



Cyngor Cymuned **Glyntraian** Community Council

Minutes of Council Meeting

4th September 2024

At the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

Present:

Councillor Robin Boston
Councillor Edith Jones
Councillor Richard Evans
Councillor Ky Lewis
Councillor David Sopwith

Also present: Stephanie Masters (Clerk), Davena Davies (Community Agent), County Cllr Trevor Bates and PCSO Gareth Jones

Chair opened meeting at 6:30pm

Action

1/0924 Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr Colin Hidden and Cllr Pam Hughes

2/0924 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

(a) Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None

(b) Requests for dispensations

None

3/092024 Presentation by Gavin Jones (Openreach Regional Engagement Manager for Mid and North Wales)

Gavin Jones (Openreach's Regional Engagement Manager for Mid and North Wales) came to the meeting to talk about Openreach's Fibre Community Partnership programme. He explained Openreach had launched a demand led community scheme utilising UK Government vouchers under the Gigabit Broadband Voucher scheme to roll out ultrafast full fibre to approximately 190 homes in the Glyn Ceiriog exchange area (Dolywern, Llwynmawr, Glyn Ceiriog).

Eligible properties can claim a free voucher worth £4500 which would contribute towards building an Ultrafast Full Fibre broadband network for the community. Homes and businesses pledge their free voucher via the Openreach webpage 'Connect my community' (openreach.com) and will then receive a UK Government email requesting them to validate their pledge. Openreach require approximately 40 properties to pledge. If Openreach do not achieve the number of pledges required, it's unlikely the upgrade of the network will go ahead. Full details can be found on the Openreach website.

4/0924 Reports

(a) Police report

PCSO Gareth Jones presented the monthly Police report summarising crime in the local area. He confirmed that in the future there would be more detailed information or comments in the report.

He informed Councillors that speed checks in the area had been carried out. The recorded information had been forwarded to Speedwatch and was being used to build a report about speeding in the area. He confirmed there would be more speed checks. He said that if the Council wanted to be involved in collecting the data the Council's speed gun should be calibrated.

(b) WCBC Councillor Trevor Bates

TB reported:

- The Glyn Ceiriog Sheepdog Trials had been very successful with around 900 to a 1000 people attending. A total of £5000 had been raised. **TB** thanked PCSOs Martin Griffiths and Gareth Jones for coming to the event.
- Confirmed that Kevin Edwards from Wrexham Council would be attending the 3 Councils meeting and suggested the Council draft questions to put forward to him.
- There will be a quiz night at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall (OJMH) on 11th October 2024 to raise funds for the International Sheep Dog Trials being held at Brynkinalt on the 11th, 12th and 13th September 2025.
- The Ceiriog Valley Garden Society is holding their Annual Show on 7th September at the OJMH. Public viewing on the day from 2pm until 4pm.
- Informed Councillors that Graham Lloyd, Highway Safety Officer from Wrexham Council had visited Dolywern to discuss what can be put in place to help mitigate the speed of vehicles on the approach into Dolywern off the straight road from Glyn Ceiriog. Several mitigation measures were discussed including the installation of extra chevron signs and enhancing the Slow/Araf sign painted on the straight road from Glyn Ceiriog towards Dolywern. Staggered speed limits were discussed to reduce speeds along the main road when approaching Dolywern from 50mph to 30mph and then to 20mph. Increasing the speed through Pontfadog from 20mph to 30mph had been suggested but Councillors voted in favour of keeping the speed limit at 20mph in Pontfadog. Vote: 3 for and 2 against.
- Informed Councillors that 966 online questionnaires had been completed regarding the proposed new North Wales National Park. There are some reservations about its impact on planning and the local economy. NRW aims to capture public feedback as it draws up technical assessments and prepares final recommendations. There will be a consultation this Autumn on the proposal.
- Plans have been published to redraw constituencies ahead of the next Senedd elections in 2026. These changes follow the decision to increase the number of politicians in the Welsh Parliament to 96 at the next election, up from the current 66. The new proposal will split Wales into 16 constituencies. Each constituency will have 6 elected members. The plans encompass

the 32 UK Parliament constituencies revised before the 2024 General Election. There will be a consultation about the plans.

- On 29th September 2024 the High Court in London is set to hear a judicial review of Wrexham Council's decision to reject the Council's LDP which has been deemed unlawful. Wrexham Council has resolved not to accept the recommendation it adopts the plan in order to comply with the legal duty under the Town and Country Planning (Local Development Plan) (Wales) Regulations 2005 with 24 councillors voting for adoption and 30 against.

On behalf of a resident **DD** asked **TB** to find out why Wrexham Council had filled potholes on the Cheshire Home car park and not those on the road instead. **TB** said he would find out why this was the case.

At the last meeting **PH** had raised the issue of the very poor condition of a road which was causing problems for a milk lorry which uses it. **TB** confirmed that some repairs had been made to the road.

RBo asked **TB** about the dates when Citizens Advice would be visiting the Canolfan and the OJMH as it would be better if these were known in advance so they could be better publicised. **TB** suggested **SM** contact the Clerk of Glyn Ceiriog Community Council for the information.

SM

5/0924 Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall on 12th July 2024

(a) To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2024 as a true and correct record.

RE proposed the Minutes be approved as a true and correct record. **Seconded** by **DS**. **Unanimously agreed**. **RBo** signed the Minutes.

(b) Matters Arising

- **DS** had put back and side boards in the net on the goalpost so that it could be properly fixed to the ground to ensure safety.
- **CH** had replaced the two missing bolts on the rocker seesaw in the playground in Pontfadog.
- The 'no dogs allowed' signs for the playground in Pontfadog had been delivered to **SM**. **CH** had agreed he would put these up.
- **DS** told Councillors that he had decided not to go ahead with moving the portacabin to his property to use for storage. He had contacted companies to see if they wanted to purchase the portacabin, but they had said that due to its condition and poor state of repair they did not want it. It had been suggested that a scrap merchant may be interested. **DS** offered to contact a scrap merchant he knew in St Martins about removing the portacabin. This was agreed and **DS** will get the information in time for the next Council meeting. **SM** to advise the Bowls Club of the Council's intentions.
- **SM** showed photographs of the proposed site for the new noticeboard. She had asked WCBC for permission to use the site but was still waiting for a response.
- **SM** reminded Councillors that at the Council meeting in June it had been agreed to review the appointment of Caru'n Pentrefi as volunteers for the Council at the meeting in September. Prior to the meeting **SM** had been in contact with **CH**. He wanted to make sure all relevant paperwork is being done as outlined in the Council's Volunteer Policy and that the group is working in line with the conditions set by the Council to ensure they are properly covered by the Council's insurance. **SM** confirmed all the paperwork, risk assessments, inductions and reports were

SM

being completed correctly. **CH** had suggested that the work of Caru'n Pentrefi should be reviewed every three months. **KL proposed** the Council confirm the appointment of Caru'n Pentrefi as volunteers but continue with a 3-monthly review to monitor their work. **Seconded** by **DS. Unanimously agreed. SM** to present paperwork at each review.

SM

- **RBo** informed Councillors that the next meeting of the three Councils was on the 11th September in the Centenary Hall in Llanarmon. It had been agreed that future meetings of the three Councils would rotate between the three communities and held quarterly which meant the next meeting would be at the OMJH in December. However, **RBo** was going to suggest the next meeting should be postponed until January 2025 instead.
- **RE** informed Councillors that plans for the Repair Café were making progress. Three volunteers had now offered their skills. **RE** was picking up the PAT testing equipment.
- **RBo** had been asked by the Church in Pontfadog to thank to the Council for their donation towards the repair of the mower used in the churchyard.

6/0924 Correspondence

SM had received:

- A receipt for the precept payment in July
- A s137 application from Nightingale House Hospice requesting a donation towards a new ECG machine
- The agenda for the next 3 Councils meeting which **SM** had already circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting
- The dates and details of the One Voice Wales training courses for September. **SM** to circulate to Councillors.
- A final signed copy of the Community Agent contract from Wrexham Council.

7/0924 Community Agent Report

DD reported:

- The vintage rally was very well supported and raised £676 which has been donated to St John's Church in Pontfadog.
- The Llandudno trip again was well supported with 106 community members of the Ceiriog Valley taking advantage of the subsidised trip made possible by grant funding raised by the Community Agent and donations from both Glyn Ceiriog and Glyntraian Community Councils. My thanks to both Councils for their contributions.
- Monies for tips for the drivers on the trip was raised from a tombola stall held at the vintage rally – and the £110 raised was split equally between both drivers. This made the cost of trip just £5 per person for the day.
- I can report that having made an emergency referral for a member of the community to receive urgent care a CRT team was immediately mobilised and began the urgent care needed.
- I have attended meetings and peer support group sessions with Commissioning in Wrexham.

- Along with the groups already taking place I have been looking at new ideas to keep people engaged in the winter months. i.e. Bingo, quizzes, films and games. I would therefore be pleased if you would read the attached asking for the support of Council to purchase a RITA (Reminiscence Interactive Therapy Activities) to help us to keep our community socialising and being a means to maintain inclusion for all. I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.
- **SM** had circulated the documents to Councillors prior to the meeting. **DD** informed Councillors that the cost of RITA was £4410 (including VAT) this includes a 30% discount. Included in this price is a 24inch monitor hardware, software and content licensing, plus trolley along with annual support maintenance and training for 3 years. Currently there was £2880 remaining from the Little Learning Company grant which had been allocated for community projects. As the Council should be able to claim the VAT back (£735), the remaining funding needed was £795. **DD** said RITA was already being successfully used at the WCBC Wellbeing Hub. Following discussion **EJ proposed** the Council agree in principle to purchase RITA. **Seconded** by **RE**. **Unanimously agreed**. **DD** to arrange a demonstration of RITA before the next meeting. **DD, RBo, RE** and **SM** to attend.

DD RBo
RE SM

8/0924 Finance

(a) To review Financial Report and (b) to authorise and sign payments

SM had sent a copy of the financial report to Councillors prior to the meeting detailing the account balances, receipts and what had been paid. A schedule of items for payment totalling £5712.13 had also been circulated prior to the meeting and these were discussed. **SM** explained that the higher expenditure was due to the payment of both the June and July salaries for **SM** and **DD**. **SM** advised Councillors that a payment of £28.90 to Caru'n Pentrefi for strimmer line, cap and fuel mixing bottle was not on the payments list and needed approval so the amount could be paid.

KL proposed all payments be approved. **Seconded** by **EJ**. **Unanimously agreed**. The payments were authorised at the meeting by **RBo** and **EJ**. **DS proposed** the Finance Report be accepted. **Seconded** by **RE**. **Unanimously agreed**. **RBo** signed the financial report.

Receipts totalled £10031.82: VAT Refund £965.15; Precept £8,666.67 and £400 from coach fares from the Llandudno trip.

(c) To discuss the s137 application from Nightingale House Hospice in Wrexham

A request for a donation of £500 had been received from Nightingale House Hospice in Wrexham to put towards a new ECG machine. **EJ proposed** a donation of £500. **Seconded** by **KL**. **Unanimously agreed**.

SM

9/0924 Oliver Jones Memorial Hall Management Committee

At the AGM of the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall, it had failed to form a Management Committee. **RBo** explained that as the Council was the Custodian Trustee of the Hall its management should be delegated to the Council. The Hall's Constitution should be amended to state that 'if the Hall fails to form a committee the responsibility for its management reverts to the Custodian Trustee to reform the Management Trustees.' Councillors agreed with the proposal. **RBo** said the Council should form a sub-committee to determine the future of the Hall and its refurbishment. For example, the stage was potentially a valuable asset but needed improvements including new curtains. **RBo** said he would contact a stage and theatre curtain specialist to get an indication of cost. A meeting at the Hall was being held on 9th September and it was agreed **RBo** would chair the meeting. Members of the sub-committee would be agreed at the meeting.

10/0924 Planning

Planning application P/2024/1212

Single storey rear extension at 2 Wynfa, Dolywern, Pontfadog, Llangollen, LL20 7AG

This planning application was reviewed by Councillors and no objections were raised. **SM** to notify the Planning Officer in WCBC.

SM

AOB

At the end of the meeting **DD** thanked the Council on behalf of the community for their contribution towards the bench bought in memory of Bryan Evison. A plaque had been added and the bench was now fixed outside the OJMH.

11/0924 Items for next Council meeting (2nd October 2024)

Review of Council Budget

The Chair closed the meeting at 8:21pm

Next meeting will be on 2nd October 2024 at 6:30pm

DRAFT