



Cyngor Cymuned **Glyntraian** Community Council

Minutes of 2nd July 2025

At the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

Present:

Councillor Richard Evans
Councillor Edith Jones
Councillor Ky Lewis
Councillor David Sopwith
Councillor Colin Hidden

Councillor Trevor Sharples

Also present: Stephanie Masters (Clerk), Davena Davies (Community Agent) and

County Cllr Trevor Bates

Chair opened meeting at 6:30pm

Mr Trevor Sharples had come to the meeting to confirm he would like to join Glyntraian Community Council as a Councillor. **KL proposed** Mr Sharples be elected as a Councillor. **Seconded by DS. Unanimously agreed.** Mr Sharples accepted the role and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Action

1/0725 Apologies

Apologies from Cllr Pam Hughes

2/0725 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

(a) Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None

(b) Requests for dispensations

None

3/0725 Reports

(a) Police report

PCSO Gareth Jones had sent the monthly crime report to **SM** and this had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors had no concerns.

(b) WCBC Councillor Trevor Bates

TB reported:

- Advised that WCBC Housing owns 11,086 Council houses and just 80 of these are in the Ceiriog Valley. Wrexham Housing also owns 2002 garages and 39 shops. WCBC is constantly trying to attain Welsh Quality Housing Standards by installing triple glazing, extra insulation, air source heat pumps, solar panels etc.

WCBC has received a 4.3 million grant from the Welsh Government and another recently approved grant of £3.4 million. WCBC is committing £40 million to improvement this year which will come from Housing ringfenced income from rents.

- WCBC had advised that streetlights in the Borough use 13,300 units of which 2.5% are non-LED.
- WCBC owns 1944 car parking spaces. Of these 4.3% (85) are for disabled people and 1.65% (32) have EV car charging spaces. Over the last 12 months WCBC claim that EV chargers have used 56,219 kWh which equates to 91,375,712 kg of CO₂ which indicates that at 4 miles per kWh is equivalent to 224,876 miles.
- On 19th May 2025 WCBC's decision to adopt the LDP on 20th December 2023 was quashed and awarded costs to Marc Jones. WCBC is to pay £8,750 and BDW Trading, Bloor Homes, Redrow Homes and Hurworth Estates paying the other £8,750.
- Advised there had been an outbreak of Avian Flu in the pheasant pens in Llanarmon. Public footpaths had been closed, and 6,000 to 10,000 birds had been slaughtered. This could mean there will be no shoots this Autumn.

DD informed Councillors that two residents living in Bro Dewi had expressed concerns about the safety of two trees located on ground behind properties in Bro Dewi. The trees used to be maintained by Wrexham Council. **TB** to seek reassurance from Wrexham Council that the trees are safe and unlikely to fall towards the houses and that if it is not possible to remove the trees then the one nearest to number 10 Bro Dewi be cut back so it does not overhang the garden of the property.

RE asked **TB** if Wrexham Council would lock the bin in the Pontfadog playground. This had been identified as a safety issue in a recent RoSPA Playground Inspection. **TB** said the Council should contact Streetscene at Wrexham Council.

SM

Councillors were aware that Wrexham Council was not going to continue emptying the litter bin in the Pontfadog playground. **TB** had requested a price for emptying the litterbin from Wrexham Council on behalf of the Council but had received no further information.

EJ told **TB** and Councillors that Giant Rhubarb (*Gunnera manicata*) was growing on the roadside verge just off the B4500 near the Mill at Pontfadog. The plant is poisonous and needs to be removed before it spreads. **TB** to ask Wrexham Council if it has any policy for dealing with these plants.

4/0725 Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall on 4th June 2025

(a) To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2025 as a true and correct record.

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

(b) Matters Arising

- **SM** had completed the new bank mandate and printed it for signing. **RE, CH** and **DS** signed the mandate as new signatories and **EJ** as an existing signatory **SM** to ask **PH** to also sign as an existing signatory,
- **SM** had sent the Council's comments to the WCBC Planning Officer for Planning Proposal P/20250420 detailing the demolition of an existing single storey building and erection of two storey side extension at Ysgythrau Ganol Farm. Councillors had no objections and supported the application.
- **SM** had arranged the free First Aid training course for the 5th August and this would take place at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall. There were 12 available places on the course and 9 people had booked so far. **SM** had advertised the course but there had been no further interest. **RE** asked **SM** to contact the Clerk of Glyn Ceiriog Community Council to find out if any of their Councillors wanted to attend.
- Concerns had been expressed about the safety of the sewage pipe crossing the River Ceiriog in Dolywern after the supporting pillars had been damaged by floodwater in recent storms. **TB** had received confirmation from Welsh Water of their plans to make the pipe more secure. A plan of the proposed work had been provided.
- **SM** had contacted AVOW about arranging DBS checks for **CH, RE** and **DS** and was waiting for further information. **CH** had spoken to Jo Hughes at AVOW and was also waiting for further information.

SM

5/0725 Correspondence

SM had received:

- Email from Wales Air Ambulance thanking the Council for its donation.
- Mary had sent the details of the last Village Tidy session by Caru'n Pentrefi. Eight volunteers had met and collected six bags of litter.
- Email from Citizens Advice with dates of the Citizens Advice drop-in sessions at the OJMH and the Canolfan.
- Confirmed by PCSO Gareth Jones that the problem of sheep worrying had been referred to Rural Crime. He has asked for an update.
- Notified by Miles Matile that the next 3 Valley Councils meeting had been arranged for 3rd September at 7.00pm in Llanarmon Village Hall. **DS** pointed out this was not a suitable date because the Glyntraian Community Council meeting was on the same evening. **SM** to request a different date from Miles Matile. He had also asked if the

SM

Councillors had any objections to inviting Nicola Edmonds to do a presentation about her work to protect birds in the valley. Councillors had no objections.

- Email with the details of One Voice Wales training courses for June - September 2025. This had been circulated to Councillors.

6/0725 Community Agent

DD reported:

- **DD** told Councillors that the front hedge of the OJMH was growing over the pavement and needed trimming back for safety purposes. It was important that this was done by the 12th July in time for the Vintage Rally and Craft Fair. **SM** reminded Councillors that the maintenance of this hedge was part of the Council's Ground Maintenance contract, and she would ask Rhys Hughes to carry out the work. **SM**
- **DD** had asked Glyn Ceiriog Community Council to contribute £150 towards the cost of the Community Trip to Llandudno. She had already raised £204 from a raffle held at the afternoon tea on VE Day. A tombola was going to be held at the Vintage Rally and Craft Fair to raise further funds. The cost of the tickets was now £6 and not £5 due to the increased cost of the coaches.
- A Community Day was being arranged to raise funds for the OJMH. Timeline, a local band, would be performing and there would be a disco afterwards. The cost of the band was £350, and **DD** requested this be taken from the community grant held in the Community Agent account. **EJ** proposed £350 be paid from the grant. **Seconded** by **CH**. **Unanimously agreed**.
- **DD** told Councillors that the projector in the Hall was not being used. The Council had contributed £3000 towards its cost.
- **DD** advised 'Coffee and Cake' was now being held at her house because only a few people were attending, and she said it was of no benefit paying for the Hall. **RE** asked if it should be promoted but **DD** said this was not necessary because in the Autumn it was likely more people would come and if so, it would be necessary to start using the Hall again.
- **DD** told Councillors the griddle used at Brunch Club was broken and could not be repaired. She asked if £200 of the community grant held in the Community Agent account could be used to purchase a new one. **CH** proposed £200 be paid from the grant. **Seconded** by **DS** and **EJ**. **Unanimously agreed**
- **DD** told Councillors that her computer was running slow and the software needed updating. It was agreed that Ian Masters would look at the computer and attempt to resolve any problems.

7/0725 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 £2871.37 had also been circulated prior to the meeting and these were discussed. **SM** informed Councillors that the newly negotiated price with One Bill Ltd (£37.05) had started in June.

SM advised the following payments were still to be made:

Bitdefender: £64.99

Internal Audit Fee: £333.60

A4 Paper: £21.44

Goalpost, Net and Steel U peg goal anchors: £362.78

RosPA Playground inspection: £196.80

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

SM confirmed a receipt of £506.78 which was the reclaimed VAT from HMRC

8/0725 Important Issues that adversely affect the Glyntraian Community

At the meeting in May Councillors were made aware that Stefan Lederle (Police Inspector NWP) was asking Councils to continue to work with their local dedicated officers to agree up to three issues that affect their communities. **RE** reminded Councillors that **KL** had said at the last meeting he felt drug use and mental health in the community were two of the main issues. **RE** asked if the other Councillors had identified any issues they felt should be addressed. No further issues were put forward. **SM** to send the information to the Police.

SM

9/0725 Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

DS had made an application for a grant (£35000) from the Prosperous Communities Wrexham - Key Fund. He had sent the completed application to Cadwyn Clwyd and was waiting for a response.

The Hall Committee had agreed to arranging day events for the community to raise funds. This would also give the opportunity to find new volunteers.

The new Hall cleaner had started and was doing an excellent job. People had commented on how clean everything was.

CH had fitted a new dishwasher in the Hall kitchen and had repaired the tap.

Work had been completed on the men's toilets.

DS informed Councillors that the person who had shown interest in the portacabin no longer wanted it. The Hall Committee had agreed a contractor would be found to dismantle the portacabin and remove it from the car park.

10/0725 Planning

(a) To review planning application P/2025/0462 - Single Storey Rear Extension Location: 5 Castle Mill, Chirk, Wrexham, LL14 5BL

The Council had reviewed this planning application in March 2025. However, the original plans had been revised to include two bird boxes on the existing building and at least one bat box to provide roosting opportunities for bats.

This planning application was discussed and there were no objections or concerns and Councillors supported the application. **SM** to advise Planning Officer.

SM

(b) To review Wrexham County Borough Council's Planning Policy regarding rural enterprise dwellings

Rural Enterprise Dwelling Planning applications were discussed at the last meeting of the 3 Valley Councils held on 30th April 2025. After the meeting the Clerk of Glyn Ceiriog Community Council had written to Chief Planning Officer David Fitzsimon regarding rural enterprise dwellings and on what basis a decision to refuse an application is made. **DS** informed Councillors that in the Valley 5 applications were still waiting for a decision after two years and 4 others had been refused. **RE** and **SM** to draft a letter to send to Mr Fitzsimon to underline the importance of having suitable accommodation that is close to family/staff's place of work and find out how many planning applications for rural enterprise dwellings have actually been approved.

SM RE

10/07/25 Playground Inspection Report

The inspection of Pontfadog and Dolywern playgrounds had been completed by RoSPA. Some minor repairs to playground equipment had been reported. **CH** and **DS** agreed to do the repairs. **SM** to order any replacement fixings required.

CH DS SM

11/07/25 Agenda items for next meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 8:09pm

Next meeting will be on 3rd September 2025 at 6:30pm

DRAFT