



CYNGOR CYMUNED DYSERTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Dyserth Community Council,

Held Virtually by Video and Telephone Conference,

On Monday, 2nd December, 2024, at 7.00pm.

No Council meeting was held in November

1(A). 201/24

PRESENT

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

Councillor David G. Williams (Denbighshire County Council)

Clerk & Financial Officer R. Phillip Parry

1(B). 202/24

APOLOGIES

Councillor Allan Pennington
Councillor Haydn Owen

1(C). 203/24

ABSENT

None

2. 204/24

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

Compliant received from resident in relation to unacceptable muck spreading by a local farmer which sprayed their private garden. The Clerk had replied to advise that this was not within the

remit of this Council to take forward and provided contact details for Denbighshire County Council's Environment Department.

3. 205/24

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest declared.

4. 206/24

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 14TH OCTOBER, 2024

The Minutes were proposed by Councillor John Glover and seconded by Councillor Anne Rogers as correct and formally agreed by the Members present.

5. 207/24

PROGRESS REPORT ON MATTERS RAISED AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Clerk referred to the following matters from previous Minutes:

- (1) Dementia Presentation:** The Clerk advised that following the attendance of Mike Kermode at the October Council meeting, Councillor Anne Rogers has kindly arranged a 'Coffee / Information afternoon in Dyserth Community Hall on Sunday 2nd February commencing at 2.00pm.

Councillor Anne Rogers provided the following additional information: Attendance in February Police Sergeant Beth Jones (Prevention Hub) / Representatives from the Alzheimer's Society Cymru and Carers Trust. Councillor Rogers sought assistance from Members for the event on the 2nd February.

- (2) Red Phone Box in James Park:**

Councillor Andy Hughes advised that following the removal of the back casing of the James Park red phone box additional work is required to facilitate the installation of shelving (photograph shown on screen). There will be an additional cost of £80.00. The work was to have been completed over a week ago but due to the snow and inclement weather has delayed the work – which is now scheduled for the coming weekend.

The Clerk advised of the contents received in an e-mail from former Councillor Delyth Lloyd-Williams, who advised the following: A number of volunteers have agreed to be keyholders for opening up and locking; number of businesses and others kindly agree to provide items for the box; Delyth is happy to be the phone box co-ordinator.

Members agreed the following: (1) Agreed the additional cost of £80.00 – due to the unforeseen additional work required (2) Hopefully the phone box will be completed this coming weekend (3) The Council expressed their thanks to Delyth Lloyd-Williams for assisting and for volunteering to be the co-ordinator for this community project.

- (3) Safety fence in recreational area:** Following the installation of the safety fence the following day it had been vandalised. Councillor David Parry and the Clerk had visited to ascertain the damage whereby the fence has been removed by the installation company. A further quotation had been received for £250.000 plus VAT to provide additional work to the fence which also involved the fence to be curved. The additional cost was agreed and a Work Order issued to MJW Welding of Dyserth due to the urgency.

Members agreed the following: Confirmed the above referred to additional cost.

- (4) **Dyserth Bowling Club – Lease Renewal:** The Clerk advised that the Bowling Club have agreed the additional clauses to be entered into the fifteen year lease, in relation to a Break Clause and Rent Clause. There is one Committee Member name to be changed.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to complete the formal lease for signature by both the Bowling Club Committee together with the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk to Dyserth Community Council.

- (5) **Paterson Hall, Dyserth:** The Clerk recollected Members that at the October Council meeting an application was considered for funding by Paterson Hall towards a new central heating system, whereby the Council had agreed the following:

‘Whilst the Community Council would wish to provide financial assistance towards the purchase of a new central heating boiler, the Council were unable to grant the request, due to the following reason:

An Act of Parliament in 1894 prohibits councils’ involvement in property relating to the affairs of the church e.g. the maintenance or improvement of buildings or land or contributing to the costs’.

The Clerk further advised that Paterson Hall had written seeking that the Council further consider the funding application and provided a number of reasons to be taken into consideration. The Clerk has provided the original application together with the further information received to the legal department of the Society of Local Council Clerk’s.

A reply had been received from a specialist legal advisor (Solicitor) who stated the following: ‘To make a decision to make such a grant is open to challenge’. A copy of the legal advice had been sent to the Chair and Vice Chair of Council.

Members agreed the following: Due to the legal advice the Council were unfortunately still unable to provide financial assistance to Paterson Hall – which is owned by The United Reformed Church. The Clerk to further write to Paterson Hall and to provide a copy of the legal advice.

Pending Matters:

The Clerk advised, that the following matters remain in the pending file:

- (i) **Co-option of Community Councillor:** Vacancy advertised in the Dyserth Times, local Facebook page, Council’s web site and notice board. Closing date for Expressions of Interest 12 Noon on Monday 6th January 2025.
- (ii) **Dyserth Lime Kilns:** No further update

6. 208/24

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

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

- (1) **Dyserth High Street Traffic Alleviation Scheme:** County Highways have agreed to a site meeting in Dyserth High Street and is awaiting suggested dates and times for consideration.
- (2) **Request to Councillor Williams for the Commuted Sums from the new housing estate to be made available to enhance the Maes Esgob Children’s play area.** A reply from the County advised that there was no commuted sums available presently, but the budget would be monitored.

- (3) Request from a local business for the parking time limit in Dyserth High Street to be extended, as the current time period does not allow sufficient time for people to achieve their visit purpose. The Clerk recollected to Members that this Council requested additional waiting time following the works outside the Spar business, but the County actually reduced the time.

Councillor Williams advised that due to the limited availability of the Enforcement Officers to visit Dyserth together with the legal and other associated costs to amend the waiting time, the matter to be reviewed in the future, if necessary.

- (4) Bus Shelter at The former Pop Inn. Following the reporting of the dangerous condition of the bus shelter roof Denbighshire County Council have made safe. The County have advised that the cost to repair the roof totals £4,758.00 plus VAT. The County have advised they will not repair at this cost. Councillor David Williams sought from the Community Council that they consider adopting / purchasing the bus shelter from the County, whereafter the repair could be completed at minimal cost.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to contact the County Transportation Officer to seek their views to the Community Council could possibly adopt, be transferred or purchase the bus shelter as referred to above.

- (5) Councillor David Jones referred to the fading keep clear white lines in the area of Pen Dre. Councillor Williams advised that the County have stated these white lines are currently withing the guidelines.

7(A). 209/24

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:

1 x Anti social behaviour / 1 x Other crime / 2 x Theft from persons / 5 x Violence offences

- (b) Aura Leisure Services: Notification from Aura Leisure that their play area inspections and other services provided to this Council would be transferred to Flintshire County Council during October. The level of service will be maintained. The Clerk recollected to Members that Denbighshire County Council do not provide an independent play area inspection service.
- (c) One Voice Wales: Joint seminar with Society of Local Council Clerk's covering a number of future priorities for the local Council sector, to be held on Wednesday 20th November. Councillor David Parry requested his attendance at the seminar.
- (d) Denbighshire County Council: Notification in relation to a number of Commuted Sums available for open spaces within the County, whereby the chart shows Dyserth with a sum of £2,473.43. These finds will be available to claim from the 13th January, 2025 with a closing date of 7th April 2025.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to place on the February 2025 agenda for further discussion.

- (e) Denbighshire County Council (Street Lighting): Quotation received for the installation and removal of the Council's Christmas street lighting, including yearly storage and inspection, at a cost of £1,732.00 plus VAT £325.60 – total £1,953.60. The Clerk advised that the cost had increased by £124.80 from last year.

Members agreed the following: Accepted the quotation.

- (f) Glascoed Timber: The Clerk advised that the Company had advised that their charges for the dog bin emptying contact would increase by 10% from April, 2025. This generally was due to the increase to disposal costs at £185.00 a tonne – a third increase which the Company were not able to sustain. The Clerk recollects to Members that there were no other Companies in the area that offered a dog bin emptying service.
- (g) Welsh Government: Notification that the appropriate sum under Section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 Section 137 Expenditure limit for 2025 / 2016 – had been increased from £10.81 to £11.10 per elector. The Clerk advised that the actual figure for this Council would be placed on the 2025 / 2026 accounts spreadsheet, and in particular, following notification by the County Returning Officer as to the number of residents entered within the electoral register which will be made public in January 2025.
- (h) Denbighshire County Council: Review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations. The Clerk advised that included within the County list of polling stations was Paterson Hall, Dyserth. This Council were being asked to confirm, or other, that Paterson Hall was a suitable building to continue to be used as a polling station.

Members agreed the following: The Clerk to advise the County that this Council consider Paterson Hall to be a suitable building to be retained as a polling station.

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

- ❖ Denbighshire County Council: Notification of compulsory Code of Conduct training courses for Councillors, to be held during the months of October 2024 to October 2025. Councillor John Glover attended a November training session.
- ❖ Dyserth Tuesday Morning Group. Invitation to attend their 50th Anniversary meeting which will be held on 7th January at 10.30am
- ❖ Natural Resources Wales: Update to the proposed new National Park in Wales together with Public drop-in dates
- ❖ One Voice Wales: Dementia action plan – forwarded to Councillor Anne Rogers for completion
- ❖ North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner: Survey named 'Have your say on funding for policing in North Wales'. Councillors to complete on a personal basis and also forward to others

7(B). 210/24

CLERK'S REPORT

- (a) Received from and deposited into the Council's bank account:
- Dyserth Waterfall Committee: £3,000.00 – share of 2023 / 2024 profit.

- Trebor Evans: £50.00 – donated in memory of a local resident with a request that it be ringfenced to the recreational / children’s play area.

Members agreed the following: (1) The £3,000.00 to be ringfenced for the Waterfall area (2) The £50.00 to be ringfenced towards the recreational / children’s play area

- Denbighshire County Council: £3,248.25 (£2,951.16). The Clerk recollected Members that this figure was the remaining balance in the Commuted Sums grant from the County Council. Following the completion and payment of the invoice for the recent work completed within the children’s play area, the Clerk had claimed the balance from the County. However, the figure of £2,951.16 had increased to £3,248.25 – due to interest being added.

(b) Community and Town Councils in Wales Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The Clerk advised that the Audit Wales Certificate had been received for the year 2023 / 2024. The report had been forwarded to the Chair and Vice Chair of Council. Members were shown the report on screen. The Clerk further advised that the Community Council had received an unqualified report, as detailed below:

‘On the basis of my audit, in my opinion no matters have come to my attention to give cause for concern that, in any material respect, the information reported in this Annual Return’
Other matters and recommendations: There were no further matters to be drawn to the Council’s attention.

The Clerk confirmed that the Audit Wales Report had been uploaded to the Council’s web site, together with the following Public Notice: Notice of conclusion of audit and right to inspect the annual return for the year ended 31 March 2024. (Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 Section 29 Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014. This public notice was also displayed on the Council’s public notice board.

Members agreed the following: Were pleased to receive the Audit Wales Unqualified Certificate and thanked the Clerk for his work.

- (c) National Joint Council for Local Government Services: The Clerk advised that the Local Government Services pay award for 2024 had been agreed in October, which included Clerk’s to Councils in Wales with a 2.5% increase in salary scales backdated from 1st April, 2024. The Clerk further advised, that he would calculate the back pay and provide the figures to Members at the January 2025 Council meeting.
- (d) The Clerk recollected Members to the agreed purchase of a number of tree guards from a Company named Hedges On-line for the Councils area of land known as the Burial Field. Not all the tree guard were used and the Company have agreed to a refund.
- (e) Council’s Christmas Street lighting: The Clerk advised that a quotation for £559.66 (incl VAT) had been received from Blachere Illuminations Ltd – for the repair to this Council’s Christmas street lighting. The quotation had been sourced by Denbighshire Street lighting. Following perusal of the quotation the actual repair cost was £66.38 with a delivery charge of £400.00 (plus VAT). The Chair and Vice Chair of Council had agreed that the delivery cost was prohibitive and the quotation was not accepted. However, the lights were returned to Denbighshire whereby they had been repaired (at no cost to this Council).
- (f) The Clerk recollected to Members that the two Council owned defibrillators sited at the High Street Pharmacy and The Red in lower Dyserth, whereby the pads and batteries have

been previously changed by the Welsh Ambulance Service, however, this service has now ceased. Councillor Emyr Morris as custodian of the defibrillators had requested the Council purchase new pads and batteries, which had been authorised and were reflected in the payments of accounts at the end of these minutes.

- (g) Speed indication Sign: A5151 Road at Tre Castell, Dyserth. Councillor David Parry reported that the sign had been removed. The Clerk has written to the County to ascertain if the sign was officially removed. No reply to date.
- (h) Denbighshire County Council: The Clerk advised in relation to the following concerns that had been reported to Denbighshire County Council (*update in italics*):
 - (i) Overgrown hedge in area of Thomas Avenue and pavement to Lower Foel Road (*hedge has been cut back*)
 - (ii) Overgrown tree branches on A547 Road, Dyserth and near to Voel Coaches (*Area visited by the County Tree Inspector whereby the landowner will be contacted to cut the branches*)
 - (iii) Overgrown foliage in triangular section of land between Waterfall Hill and Weavers Lane. The area was previously agreed by the County Council to be cleared / trimmed once a year (Reported directly by Cllr David Parry) (*contractors instructed to clear the area*)
 - (iv) Overgrown hedge onto pavement in area of Cwm Road and Bron Deg, Dyserth. (*Enforcement letter sent to resident by the County whereafter work has been completed*)
 - (v) Metal Water inspection cover: The cover at junction with James Park and High Street has loose tarmac around the cover. (*Repair work completed*)
 - (vi) Two drainage inspection covers: Two covers adjacent to the Waterfall car park were dangerous when slippery. The County were asked to replace with a non-slip surface (*Following inspection the covers are standard and will not be replaced*)
 - (vii) Blocked drain: At entrance to Waterfall car park. (*unblocked by County*)

7(C). 211/24

PRECEPT AND FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FOR 2025 / 2026

The Clerk advised, that this exercise was to enquire with the Members of the Council, if there were any items of expenditure extra to the present allocation in the 'Earmarked Reserves' to be included in the next financial year. A copy of the current ear-marked reserves was provided to Members.

Members agreed the following: (1) The following items to transfer from the current 2024 / 2025 ear-marked reserves budget for the financial year 2025 / 2026: Councillor Training & Public defibrillator training - £2,000.00 / Dyserth Lime Kilns Project - Phase 2 - £5,000.00 / New Street Christmas lighting - £5,000.00 / One Speed indication Camera - £5,000.00 (2) To transfer the current balance of £11,016.00 from the Waterfall budget to the general reserves (The £3,000.00 received in November 2024 to be placed in the 2025 / 2026 Waterfall budget heading) (3) Other possible ring-fenced and general reserves (includes property upkeep & play area) – to be agreed in January 2025 budget setting.

8. 212/24

REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS (COMMITTEES, LIAISON & MEETINGS ATTENDED)

- (i) **Dyserth Community Hall:** Councillor Andy Hughes provided an update to the Hall usage which included the Christmas event on Saturday 7th December between 11am to 2.00pm. Free entry and includes food, Father Christmas and face painting
- (ii) **Dyserth Waterfall:** Councillor Margaret Williams advised that two trees are to be removed due to health & safety concerns

9(A). 213/24 PLANNING

The following planning application had been received:

- Application number: 42/2024/1407/PS – for variation of condition 8 of planning permission 42/2023/0495 to read "The external roller and pedestrian access door facing Seaview Bungalow is to remain closed..." and condition 9 to amend the approved opening hours from "8:00 to 18:00" to "7:00 to 18:00", at Seaview Garage Meliden Road, 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). 214/24

Members formally confirmed the above decision.

9(C). 215/24

The following planning application was considered by Members at the meeting:

- ❖ 42/2024/1511/HH – for the erection of a single storey extension to rear of dwelling and associated works, at Tyn Y Pistyll, Carreg Heilin Lane, Dyserth.

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

9(D). 216/24

PLANNING DECISIONS

No planning decisions received from Denbighshire County Council

10. 217/24

TO DISCUSS: ARMED FORCES DURING TIMES OF CONFLICT INFORMATION BOARDS IN DYSERTH MEMORIAL GARDEN (CLLR DAVID PARRY) (ADJ FROM OCTOBER MEETING)

Councillor David Parry addressed Members as to the current condition of the two War Memorial interpretation plaques sited within the memorial garden area. The film covering on each of the plaques appears to be wearing. Members were shown photographs on screen of the two plaques with the Clerk recollecting to Members that the plaques had been in situ for some five years.

Members agreed the following: Councillor David Parry to kindly keep a watching brief on the plaques for any further deterioration.

11. 218/24**TO DISCUSS: NEW BENCHES AT TOP OF THE WATERFALL (CLLR EMYR MORRIS)**

Councillor Emyr Morris recollected Members to the new bridge build in an area at the top of the Waterfall by the County Council last year and seeked the thoughts of Council for a bench seat to be sited in the area. Photograph of the area was shown on screen.

Members agreed the following: (1) Provisionally agreed to the purchase of a recycled plastic bench (due to its durability against the elements and would require little to no maintenance) (2) The Clerk to make contact with the Land Agents for The Bodrhyddan Estate as owners of the land to seek their views and permission.

12. 219/24**APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Cheque Number	Payee	Net £	Vat £	Total £
	<u>NOVEMBER</u>			
	<u>Payments made:</u>			
	Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for October) Payments dated 01/11/2024			
	—————			
	Cavendish Bloor (Dyserth Kilns – Budget cost plan)	640.00	128.00	768.00
	Glascoed Timber (Dog bin contract April 2024 to September 2024)	2,259.00	459.00	2,754.00
	Aura Leisure (Play area inspections / weed eradication & new wetpour surface)	6,081.15	1,216.23	7,297.36
	Paterson Hall (Room hire fees for Welsh meetings)	126.00		126.00
	Society of Local Council Clerks / One Voice Wales (Course fee for Cllr David Parry)	65.00	13.00	78.00
	G J Landscapes (New sleeve for Christmas tree – as work order)	160.00		160.00
	Thorncliffe Building supplies (Items for above Christmas tree sleeve)	83.75	16.75	100.50
	Royal British Legion (Poppy wreaths and wooden crosses)	106.00		106.00
	Society of Local Council Clerks (Clerk's membership renewal)	105.00		105.00
	St Johns Ambulance Supplies (Defibrillator pads & batteries)	166.00	33.20	199.20

	Louise Walsh (Environmental Services & Inspections of Play Area)	40.00	40.00
	Louise Walsh (Honorarium for Health & Safety Inspections)	200.00	200.00
	<p>Above payments authorised by two Councillor bank signatories on the 2nd and 22nd November 2024 and paid by BACS</p> <p><u>DECEMBER</u></p> <p><u>Payments made:</u></p> <p>Standing Order: R. P. Parry - Clerk to Council (Monthly salary & home working allowance for October) Payments dated 02/12/2024</p> <p><u>Payments for consideration at meeting to be paid by BACS:</u></p>		
	Katy Bingham (Bus Stop theme painting – as agreed Work Order)	100.00	100.00
	Reg Davies & Son (Grass cutting for 2024: Recreational field (football pitch), Community Hall field, land between play area and school fence, various footpaths above Waterfall area)	2,900.00	2,900.00
	Louise Walsh (Environmental Services & Inspections of Play Area for November)	40.00	40.00
	Caerwys Computer Clinic (Council’s web site domain and hosting for 2024)	250.00	250.00

13. 220/24

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cheque Number	Name of organisation	Amount granted £
	<u>Authorised to be paid by BACS:</u>	
	Wales Air Ambulance: (Application for general grant) (Section 137 LGA 1972)	£300.00
	Hiraddug Childcare: (Application for financial assistance towards replacement fire resistance roller blinds to a door and three windows) (Section 137 LGA 1972)	£470.00

	<p>Dyserth Times (Application towards printing costs) (Section 137 LGA 1972)</p> <p>(1) Council agreed to pay for the printing costs for the next two publications</p> <p>(2) Council to review funding at the April, 2025 meeting</p> <p>(3) The Clerk to enquire with the Dyserth Times Editor if a quarterly publication could be considered</p>	<p>£1,026.00</p>
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14. 221/24

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.....