

GWERNAFFIELD AND PANTYMWYNN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

Wednesday 4 February 2026

1. (A) To record attendance

Cllrs, Ruth Appleton, Dave Bolton, Peter Eaton (Chairman), John Griffiths, Shan Keaney, Ian Newman (Vice Chair), George Tattum, Mark Stocks.

(B) To record apologies

Cllr. Simon Barbet, Lisa Jones and Andy Tunnicliffe.

2. To record declarations of interest - None.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting on 14 January 2026.

The minutes of the meeting were proposed by Cllr. George Tattum and seconded by Cllr. Ian Newman and will be signed as an accurate record by the Chair.

4. To receive any matters arising from the minutes of the meeting.

None

5. To raise any Streetscene Matters (Flintshire County Council)

5a.Cllr. Appleton reported a grit bin had been located on The Links but no 2nd bin as requested. The clerk had checked with Mr Andy Lightfoot who advised he observed two bins located on The Links. Cllr. Appleton will double check. (confirmed two bins in situ)

Following a request from residents through Councillor Appleton, a grit bin on Cefn Bychan Road, Pantymwyn – as it is a long undulating road with no grit bin. Councillors agreed to fund a community council owned grit bin (Mr Lightfoot had advised it would unlikely qualify for a County owned bin unlike The Links due to undulating terrain). Consideration to be sought for its location, possibly mid-way along near an incline, if possible, County to be consulted.

RESOLVED: The clerk to order a community council owned grit bin.

5b. Right of Way – erected notice of modification order – footpath off Cefn Bychan Road, Pantymwyn – to existing path 21.

A member of Ramblers Cymru Volunteer Club, had emailed to note his concern and note he had submitted a claim to add this path to the FCC public rights of way based on evidence of 50 years use. This was brought into question recently by a green sign saying no public right of way in Autumn 2025 erected on a BT pole near the entrance to The Homestead. It is not known who erected the sign. The volunteer advised a site notice has now been posted to alert any owners/occupiers, he goes on to state Flintshire County Council (FCC) will register the application on their website. FCC will decide whether to make a Definitive Map Modification order (DMMO) to add the path. If there were to be relevant objections, then there could be a Public Local inquiry at that stage to consider the evidence.

Cllr Dave Bolton had a copy of the Definitive Rights of Way 2008, and he noted that it was his understanding Footpath 24 was already registered and that this has been the case for some time since he was on the local access forum for public rights of way. The clerk will notify the representative from Ramblers Cymru.

6. Updates on work of the Community Council Sub Committees

Historical Notice Boards

Cllr. Bolton is expecting visuals of the boards soon and Cllr. George Tattum confirmed he is agreeable to the use of the historical photos he has provided for the purposes of this community project. Also the clerk has sent the community council and Dwr Cymru logos to Cllr. Bolton who will ensure these replace the temporary logos on the notice boards.

There will be a notice board for each village (A2 size) – near the millennium stones Pantymwyn and Gwernaffield Conservation Garden. Cllr. John Griffiths informed the group he could assist with metal stands for the boards.

As the project had encountered several delays, all agreed to proceed with Nature Sign to print the boards, as they have honoured the price for some time and Cllr. Bolton said he recalled they were at the time most competitive in price.

Cllr. Bolton and other council members involved with the project were thanked for their work to date.

Events Group

A sub group meeting was held post the last full community council meeting.

After some discussion, the suggestion of an Easter / Welsh Day window dressing competition from 1st March 2026 – through to Easter Monday was agreed. Bi lingual considerations need to be borne in mind.

The clerk asked for the quotes for the banners for the competition and asked that the community council email and logo be visible on any banner.

Cllr. Keaney and Cllr. Appleton would work together on any poster / banner and liaise with the Chair, Cllr. Peter Eaton to help promote the event. The clerk would do a post for the villages facebook page.

In addition to the Autumn Scarecrow Competition - which is well received by residents. Some other suggestions from the sub group meeting for consideration

A walking / treasure hunt in the summer of 2026 – possibly on the longest day. A mince pie competition / walk in the Autumn? A community council calendar. The clerk advised this is something which Ysgol Y Waun do and that the community council provided sponsorship toward in 2025.

Biodiversity work

Cllr. Keaney had spoken with Pauline Kershaw an active member of Pantymwyn Village Hall to consider height, suitable evergreens etc for planters. The clerk offered to assist with planting as and when required. The community council are happy to support purchase of plants for planters as it does each year.

Planning Group – refer to item 13.

7. To receive an update from Mold Golf Club on their new initiative Monday Pensioners Lunch

Roly, the caterer at Mold Golf Club had circulated a draft poster re. a regular afternoon tea on Mondays for older residents. His idea is to invite older retired residents for an initial open afternoon with complimentary hot drinks and cakes then possibly going forward open each Monday afternoon with a reduced, value for money menu – hoping to create a hub for senior local residents.

All councillors present thought this was a good idea and when a date was confirmed would do what they could to spread the word in the villages, perhaps through the Church, Women's Institutes, village halls etc.

8. Correspondence/Clerk's Report

9. The clerk advised she had received some information and had a discussion with Darell Jones, Street Lighting Manager at Flintshire County Council. Regarding Crown Commercial Energy(CCE) for streetlighting electricity in place of Scottish Power which has seen the monthly streetlighting bill increase from in the region of £600 to over £850 per month. A number of Town and Community Councils are considering this move for a 12 month period which Flintshire County Council advise will reduce the amount paid for the community council energy.

Councillors were supportive of expressing an interest and the clerk finding out more about Crown Commercial Energy to help reduce the current streetlighting monthly bill.

In terms of Community Council Streetlighting and exploring Flintshire County Council taking on ownership of community council streetlights. This is not practically affordable, given Flintshire want £2,000 per streetlight to be transferred as they would need to upgrade them to their own lantern and LEDS.

10. To receive the signed Statement of Accounts from the Welsh Audit Office 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.

The clerk had in advance of the meeting circulated both signed statements of accounts from the Welsh Audit Office. A qualified audit had been received in respect of the 2023/2024 audit and opinion can be seen in the annual governance statement. The points raised re. cashbook, budget preparation, taxing of Chair's allowance and clerk pay – which likely references to a contract from some years prior are acknowledged. These matters will be addressed by the community council. NB. It is during this year the clerk had time away from her part time role for personal reasons and it is likely some documentation and information may have been incomplete – as there was no replacement for the responsible financial officer role. An unqualified audit had been received in respect of the 2024/2025 audit and opinion can be seen in the annual governance statement.

The notice of conclusion of audit and right to inspect the annual return for those years ended, will go on the notice boards and community council website.

11. To receive the February Accounts for Payment

Payee	Detail	Amount
K.Roberts	Clerk's Pay and HOA	864.24 tbc *
HMRC	PAYE	190.80 tbc *
JRB Enterprises Ltd	Standard Dog Gloves (800 case)	42.84 (VAT ?7.14)
Deeco Lighting Engineers Ltd	Streetlighting repair / call out – 36 Y Waun, Gwernaffield	216 (VAT ?36.00)
K.Roberts	Clerk – Annual Pension Payment (Employers Contribution)	602.76

*NB Gross pay (and PAYE) – will be less, confirmed once NETT amount is known following submission to HMRC following LG services pay agreement for 24/25 being applied. Delivery and payment expected of Evolis Speed Monitor between February and March.

12. The Holy Trinity Church are seeking a replacement treasurer (voluntary)

For information email – elaineredmile@gmail.com – Church Warden. No further action required.

13. Planning Matters Applications (A) and (B) Decisions.

Application – FUL/000047/26 – Cae Rhug Farm, Cae Rhug Lane, Gwernaffield, CH7 5DYead

Application – FUL/001094/25 – 1 Rock Cottages, Post Office Lane, Pantymwyn, CH7 5JD.

After discussion by members there were no objections for the aforementioned planning applications.

RESOLVED: The clerk to submit no objections to the relevant planning officer at Flintshire County Council.

Abandon Standing Orders – not on the agenda.

Cllr. Bolton shared information from Mark Philpot a Pantymwyn resident – re. a Rotary (fun) Quiz for an international Charity on 14th April (4 people maximum). A prize for the highest scoring community council. Buckley Town Council won last year. If anyone is interested in making up a team please speak with Cllr. Bolton directly.

The next meeting will take place on 4 March 2026, 7pm at Mold Golf Club, Pantymwyn.