

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

**MINUTES OF THE REMOTE VIRTUAL FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON**  
**ZOOM ON**  
**25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022**  
**Chair: P Vaughan**

**103. PRESENT** Councillors: P Vaughan, Mrs S Benbow-Jones, Mrs J Jones, D Metcalfe, Mrs P Roberts, Mrs K Tiltman, Mrs I Twigg, B Twigg, P Blackwell, D Wright & Mrs G Wright

**104. APOLOGIES** Non Received

**105. TO RECEIVE DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor S Benbow-Jones declared a personal & prejudicial interest in relation to agenda item 13: Planning applications P/2021/1202 and was placed in the waiting room whilst being discussed.

**106. PUBLIC QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS**

None Received

**107. TO RECEIVE POLICE CORRESPONDENCE**

Monthly Council Report

---

**16th January 2022**

*Cefn Mawr/Rhosymedre/Newbridge/Plas Madoc*

Happy New Year and we hope that you had a pleasant Christmas break.

**Monthly Police Surgeries**

The next surgeries are being held on the following dates and locations:

- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January @ 3.15pm at the George Edwards Hall, Cefn Mawr
- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January @ 1:30pm at the Leisure Centre, Plas Madoc

We have advertised the surgeries via Facebook and our Community Alert system. Please feel free to share on your own platforms to encourage members of the community to join us. We look forward to seeing you there.

**PCSO Resource**

Due the high demand caused by the recent ASB issues outlined in last month's report, PCSO's from other rural locations have joined the Cefn ward on a temporary basis. At the

start of January, PCSO Tim Peers and PCSO Enya Bellis-Jones joined us which has enabled us to increase patrols in target locations, as well as dealing with individuals in a timely manner.

### **ASB**

Whilst we are still dealing with reports of ASB, we have seen improvements across the hot-spot locations. We have made some good progress in identifying youths responsible and are dealing with them robustly and formally. NPT Officers have been assigned to interviewing suspects where necessary, referrals are being made to Youth Justice and we have set up joint home visits with the Estate Office for individuals who are residing in local authority housing and are causing repeat ASB within the community.

### **Burglary**

1 x burglary from a garden shed in Acrefair. Suspect was captured on Ring Door Bell and was therefore disturbed before taking any items. Investigation is currently on-going.

1 x burglary from a garden shed in Newbridge. Suspect has stolen two high value bikes. Investigation is currently on-going.

### **Thefts of Motor-vehicle**

1 x theft of a motorbike in Cefn. Victim's motorbike was taken from the roadside. Investigation is currently on-going.

1 x theft of a vehicle from Rhosymedre. Investigation is currently on-going.

During the week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> January, PCSO's will be carrying out VCRAT (Vehicle Crime Reduction Action Team) foot patrols and house-to-house visits. The aim of this is to identify any vehicles which are unlocked/have valuable items on display and to inform the owner of the vehicle there and then to prevent opportunist crime from happening.

### **E-Scooters**

Since Christmas, we have seen an increase of youths riding e-scooters in an anti-social manner. We continue to challenge any individuals caught riding e-scooters and have been advising parents about the current law regarding them. A Section 59 Notice was recently issued to one rider, if caught a second time, the scooter may be seized.

PCSO Lara Shiers and Tim Peers will be holding an educational session on e-scooters and handing out guidance leaflets at the Plas Madoc Leisure Centre on the weekend of 22<sup>nd</sup> January.

### **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*

[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)

The Clerk read an email received from PCSO Shiers asking for Cefn CC to purchase a speed monitoring gun for use of PCSO's within the Cefn community, this will equip the PCSO's to carry out more regular speed checks in areas of concern. A lengthy discussion followed, resolved to purchase the monitoring equipment at a cost of £170.00

### **108. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORT FROM COMMUNITY AGENT**

**December 2021/January 2022**

- 5 referrals from British Red Cross (BRC)
- 1 referral from Social Services (SS)
- 5 family/friend referrals
- 10 self-referrals
- **Cefn** – 39 referrals
- **Rhosymedre** – 11 referrals
- **Acrefair** – 5 referrals
- **Newbridge** – 4 referrals
- **Plas Madoc** – 7 referrals
- **Out of area** - 2
- 3 WCBC referrals
- 4 referrals CC
- Other - 40

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I would like to say that I had a good break however, I caught Covid and spent the time feeling very sorry for myself 68 referrals over the period December to January due to undertaking voluntary work over the Christmas period and catching up with lots of residents on Christmas Day. Luckily, I got to see Cliff (no.2 The Haven) on Christmas day before he very sadly passed away.

There have been more self-referrals over the past few weeks from individuals who are looking to move/downsize their properties. I attended a meeting this week with a resident and the Housing Allocation Team due to a complaint with that team and hopefully we are now a step closer to resolving the complaints. Councillor Benbow-Jones has continued to support me with the concerns raised as it has had quite a negative impact upon our residents mental health and wellbeing.

Sadly, there has been a suicide in the last week. One of our residents is affected by this due to the 'relationship' with this individual, and because of the circumstances I shall be working closely with them for the next few weeks to monitor.

On a lighter note, I donated a 3-piece suite to an unsuspecting resident this week and arranged for their old one to be disposed of, and to return to help get their property de-cluttered as visible hoarding. Some great partnership working with the Estate Office!

I have got several meetings to attend over the next few weeks looking at how we can help to shape 2022 and improve our resident's lives. There are lots of proposed initiatives and I shall update you next month.

I am waiting to hear back from the British Red Cross as to how they are managing referrals this year. Social Services took over referrals at the end of 2021 which has resulted in nothing from them since the middle of December, despite there being numerous referrals waiting. CAB are not currently doing face to face appointments due to Covid so I have noticed a, currently, small increase in referrals due to this. I have also noted how Welfare Rights now operate and can understand why a lot of referrals involve benefit queries and claims. Finally, I will attend the Food Bank at Splash Madoc on Thursdays whenever I am able to however, they have advised that due to Covid and the small space, I won't be able to attend every week. This did prove valuable for me to attend as I gained new referrals each week from the George Edwards Hall.

## **109. TO RECEIVE CLERKS REPORT**

1. The Clerk reported that both she and the assistant are following Welsh Government rules brought in at the end of December in relation to work from home requirements. The Clerk stated that staff have been working a mixture of office and home but have not been in the office together. This rule is no longer enforceable after Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January, and normal office working will resume from Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.
2. The Clerk reported to members that the bench at the memorial garden is back in place, and has been secured with extra metal fastenings so hopefully will be safe, this will be shared on our Social Media platforms.
3. Following on from the report in December, the Clerk advised members that unfortunately the quote for the new windows and doors for George Edwards Hall and the council building has increased by £6869. The original quote was for 34 items and the new quote is for 44 items. As a gesture of goodwill, they will reduce the cost by £500.00, making a final figure of £27,496. The Clerk advised that Cefn Community Council have a grant of £20,874, a difference of £6622. Quotations from other companies were £28250 and £42,091, still making it the cheapest option. Councillor I Twigg proposed that Cefn Community Council still go ahead with the quote, and the balance is taken from the reserves, Seconded by Councillor K Tiltman, all members in favour. The Clerk suggested a meeting with the Chairman and company to clarify the order before committing.
4. The Clerk reported that the bat survey undertaken on the roof of the offices, which was required as a condition of receiving the grant, has been completed. There is no evidence of bat activity, and the report is due hopefully at the beginning of February. However, as no survey is 100% accurate, the surveyors are suggesting they are present on the first day of work on the roof to be completely satisfied that there are no bats nesting. The Clerk stated to members that the council chamber has now been cleared of equipment ahead of the roof work being done, as the ceiling is close to collapse.
5. Reports of fly tipping on the Co-op site has been reported, however, it is still not been removed, the Clerk confirmed that this will be followed up as soon as possible.
6. The Cemetery contractor has started the second phase of continuing the path at the cemetery. The Clerk informed members that both she and the Chair made the decision to go ahead with the work due to timescales. The job requires completion during a quieter period before the cutting season starts, all members agreed and were in favour.
7. The Clerk read out an email from WCBC regarding the Wrexham Play Sufficiency Innovation Grant 2021-22 for up to £2,000. The Clerk stated that she has made enquiries in regard to this, an application has been made to use the money towards the costs of repairs to the play park at Gwynant, Plas Madoc. Cefn Community Council has already paid £2060 for the wet pour at the park to be re-laid, and any monies obtained from the grant will be used to recoup this cost.
8. With reference to the email sent to members from Councillor D Wright regarding the City of Culture bid. The Clerk confirmed that a grant application has been sent to WCBC for funding of the Football tournament, which will take place on Thursday

28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 with the four local schools participating. We will find out within the next week if we are successful in securing a grant, more details to follow in February.

9. The Clerk thanked members who volunteered their time to attend the litter pick in Newbridge earlier this month. She asked members if they wish to carry one out in February or leave until April when the warmer weather starts. Members voted in favour of a break, with Councillor G Wright proposing, seconded by Councillor I Twigg. Noted to be discussed in the March meeting for the April litter pick location.

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

- (a) Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2021 – ***RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 be confirmed and signed by the chairman at the earliest opportunity.***

#### **111. TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE ROLLING RENEWAL OF COMMUNITY AGENT CONTACT**

The Clerk advised members that at present, Cefn Community Council, like other local community councils, have not received confirmation from WCBC that funding is in place for the Community Agent for 2022/23. The Clerk asked members if they wish to extend a fixed term contract for 12 months, bearing in mind if the funding is cut the salary will be paid from the reserve account. Councillor I Twigg proposed that the contract be extended, seconded by Councillor P Vaughan. Resolved. All members in favour.

#### **112. TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE PRECEPT REQUIRED FOR 2022/2023**

Member had been furnished with the draft precept report prior to the meeting. Following a full detailed discussion Councillor Mrs K Tiltman proposed to accept the draft report, seconded by Councillor Mrs P Roberts. All members in favour. Resolved, Cefn community council's precept requirement for 2022-2023 is £154,776. One hundred and fifty-four thousand, seven hundred and seventy six pounds. The Clerk was requested to notify WCBC of council's figure

#### **113. TO DISCUSS REPLACEMENT CCTV AT THE REAR OF GEORGE EDWARDS HALL**

The Clerk advised members that one of the cameras at the rear of George Edwards Hall is faulty and requires replacing. Currently there are two CCTV systems at the hall and the Clerk has received a quote from our current CCTV provider to have them linked. The cost of this and a replacement camera is £1,611. There is £2,000 allocated in the precept from 2021-22 to cover this cost. Councillor I Twigg Proposed, seconded by Councillor D Wright, all members in favour to accept the quotation and replace the current faulty system. The Clerk was requested to obtain a further quote for mobile CCTV to cover hotspots within the area.

#### **114. Monthly Accounts**

##### **ACCOUNTS TO BE PASSED FOR PAYMENT 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022** **EXPENDITURE**

Wages/Sal from (month 9)  
T Nicholls-Smith, H Parry, S Roberts, N Hughes-Lloyd, MC Hartshorne      5117.90

**Invoice No**

21/144	106339	British Gas - Invoice for GE Hall	152.08
21/145	106340	British Gas - Invoice for GE Hall	328.79
21/146	106441	PPL PRS - Invoice for GE Hall	232.25
21/147	106442	Jones Lighting - Invoice for repairs	49.16
21/148	106443	David Groom Sound - Invoice for remembrance	180.00
21/149	106444	Wybone - Invoice for dog bags	134.33
21/150	BACS	ACS Technology - Invoice for office IT	94.50
21/151	BACS	TMNS - Expenses for Nov/Dec (LGA 1972 sect 112)	40.15
21/152	BACS	CA Expenses for October to December	315.68
21/153	BACS	Cefn Mawr Historical Society	200.00
21/154	BACS	CRNCA	200.00
21/155	BACS	Friends of Ruabon	200.00
21/156	BACS	St John's Church	200.00
21/157	BACS	Rhosymedre Methodist Church	200.00
21/158	BACS	Hampden Bowling Club	200.00
21/159	BACS	Ysgol Acrefair	200.00
21/160	BACS	Ysgol Min Y Ddol	200.00
21/161	BACS	Ysgol Cefn Mawr	200.00
21/162	BACS	Friends of Llys Y Craig	200.00
21/163	BACS	Cefn OAP Welfare	200.00
21/165	106445	Wales Air Ambulance	500.00
21/166	106446	Calon FM	100.00
21/167	106447	Hope House	500.00
21/168	106448	Urdd Eisteddfod	100.00
21/169	106449	Nightingale House	1,000.00
21/171	BACS	Peter Green Groundcare - invoice for cemetery maintenance	60.00
21/172	BACS	Peter Green Groundcare - invoice for Play Area maintenance	714.00
21/173	BACS	Steve Pugh - Invoice for gravedigging	625.00
21/174	BACS	TMNS - Expenses for Dec/Jan (LGA 1972 sect 112) Cemetery supplies)	587.17
21/175	106450	British Gas - Invoice for GE Hall	215.30
21/176	106451	British Gas - Invoice for GE Hall	197.38
21/177	106452	EDF Energy - Invoice for unmetered supply	709.72

**Invoices Received During Nov/Dec 21**

HMRC Tax & NI (21.12.21)	1255.28
Clwyd Pension Fund (21.12.21)	802.18
CSA Payment	251.67
HSBC (27.11.21)	12.23
WCBC NNDR	602.00
	<b><u>£17076.77</u></b>

**Income**

WCVA (grant)	27883.20
Vodafone (Rec 0155)	1250.00

National Heritage Lottery Fund (grant)	19046.00
Tesco Stores (Rec 0156)	6250.00

**Burial**

Francis Roberts (rec 0154)	205.00
Marcher Stone (rec 0149)	110.00
Mossfords (Rec 0158)	110.00

**GE Hall**

Dance Zone (Rec 0157)	275.00
G Langford (Rec 0159)	82.50
Slimming World (Rec 0160)	297.00

**Interest**

Business Money Manager 13.11	1.77
	<b><u>£55510.47</u></b>

**Resolved that the listed payments be approved**

**115. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING**

**Correspondence Received During December 2021/January 2022:**

1	The Clerk stated that letters of thanks have been received from Hampden Bowling Club, Cefn Mawr Historical Society, Ysgol Cefn, and Wales Air Ambulance . <b>Resolved for contents to be noted</b>
2	Welsh Government - Letter received regarding: General power of competence qualification of Clerks Wales. <b>Clerk outlined the contents of the letter. Resolved to be noted</b>
3	An email was received from Welsh Government in regards consultation on Draft Statutory Guidance for Community and Town Councils. <b>Resolved to be noted, Cllr D Metcalfe asked for a copy - Clerk to send</b>
4	An email received from Llyr Gruffydd AS regarding a survey on local sewerage problems. <b>The clerk advised that Councillors identify any local issues and report to her, the information will be forwarded on.</b>
5	An email was received from the Welsh Government regarding their Draft Budget 2022-2023 <b>Resolved to be noted.</b>
6	A letter received from WCBC in regarding the service level agreement for inspection and maintenance for play areas 2022/23. The cost is £3052.00 which is an increase from last year of £55. <b>Resolved that the council continue with the current SLA for 2022-23, proposed by Councillor Mrs S Benbow-Jones, seconded by Councillor B Twigg, all members in favour.</b>
7	Cllr D Wright discussed the email that he sent to members with regards to the City of Culture bid. He confirmed that the grant form for the Football tournament to be held on 28/04/22 has been submitted and we are awaiting the outcome. <b>Councillor D Wright stated that he has emailed the four local schools regarding the football tournament and that it was the original intention to include years 3 to 6. Due to the time it would take for all the years to participate, this would create some difficulty in fitting all the matches in. Councillor D Wright proposed that, as in previous years, only teams from years 5 and 6 take part, but other year groups are welcome to come and take part in other activities during the day. Further activities and refreshments provided on the day will be dependent on the grant funding. All members in favour. Cllr D Wright to report on developments in February.</b>
8	Air Cadets email re: request for financial assistance. <b>The Clerk stated to members that all grants have been allocated for year 2021-22. Vic Studios and Mencap were awarded a donation but</b>



		<i>failed to complete the necessary paperwork. Vic studios is no longer in existence and has been replaced by Rockworks Academy. Councillor D Wright proposed that the £200 be awarded to the air cadets, and should Mencap and Rockworks academy wish to apply next year for consideration they are welcome to do to. All members were in favour.</i>
9		WCBC - Letter re: Armed Forces Day 2022. <i>The Clerk read a letter to members from WCBC in relation to Armed Forces Day, which will be hosted in Wrexham on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June. Members were advised that if they, or any community groups wish to take part they are to get in contact with WCBC. Resolved to be noted.</i>
10		An email was received from WCBC with reference to the 'Tell us what you think' survey <a href="http://www.yourvoicewrexham.net/survey/1454">http://www.yourvoicewrexham.net/survey/1454</a> <i>resolved that the Clerk email the link for members to fill in the survey.</i>
11		Resident Chapel Street, Acrefair - Email re: complaint regarding containers on land at Chapel Street, and earth tipping onto the public pathway. <i>Councillor D Wright proposed that contact is made with the landowner in the first instance to clarify what work is being done and timeline of completion, Secoded by P Vaughan, all members in favour. Clerk to send a letter to the property owner, Clerk to provide an update in February meeting.</i>
12		Email received from One Voice Wales regarding the violence against women consultation for Welsh Government. <i>Resolved to be noted.</i>
13		SLCC – Letter as received regarding membership renewal at a cost of £234. <i>Resolved. All members in favour of renewing the membership.</i>
14		The contents of a letter from Network Rail were read out to members by the Clerk, in relation to work being undertaken on the network between Rhosymedre and Newbridge to remove dangerous trees. This work will take place between 9pm and 8am from Monday the 24 <sup>th</sup> of January to Friday the 11 <sup>th</sup> of February. <i>Resolved to be Noted.</i>
15		WCBC – email re: funding for staffed play provision for sessions from the 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2021 to 31 <sup>st</sup> of March 2022. It stated that this will be funded by the Winter of Wellness wellbeing programme. <i>Resolved to be noted.</i>
16		SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) Email Re: Queens Garden party, Buckingham Palace. <i>Following a discussion with all members, resolved to nominate Councillor Phil Vaughan &amp; Cllr Mrs J Jones as his guest. Clerk to fill in the nomination form.</i>
17		Resident Kynaston Place – Email re: road surface – <i>the Clerk read the contents of the email to members; a further email had been received from a resident in Browns Lane raising the same concerns. A discussion followed; Clerk requested to write to WCBC with concerns raised.</i>

## **116.TO RECEIVE PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

### **Planning Applications Received During December / January**

P/2021/1202    Variation of condition 2&3 of planning Permission  
P/2016/0505 to extend time limit for submission of  
Reserved matters and commencement of development  
Former Air Products Site, Llangollen Road, Acrefair

*In relation to application P/2021/1202 no objections/observations were made. Councillor S Mrs S Benbow Jones was placed in the waiting room during this discussion and was not present.*

P/2021/1204    Insertion of door to existing club course, siting of double  
And single portacabins for use as shop, media, suite/office,  
Siting of storage container and erection of 2.4M High Fence,

(Partly in retrospect)  
Cefn Druids Football Club, The Rock, Rock Road,  
Rhosymedre.

*In relation to application P/2021/1204 no objections/observations were made*

**117.REPORTS FROM MEMBERS.**

117.1 Councillor Mrs I Twigg & Cllr D Metcalfe stated a property on Queen Street, has erected a fence after removing the hedgerow which is visible from the car park at Cefn bank. Councillor D Wright stated that no planning application has been put in place. Clerk to write to WCBC and make enquiries.

117.2 Councillor D Wright stated he has received complaints about parking in the evening on Heol Abon in Cefn Mawr. Residents claim that people have been parking on the pavements and they cannot access driveways to their properties. The local PCSOs have stated that a complaint needs to be made to WCBC with the backing of Cefn Community Council so that they can address the situation.

117.3 Councillor D Wright stated that at the top of Bro Gwilym there is a pathway that has been destroyed, this is the result of a contractor recently completing work in the area. Cllr D Wright has been assured by the company the issue will be rectified.

117.4 Councillor Mrs S Benbow Jones has received complaints of cars speeding on Llangollen Road. Clerk stated that she will write to NWP and request that the Go Safe vehicle visit the location.

117.5 Councillor Mrs P Roberts advised that the footpaths in Newbridge are of poor standard. Councillor Mrs S Benbow Jones stated that she has written to WCBC over the state of the main road.

117.6 Councillor D Metcalfe stated that he estimated that there is now three times as much traffic going over the Bont bridge daily since the road closure at Newbridge.

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