



CYNGOR TREF CAERWYS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of The Meeting of Caerwys Town Council Held Virtually by Video and Telephone Conference, On Tuesday the 17th November 2020, at 7.30pm.

1(A). 180/20 PRESENT

Councillor Stephen Copple (Mayor)
Councillor Stephen G. Wilson (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor Susan A. Broadaway
Councillor Jonathan E. Duggan-Keen
Councillor Lynette M. Edwards
Councillor Howard R. Griffiths
Councillor Carole A. Harris
Councillor Michael W. Moriarty
Councillor Jayne E. Morris
Councillor Helen L. Priestley

County Councillor Tudor Jones

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

1(B). 181/20 APOLOGIES

Councillor Carole Stephenson

2. 182/20 BEREAVEMENTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

Members expressed their condolences in relation to the following: Mrs. Alison J. Owen Traynor, Wheeler House, Afonwen. Mr. Richard Austin, Hampshire, England; former resident of Water Street, Caerwys.

3. 183/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4. 184/20 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 20TH OCTOBER 2020

The Minutes were proposed as correct by Councillor Jonathan Duggan-Keen and seconded by Councillor Howard Griffiths and formally agreed by the Members.

5. 185/20

MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk referred to the following matters from the previous Minutes:

Minute no: 5. 161/20 sub minute numbers: 5.139/20 & 5(A). 113/20 & 5.90/20(i) (page 2) – in relation to flooding concerns at the entrance to Bryn Llwyd Yard in North Street. The Clerk advised that following County Councillor Tudor Jones contacting Highway Management, the following update had been received: The County Council are obtaining costings for the repair and reshape to the entrance to Bryn Llwyd Yard. Councillor Jones further advised that the work would involve a channel underneath the pavement to alleviate the standing water.

Minute no: 5. 161/20 sub minute numbers: 5.139/20 & 5(A). 113/20 & 5.90/20(ii) (page 2) – in relation to a Town Mayors' Name Board. Councillor Steve Wilson advised that the obtaining of quotations was in progress.

Minute no: 5. 161/20 sub minute numbers: 5.139/20 & 5(A). 113/20 & 11.103/20 (page 2) – in relation to the provision of a cycle rack in the area of Caerwys Town Square. The Clerk advised that a planning application had been submitted to County Planning via the Wales Planning Portal, for the agreed area adjacent to Compton House on the South Street side. The fee of £57.50 had been paid. Following the submission, the Clerk received a telephone call and subsequent e-mail which enclosed another form for completion under permitted development. This further form was hand completed and e-mailed directly to County Planning. There is currently a delay of a number of weeks for planning applications to be validated.

Minute no: Pending (page 2) – in relation to Plastic Reduction in Caerwys. Councillor Susan Broadaway advised that the 'Naked Takeaway' application for funding to the Welsh Government had been successful. The sum of £7,300.00 had been awarded. The application made by Mold Town Council involved a number of Councils (Caerwys, Llangollen, Mold and Ruthin). The Caerwys Café on the Corner was also involved. To-date, it is not known as to how the funding will be allocated to each Town.

Minute no: 6(E). 167/20 (page 5) – in relation to the pending re-roofing of the Caerwys Public Conveniences. The Clerk advised that the contractors timescale for work to commence would be towards the end of November. The contractor had offered to replace the fascia board at the purchase cost with no labour charge. The Clerk had advised the Caerwys FLUSH committee in relation to the above.

6(A). 186/20

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been received, that was required to be either advised to, or dealt with by the Members:

- (1) The Clerk advised that the following criminal offences had been reported to the North Wales Police, that had occurred within the Caerwys Town Council area:

Caerwys: 4 x violence & sexual offences / 3 x anti-social behaviour / 1 x public order / 2 x criminal damage & arson.

Afonwen: 2 x criminal damage & arson

- (2) Welsh Government & Royal British Legion – Festival of Remembrance in Wales. Guidance for Remembrance Sunday. Information sent to The Chair and Secretary of the Caerwys Memorial Institute Trustees.
- (3) Welsh Government – via Flintshire County Council: Further grant for premises exempt from non-domestic rates; during the two-week fire-break lockdown period. Information forwarded to the respective Chair and Secretary to the Trustees of the Caerwys Town Hall and Memorial Institute. (Grant available between £1,000.00 to £3,000.00).
- (4) Planning Aid Wales – Notification of the following on-line course: Introduction to Planning Enforcement. Councillor Steve Wilson booked on course.
- (5) Notification on behalf of Scottish Power advising, that a company named Proarb have been appointed to undertake a tree and vegetation management survey in relation to the overhead power lines in the Caerwys area, in order to comply with Health & Safety regulations and maintain the continuity of supply.

A number of sites had been identified in the Caerwys area, both private and business, whereby site number: 366 (Marian Common) had been identified, that permission was required from the Caerwys Town Council. This site included a mixed species hedge including hawthorn, elder, blackthorn – reduced to 1.6m in height: ivy on H pole legs – sever a 0.5m clearance as low as possible. Remove brash.

Members agreed the following: No objection to the application. The Clerk was asked to emphasise to the Company that the work is carried out sympathetically and to endeavour to keep the shape of the trees.

The following correspondence was forwarded by e-mail to Members:

- ❖ Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB – General survey. Sent to Councillors to complete on a personal basis.
- ❖ Flintshire County Council (Chief Officer: Street Scene) – in relation to the NE Wales Metro and the A494 / A55 / A548 Flintshire Corridor improvements.
- ❖ Welsh Local Government Association – Coronavirus update.
- ❖ Awel Y Mor Offshore Wind Farm – Virtual consultation to be completed by Councillors on a personal basis.
- ❖ Flintshire County Council – Standards Committee meeting dates for November 2020, together with four dates in 2021.
- ❖ Flintshire County Council – Two-week Firebreak lockdown information: questions and answers.
- ❖ Welsh Government – Policy Announcement Compulsory Purchase.
- ❖ Welsh Government – Hannah Blythyn MS: Post fire-break information.
- ❖ Flintshire County Council – NEA Cymru Workshop: Welsh Government Tackling Fuel Poverty 2020 - 2025
- ❖ Flintshire County Council – County Forum meeting to be held on Tuesday 10th November at 6.30pm.

- ❖ PCSO Connor Freel – Your Community Your Choice Launch Story: Joint annual financial grants by the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner and North Wales Police.

6(B). 187/20

CLERK'S REPORT

- (a) Welsh Government – via Flintshire County Council: Further grant for premises exempt from non-domestic rates; during the two-week fire-break lockdown period. The Clerk advised that he had applied for between £1,000.00 and £2,000.00, in relation to the Public Conveniences.
- (b) The Clerk advised of his attendance at the virtual annual meeting and training session between Town & Community Councils and Flintshire Standards Committee, on Monday 2nd November.
- (c) The Clerk advised of his attendance, at a virtual meeting of the Flintshire County Council Forum on Tuesday 10th November. The following agenda items were discussed, together with a provisional meeting date in 2021: Emergency situation update (Pandemic) / County Council Recovery Strategy / Local Development Plan / County Council Budget Position 2020 / 2021 and Budget Update 2021 / 2022 / Election Planning Update: Wales Government & Police & Crime Commissioner / Next Meeting to be provisionally held in March 2021.
- (d) The Clerk advised that a further complaint had been received from a resident in Caerwys High Street, in relation to the number of feral cats that are in the area of an empty property sited off the High Street. The Clerk further advised that the concern has been previously referred to the Environmental Health Department of Flintshire County Council, including contacting the RSPCA. The resident has contacted a cat charity, who advised that the Caerwys Veterinary Surgery has apparently offered to assist with the removal of the cats. The RSPCA had advised the Clerk that it was not their responsibility to remove healthy feral cats. The UK law states the following: 'Feral cats are classed, and controlled, as vermin and legally belong to the person who owns the land the feral cats inhabit. The landowner can order them to be destroyed at any time'.
- (e) The Clerk advised that large conifer tree branches had fallen into the Pinfold building. Whilst the Clerk had visited to ascertain the damage, fortunately, the branches are not touching the wall; however, the branches requires removing. The Clerk had endeavoured to contact the owner of the adjacent land to the Pinfold (Summerhill Housing Estate), without success.

Members agreed the following: Accepted the offer by Councillor Steve Cople to make contact with the landowner, and endeavour to arrange the removal of the branches.

6(C). 188/20

PRECEPT AND FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR 2021 /2022

The Clerk advised that this exercise was to enquire with the Members of the Council, if there were any items of expenditure, extra to the present allocation in the 'Earmarked Reserves' to be included in the next financial year. A copy of the current ear-marked reserves was provided to Members.

Members agreed the following: (1) £523.64 – Bike rack installation (possibly will be completed in current budget) (2) £10,000.00 - LED street lighting payments (3) £2,000.00 Town Mayors' Name Board (4) Ring-fenced and general reserves (includes property upkeep) – to be agreed in January 2021 budget setting.

6(D). 189/20

STREETSCENE SCHEDULE (FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

- (i) The Clerk advised that there had been no matters of concern forwarded to Street Scene since the October Council meeting.
- (ii) The Clerk advised that there had been no update received from Street Scene, in relation to the observations forwarded from the October Council meeting.

Councillor Howard Griffiths expressed his disappointment that there had been no further progress in relation to the water leakage in Chapel Street. The request made to Street Scene at the October Council meeting, seeking a salt bin and safety signage, had not been addressed.

Members agreed the following: County Councillor Tudor Jones, to expedite the concern with Street Scene.

7. 190/20

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Town Mayor, Councillor Steve Cople, advised Members of his attendance at the following:

- Remembrance Sunday at Caerwys Memorial Institute. Wreath laid on behalf of the Community and Town Council.

8. 191/20

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT (CLLR TUDOR JONES)

County Councillor Tudor Jones advised Members in respect of the following:

- (i) **Trees within the Community & County:** Provided an update in relation to the duties of the County Tree Officer; including the recent coloured markings on trees – due to Ash dieback.
- (ii) **Holywell Leisure Centre:** The Leisure Centre has survived on its contingency fund, reduced spending, having staff on furlough and chasing every grant imaginable. The Centre looks set to continue through into spring.
- (iii) **Pedestrian Safety report:** Report circulated to Members prior to the Council meeting. Councillor Jones requested responses on the comments page, by the 2nd December. The report will be presented to Flintshire Highways in January.
- (iv) **Walking & Cycling:** An independent project to map and plot routes between towns across the UK that do not require the use of roads. More locally, ongoing research by volunteers into identifying similar pathways / routes in this area. Councillor Jones will request in the January budget setting process, that the Town Council consider providing financial support, at a cost unknown, but approximately £250.00, towards research for sites / routes within the Caerwys Town Council area.

9. 192/20

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS (COMMITTEES, LIAISON & MEETINGS ATTENDED)

- (i) Councillor Jonathan Duggan-Keen advised in relation to the joint annual meeting between the Flintshire Standards Committee and Town & Community Councils in Flintshire.

(ii) Councillor Lynette Edwards advised, in relation to the North & Mid Wales Association of Local Councils. The Association had set up a coastal railway sub-committee. An information booklet will be produced for Town & Community Councils within the Association area.

(iii) Councillor Steve Wilson advised of his attendance at a Planning Aid Wales, Introduction to Planning Enforcement virtual training on the 9th November. Councillor Wilson provided further information in relation to the content covered.

10(A). 193/20

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning application was considered by Members at the meeting:

- Application number: 061974 – for retention of residential dwelling as built and proposed completion of dwelling, at Pen Uchaf Farm, Pen Y Cefn Road, Caerwys.

Comment by Council: Subject to compliance with the Development Plan, then no objections raised.

10(B). 194/20

PLANNING DECISIONS

The following planning decision has been received from Flintshire County Council:

- ❖ Application number: 061279 – for change of use of land to the temporary storage of plant machinery and equipment, at Land to the West & South of Thomas Plant Hire Depot, Llwybr Hir, Caerwys. Refused.

10(C). 195/20

PLANNING APPEALS

Whilst outside, but adjacent to the Caerwys Town Council area, the following notice of planning appeal to the Welsh Planning Inspectorate has been made:

- Planning Reference number: 060475, Planning Appeal no: APP/A6835/A/3261103.
Applicant's name: Gastronomy Foods Ltd., for the erection of drive-thru restaurant unit and drive-thru coffee shop unit (Class A3) access, landscaping and associated works, at Land East of McDonalds Lloc.

11. 196/20

TO ARRANGE: COMMUNITY LITTER PICK (CLLR SUSAN BROADAWAY)

Councillor Susan Broadaway advised that she has been approached by a number of residents, who wished the Council to arrange a litter pick. Councillor Broadaway appreciated that due to current restrictions, the event may be difficult to arrange.

Councillor Steve Copple recollected to Members an article in a recent edition of the Caerwys Chronicle, which requested residents to be vigilant for plastic and general rubbish within the town; with a request that items are placed in the various rubbish bins.

The Clerk read out to Members advice received from the Flintshire County Solicitor, who had provided guidance to the organisation of such an event. The Police had also made comment.

Members agreed the following: Not to arrange a litter pick at this time, due to the pandemic situation and government guidelines currently in force.

12. 197/20

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cheque Number	Payee	Net £	Vat £	Total £
	<u>Payments made – to be confirmed:</u>			
	BACS: Planning Aid Wales (Introduction to Planning Enforcement – on-line training. Councillor Steve Wilson delegate fee. Payment dated 30/10/2020)	30.00		30.00
	BACS: Flintshire County Council (Planning application fee for bike rack in South Street) £115.00 less 50% reduction for local Councils. Payment dated 02/11/2020	57.50		57.50
	Standing Order: Snapfast Electrical (Monthly payment Re: Installation of LED Lights) Payment dated 02/11/2020	263.94	52.79	316.73
	Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for October) Payments dated 02/11/2020			
	(Above payments were authorised to be paid in-between meetings by two Councillor bank signatories)			
	Direct Debit: Scottish Power (October - Street Lighting Electricity Account) Payment due 18/11/2020	96.96	4.85	101.81

13. 198/20

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	No applications received	

14. 199/20

Members agreed the payments of the above accounts, as listed.

There being no further business, the Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

SIGNED BY THE MAYOR AS CHAIR.....

**DATE OF
APPROVAL.....**