

**GWERNAFFIELD AND PANTYWMYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING 18 January 2023 / 18 Ionawr 2023**

This meeting was unanimously agreed to be held via zoom due to heavy snow fall.

**1.(A) Attendance (B) Apologies**

(A) Cllrs. Ruth Appleton (Vice Chair), Adrian Barsby, Sue Coles, Dave Bolton (Chairman) Peter Eaton, George Tattum.

(B) **Apologies:** Cllrs. Rob Challinor and Arthur Orme.

**2. Declaration of interests** (Declarations of interest, whether likely to benefit or disadvantage, should be disclosed prior to commencement of discussion of any items for discussion.)

6a. The clerk left the meeting and did not take part in the discussion.

**3. To approve the minutes of the 7 December 2022.**

**RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting were proposed as an accurate record by Cllr. Adrian Barsby and seconded by Cllr. Ruth Appleton and signed by the Chairman.**

**4. (A) To receive any matters arising from the minutes. (B) To approve the minutes.**

Item 6 – the clerk has been informed that after the report from the community council Mr Jon Hill, Rights of Way Officer has ensured the fingerpost sign to the footpath on Tower Lane, Pantybuarth has been replaced.

**5. Chairman's Communications**

The Chairman, Cllr. Bolton reported he had received several messages of thanks from senior citizens who attended the Christmas meal / event which was thoroughly enjoyed.

**6. To receive, consider and approve the budget for the financial year 2023/2024 and set the precept accordingly.**

The clerk as financial officer had prepared a draft budget with recommendations following discussions with the Chairman and Vice Chairman in advance of the meeting for consideration.

After a lengthy and thorough discussion by all members, a budget was agreed which enabled the council to continue to deliver, making use of its reserve to help moderate any precept request.

To increase the precept for the forthcoming budget year to £35,000 an increase of £400. Earmarked Reserves £25,000 / General Reserves £15,000 (based on a forecast to the financial year end) (This figure includes the following: Earmarked/Ring-fenced monies; £10,000 - £15,000 for Street Lighting renewal and maintenance (discussion that some current street lighting will require inspection and attention during 2023/2024, £5,000 for community and environmental projects and £5,000 for playground improvements.

**6a. To review the clerk's salary for 2023/2024.**

The Chairman had sought advice and guidance from SLCC/One Voice Wales about Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer salary and discussed this with members present. Members agreed the clerk's salary would be set at an annual amount of £9,172 and a working from home allowance of £1,410 per annum. There would be a 6% pension contribution from the community council as the employer.

A cost centre entitled Consumables i.e. stationery/ink etc of £250 per annum was also set.

The clerk re-joined the meeting. The clerk was thanked for her work throughout the year.

**RESOLVED: The clerk would submit the precept request form for 2022/2023 to County for £35,000. This would be signed by the Chairman Councillor David Bolton and the Clerk.**

## 7. Approval of the schedule of January Accounts for payment.

JANUARY	Payee	Details	VAT	Amount
*SO	K.Roberts	Salary and Home Office Allowance		647.38
Bank Transfer	HMRC	PAYE		161.8
*Direct Debit	Scottish Power	Street Lighting Electricity	47.60	285.6
Bank Transfer	HSBC	Account charge		5
Bank Transfer	Elan City		800	4,800
Bank Transfer	FCC	Annual Hall Hire Ysgol Y Waun - FCC		350

Cllr. Barsby proposed the accounts and they were seconded by Cllr. Bolton.

## 8. Clerk's Update and Correspondence

**8a. To receive a letter of thanks from Nightingale House Hospice for financial assistance received.**  
No further action required.

**8b. One Voice Wales – Training Sessions for Councillors and Clerk (circulated in advance to all members.)** The clerk reminded councillors to inform her should they identify any training which would assist them in their role.

## 8. To receive any Streetscene Matters

Discussion regarding road gritting by Flintshire County Council. The clerk informed members County have established a complaints/concerns team and requests will be filtered and actioned in priority order. At the time all gritters were still on primary routes and treatment of any secondary routes are made once the completion of this.

## 10. To receive a verbal update from the Community Council Sub Groups 10a. The Events Group 10b. To discuss the Community Council Newsletter.

Events for 2023 including the Easter window dressing competition, Scarecrow competition would be discussed and fed back to the main community council meeting.

It was felt the community council newsletter purpose and content needed reviewing and more input from other members would be helpful. Requests for certain content are received by the community and this has increased its actual size, time requirement and costs over time. However, it was noted that its primary purpose is to inform people of the role and work of the community council and community related matters.

## 10b. The Street Lighting and Road Safety Sub Group

Street lighting work - Y Waen, Gwernaffield. This will require Scottish Power - full works to place new electricity into the new column and removal of the old column, the latter can be conducted by Deeco Lighting. It was agreed the Chairman and Clerk would liaise and make the necessary payment to Scottish Power re. works required and feed back to the community council at the next meeting as this has been ongoing sometime and the old column was flagged up as eventually requiring removal by Flintshire County Council.

The clerk advised the Evolis Radar Speed Signs for the villages of Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn are now stored securely and insured and await members of the community council street lighting and road safety group to collection and install as soon as practically possible.

**11.(A) Planning Applications and (B) Decisions No new planning application consultations had been received at the time of agenda distribution.**

A late submission received on the day of the meeting which was accepted by the Chairman.

Proposal: New agricultural dirty water lagoon

Location: Rhual, Gwernaffield Road, Mold, CH7 5DB

Members of the Planning Group requested further time to consider this information and would feed back to the clerk prior to the deadline.

**12. The time and date of the next meeting 8 February 2023, Chwefror 2023 7.00pm at Ysgol Y Waun.**

The meeting closed at 9.06 pm.