



CYNGOR TREF CAERWYS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of The Meeting of Caerwys Town Council Held Virtually by Video and Telephone Conference, On Tuesday the 19th April 2022, at 7.00pm

1(A). 71/22 PRESENT

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

County Councillor Tudor Jones

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

1(B). 72 /22 APOLOGIES

Councillor Carole A. Harris
Councillor Carole Stephenson

2. 73/22 BEREAVEMENTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

Members expressed their condolences in relation to the following: Mrs. Florence Basford (Flo), Maes Y Dre, Caerwys; Mr. Robert Mervyn Owens (Clwyd), Crossways Road, Caerwys; Mr. John Hugh Rees JP, formerly of Coed Farm Lane, Caerwys.

3. 74/22 PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

The Clerk advised in relation to the following:

- (i) Concerns received in writing by the Clerk.

- Condition of the muddy edges of the B5122 road in area of the Memorial Institute
- White lines in a number of areas require repainting
- Hedge / embankment growing into road in area between top of Drovers Lane and Pen Y Cefn Road – travelling towards High Street

The Clerk advised that the above concerns had been forwarded to Street Scene.

(ii) Following concerns received by telephone to the Clerk.

- ❖ Speed of traffic in the area of Pen y Cefn Road and junction of Lon Yr Ysgol. Vehicles using Lon Yr Ysgol to turn around where a resident is concerned with the safety of children. The Clerk advised the resident that the Welsh Government are currently holding a consultation with a view to reducing the speed limit to 20mph. Any instances of speeding should be reported to 101 with the vehicle registration number if possible.
- ❖ The undergrounding of electricity cables within the Caerwys Conservation area. The Clerk advised the resident that a site meeting had been held a number of years ago whereby Scottish Power advised that the undergrounding of cables in North Street would be placed in a bid to the Welsh Government. Unfortunately, the bid was not successful. There appear to be no funding outlets for this type of work currently.

(iii) E-mail correspondence from a resident enquiring in relation to the installation of new street lights adjacent to the new properties on Pen Y Cefn Road. The Clerk had contacted the County Council Street Lighting Manager who advised that street lighting was included in the plans for the housing development; the Clerk was provided with a plan identifying the positions of the street lights, both in the area of Pen y Cefn Road and within the estate. Following further conversations with Highway Officers, the Clerk was advised that the financial backer of the housing development and architect had been contacted to discuss the situation, and in particular, the concrete blocks covering the existing holes in the pavement in readiness for the lantern columns, which were a trip hazard. It was noted during the Clerk's conversations, that the cost of the street lighting would have been included in the purchase price of the properties.

The resident has been advised in relation to the above and sent a copy of the street lighting plan.

4. 75/22

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5. 76/22

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 15TH MARCH 2022

The Minutes were proposed as correct by Councillor Jonathan Duggan-Keen and seconded by Councillor Mike Moriarty and formally agreed by the Members present.

6. 77/22

PROGRESS REPORT ON MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) **Minute no: 3(A). 52/22 (ii) (page 2)** – in relation to the virtual attendance by Dan Williams (Flintshire / Aura Leisure – School Community Sports Coordinator).

The Clerk advised that the project will commence on Thursday 5th May and will be advertised by Aura Leisure. A site meeting will be held a week prior. The Service Level Agreement has not been received to-date.

- (2) **Minute no: 3(A). 52/22 (iii) (page 2)** – in relation to a request from a resident for three new street lights in the area of North Street. The Clerk advised in relation to the following reply from the Flintshire Street Lighting Manager. (1) Flintshire do not have funding for additional street lighting (2) A luminance level survey will be arranged, but this will be during the new financial year (3) Solar LED's will play a part in future street lighting, but currently there will be other more practical installations, such as sign lights as these are lower illumination therefore lower power consumption requirements.
- (3) **Minute no: 6. 56/22 (1) (page 3)** – in relation to the former Pwllgwyn Hotel in Afonwen. The Clerk advised that the Conservation Officer Chris Rees-Jones had been in contact by both telephone and e-mail. Mr. Rees-Jones is currently endeavouring to arrange a site meeting with the property owner and / or agent, whereby both the level of dilapidation and future plans for the property will be discussed.
- (4) **Minute no: 6. 56/22 (3) (page 3)** – in relation to a review of the traffic regulations in Caerwys. The Clerk advised that whilst the initial request was acknowledged, there had been no further contact. The Clerk had over the past two weeks, both telephoned and e-mailed a number of County Officers, seeking a decision to the request, but to no avail.

County Councillor Tudor Jones stated that the situation of nonreply was across the departments in County Hall. Councillor Jones suggested that the Clerk write to the Chief Officer for Transportation and Street Scene - Katie Wilby.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to contact Katie Wilby, seeking that a decision is made to this Council's request.

- (5) **Minute no: 6. 56/22 (4) (page 3)** – in relation to the Clerk seeking from Flintshire County Council, a copy of the adopted highway plan for North Street. The Clerk advised that confirmation had been received, that the area of land for the proposed wooden harp, bench seat and planting of two commemorative trees, was in the ownership of the County Council.
- (6) **Minute no: 13. 67/22 (page 9)** – in relation to the commissioning of a wooden harp and bench seat. Councillor Steve Copple advised that following the sending to Members by e-mail two options for a harp design, the favoured option was 'B' – a traditional harp shape. Further plans and costings had been requested from a second wood sculptor.

7(A). 78/22

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:

Afonwen: 1 x Other crime

Caerwys: 3 x Violence / 1 x Criminal damage

Pen Y Cefn: 2 x Theft / 1 x Criminal damage

- (2) Members viewed virtually the plans for the current road safety enhancement scheme taking place in the area of Caerwys Town Square and North & South Streets. The scheme was further described by County Councillor Tudor Jones and Town Councillor Susan Broadaway.
- (3) Flintshire County Council (County Returning Officer): Election of Town & Community Councillors / Date of Election: Thursday 5th May 2022. Statement of Persons Nominated.
- (4) Flintshire County Council (Chief Officer – Governance): Notification of Code of Conduct training for Councillors, to be held virtually on the following dates: Tuesday 24th May; Monday 30th May; Tuesday 14th June – held between 6.00pm and 8.00pm. Under Section 67 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2011 (Community Council Training Plans) the training should be regarded as compulsory, whether or not any Councillor has attended training previously.

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

- ❖ Naked Takeaway Project: Project outcome report
- ❖ Holywell Leisure Centre: Information from Dr. Mark Rowlands (Trustee)
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: Car parking charges payable by phone
- ❖ Mold Plastic Reduction: Newsletter number 19
- ❖ Flintshire County Council: County Councillor Tudor Jones – Highway Pedestrian work in Caerwys

7(B). 79/22

CLERK'S REPORT

- (a) The Clerk advised in relation to the following deposit into the Council's bank account: £125.00 received from Aviva Insurance – refund of excess fee for Town Square street lantern insurance claim.
- (b) Flintshire County Council: Notification of Non-domestic rates bill for 2022 / 2023 – Caerwys Public Conveniences – Net liability for year £0.00.

STREET LIGHTS

The following street light was reported faulty: (*Update in italics*)

- Corner of Town Square and Water street (*now repaired*)

7(C). 80/22

TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS FOR 2021 / 2022

The Clerk, as Financial Officer, had provided Members by e-mail prior to the meeting, with copies of the end of year Statement of Financial Accounts - for the year ending 2021 / 2022. The Clerk advised Members further, in relation to the budget analysis, together with the end of year balances.

Members agreed the following: Approved the end of year accounts for the financial year 2021 / 2022. As the Council meeting was held by video conference, the Clerk to obtain the signature of the Chair of Council (Mayor) on the Statement of Accounts in due course. The Clerk was thanked for his professionalism with the accounts.

7(D). 81/22

STREETSCENE SCHEDULE (FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

The Clerk advised in relation to the following concerns that had been reported to StreetScene, since the last Council meeting: (*Update in italics*)

- (1) Animal skeleton remains in area of Marian Common (*Removed within a short period of time following report*)
- (2) Concerns with the long grass on the children's football pitch area within the Memorial Institute grounds. Whilst the grass edges have been cut the middle section remains uncut which results in difficult usage (*contractor requested to attend to complete the grass cutting*).

Members brought the following concern(s) to the attention of the meeting:

- (i) B5122 Road – Caerwys Hill. Travelling up the hill from Afonwen, between the former Red Chapel and Plas Isaf Holiday Home Park – the left-hand side of the carriageway is crumbling into the road.
- (ii) Bryn Sion Hill, Afonwen. Travelling up the hill from the area of Simliki towards Bryn Sion Farm the tarmacadam is breaking down again. This is in the area where previously the road was closed for similar repair work.

8. 82/22

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

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

- Annual Town Litter Pick. Councillor Wilson thanked the residents and children that had attended.
- Public meeting to discuss hosting Ukrainian families in the Caerwys area.
- Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

Councillor Wilson expressed his thanks on behalf of the Council and Community for their public service to the following retiring Councillors: Howard R. Griffiths; Michael W. Moriarty; Helen L. Priestley; Carole A. Harris and Carole Stephenson. Councillor Wilson recollected their individual qualities and achievements that had been of assistance to the Town Council and residents.

Councillor Wilson also thanked County Councillor Tudor Jones for his service and also wished him well in his new home for the future.

Councillor Susan Broadaway on behalf of the Council and Community, thanked Councillor Steve Wilson for his public service and achievements, and in particular, as the longest serving Councillor on the current Town Council.

9. 83/22

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT (CLLR TUDOR JONES)

County Councillor Tudor Jones provided Members with the following report:

- There had been no meetings held in County Hall, most probably due to the pending elections.
- Advised in relation to a planning application and enforcement orders within the Ysceifiog Community Council area, which may affect the Wheeler Valley area.
- Wished the retiring Caerwys Town Councillors his best wishes, together with the re-elected Members, including Councillor Steve Copple, as the new County Councillor for the Caerwys Ward (Caerwys Town and Ysceifiog Community Council areas).

10. 84/22

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS (COMMITTEES, LIAISON & MEETINGS ATTENDED)

There were no reports specific to the Local Committees and Outside Bodies schedule, or Council Members who had attended meetings on behalf of the Council.

11(A). 85/22

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications had been received:

- (1) Application number: 064188 – for the erection of a 3 Bay Garage with room above to front of property with a storage shed in retrospect, at 'Tangnefedd', Denbigh Road, Afonwen

Comment by Council:

- Although involving an element of retrospective permission, concern is expressed with this planning application in relation to the siting of the 3 bay garage and the storage shed due to their proximity to an adjacent building, not in the ownership of the applicant, that could result in a potential adverse impact with regard to loss of light/residential amenity for the occupants of the neighbouring property.
 - With regard to the storage shed, no information has been provided by the applicant as to its dimensions, design and materials used for its construction.
- (2) Application number: 064277 – for the erection of a single storey side/rear extension, at 15 St Michaels Drive, Caerwys.

Comment by Council: No objection to the application, as long as planning policies and planning guidance notes are complied with.

- (3) Application number: 064237 – for proposed farm workers dwelling associated with Ffyddion Farm, Lloc, at Land adjacent to Pen Y Graig, Caerwys.

Comment by Council:

- ❖ New development in the open countryside is strictly controlled by policy contained in the adopted FUDP which, although time expired, remains the most relevant local development plan for Flintshire. An exemption is, however, provided within its policy HSG4 – New

Dwellings Outside Settlement Boundaries which, in turn, is complimented by Supplementary Planning Guidance Note 10 – New Housing in the Open Countryside.

- ❖ Although the applicant in the submitted Design and Access Statement makes reference to FUDP policies STR1, D1 and RE2 to support this application, no reference is made to policy HSG4 and SPGN 10, especially with regard to complying with requirements contained in them about new dwellings outside settlement boundaries.
- ❖ The proposed development site is located adjacent to Pen-y-graig farmhouse, a property that appears to form part of the land holding known as Pen-y-graig, Caerwys. However, both the farmhouse and occupants, if any, are not listed on the current electoral register covering the area nor have been for some time. Clarification is required as to the use of the farmhouse in connection with the running of the farm.

(The above three applications were sent to Members for consultation in-between meetings, due to statutory time limits for observations from County Planning).

11(B). 86/22

Members formally confirmed the above decisions.

11(C). 87/22

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

- (1) Application number: 064210 – for overhead lines from Holywell Grid Sub-station through Lloc to Point of Ayr, Talacre.

Comment by Council: Attention is drawn to this application with regard to reduction of impact upon the amenity of the open countryside that forms this part of Caerwys Community Council's area where a number of public right of ways exist. In addition, the local historic environment requires to be taken into account, especially during any construction work undertaken in the area.

11(D). 88/22

PLANNING DECISIONS

No planning decisions received from Flintshire County Council.

12. 89 /22

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cheque Number	Payee	Net £	Vat £	Total £
	<u>Payments made – to be confirmed:</u>			
	R. Phillip Parry - Clerk (Re-imbuement of purchase of Royal British Legion – Queen’s Jubilee Plaques – as previously agreed by Council) – as per receipt	199.98	40.00	239.98
	R. Phillip Parry – Clerk (Re-imbusement of purchase of litter pickers and hi viz jackets for litter pick – as previously agreed by Council) – as per receipt	160.15	32.03	192.18

Above two payments (1) Authorised by two Councillor bank signatories (2) Entered in 2021 / 2022 accounts (March 2022)			
Standing Order: Snapfast Electrical (Monthly payment Re: Installation of LED Lights) Payment dated 01/04/2022	263.94	52.79	316.73
Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for March) Payments dated 01/04/2022			
<u>Payments for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u>			
Direct Debit: Scottish Power (March - Street Lighting Electricity Account) Payment due 19/04/2022)	369.85	18.49	388.34
Gaynor Griffith (Environmental Services for March)	100.00		100.00
Deeco Lighting Ltd (Street light repair – corner of Town Square and Water Street)	180.00	36.00	216.00
Canda Copying Ltd (Quarterly photocopier rental)	51.00	10.20	61.20

13. 90/22

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	<u>Authorised to be paid by BACS:</u>	
	Teenage Cancer Trust Cymru (Cardiff) (Application adjourned from the April Council meeting, for the Clerk to ascertain the number of persons in the Caerwys Town Council area, who have benefited from the services of the Trust during the last year)	Application dismissed. No response received to question posed – as opposite
	Kids Cancer Charity (Swansea)	No grant
	Wales Air Ambulance (Application for annual donation) (Section 137 LGA 1972)	£200.00
	Hope House / Ty Gobaith Children’s Hospice (Application for annual donation) (Section 137 LGA 1972)	£250.00

14. 91/22

Members agreed the payments of the above accounts and financial support 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.....**