MINUTES of the proceedings of the Meeting of Nannerch Community Council held at Nannerch Memorial Hall on Thursday 5th September 2024 at 7pm

PRESENT:

Councillors H Morgan (Chair) J Byrne, K Weston, J Costidell (Vice Chair), J Morgan-Millington and G Williams. County Councillor Andrew Parkhurst. Jeanne Penn, Clerk.

1. Public Participation

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

2. To accept apologies for absence

Councillor Capstick and Councillor Calderwood-Duncan.

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

There were no declarations of interest received

4. To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting 10th July 2024

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

5. To receive updates on progress from previous Minutes

- **Further SmartWater event.** This had been organised to take place at the Memorial Hall on Saturday 14th September between 10am and 12noon, to assist with distributing kits to residents, alongside acting as a police 'surgery'. A community café would also be held at the same time. Councillor Costidell had already publicised this event on Nannerch P&P, and would re-post a few days before the 14th.
- **Village Noticeboard repairs.** In the absence of Councillor Calderwood-Duncan, an update would be provided at the next meeting.
- **Armistice commemorative structure.** The Chair showed Councillors the original plaque, borrowed from the family, which required restoring and cleaning, before a replica could be made. The Chair would shortly be meeting with the family to discuss the proposals for the cast.
- **Play Area upgrade.** The additional equipment had been installed by FCC contractors at the beginning of August, and early feedback was positive. The 50% share of costs (£2250) for installation had been agreed previously, but the invoice from Aura had not yet been received by the Clerk. It was **noted** that the equipment remained the assets of

FCC, and did not need including on NCC's asset register. FCC were also responsible for regular inspections, maintenance and insurance of the equipment.

6. To receive police update and raise any matters

Crime statistics for May noted 1 burglary and for June, 2 anti-social behaviour incidents and 1 of criminal damage/arson.

7. To receive Streetscene update and raise any matters

An action plan had been received from Neil Hickie on 2nd September, with the following update:

- A work order had been issued for the following Pothole repairs: before Nant y Cwm on Ffordd y Cwm; on Plas Yw Road towards Moel Arthur; by Grey Cottage on Ffordd y Waen; on Sarn Mill; on Llandyrnog Road; on Little Wheeler.
- Pothole repairs on Trefechan Lane was ongoing.
- The clearing of drainage channels near Hawthorn Cottage was an ongoing action
- A request for signage on Lane to Piw Gwyn to deter inappropriate large vehicles referred to the situation being monitored.
- The request for a crash barrier at Sarn Hill had been escalated to management.

Further reports of deterioration in road conditions with potholes were noted on Sarn Mill Road, along with the bottom of Sarn Mill Hill entering the A541 where metal and concrete were exposed. Residents had also noted their concerns with Councillors. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would express the Council's continuing dissatisfaction and bring these outstanding matters to Streetscene's attention.

8. Flintshire County Council Planning Matters

No planning applications had been **received or approved** by Flintshire County Council

9. Financial Matters

- As reported at item 5, the Clerk was awaiting the invoice from FCC for 50% share for installing the equipment in the play area, £2,250.00
- Receipt of the second precept installment in August of £5,166.33 was **noted**.
- The Chair and Vice Chair had checked the schedule of payments due for July and August 2024, having reviewed the supporting invoices/paperwork supplied. An invoice for defibrillator pads had only arrived today, which was subsequently added to the schedule. Payments were therefore **approved** by all Councillors as follows:

Payee	£	Payment method	Power
Clerk net salary-July & August	480.71	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111 & 112
HMRC Clerk's PAYE-July & August	120.00	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111
Clerk allowance/travel/print	73.78	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111
Gordon's Gardens	220.00	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111
SLCC-Clerk's training	72.00	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.111
Defib Store (replacement pads)	156.00	BACS	LGAct 1972 s.137.1

- **TOTAL £1122.49**

10. Clerk's Update - Correspondence and other items

- The Clerk explained to Councillors the problems encountered following submission of the full External Audit 2022/23 on 17/6/24. Due to a system technical problem at the Auditor's Office, some of the information had been 'lost' and the Clerk had been asked to re-submit this. Subsequent correspondence between the Clerk expressing her dissatisfaction and the Auditors resulted in an impasse. The Clerk therefore re-submitted the information incurring additional resource which the Auditor would not reimburse. This situation was **noted** by Councillors, who wished to give the matter further consideration upon completion of the sign off process by the Auditors in due course.
- The consultation during September 2024 of the Democracy & Boundary Commission constituencies review was **discussed and noted**. Councillors had previously received the documentation, whereby the proposal is to merge Clwyd West and Clwyd North. Further information will be made available following this consultation, and the process must be completed before the Wales elections in 2026.
- VE Day 80 on Thursday 8th May 2025 was **noted** by Councillors, with further details to follow.

11. Reports and Updates from other meetings.

County Councillor Parkhurst reported that the Leader of FCC had resigned, and a new Leader would be appointed later this month. FCC was facing a major budget deficit for the next year. Key priorities would have to continue but cuts would be felt, including the frequency of the black bin collections.

The Chair reported on NRW planting at Moel Llys y Coed (aka 'Pinders' Mountain') as follows:

The Chair had taken an opportunity to meet with representatives of Natural Resorces Wales (NRW) at the site. Nannerch Community Council had previously been informed that a full consultation would be undertaken by NRW prior to any planting, however half the site has now been planted without notice. The remaining slope is to be planted this coming winter. The Chair confirmed to NRW that the Council were happy with the proposed tracks (rides) which will allow greater access opportunists throughout the site and onto CL1 (Clwydian Range). He asked for a feathered edge to the woodland with little to no planting on the top edge so not to remove a clear line of sight between Moel Arthur and Moel Llys y Coed which would restrict views along the Clwydian Range ridge from Offa's Dyke National Trail. The slope will be planted to create a 'ffridd' like habitat mosaic to provide the distinctive transitional zone between lower hillsides and uplands.

The Chair reported on Ysgubor Newydd Woodland as follows:

The Chair had received an e-mail from Protect Earth, an environmental charity who have a lease on 11 hectares of land to the West of Hafod y Cwm. In January 2025, they intend to plant most of this area with over 11,000 native broadleaf trees including Oak, Birch, Aspen, Rowan, Wild Cherry, Lime, Hazel and Hawthorn. In time, this woodland creation project will benefit declining bird species like Pied Flycatcher and Wood Warbler as well as a wide range of other wildlife including bats, butterflies and invertebrate species. Other existing habitats including areas of scrub and fungi-rich grassland will be maintained and improved. Their main aim is to protect and enhance the areas of biodiversity and sequester carbon but, as the site develops, to also provide a place of quiet enjoyment for local people. They are looking for a mix of volunteers from all walks of life, local people, students, charities, corporate volunteers etc. to help them. The Chair had agreed to provide details on Nannerch Past and Present. If any residents wish to volunteer, they can contact the clerk or Chair who will forward details to Protect Earth.

12. Village Items.

- **AED Checks.** The Chair confirmed that, subject to the replacement of pads on the defibrillator outside the Memorial Hall immediately after this meeting, the 3 defibrillators were emergency ready.
- **Bulb Planting.** This matter having been deferred from February's meeting, it was **agreed** that the Chair would organise the purchasing of a large quantity of bulbs and Councillors would plant these along the village entrance hedgerows. It was also **agreed** that the Vice Chair would obtain a quote for a wooden planter to replace the barrel opposite the War Memorial.
- **Poppies/wreaths for Remembrance Day.** Councillor Bryne had received a reminder from the Royal British Legion to submit an order for the required number of wreaths for this year's commemoration date. It was **agreed** that Councillor Byrne would contact the relevant groups and liaise with the Clerk to organise payment, likely to be in the region of just under £100 as in previous years.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 3rd October 2024 at 7pm