

Cyngor Cymunedol Tremeirchion Cwm & Waen Community Council

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16th JUNE 2021 AT THE WHITE HOUSE RHUALLT.

PRESENT:

Cllrs: K. Potts (Chairman)
J. Christian
D. Davies
C. Evans
A. Jones
D. Jones
C. Marston
A. Morris
L. B. Stanyer

ALSO PRESENT: Mel ab Owain (Clerk and RFO)

17 OPEN FORUM

None.

18 APOLOGIES

Cllr J. Baldwin-Evans
Cllr P. Day
Cllr I. R. Hodgkinson

19 URGENT MATTERS/CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

20 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- i) Cllr D. Davies declared interests as a member of the Tremeirchion School Board of Governors.
- ii) Cllr C. Marston declared interests as a member of the ANOB Partnership and Denbighshire CC Planning Committee.
- iii) Cllr A. Morris declared interests as a member of the Tremeirchion School Board of Governors.
- iv) Cllr D. Jones declared an interest as an administrator of Waen Parish Hall.

21 APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACCURACY OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17th MARCH 2021

RESOLVED: That these minutes, as corrected, be received and confirmed as a correct record.

22 MATTERS ARISING

- i) **6. i) 56-41 ACTION:** Cllr Marston would take some photos of the tree trunks blocking the Clwyd shortly.
- ii) **6. ii) 58.** The Clerk had written to Denbighshire CC requesting a 20 mph limit outside Tremeirchion School and the extension of the 30 mph limit out to the village signs.
- iii) **6. 59.** The streetlight at the Graig has been repaired.

iv) **6. 60.** The Clerk had checked the recording of the meeting and the amount voted on for St Kentigerns Hospice was £300.

v) **9. i)** The Clerk had emailed Denbighshire CC and asked for a new pole for this site.

vi) **9. iii)** The Clerk had reported the ruts in the road to Denbighshire CC.

vii) **9. iv)** The hay had been removed.

viii) **9. v)** The Clerk had found the details of the Community Renewal fund and forwarded them to Cllr Davies.

ACTION: He would forward them to all Councillors.

ix) **9. vi)** The Clerk had reported the dead badgers to Denbighshire CC.

x) **13.** The Clerk had obtained some prices for the installation of a Defibrillator. The total cost of buying the defib, the box to house it and the connection of the electrical supply was likely to be in the region of £1500.

ACTION: The Clerk would get a range of prices for the defibs and their mountings plus installation and regular their inspection/servicing for the Council to discuss at the meeting of 21st July. He would also speak to the manager of the White House about possible installation.

The Clerk had also spoken to the Dyserth, Meliden and Cwm Sickness Fund about the outstanding cheque for £500 with regard to the Cwm defib. He had been assured that this would be forwarded shortly.

xi) **14.** See minute 30 below.

23 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk had been contacted by Stuart Irvine of Tremeirchion 2000 about the possibility of putting a memorial to the late Terry Bryer on the triangle of grass in the village. It would take the form of a slate etched with a panorama of the view mounted on a plinth.

They were asking for the Council's support for the project and also information on how to get the necessary permission for its installation.

The Council expressed its support for the project and asked Cllr Marston to contact Denbighshire CC Estates Department to establish ownership of the triangle.

24 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Marston had submitted a written report (see appendix 1).

In addition, Cllr Marston reported:

i) **ACTION:** She would chase up Denbighshire CC about repairs to the boundary of Bryn Teg Park.

ii) Cllr Marston had set up a zoom meeting with Denbighshire CC Officers, Cllr Meirick Lloyd-Davies, plus TWC and Trefnant Community Council members.

The meeting commenced with a brief presentation about the history and topography of the site plus an assessment of the processes which caused the structure to fail.

Amongst the items raised were:

1. Funding: The probable price tag would vary between £1m and £6m depending on the type of bridge built.

2. A case would have to be made the Welsh Government for this funding and it would be very useful to have evidence from businesses, farmers and residents about how the loss of the bridge had impacted on their lives.

3. What type of bridge did the community want? A single lane bridge or a double? A traditional arch bridge or a flat modern style bridge? The style would dictate the price tag as would the possibility of extending the approach to the bridge across the flood plain.

Cllrs Davies and Marston had already begun to consult with residents and interested groups via Facebook and e-mail.

ACTION: Cllr Davies would engage with other Facebook groups including cyclists and communities such as St Asaph. Councillors were also asked to share this consultation on social media.

25 COMMUNITY COUNCIL ISSUES

i) Cllr Davies

Salisbury Arms

Stuart Irvine has taken the lead on a number of activities including investigative work on community interest company establishment, review of business models and support from the Plunkett Foundation, and other funding sources. Two community survey questionnaires have been circulated – to gauge interest and commitment - via Tremeirchion Parish Newsletter, and Tremeirchion Community Chat Facebook. They are based on an:

‘Investment Survey’, addressing Impact of pub closure, view on housing development, willingness to invest/ loan/donate, willingness to work a rota, and in what capacity.

‘What the Pub Means to Me’ addressing frequency of use, when and times of use, reason of visits, choice of beverages, range of services/events, household age range.

Tremeirchion Community School Playing Field

Cllr Davies reported that a resident had raised concern re barbed wire to the fence on the north and west boundary of the Playing Field, a desire for new play equipment, and planned works on new railings to segregate public footpath from the front school play yard.

The barbed wire and fence condition has been raised previously. The matter is also on the School’s Health and Safety agenda, and investigative meetings have been held with DCC, with view to finding a solution, including removing / offsetting the barbed wire out of children’s reach. DCC have also indicated that a new standard of secure screen fencing will be a future requirement to meet Estyn specifications.

ACTION:

a) Cllr Marston enquire with DCC as to whether the secure screen fencing could be brought forward.

b) The Clerk was to review TCWCC liabilities – per the lease between the Church in Wales and TCWCC.

The aim was to consider tendering / appointing contactors to repair and upgrade current fence to a child safe fence. The first stage would be to secure removal of the barbed wire by 1 September 2021.

ii) Several Councillors brought up the poor state of the roads at various points especially through Tremeirchion Village. This had been discussed during the visit of Tim Towers of Denbighshire’s Highways Department. Cllr Marston would ask Mr Towers for a programme of works for Tremeirchion.

26 FINANCE

i) Financial Report. The Clerk reported that there was £13,581.05 in the business reserve account and £1.00 in the current account. The Clerk reported that he had claimed VAT back on the Councils purchases for the last two years.

ii) Banking arrangements. The Clerk had been contacted by the NatWest and asked to amend one item on the application form for a change in signatures on our accounts. This was duly amended and returned.

iii) **RESOLVED:** that the following payments be approved:

Clerk's Salary May 2021	£412.44
HMRC May 2021	£94.40
Tremeirchion School (S137)	£50.00
Clerk - refund for Information Commissioners data permit	£40.00
Came and Co - Council Insurance for 2021/22	£424.93

iv) Grant. It was proposed that The Council pays a grant of £100 to St Kentigern's Hospice.

RESOLVED: that this grant be paid.

27 INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Clerk had collected our Audit Return from the internal auditor. She had certified the report confirming that the Council had effective system of controls in place. She did however raise a number of issues:

i) The reconciliation was out by 15p and the balance carried forward by £1.

ACTION: These had been corrected by the Clerk.

ii) Evidence should be provided of the salary paid to the Clerk

RESOLVED that the Council confirms that the Clerk is paid at SCP 16 rate (pro rata for 9.5 hours a week) effective from 1st November 2020.

iii) The £2528 paid to the outgoing Clerk in respect of pension contributions should have either been paid directly into a pension scheme or had PAYE and NI deducted.

ACTION: The Clerk will write to Mr Jones and ask him to confirm that he paid this sum into a pension scheme.

iv) The value of assets shown on the annual return needs to agree with the asset register.

ACTION: The Clerk and the Lengthsman will review the replacement costs for all the Council's assets and present an amended asset register for presentation to the September Council meeting.

v) The risk assessment does not address the risk of supplier (procurement) fraud.

ACTION: The Clerk will amend the risk assessment and present it to the July Council meeting.

RESOLVED: To approve the Internal Auditor's Report.

28 INVESTMENT POLICY

The Clerk had reviewed the Council's investment policy and suggested that the policy submitted be adopted.

RESOLVED: That the Council adopts the new Investment Policy.

29 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

It was proposed that the 2019 NALC model financial regulations, with their provisions for electronic banking, be adopted as TWC Community Council's Financial regulations.

RESOLVED: That the Council adopts these Financial Regulations.

The Clerk would review the text and represent the document to the September Council meeting. Any comments or suggestions from Councillors in the meantime would be welcome.

30 COUNCIL VACANCY

The Clerk had spoke to the Election Services of Denbighshire CC. A notice inviting electors to call for an election had been displayed for the regulation 14 day period ending on 15th June.

The relevant officer was not in work when the Clerk called on the morning of 16th June but he was assured that she would contact him shortly.

ACTION: The Clerk would follow this up and post a notice for co-option as soon as he hears from Election Services.

The Clerk confirmed that anyone with the TCW Council area could stand for co-option.

31 PLANNING

1. APPLICATION: 47/2021/0485

PROPOSAL: Erection of rear extension and associated works

LOCATION: Gwernole 5 Llys Tywysog, Tremeirchion, St. Asaph

RESOLVED: That the Council raised no objection to this application

2. APPLICATION: 47/2021/0500

PROPOSAL: Erection of detached garden shed

LOCATION: Tyn y Ffynnon, Cwm, Rhyl

RESOLVED: That the Council raised no objection to this application

3. APPLICATION 47/2021/0492

PROPOSAL: Siting of 5 no. holiday pods in place of 5 no. tenting pitches and construction of internal access road

LOCATION: Corn Bwlch, Brynibod Junction to A55, Waen, Llanelwy

RESOLVED: That the Council raised no objection to this application.

The Clerk was asked to stress to Denbighshire CC concerns about litter in this area.

Vote: For 5 Against 3 Abstentions 1

32 AOB: i) Road Closed for re-surfacing. The Bach-Y-Graig road will be closed for TWO days next week to include Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd June. The advisory road closure signs are currently positioned at the 'T' junction above Ffynnon Beuno and at the entrance of Greenbank Farm.

Chairman

Appendix 1

Christine Marston <Christine.Marston@denbighshire.gov.uk>

Wed 16/06/2021 08:15

Update on Covid-19 situation in Denbighshire

Cases linked to an increase of Covid-19 infections in Denbighshire have been identified as the Delta variant.

An Incident Management Team (IMT) is currently in operation to manage the situation and comprises of Denbighshire County Council, Public Health Wales and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

The linked cases are connected to a number of gatherings and cases are being identified in a number of settings and venues, including schools.

So far there have been a total of 25 confirmed linked cases, although not all have been confirmed as the Delta variant, while a total of 428 pupils are self-isolating from Ysgol Brynhyfryd, Denbigh High School and St Brigid's.

Those displaying symptoms of Covid-19 are asked to book a PCR test immediately.

An additional mobile testing unit is operating at Caledfryn, Denbigh, while testing centres are also operating in Rhyl, Quay Street Car Park and Llangollen, Market Street Car Park. Booking is required at these sites.

HWB Dinbych is operating a Covid Support Hub offering collection of free lateral flow tests from today (Tuesday, June 15).

Partnership on Denbighshire carbon offsetting project

A sustainable adventure tour operator has partnered with the Clwydian Range & Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty on a carbon offsetting project.

Ruthin-based Adventure Tours UK has committed to plant one tree for every person that travels on one of its small group adventures or tailor-made activity holidays.

Almost two acres of land within Moel Famau Country Park has been designated for the new native woodland project.

Over the next three years the firm will assist the Clwydian Range & Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) to plant a range of native trees including Birch, Oak, Rowan, Holly, Hazel, Hawthorn, Cherry and Elder.

This new woodland at Tyn-y-Pistyll is expected to create an important habitat for a number of native wildlife species.

Claire Copeman, co-founder of Adventure Tours UK, said: "As a responsible tour operator

Respite support for Denbighshire carers

Denbighshire County Council is informing unpaid carers of the support available to access short respite breaks.

This allows them to balance a life alongside caring, which is important not only for the carer, but also for the person they care for.

Carers Week, which takes place between June 7-13, is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities throughout the UK. As part of its work to support unpaid carers in the county, the Council can help them access a wealth of support from local and national organisations including short breaks, a sitting service and direct payments.

Having a carer's needs assessment is a right all unpaid carers have if they care for an adult or disabled child and assessments are carried out by North East Wales Carers Information Service (NEWCIS), commissioned by Denbighshire County Council.

This assessment allows the unpaid carer to explain the impact caring has on them and their life and to explore a range of options.

This could include a break from caring, such as overnight stays in a local hotel, arranged through NEWCIS, domiciliary agency workers providing a sitting service or the Bridging the Gap voucher to provide home help to allow short periods of respite.

Other support includes options for the cared for person to have a short term stay in local residential homes or extra care housing schemes.

Denbighshire County Council has also recently refurbished two properties in Ruthin and Corwen, to allow respite stays and bookings are managed through the Council.

Recruitment underway for new chief executive

Denbighshire County Council has started its recruitment of a new Chief Executive.

This is a key position within the Council, responsible for the delivery of quality services for Denbighshire residents and the Council is looking to appoint a purposeful leader who will share its ambitions to continue to be one of the best performing local authorities in Wales.

Candidates are being invited to apply for the role which involves working closely with elected members in preparing, developing and delivering strategic direction as well as implementing, monitoring and reviewing Council policies.

Task and finish group formed for needs assessment

A task and finish group has been formed to oversee a new needs assessment for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation. Denbighshire County Council is set to undertake the work to assess current accommodation need within the Gypsy and Traveller community and it does not include looking for locations for sites.

The Council has a legal duty to undertake a new Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) every five years as a requirement of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and is also a requirement for the replacement Local Development Plan (LDP) the Council is currently working on.

The formation of the task and finish group was approved by the Council's Communities Scrutiny committee and will involve elected members from across Denbighshire.

The group will also assist with the development of a stakeholder engagement plan to ensure good communication about the project.

It is expected the consultation process, which will include talking to Gypsy and Traveller families and the wider community including representative groups, will begin in the summer.

Denbighshire encouraging businesses to apply for grant funding

Further covid-19 funding is now available for the hospitality, tourism and leisure sector.

Denbighshire County Council will help administer the Welsh Government funds for businesses impacted during Alert Level 2 restrictions.

Businesses with a turnover greater than £85,000 can apply through the Welsh Government's Business Wales platform while those with a turnover less than £85,000 can apply through the Council.

Eligible businesses include:

- Nightclubs, late entertainment venues and ice skating rinks
- Events and conference venues
- Business unable to open indoors between May 1 and May 17 and who experienced a drop in turnover
- Hospitality trading under Alert Level 2 conditions from May 17 to June 30
- Supply chain and related business with material impact on turnover

To find out if you are eligible and to apply visit <http://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/coronavirus/erf-business-support.aspx>

Housing development named after Denbigh plum

A new energy-efficient housing development in Denbigh has been named after one of the town's most ancient products. Denbighshire Housing is building 18 two-bedroom and 4 four-bedroom semi-detached houses for social rent for Denbighshire County Council on land above Tan y Sgubor, Denbigh, the first new council homes to be designed and built for the Denbighshire area in 30 years.

The development will be named Llwyn Eirin (Plum Grove) to celebrate the registration of the Vale of Clwyd Denbigh Plum as a protected food name with Protected Designation of Origin.

The Denbigh plum is a truly ancient fruit, said to be cultivated by Carmelite monks in the town as early as the 13th Century.

The Vale has a long history of fruit production, boasting well over 200 orchards at its peak.

It was considered appropriate, then, to reflect the town's fruity heritage in the new development's name.

Specimens of the Denbigh Plum tree will be planted in the development, to help the fruit tree thrive once more in its native environment.

The low carbon homes, which will be built and certified to the energy-efficient Passivhaus standard, are part of the Council's target to provide 170 more council houses by 2022.

The frames and walls for the new houses are being made off site in North Wales by Creating Enterprise, a subsidiary of Cartrefi Conwy, using the Beattie Passive Build system and the main contractor for the development is Brenig Construction.

Residents invited to help begin shaping the Council's future priorities

Denbighshire County Council is beginning to work on developing a new Corporate Plan, and would like residents to get involved and have their say.

The Council has to produce a new Corporate Plan every five years, this plan gives the Council focus and helps all of the Council's services to work together, to plan and achieve specific goals that will help to make Denbighshire a better place to live, work and visit, for everyone.

The current Corporate Plan started in 2017 following a consultation exercise called County Conversation and will finish in 2022.

From the consultation, residents and the Council identified priorities for Housing, Young People, Connected Communities, Resilient Communities and the Environment.

The Council is now keen to continue the County Conversation and ask residents what the priorities should be for the next five years.

Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, the Council's Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets, said: "It is vitally important residents take this chance to have their say on shaping the Corporate Plan and the priorities during the next five years.

To help with this, the Council is launching a survey and running some online focus groups.

The Continuing the County Conversation survey will be live online from May 24 to July 31 2021, with paper copies being distributed to home library service users or available to collect and return from libraries from June 1 to July 31, 2021.

The online focus groups will be hosted on Microsoft Teams in June and July.

To take part and have your say, please visit <https://countyconversation.denbighshire.gov.uk/project/596> to complete the online survey and/or sign up for the online focus groups.

Cynghorydd / Councillor Christine Marston

Tremeirchion Ward

Tel:- 01745 582842

Mob:- 07762819911

Ebost / Email:- Christine.marston@denbighshire.gov.uk