

GWERNAFFIELD AND PANTYMWYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 JANUARY 2019 AT YSGOL Y WAUN (COMMUNITY CENTRE)

1. (A) ATTENDANCE

COUNCILLORS: D BOLTON, K ARMSTRONG, D COGGINS COGAN, J ELCOCK, R HUGHES (CHAIRMAN), K JOHNSON (VICE CHAIR), L PRITCHARD, J ROBERTS, G TATTUM AND C THOMAS. COUNTY COUNCILLOR ADELE DAVIES COOKE

(B) APOLOGIES

COUNCILLORS: JUSTIN ROBERTS, ROD MORGAN – NON ATTENDANCE.

2. TO RECORD ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Bolton declared that his son is now working at Flintshire County Council's Planning Department. The Clerk to clarify any implications for Cllr. Bolton and his ability to continue to comment on Planning Applications without a dispensation.

RESOLVED: Clerk to seek guidance re. Declaration of Interest/s for Cllr. Bolton when dealing with Planning Matters as a councillor.

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING ON 5 DECEMBER 2018

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting were proposed by Cllr. Lynne Pritchard and seconded by Cllr. Karen Armstrong and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

5. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chairman attended an initial meeting of an action group formed in response to the Cadnant Planning proposal of 80 dwellings in Gwernaffield. He reported 15 people attended and wishing to take an active role in the action group. Once the planning application is processed by Flintshire County Council (FCC) the Community Council will be invited to comment. The Community Council will therefore need to be in a position to respond accordingly. It was therefore proposed that an extraordinary meeting will be required to discuss the matter, seek local views and draft a response before the submission deadline. Members will await advice from the Clerk on the formal invitation from FCC to comment. The Clerk to arrange a timely extraordinary meeting to meet the timescale to submit comments to FCC.

RESOLVED: The Clerk/Community Council will arrange an extraordinary meeting to discuss Planning Application: 059396 / Copsy Farm.

It was acknowledged that Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn CC should be mindful to support the views of the community as a whole rather than that of a single faction. County Councillor Adele Davies Cooke advised that she was seeking legal advice on the best form of representation for the Community Council on this matter and cautioned that it may be appropriate for the Community Council to secure representation of their views from a fellow County Councillor.

6. TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER STREETSCENE MATTERS

The community snow removal kit has arrived, shovels and salt bags. The Chairman has taken them to Gwernaffield Village Hall, the clerk will take to the Post Office/Shop in Pantymwyn and get in touch with Pantymwyn Village Hall to see if they wish to have a shovel/salt. The salt bin in Tan Y Hafod is still awaited.

7. CLERK'S UPDATE AND CORRESPONDENCE

The acting clerk advised of the letter on the section 137 limit and noted that the expenditure for the Community Council was £8.12p per electorate and therefore significantly below the limit set by the Welsh Government.

A letter from Richard Roberts, Aura Leisure and Libraries confirmed £5K match funding with the community councils for the improvements to the Playground at Gwernaffield. To invite Mr Richard Roberts to a future meeting.

It was noted that the Chairman had received an invitation to the Dinner Dance of the Chairman of Flintshire County Council on 22/02/2019. The Chairman to advise the Clerk of his response.

County Councillor Adele Davies Cooke (ADC) reported on her attendance at a meeting of Flintshire County Councillors to consider the Electoral Review of Flintshire County Council wards. A number of options were proposed including the County Council's favoured option of amalgamation of Gwernymynydd CC with G&P CC to form a single County Council ward. However, this was one of four options proposed by FCC members and no definite stance had been agreed by their members. It was felt that the numerically driven proposals by Boundary Commission for Wales, and ultimately Flintshire County Council demonstrates disregard for established communities, community councils, Church of England parish boundaries and the collaborative work of the local schools. Cllr. ADC advised strongly that G&P CC respond to the Boundary Commission with their preferred options. It was felt that a mathematical solution to a rigid formula of County Councillor to electorate ratio is being considered, rather than an overview of how best to serve the interests of individual communities, and how best they can be brought together as a single entity. It was noted that the Boundary Commission staff welcome suggestions of options to meet their preferred ratio of 1 member to 1895 electorate within each ward. Cllr. ADC noted that the River Alyn formed a "natural boundary" and felt that the exercise is primarily number driven.

KA proposed a working group to collate a response: Cllrs. DCC, KA, Chairman, LP and GT and the clerk to meet later in the month. **A response can then be drawn together and submitted to the Boundary Commission for Wales before the deadline of 23 January 2019.**

8. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE BUDGET FOR 2019/2020

The Chairman talked through each budget heading explaining that the clerk's salary had been set at 12 hours per week, an increase of 1 hour in part recognition of an increasing workload.

A member asked if those Councillors names talking the annual allowance are published. The Chair informed yes they are on the website. The clerk also forwards this to the Independent Remuneration Panel annually. The Mandatory Payments to Members were discussed and it was suggested that the payments should be made at year end, rather than beginning, to ensure that there was no duplication of payment should a Member be replaced during the Civic Year.

Cllr. Coggins Coggan suggested an increase in the training budget to £300 and this was subsequently agreed and taken into account when setting the 2019-20 budget.

Gwernaffield Playing Fields – Members expressed concerns regarding the possibility of FCC withdrawing its gesture of goodwill to maintain the Gwernaffield Play Area. An increase in the budget of £150 to a total of £1,000 was therefore agreed.

Footpath Maintenance – no works in 2018/2019.

Grants and donations – 2019/2020 figure is a reduction on 2018/2019 only £50 spent.

Some 50% of the Community Events expenditure in support of the Pensioners' Christmas Event was recouped from the donation toward entrance tickets and raffle.

Summer Playscheme Review – The Chairman has designed a questionnaire in readiness for the review of this scheme. However, before the Chairman proceeds with the survey on the service delivery of the Summer Playscheme he needs to speak further with representative/s from Gwernymynydd Community Council and Ysgol Y Waun.

Ysgol Y Waun - £100 agreed but no response from school as to a suggested change for the leavers gifts in 2019.

FCC is potentially looking at their council tax increase at around 9%.

RESOLVED: The 2019/2020 precept was agreed by all members present at £33,000, a 2.6% increase on 2018/2019. Cllr. D Bolton abstained.

9. TO CONSIDER FORMING A SMALL TASK AND FINISH GROUP FOR 2019 TO DRAFT A SHORT COMMUNITY SURVEY FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS

Councillors K Armstrong and K Johnson will draft a brief community survey. The Chairman asked if this would be appropriate in view of the proposed changes. Cllr. Armstrong promoted the benefits of forming a Community Plan and the opportunity for the Community Council to represent the wards in the most appropriate way over the next 3 years, regardless of any proposed changes in structure/remit.

10. (A) PLANNING APPLICATIONS (B) PLANNING DECISIONS

**Planning Application Consultation Ref N0 059305 Proposal: Erection of attached annexe.
LOCATION: Woodcote, Hafod Road, Gwernaffield, Mold, CH7 5ET
RESOLVED: No objections.**

**Planning Application Consultation Ref N0 059235 Proposal: Garage conversion and single storey extension. LOCATION: 52 High Park, Gwernaffield, Mold, CH7 5EE.
RESOLVED: No objections.**

11. TO RECEIVE, CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE QUARTER 3 RECONCILIATION.

11a Approval of accounts for payment.

The Chairman signed the Bank reconciliation which demonstrated an amount of £28,811.70 in the bank. The reserves were noted as being at a reasonable level being at between 1 quarter to 1 year's annual expenditure. Going forward it would be useful to have another bank signatory in addition to the existing ones to include the Chairman.

January 2019			
SO	Kay Roberts	clerks salary/HOA	511.99
DD	Scottish Power	electricity	290.45
100917	Newsletter	Instant Print	157.00
100918	HMRC	PAYE	110.60

12. The next meeting will take place on 6 February 2019 at 7.00p, Ysgol Y Waun, Community Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.33pm.