

# **LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **CYNGOR CYMUNED COEDLLAI A PONTBLYDDYN**

THE MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2016.

### **PRESENT**

Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman of the Council (in the Chair)

Councillor J. Caruana, Vice-Chairman

Councillors D.K. Crowther, R. Hughes, Terry Hughes, T. Hughes, C.E. Jones JP, K. McCallum JP, D. Rule, J.E. Saul and R. Williams.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

These were received from Councillors J. Atkinson and J. Phoenix.

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**

The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood welcomed Mr. Paul Robson, Integrated Transport Manager at Flintshire County Council who was in attendance to discuss Community Transport. Flintshire County Council do not govern the provision of public transport. There is no regulation and the County Council cannot request that transport is provided where there is none. Any requested services would have to be supported by funding. Between £300,000 and £500,000 per annum has been wasted in bus subsidies. In some areas, the cost of providing a bus service has cost the County Council £98 per passenger. This is not sustainable and, therefore, new ways to provide transport has to be developed. Part of this development is to find out at community level what type of transport service is needed. Questions to be asked are a) what services do you want; b) where are the gaps and c) how do you plug the gaps? The services provided would need to be cost effective. There is a possibility that there could be a combination with school services, that the buses could be utilised when running empty back to the depots. Residents in some areas struggle to get to the doctor's surgery so working with GPs is under consideration to try and fit appointments to travel times, in particular around school times either in the morning when the buses run empty after dropping off the schoolchildren or in the afternoon before they pick them up. Various different modes of transport can be developed and how the provision is made up requires analysis.

It was pointed out that there is a good commercial service which runs through the community Monday to Saturdays, however, the last bus from Wrexham to Mold is at 5.45pm and from Mold to Wrexham at 6.40pm. At present the Sunday service which was convenient for afternoon visiting at the hospital is still running, it was hoped that this would not be lost. The lack of a bus service in the later evening is very restrictive to anyone who requires the use of a bus for hospital visiting or possibly attending a football match. Query was raised as to whether a survey on all services had been undertaken, Mr Robson stated that statistics could be provided.

A form of questionnaire leaflet was available. Suggestion was made that as there was going to be an Age Friendly meeting leaflet drop at the houses in the community, it would be useful if the Community Council could post both sets of leaflets at the same time. Mr Robson said that this could be arranged.

Observation was made that the initial meeting regarding cutting the bus subsidies indicated that there would be a cost to the Community Council. Mr Robson advised that this was not necessarily the case any longer, there would be a certain amount of reliance on the goodwill of bus operators who already had contracts with the County Council for provision of school transport etc. hoping that they would be prepared to give something back and support communities. The issue regarding the provision of community transport is ongoing. It was agreed that the Clerk should pursue links with the neighbouring communities of Treuddyn and Llanfynydd.

Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman, thanked Mr Robson for attending the meeting.

### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor D.K. Crowther and seconded by Councillor J. Caruana that these minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA**

#### **Age Friendly Open Meeting**

The Clerk advised that the leaflets for the Age Friendly meeting to be held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 would be ready on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Delivery areas were to be split between Councillors.

#### **POLICE LIAISON**

PCSO Poppy Hadfield-Jones was unable to attend the meeting this evening. It was pointed out that this was the second meeting in a row that the PCSO had been unable to attend. The Clerk stated that she had not received a report.

Comment was made in regard to the ongoing issue with parking part on and part off the pavement in the area of Bells Corner. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to both Mr Steve Jones of Streetscene, Flintshire County Council and Inspector Jonathan Bowcott of North Wales Police, advising them of the problem and requesting a site meeting.

Further comment was made that on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2016, there would be a Remembrance Service held at the Cenotaph on Bells Corner and many members of the Community including children would be present. Any parking on the pavement at that time would be dangerous if people had to stand in the roadway. It was suggested that an advisory letter be put together and distributed to the residents of Queen Street and Eaton Place.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

It was suggested that the Finance Committee had insufficient members. To this end, it was agreed that a further two Councillors be added, these being Councillors J. Caruana, Vice-Chair to the Council and R. Hughes.

The Finance Committee now consists of the following members: - Councillor G. Sherwood, Chair to the Council; Councillor J. Caruana, Vice-Chair to the Council and Councillors R. Hughes, C.E. Jones JP, K. McCallum JP and J.E. Saul.

### **COMMUNITY COUNCIL OWNED STREET LIGHTING**

The Clerk reported that she had e-mailed Darell Jones of Streetscene, Flintshire County Council requesting the details of the street light repair and maintenance agreement between this Community Council and the County Council. A list of the Community Council owned street lights had also been asked for.

### **CEMETERY**

It was reported that excess clay from the digging of a grave was being deposited on the top soil. As the grave diggers are sourced by the undertaker, it was agreed that the Clerk write to all local undertakers advising of the problem and to request that the clay is deposited in a different area of the Cemetery to the top soil.

### **HALF YEARLY FINANCE REPORT 2016/2017**

The financial reports for the half year of 2016/2017 had been circulated to members. It was proposed by Councillor R. Hughes and seconded by Councillor D.K. Crowther that these be accepted. All Councillors were in agreement.

### **POND AREA ON PHOENIX PARK**

Councillor R. Hughes informed that the work on the pond area on Phoenix Park was now complete. It was commented that Flintshire County Council had come on board quickly with this job and Councillor R. Hughes was thanked for his efforts regarding this. It was proposed by Councillor C.E. Jones JP and seconded by Councillor Terry Hughes that letters be sent to Mr Alan Roberts at Flintshire County Council and Mr David Jones of Leeswood Farm, thanking them for their work in regard to this matter. All Councillors in agreement.

### **FLINTSHIRE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Councillor J. Caruana reported that the Flintshire Standards Committee meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016 had focussed on the updated Code of Conduct. If Councillors feel offended by words or actions of fellow Councillors, there are procedures of complaint to follow.

### **PUBLIC OMBUDSMAN SERVICE FOR WALES – GUIDANCE ON CODE OF CONDUCT**

From Gareth Owens of Flintshire County Council, an e-mail regarding the changes in the guidance on the Code of Conduct which reflects the changes in the Code of Conduct itself. Councillors have already received a copy of the updated guidance. This was accepted.

### **FLINTSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Correspondence has been received from the Flintshire County Council informing that the consultancy period has now moved on with the production of a 'Strategic Options – Growth and Spatial Options' document. The six-week consultation exercise starts on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016 and ends on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood informed that he and the Clerk had attended the workshop held at county hall on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016. He went on to suggest that this was a good opportunity for the Community Council to have an input on the current consultation exercise. It was agreed that a special meeting be held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

### **BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES**

The Boundary Commission are in the process of reducing the number of Welsh Parliamentary seats from 40 to 29. Delyn Parliamentary constituency would be abolished with parts going into a new

Parliamentary constituency named 'Flint and Rhuddlan' and other parts joining Alyn and Deeside. It was proposed by the Boundary Commission that Leeswood community be moved into the Parliamentary constituency of Alyn and Deeside. Concern was expressed that the community would be losing a good MP in Rt Hon David Hanson.

The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood advised that a number of alternatives had been suggested by the various political parties. He went on to point out that Mold was also being moved to Alyn and Deeside. As a community, we have strong ties with the town and it would be to our benefit if Leeswood community was in the same Parliamentary constituency as Mold. Another suggestion made was that Gwernaffield should be in the same Parliamentary constituency as Mold, it was proposed that this was moved to the new Flint and Rhuddlan constituency and to move Northop Hall into Alyn and Deeside as it did not make sense that Northop Hall and Northop should be in two different constituencies. Councillor C.E. Jones JP proposed that these opinions be sent to the Boundary Commission as they seemed to be the best option. This was seconded by Councillor R. Hughes. All Councillors in agreement.

### **OUR FLINTSHIRE, OUR FUTURE – PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENTS NOVEMBER 2016**

Correspondence had been received from Flintshire County Council informing of a series of events being held in Flintshire to consult with the public about the budget savings required. The meeting for this area is on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at Ysgol Bryn Coch, Mold 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Four representatives are invited. The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood and the Clerk would attend.

### **COUNTY FORUM – NOTICE OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The last County Forum meeting was held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Councillor J.E. Saul (Community Council representative) and the Clerk attended. Information from Sam Perry of Flintshire County Council had been received advising of the dates for County Forum meetings in 2017.

### **ONE VOICE WALES – NORTH WALES POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER**

Notification had been received of a series open meetings arranged by the North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner. The meeting in our area is scheduled for Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 6.30pm at Glyndwr University, Wrexham. This was accepted.

### **ONE VOICE WALES – CONSULTANCY SERVICES**

From One Voice Wales information received about their Consultancy services available. This was accepted.

### **COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

a) Part re-surfacing of road through Leeswood village – work has now been completed on the road surface patching. A programme of white lining will start soon.

### **MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE**

a) Hedge cutting in community – comment was made at the excellent work of Mr Neil Williams of the Wylfa Farm in regard to the hedge cutting in the community. All Councillors agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

a) Caerwys Town Council – invitation to the Civic Service of the Mayor of Caerwys to be held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at St Michael's Church, Caerwys at 3.00pm. The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood was to attend.

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## CYNGOR CYMUNED COEDLLAI A PONTBLYDDYN

THE MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2016.

### **PRESENT**

Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman of the Council (in the Chair)  
Councillors D.K. Crowther, R. Hughes, T. Hughes, D. Rule and J.E. Saul.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

These were received from Councillors J. Atkinson, J. Caruana, Terry Hughes, C.E. Jones JP, K. McCallum JP, J. Phoenix and R. Williams.

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **FLINTSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Councillors had been circulated with documentation relating to the latest public consultation in regard to the Flintshire Local Development Plan.

The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood explained that the latest consultation exercise with the setting up of the Flintshire Local Development Plan related to what extent did Flintshire plan to grow over the next fifteen years and where should this be? This was not a consultation that involved community's needs as individuals but an overall strategic development looking at the county as a whole. Such consultation at this level had not previously been undertaken.

Six different housing options for Flintshire up to the year 2030 had been put forward: -

a) Option 1 – 3,750 new homes. This number reflects the Welsh Government household projections using 2011 Census information and expectations about the movement of people over ten years.

Approximately 250 homes built per annum.

b) Option 2 – 4,800 new homes. Again, using the 2011 Census information and expectations, this number is based on the movement of people over a longer period of fifteen years. Approximately 320 homes built per annum.

c) Option 3 – 8,250 new homes. The number reflects the Welsh Government household projections using the 2014 population forecasts and expectations about the movement of people over fifteen years but using the earlier 2008 based household formation rates (i.e. before the recession).

Approximately 550 homes built per annum.

d) Option 4 – 6,600 new homes. As option 3 but based on the highest expectations of the movement of people over ten years and using the 2011 household formation rates (i.e. after the recession). Approximately 440 homes built per annum.

e) Option 5 – 10,350 new homes. Using the 2014 population forecasts and the 2008 household formation rates this number is based on the highest expectations about the movement of people over fifteen years, (maximum number). Approximately 690 new homes per annum.

f) Option 6 – 6,350 to 7,350 new homes. This forecast is based on the amount of new homes required if Flintshire was to plan for 8,000 to 10,000 new jobs up to 2030. Approximately 440 to 490 homes built per annum.

Following a survey settlements in Flintshire are defined as: -

- i) Main Service Centres
- ii) Local Service Centres
- iii) Sustainable Village – Leeswood is included in this.
- iv) Defined Village
- v) Undefined Village – Pontblyddyn is included in this.

Five spatial options for the location of the new homes in Flintshire to 2030 had been put forward: -

- a) Spatial Option 1 – Proportional distribution for towns and villages based on the settlement hierarchy. This directs new homes proportionally across towns and villages depending upon where a settlement sits in the hierarchy.
- b) Spatial Option 2 – Towns and larger villages only. Directs new homes specifically to Main Service Centres and Local Service Centres.
- c) Spatial Option 3 – Towns and villages in the growth area. New homes are directed at the Welsh Government identified growth area in North East Flintshire.
- d) Spatial Option 4 – Settlements along transport routes. Homes would be built in settlements along the main transport corridors.
- e) Spatial Option 5 – Sustainable and flexible distribution. This directs new homes to towns and villages within the settlement hierarchy based on sustainable considerations, before careful consideration of smaller rural villages.

Concern was expressed that there could be a de-population and it could be argued that all this would do is provide land banks. It was commented that new jobs would be provided in Flintshire through the development of the Deeside Enterprise Zone and Warren Hall Business Park. Observation made that through this consultation the Community Council has the opportunity to say if growth comes then this is the format we would like it to take. However, it was argued that the Community Council has no say in planning applications at all, they are asked for observations only. Further point was made that the Development Plan can include sites for a certain amount of homes to be built over the next fifteen years, but it does not mean that these dwellings have to be built. If Leeswood and Pontblyddyn are not included in the options for building, then the community could stagnate.

Finally, it was agreed that the Community Council would support Option 4 – 6,600 - with regard to the number of new homes to build in Flintshire up to 2030 and Spatial Option 5 which encouraged building based on the sustainability of the settlement.

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Application number – 056118

Application for a lawful development certificate (existing) for the erection of a dwelling.

The Cabin, Tyddyn Glo Farm, Dingle Road, Leeswood, Mold, CH7 4SN.

This dwelling had been erected in 2011. No planning application had been submitted for this and the landowner had previously had permission for the siting of a caravan. It was pointed out that this had been reported to the Planning Department of Flintshire County Council in 2011. However, the Enforcement Officer had failed to act on this information. A letter was to be sent to Mr A. Farrow of

the Planning Department expressing how deeply disappointed this Council was at the lack of action taken when they had first been made aware of this dwelling. All Councillors in agreement.

**PARKING ON BELL’S CORNER**

Correspondence had been received from Mark Middleton, Operations Manager South & Structures of Streetscene & Transportation, Flintshire County Council. In his letter, Mr Middleton advised that the inappropriate parking described on Bell’s Corner was a possible offence that the North Wales Police would enforce. The County Council enforce traffic regulation orders and these are evident by such things as double yellow lines. A Streetscene co-ordinator would be in contact regarding a meeting on site to confirm this. If additional parking restriction measures require consideration, then this Council’s concerns would be passed on to a technical officer who would investigate and evaluate any new traffic regulation orders.

The Clerk advised that a letter had been circulated in the area of Eaton Place/Queen Street informing residents of the Remembrance Services that would be held at the Cenotaph on 11<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> November, requesting that the pavement area on Bell’s Corner be kept clear of vehicles. A resident of Eaton Place had contacted her on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November explaining that there were issues with the parking, stating that it was difficult to park near to his home. As they were a family with a new baby it was important to them that they were able to park as close as possible to their property.

Comment was raised that there are problems with parking in other areas of the community such as the junction of King Street/Bryn Clyd; Parc Derwen and Stryt Cae Rhedyn/Dingle Road.

**STREET NAMES ON NEW DEVELOPMENT AT GARAGE SITES**

Nadine Hughes, Technical Assistant at Flintshire County Council had e-mailed advising that new street names had been chosen for the developments on the old garage sites at Maes-y-Meillion and Heol-y-Goron. The development at Maes-y-Meillion is to be named Llys Eurwen/Lime Court & Llys Pinwydd/Pine Court and the development at Heol-y-Goron is to be named Llys Llwyfen/Elm Court.

It was observed that these names were not in keeping with the avenues in the area. The streets named after trees were in a different part of the village. Dismay was expressed that the Community Council had not been given an opportunity to discuss the naming of these new developments. Councillor R. Hughes advised that he would contact the officer at Flintshire County Council regarding this.

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**For a full version of the minutes and the latest Community Council and Community news please visit our website: -**

**<http://leeswoodcommunity.org.uk>**