

**CYNGOR CYMUNED**  
**CEFN**  
**COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE REMOTE VIRTUAL FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON**  
**ZOOM ON**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2021**  
**Chair: P Vaughan**

**77.PRESENT** Councillors: Mrs S Benbow-Jones, P Blackwell, Mrs J Jones, D Metcalfe, Mrs P Roberts, Mrs K Tiltman, Mrs I Twigg, B Twigg, D Wright & Mrs G Wright also two members of the public.

**78.APOLOGIES** Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Cook & Ms J Parrish

**79.TO RECEIVE DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Clerk declared a personal & prejudicial interest on item 6 – Clerk Report and took no part in the meeting. (award of contract)

**80.PUBLIC QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS**

None Received

**81.TO RECEIVE POLICE CORRESPONDENCE**

## Monthly Council Report

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15th November 2021

Cefn Mawr/Rhosymedre/Newbridge/Plas Madoc

**Monthly Police Surgeries**

PCSO Lara conducted the last Police Surgery on the 25<sup>th</sup> October in Cefn Library. We will be communicating dates for the next surgeries in Cefn and Plas Madoc shortly for the coming months.

We are advertising the surgeries via Facebook, the Community Alert system and we also let Community Councillors know ahead of the date. Please feel free to share on your own platforms to encourage members of the community to join us.

**Speed Checks**

On 10/11/21, PCSO Shiers and PC Sayer conducted speed checks on Queen Street in the 30mph. 35 cars were speed checked and 2 enforcement tickets were issued to those over the speed limit. The highest speed recorded was 41mph.

**ASB**

This past month we have been an increase in anti-social behaviour caused by youths within the community, especially in Plas Madoc, around the Halloween/Bonfire period. This behaviour includes throwing stones/eggs at properties, playing knock and run and kicking

doors. Hotspots have included Tesco Cefn, Plas Madoc Leisure Centre and the Plas Madoc premier shop. We have had support from PCSO's from other villages to increase patrols throughout the day and night to tackle the issue. We have been working with the local businesses to identify the youths on CCTV, and will be looking at formal action for repeat offenders.

### **Burglary**

We have received one report of an attempted burglary in Acrefair, whereby the offender has attempted to gain access to a shed. The offender has fallen off the roof of the shed and has ran from the scene. Extensive CCTV enquires were made along the route they may have taken, however no person was identified. Nothing was reported as stolen.

### **Theft from Motor Vehicle**

We have received a report whereby the front and rear number plates have been stolen from a vehicle in Cefn whilst it was parked in the car park on Crane Street. No CCTV opportunities to identify offender.

### **Protests**

You may be aware of a number of protests that were arranged in Rhosymedre and Plas Madoc over the past couple of weeks. The protests were with regards to persons and addresses believed to be linked to sexual offences. On one occasion, a group of protesters attended an address to protest and damage was caused to this address. The same night, another address was damaged, likely to be connected to the protest group or their supporters. An address which was also seemingly unlinked to the protest was also damaged. All these incidents are being fully collated and investigated. A Community Impact Assessment process has been put in place to manage the police response to the incidents and the impact it could have within the community. If you do have any information or become aware of anything that could impact on the community as a result of the matters that occurred, could you please let us know. We also have a patrol plan in place, so you may have noticed an increased Police presence in Rhosymedre/Plas Madoc area, this is to reassure the community.

### **Crimes**

Crime stats and data can be found at: <https://www.northwales.police.uk/police-forces/north-wales-police/areas/stats-and-data/stats-and-data/>

### *What can you do to help?*

In order to progress matters and take positive action with regards to drug dealing / ASB / Other crime trends etc we need community intelligence to support our targeted patrols, stop searches and warrants. We are grateful for the information we receive so far and continue to develop any matters. Intelligence can also be reported to us anonymously through Crimestoppers.

### **Questions**

If you have any concerns regarding crime figures or incidents in your ward please let us know and we will provide an update ahead of the Council meeting. Please continue to send monthly reminders regarding the Online Meeting and we will endeavour to attend when possible.

### **Walk around**

We would be happy to meet with you to have a walk around the area whenever you are available.

We will continue to post on social media in relation to events and reports on what we have been up to. Please follow us on HGC Wreccsam Wledig/NWP Wrexham Rural Facebook Page and Twitter.

Local PCSO contacts

**\*\*\*OUR EMAIL ADDRESS' ARE CHANGING FROM 16<sup>TH</sup> NOV\*\*\***

**New emails:**

[Lara.Shiers@northwales.police.uk](mailto:Lara.Shiers@northwales.police.uk)

[Jessica.Lloyd@northwales.police.uk](mailto:Jessica.Lloyd@northwales.police.uk)

[Rhys.Yaxley@northwales.police.uk](mailto:Rhys.Yaxley@northwales.police.uk)

Councillor Mrs S Benbow-Jones reported the PCSO's had attended the CRNCA Christmas fair and brought lots of helpful information for residents with them.

**82. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORT FROM COMMUNITY AGENT**

**November 2021**

- 3 referrals from British Red Cross (BRC)
- 3 referrals from Social Services (SS)
- 7 family/friend referrals
- 6 self-referrals
- **Cefn** – 26 referrals
- **Rhosymedre** – 9 referrals
- **Acrefair** – 7 referrals
- **Newbridge** – 2 referrals
- **Plas Madoc** – 4 referrals
- **Out of area** - 6
- 0 WCBC referrals
- 4 referrals CC
- Other - 31

There have been 54 referrals this month, with some previous referrals still ongoing. This is due to an impromptu attendance to the Nightingale Charity Shop 2 days before closing and networking there, along with speaking to people whilst on the mindfulness walk. On 4<sup>th</sup> November I was lucky enough to have Cllr Benbow-Jones attend the walk and I learned so much more about the history of Cefn that I didn't want the walk to end!

This month I have liaised with Remploy as one of our residents is currently being supported by them. They enquired what activities were held in our community, so I have provided them with details and they are able to contact us to refer individuals to attend the various groups that are being held within the community.

Attending the foodbank is proving to be successful as I am able to approach the people, gently enquire how they are and offer further support around their needs.

I was as shocked as everyone when I heard the extremely sad news that the charity shop was closing. I was lucky enough to attend on both days and offer some support to both the volunteers and local residents who were visibly upset over this news. I have since learnt that the lease on the property is paid up until next year! I am currently looking at what we can offer in place of this, and rather than the monies go to charity we can reinvest it back into the community. This wasn't just a charity shop, it was a hub for our residents to call into, browse and chat to the staff there. There was no pressure to buy anything and for some, this was the only interaction they would have with others. There is a young lady here who, due to her learning differences, could only manage to shop in here as she felt welcomed and very comfortable with the surroundings. I am making every effort to catch up with the residents that I missed last week whom I am aware attended the shop as I am aware of their mental health and wellbeing.

Finally, I am really happy to report that Mr Z, from October's report, is still sober! He attends the lunch club and Men's Shed every week and has made several friends there. In addition to this, he has agreed to volunteer there on kitchen duty as he used to be a cook. This is the best cause for celebration, and I am so proud of him!!

Many thanks,

Marie-Claire

### **83. TO RECEIVE CLERKS REPORT**

1. The Clerk reminded members that the December meeting will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December hopefully at George Edwards Hall. The new hybrid system will be up and running, so those who cannot attend in person can do so virtually. The Clerk will be running a test event beforehand to ensure that the equipment is working correctly.
2. The Clerk confirmed to members that both she and the assistant passed the emergency first aid course held in Avow on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November. This is a requirement should the council wish to run events at the hall.
3. A reminder was issued to members with regards to the Christmas fair and light switch, which is to be held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November between 5-7pm. The Mayor of Wrexham will be judging the Christmas Window Competition. All the Christmas lights have now been installed. The Clerk reported that The Evening Leader has written an article promoting the event, and Wrexham.com have retweeted the information on their Twitter account.
4. The Clerk suggested that the next date for the litter pick be on January Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of January and asked members to agree on a location. Councillor I Twigg suggested that Newbridge be the location, agreed by members. Clerk to email members closer to time with a meeting location.
5. The Clerk reported that the Youth club was now up and running again on Monday and Wednesday evenings. Youth Services are purchasing their wish list and will invoice the Clerk direct; they have already purchased new bar stools for the club.
6. It was confirmed by the Clerk that Christmas Wreath Notices will be placed in Trefynant Cemetery next week with a removal date of 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022, as agreed in council in February 2021.
7. With reference to the Community Development minutes attached– the Clerk confirmed that she had issued a statement earlier today to all members. It has become apparent that a dialogue is ongoing between the football clubs and Cllr Metcalfe regarding the facilities at Plas Kynaston, it is vitally important that all correspondence, from any party must come through Cefn Community Council. The Clerk reminded all members they must always carry out their duties within the realms of the code of conduct.
8. The Clerk confirmed to members that the application of £38,000 to improve green spaces in Cefn Community has been successful and advised that Deio met with officers from WCBC for the agreements needed to undertake the work on their land. Councillor D Wright stated that he is in receipt of emails confirming that a council officer has been in direct contact with Deio over upgrades to Plas Kynaston. He urged members that any correspondence with regards to this project be through the Clerk. There is already an ongoing dialogue with two local football clubs and Sara Green, who has requested that they engage with her for the benefit of all concerned.
9. The Clerk confirmed to members that Cefn Community Council have been successful in securing a grant from the Landfill Disposables Tax Community Scheme to replace the windows and doors at George Edwards Hall, and a new flat roof. The Clerk clarified to members that the figure submitted on the application for the project was

£34,854.50, and not £24,854 as was previously noted in the minutes. The Clerk gave special thanks to Deio, as so far, he has secured Cefn Community Council almost £73,000 in grant funding, which is most encouraging going forward.

**10. URGENT BUSINESS** The Clerk advised that due to the timescales of the Landfill Community Scheme Grant, the aforementioned project will need to be completed by 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Waiting until the next meeting on December the 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss this will be too late. The Clerk stated to members that, due to the time sensitive nature of the project, a decision on this needs to be made at today's meeting and classed as an urgent business matter. The Clerk confirmed to members that all quotations were submitted as part of the bid process, with the least expensive ones totaling the £34,854.50. Since the quotations were received a few months ago, the prices have altered slightly due to rising costs. Cefn Community Council will have to agree to cover any extra costs, which will most likely be a few hundred pounds. The Clerk also confirmed to members that the quotes received do not include any scaffolding costs or road permit fees, this will need to be taken from Council reserves. Due to a conflict of interest, The Clerk was removed from the meeting, and the assistant took over this part of the meeting. The assistant read out the following quotes to members –

#### **Windows & Doors**

1. Snowdonia Windows £21,127 (The original quote was £20,874)
2. Boyles Glass £28,250
3. Merseyside Multi Glazing Ltd £42,091

#### **Replacement Flat Roof on office side**

1. Flint Roofing £17,100
2. S C Smith Roofing Wrexham £13,980

The assistant confirmed to members that the Clerk has evidence that the Clerk and Chairman had requested several roofing quotes, but only two companies gave a price. The assistant also confirmed that council will need to suspend the standing orders and financial regulations to award the contract, given only two quotes have been submitted. Councillor D Wright recommended that the standing order be removed with regards to this matter, seconded by Cllr P Vaughan, all members in favour and agreed. Councillor I Twigg proposed that the contract to undertake the work be awarded to Snowdonia Windows and SC Smith Roofing, seconded by Cllr D Wright, a vote followed, all members in favour. Councillor D Wright requested that The Clerk make enquiries with Snowdonia windows and SC Smith roofing what length of guarantees they offer.

#### **84. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- (a) Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021 – ***RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021 be confirmed and signed by the chairman at the earliest opportunity – subject to alteration of minute ref***

*76.2, Councillor D Metcalfe strongly disagreed with the content and wished it to be altered, he had not approached the football teams, they had approached him – Clerk to action.*

- (b) Minutes of the Community Development Working Party Committee Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – **RESOLVED that the minutes of the Community Development Working Party Committee held on the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 be confirmed and signed by the chairman at the earliest opportunity.**

**85. TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK FROM REMEMBRANCE SERVICE AND TO DISCUSS LAMPPOST POPPIES**

1. The Clerk advised that she has received four emails from the public with feedback from Remembrance Sunday, which were read out to members. All expressed their gratitude for a lovely service and gave thanks for the refreshments after the service at George Edwards Hall. Special thanks were also given for the tremendous effort in compiling the research for the commemorative booklet. Councillor Sonia Benbow-Jones added that she would like to thank the Ruabon Air Cadets for attending and stated they were a credit to their squadron.
2. Residents have been enquiring why there are not more poppies on lampposts in the surrounding villages beyond Cefn Mawr. A discussion followed, currently the protocol was to place the poppies in the area directly around the Cenotaph, but asked members if they had any ideas with regards to next years placements. The Clerk reported the cost of each poppy is £3.00 and approximately fifty were erected this year. The Clerk reminded members that this year, Councillor P Vaughan, along with member of staff, had been fixing these poppies to the lamppost themselves, and should the placement be expanded to include more villages within the community, this would not be achievable for just two people, and more resources to put them up would be required, It is estimated to cover the four wards would need approximately three hundred poppies. Councillor I Twigg recommended that the Clerk enquire into the cost of a cherry picker and operator to place the poppies in more areas of the community next year. This was seconded by Cllr S Benbow Jones. All agreed that the issue be discussed on the agenda in March 2022.

**86. Monthly Accounts**

**ACCOUNTS TO BE PASSED FOR PAYMENT 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2021**  
**EXPENDITURE**

Wages/Sal from (month 7)  
T Nicholls-Smith, H Parry, S Roberts, N Hughes-Lloyd, MC Hartshorne      5244.39

**Invoice No**

|        |        |  |         |
|--------|--------|--|---------|
| 21/105 | 106321 | Zurich Insurance - Invoice for annual renewal                              | 5795.73 |
| 21/106 | BACS   | Community Agent - Expenses for 3 months                                    | 316.71  |
| 21/107 | 106323 | AVOW - Invoice for course for clerk and admin officer                      | 120.00  |
| 21/108 | BACS   | WTE Printers - Invoice for WWII Booklets                                   | 5140.00 |
| 21/109 | BACS   | TMNS - Expenses for Oct/Nov (LGA 1972 sect 112)                            | 166.41  |
| 21/110 | BACS   | Steve Pugh - Invoice for gravedigging                                      | 335.00  |
| 21/111 | BACS   | R J Tree Services - Invoice for clearing of trees on bowers road, Acrefair | 240.00  |

|        |        |  |         |
|--------|--------|--|---------|
| 21/112 | BACS   | Peter Green Groundcare - invoice for cemetery maintenance      | 1306.00 |
| 21/113 | BACS   | Peter Green Groundcare - invoice for Play Area maintenance     | 1014.00 |
| 21/114 | 106322 | Scottish Power - Invoice for G E Hall                          | 424.60  |
| 21/115 | 106324 | EDF Energy - Invoice for unmetered supply                      | 2141.03 |
| 21/116 | BACS   | D Evans Catering - Invoice for remembrance                     | 611.00  |
| 21/117 | 106325 | Mr J Proctor (brass with class) invoice for remembrance        | 40.00   |
| 21/118 | BACS   | TMNS - Expenses for Oct/Nov (LGA 1972 sect 112)                | 212.44  |
| 21/119 | BACS   | WTE Printers - Invoice for remembrance booklets                | 180.00  |
| 21/120 | BACS   | Slick Stickers - Invoice for Christmas banners                 | 40.00   |
| 21/121 | 106326 | Viking Direct - Invoice for office and GE Hall (cleaning)      | 304.26  |
| 21/122 | BACS   | ORP Surveillance - Invoice for site visit to investigate fault | 48.00   |
| 21/123 | 106327 | Lumalite Ltd - Invoice for Christmas sign for GE Hall          | 1050.00 |
| 21/124 | 106328 | Jones Lighting - Invoice for repairs                           | 577.08  |
| 21/125 | 106329 | British Gas - Invoice for GE Hall                              | 204.61  |
| 21/126 | 106330 | British Gas - Invoice for GE Hall (office side)                | 75.58   |

**Invoices Received During Oct/Nov 21**

|                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| HMRC Tax & NI (18.10.21)      | 1162.17                 |
| Clwyd Pension Fund (18.10.21) | 765.32                  |
| CSA Payment                   | 325.67                  |
| HSBC Charges (27.10.21)       | 19.00                   |
| WCBC NNDR                     | 602.00                  |
|                               | <b><u>£28461.00</u></b> |

**Income**

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| WCBC (youth club grant) | 500.00 |
|-------------------------|--------|

**Burial**

|                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Marcher Stone (Rec 0142)  | 220.00  |
| WR & R Thomas (rec 0143)  | 195.00  |
| Francis Roberts (Rec0145) | 3210.00 |
| S Price Memorials (0147)  | 25.00   |

**GE Hall**

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Dance Zone (Rec0137)      | 374.00 |
| Dance Zone (Rec 0144)     | 308.00 |
| Geoff Langford (Rec 0146) | 110.10 |

**Interest**

|                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Business Money Manager 13.10 | 1.79                   |
|                              | <b><u>£4943.89</u></b> |

**Resolved that the listed payments be approved**

**87. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING**

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1 |  | Rainbow Centre - Email re: Change of name to The Rainbow Foundation. <b><i>Clerk read the contents of the email - resolved to be noted.</i></b> |
| 2 |  | OVW - Email re: Third sector voter registration support grant - <b><i>resolved to be noted.</i></b>   |



|    |  |
|----|--|
| 3  | OVW - Email Re: Welsh Defibrillator Fund. <b>Clerk read the contents of the email - resolved to be noted.</b>  |
| 4  | OVW - Email re: Local Government and Elections Wales Act 2011 Sec 47 Multi Location meetings survey. <b>The Clerk advised that this has been filled in on behalf of Cefn Community Council – resolved to be noted.</b>   |
| 5  | WCBC - Email re: Youth Club wish list copy of items – <b>The Clerk read out the contents of the email. Resolved to be noted.</b>   |
| 6  | Wrexham Foodbank - Email re: foodbank moving to splash- <b>The Clerk read out the email it was resolved to be noted that the foodbank move to Plas Madoc.</b>  |
| 7  | WCBC - Email re: Funding for staffed play Provision in 2022-2023 – <b>The Clerk recommended that Cefn Community Council continue to pay for the provision. Cllr P Roberts was in favour seconded by Cllr P Vaughan. It was agreed that the clerk inform the play team – resolved.</b>  |
| 8  | Welsh Government - Email re: Inquiry into second homes – <b>Resolved to be noted</b>   |
| 9  | Ysgol Acrefair - Email re: support requested for erection of fence around school playing field - <b>It was agreed that the Clerk compose a letter from Cefn Community Council supporting this - resolved to be noted.</b>  |
| 10 | Cllr D Wright- copy of email re: contractor for work at Cefn Mawr School - use of MUGA for car parking for residents – <b>seconded by Cllr Benbow Jones. It was resolved that the car park be available to use by residents while work is being done at the school.</b>  |
| 11 | Acrefair Resident - Email re: Lamppost Poppies – <b>Discussed earlier minute 85, agenda for March 2022</b>   |
| 12 | Kate Thomson - Email Re: Crane Street Car Park - <b>The Clerk advised that three trees will be removed on Cefn Bank to enhance the aqueduct view, this will be compensated by tree planting elsewhere in the village. A stone wall needs repair, and a bench will be installed at the location.</b>                                |
| 13 | OVW - Email re: Launch of national framework for the delivery of bereavement – <b>Resolved to be noted.</b>  |
| 14 | Community Agent - Email re: Dog waste bin request – <b>The Clerk advised that a dog waste bag bin has been requested on Rock Road in Rhosymedre by a resident. Members discussed the request and resolved to place a dog bag dispenser at the location. Clerk to make the necessary arrangements to place one at the location.</b> |
| 15 | Wales Air Ambulance - Request for financial assistance – <b>Resolved to move to December meeting.</b>  |
| 16 | WCBC - Email re: Local Bus services - <b>it was resolved that the Chair and Clerk compose a letter to the local bus companies asking them to consider their routes through the community whilst the roadworks and diversions are in place .</b>  |
| 17 | OVW - Email re: Draft corporate joint committee Wales Regulations 2022 consultation – <b>resolved to be noted</b>  |
| 18 | OVW - Email re: The local Elections Wales Rules 2021 - <b>The Clerk read the contents, resolved to be noted</b>  |
| 19 | Cllr D Metcalfe - Email re: Cefn Christmas Carol Service - request for volunteers – <b>Resolved to be noted</b>  |
| 20 | Play Wales - Email re: Play Wales Impact Report 2020-21 – <b>the Clerk advised members that this is available. Resolved to be noted</b>  |
| 21 | Friends of Ruabon - Email re: Santa visits and request for volunteers – <b>Resolved to be noted</b>  |
| 22 | Nightingale House Hospice - Letter re: Shop closure in Cefn Mawr – <b>The Clerk read the contents of the letter to members, which was in response to a letter from Cefn Community Council questioning their decision to close the shop - resolved to be noted.</b>   |
| 23 | WCBC - Email re: Town & Community Council Elections 2022 Precept setting - <b>The Clerk read the contents, resolved to be noted.</b>   |

*The Clerk reported she is continuing to forward via email all correspondence received from Ken Skates, AVOW and WCBC when it is first received.*

## **75.TO RECEIVE PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

### **Planning Applications Received During September/October 2021**

P/2021/0982            Outline application for the erection of 1 no two storey  
Dwelling with associated groundworks and alterations  
To vehicular access at Hillcrest  
Site adjoining Hillcrest, Bethania Road, Acrefair

*In relation to planning application P/2021/0982 No observations or objections were raised*

P/2021/1015            Variation of condition 2 of planning permission P/2021/0061  
To amend approved plans  
Ysgubor Issa, Pen Y Bryn, Penycae

*In relation to planning application P/2021/1015 No observations or objections were raised*

P/2021/1025            Proposed off street parking  
Land east of 45-47 Plas Isaf Rhosymedre

*In relation to planning application P/2021/1025 No observations or objections were raised*

## **88.REPORTS FROM MEMBERS.**

88.1 Councillor I Twigg reported that there is large pot holes opposite the boxing club in Acrefair that need looking at. The lights further down the street from the drill hall in Acrefair are off, The Clerk stated that the issue has been reported to WCBC but will follow up on both issues.

88.2 Councillor D Melcalfe advised that he has had reports from residents who do not feel safe whilst using the cash machine at Tesco Cefn Mawr due to the number of youths hanging around the area. Cllr S Benbow Jones confirmed that the CCTV at Tesco is no longer working. It was resolved that the Clerk write to the manager at Tesco with the concerns raised

88.3 Councillor P Blackwell asked for the Clerk to add to the letter to Tesco that he has a complaint with regards to trolleys being left around the community. He asked for it to be noted that he has recently found one in the brook in Plas Madoc. The Clerk will add the concerns to the letter.

The Chairman thanked members and public for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed.