MINUTES of the proceedings of the Meeting of Nannerch Community Council held at Nannerch Memorial Hall on Thursday 6th June 2024 at 7pm

PRESENT:

Councillors H Morgan (Chair), J Byrne, K Weston, J Costidell, R Calderwood-Duncan, J Capstick and J Morgan-Millington.
County Councillor A Parkhurst
Jeanne Penn, Clerk

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed Jasmin Morgan-Millington as newly Co Opted Councillor, to the meeting. He explained the process for any required declarations of interest. Councillor Morgan-Millington signed the Declaration of Office and it was agreed that the Clerk should provide her with the Code of Conduct, The Good Councillors Guide and the OVW Induction presentation.

2. Public Participation

The Clerk confirmed that there had been no requests for remote access to the meeting.

3. To consider accepting apologies for absence

Councillor Williams.

4. To record declaration of interests from members in any item to be discussed.

There were no declarations of interest received.

5. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting 9th May 2024

The Minutes of this Meeting of Nannerch Community Council were accepted as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

6. To receive updates on progress from previous Minutes

- **SmartWater Kits.** The event, held immediately before this meeting, had been well-publicised and more than 40 residents had attended the drop-in session delivered by Sgt Sue Carrington and PCSO Tiffany Davies from North Wales Police 'We Don't Buy Crime' team. As a result, 33 Smartwater kits had been registered and distributed to residents, with more expressions of interest received. It was **agreed** that the Clerk

should provide the additional contacts to PCSO Davies so that further kits could be issued.

- **Village Noticeboard.** It was noted that the lead was damaged. As this was unlikely to be a non-costly repair, it was **agreed** for the Vice Chair to source this material.

- **D-Day 80/other commemorative structure.** The Chair was continuing to explore the ideas of a cast with 3D printing in readiness for Remembrance Day in 2024. It was **agreed** that a budget of £3,000 should be allocated for this permanent structure. As D-day 80 coincided with this meeting, it was **agreed** that Councillors would attend a short ceremony to mark the event immediately after this meeting at the war memorial, where a small lamp would be lit, together with the playing of Last Post and a short reading.

7. To receive police update and raise any matters

Crime statistics for April 2024 had not yet been posted on NWP website.

8. To receive Streetscene update and raise any matters

An email had been received from Neil Hickie on 30th May 2024, with the following update:

Work order issued for the following Potholes: before Nant y Cwm on Ffordd y Cwm; on Plas Yw Road towards Moel Arthur; on Llandyrnog Road past Bryn Ffynon; by Grey Cottage on Ffordd y Waen
Litter on A541 – Awaiting Traffic Management due to "A Road"
Drainage channels filled near Hawthorn Cottage JCB Planned to make channels so surface water runs off the road
Lane to Piw Gwyn – On going to consider putting up an appropriate sign to deter inappropriate large vehicles
Sarn Hill – Waiting on reply from Darrell regarding a barrier or kerb near the salt bin half way up Sarn Hill

In addition, it was noted that there were potholes outside Nannerch Lodge on Ffordd y Waen, and on the A541 which had already been brought to Neil's attention by Councillor Parkhurst.

Two emails had been received from residents regarding the lack of grass cutting on the Pen y Coed estate. Councillors asked whether there a cutting schedule of this area that residents can be informed of and whether there is a policy of grass cuttings being left in situ.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk would pursue these matters with Mr Hickie in readiness for the next meeting.

9. Flintshire County Council Planning Matters

- Planning applications **received** by Flintshire County Council:

  Application Ref: LBC/000360/24
  Proposal: Installation of log burner to existing sunroom extension and associated flue location
  Location: Hafod y Cwm, Ffordd y Cwm, CH7 5RU

Councillors **noted** no concerns with this application.

10. Financial Matters

- The Internal Audit Report Accounting & Annual Statements had been received from the Internal Auditors on 4th June 2024. The 5 recommendations made were **noted and accepted** by the Council. The Clerk would ensure that the required actions were recorded in the document and followed up.
- The Date of Exercise of Electors Rights (1/7/24-26/7/24) was noted and the Clerk would publish the Notice on the website by 15th June 2024.
- The Annual Budget (ie the Budget Monitor) for 2024/25 had been revised to take into account the current situation with the proposed ring-fenced spending during this year. This included the installation of play area equipment, footpath improvements, armistice memorial, replacement of damaged orchard trees and coppice tree guards at Ffordd y Waen. An amount of £3000 had been included for donations/grants. It was noted that budgeted expenditure for the year stands at just under £31,000 with budgeted income of just over £22k. This would mean an overspend of £8,500, but with a carried forward balance of nearly £16, 000 from 23/24, the Council would be looking at reducing the carry forward year end to about £7,500. The revised Budget Monitor for 2024/25 was **agreed**.
- As at 31/5/24, the bank balance total stood at £15,921.65.
- The VAT re-claim for 2023/24 of £2,477.17 was paid into the bank on 16/5/24
- The Chair and Vice Chair had checked the schedule of payments due for May 2024, having reviewed the supporting invoices/paperwork supplied. Payments were **approved** by all Councillors as follows:

Payee	**£**	**Payment method**	**Power**
Clerk salary-May	379.98	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111 & 112
HMRC Clerk's PAYE-May	95.00	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111
Clerk allowance/travel/print	37.79	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111
Gordon's Gardens	70.00	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111
Smartwater kits-Deter Tech	862.80	BACS	LG & Rating Act 1997 s.31
JDH Business Services-internal audit	316.80	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111

TOTAL £1,762.37

11. Applications for Financial Support

No requests had been received prior to this meeting. Councillors however noted that applications for financial support from local groups were generally received at different times throughout the year which meant it was difficult to decide not only for the annual budget prediction, but also for the amounts allocated to each group. It was therefore **agreed** that the Council would accept requests throughout the year but would only consider at one meeting annually (likely to be in December, with a cut-off for requests to be by the end of November). The Clerk would publicise this on the website.

13. Clerk's Update - Correspondence and other items

- The External Audit 2023/24 submission had previously been circulated to Councillors. This was **noted, agreed** and the Clerk would now forward to the External Auditor.
- The outstanding External Audit for 2022/23 was brought to Councillors attention and **note** was made that this oversight occurred before the current Clerk was appointed. The Chair and Clerk had met to discuss the information required and would now work on this submission with a view to having it ready by early July.
- It was **agreed** that the Clerk would prepare a draft Annual Report for 2023/24 in readiness for the next meeting in July for Councillors' consideration and approval.

16. Reports and Updates from other meetings.

- Councillor Parkhurst had received an email and attachments from Flintshire County Council relating to releasing land for disposal and possible purchase as 'recreation garden land' by the homeowner adjacent to the rear of Erw'r Llan. This was for part of the car park behind Erw Llan and this correspondence had been circulated to Councillors for their comments.
  The correspondence suggested this car parking originally had garages and note was made that this was incorrect. Although there is need for greater car parking provision in the village, it was felt that there would still be sufficient space to park 4 cars and allow for turning should the area be sold. Therefore, Councillors raised no objection to any proposed sale, but would want to be notified if any more requests were made which would restrict parking in the future. It was **agreed** that Councillor Parkhurst would inform FCC of this and other comments raised and return to the Community Council with any further requests for land disposal at this location which may impede parking in the future.

- The Chair and Councillor Parkhurst had attended the National Landscapes Champions, Town and Community Councils and Local Members Forum. In the welcome, Councillors were informed that Areas of Outstanding National Beauty (AONBs) have been rebranded as National Landscapes (NLs) throughout Wales and England.

Presentations were given by Rhun Jones (Senior Countryside Ranger South) and Sam Kenyon (Curlew and People Officer) on the Curlew Connections Wales Project and Graham Berry (Climate Change and Nature Recovery Officer) on Biological Recording, INNS mapper, Cofnod and Bionet to showcase some of the projects the National Landscape staff were working on.
Ash Pearce (Project Manager) from Natural Resources Wales then updated those present on the proposed new National Park. In its Programme for Government (2021-2026), Welsh Government set out its intention to designate a new National Park in North East Wales based on the existing Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. This would be a fourth National Park for Wales, and the first new such park to be established in Wales since 1957.

There was some confusion by Local Members that the consultation period had closed. Ash confirmed that NRW had completed a series of **engagement** events in late 2023. This was to raise awareness of the proposals and listen to questions, perceptions and opportunities. He confirmed that the consultation period would open 2nd November 2024 and that answers to questions raised previously will be provided in readiness for the full consultation.

13. Village Items.

- **AED Checks.** The Chair confirmed the periodic checks of the 3 defibrillators which were emergency ready.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 10th July 2024 at 7pm (note change of day and scheduled date)