

GWERNAFFIELD AND PANTYWMYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ZOOM (VIRTUAL) MEETING

1 December 2021 / 1 Rhagfyr 2021

1.(A) Attendance (B) Apologies

Councillors: Ruth Appleton (Vice Chair), Karen Armstrong, Adrian Barsby, Dave Bolton (Chairman), Sue Coles, David Coggins Cogan, George Tattum.

(B) Apologies

Cllr. Rob Challinor and Cllr. Rob Edwards

Non-attendance: Cllr. John Elcock

2. Declaration of interests in relation to the listed agenda items

There were no declaration of interests.

3. To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 17 November 2021.

The minutes of the meeting were proposed by Cllr. Adrian Barsby and seconded by Cllr. George Tattum and will be signed as an accurate record by the Chairman.

4. Chairman's Communications – To welcome to the meeting Mr Tony Fish, Regional Employment Engagement Director to present information about The Armed Forces Covenant.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Tony Fish to the meeting who provided a summary of his work with the Ministry of Defence as part of the defence relationship management team. Mr Fish's key role is that of relationships with organisations who employ service men and women. Mr Fish explained it has been a busy time for their service with reservists deployed during the covid pandemic and various other operations and thousands coming out of service and transition, at this time supportive employers and support for their families being paramount.

Cllr. Armstrong had worked with Mr Fish in her previous role for Flintshire County Council and was involved in the gold award received by Flintshire County Council as part of the employee recognition scheme. Cllr. Armstrong described some of the benefits for the County and their employees was awareness raising amongst Flintshire CC employees about the issues faced by families as they prepare for civilian life and often the financial and mental health support some former service men and women require.

Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn Community Council would not be an employer (a relatively small community council with 1 part time clerk and RFO) but could advocate on behalf of the MOD.

Mr Fish explained that physical and mental health support of former service men and women is not his remit, and he has two colleagues Mr Steve Townley and Mr Ian Pritchard who have this remit.

The clerk explained that the community council had tried to attract a community youth representative who the council could liaise with to feed into issues affecting young people so far without success at this stage and perhaps this is something which cadets may be interesting in supporting as and when issues arise?

Cllr. Coggins Cogan asked what practical ideas Mr Fish may have that the community council might support? By signing and supporting the covenant we promote that the community council is armed forces friendly and are potential advocates. There are no financial costs.

The Chairman thanked Mr Fish for his time, he will forward the Armed Forces Covenant Document for consideration at the next meeting.

5a. To raise any Streetscene Matters – 5b. Update on any street lighting matters and Christmas lighting.

The clerk has received a report of a light out today from a resident which she will report to Deeco lighting.

Delivery of the Christmas Tree from the Quarry is anticipated earlier, Friday afternoon. Cllr. Barsby agreed to liaise with the quarry about this. Unfortunately, currently the Chairman is experiencing connection problems.

6. To receive a verbal update from the Road Safety Sub Committee including speed monitors and rumble strips.

The RSSC met recently (unfortunately, Cllr. A Barsby could not attend).

Following on from November's meeting Mr Andy Lightfoot, Streetscene co-ordinator had confirmed it was Northop Hall's speed monitor which Flintshire would not accept for various reasons. It was agreed the various reasons for and against needed to be clearly laid out by the RSSC. Outstanding questions about insurance and posing various questions to Northop Hall Community Council, One Voice Wales suggested before next steps.

There appeared to be various positives in favour of Ellan City – not just that it is notably lower in price £2,362 as opposed to £3,357 (TWM – FCC preferred supplier), data collection is not additional unlike TWM, however there is an ongoing £200 a year.

It was agreed both the RSSC, and clerk would obtain more information and return to the January 2022 meeting.

7. To receive a verbal update from the Events Sub Committee 7a. Arrangements for the Senior Citizens Christmas meal at Mold Golf Club, Pantymwyn.

The newsletter is anticipated back from Instant Print tomorrow. The distribution list is being updated; more volunteers required.

Cllr. Tattum voiced his concern about the new variant and said he had concerns.

The Chairman is reassured about the risk assessments being carried out by the golf club. Should there be any changes to advice before this time the community council will ensure these are followed alongside the Golf Club, who are constantly briefed as a hospitality industry.

Carol Services from 4.00pm - 5.30pm by Gwernaffield Church Hall and The Christmas Tree at Pantymwn.

8. Clerks update and correspondence 8a. To approve the December accounts for payment.

SO	K.Roberts	Salary and Home Office Allowance	767.56
DD	Scottish Power	Street Lighting	163.30
Bank Transfer	HMRC	PAYE	7.40
Bank Transfer	Earth Anchors	Notice Boards x 2	1,317.60
Bank Transfer	Deeco Lighting	Invoices 017495 / 017483 / Pantymwyn	432.00
Bank Transfer	Kam	Senior Citizens Christmas Meal	868.00
BT	MCC	SLCC 50% Membership Mostyn CC	92.50

RESOLVED: The accounts were approved by Cllr. Dave Bolton and Cllr. Ruth Appleton.

8b. To consider any items/ projects / events for 2022-2023 to assist with January's budget planning.

The clerk prompted members to consider the above and forward any ideas for discussion.

9. To receive an option for replacement of slide structure in Pantymwyn Play Area from Aura, Play and Leisure Services.

The clerk had circulated an email from Mr Richard Roberts of Aura, Play and Leisure Services for an option for a new multi slide play structure with additional play elements such as a climbing net, climbing panels, small shop counter and viewing deck with roof. Total required including installation is £8,000 but allow for costs increasing if ordered in April 2022. There is an option to order now for installation in April 2022.

Members thought this was an improvement from the current equipment more than 25 years old. However, a concern was noted regarding should the lease end on Pantymwyn Park, could the piece of equipment be transferred to Gwernaffield.

The clerk was instructed to make enquiries with Aura.

10. To receive an update on the new notice boards for Gwernaffield from Earth Anchors.

The clerk has received the notice boards on behalf of the community council and is awaiting collection and erection of them in Gwernaffield by Streetscene.

11. To receive a letter from Welsh Government – Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2022-2023.

The clerk had, in advance of the meeting circulated the above letter from Welsh Government and explained its content. Section 137 permits and community council to incur expenditure for purposes for which it has no specific powers if the council considers that expenditure to be in the interest of its inhabitants and commensurate with the expenditure incurred. The maximum expenditure that can be incurred under both section 137 and for the financial year 2022/2023 is £8.82 per elector. On 5 May 2022, statutory guidance will be issued to provide clarity on the two powers (the general power of competence and power under section 137 of the 1972 act) and how they will apply. The clerk explained section 137 is rarely used as a power to make expenditure is often identified.

12. Planning Applications (A) Planning Decisions

13a. Planning Application: 063749 Hafan Hedd, Cilcain Road, Pantymwyn, CH7 5EH Proposal: Proposed construction of single storey rear extension. Construction of front porch, new dormers and replacement windows. Internal alterations. Removal of flat roof garage and replace with new garage.

The members of the council considered the application, and it is understood neighbours are pleased to see people moving into the house and making investment. There is a Juliet balcony, this looks downward.

RESOLVED: The clerk to submit no objections.

Not on the agenda - Cllr. Tattum reported his concern about the number of empty properties in Gwernaffield. Cllr. Bolton noted he understood that if the council tax is being paid on the property no action can be taken.

No further action.

14. To receive items for the next meeting on Wednesday, 12 January 2022.

Budget meeting – ideas / proposals.

Armed Forces Covenant

The meeting finished at 8.36pm.