

Hope Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held at Heulwen Community Centre, Hope on Wednesday 4th December 2019.

Present: Councillors Mrs L Davies (Acting Chairman), Mrs C Cunnah, Mr B Hughes, Mrs M Williams, Mr A Parry, Mr D Roberts, Mr H Manning and Mr A Parsonage

Absent:

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

Due to the absence of both the Chairman and Vice Chairman it was proposed for Cllr L Davies to preside at the meeting which was unanimously agreed by all members.

255. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs J Hilton, Mrs C Olsen, Mrs S Waterhouse, Mr D Healey, Dr R Parsonage and Mrs C Sheibani.

256. Declarations Of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

257. Public Questions

There were no public questions received.

258. Chairman's Announcements

There were no Chairman's announcements.

259. Minutes of Council

RESOLVED: the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 6th November 2019, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

260. Visitors to Meeting

- i. Alistair Hemphill – provided members with a copy of the new proposed Management Plan. He advised that this past year he has held a Bat Evening, Egg Hunt which was very well attended and a Picnic in the Castle which was not very well attended. All of these will be running again next year with additional promotion. He would welcome any volunteers to assist with the events.

With regard to monitoring of the new Management Plan he suggested meeting once or twice a year to walk through the castle grounds. The Clerk advised that this is something that the Council would welcome, but will need to discuss and consider what, how and when monitoring will be undertaken.

With regard to the proposed refurbishment step work he has obtained funding from Cadwyn Clwyd for this work and has sought help from volunteers for the work. Cllr Williams questioned whether this works would require authorisation from Cadw, which AH advised no it does not as it is outside of Cadw area.

AH and Cllr Parsonage will co-ordinate the siting and installation of the new route iron bench.

AH advised that the sycamore tree at the entrance of the castle requires attention that would need to be undertaken by a tree surgeon. He had previously made contact with the neighbouring property to ascertain if they would fund 50% of the work, which was unsuccessful. Cllr Cunnah advised that the council does have a budget for tree works and that it will be discussed later in the meeting.

The Clerk asked AH for information regarding ash trees at the castle as Ian Williams had made the council aware of a disease to ash trees that has recently entered Flintshire. AH advised that there are very few ash trees on the castle, however, John Purchase is routinely monitoring the trees.

With regard to Cadw's proposal of works for compartment 9, FCS feel that there are still issues with their proposal which are not suitable for castle and further discussions needs to be had.

** AH left the meeting at 6.55pm

- ii. PCSO Jones – was unable to attend the meeting and provided a written report. Cllr Cunnah wished to comment that in the reports it always seems to state; ongoing, no suspect found, case closed – very rare that there are positive outcomes.

261. Matters Arising

Min 219 – a response has been received from Arfon Jones together with a subsequent email from Sgt Emma Preverte from Mold Police Station who has been asked to look at the points raised in our letter. She provided details of how the investigation was conducted in relation to the CCTV footage and assured the council that North Wales Police take such incidents very seriously, and as the reporting officers Sergeant she is satisfied that a thorough investigation has been undertaken and all avenues of enquiry were exhausted.

Min 224 – As Cllr Olsen has submitted her apologies for this meeting the matter relating to a survey for the odour at Sarn Lane/Derby Road will be deferred until January.

Min 227 – Cllr Olsen and Cllr Hilton have both submitted their apologies and therefore the items they had requested to be included on the December agenda have now been deferred until January.

262. Minutes of Committees

RESOLVED: the minutes of the following standing committees be received:

- i. Planning and Highways – 6th November 2019.
- ii. Leisure and Environment – 6th November 2019.
- iii. Finance – 6th November 2019.

263. Staffing Matters

Due to the confidential nature of this item, the council proposed that as members of the public were present they would revisit this item at the end of the council & committee meetings so that they did not have to ask the public to leave during the meeting.

This was revisited after the Finance Committee meeting when the members of the public and Clerk left the meeting – 8.15pm.

Cllr Cunnah provided a report to the council following the Job Evaluation and meeting with Gwilym Rippon, Cllrs Cunnah, Hilton and Hughes where the recommendations of the report were discussed.

The Clerk returned to the meeting at 8.25pm

RESOLVED: the Clerk's new scale will be SCP27 with effect from 1st November (therefore backdated) increasing to SCP28 from 1st April 2020.

264. County Councillors Report

A written report in advance of the meeting prepared by County Councillors David and Gladys Healey was provided to all members. Topics included:

Transport

- FCC will be supporting the introduction of the No 29 bus from Wrexham to Mold from 13th January. The service will be provided by M&H Coaches and will broadly follow the route of the former axed No 28 bus.
- From 13th January the CT1, which currently runs from Abermorddu to Broughton, will also stop at Penyffordd.

- FCC is trialling a new Demand Responsive Travel Service which could be good news for those who do not benefit from a commercial bus service. This was going to be piloted in the north of Flintshire but efforts will be made to see if there is demand in our area as well.

The Willows

- The issue of contaminated land was discussed at an Environment Scrutiny meeting in November. Cty Cllr G Healey attended this meeting as a substitute and used to opportunity to seek clarification over the timescale for putting the Willow right. FCC does have a legal obligation to identify and rectify these sites and, with the help of WG funding, seems to have a good track record of doing this. Over 20 sites across Flintshire and a further 180 sites, close to former lead mines, have already received remedial treatment and are no longer considered to be a financial liability to the authority. Unfortunately no timescale for treatment of the Willow was forthcoming. There was some erroneous reporting of this meeting. The Willow did not become a Centenary Field 'last year' and the Carnival has found an alternative venue.
- Discussions subsequent to this meeting suggest that it is still possible for the wildflower beds to be tended and further seeds to be planted. It has been noted that a contractor's tractor ran over them and they may receive a sign to say that they are wildflowers beds. Apparently FCC is buying equipment that can be used to cut wildflowers in the autumn and the Willow beds may be included in the schedule for that cutting regime.

Budget

- FCC continues to wrestle with a projected budget gap of £16.2M this financial year but detailed discussions of budgets, by both WG and FCC, has had to be postponed until after the General Election.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted.

265. Community Council Draft Estimates for 2020/21

To consider the Council's draft estimates for 2020/2021 and to also report a letter from Flintshire County Council setting out the Council Tax base for 2020/2021.

The Council reviewed and considered the draft estimates for 2020/21 together with a report which detailed reasons of increases/decreases. The Chairman went through the budget heading where Councillors were invited to comment on the estimates before them and discuss any amendments which they would wish to be included in the final figures before considering approval of the final budget and the precept in January 2020.

- The new heading Community Competitions to be called Community Competitions/Engagement
- The new heading Village Improvements to included purchasing new lamp post poppies if required.
- 2.1 – Bus Shelters increase to £200.
- 3.21 – Noticeboard/Millennium Maps to also include telephone Kiosk and therefore increase by £150.

The Clerk advised that the 2020/21 Precept letter has been received from FCC and they have advised that the current Tax Base of equivalent Band D properties has decreased from 1851.99 to 1846.05.

RESOLVED: the Clerk will make any necessary adjustments to the draft budget and represent to the Council at the January meeting for approval and for submission of the 2020/21 precept.

266. SSAFE – VE Day

Further to correspondence received, the Clerk made enquires to how the community council could be involved. The selection of choice is as follows:

Piping Battle's O'er - Battle's O'er will be played by pipers from the top of the four highest peaks in the UK - Ben Nevis, SCOTLAND; Scafell Pike, ENGLAND; Mount Snowdon, WALES, and Slieve Donnard, NORTHERN IRELAND – and also at the five furthest points in the UK. Local parishes are encouraged to you try and source a local piper to play at a location of your choice at 3pm.

Sounding The Last Post - Those planning services will be encouraged to ask a representative from their local community to read out the Tribute to the Millions and involve a local bugler or trumpeter to play the Last Post and Reveille.

Ringling Out for Peace - Bells in churches and cathedrals will ring out at 7pm in a collective celebration of VE Day 75.

Church Service

Cry for Peace Around the World - Town Criers and members of local communities will be undertaking 'A Cry for Peace Around the World,' and will be performed at 6.66pm local time in locations around the world, starting in New Zealand

Nation's Toast to the Heroes of World War 2 - To coincide with the playing of Battle's O'er, and from a location of their choice, local mayor's and other civic leaders are being encouraged to lead their local communities in the 'Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WW II' paying 'tribute' by raising a glass and toasting the millions at home and abroad that gave so much for our freedom.

Party - Parties and celebrations could take place in pubs, clubs and hotels, on town and village greens and in our streets, bringing the communities of the nation together in common celebration and friendship

RESOLVED: consideration will be made to the above options and will be included on the January agenda for further discussion.

267. Community Engagement

Nothing to report.

268. Training

Information on any training courses were provided to members and should anyone be interested in training they should contact the Clerk.

RESOLVED: members to contact the clerk should they wish to attend any training events.

269. Correspondence

- A feedback letter on visits to T&CC from FCC.
- Cty Cllrs David and Gladys Healey has offered an invitation to the Chair to attend a meeting with FCC regarding transportation. Cllr Hilton is unable to attend and extended the invitation to the Vice Chair, Cllr Olsen.
- Codgers Quarterly Newsletter – 50+Action Group Flintshire.
- Community Health Council – they will be holding a number of events inviting NHS staff, patients, their carers and families to talk about Vascular Services. The local events will be held 24th January 2020 from 10.30am – 12.30pm at Aberconwy MIND, 3 Trinity Square, Llandudno, Conwy LL30 2PY and 28th January 2020 from 2.00pm – 4.00pm at Colwyn Bay Cricket Club, 77 Penrhyn Avenue, Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn Bay, Conwy LL28 4LR.
- Jamie Sant – Borderlands Line Community Rail Officer has requested to attend a future meeting.
RESOLVED: Jamie Sant will be invited to the January meeting.
- One Voice Wales – information on Reporting on Section 6 - The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty.
RESOLVED: the Clerk will prepare a draft report.

270. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items requested.

The meeting of the Full Council began at 6.30pm and ended at 7.20pm (**Min 263 was revisited after the end of the Finance Committee Meeting*). It was then followed by the Planning & Highways Committee Meeting, Leisure & Environment Committee Meeting and the Finance Committee Meeting.

Chairman: 8th January 2020

Hope Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning and Highways Committee held at Heulwen Community Centre, Hope on Wednesday 4th December 2019.

Present: Councillors Mrs L Davies (Chairman of the Committee), Mrs C Cunnah, Mr B Hughes, Mrs M Williams, Mr A Parry, Mr D Roberts, Mr H Manning and Mr A Parsonage

Absent:

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

271. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs J Hilton, Mrs C Olsen, Mrs S Waterhouse, Mr D Healey, Dr R Parsonage and Mrs C Sheibani.

272. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

273. Minutes

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 6th November 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

274. Matters Arising

Min 231/140 - The case with Network Rail have been re-opened and am now awaiting contact regarding our request for a site meeting to assess the safety concerns at Bridge End, Caergwrle.

Min 231/143 – i) the locations have been passed to Lee Shone to undertake speed surveys. L Shone has advised that due to their previous supplier no longer undertaking surveys, they have decided to go through a procurement exercise to ensure that they receive value for money when undertaking speed surveys. They are hopeful to be in position to complete these surveys next week. As soon as the surveys have been completed, they will be in position to provide the outcomes to us.

Min 236 – Highway matters reported to Ian Williams:

1. Pot holes along Fagl Lane - *Work tickets have been raised, work programmed for the New Year due to the embargo.*
2. Grids/gullies that require cleaning on Hawarden Road, Abermorddu - *Request to be passed to resource team for scheduling.*
3. Pot holes on Pigeon House Lane and flooding issues at the crossroad - *Work tickets raised, scheduled over the next few weeks.*
4. Continued concern of pedestrian safety as properties that have slate/stone driveways have debris that is dispersing onto the pathways and roads - *I W to check location.*
5. Damage to pavements: outside of the Spar (Castle Street) and the 2 new build homes opposite Fellows Lane on Hawarden Road - *Location outside new development in the process of been rectified, I W to liaise with Mark Middleton for scheme outside the Spar.*
6. Pavement damage outside of the sandwich shop, High Street Caergwrle - *I W to liaise with Mark Middleton for scheme outside the Sandwich Shop.*
7. Wrexham Road, Abermorddu (landside) is holding a lot of water - *I W to look into this.*

275. Planning Applications

The Committee considered planning applications received as follows:

- i. Ref: 060640. Extension to existing property and the erection of three new dwellings and associated access and

landscaping. Laurel Grove, Hawarden Road, Caergwrle. **Objection due to the vast over development.**

https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060640

- ii. Ref: 060606. Side extension including loft conversion. 6 Sunhill Drive, Caergwrle. **Supported on the condition that there are no objections made by neighbouring properties.**
https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060606
- iii. Ref: 060651. Single storey extension to rear to form kitchen and living space. 11 Almond Way, Hope. **Supported.**
https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060651
- iv. Ref: 060717. Demolition of existing additions to property and erection of new extensions to rear and side along with internal alterations. 51 Rhyddyn Hill, Caergwrle. **Supported**
https://digital.flintshire.gov.uk/FCC_Planning/Home/Details?refno=060717

RESOLVED: the above comments will be reported to Flintshire County Council Planning via both email and post.

(b) The following applications which had been determined by Flintshire County Council were reported

- i. Ref: 060174. Outline application for the erection of 2no. dwellings. Haledon House, Gresford Road, Hope. **Refused-Departure**

RESOLVED: the above be received and noted.

276. Formal Complaint to Flintshire County Council

No further information has been received whilst FCC are undertaking their investigation.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted. The Clerk will chase a response/update for the January meeting.

277. Aesthetics of the Village

There have been complaints received regarding the condition/ aesthetics of a number of properties within the village:

- i. **Red Lion, Hope** – the Chairman reported that she had spoken with Punch Tavens who have confirmed that the property has now been sold to Heineken. As this is a new purchase to Heineken they were unable to provide any comment at this time. Cllr Hughes informed members that he had witnessed that the building being surveyed within the last couple of weeks.
- ii. **Garage/Café, Llwyn Eglwys/Hawarden Road, Hope** – the Chairman reported that she had contacted Hillcliff Contracts who had received the planning permission for the development of 3 houses and was informed that they did not come to an agreement with the land owner for the sale of the land.
- iii. **93 & 95 Hawarden Road, Hope** – the Chairman reported that complaints had been received regarding the appearance of the homes; overgrown hedges, untidy gardens, buildings look derelict, material stretch over windows. The properties it is understood are rented by the Indian Restaurant from FCC Highways.
- iv. **Indian Restaurant, Hope** – the Chairman reported that complaints have been received regarding the general appearance and upkeep of the property which is believed to be owned by FCC Highways.
- v. **Garages - Porch Lane, Caergwrle** – Cllr Williams and the Clerk visited the area and reported that the garages looked derelict, boarded up and untidy. It was questioned whether the structures are safe (asbestos)?
- vi. **Property by Bridge End, Hope** – part of the building has started to fall down and appears to be unsafe. Cllr Parsonage reported that the owners have had the window lintel bricked back up.

RESOLVED:

- i. The Council will contact Heineken to request an update on their proposed plans for the refurbishment.
- ii. The Council will attempt to contact the owner of the property to raise concerns of the condition/appearance of the property/land.
- iii. The Council will write to both FCC Highways regarding the condition of the properties which they are renting and also to FCC Housing to ascertain if these properties could not be bought back into the FCC Housing portfolio.
- iv. The Council will write to FCC Highways to raise their concerns regarding the general appearance and upkeep of the property.
- v. The Council will write to FCC Housing to raise concern regarding appearance, stability and safety of the garages.
- vi. The Council will write to FCC Environmental, Health & Safety, Planning and Building Regs to raise a safety

concern of the building.

278. Highway Matters

No further highway matters were raised.

The committee meeting began at 7.20pm and ended at 7.50pm

Chairman: 8th January 2020

Hope Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Leisure and Environment Committee held at Heulwen Community Centre, Hope on Wednesday 4th December 2019.

Present: Councillors Mrs M Williams (Chairman of the Committee), Mrs C Cunnah, Mr B Hughes, Mrs L Davies, Mr A Parry, Mr D Roberts, Mr H Manning and Mr A Parsonage

Absent:

In attendance: Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.
1 x Member of the public

279. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs J Hilton, Mrs C Olsen, Mrs S Waterhouse, Mr D Healey, Dr R Parsonage and Mrs C Sheibani.

280. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

281. Minutes

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 6th November 2019, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman of the Council due to the Committee Chair no being present at the November meeting.

282. Matters Arising

Min 151 – Confirmation has been received that the councils 2019/20 application for £10,000 match funding towards improvements at Queensway play area has been approved.

Min 245 – the Clerk has received confirmation from the contractor that he will provide a cost for the additional noticeboard in Abermorddu and that he will assist with the details required for the planning application and she is currently liaising with FCC.

283. Playing Fields

The Chair reported that herself, the Clerk and Ian Williams Streetscene had undertaken a site visit to all play areas:

The Willow – the hedges have been cut and is all looking very tidy. Unsure of the current situation regarding the wild flower bed. The Council may in the future wish to look at relocating the Centenary plaque.

Queensway – the wetpour repairs have been completed. The replacement of the 3 wooden fence posts have not yet been completed by Jones Brothers, this has been chased and will be done imminently.

Crossways – the improvements have been complete and are looking fantastic. She has raised a concern with FCC that the grass matting does not seem to be anchored into the ground. This will be looked into. Wicksteed had made a comment that they received great support from the local residents whilst the work was being undertaken.

Sarn Lane – the location of the bench has been agreed with Ian Williams and he will be arranging the installation.

High Street – the improvements are near completion and are looking very good. The location of the bench has been agreed with Ian Williams and he will be arranging the installation.

Porch Lane – it looks as though a new piece of equipment has been installed fairly recently. The entrance to the play area through the garages is very poor, unattractive and unappealing.

RESOLVED: the report was received and noted.

284. Queensway Play Area

Following the approval to appoint Greenfingers Landscape Ltd to continue the maintenance of Queensway play area the Clerk presented a draft Service Level Agreement for the council to consider.

RESOLVED: the Council approved the Service Level Agreement which will now be presented to Greenfingers,

285. The Willows Playing Fields

Nothing further to report.

286. Caergwrle Castle

- i. Cadw have prepared a works programme for compartment 9 and have asked Flintshire Countryside Services (FCS) to provide them with costs for this work/maintenance. A response has been received from Tom Woodall, FCS which was discussed with AH at the beginning of the main council meeting.
- ii. Following from the report given by AH at the beginning of the meeting Cllr Cunnah proposed that the tree works at the entrance of the castle (sycamore tree and conifers) are funded by the Council and work should be undertaken as soon as possible.

RESOLVED:

- i. A further site meeting will be requested between the Council, FCS and Cadw to review and discuss the proposed works for compartment 9.
- ii. Unanimously agreed by the Council and instructions will be made to AH.

The committee meeting began at 7.50pm and ended at 8.05pm

Chairman: 8th January 2020

Hope Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance Committee held at Heulwen Community Centre, Hope on Wednesday 4th December 2019

Present: Councillors Mrs L Davies, Mrs C Cunnah, Mr B Hughes, Mrs M Williams, Mr A Parry, Mr D Roberts, Mr H Manning and Mr A Parsonage

Absent:

In attendance: Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.
1 x Member of the Public

Due to the absence of both the Chairman of the Council and Committee, Cllr L Davies was voted to Chair the meeting.

287. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs J Hilton, Mrs C Olsen, Mrs S Waterhouse, Mr D Healey, Dr R Parsonage and Mrs C Sheibani

288. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

289. Minutes

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 6th November 2019, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

290. Matters Arising

Min 251 - The grant applications have now been published. The closing date for applications will be Monday 16th December 2019 and the Working Group consisting of Cllrs Olsen, R Parsonage and Cunnah will review all applications in preparation to submit a proposal to the Council at the January meeting. Cllr Cunnah confirmed that the Working Group will be meeting on 6th January 2020.

291. Payments

To authorise accounts for payment up to and including 6th November 2019.

Payable To	Details	Amount
Penyffordd Council	50% - Job Evaluation	£190.75
Wales Audit Office	2018/19 External Audit	£212.90
Aura Leisure & Libraries Ltd	Wet pour replacement - Queensway Play Area	£3,420.00
Planning Aid Wales	Place Plan Training - Bespoke full council	£650.00
Staffing Costs	Nov Wages, Expenses	£1,055.91
Mrs S Hughes	Stationery, Postage, Equipment, Travel etc	£67.60
		£5597.16

RESOLVED: That the above payments up to and including 4th December be approved and processed for payment. In the absence of the Chairman of Finance and/or the Chairman of the Council the payments were signed by Cllr L Davies who was Chairing the meeting and countersigned by two bank signatories.

The committee meeting began at 8.05pm and ended at 8.15pm

Chairman:8th January 2020