



CYNGOR CYMUNED DYSERTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Dyserth Community Council,

Held in The Sports Pavilion, Thomas Avenue, Dyserth,

On Monday, 8th January, 2024, at 7.00pm.

No Council meeting was held in December

**1(A). 01/24
PRESENT**

Councillor David Parry (Chair of Council)
Councillor John Glover
Councillor Andy Hughes
Councillor David G. Jones
Councillor Emyr Morris
Councillor Julie Peters
Councillor Anne R. Rogers
Councillor Margaret G. Williams

Councillor David G. Williams (Denbighshire County Council)

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

**1(B). 02/24
APOLOGIES**

Councillor Delyth Lloyd-Williams
Councillor Haydn Owen
Councillor Allan Pennington

**1(C). 03/24
ABSENT**

None

**2(A). 04/24
PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS**

The Clerk advised that the following concern had been received :

- ❖ Parking on pavement and yellow hatched area in Thomas Avene near Ysgol Hiraddug primary school. A number of photographs had also been received which clearly identified vehicles together with their registration mark. (These photographs were shown on screen to Members).

The Police had also been sent the photographs who had replied to advise, that they were aware of the concerns, whereby patrols would be arranged to visit the area on regular occasions.

Standing Orders were suspended:

The Chair of Council Councillor David Parry welcomed John-Paul Birch (Dyserth Junior Football Club) to the meeting, together with colleague Des Martin.

John-Paul Birch (JPB) addressed Council Members and provided an overview of the previous discussions with Council in relation to the provision of additional facilities in the area of King George recreational field. The previously outlined project, upon further investigation, was not feasible. The Junior Football Club seek the observations of the Council to a pitch side permanent building. At this stage the amended project will require to be costed whereby a local architect has agreed to assist. JPB advised Members that there were a number of reasons for the project amendment – from a portacabin and extension to the Pavilion building, which included, safeguarding. The building would be a single story with a flat roof and could be accommodated in an area towards Cwm Road. The building would consist of home and away changing rooms, toilet facilities and a small canteen. A new link pathway would be included.

The Clerk advised that should Council agree to the amendment, an agreement or other legal document between the Dyserth Junior Football Club and the Community Council would have to be professionally sought.

Members agreed the following: In principle, were supportive of a pitch side building, subject to perusal of plans.

2(B). 05/24

Standing Orders were restored:

3. 06/24

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest declared.

4. 07/24

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

The Minutes were proposed by Councillor David Jones and seconded by Councillor Andy Hughes as correct and formally agreed by the Members present.

5. 08/24

PROGRESS REPORT ON MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) **Arriva Bus Service:** The Clerk advised that to-date there was no further correspondence from Dr. James Davies MP, in relation to the further enquires with Arriva Buses.

- (2) **Children's play area:** (1) The springer repair had not been completed (2) Aura Leisure were still making enquiries in relation to the lack of matting under one bench seat in the toddler play area.
- (3) **Denbighshire County Council:** The Clerk advised that the application for funding from the Commuted Sums towards a 50% cost of the purchase of an accessible item of play equipment had been made and acknowledged by Denbighshire County Council.
- (4) **Speed Indicator Device:** The Clerk advised that the device had not been installed.
- (5) **Dyserth Kilns:** The Clerk advised that whilst requests had been made for a site meeting , apart from acknowledgements, there had been no provisional dates offered. The Clerk will further make contact with the two Denbighshire County Council Officers.

6. 09/24

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT (CLLR DAVID G. WILLIAMS)

County Councillor David Williams advised Members in relation to the following:

- (1) Councillor Williams provided an update in relation to the concerns with the delay in providing a flood water defence in Lower Dyserth, following a joint meeting with Officers from Denbighshire County Council and Natural Resources Wales in late November. A public meeting held in The Red, Lower Dyserth was reported.
- (2) Resident concern in relation to water affecting a boundary wall in area of Lower Foel Road, Dyserth
- (3) Enquiry to Denbighshire Highways to establish if an area in Cwm Road where white stones have been sited is part of the adopted highway
- (4) Following complaint a request to Denbighshire Highways to remove alleged illegally sited parking cones from James Park
- (5) Following complaint made a request made to Denbighshire Highways to ensure access to a salt grit bin on Waterfall Hill. The County had replied to advise that the concern is a matter for the Police.
- (6) Reported to Denbighshire Highways a number of tree branches causing obstruction in the River Ffyddion, Near Foel Coaches
- (7) Reported to Denbighshire Highways crumbling road surface in the area of Foel Coaches car park
- (8) Reported to Denbighshire Highways blocked drains in area of former Anglia development
- (9) Reported to Denbighshire Highways overgrown shrubbery in Cwm Road – forcing pedestrians off the pavement and into the roadway
- (10) Reported to Denbighshire Highways a number of deep potholes in area of St Asaph Road
- (11) Running water in area of Hiraddug Road.

The following items were discussed with Councillor Williams:

- (i) Request for a white line in James Park to be re-painted

- (ii) Blocked drains / gullies on a number of roads in Dyserth, including: Waterfall Hill, High Street, Cwm Road and in the Bodrhyddan area.
- (iii) The second phase of the Dyserth High Street alleviation scheme.
- (iv) During the resurfacing of the B5129 Waterfall Road – near the traffic lights junction, could the hedges in the area that have been promised to be cut, be completed during the roadworks.

Councillor David Williams advised that he would address the above concerns with Denbighshire.

7(A). 10/24

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been received, that was required to be either advised to, or dealt with by the Members:

- (a) The Clerk advised, that the following criminal offences had been reported to the North Wales Police, that had occurred within the Dyserth Community Council area:
 - October: 1 x Anti social behaviour / 2 x Drugs / 2 x Other theft
 - November: 3 x Anti social behaviour / 1 x Criminal damage / 4 x Violence
- (b) Welsh Government: Appropriate sum under Section 137 (4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 – Expenditure Limit for 2024 / 2025. An increase from the current sum of £9.93 to £10.81 per elector
- (c) Denbighshire County Council: Invitation for the Chair and Clerk to attend a briefing session in St. Asaph in relation to the County Council's new domestic waste collection service. Both the Chair and Clerk will attend on Wednesday 7th February at 5.00pm to 6.30pm
- (d) The Clerk advised that all Councils in Wales had received a notification from the National Association of Local Councils, which advised in relation to a pay increase agreement for Council Clerk's and back dated to the 1st April, 2023. The Chair and Vice Chair had been sent a copy of the agreement. The Clerk advised that the back-pay was provisionally included in the accounts section of this evening's meeting – from April to December.

Members agreed the following: Accepted the national agreement whereby the Clerk's salary standing order to be amended for the January payment (paid on 1st February, 2024), to reflect the national monthly increase.

The following correspondence was forwarded by e-mail to Members:

- ❖ Denbighshire County Council: Welsh Government consultation on a fairer Council tax
- ❖ Denbighshire County Council: Decision in relation to opening hours for libraries in the County
- ❖ Denbighshire County Council: Draft County budget for 2024 / 2025
- ❖ Denbighshire County Council: Information in relation to gritting of roads during adverse weather conditions

- ❖ Denbighshire County Council: Changes to the household waste collection services in the County
- ❖ Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: Consultation for Council Members to complete
- ❖ Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: Reporting the allowance form the 2024 / 2025 budget
- ❖ Hedgehog Awareness: Information forwarded to Councillor Delyth Lloyd-Williams
- ❖ One Voice Wales: Training sessions in relation to Digital Health of Community & Town Councils in Wales
- ❖ Denbighshire County Council: Message from the County Standards Committee following visits to Town & Community Councils in the County
- ❖ Denbighshire County Council: Emergency Road Closure - Pandy Lane / Carreg Heilin Lane, Dyserth (Monday 8th January, 2024)

7(B). 11/24

CLERK'S REPORT

- (1) Received from and deposited into the Council's bank account:
 - Denbighshire County Council - £16,167.00: Third precept payment for financial year 2023 / 2024
- (2) The Clerk advised that the Denbighshire Transport Officer had seeked the observation from the Community Council to erect a new bus shelter in the area of Ffordd Ffrainc, which would be positioned on the opposite side to the brick shelter. Following consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair, the Clerk had advised the Community Council supported the installation.
- (3) The Clerk advised that a number of lamppost Christmas lighting units had been reported as faulty
- (4) Further correspondence in relation to concerns with a footpath in the Bryn Y Felin area

7(C). 12/24

TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE: QUARTERLY STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO THE 31ST DECEMBER, 2023

The Clerk, as Financial Officer, provided Members with a copy of the Quarterly Statement of Accounts, as at the end of December 2023, together with copies of the Council Bank account statements. The Clerk further provided Members, with a breakdown in relation to the budget headings, which included income and expenditure to-date.

Members agreed the following: Approved the Statement of Accounts, whereby the document was agreed to be signed by the Chair of Council – Councillor David Parry.

7(D). 13/24

TO RECEIVE, CONSIDER AND APPROVE: BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2024 / 2025

- (1) To increase the current precept for the forthcoming financial year to £50,500.00. The Clerk advised, that the Band D property charge would be £42.65, an increase of £0.73p a year (1.74% - 6p extra per month).
- (2) The Chair of Council David Parry, to sign the estimates for the end of the financial year 2023 / 2024, including the precept requirement for 2024 / 2025.
- (3) The Clerk to advise Denbighshire County Council, in respect of the Community Council's financial requirements (precept) for 2024 / 2025.

7(E). 14/24

TO CONSIDER: APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR – END OF YEAR AUDIT 2023 / 2024

The Clerk advised that this matter is an annual agenda item in January of each year. The Clerk further advised, in relation to the appointment process for the Council's Internal Auditor.

Members agreed the following: To re-appoint JDH Business Services Ltd., as the Council's Internal Auditor for the end of year 2023 / 2024 accounts.

7(F). 15/24

TO CONSIDER: FUTURE COMMUNITY AWARDS

The Clerk recollected Members to the Community Award initiative held during 2023 and enquired if Council wished to hold a similar award during 2024.

Members agreed the following: To hold the award on a bi-annually basis. The Clerk to arrange for 2025.

7(G). 16/24

CLERK'S ANNUAL APPRAISAL – 2023

The Clerk advised, and the Chair of Council - Councillor David Parry confirmed, that the Clerk's annual appraisal had been completed for year 2023.

8. 17/24

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS (COMMITTEES, LIAISON & MEETINGS ATTENDED)

- (i) Councillor Andy Hughes advised the following: (1) The annual Christmas event at the Community Hall was a great success (2) Due to the electricity supply costs the Hall will be changing supplier.
- (ii) Councillor Andy Hughes advised the Estyn report for Ysgol Hiraddug will be published in February
- (iii) Councillor Margaret Williams advised the following: (1) A flood defence system has been installed in the area of the Waterfall (2) The Waterfall did have to close due to inclement weather for a number of days (3) Repairs to the bridge have been delayed

9(A). 18/24

PLANNING

The following planning application had been received:

- Application number: 42/2023/0672 – for installation of free standing air source heat pump, at 10 Parc Bron Deg, Dyserth.

Comment by Council: Providing that the application is subject to compliance with relevant policies and planning guidance notes, then no objections raised.

(The above application was sent to Members for consultation in-between meetings, due to statutory time limits for observations from County Planning).

9(B). 19/24

Members formally confirmed the above decision.

9(C). 20/24

The following planning application(s) were considered by Members at the meeting:

- ❖ No planning applications received from Denbighshire County Council for consideration at meeting

9(D). 21/24

PLANNING DECISIONS

The following planning decision has been received from Denbighshire County Council:

- Application number: 42/2023/-576 – for development of 0.15ha of land by the erection of 4 dwellings (outline application – all matters reserved), at land at former Plas Llanerch, Hiraddug Road, Dyserth. Withdrawn.

10. 22/24

TO DISCUSS: SOCIAL PRESCRIBING (CLLR DELYTH LLOYD-JONES)

The Clerk advised that Councillor Delyth Lloyd-Williams had requested this agenda item to be adjourned to the February Council meeting.

11. 23/24

TO DISCUSS: DETERIORATION OF LETTERING ON DYSERTH WAR MEMORIAL (CLLR DAVID PARRY)

Councillor David Parry addressed Members in relation to the deterioration of a number of names contained on the Dyserth War Memorial. Photographs of the Memorial were shown on screen, which clearly showed some lettering as almost unrecognisable.

Members agreed the following: To seek a quotation from a professional to restore the name lettering. Councillor David Parry agreed to meet with an appointed company at the Memorial.

12. 24/24

TO DISCUSS: GROUNDWATER SURFACING ADJACENT TO PLAY AREA (CLLR DAVID PARRY)

Councillor David Parry advised Members that following being advised in relation to water flowing in the area of the children's play area, a site meeting was urgently held with Councillors' Allan Pennington, Andy Hughes and himself. The water had also frozen. Members were shown photographs of the area of flooding / running water.

The Clerk advised that an urgent quotation was sourced from Utility Contractors, whereby a quotation for £490.00 had been received, for a soakaway sump hole to be dug, together with other

work. The Clerk further advised that the above quotation was accepted by the Chair and Vice Chair of Council.

Members agreed the following: Confirmed the above quotation for £490.00 from Utility Contractors.

13. 25/24

TO DISCUSS: CONDITION OF NOTICE BOARD AT ENTRANCE TO WATERFALL CAR PARK (CLLR JULIE PETERS)

Councillor Julie Peters addressed Members in relation to the condition of a notice board which is sited to the right of the Waterfall car park. Photographs of the notice board were shown on screen to Members which clearly identified the board as unsightly. It was noted that the board had been erected adjacent to the river wall with the front of the board facing the river. It was clear that it would be too dangerous to place items on the board.

The Clerk advised that he had been in contact with the Secretary of the Waterfall Committee, who advised, that the board was installed by Denbighshire County Council many years ago.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to contact Denbighshire County Council and seek that the board is removed.

14. 26/24

TO CONSIDER: RELOCATION OF HIGH STREET CHRISTMAS TREE (CHRISTMAS 2024) (CLLR MARGARET WILLIAMS)

Councillor Margaret Williams addressed Members in relation to the current position of the Christmas tree in High Street. It is quite dangerous for people and children to stand in this area due to the proximity of the High Street traffic. The area of the tree positioning can only be seen travelling from the traffic lights. There was also difficulty in sourcing electricity for the Christmas tree lights. Councillor Williams suggested that Council consider relocating the Christmas tree to the small area of land near the turning to James Park. This would be a wonderful area for the tree to be seen and also spectators could safely be accommodated in the garden area of the adjacent public house. The landlord had expressed their agreement to this proposal.

Members agreed the following: (1) To relocate the High Street Christmas tree to the area of land adjacent to the entrance to James Park (2) To seek a quotation for the installation of a safety sleeve / protective underground cover to house the Christmas tree (3) The Clerk to write a letter to the owner of a High Street business to express the Council's thanks for providing the electricity to the Christmas tree lights at no cost to this Council.

15. 27/24

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Cheque Number	Payee	Net £	Vat £	Total £
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DECEMBER 2023 - PAYMENTS</u></p> <p><u>Payments made – to be confirmed:</u></p> <p>Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for November) Payments dated 01/12/2023</p>			

Caerwys Computer Clinic (Yearly web site hosting)	180.00		180.00
Audit Wales – External Audit for 2021 / 2022	200.00		200.00
Reg Davies & Son (Annual fee for grasscutting on Council land, including the Waterfall steps and Community Hall grassed area)	2,800.00		2,800.00
Cllr David Parry. Re-imburement for purchase of children’s selection boxes for Christmas lights switch on – as per receipt	135.00	27.00	162.00
Louise Walsh (Environmental Services & Inspections of Play Area for November)	40.00		40.00
<u>JANUARY 2024 - PAYMENTS</u>			
<u>Payments made – to be confirmed:</u>			
Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for December) Payments dated 01/12/2023			
<u>Payments for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u>			
BACS: H. M. Revenue & Customs. Clerk’s PAYE & Clerk & Council NI - October, November & December, 2023	877.85		877.85
Louise Walsh (Environmental Services & Inspections of Play Area for December)	40.00		40.00
R P Parry – Clerk (NALC – Council Clerk’s national salary increase from 1 st April 2023 to December 2023) (Less HMRC)			

16. 28/24

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	<u>Authorised to be paid by BACS:</u>	
	Urdd National Eisteddfod (Application for grant towards Eisteddfod in Maldwyn (Montgomery) (Section 145 LGA 1972)	£500.00

17. 29/24

Members agreed the payments of the above accounts and financial support as listed.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

SIGNED BY CHAIR OF COUNCIL

DATE OF APPROVAL.....

DRAFT