

CYNGOR CYMUNED DYSERTH

DYSERTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Local Government and Elections

(Wales) Act 2021 (Section 52)

Annual Report – Year ending 31st March, 2022

The Council

Community Councils were established under the Local Government Act 1972 and replaced the previous system of Parish Councils. There are over 730 Town & Community Councils in Wales, with over 8,000 Councillors.

The population of the Dyserth Council area is 1,990 (January 2022 Register of Electors).

During the reporting year all Council meetings have been held remotely due to the pandemic. Members of the community and press were able to connect. Council meetings are held on the second Monday of the month (no meetings held in August and December) and commence at 7.00pm. (From September, 2022 – meetings will commence in the Pavilion Building (off Thomas Avenue)). These meetings will be hybrid. Non-scheduled meetings are also held in an emergency or possibly in relation to an urgent planning application – especially during the months of December and August. All meetings will be publicly advertised.

The agenda for the meetings are advertised locally including the Council's web site a few days prior to the meeting. Residents of the community are welcome to address the Council Members for a reasonable period of time at the commencement of the meeting. Members of the press are also welcome to attend meetings. Should any resident, or press member wish to connect to a meeting by audio, please advise the Clerk to the Council by providing at least three days notice prior to the meeting date.

Complaints

During the reporting year there were no complaints made directly to the Council, or to the Wales Public Services Ombudsman, or the Denbighshire County Standards Committee.

Councillors

During the reporting year there were eleven members of the Dyserth Community Council, with Councillor David Parry as Chair of Council and Councillor Andy Hughes as Vice

Chair. Following the Town & Community Council elections in Wales held in May of this year, ten candidates completed their nomination papers. Following the display of public notices, one resident was co-opted to the Council.

Councillor names and contact details

Councillor John Glover 01745 – 571473	Councillor Dave Parry 01745 – 571956 (IND)
Councillor H. Andrew Hughes 07775 – 098000	Councillor Alan Pennington 07885 – 445677 (WC)
Councillor David G. Jones 01745 – 570647	Councillor Mrs. Julie M. Peters 07859 – 008728 *
Councillor Delyth Lloyd-Williams 07882 110716 (IND)	Councillor Anne Ruth Rogers 07496 – 835683 (WL)
Councillor Emyr W. Morris 01745 – 571812	Councillor Margaret G. Williams 01745 – 570883
Councillor Haydn Owen 07827 – 089678	* Denotes Co-opted Member (IND) Independent (WC) Welsh Conservative (WL) Welsh Labour

Freedom of Information Act

During this reporting year one Freedom of Information requests were received. The full information requested was provided within the required timescale.

Local Committees and Outside Bodies

Following the Welsh Town & Community Councils elections in May of this year, the Council Members who serve on Local Committees and Outside Bodies during 2021 / 2022 have changed from this reporting year. The following list is current for year 2022 / 2023.

Name of Organisation	Councillor Representative
Community Hall Committee	Councillors’ H. Andrew Hughes and Emyr Morris
Dyserth, Meliden & Cwm Relief In Sickness Fund	Councillors’ Allan Pennington and David G. Williams

Elizabeth Hughes Trust (Cwm)	Councillor H. Andrew Hughes
Environment Committee	Councillors' David G. Jones, Delyth Lloyd-Williams and Mrs. Margaret G. Williams (Chair),
Environmental Group	Councillor David H. Parry
Planning Sub-Committee	All Councillors
Play Area – Sub-Group	Councillors' Vacant / Vacant
Waterfall Committee	Councillor Mrs. Margaret G. Williams and Councillor Emyr W. Morris
Ysgol Hiraddug School Governor	Councillor John Glover (5 year term of office as a Governor commenced on 11 October 2018 (Ceases in October, 2023))

Contacting the Council

Contact details for the Clerk and Financial Officer to Dyserth Community Council

R. Phillip Parry, Ty Cornel, 51, St. Michael's Drive, CAERWYS, Flintshire, CH7 5BS.	Tel: 01352 720547 E-mail: clerk@dyserthcouncil.wales Web site: www.dyserthcouncil.wales
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Council's objectives (2021 / 2022)

During this reporting year the key objectives of the Council were:

- Burial Field: The Community Council are the owners of land commonly known as the Burial Field. The permitter fence has been renewed and other safety work has been completed during this reporting year.
- Children's Play Area: Joint project with Dyserth Play & Stay, whereby the Council provided the sum of £10,750.00 towards installation of new play equipment.

To continue to maintain and upgrade the play and multi games areas; with weekly and monthly inspections, including repairs and jet washing of the tarmac.

- Christmas Festivities: The Council continue to provide Christmas lighting along the High Street, with new lights purchased for the lower Dyserth area, including the purchase of Christmas trees.

- **Contracts:** The Community Council have continued with contracts for grass cutting in the King George play field and other areas, including the emptying of dog bins.
- **Dyserth Lime Kilns:** Following the purchase of the kilns from Tarmac at a nominal fee of £1.00 – the Council have cleared the area of undergrowth, commissioned work to preserve the frontage of the kilns and create a picnic area. The ordering of an interpretation board and direction signage. The project is almost complete. The Community Council are grateful to the Gwynt y Môr Community Fund for financial assistance of £5,780.00. The project will ensure the kilns are preserved for their historical heritage in Dyserth.
- **Leisure activities:** The Community Council have funded an initiative by Denbighshire County Council's 'Let Play Out' scheme – an outdoor activity which is held once a week.
- **Public Footpaths:** The Community Council installed a number of safety handrails on public footpaths, especially in the areas of steeper pathways above the Dyserth Waterfall. The Community Council also jointly funded a new handrail with Denbighshire Rights of Way.

The Community Council also fund extra grass cutting on public footpaths, to ensure a safe passageway for users.

The Community Council have been proactive in reporting damage and other concerns found on footpaths to Denbighshire Rights of Way Officers.

- **Working with the Dyserth Environmental Group** on a number of projects, including the planting of almost 500 tree saplings in a Community Council owned field on the village perimeter. The Council were pleased with the attendance of residents and children who assisted with the planting.

Council's objectives - 2022 / 2023

During the 2022 / 2023 financial year, the Council have agreed the following priorities:

- ❖ To complete the recreational area and other work at the Dyserth kilns, together with the installation of a new Interpretation Board, printing of information leaflets and installation of directional signage.
- ❖ To continue with the current contracts (dog bins, grass cutting and play area) – including the general duties of the Community Council. To also continue to address the traffic concerns in the High Street, including speeding traffic. To continue to support and enhance the Community Council area for the benefit of the residents.
- ❖ To create a recreational area between the children's play area and the Pavilion building. The area will contain bench seating with safe access to the play area and will be professionally landscaped.
- ❖ To further discuss with Denbighshire County Council, the installation of additional footpath handrails, including providing financial assistance.
- ❖ To provide a secure storage facility for the Dyserth Junior Football Club.

- ❖ To work with both Denbighshire County Council and Dyserth Environmental Group, to further develop bio-diversity projects within the Community Council area.

(Funding for the above projects will be utilised from the annual precept and reserves)

Financial

Asset Register

The value of the Community Council's asset register totals £281,087.00. A copy of the register can be obtained from the Clerk to the Council.

Council budget

The Dyserth Community Council precept for the financial year 2021 / 2022 was £46,000.00. This amount is precept on residential properties within the community, and equates to a figure of £41.29p per household on a Band D property. There are 37 Town and Community Councils in the County of Denbighshire, with the highest Community Charge being £98.87. There are 1,114 Band D household properties within the Dyserth Community area – as at January 2021. The Band D household precept for the Dyserth Community Council area, is made up as follows:

- Denbighshire County Council – £1,436.76
- Police & Crime Commissioner – £305.55
- Dyserth Community Council – £41.29

Total: £1,783.60

The Community Council's precept for 2022 / 2023 was set at £48,500.00. This amount is precept on residential properties within the community, and equates to a figure of £41.24p per household on a Band D property.

Financial Assistance

Each year, Dyserth Community Council considers requests for financial assistance to support the work of its local groups, organisations and charities. Grants are specifically made by the Council in the interest of its local area and its residents. The Council allocates grants for financial assistance from the annual precept, in accordance with Section 137 (Local Government Act 1972) and other National and Wales Government Acts.

During the reporting year the Community Council granted a number of applications for financial assistance, which totalled: £2,703.00 under Section 137 and £5,928.00 under various Local Government Acts.

Members Allowance

Payments (Allowances) to Members of Dyserth Community Council - 2021 / 2022

In accordance with Section 151 of the Local Government Measure 2011, Community and Town Councils must publish within their authority area the remuneration received by their Members by 30th September following the end of the year to which the payment relates. The information must also be sent to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPFW) by the same date.

Dyserth Community Council provided this information to the (IRPFW) on 29th June, 2022, and was uploaded to the Council's web site at: www.dyserthcouncil.wales (public notices and financial).

Publication of audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

Regulation 15(5) of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended) requires that by 30 September 2022, Dyserth Community Council publish its accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 together with any certificate, opinion, or report issued, given or made by the Auditor General.

The Community & Town Councils in Wales – Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2022, has been submitted to Wales Audit on the 9th June, 2022. A copy of the Annual Return was subsequently published on the Council's notice boards and web site at: www.dyserthcouncil.wales (public notices and financial). Following audit, the certificate and other documents will be uploaded to the web page.

Environmental (Wales Act) 2016 (S6)

Under the above Act a Public Authority in Wales must prepare and publish a biodiversity plan. Whilst the Community Council adopted a draft plan, the Council continue to work with Dyserth Environmental Group. This Council's biodiversity plan will be updated later this year and thereafter published.

Denbighshire County Council

The Community Council adopted the following: A Charter between Denbighshire's City, Town & Community Councils and Denbighshire County Council a number of years ago. The charter was agreed by 34 City, Town & Community Councils within the County. Due to the pandemic there have been no meetings held.

Planning Applications

The Community Council is not a planning authority and as such does not make final decisions on planning applications; this is the responsibility of Denbighshire County Council. However, the Community Council is a statutory consultee and as such receives all planning applications relating to the community. The Community Council do make their respective comments and suggestions on all planning applications, including requesting site meetings.

Details of the planning applications that this Council made comment upon, can be found in the monthly meeting minutes – on the following web site: www.dyserthcouncil.wales (minutes of meetings).

Street Lighting

The street lighting in the Dyserth Community Council area is administered by Denbighshire County Council.

To report a faulty street light, please contact the County Street Lighting Department on: 01824 706000, or e-mail Customer Services at:

customerservices@denbighshire.gov.uk or by completing an on-line form at:

<https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/parking-roads-and-travel/street-lighting/street-lighting.aspx>

Training plans

Under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 Section 67 - all Town & Community Councils in Wales are required to produce a training plan for Councillors and Clerk, by the 5th November, 2022. This is in progress

This End of Year report was adopted by the Members of Dyserth Community Council, on Monday 10th October, 2022 – under Minute number: 7(C). 174/22