

Llangollen Rural Community Council
Minutes of Meeting held at the Froncysyllte Community Centre
Tuesday 5th December 2023

22/23

Present

Cllr. Mrs Sue Kempster
Cllr. Elfed Morris
Cllr. Steve Jones
Cllr. Mrs Moira Griffiths
Cllr. Phil Jones

Cllr. Keith Sinclair
Cllr. Darrell Wright
Cllr. Mrs Sian Williams
Cllr. Dave Metcalfe

Chairman: Cllr. K Sinclair

Clerk: Andrea Evans

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of the last council meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th November 2023 had been distributed and were accepted as a true record. The minutes were signed accordingly by the Chairman.

3. Declarations of Interest

None

4. Public Participation

None

5. Co-option of a candidate to fill an existing vacancy

One application had been received for the office of Councillor, and the application letter was considered. Following a discussion it was decided to co-opt Mr Anthony Roberts to fill the vacancy of Councillor. Anthony Roberts duly signed the acceptance office and code of conduct, and joined the meeting.

6. Member's Urgent Reports

It was reported that the steps in front of the flats in Station Road were covered in grass and the planter on Station Road at the bottom of the footpath needed to be tidied. It was decided that the Clerk would arrange for the work to be done.

7. Police Report

A police report had not been received.

8. Update on the Community Agent's scheme

The Community Agent was in attendance and updated Members. Members queried why she had visited clients in Weston Rhyn and in Cefn. She informed them that this was at the request of the Rainbow Centre.

9. 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 invited Jamie Edge of WCBC to meet with Members to discuss a proposed TRO on Gate Road, but had not received a reply. Councillor Roberts would send details of the proposed TRO to Members, and offered to contact Mr Edge to request a meeting.

Memorial in Garth – The work had been completed but unfortunately a small leak remained. Cllr. Morris was in the process of contacting the contractor to ask him to address this.

JC Edwards Wall – The Clerk reported that an email had been received from the consultant working on the project, requesting a meeting with Members prior to any public consultation. It was decided that the Clerk

would inform the consultant that Cllr. Mrs S. Kempster, Cllr. D. Wright, Cllr. K. Sinclair and Cllr. M. Griffiths would meet with him.

Installation of a bilingual sign on the lockable gate at the George Avenue playground – The Clerk would obtain a sign as soon as possible.

Request to WCBC for road signs (No footway) to be placed at five locations on Garth Road – WCBC had 3 more signs to install.

Notice Board Trevor – The notice board was ready to be picked up and installed. It was decided that the Clerk would arrange for this to be done. Cllr. Roberts offered to ask the Management Committee of ‘The Oaks’ if the old notice board could be placed there.

10. Planning Applications

P/2023/0715 - Change of use of building from Class A1 (Retail) to Class A3 (Food and Drink) – **Aqueduct Garage, Llangollen Road, Trevor, Wrexham**

Members expressed concern about possible parking on a blind corner.

P/2023/0798 – Works to trees in Pontcysyllte Conservation Area – **Land at Trevor Wharf, New Road, Trevor, Wrexham**

There were no objections to the application.

11. Correspondence update from the Clerk

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

12. An update from the County Councillor

The County Councillor updated Members on the following matters: new bins were to be placed outside the Oaks play area and outside the Garth play area; salt bins had been replenished; the resurfacing of the Ochr had been completed; parking issues in the area were being worked on, including issues at the bottom of Garth Road and on Gate Road.

13. An update on grant applications to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Members were informed that the grant offer of £30,000 for the Froncysyllte Community Centre playground had been accepted and work on the tenders was progressing.

Regarding the grant for replacing the planters on Trevor Green, 3 quotes had been received.

The Boer War Memorial grant of £7,000 was dependent on match-funding of £7,000 (£4,000 fundraising and £3,000 SDF grant), and work must commence before 1st April 2024.

14. Approval of the budget and the precept amount for 2024/25

The proposed budget had been distributed. It had been discussed at the Finance meeting held on 30th November, where it was decided to present it for approval to the full Council.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk’s salary would increase from point 23 to point 24 with effect from 1st April 2024, and the allowance would increase by £120 per year. It was further agreed to use £4,000 of reserves to offset the precept to residents, thereby making the 2024/25 precept request £55,080 (£63.97 per Band D property). The precept request for 2023/24 had been £54,909 (£64.29 per Band D property).

The budget for 2024/25 was set at £59,080.

15. Update on the proposed sites for creating wildlife areas in the Community

It was decided that Members of the Green Community Working Group would meet with WCBC to discuss the suitability of the proposed wildlife areas, and the Clerk would contact WCBC to arrange this.

16. Approval of payments to Seion Chapel, St. David’s Church and Capel Y Groes

The following payments were approved: £200 to Seion Chapel; £250 to St. David’s Church; and £250 to Capel Y Groes.

17. External Audit Report 2022/23

24/23

The Auditor General had reported an unqualified audit opinion with no further matters drawn to the Council's attention. The Clerk was thanked for the work done on the audit.

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

Financial statements had been circulated as at the end of November: receipts for 2023/24; bank reconciliation; and budget monitoring against the budget and receipts.

It was decided to consider investing the Council's reserves and to transfer funds from the current account to the deposit account.

Payments to be authorised for December 2023:

P Ankers	102645	£362.50
P Green	102646	£86.00
Wynnstay Joinery	102647	£739.90
WTE Printers	102648	£118.00
Seion Chapel	102649	£200.00
St David's Church	102650	£250.00
Capel Y Groes	102651	£250.00
J Evans	102652	NJC
J Evans	102653	£146.28
Total		£3,653.82

19. Items for the next agenda

WCBC Speed sign on Llangollen Road

Request for double yellow lines opposite the proposed TRO on Gate Road, Fron

Date and Venue of the Next Meeting – 6th February 2024, 7.00pm at Garth & Trevor Community Centre