

## 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 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2017.

#### **PRESENT**

Councillor G. Sherwood, Chairman of the Council (in the Chair)  
Councillor J. Caruana, Vice-Chairman of the Council  
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**

Councillor T. Hughes made a declaration of interest in regard to item 8 on the Agenda, the Planning Application numbered 056601 for land at Ivy Cottage, Queen Street, Leeswood. As he lived almost directly opposite the proposed new development, Councillor T. Hughes felt that it would be inappropriate for him to take part in any discussion.

#### **POLICE LIAISON**

As PCSO Poppy Hadfield-Jones was in attendance, item 5 on the Agenda was brought forward. PCSO Hadfield-Jones explained that she had been away on training courses for a number of months and because of this had been unable to attend the Community Council meetings. The Clerk informed that PCSO Hadfield-Jones had been sending reports but to the incorrect e-mail address, this had now been resolved.

PCSO Hadfield-Jones presented a report of activity for the period 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016 to 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017:

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#### **Incident update – Leeswood**

10/11/2016 – Common assault. Occurred on the school bus and was dealt with by the Community Resolution process.

19/11/2016 – Common assault. No further action due to lack of witness evidence.

20/11/2016 – Drink driving offence. Charged and disqualified from driving or having a licence for 24 months.

08/12/2016 – Theft of petrol from car.

13/12/2016 – Theft of jewellery. Charged and court appearance on 12/01/2017.

16/12/2016 – Theft of petrol from car.

27/01/2017 – Theft from vehicle on Ffordd Celyn. Undetected.

12/02/2017 – Criminal damage (vehicle) on Sycamore Drive. Undetected.

01/03/2017 – Theft on Queen Street between landlord and tenant.

02/03/2017 – Criminal damage (vehicle) on Eaton Place. Undetected. PCSO Hadfield-Jones advised that she would be keeping an eye on this area. It was hoped that a camera would be provided by Flintshire County Council in order to assist monitoring the area. Some Community Councils have their

own camera and PCSO Hadfield-Jones stated that she would approach this Council if she thought it would be necessary.

### **Incident update – Pontblyddyn**

12/11/2016 – Currency offence at the Bridge Inn, Pontblyddyn – fake £50 notes used. Currently being investigated alongside a series of other similar events – this is a wider issue extending to the Wrexham area.

The Chairman, Councillor G. Sherwood thanked PCSO Hadfield-Jones for attending the meeting.

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Application reference number 056601 – 7 no dwellings.

#### **Ivy Cottage, Queen Street, Leeswood, CH7 4RQ.**

This item on the Agenda was brought forward as a member of the public, Jane Rogers of Hazeldene, Queen Street, Leeswood was present. Mrs Rogers was in attendance to express her concern about the proposed new development at Ivy Cottage.

Councillor R. Hughes advised that he would not be commenting on the planning application this evening.

Councillors made observation that this part of the village was a problem area with the on-road parking from outside the Co-Op shop to the junction with County Road. Cars already struggled to travel along this length of the highway and it was a heavily congested area. Lorries and buses would find it even more difficult. Additional large vehicles associated with the development could only exacerbate the problem in this area. It was pointed out that £54,000 had been spent on providing a safe walkway to the School due to the lack of pavement from the Co-Op to the School entrance in order to ensure the safety of pedestrians in the area. Remark was made that the bus stop had been moved from directly opposite the Chip Shop to just beyond the Co-Op car park entrance for safety reasons, if this development was to take place would it mean that the bus stop would have to be moved again and if so where to?

Following a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the development at Ivy Cottage, Queen Street, Leeswood be objected to on the following grounds: -

- a) the congestion already existing in the area which could only worsen with a new development and the works associated with it,
- b) the concern for pedestrians in the area, making reference to the safe walkway erected for access to the School and
- c) the potential move of the bus stop which had already been changed for safety reasons.

Councillors R. Hughes and T. Hughes did not vote on this.

### **MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor R. Hughes and seconded by Councillor D.K. Crowther that these minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

The minutes of the Donation meeting held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017 had also been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor C.E. Jones JP and seconded by Councillor J. Caruana that these minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

## **ACQUISITION OF LAND – CEMETERY REQUIREMENTS**

Correspondence had been received from Natural Resources Wales requesting information that adequately assesses the risk posed to controlled waters in order for NRW to determine whether an extension to the Cemetery would be acceptable.

The information required would involve a Tier 1 Preliminary Risk Assessment as a minimum, with subsequent further assessment to be undertaken if necessary. Cemeteries have the potential to cause pollution of controlled waters. The degree of risk is dependent on many factors and each proposal must be considered on a site-specific basis. Natural Resources Wales would require that any planning application would need to be supported by the following risk assessments which are based on Environment Agency guidance contained within 'Assessing the Groundwater Pollution Potential of Cemetery Developments' (2004), which is based on R&D Technical Report P223, 'Pollution Potential of Cemeteries' (2002).

With regard to the Groundwater Stage 1 Preliminary Risk Assessment, the initial site assessment should define potential pathways and receptors in proximity to the site. The developer must undertake a preliminary site assessment, which should include the following:

- a) Identification of all water features both surface and groundwater (ponds, springs, ditches, culverts etc.) within a 300 metres radius of the site. Use made of any of these water features. This should include the construction details of wells and boreholes and details of the lithology into which they are installed.
- b) Details of the thickness and type of soils and rocks underlying the site.
- c) Confirmation of the depth of the water table (especially with respect to the maximum depth of burial) and its variability
- d) The anticipated rate of burial.

The Clerk advised that she had e-mailed Natural Resources Wales about this request and was waiting for a reply.

## **CEMETERY**

Suggestion was made that a copy of the Cemetery by-laws should be put on the notice board by the gates to the Cemetery. Observation made that these would leave no room for anything else on the notice board. It was proposed that the Clerk should produce an abridged version of the by-laws, highlighting the areas where most issues are likely to occur. All Councillors in agreement.

## **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

Members had been circulated with a copy of the Financial Regulations in preparation for the Audit 2016/2017. The Clerk was thanked for her work.

It was proposed by Councillor R. Hughes and seconded by Councillor C.E. Jones JP that they be accepted. All Councillors were in agreement.

## **AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES**

Various documentation relating to the Age Friendly Communities scheme starting in the Leeswood and Pontblyddyn communities had been received from Mrs Helen Jones, Older People's Strategy Co-Ordinator, Flintshire County Council. Also received was the Age Friendly City Indicator Pilot Final Report re Fishguard and Goodwick, Pembrokeshire, Wales.

The Clerk reported that a press release had been issued by Flintshire County Council and this had been published in the Chronicle newspaper on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Applications for the position of Age

Friendly Communities Project Co-Ordinator had been received and the interviews were planned for Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

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

Councillor J.E. Saul had compiled maps of the street lights in the Community from the information received from Flintshire County Council. These had been circulated to all Councillors.

Councillor R. Hughes advised that he would get in touch with Mr Darrel Jones, Street Lighting Manager, Streetscene, Flintshire County Council, requesting a survey of the Community Council street lights. At the same time, he would ask for a written quotation for replacement on a new for old basis. All Councillors were in agreement.

### **BUS STOP AT LLONG**

Councillor R. Hughes reported that he had visited Mr and Mrs Limb at Llong regarding their request for a bus stop at Llong. It had been established that three buses passed through daily. Katie Wilby of the Transportation Unit, Flintshire County Council, had informed that an assessment of the suitability for a bus stop in Llong was underway and the outcome would be reported to the Community Council.

### **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2017**

Councillor Terry Hughes informed that he had attended the Information Evening for the Best Kept Village Competition 2017 on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at County Hall. The Best Kept Village Competition is sponsored by a number of businesses and organisations, Airbus, Warwick International and Tesco amongst them. There were many positives for the Leeswood village, these included the Community Centre, the Cenotaph and the play areas. Pontblyddyn village also had positives, in particular the Cricket Ground and the newly refurbished Church. Councillor Ray Hughes had also attended the Information Evening as County Councillor. The Judges had mentioned accessing the Community Centre and it had been agreed that if they contact a keyholder on the day they were coming to judge the village they would be able to have a look around.

### **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – ASSESSMENT OF WELL-BEING FOR FLINTSHIRE**

E-mail correspondence from Sam Perry, Policy & Performance Support Officer, Flintshire County Council about the Assessment of Well-Being for Flintshire. Members had been circulated with a copy of the 'Assessment of Local Well-being for Flintshire' – Area Profiles.

The Well-Being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 is a new piece of challenging legislation promoted by the Welsh Government. This ground-breaking legislation aims to improve further the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales now and for the longer-term. The Act is underpinned by seven 'well-being' goals.

Public sector partners need to work together to achieve these goals. The first step required of public sector partners is to make a deep analysis of the conditions of 'well-being' in the communities they serve by using all available data. The second step is to agree a 'Local Well Being Plan' for collective action. An Assessment provides a contemporary picture of life and well-being in Flintshire. Themes included in the assessment will be the things that matter to the residents of Flintshire.

The Assessment of Well-being for Flintshire is now complete for consultation. All documents, including a summary, profiles for each of the seven areas and a link to the full assessment are available on the Flintshire County Council's website.

There is also an online feedback form with just five questions to respond to. The closing date for feedback is Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March.

It was pointed out that this information could be useful when considering the new Age Friendly Communities initiative. All Councillors in agreement.

### **ZURICH MUNICIPAL INSURANCE 2017/2018**

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Zurich Municipal Insurance regarding the Policy renewal for the forthcoming year. Some changes had been made and the Council were now insured for eight roadside seats at a value of £600 per seat and six notice boards at a value of £1,000 per board. The street lights are insured for just over £11,000, given the amount of street lighting columns that the Community Council have in their ownership, it was felt that this was insufficient and that in reality a sum of £80,000 to £100,000 would be more realistic. Councillors were in agreement that the Clerk should seek advice from the insurers regarding the street lights.

### **COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

Water running down Dingle Road, Leeswood – Councillor R. Hughes reported that Flintshire County Council would be looking into the issue of a spring located on Dingle Road with the intention of diverting it into a ditch.

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

a) Councillor D. Rule article in the Leeswood & District News – Councillor Terry Hughes brought attention to the excellent article written by Councillor D. Rule on the Archaeological Dig taking place near the site of the old garages at Maes-Y-Meillion, Leeswood. All Councillors agreed that it was very interesting and thanked Councillor Rule for his work.

b) Castle Cement Liaison Committee meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – Councillor J. Caruana advised that both he and Councillor R. Williams had been unable to attend the Castle Cement Liaison Committee meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Information had been received that a feasibility study was to take place regarding a cement mill number 5. A screening and sloping document would be submitted. Although it may be necessary to undertake a full environmental study.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Llanfynydd Community Council – correspondence received from Llanfynydd Community Council requesting a possible contribution from this Community Council to the cost of the play scheme provided in Pontybodkin during the school summer holidays. It was pointed out that the Community Council already provide a play scheme in Leeswood which is well attended and it was believed that it would be inappropriate for the Council to make a contribution towards another Community's play scheme. All Councillors in agreement.