

Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn Community Council

Minutes of the meeting of Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn Community Council held on 8 November 2017 at Ysgol Y Waun.

Present:, Cllr. K Armstrong, Cllr. D Bolton, J Elcock, Councillor C Hopwood, Councillor K Johnson, Cllr. R Morgan, Councillor L Pritchard (Chair), Councillor J Roberts, Councillor S Roscoe and Councillor G Tattum, Cllr. L Vaughan,

In Attendance: Mrs K L Roberts

1. To consider accepting apologies for absence

Councillor R Hughes (Vice Chairman)
County Councillor Adele Davies - Cooke

2. To record declarations of interest from members

None

3. To approve the minutes of the last council meeting 4 October 2017

The minutes of the meeting were approved and duly signed as an accurate record by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr. Bolton and seconded by Cllr. Johnson.

4. Matters arising from the last minutes

In response to community councillor questions at the October meeting - County Councillor Adele Davies-Cooke had received a response from Mr Darrell Jones, Operation North and Street Lighting Manager, to advise that Flintshire County are replacing sox lights and sox lanterns with new LED lanterns which underwent a tendering process for suitability and application into their useage and compliance with various regulations and illumination output. Flintshire County Council are reducing the carbon output whilst improving the illumination levels across the County.

This work commenced in recent years for community council owned lights by Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn Community Council and is half way to completion.

The clerk has emailed Cllr. Adele Davies-Cooke to enquire when LED lighting renewal for County Council owned lights will begin in Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn.

Cllr Pritchard reported Mr Griffiths of Landscapes and Groundwork has resolved the potential trip hazard on footpath between Y Waen and Cae Rhug Lane.

The clerk has contacted Richard Roberts at Aura Leisure and Libraries to advise of a nominated sum of £850 from Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn Community Council. This will be jointly funded with Friends of Gwernaffield Playing Field up to a maximum of £5,000. The County Council will then decide whether or not they can match this for new play equipment at Gwernaffield Park.

5. To consider a proposal from Cllr. Pritchard for Christmas lights in Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn.

Cllr. Pritchard has met with Mr Edwards of Deeco lighting to discuss the possibility of Christmas lights in the villages. Mr Edwards suggested the community council utilise LED lights which can be connected to a community council owned street light. However, to make the connection safe he would have to dig a trench to feed the duct to a tree in the conservation garden in Gwernaffield. There is no large tree close enough to a street light in Pantymwyn to do this. Councillors also felt there was significant Christmas lighting from The Crown Inn. If someone would be prepared to donate a Christmas tree for Pantymwyn next year this would be considered.

RESOLVED: Cllr. Pritchard proposed the Christmas lights for Gwernaffield and this was seconded by Cllr. Bolton which would cost £250 plus VAT. Electricity would be minimal and would be charged the usual way through street lighting.

6. Streetscene Matters

Cllr. Bolton reported the road resurfacing on the entrance to Cefn Bychan Road from Cilcain road was much improved. The clerk to contact Streetscene about replacing the white lines and the possibility of a stop sign coming onto Cilcain Road from Cefn Bychan Road.

Cllr. Morgan also requested a solid white line on the corner of Cilcain road turning into Cefn Bychan Road so that vehicles do not come over their half of the bend.

Cllr. Roberts reported the top light at Tan Y Hafod, Gwernaffield near N0 16 was out.

Cllr Hopwood reported the metal banding round some of the lamps posts in Y Waun were still outstanding.

RESOLVED: The clerk liaise with Streetscene and Deeco Lighting with regard to the aforementioned issues.

7. Police Matters

No communications from the Police. An empty property in Gwernaffield is still a concern and Cllr. Pritchard has spoken to the police and Flintshire County Council. The resident concerned is in a care home.

Cllr. Pritchard reported a police representative was due to attend. However, the officer later contacted Cllr. Pritchard to confirm she was not covering the area but Cilcain.

Cllr. Elcock reported scene of crime vans on Cefn Bychan Road on Sunday morning 5 November 2017.

RESOLVED: That the clerk contact the Police about the scene of crime vans and general communication updates.

8. Clerk's update and correspondence

Feedback from The County Forum 12 October 2017 – Next meeting is 28 February 2018. The clerk will not be attending. Would a representative from the community council wish to attend?

The clerk attended the last County Forum meeting which was useful in terms of Town and Community Councils sharing information about their work and County providing information on their Council Plan and Well Being Strategy.

In addition, Cllr. Armstrong and the clerk had attended a recent Public Engagement Event. Cllr. Armstrong provided an overview of Council Plan Priorities for 2017-2018 which included areas where the community council has been praised in areas such as housing initiatives. A handout entitled Council Plan Priorities 2017-18 was circulated.

It was reported Flintshire County Council are facing a budget gap of around £13-14 million. Flintshire County Council has achieved budget efficiencies of around £80 million over the past decade. Further information on the Council Plan Priorities can be found at www.flintshire.gov.uk/CouncilPlan

Further events are taking place across the county for communities, local people and organisations to discuss and debate County Council plans.

The clerk reported Colin Everett had said transport, bus services which are currently heavily subsidised in certain geographical areas are consistently raised as a concern and the present subsidy situation is not affordable.

Councillors discussed the present bus services seem poorly utilised. Cllr. Johnson suggested she would carry out a local survey of residents in Pantymwyn and Gwernaffield to enquire why residents do not utilise the bus service i.e. is it the time table or are costs prohibitive or are people utilising other forms of transport?

RESOLVED: Cllr. Johnson to conduct a short survey of local residents in Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn in relation to use of local bus services/transport.

Welsh Government Review of the Community and Town Council Sector – panel established to consider future roles.

Information circulated by the clerk from the Welsh Governments Independent Review Panel from Community and Town Councils themselves and the communities they work with.

Independent Remuneration Panel draft consultation document 2018/2019 – comments by 29 November 2017 <http://gov.wales/irpwsb/home/publication-reports/financial-year-2018-19/?lang=eng>

Kicks for kids Project in Flintshire – Football and fund in the community.

Flintshire Citizens Advice – opening times and report on local experiences of Universal Credit.

Letter from The Pensions Regulator – at present the clerk has chosen not to enrol into a pension scheme therefore no further action to implement the increases in minimum pension contributions apply.

RESOLVED: Information noted, no further action required.

Response letter from Welsh Boarder Community Transport (WBCT) requesting financial assistance.

The letter provided information on WBCT's work and journeys requested and accommodated in the villages. The financial request is £195 which is the figure of the "funding gap" in the grant given by the Welsh Government to meet the running costs of the charity.

RESOLVED: Cllr. Johnson to visit WBCT and conduct a small survey of residents transport needs.

Letter from Holy Trinity Church, Gwernaffield. A query that a letter from the community council in January indicated £750 would be requested as part of the precept.

RESOLVED: The clerk to acknowledge the letter and request accounts next year.

The Boundary Commission for Wales Revised proposals report 2018. www.bcw2018.org.uk. Consultation ends 11 December 2017.

Clarification required on the impact of the structure of current community councils. County Councillor Adele Davies-Cooke has previously informed councillors Pantymwyn and Cilcain Community Council will merge in the future and Gwernaffield and Gwernymynydd may form a new community council. This appears different to the proposals in the Boundary Commission for Wales revised proposals as Gwernaffield is to be included within Alyn and Deeside due to the MP making representation due to its local ties to Mold.

RESOLVED: That the clerk seek further clarification from the County Councillor.

9. Planning Matters and Planning Decisions

No new planning applications received. Tal Y Llyn, Cilcain Road, Pantymwyn was approved.

10. To approve payments to be made. RESOLVED:

Nov-17			
SO	K.Roberts	salary	476
DD	scottish power	electricity	290.11
100850	Flintshire C. Council	Summer Playscheme	£1,309
100851	FLVC	Christmas tickets	11.50
100852	Wales Audit Office	external audit fee	163.95
100853	K.Roberts	expenses	57.00
100854	HMRC	PAYE	63.00
			£2,370.56

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.