

Leeswood & District News

April 2018

www.leeswood-district.news

Issue 371



CARNIVAL COMPETITIONS

PRINCE, ROSEBUD & QUEEN COMPETITION FOR 2018

SEE PAGE 14 FOR DETAILS



Leeswood & District News

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Community Event

LEESWOOD SUPPORT GROUP NIGHTINGALE HOUSE HOSPICE

WEDNESDAY 11th APRIL 2018
19:00

LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE



Leeswood & District News

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are currently looking for a new member to join the Leeswood & District News team.

If you have very basic IT skills and would love to express yourself to the local village, join our team - it's easy & fun!

Benefits of being a member of the Leeswood News Team include:

- ◆ Learning how to put together a news publication
- ◆ Become a recognised member of our community
 - ◆ Looks excellent on your CV
- ◆ Builds connections within the local area

Call June on 07525 929 522

or

Call John on 01352 344 399 (option 2)

Leeswood & District News

PONTYBODKYN LADIES GUILD

Gill Burton

On the 22nd February 2018 the President, Mrs Lucille Ingman, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced a new member to our midst, Mrs Gwen Grey, and hoped she would enjoy her time with us. then handed over to Mrs Janet Burden who read a lovely poem about children. This was followed by prayers. We were all looking forward to the evening as Guild member Mrs Maureen Calder was demonstrating how to make no cook Tapas. Maureen made up four delicious recipes and we all were treated to a taste, with many of us trying things we had never before tasted, all were voted a success.

Refreshments were provided and served by Janet. The raffle was drawn, Mrs Jane Lucy was the winner, the special raffle was won by Mrs Gwen Grey.

The meeting on the 8th March was opened by Vice President, Mrs Margaret Roberts, as Lucille was unwell and unable to attend, Margaret greeted everyone and hoped we would enjoy the evening. Mrs Anne Davies started us off with a reading after which Margaret introduced our speaker, Mr Carlton Jones, known to us all. Carlton began by telling us he was born and bred in Leeswood and then gave us a quick journey through his life, so far. He attended the middle school, now the Community Centre, and then went on to the grammar school in Mold, travelling by train from Coed Talon. He began university but unfortunately on the death of his father had to leave and get a job. He began work in the offices of Llay Main then had to do national service in the RAF where through a friend he had some interesting episodes where he met such glamorous people Glynis Johns, Richard Attenborough and John Gielgud to name a few. He then began work at John Summers but was, with many others made redundant in 1981. Carlton has done many things in the community, Governor of the school, he and Selwyn Roberts found the site for the new school, a member of The Royal British Legion, a JP and a member of our local council. He was also on committees concerned with the bonfire we used to enjoy in Leeswood and with the carnival with the Maurice Dancers and Jaz Bands. He has had such a full and busy life and of course he was married to Eirlys, a Guild member for many many years, before her passing.

Refreshments were served by Mrs Anne Davies. The raffle was won by Mrs Janet Burden and Mrs Flora Roberts won the special raffle.

Sponsor

DAVID HANSON MP FOR DELYN

**SEVEN WAYS TO
CONTACT DAVID**



Write to me: 4 Trelawny Square
Flint
Flintshire
CH6 5NN

OR

House of Commons
London, SW1 A0A

Phone me: 01352 763 159

See me: At one of my regular advice surgeries
(contact my office for details)

Fax me: 01352 730 140

Email me: david.hanson.mp@parliament.uk

Website: www.davidhanson.org.uk

Twitter: @DavidHansonMP

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Leeswood & District News



Leeswood - **Bethania Church** – Coedllai

A warm welcome to all – Croeso cynnes i bawb

Sundays at Bethania

From the very beginning, Christians have met to worship God together on the Lord's Day, the day of Jesus' resurrection.

Morning Service

Our morning service begins at 10:15am and finishes about 11:30am.

The service is structured but fairly informal in style. We sing contemporary Christian songs and some classic hymns too. The Bible teaching seeks to be relevant to our lives and journey of faith, and should be appropriate for those who are seeking faith as well as those growing in faith. **Kidzone** is available for younger children. After the service we have tea and coffee, and sometimes a meal together as a church family.

Sunday Evenings

On Sunday evening we meet at 5:00pm to read the Bible. As part of our 150th Celebrations, we plan to read through the whole bible in a year.

At 6.00pm we have a time of prayer for our year of celebrations.

Weekdays

Bright Sparks under 4s
Friday 9:30 – 11:00

High Fives - Reception to Year 6
Wednesday 5:45 – 6:45

Lasers – Year 6 and over
Wednesday 7:15 – 9:00

Safe Haven

If you know someone who has a disability please let them know about Safe Haven Crafts. They don't have to live in Leeswood. We have people coming from Wrexham and Queensferry. We have five regular craftees with learning difficulties, most of whom also use a wheelchair. We would love to have more. Check us out at www.safehaven.wales



Please phone or check our website for details, changes and special events.
Website – www.bethanialeeswood.org
Phone Rob 01352 771607

Easter again! Doesn't it come round quickly?

Deadlines dictate that, as I'm composing this, there's still a fair bit of snow lying about in the village, although the worst does seem to be over (for now!). Even so, there are a few hopeful signs: the snowdrops have been out for a while now, and the daffodils are beginning to appear on the Leeswood verges, and it won't be long till the trees start covering themselves in blossom, and while I haven't heard a cuckoo yet, all the signs are hopeful!

I like the spring, with all its promise of new life, new hope, new possibilities. Hence all the cute bunnies and the fluffy chicks on the Easter cards. The cold, dead grip of winter is gradually loosened and things start to show signs of life again.

For the Christian believer, there's an extra dimension to all this new life at Easter time. On Good Friday we remember Jesus's agonisingly painful death, strung up on a Roman gibbet. But then comes Easter Sunday, and we celebrate the fact that he rose to life again, a new life, new hope, new possibilities.

Easter Sunday encourages us to believe that, for us too, pain and suffering and death are not the final scene. Like the daffodils hiding away under the snow and the frost and then bursting out in new shoots, like the trees standing bare and (apparently) lifeless all winter and then suddenly being covered in blossom, the Easter message is that there is new hope after despair, new life after death, new possibilities after what seems to be the end.

Jesus' rising from the dead means there's hope for us all... Every blessing to you this Easter time!

Ian Dyson

Sponsor



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Leeswood & District News

Carnival News

Louise Hoyle Fennell



Hi folks, we hope you're all a little more warmed up now and that you really do have a spring in your step. It feels like only a week ago our last write-up was sent in for publishing and, yet, here we are again a month on. Easter will have come and gone (just) and no doubt you will be reading this edition whilst sneakily snacking on a few broken pieces of an Easter egg. We do hope you all had a nice Easter but it is now time for us to get "cracking" as the Carnival is only a matter of a few months away.

Don't forget our 'Family Night' is on Saturday 7th April 2018 at the Community Centre. We hope you can make it. If some of you can't however then perhaps you can make it to our 'Bingo Night' instead on Wednesday 25th April 2018, again at the Community Centre. Posters for both these events are shown in this edition which give full details. Monies raised from both nights will be reported on in next month's edition.

We did say in last month's edition that we were in the throws of discussing the Prince/Rosebud/Queen Night and we are now able to concentrate on those details here in this write-up. We have decided (unanimously) that the format for this year will be more relaxed than that of previous years. More relaxed for the children than anything. We appreciate, as parents ourselves, how daunting it can be for some to be put in front of an audience and to then have to perform in some way, even if it is just speaking into a microphone to tell a bunch of strangers your name and what your hobbies are! We also do not wish the children to feel that they are having to compete against each other so, after much consideration, the Committee now feel that it would be much easier to have all the names of those who wish to enter the event to be deposited into three individual boxed categories and then simply 'drawn from the hat'. The overall winners of each category will be drawn at random by Committee invite only. So even

though this year will be very different to that of the last three years, we feel this is the fairest way to run the event from here-on-in and that it should suit all.

Full details are on the poster advertised in this edition. Doors will open at 7.00pm, as will the registration, and we envisage closing that registration by 8pm. The outright winners from each category will be drawn almost immediately and we can then get on with dancing the night away. We would still encourage the children to put on their best outfits for this event and of course their dancing shoes!

There are the usual terms and conditions to go with this event which we always encourage the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) to read before they go completing and signing a registration form. For example, if a child or its parent wishes to withdraw after winning the event then they have to do so within fourteen days from the 19th May 2018 so that all the names previously entered can be re-entered into that 'big hat'. Either way, all we can hope for is plenty of interest as what is the point of a Carnival without its Queen or Rosebud and Prince! Hope you can make it!!



Kind regards,
Louise Hoyle Fennell
Committee Member
LEESWOOD CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

Your Ad Here?

Format	Monthly	Annually
Large	£15	£180
Small	£5	£60

Contact John on **01352 344 399** or at:

hello@j-d.design

Cheques should be made payable to "Friends of Leeswood and District News"

Leeswood & District News

Leeswood Guiding



We are very proud to tell you that Megan Weetman; helper and leader in training, with 1st Leeswood Brownies was awarded the Disability Sports Personality of the year award at the Wrexham County Borough Council Sports awards on the 23rd February 2018, at Brymbo Cricket Club.

Megan came to Leeswood Brownies when she was seven and progressed to Guides; became a young leader and is now a helper. She is a member of Special Olympics Wrexham Athletics Club and won two gold medals, a silver and a bronze, at the Special Olympics British National Games, in Sheffield in August 2017.

Megan also competes against able-bodied athletes and regularly achieves top three finishes in the hammer, shot and discus. Her coach is Ron Coles.

The Brownies and Guides made origami Mothering cards with local expert Mrs Maureen Calder on 6th March.

On the 13th March they did dancing of various energetic types with Holly, the local Zumba and Dance teacher. On the 20th, the girls are decorating eggs and a feathery friend will be visiting.

If you wish your daughter, or granddaughter to join Rainbows (ages 5 and 6), Brownies (7-10), Guides (10-14) or Rangers (14+), please contact: www.girlguiding.org.uk

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Cheques should be made payable to "Friends of Leeswood and District News"

Leeswood & District News

CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN APRIL/MAY 2018

SUNDAY 1ST APRIL: EASTER DAY

9.30 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION
FOR ALL THREE CONGREGATIONS
IN ST MARY'S CHURCH, TREUDDYN
CELEBRANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

SUNDAY 8TH APRIL: EASTER 2

11.15 A.M. MORNING PRAYER

SUNDAY 15TH APRIL: EASTER 3

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION

SUNDAY 22ND APRIL: EASTER 4

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION
FOLLOWED BY THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.
CELEBRANT: REV CAROLE POOLMAN

SUNDAY 29TH APRIL: EASTER 5

11.15 A.M. MORNING PRAYER

SUNDAY 6TH MAY: EASTER 6

9.30 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION

ASCENSION DAY - THURSDAY MAY 10TH

7.00P.M. HOLY COMMUNION IN
ST BERRES CHURCH, LLANFERRES.

SUNDAY 13TH MAY: EASTER 7

11.15 A.M. HOLY COMMUNION

4.00P.M. ARCHDEACON'S VISITATION
IN ST GILES CHURCH WREXHAM

SUNDAY 20TH MAY: PENTECOST

11.15 MORNING PRAYER

SUNDAY 27TH MAY: TRINITY SUNDAY

WALK OF WITNESS.

10.15 A.M. MEET AT THE CENOTAPH

11.00 A.M. SERVICE IN METHODIST CHURCH
PREACHER: REV'D DANIEL STROUD.

RECTOR OF BRO FAMAU

MEMBER OF MOLD MISSION AREA TEAM.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT SERVICES

CHRIST CHURCH CONTACT DETAILS

Rev'd Carole Poolman, Vicar.

The Rectory, Llanfynydd, Wrexham. LL11 5HH.

Phone: 01978 762304

Email: cc.sm@btinternet.com



Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He worked in a carpenter's shop until He was thirty, and then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He had no credentials but Himself. While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against Him.

His friends ran away. One of them denied Him; another betrayed Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. When He was dead, He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend. Yet I am well within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as has this one solitary life.

(Anon)

IN CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN

28TH APRIL & 26TH MAY 2018

"COME 4 COFFEE"

10.30 A.M. – 12 NOON



Please note the Vicar will be available on those dates, if you wish to speak to her on Church Business.

The next EVENING PRAYER Service

IN CHRIST CHURCH.

Will be on 8th July at 6.00 p.m.



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Leeswood & District News



Leeswood Senior Citizen Club

Prize Bingo

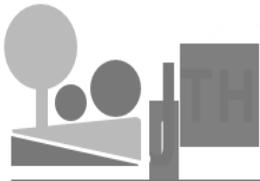
On May 23rd 2018

Doors open 7:00pm

Eyes down 7:30pm

To be held at the Community Centre

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Chris De Rycke

Tel: 01352 751098 Mobile 07523 717308

Email: justtreesandhedges@yahoo.com

DELIVERY NOTICE

Thank you very much to the new member of our delivery team:

Estha Dyson

This amazing lady has volunteered to assist with delivery in the Dingle Road area of Leeswood.

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Leeswood Support Group presents

Prize Bingo

In aid of Nightingale House Hospice

Doors Open 7.00pm

Eyes Down 7.30pm

**Come
along—all
welcome**

**Wednesday
11th April 2018**

**Leeswood
Community
Centre**

Bingo!

Wrexham Hospice & Cancer Support Centre Foundation (Limited By Guarantee). Company Number: 2906838
Registered Charity Number: 1035600 Registered in England and Wales.

CARNIVAL

LEESWOOD CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

invite the community to a
"FAMILY NIGHT"

at
LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

on
Saturday 7th April 2018
7.00pm to midnight
Admission: Adults £2.00 / Children Free
Raffle Prizes

*With sounds from the 80's and 90's
brought to you by 'DJ Rhiannon'*

LICENSED BAR OPEN
HOT DOGS = POP = CRISPS

*The Carnival Committee would be extremely grateful for your support as a Community to
make this 2018 Carnival a success*

CARNIVAL

“UNLUCKY FOR SOME...”

“LEGS ELEVEN...”

“TWO LITTLE DUCKS...”

LEESWOOD CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

invite the Community to their

PRIZE

BINGO

to be held at

LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

WEDNESDAY 25TH APRIL 2018

Doors open 7pm/Eyes down for prizes 7.30pm

Raffle Prizes also available

*“PUT DOWN YOUR REMOTES AND DON YOUR COATS,
EMMERDALE CAN WAIT AND SO CAN CORRIE,
WE PROMISE YOU FAITHFULLY YOU WON'T BE SORRY!”*

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT US
AND WE'LL KEEP BRINGING YOU THE CARNIVAL 😊**

CARNIVAL

CALLING ALL ENTRANTS! CALLING ALL ENTRANTS!



LEESWOOD CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

invite the Community to the

PRINCE, ROSEBUD & QUEEN COMPETITION & DISCO 2018

to be held at

LEESWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE

on

SATURDAY 19TH MAY 2018

With Special Guests: The reigning PRINCE, ROSEBUD & QUEEN 2017

Doors open at 7pm

Registration for this event opens at 7.00pm and closes at 8.00pm

*The winning names of the Prince, Rosebud & Queen
will simply be drawn 'out of a hat' following close of registration*

Bar opens 7pm - Disco to follow close of events

If you have any queries, please contact a Committee Member

*The Carnival Committee would be extremely grateful for your continuing support
as a Community to make this 2018 Carnival a success*

Leeswood & District News

The **Methodist Church** 

Wesley Church, Leeswood

1st April Lord's Supper **9.30 am**
Easter Day Led by Rev Pat Christopher

 He is
RISEN

8th April Morning Worship **10.45 am**
Led by Rev Bernard Nixon

15th April Morning Worship **10.45 am**
Led by Rev Pat Christopher

22nd April Morning Worship **10.45 am**
Led by Members of Church

29th April Morning Worship **10.45 am**
Led by Mr David Blainey

*Wesley, Leeswood
Methodist Church*

*Afternoon Tea
Tuesday 17th April*



2 pm to 4.30 pm

Leeswood Nightingale House Hospice Friendship Group



We thank everyone who supported our Bingo evening on St. Valentines Day 14th February 2018. We made £425 for the Hospice. Particular thanks to Mike Brand for calling for us at such short notice and to Gayle for all her help. We hope that Clive soon makes a full recovery. Thank you to all the generous local donors of Bingo and Raffle prizes and to the following local businesses: - Nails by Helen, Inspire Hair Salon, Gwersyllt, Pen Y Bont Farm Restaurant, Mold. Be Beautiful Beauty Salon, Caergwrlle. Pontblyddyn Riding stables, Lucy May's Restaurant, Mold. The Cheese Man, Mold Market.

Thank you to all and particularly the Headmaster; Mr Jones, Mrs Dilkes and the wonderful pupils of Ysgol Derwenfa for supporting our St. Davids Day coffee morning held on the 28th February. The children's singing, recitation, reading etc., was marvellous and very much enjoyed by all. £332.12 was made by the Hospice.

We look forward to seeing you at our next fundraising event. Bingo at the Leeswood Community Centre on Wednesday 11th April – 7pm for eyes down at 7.30pm

Very best wishes and thanks from: Lucille, Flora, Bryn, Anne, Jane Lucy, Jane Owen, John, Jennifer and Bryan.

Leeswood & District News



CELEBRATING
20 YEARS
OF CARE
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DIFFERENCE TO
PEOPLE'S LIVES

Nightingale House
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Tŷr Eos
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Wrexham
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Income Generation t: 01978 314292 f: 01978 313135
Lottery t: 01978 313134 f: 01978 313135

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS IN LEESWOOD AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

March 2018

Dear all

Thank you to everyone who so kindly supported the Nightingale House Hospice Leeswood Friends Group Bingo fundraising evening at Leeswood Community Centre. The event, held on February 14th raised a brilliant £425 for hospice funds and your contribution helped the evening to be such a success.

It was a lovely evening with a wonderful array of prizes and thoroughly enjoyed by all those who attended. The Leeswood Hospice Group works tirelessly for Nightingale House and we are continually grateful for all their wonderful efforts.

Nightingale House Hospice relies heavily on the support of the local community to help us in our work providing care and comfort to local people and their families affected by life-threatening or life-limiting illness.

This year, as previously, only 20% of the funding Nightingale House will need comes from the Local Health Board, which means we greatly rely upon fundraising efforts and donations to raise the additional funding for the remainder. It costs £7,800 a day to run the hospice so every penny counts and is very gratefully received.

Yours sincerely,

Debbie Barton
Area Fundraiser

Nightingale House Lottery Ltd. Company Number 3139714
Nightingale House Promotions Ltd. Company Number 2837909

A Registered Charity. Number 1035600 Wrexham Hospice & Cancer Support Centre Foundation (Limited By Guarantee).
Company Number: 2906838. Registered in England & Wales.



Nightingale House Hospice
Hospis Tŷr Eos

MEDIA RELEASE

March 1st 2018

St. David's Day fundraiser for hospice

Pupils from Ysgol Derwenfa were special guests at an annual fundraising event in Leeswood for a local hospice.

For more than 20 years a St. David's Day coffee morning has been organised in the village community centre, by the Leeswood Friends of Nightingale House Hospice, raising many thousands of pounds over that time. The pupils of Ysgol Derwenfa have performed every year and again entertained guests with Welsh songs by their choir, group and individual recitations and storytelling, before finishing off with a singalong of the Welsh National Anthem.

Debbie Barton, Area Fundraiser for Nightingale House said: "As always it was a lovely community occasion organised by our friends group, who regularly hold events in support of the hospice. They work tirelessly to help us raise the funds we need to deliver special care to local people and their families with life-threatening or life-limiting illness and we are very grateful to them, and all those who help them, for their efforts.

"We also say a big thank you to all at Ysgol Derwenfa for their continued support and to the local residents who braved temperatures of minus five to turn out in good numbers on the day. Every penny raised makes a difference."

The next event for the Leeswood Friends of Nightingale House is Prize Bingo in Leeswood Community Centre on Wednesday April 11th. Doors open at 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

Anyone interested in starting a friends group in their local area can contact Nightingale House on 01978 314292 for more information.

ENDS

Pictured are members of the Leeswood Friends of Nightingale House along with pupils from Ysgol Derwenfa, Headteacher Andrew Jones far left and teacher Linda Dilkes far right.

For more information on this press release contact Rob Lambert on 01978 314292.

Leeswood & District News

Technical Corner

Joseph Caruana

We all want our industry to be successful and prosperous. We also want our industry to sustain growth, innovation, and further technological state of the art developments. The ingredients to achieve all this do not fall from the sky or grow on trees. They are achieved through extensive market research, product development, a marketing strategy, and an evaluation of the whole process for further advancement.

We can no longer take anything for granted, and things are changing all the time. In the past, people use to be in the same job from when they leave school until they retire. These kinds of securities no longer exist, and as the world markets have vastly changed over the years, international competition has increased. Over the years, we have seen countries which did not have any effective manufacturing industry, becoming world class exporters of many manufactured goods. The big multi-national organisations play an important part in such a game, and in some cases, they decide in which country they open manufacturing facilities to create wealth. Their decision is basically made on the amount of profit they are going to make at end of play. It has been common knowledge that big organisations have moved their manufacturing facilities from country to country, and all that any democratically elected government can do, is to make an attractive offer to either persuade an established firm to stay or move elsewhere. During the industrial revolution, we saw great intellectual industrialists, develop their own ideas and turning them into wealth creating ventures. In those days, an industrialist would not even think of opening a manufacturing facility in any other country other than his own country. There was also a system of protected markets, and each individual super power of those days had a section of the globe which was under its control. This guaranteed a steady flow of export from the main country to the less developed countries within that section of the globe. If one of the super powers wanted to export its goods to a section of the globe which was controlled by another super power, it had to pay extra tariffs which made its products less competitive. In today's global democracy there is no one country controlling a group of other countries, and if a number of countries decide to form a group, it is normally created democratically and based on equal terms. Manufacturing industry will also have to be diverse, flexible, and adaptable. Nevertheless, these three terminologies are sometimes misunderstood or used in the wrong context. Also, they are sometimes used to manipulate a situation for individual personal gain. In some cases, the stress of flexibility is put squarely on the shoulders of those at the bottom of the ladder. This can be avoided, if flexibility is planned in advance and implemented harmoniously within the structure of an establishment. It might be of importance to look at a situation in a lateral manner to establish a clearer view of what is happening in order to create a long lasting solution. Lateral thinking is a subject that has been adopted by a number of successful companies worldwide. It can provide an overall picture from all directions all at once. It can help us position and plan our recourses to obtain the best

results. It can help us minimise waste, and eliminate rework of defective items. It is important to mention that defects are now measured in parts per million. It is important to understand the overall equipment effectiveness of a machine, and apply it with vigour to achieve the best result. Overall equipment effectiveness is a tool that measures how effective a piece of equipment is being used. I have been involved with overall equipment effectiveness for a good number of years and it was found to be very useful tool to measure efficiencies. The results can help you find out where you stand against the competition, bearing in mind that anything below seventy per cent is below world class manufacturing level. Some companies are operating at above ninety per cent efficient, while others are below seventy per cent, which makes their operation not up to world class level.

If a company is not operating within the parameters which qualifies it to be world class, it will have to offset the losses against other element, such as lower profits, and lower wages. If you have less profit then your competitors, you are unlikely to invest or expand. If you pay lower wages you may lose the cream of your workforce. Therefore, although applying an overall equipment effectiveness system might be seen as an added cost, it will pay back good dividends in the long run. Overall equipment effectiveness is not a quick fix, it takes time because a study needs to be conducted, weaknesses needs to be addressed, a recovery plan implemented and maintained. In other words, Overall equipment effectiveness is a serious undertaking, it is not for the half hearted, but it is a good tool for those who want to compete on a world class level, those who want to be the leaders or among the leaders in their field of expertise. In a modern competitive world, if you are to compete in a worldwide market, you need to keep producing world class goods. We have the expertise, we have people willing to apply their expertise, but we need to understand that the added cost to apply these systems will pay in the long run. We are going to be increasingly working in a world market, and against strong competition. With this in mind, it might be an advantage to implement the tools that might give us the competitive edge. Manufacturers can no longer say 'take it or leave it' because the customer will go elsewhere, and with the surplus of manufacturers around the globe, there is plenty from where a customer can choose. Manufacturers may also have to balance product quality against competitive pricing. In the past, when manufacturing was done in a handful of developed countries, product quality levels did sustain a high standard of living within those countries. However, in today's world, quality systems can be accessed worldwide. This gives the opportunity to manufacturers to open manufacturing facilities in any part of the world with instant access to a central quality system, thus producing products in different countries, but at the same quality level. Obviously, implementing this might take time, because new workforces need to be educated into the manufacturers work practices, quality standards, and efficiencies. This clearly indicates that manufacturers need a base from where to manufacture competitive goods, nevertheless, that base can be moved to whichever location that best fit the market needs.

**Are you looking for a volunteer role?
Are you interested in the wellbeing of
your local community?
Are you a good listener?
Then this could be the role for you!**

We are looking to recruit volunteers to help us evaluate the Big Lottery funded Rural Wisdom Project.

Rural Wisdom is a project working with older people to develop rural communities that work well for them and for other people who live there.

We are looking for people to be part of this exciting project as volunteer Community Evaluators. It's a flexible role that is likely to include the following:

- **Face-to-face conversations with people to hear their stories and experiences**
- **Discussions with people using local projects**
- **Working with researchers to find out what is important for people in your area**

As a volunteer, any out of pocket expenses will be covered.

If you are interested in becoming a Community Evaluator and would like to find out more, please contact the project administrator Becky:
Becky.Strike@ndti.org.uk or call 01225 789135 and she will be happy to answer any questions.



Leeswood & District News



Leeswood & Pontblyddyn : *working to become Age-Friendly*



Over the last 12 months we have been gathering your thoughts and opinions on what would make our villages more Age-Friendly. Here are some examples of the things you said:

Outdoor spaces & public buildings

- More use of the community centre
- General tidy up/less litter
- Dog fouling – pavements, parks, play areas
- Improved parking

Social participation

- Drop –in centre / café (in old clinic?)
- Ladies lunch club
- Keep fit activities e.g. yoga, walking
- Digital learners group/training
- Activities for children/young people/men

Information & communication

- Increase awareness of Leeswood newsletter
- Better publicity about existing groups
- Promote the website
- Circulate information to all the village
- Wider range of information in Leeswood News

Civic participation/employment

- More volunteers
- Spread of commitment –all ages
- Involve youth club in community activity
- More help with production of Leeswood News

Community support & health services

- Availability of services/ how to access help
- Support for people who need it - in their homes and to get out and about

Respect & social inclusion

- Intergenerational activities/community events
- Support for people whose first language is Welsh

Transport

- Improve access
- Ring & ride service

Housing

- Suitable housing for over 50's

These have been pulled together into six priority areas and the Age-Friendly Community steering group have identified two actions to work on initially.

Our Age-Friendly Community priorities

- i. More involvement of people of all ages to 'lighten the load'
- ii. Increase the number/range of activities in the community for people of all ages
- iii. Maximise the use of the community centre to protect the future of this valuable asset
- iv. Improve information about organisations/groups and the support available
- v. Increase the range of communication media to raise awareness about what is happening in the community
- vi. Increase community pride and spirit of volunteering to build community resilience

Our initial actions

1. Increase the use of the community centre, making best use of the available space and facilities including the 'old clinic'
2. Create a regular "What's on" for Leeswood & Pontblyddyn and consider ways the community can keep it up-to-date

What we have done so far

Work has begun on 'stripping –out' the 'old clinic' in the Community Centre so it can be used as an informal 'drop-in'/meeting place/community café. The Community Centre committee had already made a commitment to bring Wi-Fi to the centre and this has now been installed bringing superfast broadband to groups that use the centre.

Free Wi-fi Available at Leeswood community Centre

Information is being gathered for our first edition "What's-on" flyer. Plans are to circulate this electronically, post it on public notice boards in the village and include it as a regular space in the Leeswood News and Leeswood Community website. Hopefully this will grow as we gather more information about local groups/activities and as new activities develop and will be a useful source of information for everyone in the village.

On Saturday 17th February, we held an intergenerational Afternoon Tea in the community centre This was really well attended and plans are to hold a similar community event after Easter.

Want to be kept informed?

The simplest way of keeping up with progress and to be informed of new activities is to join our Age-Friendly Community e-mail group. It is free to join and there is no obligation to get involved in any of the activities but we would definitely appreciate your help in spreading the news.

Email: Shereen.Devine@volunteeringmatters.org.uk

Don't have an email address? Contact Shereen on 07469 851886 and we will do our best to contact you about forthcoming events/activities.

How can you help?

We will be continuing work on the 'old clinic' the next stage being preparing the walls for painting, including sanding and filling in any holes. If you are able to help please contact Shereen.

DIY SOS – can you help?

Additional help would be welcome, or if you know any trades people in the village please encourage them to help or donate any useful items. If you are able to help, please contact Shereen (See contact details below) on 07469 851886 or email Shereen.Devine@volunteeringmatters.org.uk. Willing volunteers will be provided with refreshments and a bacon bap (or suitable vegetarian alternative).

Activities and events can only be organised with the help of a few willing volunteers. If you feel you could spare a little time or have an idea for an activity/event please contact Shereen.

Shereen Devine
07469 851886
Shereen.Devine@volunteeringmatters.org.uk



Leeswood & District News

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Leeswood & District News

Memories of an oilfield man

Tuna Fish

Tom Nicholson

I was back on the rig and Carol was busy selling and getting rid of things that we would not be taking to Cyprus, Jimmy King took most of the items, he had always wanted my hi-fi system and record collection that was Hi-fi (not Wi Fi) I still had that collection of 78 records; now they are very collectable. I remember one sports coat that I had brought over from the UK I had never liked it and I don't know what made me buy it in the first place. It had great big coloured checks, something like the American Golfer's wear. Anyway, Jimmy thought it was great, so he was welcome to it. There was no need for a container shipment so Carol decided on three large suitcases and wrap the remainder in couple of knotted bed sheets (the things that woman had to do) as mentioned before her friend Margret was pretty helpless (useless) she went to the office crying and begging Salah to arrange everything for her, plane tickets and luggage etc etc, and escort her onto the plane. That was not in his job description, but she made such a fuss he agreed to meet her at Cairo airport, he was there on time and she was not, but Carol was there trying to handle three trollie carts stacked with suit cases and loaded bed sheets with only the two boys to help.

When Salah saw Carol he came to assist, he spoke in Arabic to two porters who immediately took all the luggage and it was not seen until she landed in Cyprus. He then escorted Carol and the boys to the ticket desk, they were settled in their seats when Margaret and her children came struggling on board with only minutes to spare looking very much like Norah Batty very stressed out having had no one to help her, I think Carol must have had a little grin on her face.

Anyway, let's leave Carol and Cyprus for a while and go back to drilling for oil. The conditions we were working under were so antiquated, it was unbelievable, it certainly would not be tolerated now (health& safety) certainly not in the North Sea/Australia/China/ Korea/ and some other places I have worked but I imagine the conditions have not changed much on the swamp drilling barges and parts of America.

I remember one occasion when we doing a rig move; as previously stated the rig I was working on at the time was a Tender assisted rig, this was a three part unit, the 1940s ex ww2 converted hospital troop ship "The Tender 3" that was our living accommodation and also supplied drill pipe/chemicals etc to the Barge (Zarah) then onto the rig 22).

We had to move the rig over an existing well that we had drilled and capped the year previously for GUPCO the Egyptian oil company. A helicopter landing pad had been fitted above it for inspection purposes, now it was time to remove it and prepare the well for producing oil. We had to bring the barge Zarah alongside so that my crew of welders and roustabouts could remove the helicopter landing pad in preparation for skidding the derrick over and above the well.

The barge had to be moved around by a supply boat as it was not self-propelled. Once it was alongside we run out the anchors this was the month of the Kham sin Khamaseen (fifty-day winds). A matter if interested, years later my boss in the North Sea tried to beat the weather, and we ended up losing the rig, (later issue) anyway back to the fifty-day winds, these were regular dry sandy winds and we were trying to get the rig in place before they began. I managed to get the welders and roustabouts onto the barge just as these winds began to blow, removing the helipad would take a couple of day. I would support the pad with the big crawler crane, and the welders would cut it free then I would then load it onto a supply boat for them to take it away. While we were on the barge the tool pusher (boss man) in his wisdom decided to release the Tender for safety reasons, this left me on board the barge Zarah with two welders and six roustabouts the only food and water that we had was a box of Tuna in vegetable oil and the bottles of water that we took onto the platform that morning. There were no toilets or sleeping accommodation, the only clothing we had was what we were wearing (work clothes)the Tool pusher in charge during this working month was a total waste of space (look at him in the photo) he was only interested in putting his time in then going home, he was not capable of decision making unless his own safety was involved. Although the wind was building up and sand was blowing, it was no reason to leave us in that position, by rights he should have informed me that he was pulling off giving us enough time leave the platform safely. I only knew that he had pulled away was when he used the radio to tell me and for me to carry on with the work, and this guy was on mega bucks. There was a small cabin on the platform that gave a little protection but any person who has been in Middle-East overnight will know how cold it can be and there were no toilets, so we had to use the thunder box (ask any older seamen what that is). These were the conditions we worked under for three days and nights, we managed to work for most of those days and then there was a lull in the weather that gave me time to backload the cut off Helipad onto the supply vessel. During those three days the only English-speaking people I talked to were Jimmy King the driller and some of the British guys by hand held radio, and they all thought the position I was in was hilarious no sympathy, but I must say it created a better bond with my crew.



Leeswood & District News

Memories of an oilfield man

Tuna Fish (continued)

Tom Nicholson

They knew they could speak to me about any work-related problems and that I would listen, and if they had issues with any of the expats which was often, I would try and resolve them.

I will not go into all the details of skidding the Rig22 onto the platform connecting the Tender 3 and all the service lines and hoses etc. This took about another three or four days then the winds started blowing in from across the desert again so all operations had to stop again but luckily enough everything was in place for us to begin again when weather permitted.

(That Tool pusher)
(Small grouper for supper)

To be continued

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Leeswood Allotments

This month, while out walking the dog around Leeswood or anywhere for that matter, I will be keeping an eye out for suitable sticks to use as support for the peas which I will be sowing soon. Some vegetable growers have their favourite tree species where they prefer to gather pea sticks but the important thing is that they should be able to withstand storms and strong winds, particularly as Leeswood Allotments are so open to the elements. They must, therefore, be flexible, strong and long enough that they can be pushed deep into the ground.

So as trees and shrubs are being cut back at this time of year anything that fits that criteria will work.

When my husband worked for an estate as a forester, every year, around this time he was given the task of acquiring pea sticks and bean poles and delivering them to the keen gardeners living in estate cottages. He was instructed to gather birch for the peas and sycamore for the beans. Of course you can buy stakes, netting and other various materials which will do the job but branches cost nothing and are definitely eco-friendly.

Thinking about the weather (once again!) recently reminded me of a poem I learned at school which I'm sure many of you (of a certain age ☺) will remember. It's by Sara Coleridge and entitled The Garden Year.

**January brings the snow,
Makes our feet and fingers glow.
February brings the rain,
Thaws the frozen lake again.
March brings breezes, loud and shrill,
To stir the dancing daffodil.
April brings the primrose sweet,
Scatters daisies at our feet.
May brings flocks of pretty lambs,
Skipping by their fleecy dams.
June brings tulips, lilies, roses,
Fills the children's hands with posies.
Hot July brings cooling showers,
Apricots and gillyflowers.
August brings the sheaves of corn,
Then the harvest home is borne.
Warm September brings the fruit,
Sportsmen then begin to shoot.
Fresh October brings the pheasant,
Then to gather nuts is pleasant.
Dull November brings the blast,
Then the leaves are whirling fast.
Chill December brings the sleet,
Blazing fire and Christmas treat.**

I could confidently recite up to June and then began to struggle. What struck me was that most of it still rings true today.

Leeswood & District News

Council Minutes

05/12/2017

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 5th DECEMBER 2017.

PRESENT

Councillor J. Caruana, Chairman (in the Chair),
Councillor D. Rule, Vice-Chairman,
Councillors J. Atkinson, C. Coleman, D.K.
Crowther, R. Hughes, L.C. Richardson, J.E. Saul,
G. Sherwood and R. Williams.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received from Councillors L.T. Coleman and T. Hughes.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

REPORT FROM ALED DAVIES, CEMETERY SUB-CONTRACTOR

Mr Aled Davies of Aled Davies Agricultural Contracting was present at the meeting. He reported that all was going well with the Cemetery except for some issues with litter. A lot of empty alcohol bottles have been found. These are being cleared away and put in recycling. It was commented on that people are going to the Cemetery after dark.

Mr Davies went on to report that there are a couple of loose headstones in plot 1. Also, it is noticeable that the stonemasons are not fitting the headstones in a straight line. Councillors expressed concern at the loose headstones and the Clerk stated that she would investigate. It was pointed out that an enquiry had been made to Blackwell's Stonemasons to come to the Cemetery in an attempt to resolve the issue of headstones not being lined up. That this remains an issue with stonemasons is disappointing.

Councillors thanked Mr Aled Davies and his team for the work that they carry out in the Cemetery. All were in agreement that the Cemetery looks very tidy.

POLICE LIAISON

PCSO 3684 Peter Jones was in attendance.

PCSO Peter Jones reported the following incidences: -

Wrexham Road, Pontblyddyn – damage to a basement window on a property.

Wrexham Road, Pontblyddyn – damage to a roof on a commercial property.

Reference was made to the indiscriminate parking of vehicles on Bell's Corner, Leeswood with these being parked part on/part off the pavement. PCSO Jones said that he would look into the Police position regarding this.

The Chairman, Councillor J. Caruana thanked PCSO Jones for attending the meeting.

MINUTES

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

CO-OPTION OF MEMBER DUE TO VACANT SEAT FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR C.E. JONES JP

The Clerk informed that there had been no request for an election to fill this vacancy. Following the guidelines for filling a vacancy, the next step is to advertise the vacancy for co-option. A notice would be placed on the Community notice boards.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Application – 057696

Proposed increase size of car park from that approved under permission 049892.

New Inn, Corwen Road, Pontblyddyn, Mold, CH7 4HR.

It was agreed by all Councillors that concern be expressed at the proximity of the extended car park to the river and that there needs to be a suitable retaining structure.

CIVIC/MISSION AREA CAROL SERVICE AT CHRIST CHURCH, PONTBLYDDYN

This event is to take place on Wednesday 13th December 2017 at 7.30pm. All Councillors are welcome.

Leeswood & District News

Council Minutes

05/12/2017 (continued)

AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Councillor G. Sherwood advised that the Steering Group meeting held on Thursday 30th November 2017 had not been very well attended. An Action Plan had been formed at the meeting which included the following targets: - a) to condition the old Clinic area of the Community Centre as a drop-in centre and b) to provide a diary/newsletter of what's on in the community on the noticeboards and Community Council website. Progress is now being made.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

The new bus service to Broughton Retail Park started on 28th November 2017. This service is scheduled so that it meets a connection with the bus service to Chester. It is only hoped that this service is well used.

The Clerk advised that she had contacted the Clerk to Treuddyn and Llanfynydd Community Councils requesting a meeting regarding the lack of public transport in the evening. This was to be brought up at each Council's December meeting.

PARKING ISSUES – BELL'S CORNER AND JUNCTION OF BRYN CLYD/KING STREET

It was reported that this item would be discussed at a meeting of Flintshire County Council to be held at Alltami on 14th December 2017. Yellow lines cannot be put down anywhere, it requires consultation with the Traffic Commissioner. Following this meeting, it was hoped that the cost and match funding liability to this Council would be known.

CADWYN CLWYD – iBEACON PROJECT

Councillors taking part in this project reported that progress continued to be made with the preparing of information for the iBeacons. This information was then being uploaded onto the app. The next meeting with Jo Danson was to take place on Thursday 14th December 2017.

MATCH FUNDING SCHEME – IMPROVEMENTS TO CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS

The Clerk referred to the correspondence that had been received at the last monthly meeting, from Ian Bancroft, Chief Officer Organisational Change, Aura Leisure and Libraries relating to

provision of match funding for play area equipment 2017/2018. It was proposed by Councillor J.E. Saul and seconded by Councillor R. Williams that £3,000 be given towards new play equipment for the younger children at the Ffordd Siarl play area. All Councillors in agreement.

TRAFFIC LIGHTS, PONTBLYDDYN CROSSROADS

The issue of traffic lights in the area of Pontblyddyn crossroads has arisen over many years. This request has always been refused.

It was proposed by Councillor G. Sherwood and seconded by Councillor J.E. Saul that Flintshire County Council be requested to investigate other forms of traffic calming measures at the crossroads. All Councillors in agreement. The Clerk to e-mail Steve Jones of Streetscene, Flintshire County Council requesting a meeting on site on a morning convenient.

PONTBLYDDYN VILLAGE SIGN

It was decided that a name sign was required for the entrance to the village from the Hope side. Councillor R. Hughes advised that he would speak to the necessary department at Flintshire County Council to find out the cost of the sign and fitting of it in a suitable position.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN – PREFERRED STRATEGY CONSULTATION

This document includes a vision for the Plan, the issues facing the Plan and the objectives of the Plan. These are elements that have been the subject of previous engagement and consultation. The document moves forward from the previous Strategic Options document in that it identifies a preferred level of growth and a preferred spatial strategy for distributing that growth.

The 'new' elements in the document include: a) Strategic policies on a range of topics and b) Two strategic mixed-use development sites

The Preferred Strategy consultation document identifies a figure for housing and employment growth, i.e. how many new houses should be developed and how much employment land will be required in the County over the 15-year plan period. It also sets out how the settlement hierarchy generally identifies which settlements could accommodate development and also proposes two large mixed-use development sites or Strategic Sites.

Leeswood & District News

Council Minutes

05/12/2017 (continued)

A broad strategic framework of planning policies is also shown, with each policy having a 'policy context' section providing links to: i) the relevant Plan Objectives that the policy aims to meet; ii) relevant sections of Planning Policy Wales that the policy complies with; iii) key evidence that the policy is based on; iv) Welsh Government Well-being goals relevant to the policy aims; and v) subsequent detailed policies to be included in the Deposit Plan.

The Preferred Strategy document does not include detailed policies, allocations, settlement boundaries, or other designations and is not accompanied by proposals maps. These are to follow at a later date when the Deposit LDP is produced.

NORTH WALES POLICE – CHALLENGES FACED BY THE POLICE SERVICE AND NORTH WALES POLICE

Correspondence had been received from Mark Polin, Chief Constable and Arfon Jones, Police & Crime Commissioner. This informs about the challenges faced by the Police Service and North Wales Police. The nature of crime is changing putting further pressure on police forces. During this year there has also been an 8% rise in 999 calls. 32 organised crime groups are known to be operating in North Wales and work on investigating these is assisted by the regional crime unit, TITAN and the National Crime Agency. North Wales close proximity to the large metropolitan areas of the North West contributes to this dynamic.

A small group of Chief Constables, Mark Polin included, and Police and Crime Commissioners have been overseeing work developing a business case for submission to the Home Office and then onward to the Treasury calling for a better financial settlement for policing. However, it is likely that more cuts will need to be made to cover the basic increase in costs that will be sustained through the year.

BETSI CADWALADR UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board had circulated their November 2017 Newsletter. This Newsletter details the Health Board's ten-year plan. The challenges faced by the Service are: - a) people are living longer which is good, but it puts more demand on services; b) people need

more support for a healthy life; c) more people have conditions like diabetes or heart disease; d) more people are experiencing mental health issue; e) more people have dementia; f) waiting times are too long, we need to see patients sooner and g) money is tight, we need to be efficient and spend wisely.

In the Newsletter the Health Board's goals are outlined as follows: - a) improve health, well-being and reduce inequalities; b) provide care closer to home; c) improve the safety and quality of all services; d) respect people and their dignity; e) listen to people and learn from their experiences; f) use what we have wisely, explore new ideas and learn from research and g) support, train and develop our staff. To meet these goals there are detailed action plans.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – PLAY SUFFICIENCY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

E-mail correspondence received from Janet Roberts, Play Development Officer, Flintshire County Council and correspondence from Claire Homard, Interim Chief Officer, Education and Youth, Flintshire County Council and Marianne Mannello, Assistant Director, Play Wales. This correspondence gives details on the five-week programme of workshops to be held at the beginning of next year.

CORRESPONDENCE

a) Suitcase Theatre – to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War in November 2018, Suitcase Theatre is embarking on an ambitious plan to commission a new play and mount a new production at Theatr Clwyd. The setting of this play is to be Leeswood. Suitcase Theatre is inviting Mr Mike Stevens of Leeswood to write the script. A request has been made from Suitcase Theatre for this Community Council to write a letter of support to help their application to the Arts Council of Wales for funding.

b) One Voice Wales – notification of the next Flintshire/Wrexham Area Committee meeting to be held at the Gwersyllt Resource Centre on Wednesday 6th December 2017 at 7.00pm.

c) Chair of Denbighshire County Council, Carol Service – invitation for the Chairman to attend the Carol Service at St. Thomas' Church, Rhyl on 4th December 2017 at 7.00pm.

d) Mayor of Mold Town Council Christmas Concert – this is to take place at St. Mary's Church, Mold on Monday 11th December 2017 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10.

e) Chair of Sealand Community Council, Carol Service – invitation for the Chairman to attend

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05/12/2017 (continued)

the Carol Service at St. Bartholomew's Church, Sealand on 12th December 2017 at 7.30pm.
f) Mayor of Mold Town Council. St. Dwynwen's Day Charity Dinner Dance and Auction - this is to take place at the Clwyd Room, Theatr Clwyd, Mold on Friday 2nd February 2018 at 6.45pm. Tickets are £35.
g) Bus Stop located on Stryt Cae Rhedyn near Windover - correspondence was received from Miss Bethan Crowther on behalf of Mrs Joan Jones, Plas-Y-Brain Farm, Treuddyn requesting that the bus stop just further on from the bend was given more obvious signage. A family member of Mrs Jones had been struggling to catch a bus from this area as the driver's will not stop. The Clerk pointed out that this stop had been used by school children and the drivers had always stopped, it was more difficult dropping off on the other side of the road. Councillor R. Hughes advised that he would speak to the Transportation Unit at Flintshire County Council about this.

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09/01/2018

LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNED COEDLLAI A PONTBLYDDYN

NOTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE LEESWOOD AND PONTBLYDDYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 9th JANUARY 2018.

PRESENT

Councillors C. Coleman, L.T. Coleman, D.K. Crowther, L.C. Richardson, J.E. Saul and R. Williams.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds - Clerk to the Council.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received from Councillor J. Caruana - Chair to the Council, Councillor D. Rule - Vice-Chair to the Council, Councillors J. Atkinson, R. Hughes, T. Hughes and G. Sherwood.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST - MEMBERS

CODE OF CONDUCT There were no declarations of interest.

POLICE LIAISON

PCSO 3684 Peter Jones was in attendance.

PCSO Peter Jones reported two episodes of criminal damage: -

Queen Street, Leeswood - damage to a window on a vacant property.

Pontybodkin Hill - damage to a padlock.

Reference was made to an incidence of anti-social behaviour involving the throwing of snowballs at a property on County Road, Leeswood.

PCSO Jones was thanked for attending the meeting.

ACQUISITION OF LAND - CEMETERY REQUIREMENTS

Mrs Sian Jones of the Legal Department, Flintshire County Council advised that the searches used in the Planning Application process would be useful in regard to the purchase of the land. She would liaise with the Planning Department regarding this and report back to this Council if any further information was required.

CEMETERY

Mr S. Blackwell of Blackwell's Memorials would be meeting with Councillor R. Hughes during the next week to discuss remedial work on the headstones at the Cemetery, particularly in regard to the re-alignment.

PARKING ISSUES - BELL'S CORNER

Councillor R. Hughes had received an e-mail from Lee Shone, Road Safety Officer, Flintshire County Council regarding the cost to this Council of a scheme for provision of double yellow lines on Bell's Corner, Leeswood. It is unlikely that the scheme would be selected for funding from Flintshire County Council in the 2018/2019 financial year.

In this e-mail, Mr Shone explains the cost of this scheme would be in the region of £3,000 and that as always with Traffic Regulation Orders there is a cost involved with no guarantee that the proposals will be implemented due the objection process. The quoted cost is for the scheme being implemented, should the scheme not progress to implementation, then a proportion of the cost would be returned.

With a Traffic Regulation Order of this nature there is a process which is as follows: - firstly prior to completing a Draft Order, Notice of Proposal and Statement of Reasons, it would be necessary to seek approval from the Emergency Services and Key Stakeholders.

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All documentation should be bi-lingual, and the cost of translation is non-refundable. The Notice would then be advertised in the local press, online, on-site and in a nominated location such as a local Library, Post Office for the statutory 21 days Consultation Period, again all associated costs are non-refundable.

There is a potential risk of objections being received during the Consultation Period and that these may not be over-ruled, therefore, the associated costs would be borne by this Council. However, should the objection not be valid, then a Delegated Report will be written and signed, recommending that the objection/s be over-ruled. The Notice of Marking can then be advertised, with the order being sealed and all objectors would receive a written response. Following this, the road marking works would then be programmed.

It is important to note that the estimated total cost for the works is £3,000, but if the road marking physical work does not go ahead because of objection/s that cannot be over-ruled a proportion of this money would be returned.

PARKING ISSUES – JUNCTION OF BRYN CLYD/KING STREET

The issue with vehicles parking near the junctions of Bryn Clyd and King Street are ongoing. Comment was made that there is now a problem with cars parking part on and part off the pavement that runs along the front of properties numbered 9 to 14 Bryn Clyd. This evening three cars had been parked along there and ten cars were parked on the opposite side, for buses and larger vehicles such as vans and lorries this is going to create a big problem.

CADWYN CLWYD – iBEACON PROJECT

Councillors taking part in this project reported that progress continued to be made with the preparing of information for the iBeacons. This information was then being uploaded onto the app which is accessed through Bluetooth. The next meeting with Jo Danson was to take place on Tuesday 30th January 2018.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - BEST KEPT COMMUNITIES COMPETITION 2018

The Clerk reported that she had spoken with Mr D. Ellis about organising a group of residents to clean-up in the Community in preparation for the Best Kept Communities Competition 2018.

This had come about because of a Facebook campaign to clean-up the area by the cattle grid on Hen-ffordd where there had been fly tipping. Some of the Community Councillors were involved in this clean-up and reported that eight tonnes of rubbish had been taken to the tip in Nercwys. Amongst the rubbish cleared was toys, trophies, DVDs, printers, televisions and personal documents. Flintshire County Council had been made aware of the details on the personal documents. It was pointed out that there is a risk to clearing up on private land, but people should not be discouraged from doing so. Councillors advised that there was evidence on fly tipping on Dingle Road also.

MATCH FUNDING SCHEME – IMPROVEMENTS TO CHILDREN’S PLAY AREAS

Correspondence had been received from Ian Bancroft, Chief Officer, Organisational Change, Flintshire County Council, advising that due to the level of applications for match funding, the County Council contribution is to be 50%. Councillors expressed disappointment at this.

TRAFFIC LIGHTS, PONTBLYDDYN CROSSROADS

The Clerk reported that Barry H Wilkinson, Highway Network Manager, Flintshire County Council had e-mailed stating that he was happy to meet with members of this Council on site at Pontblyddyn Crossroads at a date/time suitable. Councillor R. Hughes had advised that the Flintshire County Council were looking into traffic calming measures in that area.

COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

30mph speed limit on Stryt-Cae-Rhedyn, Leeswood – Councillor R. Hughes had reported that this matter was in progress.

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20/02/2018

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 20th FEBRUARY 2018.

PRESENT

Councillor J. Caruana, Chairman (in the Chair),
Councillor D. Rule, Vice-Chairman,
Councillors J. Atkinson, C. Coleman, D.K.
Crowther, R. Hughes, L.C. Richardson, J.E. Saul,
G. Sherwood and R. Williams.

Also in attendance Marie Reynolds – Clerk to the Council.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received from Councillors C. Coleman, L.T. Coleman and R. Wil.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 5th December 2017 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor G. Sherwood and seconded by Councillor R. Hughes that these minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Tuesday 9th January 2018 had been circulated to all members. It was proposed by Councillor L.C. Richardson and seconded by Councillor J.E. Saul that these minutes be accepted as a true record of proceedings. All Councillors in agreement.

POLICE LIAISON

PCSO 3684 Peter Jones was unable to attend the meeting this evening.

He had sent a report of the following incidences:

Crime Issues/Trends

Garage, Wrexham Road, Pontblyddyn – a vehicle had driven off without paying for fuel. This was an error by the garage attendant. No crime.

Top of Pontybodkin Hill, Leeswood – a child's bike has been kicked by another child causing him to fall into the road. The Police believe that there is an independent witness to this and enquiries are still on-going.

Padeswood – a theft of a small number of tools. No CCTV and no evidence remained for CSI. All enquiries investigated but unfortunately no suspect has been identified.

ASB Issues

Bryn Clyd, Leeswood – youths throwing items at a window.

An issue was brought up relating to Bryn Clyd, Leeswood. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should report this to PCSO Peter Jones.

CO-OPTION OF MEMBER DUE TO VACANT SEAT FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR C.E. JONES JP

The Clerk informed that there had been no expressions of interest to fill this vacancy, she went on to advise that the process for filling a vacancy should be re-started. All Councillors agreed that the notices to request an election to fill the vacancy be placed on the Community notice boards.

NON-CHARGE OF BURIAL FEES FOR A CHILD OF UNDER 18

The Welsh Ministers committed earlier this year to make sure fees are no longer charged by local government in Wales in relation to the burial of children. This was in recognition of the significant variation in the approach currently adopted by councils – in terms of whether fees are charged, what fees are charged and even how a child is defined for these purposes. It is hard to justify that a family burying a child in one part of Wales could pay hundreds of pounds in local government fees while a family in another part of Wales would pay nothing. This commitment has been taken forward in close partnership with local government, recognising and building on the action already taken by a number of councils on this issue. The Welsh Government signed an agreement with the Welsh Local Government Association and One Voice Wales on 23rd November 2017 to end burial and cremation fees for children. This will ensure a fair and consistent approach is put in place across Wales.

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The Memorandum of Understanding sets out a shared commitment that local government in Wales will not charge fees in relation to the burial or cremation of a person under the age of 18. This includes the fees for interment but also those for exclusive right of burial, when required, and any other fees which might be incurred such as permission to erect a memorial. The expectation is that these fees will be waived in all circumstances – including whether the child was a resident of the area or not, and when the intention would be for further interments to be made at a later date. All councils who are responsible for cemeteries and crematoria are encouraged to ratify and implement this agreement locally. To support local government in making this step, the Welsh Government is making funding available in recognition of the financial implications of not charging these fees. This funding will be provided to local authorities, who will then distribute it to any community councils, and other providers of cemeteries and crematoria, in their area who undertake a child burial or cremation and agree to waive the fees specified in the Memorandum of Understanding. Local authorities will be responsible for putting in place arrangements to distribute this funding in way that is appropriate to local circumstances.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Atkinson and seconded by Councillor G. Sherwood that this agreement be ratified and implemented in respect of the Community Council run Cemetery at Pontblyddyn. All Councillors in agreement.

AGE FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Councillor G. Sherwood advised that the Steering Group meeting held on Thursday 30th November 2017 had not been very well attended. A fundraising Afternoon Tea event was held on Saturday 17th February 2018. Mrs S. Devine, Age-Friendly Communities co-ordinator, has organised a Community working party to clear out the Clinic space in the Community Centre.

PARKING ISSUES – BELL'S CORNER AND JUNCTION OF BRYN CLYD/KING STREET

The cost of putting yellow lines on Bell's Corner had been discussed at the last monthly meeting. Councillors expressed concern that it was a significant outlay of money for something that may not happen if residents' objections were upheld. Comment was made about putting

railings along the section of pavement next to the Cenotaph in an attempt to stop the vehicles parking part on and part off the highway. It was pointed out that this would be a matter for the Royal British Legion and Flintshire County Council.

Observation was made that the indiscriminate parking on the junction of Bryn Clyd/King Street was denying the residents of the bungalows a service in regard to the buses if they are unable to travel around the estate. If this Council was to fund provision of yellow lines on Bell's Corner, it would be necessary to consider doing the same in the Bryn Clyd/King Street junction. It was pointed out that the Flintshire County Council had considered yellow lines on Bell's Corner as more important from a Health and Safety point of view. Query was raised as to whether both schemes could be advertised at the same time, this reducing the administration costs.

All Councillors agreed to monitor the situation for the time being.

CADWYN CLWYD – iBEACON PROJECT

Councillors taking part in this project reported that progress continued to be made with the preparing of information for the iBeacons. It was important that the information be uploaded as soon as possible as the end date for finishing the project was the end of March 2018. The meeting with Jo Danson which was to take place on Tuesday 30th January 2018 had to be cancelled and another date was yet to be arranged.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - BEST KEPT COMMUNITIES COMPETITION 2018

Entry forms for the competition had been received. The Clerk reported that information on the Community should be submitted with the forms. It was suggested that a map of the village be drawn up to highlight areas of the Community for the Judges attention. Comment was made that a meeting should be arranged to prepare this Council's entry form and the information to be supplied. All Councillors in agreement.

MATCH FUNDING SCHEME – IMPROVEMENTS TO CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS

Councillor R. Hughes advised that new equipment more suited to younger children would be sited on the Ffordd Siarl play area.

Work had already been carried out on the Ffordd Siarl and Bro Alun play areas where the sand pits had been removed, levelled and grassed. It was

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noted that the play area at Bro Alun was very rarely used.

INDO LIGHTING – UPGRADE TO LED STREET LIGHTING

Councillor R. Hughes pointed out that the LED street lighting reduced the energy bills by approximately 30%. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should obtain a quote for the upgrading of the Community Council owned street lighting from INDO Lighting and prepare a spreadsheet showing the reduction in street lighting energy charges in comparison to an upgrade for the next Finance Committee meeting.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT, PONTBLYDDYN CROSSROADS

The Clerk reported that Barry H Wilkinson, Highway Network Manager, Flintshire County Council had e-mailed stating that he was happy to meet with members of this Council on site at Pontblyddyn Crossroads at a date/time suitable. It was agreed by all Councillors that the Clerk should contact Mr Wilkinson requesting a meeting either at around 8.30am or 5.30pm on a date convenient to him.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS SUMMER PLAY SCHEME PROGRAMME 2018

Correspondence had been received from Claire Homard, Interim Chief Officer, Education & Youth, Flintshire County Council outlining the cost of provision of the annual Summer Play Scheme.

With the level of financial challenge that the County Council is facing this year, there will be no element of any matched funding for summer play schemes across the county in the summer of 2018.

Estimated costs for next year's scheme would be in the region of £1,309 – this is the basic costs for a standard 3-week scheme (5 x 2 hours AM or PM) per setting. There is also the potential to extend the scheme for a fourth and fifth week for an additional £355 per week. The cost of providing the Playscheme 2018 in total would have to be borne by this Community Council. However, a small amount of funding through the Welsh Government's Play Opportunities Grant is being made available to the sum of £911 for each Council who makes a commitment to

provide a Playscheme in the summer.

Each scheme would comprise:

2 x Community Play Team Members x 2 hours per session x 5 sessions x 3 weeks (Monday to Friday)

Supervision

Access to a bank of reserves (if number and ratios increased)

Kit/Equipment/Mobile phones

All training

Buddy scheme for children with disabilities to play out in their own community with support

It was proposed by Councillor T. Hughes and seconded by Councillor G. Sherwood that the Playscheme go ahead for five weeks. All Councillors in agreement. The cost has been budgeted for in the Community Council Precept.

COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL – OPTIONS PAPER: NHS WALES PERFORMERS LIST

From the Community Health Council a letter regarding registration of GPs in Wales. Current arrangements present a barrier to recruitment at a time when GP Surgeries across North Wales are closing because they cannot replace retiring doctors.

Observation was made that locum GPs who practice under an English certificate are unable to apply in Wales which does not help the shortage of GPs in Wales. Supply nurses can move about between England and Wales. The Betsi Cadwaladr Health Trust suffers from a shortage of actual employed nursing staff, using supply nurses at a considerably higher cost. It was observed that this particular Health Trust was too big and because of this struggling to provide the medical care that the patients need.

COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL – WAITS IN ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS – HEALTH WATCHDOG SEEKS FEEDBACK FROM PATIENTS

The Board of Community Health Councils in Wales and the seven local Community Health Councils are undertaking a review of patient experiences with waiting times and ambulance hand over times at Accident and Emergency (A&E) departments. CHCs regularly receive reports that waiting times in A&E can be lengthy and uncomfortable; some reports also indicate that patients can experience delays in admission to A&E whilst waiting outside in Ambulance vehicles. This was accepted.

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL STANDARDS COMMITTEE – PROMOTING GOOD CONDUCT AT TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS

E-mail correspondence from Gareth Owens, Chief Officer, Governance, Flintshire County Council advising that the Independent Members (co-opted by the Council following open advert) of the County Council's Standards Committee (non-Councillors) are keen to visit every Town and Community Council within Flintshire. This is to observe how meetings are conducted in order to understand the issues facing Councils and how the Members' Code of Conduct is applied. Councillors accepted this.

OFFICER OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER – EARLY INTERVENTION FUND

Information from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner advising that a new scheme is being launched which is specifically aimed at supporting early intervention projects in the region.

It was pointed out that there had been a Hallowe'en Event in the Community Centre on Saturday 28th October 2018, which had been funded by North Wales Police. All Councillors agreed that this would be of benefit to the Communities.

COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- a) Street Lights out – there is a problem underground which has to be dealt with by Scottish Power. This can take between 28 and 35 days to resolve.
- b) Highway white lines – these are to be completed where needed throughout the village.
- c) 30mph on Stryt Cae Rhedyn – Councillor R. Hughes reported that they do not generally change the speed limit from 60mph to 30mph. It is possible that rather than extend the 30mph speed limit, they will change it to 40mph around the corner and leave the 30mph where it currently is.
- d) New Council Houses on old garage site to rear of Heol-y-Goron – five of these houses had now been let. There is a new system at Flintshire County Council called a Local Lettings Policy. Officers picked Leeswood residents from the Housing list to occupy these new houses.
- e) Apartments on old garage site to rear of Maes-y-Meillion – the four apartments will be ready for occupation by the end of February 2018 and

the new bungalows will be ready by the end of March 2018.

f) £30 charge for Brown Bin collection – Flintshire County Council have introduced an annual charge of £30 for collection of the garden waste brown bin. Fines are also being introduced of £75 for residents putting out black bin bags alongside their black bin. This is because there are some residents who are not recycling which is more noticeable by the amount of black bin bags that are being left out. Concern was expressed that residents may leave their bin bags by other peoples' black bins in order to avoid a fine.

g) Flintshire County Council, Council Tax 2018/2019 – this has increased by 6.7% for the new financial year. For Band D residents this is an approximate rise of £1.42 per week. It has been necessary for the increase as it would be illegal for the Flintshire County Council to operate on a deficit budget.

MATTERS OF AN IMPORTANT NATURE

- a) Phoenix Park – water is oozing out of the man hole where the pond has been filled in. Councillor R. Hughes advised that a heavy-duty drain is to be put in place.
- b) Fence Ffordd Y Glo/Phoenix Park – a panel is missing on this fence and rubbish is being tipped onto the Park from there. Councillor R. Hughes stated that he would report this matter.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Caerwys Town Council, Mayor's Charity Variety Evening with two course Hotpot Supper – this is to take place at Caerwys Town Hall on Saturday 24th February 2018 at 7.00pm. Tickets are £15.
- b) Holywell Town Council, Mayor's Charity Event – this is to take place at the Stamford Gate Hotel, Holywell on Saturday 3rd March 2018 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £25.
- c) Flintshire County Council, Chairman's Charity Dinner – this is to take place on Friday 16th March 2018 at the Beaufort Park Hotel, New Brighton, 6.30pm for 7pm. Tickets are £35.

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