

BRYNFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CYNGOR CYMUNED BRYNFFORDD

Minutes of the meeting held virtually 12th January 2021

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Davies – Chairman

Councillor T. Alcock

Councillor D. Jones

Councillor L. O’Hare

Councillor L. Rosedale

Councillor P. Wahl

Councillor D. Redfern-Lloydjones

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Councillor W. Beaumont

Councillor G. Legg

Councillor T. Stephenson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. A. Roberts – Clerk to the Council

40/21 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor D. Redfern-Lloydjones declared an interest in item 4A Grazing of Sheep on Brynford Common.

41/21 MINUTES.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the virtual meeting held the on 10th of November 2020 were approved as a correct record.

42/21 PROVISION OF CATTLE GRID B5121 BRYNFORD VILLAGE ROAD

Further to Minute Item No. 31/20, the Clerk reported that a response had been received from Mr Saul Burton, Halkyn Mountain Project Manager, advising that several mitigations had been raised by the council. These had been incorporated into the design of the cattle grids to reduce the impact noise of installation to adjacent residents.

Members reported that they had considered the response received by the council, advising that the lack of a self-closing mechanism on the pedestrian gate was still allowing sheep to bypass the cattle grid and gain access onto Brynford Hill.

It was further reported that the provision of a dismounting block for horse riders would enable riders to dismount and mount safely in order to open and close the gate.

It was also reported that the tarmac surfacing around the installation had not been completed.

RESOLVED:

That the above matters raised by the council be reported to Mr S. Burton.

43/21 HUSBANDRY OF SHEEP GRAZING ON BRYNFORD COMMON

Further to Minute No. 33/20 the clerk reported that a response had been received from the Legal Officer, Flintshire County Council, advising of the information contained on the Council's Common Land Register in relation to the above. Issues had been raised by local residents, Holywell Golf Club and Halkyn Graziers Association.

Members had considered the information that had been provided and concluded that the number of sheep currently grazing on the common in the Brynford area exceeded the numbers permitted according to the Common's Register. Members further reported that flocks of sheep were not being gathered from the common and returned to their homesteads at night. The Council's Legal Officer had also advised that the monitoring of the number of animals permitted to graze the common rests with the landowner, in this case Westminster Estates.

RESOLVED:

That a letter be sent to Westminster Estates, advising of the council's concerns along with the information received from the Council's Legal Officer.

44/21 PROPOSED HALF MARATHON RUNNING EVENT 2021

Councillor L. O'Hare reported that a meeting of the working group had been arranged for Wednesday 13th January 2021 and that she would be attending.

45/21 PROVISION OF ILLUMINATED HEART AND CHRISTMAS TREE ON BRYNFORD VILLAGE GREEN

Members expressed thanks to local resident Katherine Owen, an employee of Bleachere Illuminations, for providing the illuminated heart display and to Westminster Estates for supplying the Christmas tree for this year's display. Members reported that they had received numerous comments on how lovely the displays looked.

Councillor D. Jones reported that he had attended to the re-erection of the temporary fencing around the tree over the Christmas period. He further suggested that the council look to providing a more robust and appropriate looking fencing system for future years.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk would obtain a quotation for an 8 number metal crowd barrier for the council's consideration.

46/21 STREETSCENE SERVICES

Members reported the following issues: -

Pothole repairs Brynford Village Road.

Litter on Highway Verges B5121.

Vehicles permanently parked on common land Narrow Lane, Calcoed.

RESOLVED:

That the clerk would report the above issues.

47/21 RACECOURSE FARM, BABELL- BURNING OF MATERIALS

Further to Minute No. 37/20, the Clerk reported that Natural Resources Wales (NRW) had advised that the complaint was being investigated. However, additional information was being sought as to the actual location of the burning.

CLlr L. O'Hare reported that she would be able to assist with this information.

48/21 STREET LIGHTING AND EXTERNAL ELECTRICAL ASSETS ON THE ADOPTED HIGHWAY WITHIN THE COUNTY OF FLINTSHIRE

Mr Darell Jones, Operational North & Street Lighting Manager Flintshire County Council, has written to the council (Copy email sent to Members).

The letter sets out the requirements for the council to provide evidence that the council's Street Lighting Contractor, has the correct accreditation for maintaining lighting systems on the adopted highway.

The Clerk reported that he was in discussion with the council's Lighting Engineer with a view to providing the required confirmation.

The council is also required to provide an up to date inventory of the locations and type of lights that the council maintains. This survey is currently being undertaken by the Clerk.

In addition to the above, each light is required to have an electrical safety inspection and certificate every 6 years. At present the council does not have this facility in place. The Clerk has been in discussion with Mr D. Jones who has confirmed that the certification can be undertaken over a rolling programme.

The Clerk further advised that financial provision had been included within the council draft budget for 2021/22 to progress the inspection and certification of the council's lighting stock.

As several councils in Flintshire have received this letter and are in a very similar position, the Clerk advised that he had been in discussion with the Clerks to Caerwys, Halkyn, Whitford and Ysceifiog Community Councils.

The purpose of this would be to obtain more competitive quotations for the inspection and certification of lights, subject to council approval.

RESOLVED:

That members approved the above actions.

49/21 EXTERNAL AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS, YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2020

B.D.O, the council's appointed external auditor, has notified the council that the audit has been completed and approved.

A copy of the findings of the audit report has been sent to members by email.

The council is required to approve the audit and publish the completion and approval notice on the council's website.

Members considered the findings of the audit report and agreed that no further action was required by the council.

RESOLVED:

That the audit report be approved.

50/21 PROPOSED PROVISION OF PEDESTRIAN FOOTPATH BRYN SANNAN ROAD, BRYNFORD

The council has received a letter requesting that consideration be given to the provision of a pedestrian footpath on the above highway. Several residents currently use the highway as a means of walking children to school or bus pickup points.

Members discussed the proposal agreeing the provision would improve the pedestrian infrastructure within the community. However, several issues would need to be considered : -

*Road Safety

*Land Ownership

*Financial Resource

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk would arrange a site meeting with County Council Highways Officers to discuss the above proposal and then report back to the council.

51/21 FUTURE AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL'S EXTERNAL AUDIT

As previously reported the Auditor General for Wales has undertaken a review of the current audit system. Following completion of the review from 2020-21 onwards, audit arrangements for community councils in Wales will include a three-year audit cycle : Two limited procedure audits and a transaction - based audit once every three years.

The council has been advised that the years 2020/21 and 2021/22 will be basic audits and that 2022/23 will be a full audit.

52/21 DEPARTURE OF LIVING LANDSCAPE OFFICER

The Clerk reported that Mr Saul Burton, Halkyn Mountain Living Landscape Officer, was leaving his post in Flintshire to join Denbighshire County Council.

Members expressed their gratitude to Saul for all his support with regard to numerous successful projects delivered across the common.

RESOLVED:

That a letter of thanks be sent to Saul from the council.

53/21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A) 061292

Extensions and alterations to create enlarged lounge and foyer/entrance area together with 2 ground floor and 6 first floor en-suite bedrooms.

The Crooked Horn Inn, Bryn Sannan, Brynford CH8 8AX.

RESOLVED:

That the council objects to the application on the grounds of: -
Overdevelopment of the site.

The current development had exceeded its previous permitted development footprint and had encroached onto common land.

Reports have been received that the establishment was in breach of its operating license and was being occupied on a permanent residential basis.

B) 062226

Construction of first floor roof dormer and roof infill extension.

White Gables, Calcot, Brynford, CH8 8LE.

RESOLVED:

That the council had no objections.

54/21 APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

A) St Michael's Church - Cemetery Maintenance

B) Calcoed Chapel – Cemetery Maintenance

RESOLVED:

That a grant of £550.00 be approved to each of the above applicants.

55/21 DRAFT BUDGET AND SETTING OF PRECEPT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2021/22

- A) The Clerk reported that a draft budget had been prepared incorporating the elements of expenditure required to deliver the council's services and aspirations for 2021/22.

The draft budget report provided the approved budget for 2020/21 (anticipated expenditure up to 31st March 2021) and proposed budget for 2021/22.

- B) In addition to the Draft Budget, a Precept Report had also been provided setting out 3 options. Each option provided the impact on households depending upon which precept was approved.

RESOLVED:

That the budget for the financial year 2021/22 be set at £36,317.

Members considered the Precept Option Report and approved Option "A".

That the Precept for 2021/22 be set at £29,000, setting the annual Band "D" charge per property at £60.77.

That the Clerk's salary be set at £10,252.00 for 2021/22.

56/21 ACCOUNTS APPROVED DURING DECEMBER

1642) L. Rosedale Go-To-Meeting Web Hosting Fees (L.G.A. 1972s112	£90.00
1643) A. Roberts – Clerk's salary (L.G.A.1972s112,131)	£712.31
1644) H.M. Revenue & Customs – PAYE (L.G.A.1972s112	£201.03

57/21 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED

That the following accounts were approved for payment: -

1645) Deeco Lighting Ltd – Illumination of Christmas tree. (L.G.A. 1972 s.144)	£336.00
1646) Scottish Power Ltd – Energy Fees Changing Rooms (L.G.(M.P.) A.1953 S.4	£46.01

1647) Viking Direct Ltd – Supply of stationery (L.G.A.1972,111)	£1647.38
1648) A. Roberts – Clerk’s Salary (L.G.A.1972s112,131)	£712.31
1649) H.M. Revenue & Customs -PAYE (L.G.A.1972s112)	£201.03
1650) Audit Wales – External audit fees (L.G.A.1972s111)	£316.90
1651) Livetech Ltd – Website Hosting Fees (L.G.A. 1972s112)	£144.00
1652) Cynfaen Chapel - Grant (L.G.A.1972s214	£550.00
1653) St. Michael’s Church – Cemetery maintenance grant L.G.A.1972s214	£550.00

58/21 DURATION OF THE MEETING

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm and was closed at 9.20pm.

CHAIRMAN
