed to verify, sign and date bank statements for the quarter: January, February & March, 2026 (2) Councillor David Palmer confirmed to Members, that the bank statement reconciliations agreed with the end of year accounts as below Minute - to receive and approve the end of year accounts for 2025 / 2026.

6(D). 56/26

TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS FOR 2025 / 2026

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 2025 / 2026. 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 2025 / 2026, with the financial spreadsheet to be signed by the Chair of Meeting – Councillor Delyth Taylor.

6(E). 57/26

TO CONSIDER: AMENDING COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Clerk recollected Members to the Council's Financial Regulations, and in particular, to Paragraph 5.9 which states the following: 'Where the value is between £1,000 and £5,000 excluding VAT, the Clerk shall try to obtain 3 estimates (which might include evidence of online prices, or recent prices from regular suppliers)'. The Financial Regulations were shown on screen to Members.

The Clerk provided Members with a scenario that another local Council had encountered which had received a recommendation from Audit Wales. Members perused the Financial Regulations and noted that the figures in other sections, such as Paragraph 5.8 stated greater than £5,000.00. In Paragraph 5.15 two sections stated under £5,000.00 and over £5,000.00.

The Clerk also referred to Section 9.4 under Payment Cards and wished the Council to consider amending the paragraph to suit the Council's process.

Members agreed the following, with one abstention: (1) Paragraph 5.9 to be amended to state: 'Where the value is greater than £5,000.00 excluding VAT'. This Amendment will align with other paragraphs of the Council's Financial Regulations (2) Paragraph 9.4 amended to: Personal credit or debit cards of members or staff shall not be used except for expenses and or Council purchases and will also be restricted to a single transaction maximum value of £500 incurred in accordance with council policy.

6(F). 58/26

COMMUNITY AWARD: TO ARRANGE PROCESS TIMELINE

The Clerk advised Members that this was an annual agenda item to consider a Community Award for this new financial year.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to advertise the Community Award on the Council's notice boards and web site together with a Public Notice in the next available edition of the Halkyn Mountain News.

6(G). 59/26

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

- (1) Pot holes: B5123 Road with junction at A541 in Rhydymwyn. *Work Order issued to make safe until Junction Improvement Scheme is complete and resurfaced*
- (2) Damaged sign: Northop Road, Rhosesmor – the sign indicating Children's Play Area has been damaged. *Work order issued to replace 76mm post and re-fit signage*
- (3) Pot holes and damaged road which requires upgrading: Middle Mill Lane, Pant Y Gof. *Work order issued*
- (4) Pot holes: Halkyn to Rhes Y Cae Road (some dangerous) "*Pothole Pro*" to attend *Week commencing 30/03/26*
- (5) 30mph speed limit sign damaged: Near Black Lion Farm. Rhes Y Cae – sign lying in roadside ferns. *Work order issued to replace 76mm post and re-fit signage*
- (6) 40mph / National mph sign damaged: Bryn Tirion Road and Near The Hall, Lygan Y Wern, The Nant. *Work order issued to replace 76mm post and re-fit signage*
- (7) Damaged sign (knocked over) Top of Middle Mill Lane and opposite The Barricks, Pant Y Gof. *Work order issued to replace 76mm post and re-fit signage*
- (8) Damaged barrier (with sharp edges): At The Barracks, Middle Mill Lane, Pant y Gof. *Request to Delivery Service to revisit and remove protruding barrier*
- (9) Gully blocked causing flooding: Jerusalem Hill, Rhosesmor. Gully cleared in late 2025. *Completed*
- (10) Request for Dog Bin: In area of The Barracks on B5123 Road. This area is increasingly used by people walking their dogs in the area and leaving the dog bags on the ground (Complaint from residents). *This location is already considered if new stocks allow ?*

Members brought the following concern(s) to the meeting:

- (1) B5123 Road in Bryn Alun area: 2 x grids blocked
- (2) B5123 Road in Bryn Alun area: Some pot holes have been repaired, with others still outstanding
- (3) Pot holes and damaged road which requires upgrading: Middle Mill Lane, Pant Y Gof (This was reported in March – could an update be received)
- (4) Rhosesmor to the Green area in Northop: Pot holes
- (5) Halkyn to Rhes Y Cae Road: Some pot holes have been repaired, with others still outstanding – from the bridge area (This was reported in March – could an update be received)
- (6) Bryn Tirion Road – at Lleprog Lane. The verge has partly collapsed following a lorry tipping over. The area was filled with soil which has compacted. The area is difficult to

manoeuvre when two cars are passing without one vehicle going into the dip. Could this be investigated please. (Is the area within the Halkyn Street Scene remit)

- (7) Bryn Tirion Road: Tremendous amount of litter. Can a litter pick please be organised (Is the area within the Halkyn Street Scene remit)

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

7. 60/26

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. 61/26

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

County Councillor Frances Lister advised in relation to the following:

- (1) Concern with parking and no clear bus stop markings in area of Village Road in Pentre Halkyn. Held discussion with Highways Officer. Following alleviation scenarios for consideration to make the area safer: New road marking for bus shelter; possible Active Travel grant funding for 2027 / 2028; Traffic Regulation Order (Yellow lines). Councillor Lister will make contact with a local quarry to discuss financial assistance towards the safety measures.
- (2) Concerns with parking of vehicles on the corner at the junction of Pentre Halkyn Village Road and Martin's Hill.
- (3) Safety concerns expressed with children crossing the B5123 Road in Rhosesmor to the children's play area. Councillor Lister advised as to the cost of such a crossing which was in the region of £40,000. Councillor Lister will make contact with the County Safety Officer.

9(A). 62/26

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning application had been received:

- ❖ Application number: FUL/000226/26 – Proposed erection of a single-storey detached bungalow to be used as a residential annexe ancillary to the main dwelling at Bryn Haul, Moel y Crio.

Comment by Council: Whilst the Council, in principle, have no objection to the application, as long as planning policies and planning guidance notes are complied with. However, as the application is for an annexe building to be used as residential, will the proposed building be subject to its own direct water and power supply, including domestic rates, or, will these facilities be provided directly from the main property.

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

9(B). 63/26

Members formally confirmed the above decision.

9(C). 64/26

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

- Application number: FUL/000111/26 - Amendments to submitted application, 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). 65/26**PLANNING DECISIONS**

No planning decision(s) have been received from Flintshire County Council

10. 66/26**APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Payee (Authorised to be paid by BACS)	Net £	Vat £	Total £
<u>Payments made – to be confirmed:</u>			
Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance & Quarterly payment for Cemetery administration: Payments dated: 01/04/2026			
Direct Debit: Scottish Power (February - Street Lighting Electricity Account payment dated: 01/04/2026	570.27	114.05	684.32
(All invoices listed have been 'examined, verified and certified' by the Clerk)			

11. 67/26**APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Name of organisation (Authorised to be paid by BACS)	Amount granted £
Caerwys Agricultural Show (Application for annual grant) (Section 144 of the LGA 1972)	£350.00
Llangollen Eisteddfod (Application for annual grant) (Section 145 LGA 1972)	£200.00

12. 68/26

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.....**