



Cyngor Cymuned **Glyntraian** Community Council

Minutes of 4th June 2025

At the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

Present:

Councillor Richard Evans
Councillor Edith Jones
Councillor Ky Lewis
Councillor Pam Hughes
Councillor Colin Hidden

Councillor David Sopwith

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

Chair opened meeting at 6:30pm

1/0625 Apologies

Apologies from Mr Trevor Sharples

2/0625 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

(a) Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None

(b) Requests for dispensations

None

3/0625 Reports

(a) Police report

PCSO Gareth Jones had sent a monthly report to **SM** which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. There had been an incident of sheep worrying and Councillors asked **SM** to confirm what action the Police had taken. Councillors had no other concerns.

Action

(b) WCBC Councillor Trevor Bates

TB reported:

- Advised Councillors that PCSO Gareth Jones had carried out a speed check outside the Canolfan and 19 drivers out of 36 were doing more than 20mph speed limit,
- Reported that Mark Ellis from (Severn Valley Energy) had made a presentation at the meeting of the 3 Valley Councils. He had made Councillors aware that he can provide the details of available grants and help with grant applications. A community transport scheme was one of the ideas put forward at a recently held consultation event. This scheme would need volunteers and could possibly be combined with using the school minibus.
- **TB** had invited Alwyn Jones, (interim CEO of WCBC) to the Valley. It was clear Mr Jones understands the problems facing the Valley communities and **TB** was able to discuss planning issues with him. At the end of his visit **TB** took him to the Institute in Glyn Ceiriog to see the museum.
- **TB** informed Councillors he had attended a standard and behaviours training course. He had also attended three planning training sessions.
- **TB** informed Councillors that WCBC was trying to get employees back into the offices after the Covid lockdown had changed working arrangements. The WCBC Executive Board proposed employees work four days in the office and one at home every week. The Union wanted three days in the office and two at home every week. This proposal has now been passed to the Scrutiny Committee for reconsideration.
- Street Lighting in Glyntraian remains the responsibility of WCBC following an agreement between the Council and WCBC made in the past. However, Glyntraian residents do have to pay for the electricity used and this added to the Council Tax. In this tax year £16.94 has been added to the Council Tax for Band D properties. SM to contact Paul Rogers at WCBC to find how the amount is calculated.
- Councillors discussed whether some streetlights could be turned off overnight after a certain time in order to save electricity and reduce overall cost for residents.
- WCBC Fostering Service is advertising for new foster/kinship foster carers There is a new financial package and additional support for local authority foster carers in Wrexham.
- NRW has published its 2024 Public Consultation Report regarding the new Wales National Park proposal. A narrow majority of respondents in the questionnaire survey were in support of designating a new National Park. The results showed 52% of respondents said that the area should be a National Park (42% yes, 10% yes but with modifications to the boundary), 44% said No and 4% Don't know). In the survey 364 respondents described themselves as visitors/tourists. NRW is currently finalising all reports, analysis and impact assessments. These will be presented to its Board in summer 2025. If a designation is approved there will be a statutory consultation. The detailed boundary map and all supporting evidence will be made available to the public and all stakeholders in the autumn/winter of 2025.
- Sailors from HMS Dragon (a ship affiliated to Wrexham in the summer of 2024) will parade through the streets of Wrexham on Friday, June 13 as they celebrate the Freedom of the City for the first time. They are being hosted at an official reception on the day.
- The litter bin in Pontfadog playground had not been emptied by Wrexham Council recently. **TB** advised that litterbin collections had reduced from 2 days to 1 day a week and he had been told that emptying the bin was now the responsibility of Glyntraian Community Council. He had asked WCBC to give the Council a price for emptying the litterbin.
- Concerns had been raised about the sewer pipe crossing the River Ceiriog at Dolywern. The pillars supporting the pipe had been damaged by trees washed down the river during Storm

SM

Bert. Unless the trees were removed debris is likely to build up and more storm water could result in damage to the sewer pipe and a spillage could occur. He had sent a letter to Welsh Water asking for confirmation of the action they intended to take to make the pipe more secure.

4/0625 Approval of the Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Oliver Jones Memorial Hall on 7th May 2025

(a) To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 2025 as a true and correct record.

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

(b) Matters Arising

- **SM** advised the new bank mandate could be completed online and then printed for signing. **SM** to ask **RE**, **CH** and **DS** for the required personal information.
- **SM** had sent the Council's comments to the WCBC Planning Officer for Planning Proposal P/2025/0346 detailing the change of use plans for the Pontfadog School site.
- **EJ** and **KL** had discussed the idea of an annual best kept garden competition for the community but had agreed it was too late to organise anything for this year. Planning for a competition would have to start in January so it was agreed to start the competition in 2026.
- **SM** had contacted a First Aid trainer about arranging a training course. The cost was £25 per person for general First Aid training (6hrs) or £26 per person if the training included control of life-threatening bleeding, which had recently been added to the course (6.5hrs). Payment for trainer's transport would be £9.90. The session was for up to 12 people and would take place at the OJMH. The trainer had advised dates he was available during June and July, but alternative dates were available. **SM** to agree a date with **DD** and then book the course which would be paid for by the Council.
- At the last meeting **RE** had asked Councillors to send lists of the roads in Glyntraian that were in a very poor state and in need of repair to **SM** so these could be forwarded to Sarah Davies (Chair Glyn Ceiriog Community Council) for her to include in her monthly letter to WCBC. **SM** had sent the list of roads provided by **RE**, **DS** and **EJ** but had heard nothing further.
- **RE** informed Councillors that the work on 'Heartbreak Track' had now been satisfactorily completed by WCBC.
- At the last meeting 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 to enable them to work together with partner agencies to resolve them. **RE** asked if Councillors had identified any issues they felt should be addressed. **KL** said that he saw drug use and mental health in the community as two of the main issues. **RE** asked Councillors to think about any other issues so these could be discussed at the meeting in July.

5/0625 Correspondence

SM had received:

- Email from Karina Jones from Leukaemia & Myeloma Research UK who offer an annual research grant to support projects aimed at enhancing the understanding, diagnosis, and

treatment of blood cancers. They are dependent on local fundraising initiatives, and they were seeking the support of Council to help them identify suitable locations within the community where they could place one of their outdoor clothing banks. There were no obligations or minimum hosting periods involved. Councillors agreed the Hall carpark would be a good location, but the Hall Committee would have to make the final decision.

- Informed by Vicki Lindley Jones that the online public consultation to develop strategies to support adult social care was now live and would remain open until the end of June. **SM** had already circulated the details prior to the meeting.
- The date of the next meeting of the three Valley Councils had not yet been confirmed. It was likely to be during September.
- An email from One Voice Wales with the dates of the training courses during May and June. **SM** had already circulated the details prior to the meeting.
- Email from **TB** detailing a Health and Wellbeing event at Pontblyddyn Cricket Club on 19th June 2025.
- Notification from RoSPA that the inspections of the playgrounds in Dolywern and Pontfadog would take place sometime in June. **PH** said in the past a Councillor had inspected the play equipment monthly. **DS** offered to inspect the playgrounds regularly.
- A copy of the WCBC Planning Officer's response regarding rural enterprise dwellings had been received from the Glyn Ceiriog Community Council Clerk. **SM** had already circulated this prior to the meeting.
- Email from Wales Air Ambulance detailing their Community Council Appeal. **KL proposed** a donation of £500. **Seconded by DS. Unanimously agreed.**
- An invitation from Nightingale House Hospice to join a drinks reception to celebrate the culmination of their 30th Anniversary "Longest Day, Lasting Care" campaign on Friday 20th June 2025 between 10.30am - 2.00pm.
- A donation request from the Llangollen International Eisteddfod Committee (LIEC). Although donations had been made in the past the Council had already made a donation to the National Eisteddfod this year. It was also noted the LIEC had worked with the local community in the past arranging accommodation for competitors, but it was no longer doing this or supporting the local economy. **EJ proposed** the Council does not make a donation. **Seconded by CH. Unanimously agreed.**
- Email with the details of the last Village Tidy session by Caru'n Pentrefi. Six volunteers had collected five bags of rubbish from the Glyn Ceiriog end of Glyntraian to the west, and up to "gravel corner" to the east. One of the helpers was project officer Emma Watson from Keep Wales Tidy.

6/0625 Community Agent

DD reported:

- The VE Day celebrations had run successfully. **DD** thanked **CH**, **KL** and **DS** for their help organising the events and to all the other volunteers for their help on the day. The final cost had been £100 under budget. 50 people came and enjoyed the afternoon tea. The Bordermen had provided the excellent entertainment. £100 was raised towards the community bus trip at the event.
- **DD** had completed MCA and DoLS training

- As reported by **TB** earlier in the meeting, Mark Ellis (Severn Valley Energy) had made a presentation at the last meeting of the 3 Valley Councils about the support and grants available for local community projects. **DD** informed Councillors that Mr Ellis was holding consultation events in village halls, and one had recently been held at the Canolfan in Glyn Ceiriog. He is thinking about holding a consultation evening at the OJMH, but nothing is definite.
- Computer Club is still running fortnightly. At the time the Club was set up a grant had been received and the money remaining from this will cover costs for a further two years, The sessions are currently free.
- Brunch Club now runs fortnightly on Tuesdays to coincide with the Citizens Advice sessions and the library opening times.
- Informed Councillors that a wrong telephone number for the Wrexham Maelor was printed in the Glyn News. **DD** had given the correct number to Frank so he could change it for the next edition.
- The Vintage Machinery and Craft Fair will take place on 12th July.2025 and plans are progressing well. There will be a tombola to raise funds on the day for the community bus trip.
- Asked whether **CH**, **RE** and **DS** had applied for DBS checks, but they had not. **SM** to resend the email with the details of how to apply for one online. **DD** is currently paying for her own DBS check. It was agreed that in future the Council would pay for it instead.

7/0625 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 £4221.05 had also been circulated prior to the meeting and these were discussed. **SM** explained the higher total of payments was due to paying Zurich for the Council Insurance (£695) and Audit Wales for the external audit. (£600). **SM** informed Councillors the newly negotiated price with One Bill Ltd would start from next month so it had remained at £67.33 this month.

SM advised the following payment was still to be made:

- New computer mouse – **£9.99**

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

SM confirmed a receipt of £13,175.78 which was the Community Agent funding from WCBC. This had been transferred to the Community Agent account.

DD suggested the First Aid training course could be paid for from the remaining grant received for the King's Coronation events. Councillors agreed to use the remaining funds to pay for the training course.

(c) To review the Internal Audit and Annual Return

SM informed Councillors Council's Accounts and Annual Return had successfully passed the internal audit, and the auditor had raised no concerns. As a result, no further discussion was required.

Councillors discussed the details of the Annual Governance Statement and agreed there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements for the year ending 31 March 2025. Councillors agreed with all the statements listed on the Annual Return. **CH proposed** the Council approve the Annual Governance Statement. **Seconded** by **DS**. **Unanimously agreed**.

RE signed the Annual Return to confirm that the accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement had been approved by the Council.

8/0625 Oliver Jones Memorial Hall

DS informed Councillors the portacabin on the OJMH car park had not been removed so the resurfacing of the Hall carpark had not started. **DS** informed Councillors that the Hall Committee was trying to get the interested party to arrange delivery to his property but as yet this had not been successful. The issue was being discussed at the next Hall Committee meeting (9th June 2025). It was agreed that alternatively a contractor could be found to dismantle the portacabin and a skip arranged to remove it from site instead,

Repairs to the roof of the Hall were needed. The original quote was £5226 for the work but there had been difficulties confirming a date with the contractor to start the work. **CH** was waiting for a new quote from an alternative contractor.

CH

There had been an issue with setting up the bookkeeper as primary user of the Hall's internet banking which meant electronic payments could not be actioned. The Hall requested a loan from the Council to pay for the roof repairs. **SM** and **RE** explained a formal loan agreement would be required and suggested a cheque from the Hall's bank account could be used instead. There was a concern the contractor would not accept a cheque for such a high amount. **CH** to check with contractor.

The application for a £100,000 grant from the Wrexham Shared Prosperity Fund had not been successful. **SM** had informed **DS** and **RE** that Cadwyn Clwyd and AVOW had announced the launch of Prosperous Communities Wrexham - Key Fund. Grants of up to £35000 were available and **SM** confirmed the Hall would be eligible to apply funding. An application for a grant was being discussed at the next Hall Committee meeting. **DS** would be completing the application

The Hall was seeking more local support from volunteers to help at events.

Following the resignation of the Hall cleaner a new person had been appointed. She was undertaking a deep clean over the next couple of days and then working 3 days a week with further deep cleans as and when necessary,

New signage to improve the entrance of the Hall was being arranged.

The AGM of the Hall Committee would be taking place in July.

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9/0625 Litter Bin in Pontfadog Playground

TB had already said in his report he had requested a price for regularly emptying the litter bin in Pontfadog Playground on behalf of the Council. **RE** said the Council should wait for a response from WCBC before taking any further action.

10/0625 Planning

(a) To review planning application P/2025/0420: Demolition of an existing single storey building and erection of two storey side extension at Ysgythrau Ganol Farm, Pontfadog, Llangollen, Wrexham, LL20 7AS

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

SM

11/0625 Agenda items for next meeting

Council priorities for the community

The Chair closed the meeting at 8:15pm

Next meeting will be on 2nd July 2025 at 6:30pm