

**BRYNFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**CYNGOR CYMUNED BRYNFFORDD**

Minutes of the meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 at Brynford C.P. School.

**PRESENT:**

**Councillor J. Davies – Chairman**  
**Councillor T. Alcock**  
**Councillor W. Beaumont**  
**Councillor L. O’Hare**  
**Councillor G. Legg**  
**Councillor D. Redfern-Lloydjones**  
**Councillor T. Stephenson**  
**Councillor P. Wahl**

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

**Councillor D. Jones**  
**Councillor L. Rosedale**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

***Mr. A. Roberts* – Clerk to the Council**

**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor D. Redfern-Lloydjones declared an interest in agenda item 5.4, provision of vehicle barrier - Ffrith Lane, Brynford.

**110/19MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 were approved as a correct record.

**111/19STREETSCENE SERVICES**

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mr. Neil Hickie, Area Supervisor, Streetscene Services. Neil had provided a matrix report of current and planned highways works for the area. Neil advised that this would be updated on a monthly basis.

Members reported the following issues:-

Milwr Road – Disused roadworks signs need to be removed.

Glan-Yr-Afon Inn to end of road by Dolphin – road resurfacing work required.

Rear of Old School, Brynford Common – need of cleaning up rubbish and disused drinks cans.

Pedestrian Footway from Brynford Crossroads to Brynford Village Stores in need of resurfacing.

Road surface water standing on road near former Brynford Exhausts.

Neil reported that road resurfacing works had been scheduled for Calcoed Lane, Brynford which would be completed by the end of March this year.

The Chairman thanked Neil for his attendance.

#### **112/19 BRYNFORD RECREATION GROUND**

The Clerk reported that confirmation had been received that the refurbishment of the changing room roof would be completed by the end of March, 2019.

Councillor P. Wahl reported that he had undertaken the draining down of the water system for the winter period.

#### **113/19 PROVISION OF BARRIER – FFRITH LAND, BRYNFORD**

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mr. P. Lynas who had been invited to the meeting to discuss the management and arrangements for the closure of the barrier.

Mr. Lynas was advised that following a number of complaints received by local residents when the area had been used by itinerants, a meeting had been held with Officers of Grosvenor Estates Department. As a deterrent it was agreed that Grosvenor Estates would obtain the necessary consents and provide a vehicle barrier and that the Council would undertake the management and maintenance of it.

The only time the barrier would be closed would be when notice was received that itinerants were looking for camp sites in the area.

Mr. Lynas raised concerns regarding emergency access and who would be the key holders.

It was agreed that a combination lock be fitted and that Mr. Lynas would be provided with the combination. It was also agreed that Mr. Lynas would be informed of any early warnings the Council may receive as to the movements of itinerants in the area.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Lynas for his attendance.

#### **114/19 DEVELOPMENT OF LAND ADJACENT TO THE A5026 –**

##### **PARADISE PARK, THE NANT, BRYNFORD**

The Clerk reported that further to Minute No. 100/18, a letter had been sent to the Chief Executive Flintshire County Council seeking his assistance in convening a meeting with Officers of the Planning Authority.

A response had been received from the Head of Planning Services advising that the request for the meeting had been forwarded to the Planning Case Officer.

As no further response had been received a further request was sent to Mr. Farrow on the 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 but to date no response had been received from Planning Authority Officers.

Members expressed their dismay and frustration to the attitude being shown by Planning Officers over this matter.

Members also reported that the site is being operated as an unlicensed tip with a number of wagons tipping material on site on a daily basis which is then being buried.

Members requested that a further letter be sent to the Chief Executive advising of the above and that should no meeting be convened within 14 days, an invitation will be sent to Local Press and Journalists to attend a meeting with the Council for the publication of an article on this matter in the local media.

Copies of the letter be sent to Holywell Town Council, Halkyn Community Council, Mr. D. Hanson MP and H. Blythyn AM.

#### **115/19 BEST KEPT COMMUNITIES COMPETITION**

Details of the working group meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 were received by the Council. Further meetings of the group were to be arranged for late February and late March, 2019 and that notice of the meetings be published in the Halkyn Mountain News.

#### **116/19 BUS NETWORK REVIEW**

New bus timetables and route schedules had been finalised by Flintshire County Council and were being trialled from the 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2019.

#### **117/19 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- A) Future Role of Community and Town Council Section Wales.  
An update setting out in more detail on the next steps in implementing the Policy approach had been received from Welsh Government.
- B) Copies of the Register of Electors for 2019 had been received and distributed to all members.

- C) Provision of Public Toilets – Local Authority Strategy.  
The Head of Streetscene Services, Flintshire County Council had written to the Council advising that the Council is preparing its Draft Strategy for the provision of toilets. To assist with this, a survey questionnaire had been prepared seeking the views and observations from stake holders.

Copy of the document and the link to the online survey had been provided to all members of the Council.

- D) Visit to Town and Community Councils by Members of the Standards Committee.  
Mr. G. Owen, Chief Officer Governance, Flintshire County Council had written to the Council setting out the findings from the first visits undertaken by members to Council meetings.  
Members noted the contents of the letter and recommended actions.

#### **118/19 UPDATING OF BANKING MANDATE WITH NATWEST BANK AND PROVISION OF ONLINE BANKING**

The Clerk reported that he had obtained the relevant documentation from NatWest Bank in order that the Council can update its current mandate for authorisation of cheque payments and the provision of Online Banking.

For compliance the Council will need to complete the documents and provide an approved set of Council minutes confirming the authorised signatures.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the following members be authorised signatories: -

Councillor T. Alcock

Councillor J.S. Davies

Councillor L. O'Hare

Councillor G.C. Legg

Councillor P.D. Wahl

Mr. A. Roberts – Clerk to the Council

#### **119/19 COMMUNITY POLICING**

Councillor J. Davies reported that a couple of tents had been pitched on the common but since reporting this matter, noted that they had been removed.

Members reported that there was a persistent problem with motorbikes entering the common from Pen-Y-Ball Hill and being ridden over the common causing nuisance to local residents.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That this matter be reported to P.C.S.O. C. Freel.

## **120/19 REVIEW OF COUNCIL CLERK'S SALARY**

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the current pay scale for the council's part time Clerk and Financial Officer.

The current clerk is approaching retirement age and to ensure that the council is in a position to offer competitive employment terms and have the necessary budgetary resource in place for the future.

The Council currently employs one member of staff as the part time Clerk and Financial Officer on a salary of £5,700 per annum. Apart from the annual inflationary pay increase awarded to Local Government Employees, no review of the Clerk's responsibility and duties has been undertaken by the Council since the current Clerk was appointed in 1990.

The Clerk has made enquiries with fellow Clerks to Councils of similar size to Brynford as to current salary scales. They have advised that their current pay scales are between £8,000 and £11,000 per annum.

As members are aware additional duties and responsibilities have been placed on Local Government over the past years and further reform is currently being considered.

In order that the Council is in a position to offer a competitive salary and attract the required candidate for the position of part time Clerk in the future, the Council is requested to consider the following options.

- A) Option - Increase the current salary from £5,700 by £1,900 to £7,600 for 2019-20.  
Followed by an incremental increase of £1,000 per year for the next 3 years resulting in an annual salary allocation of £10,600 in year 2022/23.  
This option would probably place the salary at the bottom end of the pay scale by this time.
  
- B) Option - To move the Council forward to a more competitive position given the proposed ongoing review and re-modelling of Local Government.  
An increase in the current salary of £1,900 making the salary for 2019/20 £7,600 per annum.  
Followed by an incremental increase of £1,250 per year for 3 years resulting in a salary of £11,350 by 2022/23.  
This would place the Clerk's salary competitively at mid-scale by that time.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Clerk's salary be increased by increments of £1,900 for 2019/20 to £7,600 per annum.

That the Clerk's salary for 2020/21 be increased by £1,250 to £8,850 per annum.

For the year 2021/22 an increase of £1,250 resulting in a salary of £10,100.

For the year 2022/23 an increase of £1,250 giving £11,350.

**121/19 SETTING OF COUNCIL BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2019/20**

The Clerk had prepared a Budget Report setting out the Council's agreed budget headings, probable budget expenditure for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019.

The Budget also provided draft budget financial requirements for the year 2019/20. Members noted that the level of Council reserves had been depleted over the past year following the completion of a number of community projects.

**RESOLVED:**

That the draft budget for 2019/20 was approved at £29,380.

The Precept was set at £27,000 making the Council Tax for a Band "D" property £56.83.

The Clerk's salary was approved at £7,600 per annum for 2019/20.

**122/19 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

**RESOLVED:**

That the following accounts were approved for payment: -

1503) Scottish Power (P.C.A.1957s3)	Energy Fees Changing Rooms	£43.90
1504) Chairman's Account (L.G.A.1972s34)	Allowance	£300.00
1505) A. Roberts (L.G.A.1972s112,131)	Clerk's salary	£407.27
1506) H.M. Revenue & Customs (L.G.A.1972s112)	P.A.Y.E.	£101.80

1507) Scottish Power (P.C.A.1957s3)	Energy Fees Street Lighting	£378.50
1508) Livetech Ltd. (L.G.A.1972S111)	Web Hosting & Domain Fees	£144.00

**123/19 DURATION OF MEETING**

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm and was closed at 8.55pm.

**CHAIRMAN**

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