

## **YSCEIFIOG COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **CYNGOR CYMUNED YSCEIFIOG**

Minutes of the Meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at Berthen Chapel, Lixwm.

#### **PRESENT:**

**Councillor A. Parsley - Chairman**  
**Councillor J. I. Davies**  
**Councillor N.M. Davies**  
**Councillor P. Griffiths**  
**Councillor I. Kendrick**  
**Councillor D. Rees**

#### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

**Councillor C. Caldwell**  
**Councillor A. Davies**  
**Councillor A. Rowlands**  
**Councillor A. Weatherall**

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

**County Councillor S. Copple**  
**Mr. A. Roberts – Clerk to the Council**

#### **01/25 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

In the absence of Councillor A. Rowlands Vice Chairman Councillor A. Parsley was unanimously appointed Chairman for the ensuing meeting.

#### **02/25 M.W. Williams**

Before the commencement of the meeting the Chairman reported the sad passing of Mr M. W. Williams (Will) who had served the community as a Councillor since 2008 only retiring in the last couple of years. A minute's silence was held in his fond memory.

#### **03/25 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN RELATION TO THE BUSINESS ON THE COUNCIL'S MEETING AGENDA**

The Chairman welcomed three members of the public to the meeting inviting them to address the meeting. They advised that they were representing residents living at Graena Lane, Babell Road. Notice had been received from the Planning

Authority, Flintshire County Council, regarding Planning Application Ref: COU/000695/24 for Change of Use from a Farm to Air Rifle Shooting Centre. Racecourse Farm, Babel, Holywell, CH8 8PR.

They advised that the development had been ongoing since March 2024 and that the Planning Authority, had previously been made aware of the issue.

The application provides no detailed information on what the centre would be, or how it would be managed. No Access Statement had been provided as part of the submission.

The proposed development was adjacent to public rights of way, causing safety concerns for walker and horse riders.

The access to the development was a single lane, having no turning or passing facilities for vehicles.

The planning application description was ambiguous, "Change of Use for a Farm" and should refer to the area of land that is being developed.

A further issue had been raised as to the storage and category of firearms on the premises, which may need licence or approval by the Police.

The Chairman advised that the Community Council agreed with the concerns raised and would object to the application based on the points that had been raised.

The Chairman thanked the residents for attending the meeting.

#### **04/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were declared in respect of the business on the meeting agenda.

#### **05/25 MINUTES**

Proposed by Councillor N. Davies and seconded by Councillor J. I. Davies the minutes of the meeting held the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024 were approved as a correct record.

#### **06/25 STREETSCENE SERVICES**

- A)** Councillor D. Ress reported that the refuse collection vehicle had again been driven along Pentre Road, with its cage doors open. Refuse had littered the road and verge. He further advised that this had been reported to Street Scene Services. It was agreed that the Council also report this issue to the Services Manager.
- B)** Further to minute No 60/24/A the Council had received a response from the Services Manager providing an explanation and plan for future actions regarding the maintenance to highway gullies within the community. Councillor A. Parsley advised that action had been taken and most of the gullies in Ysceifiog had been cleaned. It was agreed that Members would report any

further gullies that needed servicing to the Clerk who would compile a list and report them to the services area.

Councillor J. I. Davies requested that the gullies and surface water soakaway at Swn Y Bedell, Babell Road, and Garneddwen, Lixwm, be included on the list.

Councillor D. Rees reported that the verge and road at Ffordd Pentre, Ysceifiog, had been damaged and covered in mud and stones during the tipping of effluent on to a farmer's field at Pant Gwyn Mawr.

It was agreed that a letter of complaint be sent to the landowner.

#### **07/25 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- A)** Flintshire County Council -Summer Playscheme 2025.
- B)** Welsh Government – Review of Senedd Constituencies.
- C)** Safety in Farming Event – 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at Venue Cymru, Llandudno.
- D)** Police Commissioner – Have your Say on Policing in North Wales.
- E)** Ysceifiog Village Hall – Letter of thanks to the Council for the provision of the Christmas tree and support for the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch.
- F)** Lixwm Citizens Club – Letter of thanks for the support for the Christmas Lunch Club.
- G)** Rhes Y Cae Sheep Dog Trial Show 2024 – Letter of thanks for the funding grant.
- H)** Mr and Mrs Rogers – Pen Yr Allt, Ysceifiog.

#### **RESOLVED :-**

That the above correspondence be received.

#### **08/25 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

##### **A) COU/000695/24**

Change of use from a farm to air rifle shooting centre.  
Racecourse Farm, Babell, Holywell, CH8 8PR

#### **RESOLVED: -**

That the Council objects to the application.

## **09/25 REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTS**

Councillor S. Copple provided a report of the work being undertaken by Flintshire County Council to address the budgetary pressures for 2025/26.

He further advised that he had been dealing with housing repair issues at Bryn Tirion, Lixwm. A site meeting had been arranged with Senior Housing Managers to try and resolve the issue.

## **10/25 SETTING OF BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2025/26**

Following discussion with the Chairman, the Clerk reported that the draft budget report had been prepared for Members consideration. The report showed the budget approved for 2024/25 – Estimated Expenditure for 2024/25 and projected balance at yearend. Based on projected balance the draft budget requirements for fiscal year 2025/26 had been prepared.

### **RESOLVED: -**

That the draft budget was approved setting the budget £48,250.

Based on the approved budget requirements, three precept options were considered. Given the budgetary pressures being placed on many public services it was agreed that the precept for 2025/26 be set at £38,920. Raising a band “D” property from £51.26 to £57.12 per year.

That the Clerk’s salary from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 be set at £13,411 per annum. (pay award for 2025/26 pending)

That the Clerk’s Establishment Allowance for 2025/26 would be £1,000.00 per annum.

The Council had been advised that the Employers Insurance Costs for 2025/26 would be £1,364.25 per annum

## **11/25 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE PAY AGREEMENT 2024/24**

The Council had been informed that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services had reached agreement on rates of pay applicable from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. It was recommended that employers implement the pay award as soon as possible.

### **RESOLVED: -**

That the recommendations be implemented and that any back pay from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 be paid to the Clerk.

**12/25 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

<b>1427)</b> Canon Uk Ltd – Copy Fees	£33.64
<b>1428)</b> H.M. Revenue & Customs – PAYE	£266.69
<b>1429)</b> Canon Uk Ltd – Copy Fees	£36.19
<b>1430)</b> Scottish Power Ltd – Energy Fees	£586.03
<b>BACS)</b> Green Lion Ltd – Web Hosting Fees	£249.29
<b>BACS)</b> Audit Wales – External Audit Fees 2024	£200.00
<b>BACS)</b> One Voice Wales – Training Fees	£38.00
<b>BACS)</b> A. Roberts Microsoft Fees (Dec)	£61.32
<b>BACS) A. Roberts</b> Clerk’s Salary & Establishment Allowance	£904.80

**13/25 DURATION OF THE MEETING**

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and was closed at 9.20pm. The Chairman advised that the next meeting would be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025, at Ysceifiog, Village Hall, for 7.30pm.

**CHAIRMAN**

---