

CYNGOR CYMUNED DYSERTH

DYSERTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Local Government and Elections

(Wales) Act 2021 (Section 52)

Annual Report – Year ending 31st March, 2023

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 2,028 (January 2023 Register of Electors).

During the reporting year Council meetings were held remotely from April 2022, whereafter from September meetings were held hybrid with the face to face venue being The Pavilion Building (Bowling Club), Off Thomas Avenue, Dyserth.

Council meetings are held on the second Monday of the month (no meetings held in August and December) and commence at 7.00pm. Non-scheduled meetings can be 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 and press are welcome to attend all meetings. Residents are also able to address the Council Members for a reasonable period of time at the commencement of the meeting on matters appertaining to the community.

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 Andy Hughes as Chair of Council and Councillor David Parry as Vice Chair.

Councillor attendances at meetings can be viewed in the minutes of meetings which are available on the Council web site. The following were Council Members during the 2022 / 2023 reporting period.

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 no Freedom of Information requests were received.

Local Committees and Outside Bodies

Council Members who serve on Local Committees and Outside Bodies during 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 (Dyserth Play & Stay)	Councillors' Vacant / Vacant
Waterfall Committee	Councillor Mrs. Margaret G. Williams and Councillor Emyr W. Morris
Ysgol Hiraddug School Governor	Councillor John Glover

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 (2022 / 2023)

During this reporting year the key objectives of the Council were: *(Update in italics)*

- 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.

Whilst work has commenced in the kilns area, including the completion of the picnic area – with a number of picnic tables – with one being an accessible model. However, and unfortunately, the remainder of the work has ceased presently, as the Community Council are awaiting a structural engineers report on Kiln number 4.

- 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.

The above referred to contracts still continue. The Community Council seeked from Denbighshire Highways a number of traffic surveys. A number of meetings have been held with County Highway Officers to further discuss phase two of the Dyserth traffic alleviation scheme. The Community Council are currently awaiting receipt of draft plans from the County.

- 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.

The recreational area has been constructed and completed at the end of March – 2023. The Community Council are awaiting delivery of bench seats and an accessible picnic table. An official opening will be arranged during the summer of 2023.

- To further discuss with Denbighshire County Council, the installation of additional footpath handrails, including providing financial assistance.

Whilst the Community Council have ring-fenced funding towards additional handrails, the Council are awaiting funding from Denbighshire County Council.

- To provide a secure storage facility for the Dyserth Junior Football Club.

The above project has been completed.

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

The Community Council still continue to work with both Denbighshire County Council and Dyserth Environmental Group. During March of this year – the final reporting month, the Dyserth Environmental Group on behalf of the Community Council made application to the Woodland Trust for over 400 saplings. This application was granted, whereby a planting day was held and the Community Council were pleased to receive the assistance of a number of residents.

- Under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystem Duty, Town & Community Councils in Wales are required to produce a Policy Statement & Action Plan under the above Act. The plan can be viewed on the Council's web site.
- 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 both Councillors and Staff. The plan can be viewed on the Council's web site.

Council's objectives - 2023 / 2024

During the 2023 / 2024 financial year, the Council have agreed the following priorities:

- To support and enhance the Community Council area for the benefit of the residents.
- To continue to lobby Denbighshire County Council Highways seeking to implement a suitable scheme named phase two, to alleviate traffic concerns in the High Street.
- 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.
- The Community Council will continue to be proactive in reporting damage and other concerns found on footpaths to Denbighshire Rights of Way Officers.

- The Community Council have approached Denbighshire Highways seeking a site meeting, with a view to providing a handrail from the area of the traffic lights travelling uphill towards the High Street.
- The Community Council will continue to address the lack of bus services travelling through the High Street, with Arriva Buses.
- To continue to maintain and upgrade the play and multi games areas; with weekly and monthly inspections. During this year the Multi Games area will be re-netted.
- Christmas Festivities: The Council will continue to provide Christmas lighting along the High Street and lower Dyserth area, including the purchase of new / additional Christmas lights.
- Leisure activities: The Community Council have agreed to fund the Denbighshire County Council 'Let's Play Out' Scheme for the new financial year to March 2024. This is a popular evening leisure activity for the youths of the community.
- To arrange an official opening of the leisure garden seating area - adjacent to the children's play area.
- The Community Council will continue to fund extra grass cutting on public footpaths, to ensure a safe passageway for users.
- The Council will continue the upkeep of the village planters. The Council are grateful to Tre Castell Nurseries for providing the plants free of charge for the large planters on all the approach roads into Dyserth.
- To continue 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 will be utilised from the annual precept and reserves)

Financial

Asset Register

The value of the Community Council's asset register during the reporting period of 2022 to 2023 totals £281,310.00. 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 2022 / 2023 was £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. There are 37 Town and Community Councils in the County of Denbighshire, with the highest Community Charge being £99.96. There are 1176 Band D household properties within the Dyserth Community area – as at January 2022. The Band D household precept for the Dyserth Community Council area, is made up as follows:

Denbighshire County Council – £1,479.16

Police & Crime Commissioner – £316.80

Dyserth Community Council – £41.24

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: £5,032.00 under Section 137 and £2,950.00 under various Local Government Acts.

Members Allowance

Payments (Allowances) to Members of Dyserth Community Council - 2022 / 2023
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.

Whitford Community Council provided the previous years return prior to the required date to the (IRPFW). A copy of the information can be viewed on the Council's web site at: www.dyserthcouncil.wales (public notices and financial). The return for this reporting year will be published on the above web page in due course.

Publication of audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

Regulation 15(5) of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended) requires that by 30 September 2023, Dyserth Community Council publish its accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 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 2023, will be submitted to Wales Audit following confirmation at the May 2023 Council meeting. A copy of the Annual Return will thereafter be published on the Council's notice board 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. This Council's plan can be found at: www.dyserthcouncil.wales (public notices and financial).

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.

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>

This End of Year report was adopted by the Members of Dyserth Community Council, on Monday 3rd April, 2023 – under Minute number: 7(D). 78/23