

# Hope Community Council

## Minutes of the Ordinary (Multi Location) Meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023

**Present:** Councillors Mrs T Bowgett (Vice Chair), Mrs L Davies, Mr B Hughes, Mrs C Cunnah, Mrs E Oldham, Mr N Jones, Mrs J Tilston, Mr M Taylor, Mrs J Arnold, Mrs C Sheibani and Mr J Mead.

**By Video:** Cllr M Williams

**Also Present:** Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer and 1 x Member of the public

Cllr Bowgett asked members to hold a minute silence as a mark of respect for the late Cllr Dave Roberts.

### 153. Election of Chairman 2023/2024

Due to the passing of Cllr Dave Roberts, the council was required to elect a Chair for the remaining Council year 2023/2024. Cllr Davies nominated Cllr Bowgett which was seconded by Cllr Cunnah. The Vice Chair asked if there were any other nominations, which there were none.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Bowgett be elected Chair of the Council for the remainder of 2023/24. Cllr Bowgett signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was witnessed by the Clerk.

### 154. Appointment of Vice Chair 2023/2024 & Chair of Finance

- i. Cllr Bowgett nominated Cllr Cunnah which was seconded by Cllr Davies. The Chair asked if there were any other nominations, which there were none.
- ii. As Cllr Cunnah has taken the role of Vice Chair, it was proposed to also appoint her as Chair of Finance.

**RESOLVED:**

- i. Cllr Cunnah be elected Vice Chair of the Council for the remainder of 2023/24. Cllr Cunnah signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was witnessed by the Clerk.
- ii. Cllr Cunnah was appointed Chair of the Finance Committee.

### 155. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Parsonage.

### 156. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

### 157. Chairman's Announcements

The Chair wished to acknowledge and thank the late Cllr Dave Roberts for his time as Chair, commitment to the council and his years of service to the community.

### 158. Minutes of Council

**RESOLVED:** the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 6th September 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 159. 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 – 6th September 2023
- ii. Leisure and Environment – 6th September 2023
- iii. Finance – 6th September 2023

### 160. To Review any Matters Arising from the Minutes

**Min 123** – a brief report and contact details of the new Flood Risk Manager was provided to members.

## 161. To receive any Public Questions/Correspondence.

- i. Correspondence was received from the current tenant of land at the old Queensway Allotments regarding FCC acquiring the land back and requesting the council to reopen the possibility of him retaining the land. He was present at the meeting and provided members with a brief overview of the history of the land and his tenancy. FCC served notice and he was due to vacate the land November of last year in order for the land to be converted back to allotments. This would only provide 3 allotments, one of which FCC have allocated to the tenant. Images were also shared showing the flooding issues on this land.

He also wished to submit a suggestion to use the old tip site at Pigeon House Lane, which would include necessary remedial work to the soil.

- ii. Correspondence received regarding highway issues with manhole and storm drains on Rhyddyn Hill

### **RESOLVED:**

- i. This will be included on the December agenda for further consideration. Any members wishing to view the land will contact the Clerk.
- ii. Cllr Davies reported that this issue has now been resolved by FCC.

## 162. County Councillor Report

Cty Cllrs David and Gladys Healey provided a report which included information on:

**Flooding** - continuing to prioritise local flooding issues as there are several which remain a concern.

**Hwb Caergwrle** - Hwb Caergwrle is funding a range of activities within the local community.

**FCC Budget** - Because of rising costs and the increase in service demands FCC has a budget deficit of £32M this year. With a legal obligation to produce a balanced budget each year FCC is now facing the most serious challenge in its history. Difficult decisions will have to be made.

**Stryt Isa Trees** - We are aware that Wales & West Utilities, who are responsible for the gas distribution service, are concerned about the very close proximity of 23 trees to a gas pipe that lies underground by the School fence at Stryt Isa.

**Storm Babet** - We are currently undertaking an assessment of the local impact of Storm Babet in the same way we did after Storm Christoph. We would be extremely grateful for any information that members of the Community Council may have about how our community was impacted this time round. We know there were cases of flooding of homes in our community and that is a concern.

**Remembrance** – Cllr Dave Healey will be attending the local event and will present a wreath as Cllr Gladys Healey, as Chair of the Council, will be attending services around Flintshire.

Cllr Davies raised the issue of the trees on Stryt Isa and expressed concern that this should be dealt with urgently with risks of the winter weather. She has been informed that a further meeting with residents is due shortly, but unsure as why no action has been taken if there is a risk to safety. The contractor has been contacted to request information.

**RESOLVED:** the council will write to FCC to express full support for any work that is required to ensure residents safety and will also express concern of what appears to be unnecessary delays.

## 163. Delegated Powers

Due to the October council meeting being cancelled the Chairs (Cllrs T Bowgett, L Davies & M Williams) and Clerk reviewed all agenda's and only dealt with urgent matters.

- i. Payments – the list of payments were approved by the Vice Chair and 2x bank signatories.
- ii. The Financial Application Form/Poster was approved for launch.
- iii. Planning. ADV/000818/23. Non illuminated fascia sign & internally illuminated green cross projection sign. 38, High Street, Caergwrle. **Supported**
- iv. Willows Skate Ramps – there were mixed views on whether a professional graffiti artist should undertake this as a project. Concerns raised that it may encourage more, whilst others considered it could enhance the look.
  - Richard Roberts will be asked whether in his experience, does having an item professional graffitied encourage unauthorised graffiti? If his response is no, the council will give approval,

however, if he advises it does, the council will refuse the request. On the response from RR, the council has now given permission.

- v. Community Review –a response to the questionnaire was required by 1st November and therefore the questionnaire was considered and completed.

**RESOLVED:** the report was received, noted and ratified.

#### 164. **Remembrance Day**

The service will be held at Hope Church at 10.45am, final details on the parade are awaited from Father Wheeler.

Mr Holroyd has agreed, on behalf of the council, to continue to manage the flags for Remembrance Day at the cenotaph. Flintshire Countryside Services will ensure the cenotaph area is cleared.

**RESOLVED:** information will be shared with all members as soon as received.

#### 165. **Hope Sports Centre**

Following Aura closing the facility, attempts have been made to obtain an update from Cty Cllr G Healey, Hope Dragons, Castell Alun School and Mike Welch (Aura) and unfortunately there was no clear response for the future of the facility.

The Chair invited the MoP to speak and he advised he too had attempted on a number of occasions to chase this will FCC and no response.

**RESOLVED:** the council will now write to Jennie Williams, FCC.

#### 166. **Costings for a Village Groundsman**

Members were provided with estimated costs for the employment of a Village Groundsman where there were mixed opinions.

**RESOLVED:** as these costings have been included on the budget as an example, the council agreed to consider this further within the next agenda item.

#### 167. **Community Council Draft Estimates for 2024/25**

The draft estimates for 2024/25 were reviewed and considered together with a report detailing variances. The Clerk went through the budget 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 budget.

The Clerk advised that the 2024/25 Precept letter has not yet been received from FCC and as a result, does not have the information on the current Tax Base of equivalent Band D properties.

**RESOLVED:** the minor amendments will be made and re-submitted in December when it is hoped to have received the current Tax Base of equivalent Band D properties, allowing for an accurate calculation.

The council approved to include budgets for the purchase of a 1x defibrillator and 3x noticeboards.

Cllrs Bowgett, Davies, Oldham and Taylor will form a Working Group to consider what potential works could be undertaken by a Groundsman which will be presented at the December meeting where council will debate whether this will be included in the 2024/25 budget.

#### 168. **Councillor Vacancy**

Due to the death of Cllr Dave Roberts and the vacancy that has arisen, in accordance with the Local Government Act, 1972 (Section 87(2)) the council is required to advertise a Casual Vacancy for a period of 14 days. Should an election not be requested, the council would then be required to advertise for co-option.

**RESOLVED:** the Notice of Vacancy will be displayed and Flintshire County Council informed. This will be included on the December agenda.

#### 169. **School Governor – Abermorddu CP School**

Due to Cllr Tilston's recent resignation from the position, the council needs to consider nominating for the vacancy.

**RESOLVED:** the council will submit a nomination for Cllr Cunnah.

## 170. FCC Polling District, Place and Polling Station Review 2023/2024

**RESOLVED:** there are no issues with the Hope polling station (at Heulwen Close Community Centre), but as the Presbyterian Church for Caergwrle is no longer available the council will suggest the Boys Brigade and the Social Club as alternative venues.

## 171. Clerks Report

The Clerk circulated the updated Issue Log detailing outstanding issues and details of progress. This report is for information only and should any items require further discussion they will need to be included on a future agenda (if not already on the current agenda).

It was reported that the following needs to be reported to FCC: the condition of the pack horse bridge; overgrown ivy and removal of wire on fencing on the Sarn Lane to Willows footpath.

**RESOLVED:** the report was received and noted and will be updated accordingly.

## 172. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received and noted:

- OVW & Planning Aid Wales Training Courses and events
- The Boundary Commission for Wales – Lessons Learned Questionnaire. Comments were required by 30th September, shared with Chair, no comments received.
- FCC – Feedback on Visits to Town and Community Councils
- FCC Standards Committee meeting
- Buckley Mayor – Charity Ball
- Dangos - free financial awareness training in Wales (emailed 20.9.23)
- FCC - Welsh Government's 20mph legislation is now in force
- Review Of Democratic Health In The Community And Town Council Sector
- FCC Preparations for Winter
- Save the Date - The Chair of Flintshire County Council, Cllr. Gladys Healey and Consort, Cllr. Dave Healey will be holding a Charity Dinner at the Beaufort Park Hotel, New Brighton, Nr Mold on Friday 8th March 2024. Formal invitations will follow in the New Year.
- Summer Playscheme Report.
- Update on the Local Government Pay Claim 2023/24.
- Invite to the Flintshire's Local Area Energy Planning Workshop.
- Police report on the recent Pharmacy telephone call scam.

## 173. Future Agenda Items

- Personnel Advisory Committee Meeting

The meeting of the Council began at 6.30pm and ended at 7.52pm

Chairman: ..... 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023

# Hope Community Council

## Minutes of the Finance Committee (Multi Location) Meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023

**Present:** Councillors Mrs C Cunnah (Chair of Committee), Mrs T Bowgett, Mrs L Davies, Mr B Hughes, Mrs E Oldham, Mr N Jones, Mrs J Tilston, Mr M Taylor, Mrs J Arnold, Mrs C Sheibani and Mr J Mead.

**Also Present:** Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer and 1 x Member of the public

### 174. To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Parsonage and M Williams.

### 175. To Receive any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

### 176. Minutes

**RESOLVED:** the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 6th September 2023, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 177. To review any Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

### 178. Half Year Budget Review

- i. The Clerk provided the Council with copies of the half year summary, budget monitoring report and bank reconciliation (Appendix A). The documents had been reviewed prior to the meeting and no issues were raised.
- ii. In order to meet the requirements of the financial regulations and internet banking, it is necessary for a programme of regular checks of standing data with suppliers to be followed.

**RESOLVED:**

- i. The half year budget/accounts were approved by the Council.
- ii. The requirement to undertake regular checks of standing data with suppliers will be completed by Cllr Oldham electronically.

### 179. Annual Financial Assistance

**RESOLVED:** Cllrs Bowgett, Arnold and Oldham were appointed to the Working Group and will review all applications in preparation to submit a proposal to the Council at the December meeting.

### 180. Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales – Draft Report 2024/25

Members reviewed The [Independent Remuneration Panel Draft Annual Report 2024/25](#) which has been published for consultation. Comments to be submitted by 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The Clerk also reported that The Panel has received guidance from HMRC, regarding the treatment of tax on councillor allowances. The exemption to the £156 payment made under the Determination of the Independent Remuneration Panel and the flat rate consumables payment of £52.

**RESOLVED:** the report was received and noted. No response will be submitted.

### 181. Payments

- i. To ratify accounts for payment up to and including 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Payable to	Details	Amount
Staffing Cost	Sep-23	£1,566.89
Mrs S Hughes	Tesco Mobile - Monthly data package	£10.00
Mrs S Hughes	Stationery, Postage, Equipment, Travel etc	£36.78
Groundforce Landscape Ltd	Queensway Maintenance 6 of 7	£213.60
AVOW	Payroll Charges July - Sept 2023	£47.85
HSBC	Monthly Bank Fee	£5.00

**RESOLVED:** The above payments be approved. In accordance with the Financial Regulations, the schedule for payments was signed by the Chairman of Finance and/or the Chairman of the Council and countersigned by two bank signatories.

- ii. To authorise accounts for payment up to and including 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023.

<b>Payable to</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Poppy Appeal	Poppy Wreath	£50.00
Groundforce Landscape Ltd	Queensway Maintenance 7 of 7	£213.60
RN Electrical Contracting Ltd	Biannual Servicing & repairs	£1,110.00
Flintshire County Council	Street Light - Supply (april-june 2023)	£1,503.58
Flintshire County Council	Street Light - Supply (july-sept 2023)	£1,503.58
Flintshire County Council	Street Light - Maintenance Repairs (stryt isa/gresford rd)	£474.00
Flintshire County Council	Street Light - Maintenance Repairs (edinburgh ave)	£237.00
Staffing Cost	Oct-23	£1,566.89
Mrs S Hughes	Tesco Mobile - Monthly data package	£10.00
Mrs S Hughes	Stationery, Postage, Equipment, Travel etc	£70.99
Canda Copying	Photocopier Rental	£48.00
Flintshire County Council	Street Light - Maintenance Repairs (sarn lane)	£237.00
Mr S Williams	1st Prize Halloween Decoration Comp	£50.00
Mr P Blackwell	2nd Prize Halloween Decoration Comp	£30.00
Ms C Metcalfe	3rd Prize Halloween Decoration Comp	£20.00
HSBC	Monthly Bank Fee	tbc

**RESOLVED:** The above payments be approved. In accordance with the Financial Regulations, the schedule for payments was signed by the Chairman of Finance and/or the Chairman of the Council and countersigned by two bank signatories.

The meeting of the Committee began at 7.52pm and ended 8.02pm

Chairman: ..... 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Hope Community Council - Summary Accounts**  
**2023/24 Financial Year**

**Income**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Anticipated</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Precept	81,866.67	122,800.00	-40,933.33
Bank Interest	1,064.90	400.00	664.90
Refunds/Other (inc Match Funding)	0.00	0.00	0.00
CADW - Castle Maintenance Grant	4,450.00	4,450.00	0.00
VAT Refund	6,217.45	5,151.24	1,066.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>93,599.02</b>	<b>132,801.24</b>	<b>-39,202.22</b>

**Expenditure**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Agreed Spend</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Leisure & Environment	11,946.62	39,950.00	28,003.38
Planning & Highways	9,457.42	63,000.00	53,542.58
Finance & General Admin	16,109.84	45,099.00	28,989.16
<b>Reserves</b>			
Reserved - Caergwrlle Castle (grant)	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Reserved - Caergwrlle Castle	13.90	18,757.00	18,743.10
Reserved - Willow or Porch Lane Match Funding (2021)	13,000.00	25,000.00	12,000.00
Reserved - Street Lighting	0.00	42,074.15	42,074.15
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,527.78</b>	<b>238,880.15</b>	<b>188,352.37</b>

**Current Summary**

Bank Balance as at 31 March 2023	146,030.16
Total Expenditure	50,527.78
Total Income	93,599.02
<b>Balance as at 30 Sept 2023</b>	<b>189,101.40</b>
VAT Costs for 2023/24 Financial Year	7,806.33

## HOPE COMMUNITY COUNCIL BUDGET MONITORING 2023/24

<u>Committee/Budget Heading</u>	<u>Budget 2023-24</u>	<u>Actual to Date</u>	<u>Of which is VAT</u>	<u>Available</u>	
<b>Leisure and Environment Committee</b>					
Summer play scheme/Youth	£2,200.00	£2,126.80	£0.00	£73.20	
Environment/plygrnd	£16,000.00	£1,169.82	£178.00	£14,830.18	£10k allocated match fund for Willow
Caergwrle Castle	£6,000.00	£8,550.00	£0.00	-£2,550.00	Annual Management (incls Cadw fees which have been paid)
Community Competitions/Engagement	£750.00	£100.00	£0.00	£650.00	Still have Halloween & Xmas Comps
Village Improvements	£15,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£15,000.00	Mill Garden project with FCC cancelled Sept 23
<b>L &amp; E Reserves</b>					
Caergwrle Castle (grant)	£5,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£5,000.00	
Caergwrle Castle	£18,757.00	£13.90	£2.32	£18,743.10	
Willow or Porch Lane Match Funding (21/22)	£25,000.00	£13,000.00	£0.00	£12,000.00	Awaiting details on fencing
<b>Total</b>	<b>£88,707.00</b>	<b>£24,960.52</b>	<b>£180.32</b>	<b>£63,746.48</b>	
<b>Planning and Highways Committee</b>					
Bus shelters	£200.00	£0.00	£0.00	£200.00	
Street lighting – supply	£15,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£15,500.00	Invoices should be issued quarterly, but none received to date
Street lighting – maint (inspections & repairs)	£30,300.00	£8,437.42	£7,054.92	£21,862.58	FCC confirmed columns will be upgraded before yr end
Christmas lights	£12,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£12,500.00	6 or 7 lights will be purchased
CCTV Cameras	£4,500.00	£1,020.00	£170.00	£3,480.00	Additional camera currently on hold
Road & Highway Improvements	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
<b>P &amp; H Reserves</b>					
P&H Misc/Reserved - Street Light Upgrade	£42,074.15	£0.00	£0.00	£42,074.15	FCC confirmed columns will be upgraded before yr end
<b>Total</b>	<b>£105,074.15</b>	<b>£9,457.42</b>	<b>£7,224.92</b>	<b>£95,616.73</b>	
<b>Finance Committee</b>					
Salaries and N.I. (& payroll fees)	£15,130.00	£7,786.83	£0.00	£7,343.17	
Pension/gratuity	£2,962.00	£1,848.72	£0.00	£1,113.28	
Expenses - Clerk Travel (Gen Admin)	£200.00	£63.24	£0.00	£136.76	
Bank Fees (NEW)	£60.00	£30.40	£0.00	£29.60	
Audit fees (Gen Admin)	£825.00	£494.00	£49.00	£331.00	Only received 2021/22 External Audit fee in April 23. Awaiting 2022/23 External Audit
Chain / honours board (Gen Admin)	£100.00	£0.00	£0.00	£100.00	
Stationery & equipment (Gen Admin)	£450.00	£206.33	£34.40	£243.67	
Computer, Maint, Hosting, Emails & GDPR(Gen Admin)	£2,000.00	£1,725.19	£287.53	£274.81	
Postage (NEW)	£200.00	£87.15	£0.00	£112.85	
Insurance (Gen Admin)	£1,427.00	£1,666.34	£0.00	-£239.34	Increase due to index linking OVV invoice o/s which will take over budget
Subscriptions (Gen Admin)	£790.00	£115.00	£0.00	£675.00	
Photocopier (Gen Admin)	£250.00	£96.94	£16.16	£153.06	
Election expenses	£500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£500.00	
Office costs (Gen Admin)	£1,585.00	£829.26	£0.00	£755.74	
Grants	£4,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,000.00	Expected Nov/Dec
Chairman's allowance/CIr Exp	£9,920.00	£0.00	£0.00	£9,920.00	Due final quarter
Council website (Gen Admin)	£200.00	£84.00	£14.00	£116.00	
Training	£2,250.00	£35.00	£0.00	£2,215.00	
Noticeboard/Millennium Maps	£1,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	£550 allocated for Kiosk removal
Defib	£250.00	£0.00	£0.00	£250.00	
Village Celebration (Kings Coronation)	£1,000.00	£1,041.44	£0.00	-£41.44	
Working Balance	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£45,099.00</b>	<b>£16,109.84</b>	<b>£401.09</b>	<b>£28,989.16</b>	
<b>Summary</b>					
Leisure and environment	£88,707.00	£24,960.52	£180.32	£63,746.48	
Planning and Highways	£105,074.15	£9,457.42	£7,224.92	£95,616.73	
Finance	£45,099.00	£16,109.84	£401.09	£28,989.16	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£238,880.15</b>	<b>£50,527.78</b>	<b>£7,806.33</b>	<b>£188,352.37</b>	





# Hope Community Council

## Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee (Multi Location) Meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023

**Present:** Councillors Mrs L Davies (Chair of Committee), Mrs T Bowgett, Mr B Hughes, Mrs C Cunnah, Mrs E Oldham, Mr N Jones, Mrs J Tilston, Mr M Taylor, Mrs J Arnold, Mrs C Sheibani and Mr J Mead.

**Also Present:** Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer and 1 x Member of the public

### 182. To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs A Parsonage and M Williams.

### 183. To Receive any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

### 184. Minutes

**RESOLVED:** the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 6th September 2023, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 185. To review any Matters Arising from the Minutes

**Min 138/105** – no response to date has been received from FCC regarding the planning issues reported.

### 186. Planning Applications

i. The following planning applications received for the Committee to consider.

**RESOLVED:**

- a) [ADV/000851/23](#). Single Storey Extension. Brooklyn, Sarn Lane, Hope. **Supported**
- b) [FUL/000880/23](#). Proposed stable block and implement store in partially in retrospect. Pant Cottage, Pentre Lane, Caergwrle. **Supported.**

ii. Applications received which have been determined by Flintshire County Council:

- a) [FUL/000784/23](#). Erection of a detached garage with a first floor attic space, which will be used in ancillary to the main dwelling house. Sandy Acres, Sandy Lane, Higher Kinnerton. **Approved.**

### 187. Christmas Lighting

The Clerk reported that there will be 7x new lights installed on Wrexham Road, Abermorddu and 1x additional light to Fagl Lane.

**RESOLVED:** the report was received and noted.

### 188. Highway Matters

The Chair reported that she had been made aware of a number of areas of flooding, which she has also reported to the County Councillors. She suggested that the council invites the newly appointed Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Manager Paul Reeves to a future meeting and consider options of how residents can protect their homes and properties from future flooding.

**RESOLVED:** the council will invite Mr Paul Reeves, FCC Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Manager to either the December or February meeting.

The meeting of the Committee began at 8.02pm and ended at 8.18pm

Chairman: ..... 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023

# Hope Community Council

## Minutes of the Leisure & Environment Committee (Multi Location) Meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023

**Present:** Councillors Mrs T Bowgett (Chair of Council), Mrs L Davies, Mr B Hughes, Mrs C Cunnah, Mrs E Oldham, Mr N Jones, Mrs J Tilston, Mr M Taylor, Mrs J Arnold, Mrs C Sheibani and Mr J Mead.

**By Video:** Cllr M Williams (Chair)

**Also Present:** Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer and 1 x Member of the public

### 189. To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Parsonage.

### 190. To Receive any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

### 191. Minutes

**RESOLVED:** the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 6th September 2023, be approved as a correct record and signed by Cllr L Davies, Chair of that meeting.

### 192. To review any Matters Arising from the Minutes

**Min 149** – FCC transported the kiosk to a secure location for the Abermorddu Residents Committee which was delivered on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September. A letter has been signed by the Committee accepting ownership of the kiosk and that the community council ceased with immediate effect all liability and financial implications. The committee will now be wholly responsible for the future of the kiosk. FCC have also agreed that as a gesture of goodwill they will not be invoicing for the removal of the kiosk.

**Min 151** – unfortunately due to personal reasons Ian Williams hasn't had the opportunity to consider the councils request/proposal.

### 193. Play Areas

- i. The Willows Play Area - Members reviewed the report and costing on the options for purchasing and installing replacement football goal(s), the installation of fencing around the play equipment and additional benches. Richard Roberts, Aura has advised that these improvements could be funded for the S106 money, allowing the council to provide additional play equipment with the match funding.
- ii. A request for replacement 'No Dog' signs at Queensway play area.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- i. The council approved the following totalling £20547.12(+vat). Aura will be asked to suggest and cost additional play equipment which will be financed through the Match Funding.
  - a. To supply and install 175 linear metres of fencing.
  - b. Supply and install double leaf maintenance gate.
  - c. To the supply and install 2x access gates (1.2m high Flat top Easy-Gate, electro-plated and PPC RAL 1003 yellow).
  - d. Purchase one picnic table and two benches.
  - e. Installation with the construction of a suitable hardstanding plinth of concrete for the picnic table and two benches
  - f. Goals Option 3 - 1 set of Small Goals 12ft \* 6ft and installation.
- ii. Replacement No Dogs signs will be sought for Queensway play area.

### 194. Caergwrle Castle

Members were provided with a copy of the meeting notes with Flintshire Countryside Services

Fielder Green Assoc have started work on installing the interpretation board frames and will return with the artwork once it has been produced.

**RESOLVED:** the reports were received and noted.

**195. Millennium Maps**

The Clerk reported that she had received comments regarding the poor condition of the Millennium Map in Abermorddu and provided members with images of the structure.

**RESOLVED:** the council approved that a funds will be allocated within the 2024/25 budget for the 3x millennium maps to be refurbished (painting and replacement perspex).

**196. Noticeboard – Abermorddu**

Residents provided suggestions via facebook on a suitable location for the board. Members considered these suggestions and also considered suitable alternatives.

**RESOLVED:** the council approved for a noticeboard to be purchased and installed in Abermorddu in 2024/25. Funds will be allocated within the 2024/25 budget which is when the planning application will be submitted. The agreed location will be near the bus stop on Hawarden Road, which backs onto the rear of 77 Wrexham Road).

**197. Halloween Competition**

Cllrs Bowgett and Sheibani undertook the judging and commented on what wonderful, fun and imagination displays there were and that they thoroughly enjoyed viewing all entries.

**RESOLVED:** 1<sup>st</sup> – 13 Queensway                      2<sup>nd</sup> – 25 LLwyn Alun                      3<sup>rd</sup> – Yew Tree House, Stryt Isa

**198. Christmas Lighting Competition**

**RESOLVED:** the competition will be launched with a closing date of Sunday 17th December. Cllrs Bowgett and Sheibani will undertake the judging w/c 18th December.

The meeting of the Committee began at 8.18pm and ended at 8.35pm

Chairman: ..... 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023