

GWERNAFFIELD AND PANTYWMYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

1 November 2023 / 6 Tachwedd 2023

1. To record attendance (B) To record apologies

Councillors: Ruth Appleton, Adrian Barsby, David Bolton, Rob Challinor, Richard Davies, Peter Eaton, Arthur Orme and George Tattum.

(B) Apologies – Cllr. Ian Newman.

In attendance: County Councillor David Coggins Cogan. Mrs Kay Roberts – Clerk to the Council.

It was noted that County Councillor Adele Davies Cooke was unwell at this time and had forwarded her apologies.

2. Declaration of Interests – None declared.

3. To approve minutes of the 4 October meeting

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting were proposed by Cllr. Orme and seconded by Cllr. Tattum and signed by the Chair, Cllr. Ruth Appleton as an accurate record.

At the Chair's discretion the 20 mph roll out and its local impact was raised as first item on the agenda. Cllr. Appleton welcomed County Councillor David Coggins Cogan to the meeting who stated that he had not made any exception requests in the community council area. Only one outside of the area in Nercwys under the flyover. He confirmed individuals/members of the public can apply for exceptions. He asked people to be patient it was a Welsh Government Policy which will take some adjustment for people and it is still early days of the roll out and in time to consider review with an open mind. Exception criteria was discussed.

The 20's Plenty Campaign was discussed and it was felt by some that the terminology used to describe some of those against the policy to be labelled "detractors" was unhelpful and could potentially get people on the defensive.

Email correspondence had been received from County Councillor Adele Davies Cooke in which she stated she had received about 20 calls of support for 20mph and none for against the limit through both villages.

The community council has continued to invest in recent years in the Speed Radar Monitor's in both villages heightening driver awareness of their speeds, in particular now as people adjust this was thought to be helpful.

In relation to an exception request the overarching question is the producing of strong evidence that travelling at 30 mph would be safer than 20 mph. The Welsh Government Policy is also to enable safer travel for cyclists and pedestrians and by doing so encourage more active travel.

Those turning in and coming out of Mold Golf Club will now be doing so at 20 mph, which is an improvement.

In due course it would be helpful to look at the data from the community council owned Speed Radar monitors from the commencement of the 20 mph to compare with previous data.

Matters Arising

Page 2 – It was observed and agreed by all that the new “fit for purpose” fencing coming into Gwernaffield Village was much improved and a short email had been sent to Mr Tim Holt to thank him for listening to the community council. This will lessen the likelihood of sheep escaping from the area onto the road.

Other - Councillor Bolton referenced to urgent business which comes in post the agenda going out for discussion. The clerk hopes the revised/updated Standing Orders might assist this to some degree.

Comments made about aiming to raise matters arising in advance of the meeting, which may assist if any follow up work is required for the meeting.

4. To receive any Streetscene Matters.

Outstanding matters – Pantymwyn Park gates not closing to alert Mr Richard Roberts of Aura Play and Leisure Services again.

Request for consideration of a dog waste bin on Pen Y Fron Road by Cllr. Adrian Barsby.

To notify Mr Andrew Lightfoot, Area Co-ordinator of Streetscene of a letter forwarded to the wrong address to report hedge cutting required on Cilcain Road.

An advertising board, Dragon Motors still appears to obscure the exit when turning onto Cadole Road, to raise again with Mr Lightfoot.

Resolved: The clerk to follow up on the above matters with Mr Andy Lightfoot, Streetscene Co-ordinator

5. To discuss the Welsh Government 20 mph roll out and its local impact.

At the Chair's discretion this was taken as the 1st item on the agenda.

6. To receive any updates from Representatives (Sub Committees, Liaison & Meetings Attended.) There had been no meetings of sub groups since the October meeting.

6a. To review the entries for the Scarecrow Competition 2023 in the villages.

The clerk reported a successful competition to date with 13 entries from individuals, families and organisations in the villages. The clerk showed via the community council lap top each of the entries to councillors present and it was agreed that:

1st Prize £25.00 – Welcome to Wales/Snales – Delia Payne of Gwernaffield.

2nd Prize £15.00 – Waiting for my date! – Lisa Weildon of Pantymwyn.

3rd Prize £10.00 – Moo-osaurus! – The Booth Family/Rhual Dairy.

The clerk would notify and administrate the prizes to each of the winners and thank all those who took part by email.

Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch Event.

The clerk provided A4 posters and 100 tickets to councillors, tickets to Cllr. Bolton who would provide 50 to the Pantymwyn Post Office and 50 to Shelia Smith of the Thursday Club in Gwernaffield.

£5.00 for residents and £15.00 for non-residents.

Music has been offered by Mrs Margaret Millington and her husband who agreed to sing and play guitar for 30 minutes. Councillors agreed a purchase of flowers for Mrs Millington and two Christmas lunches to be paid as a thank you for their time offering entertainment at the event. (Due to personal reasons this entertainment would not now take place.)

Should other entertainment be considered in the future, information and costs need to be provided some months in advance of the event.

Cllr. Ruth Appleton has asked for raffle prizes (x10), if possible, from Councillors towards the raffle on the day.

The clerk would approach Cllr. Adele Davies Cooke for her usual hamper raffle prize.

Cllr. Bolton will organise a Christmas Card for attendees so raffle tickets are not required.

Cllr. Ruth Appleton is the AONB Champion for the Community Council and will feedback information on the proposal for a new National Park in the area, unfortunately the meeting due last month was cancelled due to flooding.

7. To provide feedback on recent councillor visits to Cefn Mawr Quarry.

The clerk and Cllr. Bolton had visited the quarry and met with Mr Jason Parry, Manager. An interesting overview of its work and that of its now 9 employees. They manage the quarry, 86 hectares and land around the quarry 96 hectares, including a site of special scientific interest (SSSI) and produce annual ecology reports of their work to support this and the flora and fauna of the area.

Resolved: The clerk to send an email thanking Mr Parry for his time explaining the work of the quarry.

Should others wish to attend a tour, the clerk has provided the contact details to the Chair, as two tours have been organised already.

The quarry will donate a Christmas Tree again in 2023 for the village and has offered to support the community council work with the historical / information notice boards once a response has been received from Dŵr Cymru to the community council's application for funding in 2024.

8. To discuss financial support with the upkeep of community council planters in the villages.

Some of the planters are looking tired in the villages, it was agreed the clerk would collate information about where the planters are located and who previously has taken responsibility for looking after them and bring to a future meeting.

9. To receive the schedule of November accounts for payment.

November	Payee	Details	VAT	Amount
	K.Roberts	Salary and HOA		705.63
	HMRC	PAYE		176.20
	Scottish Power	Street Lighting Electricity	103.08	618.47
	HSBC	Account charge		5.00
	Cartridge People	Multi pack Ink and A4 white paper 500 sheets		50.21
*TBC	Deeco Lighting Ltd	Y Waen, Gwernaffield - Replacement Street lighting Column & lantern	168	840
*TBC	Deeco Lighting Ltd	Y Waen, Gwernaffield - Renewal to remove cracked column	150	750

SP Energy Networks in conjunction with Deeco Lighting Ltd (engineers) were agreed by members to carry out the recommended work in Y Waen Gwernaffield on a cracked street column and the financial regulations would be waived in relation to this re. quotations. A tried, tested organisation covering the energy network and a local company who have completed the work for the area having successfully completed a similar job in the cul de sac on the last occasion. This has been a longstanding job for repair for some time and as such it was agreed to proceed with this lighting improvement as soon as practically possible. Payment to Deeco Lighting may fall in December depending on how long it takes to acquire the new street lighting column.

Resolved: SP Energy Networks and Deeco Lighting Ltd to carry out the street lighting column replacement and reconnection in Y Waen, Gwernaffield.

The accounts were proposed by Cllr. Bolton and seconded by Cllr. Tattum and approved by members present.

10. To receive an update from Cllr. Appleton and Cllr. Eaton of a meeting with Mr Trevor Arnold, Editor of Mold Connections Magazine to explore options for a future community council publication in 2024.

Cllr. Appleton fed back on a meeting with Mr Trevor Arnold. After considerable discussion by councillors it was agreed it would be sensible to have an agreement on who would do what including options for delivery. The item be on the December agenda to explore further.

Print and distribution would be £100 for 500 copies with Mr Trevor Arnold.

11. Clerk's Update and Correspondence

12. To receive and provide any feedback on the [Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual Report – February 2024](#) The consultation period will end on **8 December 2023**.

The clerk had circulated in advance of the meeting the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Draft Annual Report – February 2024 and explained to those relatively new members on the community council in 2023 that the aim of the panel is to support local democracy by setting remuneration and proposals for pay, expenses and benefits for elected members, County Councillors, Town and Community Councils and National Park and Fire and Rescue Authorities for implementation in 2024.

The community council already pay a mandatory payment of £156 to cover the costs of household expenses related to working from home (heating, lighting, broadband etc) during May of each year.

The clerk further explained she submits an annual statement of payments to the panel (this is also posted on the community council website) for the public to see and thus aids transparency.

13. To receive information/quotes for the Festive Lighting 2023 in the villages from Deeco Lighting.

Not received, as yet – these will be discussed with the Chair and Vice Chair and are usually no more than a call out charge from Deeco Lighting Ltd.

14. To receive information on remote clerk and councillor training sessions from One Voice Wales October to December 2023. (Circulated in advance of this meeting.) Please advise the clerk if you are interested in attending a remote training session.

The clerk had circulated information on remote training for clerk's and councillors and encouraged those with an interest to attend. They are generally remote, short sessions held at various times of day.

The clerk asked to attend a short community engagement session in November. There may be a bursary available for some sessions. Sessions are £38.00 and there is a training budget to support this.

Resolved: The clerk to attend the relevant remote short training session by One Voice Wales.

13. To receive any (A) Planning Applications (B) Planning Decisions

Planning Application Consultation - FUL/000922/23 29 Tan Yr Hafod, Gwernaffield, Mold, CH7 5DS Proposal Erection of a first storey extension above the existing ground floor extension.

Following a verbal report from the Planning Sub Committee there were no objections raised, only an observation that privacy may be impacted should a window be placed on the extension of the cemetery side.

The Chair, Cllr. Ruth Appleton closed the meeting at 8.54pm.