MINUTES of the proceedings of the Meeting of Nannerch Community Council held at Nannerch Memorial Hall on Wednesday 6th December 2023

PRESENT:

Councillor H Morgan (Chair)
Councillor J Costidell (Vice Chair)
Councillor J Byrne
Councillor R Calderwood-Duncan
Councillor J Capstick
Councillor G Williams

County Councillor A Parkhurst

1. **Welcome to new Councillor**
   Councillor R Calderwood-Duncan was welcomed to the Council. The Section 83 (4), Local Government Act 1972 Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

2. **Public Participation**
   None.
   The Chair confirmed that there had been no requests for remote access to the Meeting.

3. **To consider accepting apologies for absence**
   Councillor F Hunter
   Councillor K Weston

   Apologies were accepted.
   In the absence of a Clerk, Councillor Byrne took the minutes.

4. **To record declaration of interests from members in any item to be discussed**
   None

5. **To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting 1st November 2023**
   Resolved: That the Minutes of the Meeting of Nannerch Community Council held on the 1st November 2023 be accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Chairman : ....

6. To receive police update and raise any matters

The Chair confirmed that the Police Statistics for Cilcain ward have been updated for October with no incidents reported in Nannerch.

Councillor Hunter had confirmed to the Chair that she still had not received a reply from Sargeant Kerry Nash. Councillor Parkhurst suggested we could contact PCSO Emma Owen 92932 who has assisted him within the Ward recently.

7. To receive Streetscene update and raise any matters

Neil Hickie did not attend the meeting.

A number of residents had enquired about the condition of the old bus shelter towards Mold and Neil will be asked to look into it. He will also be asked for an update on the outstanding issues.

A resident had also asked about the purchase of daffodil bulbs to be planted around the village. It was thought that it may be too late for this winter and if so, will be consider next autumn.

8. To update on items from last meeting

8.1 To consider the options for Telephone Kiosk interior work

The Chair is still in dialogue with the designer who has been unwell and had been unable to proceed over recent months.

8.2 To receive an update on Nannerch Play Area and the Green Communities Fund.

Work is continuing on installing new kissing gates throughout the parish. This will continue over the coming months. The Chair confirmed that a number of additional requests had been received from landlords who were willing to upgrade their footpath infrastructure. As there had been significant savings of over £2,500 from the Clerk's Salary, travel, reimbursements and allowances, it was agreed that these savings could be spent on further improvement work to footpaths.

9. Planning

To consider:

9.1 Planning applications received by Flintshire County Council

Application reference number: DET/001032/23
Proposal: Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Condition 5, 6 & 7, Planning Ref: 060536
Location Fron House, Ffordd Y Cwm, Nannerch, Mold, CH7 5RW

The details had yet to be been released on the planning portal.

9.2 Planning applications received by Flintshire County Council

None

Chairman : ....

10. Clerk's Update - Correspondence and other items

10.1 To receive update on the Clerk's replacement

2 very capable applicants had been interviewed, both scoring highly. Due to her superior background in clerking and accounting, Councillor Williams and the Chair recommended Jeanne Penn be offered the position. Some questions had been raised over the hours offered, allowances and training requirements that the Chair will investigate. Council agreed with the recommendation. Councillors discussed an expected significant learning period where training would be required. It was agreed that extra hours would be reimbursed while the new Clerk familiarises herself to the role and any training paid.

10.2 To receive update on the 2022/23 External Audit

The Chair will liaise with the new clerk with regards to the 2022/23 External Audit.

10.3 To agree precept amount for 2024-2025

Flintshire County Council had confirmed that the tax base will reduce from £286.96 in 2023/24 to £281.80. This is due to a reduction in the number of households subject to the council tax premium scheme. Whilst overall the number of properties has remained the same, there had been some minor movements in bandings of properties in a downward direction, with some likely to have been down-banded. An increase of £0.97 will be required to remain at the same precept amount.

The Chair also detailed cost increases for 2024/2025 that are currently known to the Council. This included increases in the Clerks hourly salary as agreed by SLCC, insurances and audit costs. An increase of £1.03 will be required to cover these costs.

Therefore, it was agreed that an increase of £2 per Band D property be requested to cover these known costs and the shortfall in the precept following the rebranding of some properties.

10.4 To receive feedback from the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Winter Forum

The Chair had attended this forum in Llysfasi. 3 very interesting presentations were given by staff-

- New publication 'Trees in our Landscape- remarkable trees of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB'.
- Ash dieback *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* and the work being undertaken at Loggerheads.
- Background to Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs).

The presentations will be forwarded to Councillors when they are received.

10.5 To receive feedback from Councillor Parkhurst following the Standards Committee meeting

Councillor Parkhurst had attended this meeting. Much of the meeting centred on when to consider dispensations. This is to ensure public confidence and transparency.

Chairman : …… ……

10.6 To receive information of the 2024 Summer Playscheme Provision.
Details had been received of the cost for a summer play scheme. Flintshire CC are asking for a commitment of 3 years to run the scheme with costs starting at £1,915.80 (for a 3 week scheme) raising to £2,533.70 by 2026, or a 6 week scheme starting at £3,831.60 raising to £5,067.36 in 2026.

Total costs to Nannerch would be £6,652.70 for 3 week scheme in 2024, 2025 and 2026 and £13,305.36 for a 6 week scheme.

It was agreed that the playgroup in Nannerch would be asked if there would be any interest and the likelihood of filling 13 places.

10.7 To confirm completion of the Polling Station Review
The Chair had completed the Polling Station Review on behalf of Nannerch Community Council.

10.8 To confirm completion of Flintshire's Community Review
The Chair had completed the Community Review on behalf of Nannerch Community Council.

10.9 To discuss possible closure of the Doctors Surgery in Nannerch Memorial Hall
Bodowen Surgery had written to the Community Council to say that they have taken the difficult decision to submit a proposal to the Health Board to close the Branch Surgery at Nannerch Memorial Hall. They say that the decision wasn't taken lightly, and that they have looked at all possibilities to recommence services. They have struggled to recruit staff in recent months, and this has been a challenge to be able to maintain a satisfactory level of service at our Main Branch Surgery. They have had an increased demand for appointments in recent months and this has impacted their ability to provide the surgery at Nannerch Memorial Hall.

They continue that practice population of Nannerch has slowly declined over recent years and is circa 3% of the practice population. They feel that the service at Nannerch is disproportionate to that of the Main Branch and was mainly used for script collection. The resources to staff the Branch Surgery are also disproportionate as a GP and dispenser are needed to provide the service. On many occasions the GP would only see 3 or 4 patients at most, in the Main Branch the GP would easily see 18 patients in the same time.

They say that they understand how residents will feel and that the service is important to the local community. They are in the final stages of putting a patient/stakeholder communication together with details of why they are proposing to close the branch surgery. It is their intention to formally write to each patient household and all stakeholders who will have the ability to voice their opinion on this proposal.

They inform us that to date they have not had any adverse feedback as to not providing the surgery at Nannerch. They also believe that patient care has not been compromised as a result of not operating the branch Surgery in recent years.

Chairman : ....

Llais (formerly Community Health Council) have been approached and have been guiding them on how to approach the proposal and they will follow all recommendations.

Feedback from patients and stakeholders alike will be taken onboard and will be presented in the proposal submission.

Nannerch Community Council agreed to liaise with the Memorial Hall Committee and will look to engage with residents when they are consulted.

10.10 To receive bank reconciliations as at 30th September 2023
The Chair had forwarded the bank reconciliations for end September 2023.

10.11 To receive Quarter 2 budget monitor and budget proposal updates for 2023/24
The Chair had forwarded the budget monitor and budget proposals.

10.12 To receive 2024/25 budget proposal as at 30th September 2023
No changes were made to the budget proposal and the Chair will work with the new Clerk to provide an updated budget proposal for the year end.

10.13 To confirm selection of payments and payees sample testing for 1st April-30th September 2023.
Normally the Chair would randomly choose a selection of payments to ensure that the correct recipients had been paid. As the Chair had been making the payments in the absence of a Clerk, it was agreed by Council that Councillor Byrne will make the random selection and the Chair will provide the required details to her to be checked.

11.1 AED Check
The Chair had checked the defibrillators at the Kiosk, Memorial Hall and the Cherry Pie before the Meeting. All were emergency ready.

12. To receive list of payments
The Chair, Vice Chair and Councillor Byrne checked the list of payments due, having reviewed the supporting invoice supplied.

	Payee	£	Payment method	Power
12.1	Gordon's Gardens November 23	£153	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111
12.2	Helen Wade (Clerk- back pay)	£58.94	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111 & 112
12.3	Keegan & Pennykid Insurance Brokers Ltd	£147.01	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111
12.4	Theatr Clwyd (agreed in October)	£100	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.137

TOTAL £458.95

Chairman : ....

Councillors agreed that we would advertise on Past and Present that we would be agreeing grant applications in the February meeting. Those wishing to apply will need to request through clerk@nannerch.com. A copy of their latest accounts will be required.

Councillors were asked to think of items in and around the village where financial assistance may be required. One such item that may require maintenance is the notice board.

NEXT MEETING 7th February 2023

Chairman : …… ……