

CYNGOR CYMUNED DYSERTH

DYSERTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Local Government and Elections

(Wales) Act 2021 (Section 52)

Annual Report

Year ending 31st March, 2024

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 2,030 (January 2024 Register of Electors).

During the reporting year all Council 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 two complaints made against Councillors, these were received directly to the Community Council. There were no complaints received by either 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 Allan Pennington 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 2023 / 2024 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 2024 / 2024

Name of Organisation	Councillor Representative
Community Hall Committee	Councillors' H. Andrew Hughes and Emyr Morris
Dyserth Business Group	Councillor Delyth Lloyd-Williams
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	All Councillors
Waterfall Committee	Councillor Mrs. Margaret G. Williams and Councillor Emyr W. Morris
Ysgol Hiraddug School Governor	Councillor Andrew Hughes (4 year Term of Office commenced on 13 th February, 2023 and ceases in February 2027).

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
--	---

Council's objectives (2023 / 2024)

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

- To support and enhance the Community Council area for the benefit of the residents. *The Community Council continue their support to the community, with many examples listed below.*
- 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. *The County Council have confirmed to the County Councillor for the area, that plans for phase two are in progress.*
- 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. *There has been an unfortunate delay in furthering the project at the Kilns. Following a structural engineers report the Council will be considering appointing a project manager to oversee the work required, together with funding outlets.*

- To continue with the current contracts (dog bins, grass cutting and play area) – including the general duties of the Community Council. *These contracts have continued.*
- 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 reported many concerns to the County Footpaths Officer.*
- 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. *Whilst a site meeting took place, unfortunately the County Council were not able to install a hand rail for two reasons, namely, the pavement was not wide enough to accommodate a rail, together with budget restraints.*
- The Community Council will continue to address the lack of Arriva bus services travelling through the High Street. Whilst another bus provider's route travels through this area, an additional service would benefit residents. *The Council held a virtual meeting with Senior Executives from Arriva Buses, including face to face meeting with the local Member of parliament and Welsh Government. To date, there has been no progress.*
- 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. *The re-netting has been completed, together with repairs to damaged play equipment. A bench seat in the toddler area has been re-sited at the request of parents. Installation of underground netting at the entrance to the area and at the base of the bench seats. This is to reduce muddy conditions following adverse weather. The Community Council are grateful to the Denbighshire County Council for the sum of £6,191.00 towards work and repairs in the play area.*
- 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. *Whilst additional Christmas lights were not purchased during this reporting year, whereby the funds are carried over to the new budget. The Council supported the two Christmas events held in the Dyserth Square area and Waterfall by providing confectionery for the younger members of the community.*
- 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. *These outdoor sessions were held throughout the year.*
- To arrange an official opening of the leisure garden seating area - adjacent to the children's play area. *An official opening was held with the Chair of Council Councillor David Parry unveiling a commemorative slate plaque. The Council utilised this occasion to seek the views from the younger users of the play area as to additional play equipment. An ice cream van was in attendance whereby children (and adults) were provided with free ice creams.*
- The Community Council will continue to fund extra grass cutting on public footpaths, to ensure a safe passageway for users. *This continued.*

- 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. *Councillors are allocated a planter or two to look after and the Council are grateful to a local resident who kindly waters the plants.*
- To continue to work with both Denbighshire County Council and Dyserth Environmental Group, to further develop bio-diversity projects within the Community Council area. *During this reporting year the Community Council together with the Dyserth Environment Group held two planting days in a Council owned field. The Council appreciated the assistance of residents, including children. The Council thank the Dyserth Environment Group for applying successfully to the Woodland Trust for many hundreds of saplings that were planted in the area.*
- *Ysgol Hiraddug: The Community Council have provided financial assistance towards the installation of a working learning space area. The Community Council also congratulated the Headteacher and staff following an excellent Estyn report.*
- *The Community Council have provided financial assistance to the Dyserth Waterfall Management Committee to assist with internal flood alleviation defences.*
- *The Community Council received from Play & Stay in Dyserth the sum of £2,393.00, due to the charity being dissolved. These funds have been ring-fenced for the children's play area.*
- *The Community Council have requested Denbighshire County Council to further include the King George Recreational area / Play area in their new updated Public Spaces Protection Order. This will result in Enforcement Officers being able to issue Fixed Penalty Tickets to dog owners who blatantly allow their animals to foul in the area.*
- *Community Award: During this financial year the Council held their first Community Award, whereby residents were able to nominate residents who had provided a service to the community on a voluntary basis. Councillor David Parry – as Chair of Dyserth Community Council, on behalf of the Council and residents congratulated Pat Johnson and Des Martin on their nominations from residents and presented both with flowers and Commemorative framed certificates.*

Council's objectives - 2024 / 2025

During the 2024 / 2025 financial year, apart from the general powers and lawfully required duties, the Community Council have agreed the additional following priorities:

- ❖ To continue to support and enhance the Community Council area for the benefit of the residents.
- ❖ To continue with the current contracts (dog bins, additional grass cutting and play area) – including the general duties of the Community Council.
- ❖ 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 continue to seek fruition of the Dyserth Kilns project and to ensure the historical value to the community is recognised.
- ❖ During the last month of the previous financial year the Community Council adopted the Red K6 Telephone Box sited at the entrance to James Park. The Council during this current year will discuss the future use of this iconic telephone box.
- ❖ To continue to work with both Denbighshire County Council and Dyserth Environmental Group, to further develop bio-diversity projects within the Community Council area.
- ❖ The Council will continue the upkeep of the village planters, including the provision of litter picking.
- ❖ Leisure activities: The Community Council have further agreed to fund the Denbighshire County Council 'Let's Play Out' Scheme for the new financial year to March 2025
- ❖ To continue to maintain and upgrade the play and multi games areas; with weekly and monthly inspections. During this financial year the Council will purchase and install an additional play item that will be accessible.
- ❖ 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. The Community Council will enlist the assistance of the Dyserth Business Group in seeking their views as to the area(s) and type of new Christmas lighting.
- ❖ The Community Council have ring-fenced monies to assist with flood defences being arranged by residents in the Lower Dyserth area.
- ❖ Dyserth Memorial Garden: The Community Council will continue to plant and maintain the flower beds within the memorial area. The Council have accepted a quotation to refurbish the name lettering on the memorial stone.
- ❖ Speed Indication Devices: The Community Council have committed to Denbighshire County Council a financial sum to erect a speed indication device in an area where traffic is persistent in not adhering to the speed limit. This Council have also allocated funding for either one or two permanent speed indicator devices. These devices are able to collate much information, including identifying vehicle speeds and registration marks.

(Funding for the above, were required, 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 2023 to 2024 totals £283,239.00. 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 2023 / 2024 was £48,500.00. This amount is precept on residential properties within the community and equates to a figure of £41.92p 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 £117.13. There are 1157 Band D household properties within the Dyserth Community area – as at January 2023. The Band D household precept for the Dyserth Community Council area, is made up as follows:

Denbighshire County Council – £1,535.35

Police & Crime Commissioner – £333.09

Dyserth Community Council – £41.92

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: £9,566.00 under Section 137 and £3,886.00 under various Local Government Acts. Details of the funding can be found in the Council's web site minutes.

Members Allowance

Payments (Allowances) to Members of Dyserth Community Council - 2023 / 2024
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 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 2024

Regulation 15(5) of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended) requires that by 30 September 2024, Dyserth Community Council publish its accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 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 2024, will be submitted to Wales Audit following confirmation at the May 2024 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. The County have not held any meetings during this reporting year.

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 8th April, 2024 – under Minute number: 7(D). 79/24