

Hope Community Council

Minutes of the Ordinary (Multi Location) Meeting held on Wednesday 6th September 2023

Present: Councillors Mr D Roberts (Chair), Mrs T Bowgett (Vice Chair), Mrs L Davies, Mrs C Cunnah, Mrs J Arnold, Mr A Parsonage, Mrs C Sheibani, Mr N Jones, Mr J Mead and Mrs E Oldham.

Also Present: Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

By Video: Mrs Olsen – Abermorddu Residents Committee (via video)

115. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M Williams, M Taylor, B Hughes and J Tilston.

116. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

117. Police Report

Victoria Davies PCSO 93463 provided a report for July and August which included; reports of criminal damages at unrelated locations; graffiti on a residential property; damage caused to Caergwrle Castle – signage; neighbourhood disputes; shoplifting; ASB nuisance – potential door to door callers; ASB in relation to a group of children; ASB – youths absconding.

118. Chairman's Announcements

The Chair reported that he, together with, Cllrs Bowgett, Cunnah and Parsonage attended the Civic Service for Cllr Gladys Healey as the Chair of Flintshire on 23rd July which was well very attended.

He reported that it appears that the changing rooms may have been open to the football club at a recent game.

119. Minutes of Council

RESOLVED: the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 5th July 2023 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

120. 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 – 5th July 2023
- ii. Leisure and Environment – 5th July 2023
- iii. Finance – 5th July 2023

121. To Review any Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were on matters arising.

122. To receive any Public Questions/Correspondence.

- i. A subsequent email was received from a resident regarding the councils Multi Location (Hybrid) Meeting Procedure.
- ii. An email from a resident expressing interest in adopting one of the FCC village planters.
- iii. Correspondence from Cty Cllrs David and Gladys Healey regarding the possibility of commissioning a graffiti artist for the Willows skate ramps. The Clerk has advised them that this had already been explored and the side of the ramps are too small. They have emailed since to advise they will be contacting the 3 local schools to see if they want any professional work courtesy of Hwb Caergwrle.
- iv. The Clerk reported that a phone call had been received from a resident of Abermorddu expressing environmental and ASB concerns relating to the Kowloon House takeaway. The resident will report the issues relating to environmental to FCC and the ASB issues to the PSCO. They have also reported to Cty Cllr Healey.

The Clerk advised that she had reported the ASB issues to the PCSO and requested increased patrols, which they have said they will try to do.

RESOLVED:

- i. The correspondence was received and noted, however, as the council only reviewed this in July, no further action will be taken and the current procedure remains.
- ii. The interest was received and noted and will be considered when the matter is discussed under the Leisure & Environment Agenda.
- iii./iv. Received and noted.

123. County Councillor Report

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

Civic Service – they were very pleased to see a strong representation of Councillors from HCC as the Civic Service on 23rd July.

Castle Interpretation Panels - they share the deep sense of disappointment with regard to the vandalism.

General enquiries from residents - flooding in Abermorddu was a significant issue during periods of heavy rain in July which FCC worked to resolve the situation. FCC has now appointed a Flood Risk Manager who will help to address land drainage issues which are not covered by Streetscene.

Numerous other enquiries regarding housing, planning and Streetscene issues.

Hwb Caergwrle - has been instrumental in re-establishing Welsh Conversation in Hope Community Library and of supporting the First Friday programme of speakers.

FCC Budget Issues - this year, is the most challenging so far. The Council has been faced with unfunded nationally agreed pay agreements, inflation and a dramatic rise in service demands. There are significant increases in the number of homeless Flintshire people and also a rise in the number of children with challenging additional needs. In addition Flintshire still faces the possibility of a 5-figure infraction fine from Welsh Government because residents are putting materials, which could be recycled, in their black bins. The recycling rate for the first quarter of 2023 has marginally improved by 1.84% but this may not be sufficient to persuade WG not to impose a fine.

20 MPH - the roll-out of 20mph in residential areas will start on 17th September. Officers have identified 15 roads across Flintshire which meet WG's exception criteria. None of them are within our area.

RESOLVED: to request the contact details of the new Flood Risk Manager.

124. Delegated Powers

Planning

- i. Notification of Appeal. Planning Ref: 064074. Appeal Reference Number: CAS-02472-G4F4T6. Erection of one detached dwelling. 39 - 41, High Street, Caergwrle, Wrexham.
- ii. [FUL/000419/23](#) - Notification of Amendments. Replacement dwelling. St Kilda, Fagl Lane, Hope. Objection due to the positioning of the garage at the front of the property.
- iii. [FUL/000500/23](#). Demolition of existing out building and construction of new single storey rear extension, including widening of existing parking area. 50 Derby Road, Caergwrle. Supported
- iv. [FUL/000705/23](#). Single storey side/rear extension. Post Office, Wrexham Road, Caergwrle. Objection due to overdevelopment of the property and the impact it would have in the conservation area.

Caergwrle Castle

On Wednesday 19th July, it was reported that the new interpretation boards at the castle has been vandalised. This was reported to the police and a crime ref number provided.

The council are working with Cadw for these to be reinstated. These are the responsibility of the community council and the Clerk is in the process of submitting an insurance claim.

The work will be completed by the specialist contractor of CADW and has been estimated at £3482.

Play Areas

- i. Willows – notification that the football goals at the Willows have had to be removed as they were considered unsafe. FCC will not be replacing them, but it could be considered in future with match funding or S106 money.

- ii. Queensway – a report was received from a resident regarding safety concerns of the height clearance of the roundabout. This was reported to FCC who inspected the equipment immediately. They advised that the height clearance was on the borderline, but still within the safety requirements. Subsequently a further two emails were received with the same concern. Richard Roberts advised that they have since made an adjustment by raising the roundabout by 5mm, this then provides a clearance of above 60mm and they will monitor in the coming weeks. If the council would like to consider an inclusive roundabout as a replacement in the future this could be considered for Match funding.

RESOLVED: the report was received and ratified. Cllr Parsonage requested that the Willows Football Goal be included on the October agenda for further consideration.

125. Training

- i. In accordance with the Section 67 of LG Elections (Wales) Act 2021 Act, members were provided with a copy of the 2022-23 Training Record for publication.
- ii. The current Training Policy was reviewed by members.

RESOLVED:

- i. The 2022-23 Training Record was approved for publication.
- ii. There were no amendments required to the current policy. It will be members responsibility to complete the self-assessment and inform the clerk of any training needs.

126. Flintshire County Council - Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy

The council considered the latest revision of the FCC's Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy.

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

127. 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).

Cllr Sheibani questioned the castle land registry, the clerk advised the solicitor has completed all the works and it is now in the hands of the Land Registry which currently can take over 12months to process.

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

128. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received and noted:

- OVW & Planning Aid Wales Training Courses and events
- Forward Development Plan 2023-27' for Pontypridd Town Council
- North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority – Consultation
- Mayor of Flint Charity Casino Evening on Friday 20th October, 7pm at the Town Hall, Flint.
- Exceptions to 20mph legislation – Statutory Consultation
- Flintshire Local Area Energy Plan stakeholder workshop - Pathways and Prioritisation
- FCC 20mph Hub.
- OVW - Climate Change and Nature Action Guide for Community and Town Councils in Wales.
- FCC Standards Committee – Visits to Town & Community Councils
- FCC – Green Dog Walkers

129. Future Agenda Items

- Cllr Parsonage – replacement of the Willows Football Goal
- Cllr Bowgett – progress with the possible takeover of the Hope Sports Centre

The meeting of the Council began at 6.30pm and ended at 6.48pm

Chairman: 4th October 2023

Hope Community Council

Minutes of the Finance Committee (Multi Location) Meeting held on Wednesday 6th September 2023

Present: Councillors Mrs T Bowgett (Chair of Committee), Mr D Roberts, Mrs L Davies, Mrs C Cunah, Mrs J Arnold, Mr A Parsonage, Mrs C Sheibani, Mr N Jones, Mr J Mead, Mrs E Oldham.

Also Present: Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

By Video: Mrs Olsen – Abermorddu Residents Committee (via video)

130. To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M Williams, M Taylor, B Hughes and J Tilston.

131. To Receive any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

132. Minutes

RESOLVED: the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 5th July 2023, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

133. To review any Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

134. Payments

i. To report and ratify payments made during the summer recess:

Payable to	Details	Amount
Staffing Cost	Jul-23	£1,566.89
Mrs S Hughes	Stationery, Postage, Equipment, Travel etc	£38.60
Mrs S Hughes	Tesco Mobile - Monthly data package	£10.00
Flintshire County Council	Street Light - VAT part refund (backdated 4yrs)	-£1,066.21
Flintshire County Council	Caergwrle Castle - Handrail Maintenance	£189.00
Groundforce Landscape Ltd	Queensway Maintenance 4 of 7	£213.60
Open Spaces Society	Annual Subscription	£45.00
Cascade Productions	Annual Website Domain	£84.00
HSBC	Monthly Bank Fee	£5.00
Canda Copying Ltd	Photocopier Rental	£48.00

ii. To authorise accounts for payment up to and including 6th September 2023.

Payable to	Details	Amount
FCC	Summer Playscheme - 4 weeks	£2,126.80
Staffing Cost	Aug-23	£1,566.89
Mrs S Hughes	Tesco Mobile - Monthly data package	£10.00
Groundforce Landscape Ltd	Queensway Maintenance 5 of 7	£213.60
--	Hanging Basket Competition Prizes	£100.00
Flintshire County Council	Street Light - VAT part refund (backdated 4yrs)	£1,066.21
HSBC	Monthly Bank Fee	£5.00

RESOLVED:

i. The payments made during the summer recess were received and ratified.

ii. 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 6.48pm and ended 6.52pm

Chairman: 4th October 2023

Hope Community Council

Minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee (Multi Location) Meeting held on Wednesday 6th September 2023

Present: Councillors Mrs L Davies (Chair of Committee), Mr D Roberts, Mrs T Bowgett, Mrs C Cunah, Mrs J Arnold, Mr A Parsonage, Mrs C Sheibani, Mr N Jones, Mr J Mead, Mrs E Oldham.

Also Present: Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

By Video: Mrs Olsen – Abermorddu Residents Committee (via video)

135. To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M Williams, M Taylor, B Hughes and J Tilston.

136. To Receive any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

137. Minutes

RESOLVED: the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 5th July 2023, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

138. To review any Matters Arising from the Minutes

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

139. Planning Applications

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

RESOLVED:

- a) [FUL/000669/23](#). 6no. glamping units. Land at Sandy Lane, Hope. **Supported providing the pond near the site is investigated and made compliant with any safety requirements.**
- b) [FUL/000419/23](#) - Notification of Amendments. Replacement dwelling. St Kilda, Fagl Lane, Hope. **Amendments were noted addressing some of our concerns on the original application, but still object to this planning application as our main concern is the positioning of the double garage being out of character with other properties and detrimental to highway safety**
- c) [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. **Support the construction of a detached garage with attic to be used for general storage; on the proviso that a further planning application would be required for any future change of use.**

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

- a) [TPO/000666/23](#). Reduction in height by "pollarding" 2 no. Ash trees located on the construction site 'Almond Way'. 4, Almond Way, Hope. **Approved**
- b) [FUL/000595/23](#). Construction of a raised patio area to the front of the bungalow, conversion of attic space to provide a second bedroom and demolition of existing orangery and the construction of a new one. 42, Rhyddyn Hill, Caergwrle. **Approved**

140. Highway Matters

- i. The Chair reported that the layby outside the chip shop in Caergwrle, in fact, belongs to the businesses and FCC should not have painted the yellow lines, therefore they will be removed at some stage.
- ii. Empty Homes: Riverside - no further progress but FCC are still working on this. The 2x council homes opposite the Indian in Hope – FCC Housing Dept have to buy these back from FCC Corporate Dept. The Housing Dept have applied for funding from Welsh Government and are confident on receiving this.
- iii. The 20mph limit will be implemented from 17th September.

RESOLVED: the reports were received and noted.

The meeting of the Committee began at 6.52pm and ended at 7.08pm

Chairman: 4th October 2023

Hope Community Council

Minutes of the Leisure & Environment Committee (Multi Location) Meeting held on Wednesday 6th September 2023

Present: Councillors Mrs L Davies (Chair of meeting), Mr D Roberts, Mrs T Bowgett, Mrs C Cunah, Mrs J Arnold, Mr A Parsonage, Mrs C Sheibani, Mr N Jones, Mr J Mead, Mrs E Oldham.

Also Present: Mrs S Hughes Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

By Video: Mrs Olsen – Abermorddu Residents Committee (via video)

141. To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M Williams, M Taylor, B Hughes and J Tilston.

142. To Receive any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest received.

143. Minutes

RESOLVED: the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 5th July 2023, be approved as a correct record and signed by Cllr L Davies, Chair of the meeting.

144. To review any Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

145. Play Areas

There were no matters to report.

146. Caergwrle Castle

- i. Reports of the CADW site meeting from Cllr Arnold and FCS Helen Mrowiec were provided to members.
- ii. Details of the vandalism was reported under delegated powers (min 124). As of today, Zurich Insurance have approved the claim and the contractor Fielder Green Associates have been instructed to commence with the works.

RESOLVED:

- i. The reports were received and noted. A meeting of the Castle Working Group will be co-ordinated in the coming weeks.
- ii. The report was received and noted and the Clerk will liaise with the contractor. As the damage coincided with the Yr 11's leaving school, the PCSO's will be contacted next year to request an increase in patrols around the castle grounds.

147. Village Hanging Basket Competition

There were 8 entries to this years competition and it was lovely to see that there were a few new entries.

Cllrs Hughes and Roberts undertook the judging and the winners were:

1st Brian Lawrence – a wonderful display, just like Chelsea Flower Show

2nd Graham Wood – always a superb display

3rd Jenny Hurst – a lovely display of flowers

The prizes for the Hanging Basket Competition were promoted as gardening vouchers, however, Carlton Garden Centre unfortunately no longer participate in the HTA Voucher Scheme. Alternative prize options were considered.

RESOLVED: the council initially approved for the prizes to be awarded as cash, however, when discussing the Halloween Competition agenda 12 (min 152), subsequently deemed that a cheque prize should be awarded.

148. **Mill Gardens Improvements**

It was reported that to date Ian Williams FCC Streetscene has not held a meeting with his Manager Ian Bushell, despite Ian Williams giving his assurance that the meeting would be held and an update provided before the council meeting.

Cllr Parsonage advised that as he has painted the existing benches and tidied the area, and proposed that due to the lack of cooperation and potential fencing works that FCC will insist upon, the initial proposed project should be withdrawn with immediate effect.

RESOLVED: it was agreed unanimously that the Mill Garden Improvements project will be withdrawn and no further action will be taken.

149. **Telephone Kiosk**

Mrs C Olsen submitted a report to the council to confirm that they have formed a community group 'Abermorddu Residents Committee' which is aimed at protecting historical assets and other points of interest in the community. There are 4 committee members at present and they have a bank account set up in the community group name.

The first project is the renovation of the telephone kiosk and re-installation at Abermorddu Primary School to house their defibrillator and to be used initially as a book exchange for parents, students and the wider public with a view to developing and extending it's usage at the school and for the wider community. They aim to finalise funding and have the item restored within 12 months of receiving it.

They are now requesting that the community asset is transferred to the care of the community group as soon as possible so their plans can become reality and things can move forward. Arrangements can then be put in place for it's collection.

Cllr Cunnah proposed that the kiosk be gifted/donated to Abermorddu Residents Committee as above.

RESOLVED: it was agreed unanimously that kiosk be gifted/donated to Abermorddu Residents Committee.

150. **Noticeboard – Abermorddu**

The Clerk provided members with a written regarding the councils original planning application for the noticeboard. FCC Planning have advised that providing the scheme was for the same project as on last submission and in the same location as last time, if submitted within 12 months of the date of submission of the previous application there would not normally be an additional fee. The application would however need to be submitted again, it be given a new reference number and be subject to the consultation procedure.

Therefore, as the original planning application is over 12 months, if the council are to look at installing a noticeboard, a planning fee would be incurred.

It was reported that a new bus shelter is to be installed opposite Crossways and Cllr Davies has tried to explore options of a noticeboard being installed there. Members also discussed a number of other suitable locations.

RESOLVED: FCC Transportation will be asked whether the installation of a noticeboard within/on or around the new bus shelter could be considered and a post will be shared on the council's facebook page to ask for residents' suggestions.

151. **Village Planters**

The Clerk reported that Ian Williams would not be willing for the community council and/or residents to adopt the planters, he advised that this has been previously tried and planters eventually end up being neglected, however, he would be willing to work in partnership.

Cllr Davies suggested the option of employing a Village Groundsman that could assist with the up keep and maintenance of village planters.

RESOLVED: Ian Williams will be asked rather than adopting planters, would he be happy to work in partnership with council and/or residents for the ongoing planting and watering. There is interest from Councillors and a resident who are very willing to do this.

The Clerk will prepare costings for a Village Groundsman which will be presented in October and should the council wish to pursue this further, a Working Group will be formed to establish what responsibilities/work would be required and an estimate of working hours.

152. Halloween House Decoration Competition 2023

The Clerk presented to members the Halloween Poster and Application form for the new competition to be launched this year.

RESOLVED: the competition will be launched as soon as possible with a closing date of Monday 30th October. Cllrs Bowgett, Cunnah and Sheibani will undertake the judging on Tuesday 31st October.

The meeting of the Committee began at 7.08pm and ended at 7.55pm

Chairman: 4th October 2023