

GWERNAFFIELD AND PANTYMYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn Community Council held on 8 June 2016 at Pantymwyn Village Hall.

Present

Councillor D Bolton, Councillor R Edwards, Councillor J Elcock, Councillor R Hughes, Councillor C Hopwood
Councillor R Edwards, Councillor L Pritchard (Chair) and Councillor G Tattum (Vice Chairman) and
Councillor K Williams.

In Attendance County Councillor A Davies-Cooke and Mrs K L Roberts – Clerk.

1. Apologies for absence

Councillor A Barsby, C Garrett, R Morgan.

2. Approval of Minutes

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting of the council held on 4 May 2016 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2.Declarations of Interest

None

4. Matters Arising from the last minutes

Cllr. Bolton reported in his personal experience he had not been notified by email of the change of date of a meeting and thought this was disingenuous. Numerous apologies had been received for the original date of 1 June 2016 meeting and the Chair had felt it probably best on this occasion to postpone the meeting by a week. Cllr. Bolton's comment was noted.

The clerk will follow up the matter of a faulty lamp column in Y Waun 26-27 which initially had concern raised by Mr D Jones at FCC. Cllr. Bolton and Cllr. Edwards would furnish her with the relevant information by email.

Cllr. Hughes reported various sites have been suggested for the new post box in Gwernaffield by local residents. This information has been passed on to Royal mail.

The Chair announced that Cllr. L Jones has resigned from 4 June 2016 due to a change in personal and work commitments. Cllr L Jones has advised the new village signage would be going into production this week. (agenda item 7). The clerk would advertise the casual vacancy using the relevant notice.

The clerk provided apologies on behalf of Mr A Lightfoot who would try to attend a future meeting.

5. Guest Speaker, David Sheil, from Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB to discuss the Dark Skies Programme

The Chair welcomed Mr D Sheil, Guest Speaker who gave an overview of planned work of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty including the Dark Skies Programme over the next 12 months.

Mr Sheil informed members of the recent funding obtained from Natural Resources Wales to commence improvements along the Leete path to make it more accessible, resurfacing work along some sections, thus improving links from Gwernaffield and Pantymwyn. Work will take place to improve the views around Devils Gorge and to make it safer.

Work has commenced on a grill to cover Devil's Gorge, this will take time as it requires a special species licence due to bats roosting. A grill will be in the gate to enable access for some people such as those wishing to pot hole.

Cllr. Bolton raised his concerns about felling of trees which were previously left to cover part of the path making it inaccessible in particular for those with prams. Cllr. Bolton also reported formalisation of the nearby footpath was taking place.

Mr Sheil reported consideration of improving the area by the small bridge from Pantymwyn to Cilcain which was initially a place for lorries to turn around but over the years has become a place people park. This could be formalised and information may be placed there for visitors which would become a good place to commence a walk.

Cllr. Edwards explained the work which has commenced by the community council with the renewal of footway lighting in the villages and asked if the Dark Skies initiative could link in with the possibility of a partner agency accelerating the progress of this work.

Mr Sheil explained Dark Sky Status generally covers a large area for example Snowdonia, Brecon Beacons and Eden Valley have all received Dark Skies status. At this stage it is about building partnerships with communities. This area does not have dark sky status but he is keen to obtain this including surrounding areas with the dark skies team. Mr Sheil explained he has a meeting with Cadwyn Clwyd to take matters forward. There is a grants scheme from the sustainable development fund – an example could be to use this as a pilot for the way forward. Cllr Edwards suggested the possibility of match funding. Mr Sheil will send through a grant application through the clerk for the attention of the Lighting Sub Committee.

The Chair thanked Mr Sheil for his attendance.

6. To consider and approve the new Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

This item will be deferred until the new financial regulations have been received.

7. To approve new village signage for Pantymwyn and Gwernaffield

At the discretion of the Chair this was raised under matters arising.

8. To discuss the position of Chair and Vice Chair

Cllr Bolton asked if the clerk would check if the community council were for example to elect a Chairman from Pantymwyn one year. If a vote may then be taken to appoint the Vice Chairman from Gwernaffield. Enabling a healthy representation from both villages.

As the Chair and Vice Chairman were elected only in May 2016. This is something which Council may be consider for 2017/2018.

9. Clerk's update – communication and correspondence

A local community group FlintShare, a not for profit making organisation with 50 members dedicated to growing fresh fruit and vegetables for their members and wider community has contacted the community council to request circulation of their work to raise awareness. This information had been circulated to members by email. It was agreed as a one off FlintShare could place their information in the next newsletter.

The Chair shared information on a Sunflower Competition by a member of the community Mr Dylan Kensall of SDM joinery specialists who will be sponsoring the competition in the community. Details will be in the next newsletter and on the community council website.

10. Update from the Lighting Sub Committee

Cllr. Edwards proposed commencing phase 2 of the lighting renewal project by the purchase and installation of 12 new LED lights along the Cilcain Road (6 lights in Pantymwyn and 6 lights in Gwernaffield) and asked others for suggestions going forward. The clerk suggested considering being guided by the lighting condition report from Deeco lighting with regard to those street lights in the worst condition/or needing attention due to repeated faults.

Cllr. Bolton will write a short article for the newsletter about phase 2 of the lighting project. This will produce a saving of £480 on our annual contract with Deeco lighting. The remaining budget allocation for lighting will be used for reports of lights which due to condition/faults need replacement in this financial year.

RESOLVED: Members voted unanimously to fund 12 new LED lights as part of Phase 2 of the Footway Lighting Renewal Project.

11. Update on Gwernaffield Playing fields/park

The clerk reported Capper Jones Solicitors have advised the registration with the land registry has been completed. The Chair informed members a public meeting will be held in the near future to gauge residents ideas on the Gwernaffield Playing fields/park.

RESOLVED: The clerk to complete the appropriate insurance with Zurich Municipal.

12. To discuss community transport

Councillors acknowledged due to the ongoing review of Community Transport by Flintshire County Council set against a backdrop of budget reductions that in the future poorly used bus routes may be reduced/withdrawn. The Chair will place a short piece in the next newsletter to inform residents it is a case of using or potentially losing local bus services in the future.

13. To consider a request to fund Ysgol Y Waun Leaver Dictionaries

A letter received from Mrs L Ankers, Head Teacher requesting consideration from the Council for funding the school dictionaries at £71.61 for the 9 children who are moving on to secondary school this year.

RESOLVED: Members voted unanimously to fund the Leaver Dictionaries.

14. To consider a member for position of Ysgol Y Waun School Governor

Cllr. Lynne Pritchard's 4 year term of office is coming to an end and Ysgol Y Waun have written to request a councillor to be nominated for their governing body. Cllr Hughes was proposed by Councillor Pritchard and accepted the governor position.

RESOLVED: Members voted unanimously for Cllr. R Hughes to be the representative on Ysgol Y Waun Governing Body.

15. To discuss Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch at Mold Golf Club

Members re-evaluated the payment of the Senior Citizens Christmas meal. It was proposed by Cllr. Pritchard that a £5.00 contribution would be requested by those wishing to attend the event in 2016, this was seconded by Cllr. J Elcock.

RESOLVED: Members voted unanimously for a £5.00 individual contribution for those wishing to attend the Senior citizens Christmas Lunch in 2016.

16. To consider and accept the Annual Return following internal audit 2015/2016

The clerk advised the internal audit 2015/2016 had been completed by Mr D I Smith, Accountant, who was satisfied that a good level of internal control had been maintained. This was accepted and the annual return signed by the clerk and Chairman. This will now be sent to BDO LLP external auditors for July.

RESOLVED: Members voted unanimously to accept the annual return 2015/2016.

A quarterly budget monitoring form will be provided to all Councillors and formally reported by the clerk from July 2016.

The clerk reported a salary payment for August 2015 (during recess) had not been made. This has been discussed with the Chair and will be paid this month. The clerk reported in the 2015/2016 budget the income tax payment had not been factored in. Cllr. Bolton queried why income tax was being paid by this community

council. The Chair advised that the clerk has been instructed by HMRC to use this council to pay any income tax which may arise. This did not financially disadvantage the community council as it is deducted from the clerk's salary each month.

17. To consider Planning Applications and Planning Decisions

Bryn Erwyd, Cilcain Road, Pantymwyn - Planning Ref 055408

RESOLVED: That no objections be raised.

Other General Matters

Cllr. K Williams reported that the footpath which runs alongside Cae Gafna and the golf course is overgrown and there is a lot of dog mess.

RESOLVED: The clerk to report to Streetscene.

18. RESOLVED: Accounts for payment

Cheque N0	Payee	
100733 FLVC	newsletter	265.00
100734 Gabriel Media	website	141.50
100735 K.Roberts	Clerk's Salary	296.14
100736 K.Roberts	expenses	95.00
100737 HMRC	Income tax	74.00
100738 K.Roberts	(Late payment Aug 15)	301.15
100739 HMRC	Income tax Aug 15	53.00
100740 S.Power	electricity	315.23
100741 Ysgol Y Waun	Leaver Dictionaries	61.12
TOTAL		1,602.14

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.