



CYNGOR TREF CAERWYS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of The Meeting of Caerwys Town Council Held at The Memorial Institute, South Street, Caerwys, On Tuesday the 19th July, 2016, at 7.00pm.

1(A). 160/16 PRESENT

Councillor David S. Knights (Town Mayor)
Councillor Ms. A. Louise Carus
Councillor Jonathan E. Duggan-Keen
Councillor Mrs Lynette M. Edwards
Councillor James E. Falshaw
Councillor Howard R. Griffiths
Councillor Michael W. Moriarty
Councillor Jonathan A. G. Webb
Councillor Stephen G. Wilson

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

1(B). 161/16 APOLOGIES

Councillor E. Vincent Frost
Councillor Ms. Helen L. Priestley

2(A). 162/16 BEREAVEMENTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

There were no reported bereavements within the community, between the June and July Council meetings.

The Town Mayor, Councillor David Knights, expressed the condolences of the Town Council Members to Councillor Mrs. Lynette M. Edwards, on the recent passing of her sister Christine Osborne.

2(B). 163/16 Standing Orders were suspended:

2(C). 164/16
Attendance at meeting by Officers from Flintshire County Council Transportation Team.

The Mayor, Councillor David Knights, welcomed Ms. Katie Wilby and Mr. Michael Jones to the Council meeting.

Ms. Wilby advised the Members that herself and colleagues from the Transportation Team were visiting all Town & Community Council areas. The purpose of the visits was to endeavour to set up Community Transport Schemes in areas where bus services had already ceased and areas where services will cease in the future. The County Council's budget to subsidise bus services had been reduced, but there were a number of grants available to set up Community Transport Schemes – including the purchase of vehicles – which could be utilised by local groups. The County wishes to set up four working groups across Flintshire, with the following Councils taking the lead: Mold, Buckley, Hawarden, Queensferry and Connah's Quay. Ms. Wilby asked that the Town Council nominate two Councillors to sit on the working group and could choose one or more groups to affiliate to. Ms. Wilby advised that the area groups would possibly overlap, and the County Council would appoint an officer from the Transportation Team to assist each group. Initially there would be a meeting of all the groups at which the terms of reference for the project would be agreed. Ms. Wilby also mentioned the previous Workshops held by the County Council, which were attended by Members of Caerwys Town Council. Presentations at the Workshops were provided by officials from a local Charity Transportation Scheme, including a Community Transport Scheme in Cumbria.

Councillors enquired in relation to the following: **(1)** Whilst the bus service to and from Caerwys is used regularly, on Wednesdays and Saturdays there are more people using the service than seats which would be available on a mini bus; **(2)** Suggested that Caerwys be a hub area; **(3)** Parking concerns in relation to the vehicles; **(4)** Recruiting volunteers; **(5)** Town & Community Council funding; **(6)** School transport.

Miss. Wilby and Mr. Michael Jones advised that points 1 to 5, will be discussed by the working groups. The provision of School transport is a statutory function for the County Council – the present services will continue. Mr. Wilby stated that wherever possible, school transport will be incorporated into the Community Transport Scheme.

The Mayor, Councillor David Knights, thanked both Ms. Katie Wilby and Mr. Michael Jones, for their attendance at the Council meeting, together with their report.

2(D). 165/16

The Mayor, Councillor David Knights, welcomed sixteen residents from the Maes Y Dre area of Caerwys. A number of residents addressed the Members in relation to their concerns at the lack of car parking near to their homes.

The residents appreciated that when the pensioner's bungalows and council houses were built, there were very few car owners in the area. However, presently the numbers of cars parking has reached a level where the senior citizens are becoming concerned with their safety. This includes the lack of spaces to park their vehicles near to their homes. There are 8 pensioners who hold disabled parking badges but there are no allocated spaces for their vehicles. A further number of senior citizens use family, friends and voluntary vehicles, but on occasions these vehicles are unable to reach the far end of the street. This is also particularly annoying for the many carers who visit several pensioners during the day. A few weeks ago an ambulance was unable to reach a pensioner's bungalow, to the embarrassment of the ill patient who was being carried on a stretcher, whilst being manoeuvred in between the pavement and the highway - dodging the cars that were parked on the pavement.

The following suggestions were put forward to the meeting: **(1)** If the kerbs were lowered, the senior citizens would be able to drive their vehicles onto the grassed areas in front of their bungalows; **(2)** At the top side of Maes Y Dre – if the wall were to be removed, the senior citizens would also be able to park their cars near to their bungalows; **(3)** There are a number of garages in an area to the rear of Maes Y Dre. These garages are apparently not being used, generally due to their dimensions, as many vehicles are unable to actually enter the garages. If these garages were to be demolished, this would provide further off road parking for the residents.

The Members agreed the following: (1) The Clerk to write an appropriate letter to Flintshire Neighbourhood Housing Department, outlining the above residents' concerns; (2) To advise that the Town Council would be pleased if one or more of the Department's Officers could kindly attend a site meeting, when the concerns can be further discussed with Council Members.

The Mayor, Councillor David Knights, thanked the residents for attending the meeting and bringing their concerns to the attention of the Council.

2(E). 166/16

The Mayor, Councillor David Knights, welcomed a resident of Afonwen to the meeting.

The resident advised the Council Members of their concerns with the possible re-opening of a footpath, which runs along the river Wheeler, opposite Railway Terrace. The resident further advised that following a flood prevention scheme by Natural Resources Wales, the footpath had been blocked by a metal fence. The resident had been made aware that the original footpath was to be re-opened and a gate is to be placed on the fence which will allow access to the footpath. The resident provided the Councillors and Clerk with a number of A4 size photographs which indicate the metal fence and the area of a possible gateway to the footpath including the footpath which runs alongside the river's edge.

The resident expressed their concerns that should a gateway to this footpath be opened, this will allow children access alongside the river, and the fear by local parents is that there will be an accident. The resident stated that they are not concerned with the footpath running alongside the road side of the fence.

The Members agreed the following: The Clerk to write to Flintshire County Council Rights of Way Officer, enclosing copies of photographs provided by the resident, to enquire about the alleged re-opening of the original footpath route.

The Mayor, Councillor David Knights, thanked the resident for attending the meeting, and for bringing their concern to the attention of the Council Members.

2(F). 167/16

The Mayor, Councillor David Knights, welcomed Mr. Ian Williams – Flintshire County Council Street Scene Supervisor to the meeting.

Mr. Williams provided the Members with the following update: (1) Request for an additional red dog bin to be sited along the road running to the rear of the bungalows at St. Michael's Drive. The Clerk advised in relation to a request for a red dog bin to be sited on the large grass verge – travelling from Caerwys towards the A55 – just past the entrance to St. Michael's Drive and the Caerwys Town sign on the left hand side. The area is frequently used by local dog walkers, including visitors and people taking their dogs to the Veterinary Surgery; (2) Two utility companies (BT & Welsh Water) have been asked to repair their manhole covers on the B5122 in the area of the Memorial Institute; (3) Flooding near Harp Farm. A prevention scheme has been commissioned; (4) Soakaway near to Ty Ucha Farm, Pen Y Cefn – will be inspected in the near future; (5) Footpath from Afonwen to Maes Mynan – looking into the possibility of funding, as the area is a gateway into Flintshire; (6) Grass cutting in various side roads has been completed – other roads in September and October; (7) Arranging with Caerwys in Bloom – a wild flower area; (8) The Environmental Audit will be arranged in the near future. Councillors Mrs. Lynette Edwards, David Knights and James Falshaw agreed to attend; (9) Water leakage in Chapel Street. Mr. Williams is endeavouring to arrange a further joint meeting with Welsh Water. The following matters were brought to the attention of Mr. Williams: (a) A number of road signs required painting. Mr. Williams advised that these can be listed during the Environmental Audit; (b) Dog fouling

concerns. Mr. Williams would seek the assistance of the County Dog Warden; (c) No parking sign near to the play area in Chapel Street. Mr. Williams advised that a sign was on order.

The Mayor, Councillor David Knights, thanked Mr. Williams for attending the meeting and for his assistance - which was appreciated.

2(G). 168/16

Standing Orders were restored:

3. 169/16

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4. 170/16

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 21ST JUNE, 2016

The Minutes were proposed as correct by Councillor Michael Moriarty and seconded by Councillor Jon Webb and formally agreed by the Members present.

5. 171/16

MATTERS ARISING

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

Minute no: 5. 147/16 – sub minute number: 17. 138.16 (page 2), in relation to a site meeting in Cae Delyn. The Clerk advised that he had written to the Housing Department of Flintshire County Council but there had been no reply. County Councillor James Falshaw also confirmed that he had not received any contact. The Members were perturbed to hear that despite a number of letters to the Housing Department, the Clerk had not received a reply or even an acknowledgement. The Clerk advised that the situation in relation to replies from letters across various departments of Flintshire County Council was becoming intolerable and most time consuming. There were several outstanding matters and despite reminders by letter, e-mail, telephone calls and web site enquiries – no replies are ever received.

The Members agreed the following: The Clerk to write to Mr. Mark Drakeford AM – Minister for Finance and Local Government, at the Welsh Assembly in Cardiff. The Clerk to copy the letter to the following: Ms. Hannah Blythyn AM for Delyn, Mr. Colin Everett, Chief Executive, Flintshire County Council and County Councillor James Falshaw.

Minute no: 6(B). 149/16 (d) (page 3) In relation to overgrown footpaths and, missing public footpath signs. The Clerk advised that despite reminder letters and a web site enquiry, there had been no response. The Clerk suggested that these outstanding matters are placed on a list, which he will eventually be supplying to Flintshire County Council – following the above letter to Mr. Mark Drakeford. **The Members agreed.**

Minute no: 8. 151/16 (page 4) (a) Bus timetables in both shelters in Afonwen. Councillor Falshaw advised that new timetables were to be inserted in the holders – and may possibly be in place already; **(b)** Cleaning of the glass bus shelter in Afonwen. Councillor Falshaw advised the Members that he had requested the shelter to be cleaned.

Minute no: 12. 156/16 (page 5) In relation to an application to the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund, for financial assistance towards play area equipment in Caerwys. In Councillor Ms. Helen Priestley's absence, the Clerk advised the Council that a letter of support had been received from Breedon Aggregates in Derbyshire (owners of Maes Mynan Quarry, Afonwen), who stated their

support towards an application to the Aggregates Fund. The Clerk advised that a letter of support from a local quarry was required to be placed with any application for funding.

6(A). 172/16

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 in relation to the Summer Play Scheme – which is to take place from Monday 25th July until the 12th August. The Clerk had displayed information posters received from the County Council on the notice boards in Caerwys and Pen Y Cefn. The Mayor, Councillor David Knights, was provided with a copy of the poster for the Afonwen notice board.
- (2) The Clerk advised in relation to a Cadwyn Clwyd Community Funding Workshop, to be held in Northop Hall Pavilion on 10th August from 3.00pm to 7.00pm. The Clerk advised that should any Councillor wish to attend then he would forward the details by e-mail.
- (3) The Clerk advised the Members in relation to a letter received from The Holywell Leisure Centre, Pool & Library Working Group. On the 1st January, 2017, the Leisure Centre will be transferred to the Group, under the Community Asset Transfer programme. An invitation was extended to a member of the Town Council to attend an information meeting at the Centre, on the 26th July at 6.00pm. **The Mayor, Councillor David Knights, agreed to attend.**
- (4) The Clerk referred to his e-mail dated the 14th July, 2016, which forwarded information from the Welsh Assembly Government in relation to the Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill.
- (5) Request from the National Library of Wales, in relation to the Library reproducing and archiving the Town Council's web site. **The Members agreed.**
- (6) Public Service Ombudsman for Wales – Annual Report 2015 / 2016. Councillor Michael Moriarty received the report.

6(B). 173/16

CLERK'S REPORT

- (a) The Clerk referred to the visit by a group of Japanese students to Caerwys on Sunday 7th August – who will be accompanied by Flintshire students and members of the organising committee. The visit will include the Town Trail, St. Michael's Church and refreshments at the Golf Club. The Clerk advised that the third share cost of the refreshments – with the Caerwys Chronicle and Caerwys Historical Society would be £66.66. The Town Mayor & Mayoress will welcome the visitors on the Town Square. **The Members agreed the refreshment cost – which will be paid to the Caerwys Historical Society.**
- (b) The Clerk advised that he had been contacted by Councillor Michael Moriarty who had requested the following concern be reported to Mr. Stuart Body (Flintshire County Council's Forestry Officer). A mature tree growing on an open grassed area of land in St Michael's Close. Leaves on a branch of the tree were withering, with an upper branch also failing to leaf. It was not known if the tree had become diseased or was dying, but as it grew on land maintained by FCC it was felt that an inspection should be carried out to ascertain what was the cause of the problem. The Clerk advised that to endeavor to expedite the

matter, he had reported the concern on the County Council's web site. Whilst the Clerk had received an acknowledgement (No: CC 0616 114357) advising that the matter would be responded to by the 8th July – no further contact had been received from the County. The Clerk advised that he would further contact the County Council.

- (c) The Clerk advised that a number of Councillors' and residents had contacted him in relation to irregularities that appear to have taken place in respect of the development currently under construction at Bryn Llwyd Yard, North Street. Councillor M. Moriarty drew Members attention to the following points appertaining to the development:
- Condition 15 of planning application 047518 and Condition 16 of planning application 052760 listed with planning permission granted in respect of each respective application prohibited development, including the erection or demarcation of site boundaries, on the existing grassed/planted area between the existing building and adopted highway.
 - Two long slender apertures inserted in the western facing wall of the existing building fronting North Street. Not indicated on any drawing.
 - Fenestration of the western elevation of the existing building that fronted North Street was not compliant with drawings.
 - The stone wall that bordered North Street at the northern end of the existing building demolished.
 - Adverse effect of the development upon the appearance of the designated Caerwys Town Conservation Area by removal of grassed/planted area, the erection of a wooden fence in front of Plot 4 and demolition of the stone wall fronting North Street.

Following discussion, it was agreed: that a letter be sent to FCC's Planning Department, the Conservation Officer and the Enforcement Department, drawing attention to non-compliance with planning conditions and planning policy relevant to development in Conservation Areas in respect of the Bryn Llwyd Yard development, with a request that appropriate action be taken in respect of the issues raised.

- (d) The Clerk referred to concerns which had been brought to the attention of Councillors' in relation to inconsiderate parking, in the area of the Bryn Llwyd development in North Street. Vehicles are being parked on the footpath, which results in pedestrians, mothers with toddler buggies, mobility scooter users, including a number of carers who assist disabled people - having to enter the carriageway in order to pass the vehicles. **The Members agreed that the Clerk to write to Inspector Jon Bowcott (South Flintshire), seeking appropriate action to be taken.**

6(C). 174/16

TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE QUARTERLY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO THE 30TH JUNE, 2016

The Clerk and Financial Officer, provided the Members with a copy of the Quarterly Statement of Accounts, to the end of June, 2016. **The Members approved the Statement of Accounts, and the document was signed by the Mayor, Councillor David S. Knights.**

7. 175/16

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Town Mayor, Councillor David S. Knights, advised the Members of his attendance at the following:

- (1) Ysgol Yr Esgob – School Fayre; (2) Judging the Play Group Scarecrow competition; (3) Chair of Flintshire County Council Civic Service.

8. 176/16

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor James Falshaw advised that his outstanding matters had been discussed during the attendance of Mr. Ian Williams.

9. 177/16

REPRESENTATIVES / LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Councillor Michael Moriarty advised in relation to his attendance at a County Forum meeting held at Mold on the 30th June. At the meeting the following topics were covered:

- Presentation given by Dr Alan Hatton-Yeo (National expert lead on Age-Friendly Communities). Information in relation to involvement can be obtained by contacting Helen Jones at FCC by emailing her on: helen.jones@flintshire.gov.uk
- The Future of Local Government.
- Flintshire's Financial Future.
- Community Asset Transfer - Overview of Proposals relating to Play Areas.
- The Local Development Plan.

Issues raised from the floor dealt with funding following the EU Referendum, lack of response to enforcement matters and the revised Code of Conduct for Councillors.

(b) Councillor Jonathan Duggan-Keen advised in relation to his attendance at a North Wales Police Consultative meeting, held in Mold Town Hall. There is a new local (South Flintshire) Inspector, Jon Bowcott. Councillor Duggan-Keen referred to a number of items discussed at the meeting, and in particular, the recruitment of PCSOs. The Safer Neighbourhood Scheme will in future be covered by 10 PCSOs as before, but in addition there will be four regular police officers on the rota.

Crime statistics: Inspector Bowcott stated that there had been a significant increase in recorded crime, mainly caused by a huge increase in theft of and from unsecured vehicles and by the rise in a relatively new type of offence known as 'sexting'. Where a photo is sent to say seven recipients (as a form of bullying or intimidation) it counts as seven offences, hence the increase in recorded crime. He also reported that newer types of crime such as the above and even Modern Slavery offences had all been recorded in the South Flintshire police area.

(c) Councillor Ms. Louise Carus referred to the Town Hall Public meeting, to be held on Thursday 21st July. The Mayor, Councillor David Knights, advised the Members that he would be attending the meeting.

(d) The Clerk referred to the attendance of Ms. Katie Wilby and Mr. Michael Jones – and to the request for two Council Members to be appointed to a Working Group. Councillors David Knights and Howard Griffiths agreed to represent Caerwys Town Council on the Working Group. **The Members thanked the two Councillors.**

10(A). 178/16

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning application was dealt with by the Members at the meeting:

- ❖ Application number: 055601, for modernisation and general refurbishment to consulting rooms and operation theatre, at Summerville (Veterinary Practice), North Street, Caerwys.

Comment by Council: To provisionally support the application. However, concern is expressed in relation to the ad hoc parking in the immediate area of the Veterinary Practice.

10(B). 179/16

PLANNING DECISIONS

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

- ❖ Application number: 054850, for erection of extension to dwelling and conversion of former fisheries building to 1no. dwelling, at Seven Springs Trout Farm, Caerwys. Approved.

11. 180/16

COMMUNITY LIGHTING

The following lamps have been reported out of order since the last meeting:

- (a) Lamp at the 'V' junction of Moel Y Parc Road and Afonwen Craft Centre.
- (b) Lamp on wall on number 9, Mill Terrace, Afonwen.

The Clerk referred to the following outstanding faults:

- (1) Replacement lamp near to Gwynfryn, Caerwys Hill. The Clerk advised that the new lamp appeared to be in situ, but was awaiting confirmation from a nearby resident. (No installation account received from Flintshire Lighting Department).
- (2) The Clerk provided the Members with an update in relation to the delay in replacing the damaged lamp, which was attached to the wall of 20 Railway Terrace, Afonwen. Scottish Power have visited for the second occasion and apparently rectified the faulty wiring. The Clerk asked the Council's lighting contractor to visit, and it was found that the wiring from the lamp at number 20 had disconnected the supply to the lamp attached to the wall of number 13 Railway Terrace. The Clerk advised that he has asked Scottish Power to re-visit.
- (3) The Clerk advised that he had received the following quotation from Flintshire County Council Lighting department, for the installation of a solar powered street light on the Marian walkway. Cost of materials £2,943.44, together with installation cost of £992.25 – total £3,935.69.

The Members agreed the following: The Clerk to seek a further quotation from Mega Electrical in Nannerch. The Clerk to forward the quotation to Councillors Howard Griffiths and Jonathan Duggan-Keen for their observations.

12. 181/16

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cheque Number	Payee	Net £	Vat £	Total £
003	Scottish Power (June) - Street Lighting Electricity Account)	238.83	47.77	286.60
004	Caerwys Memorial Institute Committee (Room hire – April, May & June)	60.00		60.00

005	H. M. Revenue & Customs. Clerk's PAYE & Clerk & Council NI - April, May & June, 2106 - via The Post Office)	474.83		474.83
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**13. 182/16
APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	No applications received	

**14. 183/16
The 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.....