

Llangollen Rural Community Council
Minutes of Meeting held at the Froncysyllte Community Centre
Tuesday 11th July 2023

9/23

Present

Cllr. Elfed Morris	Cllr. Mrs Sue Kempster
Cllr. Keith Sinclair	Cllr. Darrell Wright
Cllr. Steve Jones	Cllr. Mrs Moira Griffiths
Cllr. Mrs Sian Williams (until after item 11)	Cllr. Phil Jones

Chairman: Cllr. K Sinclair

Clerk: Andrea Evans

1. Apologies for absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr. D Metcalfe and Cllr. Mrs R Allen.

2. Minutes of the last council meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th June 2023 had been distributed and were accepted as a true record. The minutes were signed accordingly by the Chairman.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Public Participation

A resident of Froncysyllte was in attendance and addressed Councillors regarding coaches parking on Gate Road. She asked Members if the speed of vehicles travelling past Argoed Lodge could be monitored as she felt that traffic calming measures were needed. Councillors would discuss this under agenda item 5.

5. Member's Urgent Reports

In response to complaints regarding speeding on Gate Road, it was decided to assess whether the speed sign could be relocated to monitor the situation.

6. Police Report

The monthly report from the PCSO had been previously circulated to Councillors and this was discussed.

7. Update on the Community Agent's scheme

A report had not been received from the Community Agent. The Clerk updated Members on the current work being carried out by WCBC with regard to the Community Agent project and how it is delivered. She informed Members that she had met with the Commissioning Officer of WCBC and she would provide more information when she received it.

8. Update from the Clerk on the work log

The Clerk provided an update on the work log and this was discussed.

Parking at Fron Basin/Trevor Basin – The Clerk had asked WCBC for an appropriate sign to be installed at Scotch Hall Bridge, and also asked CRT to install a sign at the Fron Basin directing visitors to the public toilets on the A5. With regard to the parking of coaches, the Clerk had asked M Bathers of WCBC to arrange a meeting between himself, CRT, the Boat Company, the County Councillor and the Community Council to discuss parking issues. A reply had not been received.

Installation of a lockable gate at the George Avenue playground – The Clerk was arranging for a bilingual sign to be installed.

Memorial in Garth – The Clerk had confirmed, in writing, acceptance of the quotation for work but had not yet received a reply. Cllr. Morris informed Members that the work would be done during the summer.

JC Edwards Wall – M Bathers of WCBC had confirmed the funding for the project and was progressing with arranging the consultation and appointing a project manager.

Safety issues on Gate Road due to parked cars – The County Councillor had agreed to ask WCBC to install signs on Gate Road warning drivers of pedestrians on the road and these had been ordered. The Clerk had requested a meeting with the Trunk Road Agency to discuss safety concerns on the A5 in Froncysyllte. There was no update.

Request to WCBC for road signs (No footway) to be placed at four locations on Garth Road – WCBC would be installing 5 signs.

Order for speed sign for Station Road Trevor – The sign had been received and had been installed on Station Road.

Notice Board Trevor – The order had been placed and the notice board would be ready in approximately 6 weeks. It was decided that once the new board had been received the old one would be relocated within the community, the position to be decided upon at a later date.

Four planters on Trevor Green to be used to plant pollinators and fruit and vegetables – A bid to the Sustainable Development Fund for £200 for compost and plants had been successful. The planters were to be tidied prior to planting.

9. Correspondence update from the Clerk

All correspondence was listed in the Clerk's report and had been forwarded to Councillors.

10. An update from the County Councillor

The County Councillor updated Members on the on-going issues in the area.

11. Playground Inspection Reports and work required on the wooden unit at Fron Community Centre playground

It was decided that the Clerk would arrange a Playground Committee Site meeting to consider the inspection reports.

Regarding the wooden unit at Fron Community Centre play area, it was decided that due to its condition it would be removed and replaced with a new piece of equipment.

12. Judging date for the Garden Competition

It was decided that the judging of the Garden Competition would take place on Thursday 3rd August 2023.

13. Update from the Boer War Memorial Working Group.

It was reported that parts of the Consultants report was being redrafted as it had been recommended that the Memorial remained in place for any work to be carried out. The amended report would then form the basis of a grant submission to the War Memorial Trust for 50% of the cost of the work. The Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) had already awarded a grant to the Council of £3,000 towards the restoration of the memorial.

It was decided that the Council would hold a public meeting in Fron to brief residents on the work to be done and seek their views on the restoration.

14. Speeding on Llangollen Road

Cllr. Mrs S Kempster reported that she had received a number of complaints regarding speeding on Llangollen Road. It was decided to defer a decision on this until after the introduction of the new 20 mph speed limits in September. In the meantime the Clerk would download information from the existing speed signs and forward it to Councillors.

15. Publication of the Community Newsletter

It was decided that publication of the newsletter would resume, but that in the future the Community Newsletter would comprise a one sheet double sided A4 newsletter delivered to every household in the community. It would contain Council information and be published three times a year: in spring, summer, and winter. The Clerk would obtain a quote from the printers that the Council had previously used and arrange a Working Group meeting to discuss content.

16. Update from the Cadwyn Clwyd Green Communities Project Working Group 11/23

The Chairman updated Members in relation to the complaint received by Denbighshire County Council regarding the installation of an audio post in Froncysyllte as part of the project. The land was owned by the Canal and River Trust and it was now dealing with the issue.

17. Update on the use of Planters on the Trevor Estate

The Clerk reported that she had arranged for the planters to be tidied before the new planting was done. Further consideration of this item was deferred to the next meeting.

18. Trees affecting visibility on Bont Hill

This was discussed and it was acknowledged that the trimming of the trees was the landowner's responsibility. However in the interests of road and pedestrian safety, it was decided that the Community Council would, with the landowners consent, arrange for the trees to be trimmed. Cllr. Mrs S Kempster asked that it was recorded that she had objected to the decision.

19. Complaints received with regard to overgrown hedges at Trevor Cottage and at Pen Y Bont

It was reported that the hedge at Trevor Cottage had been trimmed. The County Councillor offered to address the complaints received regarding a property at Pen Y Bont, Trevor.

20. Internal Audit Report 2022/23

The Clerk presented the internal audit report to Councillors and this was accepted. It was decided that as per the report the Council would review the adequacy of its fidelity cover. Cllr. Mrs S Kempster thanked the Clerk for completing the work required for the audit.

21. Approval of the Annual Return 2022/23

The Annual Return and the associated documentation had been shared with Councillors. It was decided to approve the Annual Return which was duly signed by the Chairman. The Clerk reported that this year the Council would be subject to a full audit by Audit Wales. Cllr. Mrs S Kempster thanked the Clerk for the work carried out preparing for the external audit.

22. Financial update from the Clerk and authorisation of payments to be made

Payments authorised for July 2023:

P Ankers	102603	£292.50
P Green	102604	£618.00
WCBC	102605	£706.24
WCBC	102606	£867.00
JHD Business Services	102607	£294.00
Derwen College	102608	£768.00
HMRC	102609	£1014.21
The Natural Building Centre	102610	£566.40
J Evans	102611	£126.16
J Evans	102612	NJC
NEST	DD	£59.57
NEST	DD	£57.56
Total		£6,421.70

23. Items for the next agenda

Update on the JC Edwards Wall project

Items to be received by the Clerk by Wednesday 30th August 2023

Date and Venue of the Next Meeting – 5th September 2023 at 7.00pm at Garth & Trevor Community Centre