

GWERNAFFIELD AND PANTYWMYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

3 May 2023 / 3 Mai 2023

1. Signing of declarations of office (All Councillors)

All Councillors signed their declaration of office as witnessed by the clerk - Mrs Kay Roberts.

2. (A) Attendance (B) Apologies (For both the Annual and General Meetings)

Councillors: Ruth Appleton, Adrian Barsby, Dave Bolton, Rob Challinor, Sue Coles, Peter Eaton, George Tattum and Arthur Orme.

(B) Apologies - none.

Public Gallery - There was a member of the public present.

The outgoing Chairman, Councillor Dave Bolton was thanked for his Chairmanship over the last two years and he in turn thanked members. Councillor Bolton expressed the community councils' deep condolences for the recent passing of Cameron Edwards. A condolence card was sent to former councillor Mr Rob Edwards and his family.

3. (A) Election of the Chair for 2023 /2024

Councillor Ruth Appleton was proposed by Councillor George Tattum and seconded by Councillor Adrian Barsby. There were no other nominations. Councillor Ruth Appleton accepted and signed her declaration of office as witnessed by the clerk.

RESOLVED: Councillor Ruth Appleton was elected Chairman for the period 2023 / 2024.

(B) Election of Vice Chair 2023. / 2024

Councillor Adrian Barsby was proposed by Councillor Dave Bolton and seconded by Councillor Arthur Orme. There were no other nominations. Councillor Adrian Barsby accepted and signed his declaration of office as witnessed by the clerk.

RESOLVED: Councillor Adrian Barsby was elected as Vice Chair for the period 2023 / 2024.

Declarations of Interest - None.

4. To approve the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting on 18 May 2022.

The Clerk informed members, that the Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting were formally proposed, seconded, and agreed at the June 2022 meeting. Members in attendance reaffirmed the decision.

5. To consider the co-option of vacant councillor seats.

Flintshire County Councils Elections office has confirmed the community council can continue to co-opt to the vacant seats. At present there are two people, the clerk understands who wish to observe meetings prior to expressing their interest and they have been advised of the process should they wish to formally express their interest in a community councillor seat for the Gwernaffield or Pantymwn area.

6. To receive the record of Councillor Attendance 2022 /2023.

The clerk had circulated the record of councillor attendance prior to the meeting. This was proposed by Cllr. Ruth Appleton and seconded by Cllr. Sue Coles and accepted as an accurate record by those members present.

7. To approve the Chair's allowance and confirm other allowances.

The Chair's allowance of £350 had been set at the Budget Meeting in January 2023 and the clerk would administrate this allowance as per the May schedule of payments. No changes to other allowances at this time.

All members were reminded prior to the meeting of the annual councillor allowance of £156 to affray the cost of office, as listed per the May schedule of payments. Members submitted their form to claim or forego the allowance and as such the schedule of payments would reflect this.

Members decided if during the course of the year a councillor who resigned due to health reasons for themselves/family or due to bereavement the allowance would not, in such circumstances claim this back.

8. To receive nominations to serve on committees and outside bodies.

Nominations were discussed for Sub Committees of the community council and the following agreed to date:

Street Lighting, Road Safety and Signage Sub Committee - Cllr Bolton, Cllr. Barsby, Cllr. Tattum

Community Event and Newsletter Sub Committee - Councillor Appleton and Councillor Coles and Cllr. Eaton. Other councillors can choose to support individual events.

Planning Sub Committee – Cllr. Bolton, Cllr. Challinor, Cllr. Orme

Cllr. Tattum will continue to place blasting notices on the villages/community Facebook page but will hand over the Quarry representation to Cllr. Arthur Orme.

Cllr. Coles is the Community Council representative on The Hafod Federation and also their health and safety sub committee.

For information - Cllr. Challinor advised he is a qualified First Aider.

Other outside representation.

Cllr. Coles is the Local Education Authority Governor at The Hafod Federation.

Cllr. Tattum is on the Governing Body for Ysgol Pen Coch, Flint.

There has not been representation from the community council on the Area Committee for Wrexham and Flintshire – the clerk would forward such information to the newly appointed Chair, Cllr. Appleton for her consideration.

Cllr. Appleton is the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Champion (AONB) for the community council with the AONB.

9. To review and adopt Code of Conduct, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

The code of conduct was adopted by members. As the standing orders and financial regulations were still being reviewed / updated by One Voice Wales in the light of the significant changes in governance law introduced by way of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and accounting for the need for all councils to become accustomed to how these changes affect the everyday working of councils, they are finalising the revision of the model standing orders which will enable all councils to have a new version in due course. Therefore, until such time the current SO and FR will be retained.

10. To consider the format of future meetings.

After discussion, members agreed a split of meeting venues for 2023/2024 between Ysgol Y Waun, Gwernaffield and Mold Golf Club, Pantymwn. The clerk would consult with both of the venues. The Golf club would primarily be used throughout the winter months due to easier access. Unfortunately, Pantymwyn Village Hall cannot accommodate the community council on Wednesdays.

The Annual General Meeting closed at 7.45pm and was followed by the General Meeting.

General Community Council Meeting

11. Chairmans Communications

The newly appointed Chair, Cllr. Ruth Appleton welcomed members to her first meeting and advised she looked forward to working with them in the year ahead with Vice Chairman Cllr. Adrian Barsby.

The minutes of the 5 April 2023 were proposed by Cllr. Adrian Barsby and seconded by Cllr. Rob Challinor and will be signed as an accurate record by the Chair.

12. To receive the Clerk's Update and Correspondence

(a) To approve the May accounts for payment

The clerk requested all members to submit their forms for the annual allowance. All eight members would be claiming this which would be reflected in the schedule of payments for transparency. The accounts were proposed by Cllr. Barsby and seconded by Cllr. Orme.

MAY	Payee	Details	VAT	Amount
SO	K.Roberts	Salary and Home Office Allowance		705.63
Bank Transfer	HMRC	PAYE		176.2
Direct Debit	Scottish Power	Street Lighting Electricity	95.26	571.57
Bank Transfer	HSBC	Account charge		5.00
Bank Transfer	K. Roberts	Microsoft Family 365 Subscription (adjusted)		7.99
Bank Transfer	Ruth Appleton	Chairs Annual Allowance		350
Bank Transfer	Cllr. T Barsby	Councillor Annual Allowance		156
Bank Transfer	Cllr. R Appleton	Councillor Annual Allowance		156
Bank Transfer	Cllr. R Challinor	Councillor Annual Allowance		156
Bank Transfer	Cllr. G.G. Tattum	Councillor Annual Allowance		156
Bank Transfer	Cllr. James D Bolton	Councillor Annual Allowance		156
Bank Transfer	Cllr. A L Orme	Councillor Annual Allowance		156
Bank Transfer	Cllr. S Coles	Councillor Annual Allowance		156
Bank Transfer	Cllr. P Eaton	Councillor Annual Allowance		156

- (b) The clerk advised the bank reconciliation 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023 requires an amendment to the spreadsheet to include a payment to Wall Signs in October not currently reflected in the spreadsheet this would be updated and brought to the June meeting.

The draft expenditure for 2022/2023 was considered with over £8,000 more expended than 2021/2022 primarily due to increases in electricity for street lighting, playground improvements and new equipment in Pantymwn Park, increased NO's attending the Christmas Senior Citizens Meal, (post covid when NO's diminished), investment in speed calming measures - radars in the villages, and additional newsletter/s due to the Queens Platinum Jubilee special edition.

13. To consider Streetscene Matters Streetscene Matters discussed:

Outstanding

The fencing at Gwernaffield Park which borders the road apparently is still pushed down potentially giving easier access to the road which runs parallel.

A report that grit bins in areas are low including Tower Lane, Pantymwyn which is empty.

A query in reference to the resurfacing outside Cefn Mawr Quarry, Pantymwyn has this now been completed?

Request that the community council start to receive information (we did at one time) planned road closures. Also, the information on gritting in the winter months.

Concern regarding exposed maintenance holes past the Rhual Diary before the Gwernaffield Village Sign, a problem for vehicles and cyclists.

Thank Mr Lightfoot for erecting the pole for a future speed radar monitor in Gwernaffield - members will be considering options for a radar at the June meeting.

RESOLVED: The clerk will raise the aforementioned issues with Mr Andy Lightfoot.

14. To receive Sub Committee Group/s Verbal Updates:

(a) Road Safety and Street Lighting Committee

It was agreed the consideration of the purchase of an additional speed radar monitor will be placed on the June agenda.

Some members suggested it would be helpful to have some data to announce from the existing radars to place in the next newsletter.

The clerk will follow up Deeco lighting with regard to outstanding lighting work and ask for attendance at a meeting in 2023.

(b) Events Committee

Cllr. Coles reported the community council newsletters had been circulated in the community. There had been six entries in the Easter Window dressing competition and prizes of Easter eggs given. It was agreed and supported that further thought would be given to a possible musical event / Carol singing in December.

Cllr. Bolton agree to co-ordinate the Senior Citizens Christmas meal with Mold Golf Club and to enquire about the price per person for 2023.

15. (A) Planning Applications (B) Planning Decisions

No receipt of new planning applications.

(B) NMA/000/220/23 – Thornlea, Pantymwyn – approved.

(B) NMA/000152/23 – Pant Y Garth, Pantymwyn – approved.

(B) FUL/0000076/23 – 6 Llys Fammau – approved.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.