

Hope Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held at Heulwen Community Centre, Hope on Wednesday 4th January 2017.

Present: Councillor Mrs SL Davies (Chairman), Mrs C Cunnah (Vice Chairman) and Councillors, Mr B Hughes, Mr I Sumpter, Mrs L Griffiths, Mr P Pemberton, Mr P Smith, Mr A Parry, Mrs M Williams, Mr A Parsonage and Mrs S Waterhouse

In Attendance: Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.
Sgt Mavis Evans and PCSO Andrea Ellis
Andrew Farrow – Flintshire County Council Planning & Environment (Chief Officer)
Andy Roberts – Flintshire County Council Planning & Environment
2 x Members of the Public

268. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mr C Shone and Ms A Williams.

269. Declarations Of Interest

A Declaration of Interest was received from Cllr Sadie Waterhouse in relation to item 273(ii).

270. Public Questions

There were no public questions received.

271. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman announced that her Civic Service will be held on Sunday 12th March 2017.

272. Minutes of Council

RESOLVED: the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 7th December 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed, by the Chairman.

273. Visitors to Meeting

- i. PCSO Andrea Ellis and Sgt Mavis Evans provided the Council with a brief report of current, ongoing and past criminal issues.

Cllr Cunnah asked whether they would be able to provide the Council with a copy of their Engagement Plan, which Sgt Evans agreed she will forward to the Clerk.

Cllr Smith advised the Police that as the Council were considered budgeting for CCTV Cameras for the village would they be able to recommend the most effective areas? They responded by saying they certainly would be able to highlight the key areas and also offered to arrange a viewing of the metal mickey cameras currently being used effectively in Saltney.

The Police advised that installation of CCTV cameras in Saltney significantly improved ASB.

** Police left the meeting at 6.45pm

- ii. Andrew Farrow gave the Council a brief background of the planning portfolio and advised Andy Roberts role deals with Planning Policy/Strategy and Mandy Lewis, Development Manager deals with pre application discussion and applications granted/refused.

Andy Roberts referred to the LDP process and consultation's saying that this was a different approach to the UDP which will assist in FCC obtaining a wider consensus. At present from the results of the Strategic Options - Growth and Spatial Options Consultation it is emerging the preferred options to be Growth

Options 4 (6,600 new homes) and option 6 (6,350 to 7,350 new homes) and Spatial Option 5 – Sustainable and flexible distribution. Once all the information has been collated a Strategy Policy will be produced (spring time) which will go to public consultation.

Cllr Cunnah raised the concern in having the 4 local individual villages; Hope, Caergwrle, Abermorddu and Cefn-y-bedd amalgamated to make a 'Local Service Centre'. She stressed that we are individual villages and not one.

AR advised this reflects what a planning interpretation of what the urban area is. It is not the case this has been done in the LDP, the 4 settlements have been planned in this way for over 30 years (Alyn & Deeside Local Plan, UDP and LDP). It is about the relationship in its urban form terms and the collective facilities.

Concerns were also raised that if the villages are categorised as a Local Serviced Centre this would in turn put the villages higher up in the hierarchy with potential for increased development on the first 3 tiers. AR responded by saying that at this stage there is nowhere that states whether Hope, Caergwrle or Abermorddu will have development. The spatial option does not state that every settlement in every category will have growth.

Cllr Cunnah also highlighted that from a Welsh Government Report (dated 19.10.16) Flintshire is the worst County for supplying affordable housing. What percentage of the new homes in the LDP will be affordable housing? AF said that at this stage he would not expect it to be articulated. CC asked what percentage currently on new developments is granted for affordable housing? AF under the UDP Policy it is 30%, where the need exists.

AF stressed that FCC are the only Council in Wales that are building their own Council Houses. These are the first to be built in a generation.

AR highlighted the need for affordable housing is based on where the need exists and that people need to register on the Affordable Housing Register. Also to provide affordable housing requires private housing developments to come with it to make developers provide affordable home.

Cllr Pemberton advised he did not find enough information on the LDP Consultations to make a concrete decision and would have expected Officers to work closure with communities. AR stated that during this process he has met with 31 Town and Community Councils, visited Hope Council 3 times within the last 18 months and has also met with 2 Hope & Caergwrle Action Groups.

Cllr Sumpter raised concerns of growth and the impact on the schools. Cllr Waterhouse informed members that it has been confirmed that a £5m investment will be made to Castell Alun High School. AF stated that if development and growth were to impact on Primary Schools, subject to certain restraints FCC can ask housing developers to provide funding to invest and expand the Primary Schools.

Cllr Smith expressed concerns on affordable housing, employment and transport for the youth.

Cllr Griffiths echoed CC comments on that we are not 1 Local Service Centre, we are 4 individual villages. Currently there is 1x corner shop, 1x Spar and 1x car park and she is disgusted that these facilities can in turn categorise the villages as a Service Centre. The Council are not dismissing development and are open to development for appropriate housing. Also there is no major employment within any of these villages. These comments were support by members.

AR said that looking at National Planning Guidance what it encourages FCC to do through the LDP is to provide a range of choice of homes. AR had said that a more detailed response from the Council on the latest consultation would have been more helpful.

Cllr Cunnah asked for clarification on how can someone who doesn't own a piece of land apply for planning permission? AF replied it is an established principle of planning that anybody can apply for planning permission as long as they serve notice on the land owner.

Cllr Parsonage asked that up to the present day FCC did not fulfill the estimate of housing that was needed after the UDP finished, how confident are FCC in that you can dilute the next set of forecasts? AR replied by saying that the UDP technically did not fail to deliver anything as the Development Plan does not deliver housing it just makes a provision for it. It is not a shortfall which would be carried over to the LDP, this will

be a new plan for a new period.

Information has been received that Planning Aid Wales are holding an event on Pre-application community consultation in Swansea. The information details that Welsh Government has introduced mandatory pre application community consultation for all significant planning applications. The Chair asked Mr Farrow for further information on this process as the Council were unaware. AF advised FCC have been doing Pre-Applications for a number of years and have been charging for this process for the last 2 years. It allows the developer to discuss with the Local Planning Authority their idea for a development without over committing to a full planning application, which allows FCC to identify; absolute no go's, and sections that maybe unacceptable which need to be revised. By offering this service it assists in receiving a better application. Welsh Government have now formalised Pre Applications for major development (over 50 houses) which is a 28 day process to engage with the community and Local Community Council.

AF will contact Planning Aid Wales to request a training event to be held in North Wales.

AF provided members with handouts and talked through step by step the Planning Application Process and Speaking at Planning & Development Control Committee. He informed the Council that FCC receives approximately 1300 planning applications per year, 95% of which is decided upon with Delegated Powers.

Cllr Cunnah asked whether Community Councils views are seriously considered? AF advised when any planning objections are made whether written or verbal (as Community Councils do have a public speaking spot (3 minutes) at Planning Committee) it is extremely important to provide valid material planning considerations. He also advised and encouraged the Council to view a Decision Report/Committee Report which will show how a decision has been made and how the Council's comments have been considered.

The Chairman thanked both Andrew Farrow and Andy Roberts for taking the time to attend the meeting and for the information they have provided.

**Mr Farrow and Mr Roberts left the meeting at 8.00pm

274. Matters Arising

Cllr Parry raised concern over the length of the December Meeting.

RESOLVED: The Chair recognised the December Meeting was a usually lengthy meeting; however, this was due to the LDP Consultation, Candidate Sites and budget.

Min 251(ii) Cllr Cunnah questioned the decision to support Candidate Site HCA005, she felt that this was incorrect and should be reviewed further.

RESOLVED: the Candidate Site HCA005 will be included on the February Planning Agenda for further review.

275. Minutes of Committees

RESOLVED: the minutes of the following standing committees be approved and adopted and confirmed as a correct record.

- (i) Planning and Highways – 7th December 2016.
- (ii) Leisure and Environment – 7th December 2016.
- (iii) Finance – 7th December 2016.

276. Street Lighting

The most recent condition report had not been received from Flintshire County Council, however, the Clerk provided the Council with repair costs for the last 2 yrs together with costs to replace and hand back columns to FCC.

2015/16		2016/17 (estimated)	
Repairs	£1,134	Repairs	£600
Testing	£2,100	Testing	£2,100

Street Lighting Improvements

- Full costs to replace a column - £1,250
- Cost to hand a column back to FCC - £800

Enquires had also been made with Flintshire County Council regarding transferring electricity provider from Scottish Power to themselves. FCC confirmed by switching providers it could save the Community Council in the region of £500.

RESOLVED: the above report be received and noted. The Clerk will continue to request a copy of the most recent street light column report. The Council approved the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements to switch street light electricity provider from Scottish Power to Flintshire County Council.

277. Community Council's Draft Estimates for 2017/18

The Council considered the estimates for 2017/2018, a copy having been enclosed with the agenda for the meeting. Upon answering various questions from Councillors, the Clerk and Financial Officer drew Councillors' attention to the various options for the precept requirement for 2017/2018 ranging from 1.19% decrease by holding the precept at £54,000 to a 30.15% increase by raising the precept to £71,139.

Cllr Cunnah highlighted to the Council that currently the Band D amount requested by Hope Community Council is the 6th lowest in the County. The Council needed to consider and be mindful of the fact the Council needs to provide for the Community such as Caergwrle Castle, Street Lighting, Christmas Lighting, CCTV Cameras and play areas. The average Band D for 2016/17 is £39.27.

The Chairman proposed a precept of £71,139 which was voted upon and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED:

(i) that the estimates schedule as submitted and referred to above be approved.

(ii) that this Council's precept requirement for 2017/2018 be approved as £71,139 (seventy one thousand pounds one hundred and thirty nine pounds) and that Flintshire County Council be informed accordingly. This equates to the Band D sum of £38.25 per year.

(iii) that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to sign the declaration of precept requirement for submission to Flintshire County Council.

278. Community Youth Club

The Chairman advised she was aware of a County Workshop 'What Engages Young People' being held on 26th January, this workshop is only open to County Council Members.

Due to the absence of Cllr Evans, this will be included on the February Agenda.

RESOLVED: the Clerk will establish whether County Councillors Healey and Newhouse will be attending the Workshop. This item will be included on the February Agenda.

279. Council Communication

Cllr Waterhouse suggested a number of communication options to target the wider community.

Discussions were also had regarding how to promote the Council for the May Elections. The Clerk had received an information poster from the Welsh Government regarding the Elections which could be used in conjunction with the Councils own information.

RESOLVED:

- i. An Annual Newsletter will be issued by the Chairman informing residents of the Council's achievements and work during the Chairman's term.
- ii. A leaflet/poster will be drafted and Cllr Smith and the Clerk will make enquires with the two local post offices regarding distribution of the posters.

280. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received and noted.

- Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales will be holding an event on 26th January 2017, 10.30-12.30, Venue Cymru, Llandudno to discuss the remuneration framework.
RESOLVED: members do not wish to attend.
- A Freedom of Information request has been received for the details for the specification works to be done at Caergwrle Castle.
RESOLVED: the Clerk will action this request.
- FCC have confirmed that subject to Cabinet approval on 17th January, the local authority are proposing to assist local council with the 2017 Summer Playscheme. Based on the proposals the funding will limit the increase to £1,309 per playscheme for a 3 week scheme.
- Section 137 Expenditure: Limit for 2017/18. Welsh Government has advised for the financial year 2017/18 the appropriate sum for the purpose of section 137(4) is £7.57 per elector.
- An email of thanks was received from the Caergwrle Masonic Hall for the Christmas Tree Lights.
- A letter of thanks was received from Hope & Caergwrle Pensioners Association for the financial assistance.
- Welsh Government – Call for Evidence and Projects National Development Framework

281. Future Agenda Items

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Chairman: 1st February 2017

Hope Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning and Highways Committee held at Heulwen Community Centre, Hope on Wednesday 4th January 2017.

Present: Councillors Mrs SL Davies, Mrs C Cunnah, Mr B Hughes, Mr I Sumpter, Mrs L Griffiths, Mr P Pemberton, Mr P Smith, Mr A Parry and Mrs S Waterhouse

In Attendance: Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.
2 x Members of the Public

282. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mr C Shone (Chairman of Planning), Mr A Parsonage and Ms A Williams.

283. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

284. Minutes

RESOLVED: the Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 7th December 2016.

285. Matters Arising

Min 239/252: Cllr Pemberton asked Cllr Griffiths whether Mike Eastwood had contacted her regarding a site visit to Caer Estyn Crossroad, which she replied no contact has yet been made.

RESOLVED: Cllr Pemberton will contact Mike Eastwood.

286. Planning Applications

No Planning Applications or Planning Decisions have been received.

287. Highway Matters

- i. Cllr Parry advised he has attempted to contact Mike Eastwood FCC – Streetscene regarding overgrown hedges obstructing pathways on Maes Cibyn/Crossways, Abermorddu.
- ii. Cllr Griffiths advised there is also overgrown hedges located on the pathway from Lock Lane onto Bryn Y Gaer Quarry as the pathway had been closed for a number of years whilst work was taking place on the Quarry.
- iii. Cllr Sumpter asked whether the Council could request FCC to provide information and a map of the new All Wales Link Path which is routed through Hope.

Chairman: 1st February 2017

Hope Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Leisure and Environment Committee held at Heulwen Community Centre, Hope on Wednesday 4th January 2017.

Present: Councillors Mrs M Williams (Chairman), Mrs SL Davies, Mrs C Cunnah, Mr B Hughes, Mr I Sumpter, Mrs L Griffiths, Mr P Pemberton, Mr P Smith, Mr A Parry and Mrs S Waterhouse

In Attendance: Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.
2 x Members of the Public

288. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mr C Shone, Mr A Parsonage and Ms A Williams.

289. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

290. Minutes

RESOLVED: the Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes of the previous meeting of the committee held on 7th December 2016.

291. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

292. Disposal of the Telephone Kiosk - Abermorddu

Cllr Parry advised he is in the process of contacting the resident who expressed an interest in raising funds to restore the kiosk.

RESOLVED: the above be received and noted and included on the February agenda/

293. Playing Fields

The Chairman advised there were no items to report.

The Clerk advised that a decision from FCC regarding the Council's request for Sarn Lane Play Area Match Funding should be received this month. Richard Roberts, Leisure Services has provided the Clerk with a sketch and initial proposals for Sarn Lane improvements.

RESOLVED: a copy of the sketch plans and estimates will be circulated to members.

294. Caergwrle Castle

Cllr Pemberton informed the Council that himself and the Clerk have been liaising with Treefellers regarding a commencement date. Before work will commence Treefellers advised they will complete the Ecological Report which should be undertaken w/c 9th January and work will commence shortly after.

Cllr Davies requested clarification as to ownership of the monument? Members advised that it is in ownership of the Community Council, however, for any work undertaken advice must be sought from CADW. It was suggested that the National Trust maybe interested in ownership of the monument and that the Council should make further enquiries.

RESOLVED:

- i. The Chair requested that once the Ecological Report has been received a copy should be provided to members and Cty Cllr Healey.
- ii. The Clerk will make enquires with The National Trust regarding options of them taking ownership of the monument.

Chairman: 1st February 2017

Hope Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance Committee held at Heulwen Community Centre, Hope on Wednesday 4th January 2017

Present: Councillors Mrs C Cunnah (Chairman), Mrs SL Davies, Mr B Hughes, Mr I Sumpter, Mrs L Griffiths, Mr P Pemberton, Mr P Smith, Mr A Parry, Mrs M Williams and Mrs S Waterhouse.

In Attendance: Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.
2 x Members of the Public

295. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mr C Shone, Mr A Parsonage and Ms A Williams.

296. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

297. Minutes

RESOLVED: the Chairman be authorised to sign the minutes of the previous meeting of the committee held on 7th December 2016.

298. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

299. Quarterly Budget Review

The Clerk provided the Council with copies of the quarterly year budget and bank reconciliation. (Appendix A – Quarterly Summary Budget Review).

The documents were reviewed with no issues raised.

RESOLVED: the Council approved the above which was authorised by a member of the Council other than the Chairman.

300. Payments

Method	Payable to	Details	Amount
Telephone	Greenfingers	Queensway Play Area Maintenance	£54.00
Telephone	Mega Electrical	Christmas Lighting 2016	£1,860.00
Telephone	Staff Costs	December Wages, Expenses, Pension & HMRC	£773.46
Direct Debit	Scottish Power	Electricity Charges 30.11.2016 - 31.12.2016	£534.05
Telephone	Mr I Sumpter	Christmas Lighting 2016	£641.88
		Total	£3863.39

The Clerk advised that the final 2016/17 precept payment of £18,000 was received on 29th December 2016.

RESOLVED: that the above payments up to and including 4th January be approved.

The meetings began at 6.30pm and ended at 9.10pm.

Chairman:1st February 2017

Hope Community Council - Summary Accounts 2016/17 Financial Year			
Income			
	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Precept	54,000.00	54,000.00	0.00
Bank Interest	20.76	25.00	-4.24
Refunds/Other	70.14	0.00	70.14
Grant Returned	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
VAT Refund	2,141.21	2,141.00	0.21
Total	57,232.11	56,166.00	1,066.11

Expenditure

	Actual	Agreed Spend	Balance
Leisure & Environment Committee			
Summer Play Scheme	900.00	1,800.00	900.00
Enviro Improvements/Play Grounds	963.33	12,000.00	11,036.67
Caergwrle Castle	2,884.00	10,000.00	7,116.00
L&E Misc	12,471.25		
Planning & Highways Committee			
Bus Shelters	0.00	0.00	0.00
Street Lighting Supply	4,736.96	5,500.00	763.04
Street Lighting Maintenance	1,884.40	10,000.00	8,115.60
Christmas Lights	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
P&H Misc	0.00		
Finance Committee			
Staffing costs (salaries, pensions, ni, paye)	9,356.83	8,600.00	-756.83
General Admin	2,497.55	4,430.00	1,932.45
S137 - Grants	5,950.00	3,000.00	-2,950.00
Election Costs	0.00	500.00	500.00
Chairman's Allowance	252.00	600.00	348.00
Fin Misc	0.00		
Total	41,896.32	58,430.00	29,004.93

Current Summary

Bank Balance as at 31 March 2016	37,047.03
Total Expenditure	41,896.32
Total Income	57,232.11
Balance as at 31 December 2016	52,382.82
VAT Costs for 2016/17 Financial Year	1,666.60

End of Year Prediction

Balance as at 31 March 2016	37,047.03
Reserved & allocated for Caergwrle Castle	5,000.00
Reserved & allocated for Willow Playing Fields	12,471.25
Available Balance as at 31 March 2016	19,575.78
- Total Anticipated Expenditure	58,430.00
+ Total Anticipated Income	56,166.00
+ / - on Anticipated income vs expenditure	-2,264.00
Anticipated Closing Balance as at 31 March 2017	17,311.78

