

Minera Community Council Meeting held on Wednesday 28th August 2024

Commencing at 7.15 pm at the Tyn y Capel, Minera

Present: Cllrs, D Kelly (Chair), K Coventry (Vice-chair), A Roberts, T Grundy, G Dillon, L Brook

Clerk: Mr D Hinchliffe

Apologies: Cllrs J Wellens, D Gidlow, J Belton, W Ollerhead, B Heard

28/24 Declarations of interest

28.1/24 There were no declarations of interest.

29/24 Ratification of the minutes of the previous meeting

29.1/24 The minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2024 were proposed as a correct record by Cllr G Dillon and seconded by Cllr A Roberts.

30/24 Personnel matters – appraisal outcomes for the Clerk and Community Agent

Minutes relating to this item of business are not for the public record.

31/24 Matters arising from the minutes not otherwise dealt with in the agenda

31.1/24 The Clerk advised the meeting that white lining of the Gwynfryn football field was still not completed, despite several attempts to expedite the work. He would now stand the contractor down when contact was finally made.

31.2/24 The Clerk advised the meeting that no assistance had been gleaned from the local SLCC branch with respect to registration of ‘The Nurse.’ Following a short discussion, several possible sources of appropriate legal support were tabled, which the Clerk would now use in an attempt to expedite the process.

31.3/24 The Clerk would continue to pursue a maintenance cut of the bridleway adjacent to Minera Hall as this work still remained outstanding.

31.4/24 The Chair advised the meeting that he had not yet met with the proprietor of Jordan’s Commercial to ascertain whether the Five Crosses noticeboard would need to move.

31.5/24 The Clerk confirmed that a donation from the Civic Budget towards the cost of the recent Flower Festival had still not been requested by the Church Wardens. Cllr L Brook undertook to expedite the request.

31.6/24 The Clerk had issued new email addresses to all Councillors and was aware of initial mixed success in getting the new accounts to operate smoothly. He assured Councillors that the changeover from the existing arrangements would be taken at a suitable and thorough pace, and issues identified such as ease of access on mobile devices would be taken up with the website hosting company.

31.7/24 The Clerk advised the meeting that a conversation with North Wales Police had elicited assurance that misused edged tools had been confiscated as part of the recent disturbances in New Brighton, and that prosecutions had been considered, although the subsequent receipt of the August policing report confirmed that available evidence had been deemed insufficient to sustain a prosecution.

31.8/24 The Clerk also advised the meeting that repairs to the fence opposite Minera School had been carried out. Sadly, further damage had now been inflicted and had been referred to PCSO Lydia Edwards for investigation.

31.9/24 The Clerk confirmed that work to renovate the War Memorial bus shelter would begin on 2 September. The contractor had confirmed the date and the work method and would ensure bus passengers and schoolchildren returning to school would be kept safe. The work would be announced on the website and Facebook and at the site and would be complete within a week.

32/24 Co-option – to consider the timing of the next search for one additional Community Councillor

32.1/24 Following a brief discussion it was decided that this matter would be reviewed at the next Council meeting, scheduled for 16 October.

33/24 Police report – to receive an update from the local policing team

33.1/24 The Clerk had circulated a summary of incidents which had been provided by North Wales Police relating to July. Although not as lengthy as the previous month's report, Councillors noted that the number of incidents remained elevated compared prevailing recent experience.

33.2/24 Cllr K Coventry advised the meeting that she had received feedback from residents of possible purchase and sale of drugs in the old entrance to the Tomlinson's Dairy site on Gwernygaseg Road. The Clerk undertook to pass the details to North Wales Police.

34/24 Footpath issues – report on activities

34.1/24 Cllr T Grundy advised the meeting that he had reviewed new fencing on the 'White Road' following a resident's observation that the amenity of the path was affected. The fence improvements were in effect to secure livestock in adjacent fields from the casual intrusion of dogs and were therefore entirely permissible.

34.2/24 The Chair added that separate contact from a resident regarding barbed wire having been added to the bottom of fences adjacent to a path was in effect an identical issue and that the landowner had acted within his legal entitlements.

35/24 Borough Councillor's report – summary of activities

35.1/24 In Cllr J Wellens' absence this item was deferred.

36/24 School Governor's report – summary of activities

36.1/24 In Cllr W Ollerhead's absence this item was deferred, noting that no meetings had taken place during the school summer holiday.

37/24 Community Agent's report – summary of activities

37.1/24 In Susanne Allcroft's absence, this item was deferred.

38/24 Correspondence – summary of items received; the Clerk will highlight any issues requiring attention and provide any clarifications

38.1/24 The Clerk had circulated details of correspondence received in the month and drew attention to one item in which a resident had made enquiries concerning land ownership around Y Gors nature reserve in Gwynfryn. He had shared the enquiry details with Cllr A Roberts as a resident of Y Gors. Cllr Roberts advised the meeting that the enquiry had been prompted by the proposed sale of nearby land, and that the resident was content with answers provided.

38.2/24 In the light of the issues raised, the Chair asked the Clerk to pursue registration of the lad at Y Gors and at the Berwig quarry in the name of Minera CC along with efforts to register The Nurse.

39/24 Grants and donations – to consider requests for financial support received.

39.1/24 Donation requests had been received in favour of Wrexham Premier Radio and Nightingale House Hospice. Following a short discussion, it was decided not to support Wrexham Premier Radio at the current time. Cllr A Roberts proposed, and Cllr L Brook seconded that a donation of £300 be awarded to Nightingale House Hospice.

39.2/24 The Clerk advised the meeting that an invitation to purchase tickets for the Mayor's Charity Dinner Dance had not been taken up on this occasion, although he had circulated to Councillors the list of charities which would benefit from the event, all of whom would qualify for a donation from Minera CC under the terms of the gifts and donations policy.

39.3/24 Following a brief discussion Cllr K Coventry proposed and Cllr A Roberts seconded that a donation from the Civic Budget of £100 be awarded to the Mayor's Charity Fund.

40.24 Financial matters – to approve the month’s financial statement and schedule of proposed payments

40.1/24 The Clerk briefly explained the financial activities for the period, and the details of payments proposed to be made, following which the financial statement for the period was proposed for acceptance by Cllr K Coventry and seconded by Cllr G Dillon and the schedule of payments, shown below, was proposed for approval by Cllr K Coventry and seconded by Cllr T Grundy.

S Allcroft, Agent salary for July	791.05
D Hinchliffe, Clerk salary for August	529.59
D Hinchliffe, Clerk HWA for August	20.00
EE, mobile phone bill for July	24.96
SSE, electricity bill for July	400.00
HSBC, bank charges for July	5.00
Groundwork, room hire charges for July/August	240.00
Netwise, domain renewal 24/25	528.00
J Belton, Councillor Allowance 24/25	156.00
A Roberts, Councillor Allowance, 24/25	156.00
D Gidlow, Councillor Allowance, 24/25	156.00
G Dillon, Councillor Allowance, 24/25	100.00
D Kelly, Councillor Allowance, 24/25	156.00
D Kelly, Chair's additional allowance,24/25	1,200.00
Total to approve	4,462.60

40.2/24 The Clerk advised the meeting that he had followed up the enquiry from the previous meeting regarding installation of a permanent table tennis table in Minera play area. A suitable unit at a price within the available reserve fund had been found, although groundworks had not yet been costed.

40.3/24 Following a brief discussion the Chair asked the Clerk to amplify the quotation received by consulting with WCBC to see if any alternative supplier could be recommended together with a groundworks contractor familiar with the necessary works.

41/24 Planning matters – to consider items received from Chief Planning Officer

41.1/24 The Clerk advised the meeting that, following a meeting with a resident and having taken the advice of WCBC’s Rights of Way Officer, he had lodged a provisional objection on behalf of Minera CC concerning to proposal to create a diversion of public path Bersham 26 near Willowbank Road, Five Crosses.

41.2/24 Following a detailed conversation, and acknowledging that at the previous meeting and prior to being contacted by the resident in question Minera CC had recorded no objection to the proposed amendment, the Chair instructed the Clerk to advise the Rights of Way Officer that the objection would stand, and that Minera CC would accept the ultimate determination of the case when made.

41.3/24 Papers had been received in respect of planning application P/2024/0287, erection of detached garage with storage/hobby space to loft, Bryn Hyfryd, Ffordd Uchaf, Gwynfryn.

41.4/24 Following a brief discussion no objections or observations were noted in respect of this application.

Meeting adjourned 2055 hrs.