CYNGOR CYMUNED
CEFN
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT GEORGE EDWARDS HALL AND ZOOM ON
Tuesday 15th April 2025 commencing at 6.45pm
Chair: Mr. P Vaughan

157. PRESENT Mrs. S Benbow Jones, Mrs. P Roberts, P Blackwell, Mrs. H Brimfield, Mrs. K Tiltman, Mrs. S Matthews, Mrs. I Twigg, Mrs A Williams, Mrs. G Wright & D. Wright Also, Clerk T Nicholls-Smith and Minute taker A Ruscoe.

158. APOLOGIES Mrs. J Jones, Mrs. S Mills, Mrs. K Witherden, Mrs. K Benfield
The Chaiman welcomed all to the meeting and reported on the passing of Cllr Joan Jones husband. Members were asked to stand and observe a minute silence.

159.TO RECEIVE DECLARATION OF INTEREST
Cllr Stella Matthews declared an interest in agenda item 11 – corr no 3 *Fundraising request due to being the chair of Plas Madoc Leisure Centre.*

160. PUBLIC QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS
None received.

161.TO RECEIVE POLICE CORRESPONDENCE

HEDDLU GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES POLICE

Local Report for the area of: Cefn Mawr / Rhosymedre / Newbridge
Person Providing Report: PCSO Sarah Clark-Lewis C4460
Date of Report: Period of 01/03/25 – 31/03/25

	Burglary Residential	Domestic Violence	Serious Violence	Sexual Offences	ASB
Incidents last 4 weeks	1	9	0	2	5

Incidents of Note		
Crime Reference Number	Date	Brief Circumstances

25000191907	06/03/2025 14:46	Sexual Assault: Suspect has kissed informant without consent. Suspect has been identified.
25000203354	10/03/2025 22:28	Residential Burglary: Domestic related
25000219934	16/03/2025 15:19	Sexual assault: Known offender, investigation on going.
25000219323	16/03/2025 09:58	Person reporting unknown person has gained entry into Ip works van and taken tools from within, Dome of the tools have been found on the floor near by -
25000219370	16/03/2025 10:16	Informant reporting that his works van has been broken into this morning at approx. 02:20. Tools have been moved from the vehicle
25000225835	18/03/2025 14:31	Arson Ty Mawr: Unidentified youths have lit a fire

Additional Information
Kelvin and I are looking to come along to the youth club and will be conducting speed monitoring on Queen Street when possible. Please bear with us as it is incredibly busy at the moment, and we have multiple patches to attend to. Any other issues or feedback you'd like to give us, please let us know. Thank you.

Completed Activity	
01/03/25 – 31/03/25	Patrols on Queen Street and Ty Mawr have been conducted throughout the month.

Future Planned Activity
Girls Futsal tournament at Plas Madoc Leisure centre. Collab with local school, Cefn Community Council and PACT funding. 2nd May 2025 09:00-15:00
Bike Marking Events to be discussed with Cefn Library

Feedback or Questions for Next Meeting

3 PRIORITIES

1. Regular checks on the Youth Club at the George Edwards Hall on a Monday and Wednesday, this is following a recent suspension of the provision due to ASB in the building.

2. Regular speed checks and patrols at Queen Street, Cefn Mawr - continual problems with speeding especially in the evening from Queen Street leading to Abernant - reports of boy racers

3. Monitor and regular patrols at Ty Mawr Country Park due to increase complaints of ASB in the area.

Neighbourhood Sergeant Contact Details
PS Emma WATTS **Mobile - 07887825830** **Email - Emma.Watts@northwales.police.uk**

PS Stuart ROBERTS
Mobile - 07764436470
Email - Stuart.Roberts@northwales.police.uk

Any concerns or issues in relation to this report to be sent to the above sergeants as first point of contact.

PCSO Contact Details

RANK	NO	NAME	AREA	AIRWAVE	MOBILE	E-MAIL
PCSO	C3464	Lisa MARIE DAVIES	OVERTON/ERBISTOCK	10125	07557847798	lisa-marie.davies@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C3679	Lana KELLEHER-LIGHTWOOD	GWERSYLLT (Off)	08211	07989169093	lana.kelleher-lightwood@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C4479	Emma MADDOCS	GRESFORD/HOLT	08084	07890968111	emma.maddocks1@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C2912	Catherine GRIFFITHS-HUGHES	LLAY	10243	07854329534	catherine.griffiths-hughes2@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C4453	Lowri JONES	BRYNTEG/ BRYMBO/COEDPOETH	08211	07814 075615	lowri.jones5@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C2929	Lydia EDWARDS	MINERA/BWLCHGWYN/COEDPOETH	10249	07989165715	lydia.edwards@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C3612	Purdy JONES	PENYCAE (Light duties)	10046	07989165527	purdy.jones@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C3613	Rebecca ROBERTS	RHOS/PONCIAU	10011	07989165526	rebecca.roberts2@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C3624	Alison HERON	JOHNSTOWN/PANT (off)	09185	07989168403	alison.heron@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C3978	Enya BELLIS-JONES	RHOS/PONCIAU	09050	07811713056	enya.bellis-jones@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C2876	Emily BLAKE	DEMAND REDUCTION	09195	07854400812	emily.blake@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C3917	Kelvin EVANS	PLAS MADOC, CEFN MAWR, RUABON	10225	07974240306	kelvin.evans@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C4460	Sarah CLARK-LEWIS	RUABON, PLAS MADOC, CEFN MAWR	10140	07929864006	sarah.clark-lewis@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C3680	Gareth JONES	CHIRK/GLYN/ LLANGOLLEN	09053	07989159907	gareth.jones10@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C2532	Martin GRIFFITHS	CHIRK/GLYN/LLANGOLLEN (Off)	10032	01978834254	martin.griffiths@northwales.police.uk
PCSO	C3629	Rhys SANDERS	COEDPOETH/BRYMBO	10253	07791189800	rhys.sanders@northwales.police.uk
PC	2926	Rebecca SUBACCHI	CHIRK/GLYN/LLANGOLLEN	02929	07818033381	rebecca.subacchi@northwales.police.uk
PC	3590	Jamie ORGAN	CEFN MAWR, PLAS MADOC, RUABON	03590	07929864034	jamie.organ@northwales.police.uk
PC	2756	Gill DAVIES	LLAY STATION	02756	07989165259	Gill.Davies@northwales.police.uk
PC	3134	Dan LEWIS	HOLT, LLAY, GRESFORD	03134	07989165069	daniel.lewis@northwales.police.uk
PC	3722	Gwen JONES	RHOS, PENYCAE, JOHNSTOWN	03722	07976767192	gwen.jones2@northwales.police.uk
PC	3431	Joel DARLINGTON	COEDPOETH, BRYMBO, MINERA	03431	07989161878	Joel.Darlington@northwales.police.uk
PC	3830	Rhys ROBERTS	GWERSYLLT, SOUTHSEA, BROUGHTON	03830	07890968166	RHYS.ROBERTS1@northwales.police.uk
PC	3273	Ashley PALMER	ADMIN	03273	07974243725	Ashley.Palmer@northwales.police.uk
SGT	2957	Stuart ROBERTS	LLAY STATION	02957	07989157870	stuart.roberts@northwales.police.uk
SGT	2136	Emma WATTS	LLAY STATION	02136	01978834060	emma.watts@northwales.police.uk

Local Report for the area of: Plas Madoc
Person Providing Report: PCSO Kelvin Evans 3917
Date of Report: Period of 01/03/25 – 31/03/25

	Criminal Damage	Domestic Violence	Serious Violence	Sexual Offences	ASB
Incidents last 4 weeks	**6**	**11**	**0**	**1**	**10**

Incidents of Note

Crime Reference Number	Date	Brief Circumstances
25000192639	07/03/2025	Criminal Damage: IP reporting that she returned home to discover 2 windows had been smashed by stones. No suspects have been identified and CCTV/H2H was negative.
25000200149	09/03/2025	Criminal Damage: IP reporting 2 windows had been bricked. IP initially suspected to be an ex-partner but has since discovered who is responsible. IP refuses to name suspects or provide a statement.
25000218133	15/03/2025	Criminal Damage: IP reporting a window smashed by a Nitrous Oxide cannister. No suspects identified and CCTV/H2H proved negative.
25000240969 25000241032 25000242701	23/03/2025 24/03/2025	Criminal Damage: **ALL LINKED** Two dwellings have had offensive graffiti sprayed on their property/fence. Offensive graffiti also sprayed on the Leisure Centre building. The footage has been captured on the Leisure Centre CCTV system but it is too poor to create a positive ID.
25000174826	01/03/2025	Criminal Damage: IP reporting having a brick thrown at her property. No damage, however, the IP believes she can identify one of the suspects. Enquiries are ongoing.

Additional Information
As you are no doubt aware, there has been a rise in Criminal Damage/ ASB in the area. We strongly suspect who the individuals are, but unfortunately we do not have any evidence to link them, such as CCTV. Understandably, residents are reluctant to name the suspects for fear of reprisals. We also believe that these suspects are also responsible for the ASB involving off-road bikes. A meeting was held recently with MP Steve Witherden, Insp Lederle, Sgt Roberts and me. I will share the outcome of the meeting once the dialogue has been finalised.

Completed Activity	
01/03/25 – 31/03/25	Increased patrols have been carried out when operationally possible.

Future Planned Activity
Girls Futsal tournament at Plas Madoc Leisure centre. Collab with local school, Cefn Community Council and PACT funding. 2nd May 2025 09:00-15:00

Cllr Stella Matthews informed the council that there have been ongoing issues around Plas Madoc Leisure Centre, where youths have been lighting fires, resulting in criminal damage to the changing rooms. Also, that there is a problem with youths wearing hoodies at present too.

Cllr Derek Wright expressed his concern and disappointment regarding recent crimes listed in the Police report, particularly incidents of a sexual nature, which he described as deeply concerning. He also reminded the council that DNA spray had been purchased a few years ago to support the police in addressing such issues, and he questioned the current whereabouts and usage of this equipment.

Cllr Paul Blackwell raised concerns about the potential impact of the centralisation of the housing association department within Wrexham Council, questioning whether this has inadvertently led to an increase in the placement of individuals with complex needs, including those with criminal backgrounds, into the area. He also remarked that the rise in challenging behaviour appears to reflect a wider national trend.

162. TO RECEIVE COMMUNITY AGENT REPORT – April 2025

- Cefn - 1
- Rhosymedre – 1
- Acrefair –1
- Newbridge –
- Plas Madoc –1
- Other -

Evening everyone,

Just a quick update from me to let you know what's been happening lately in and around the Cefn area.

So far this month I've had four new referrals, which is brilliant—thank you to those who continue to point people in my direction. A special thank you to **Isabelle Twigg**, who encouraged a lady to get in touch with me regarding a Blue **Badge** application. I'm pleased to say I've now finished helping her with the application and everything has been submitted.

Our **'Chat and Chill' coffee mornings** on Wednesdays at George Edwards Hall are going well. I've teamed up with **Groundwork**, and we will be holding the **first session of the Wellbeing Course on 9th April**. It should be a lovely session and a great addition to what we already offer during the mornings.

Looking ahead to the summer, I've asked the ladies if they'd be interested in starting a **Gardening Club** during the coffee morning—and there's been some lovely feedback already. It'll be a great way to bring people together and enjoy the nicer weather when it arrives.

I've also had some conversations about my **Tuesday drop-in sessions**, where I offer help with **form filling, Blue Badges, bus passes**, and general advice or signposting. Please do let anyone know they're welcome to pop in if they need support.

And finally, **tickets for the VE Day celebration on May 8th** at George Edwards Hall are nearly all gone! A huge thank you to **Andrew**, who has organised **two local school choirs** to come along and sing for us. It's going to be a special afternoon and I'm looking forward to seeing many of you there.

Thanks as always for your continued support. If there's anything I can help with, you know where I am.

Warm regards,
Donna Thornley
Community Agent

Cllr Angela Williams inquired whether the Council had any plans to participate in the upcoming Alzheimer's Awareness Week, being coordinated by representatives of Wrexham Borough Council from May 13th to 19th, 2025.

Cllr Isabel Twigg reiterated her appreciation for the outstanding work of Community Agent Donna Thornley, highlighting her continued dedication to fostering community engagement and strengthening local connections.

163. CLERKS REPORT

163.1 The Clerk issued a reminder that the community litter pick was scheduled for the following day, with volunteers asked to meet at the car park on Llangollen Road opposite the Eagles Inn at 10am.

163.2 The Clerk confirmed that all VE event tickets had been allocated.

163.3 The Clerk informed members that she would be on annual leave from Thursday until Wednesday, 7th May, and advised that any enquiries during this period should be directed to the community development officer.

164.CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

(a) To confirm the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 25th March 2025 – ***RESOLVED that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 25th March 2025 be confirmed and signed by the chairman at the earliest opportunity.***

(b) To confirm the minutes of the Development Committee Meeting held on 8th April 2025 – ***RESOLVED that the minutes of the Development Committee Meeting held on the 8th April 2025 be confirmed and signed by the chairman at the earliest opportunity.***

165. TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 8th APRIL 2025

All members had been furnished with a copy of the minutes detailing the recommendations.

Cllr Vice Chairman Derek Wright presented the recommendations that were being added to the Service Level Agreement for the 2025/2026 season as followed:

- A 90-day notice period for termination of the agreement.
- Adult Football Pitch Hire Fee set at £100 for 3 hours per match.
- All charges to increase annually in line with inflation, based on the rate in April prior to the following season. All charges will be rounded up to nearest £1 every tax year. Plus, this should be considered with other assets such as The George Edwards Hall.
- Spectator Toilets must be installed and maintained by the hirer if necessary, including insurance; no liability will be placed on the Council as the toilets were only needed by Cefn Albion FC for their Tier 3 criteria.
- No admission fees may be charged to supporters or spectators under any circumstances. Cllr Gaynor Wright challenged how do clubs make money and it was spoken that they can ask for donations on matchdays but cannot ask for entry admissions. Cllr Vice Chairman Derek Wright suggested that the clubs will need to conduct internal fundraisers.
- The Cefn Community Council Groundsman reserves the right to call off matches for safety or asset protection reasons. This decision is final, except in cases where league rules stipulate that only referees may do so. Cllr Derek Wright explained that Cefn Albions tier 3 league criteria requires a referee to make the decision and not the groundsman as the club gets fined by the league that they are in.
- Keys to the complex are issued to each club secretary and may only be used on match days. No unauthorised access is permitted. Additionally, no locks on the ground or equipment storage may be changed without Council approval.
- Either party may terminate the agreement with 90 days' written notice.
- Any breach of the agreement may result in suspension or exclusion from using the facilities, regardless of whether a long-term lease is in place.

RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Development Meeting held on the 8th April 2025 be approved.

166. TO RECEIVE INTERNAL REPORT FROM JDH BUSINESS SERVICES FOR INTERIM AUDIT 2024/25

The Clerk reported to members the interim audit had been completed, three issues had been highlighted which were read out. The Clerk gave explanations as follows:

Issue no 1 - The hall hirer had an allowance of 15 minutes grace either side of his booking for set up and clearance. The Clerk will make sure going forward the hours are stated on each invoice.
Issue no 2 – A timetable will be devised and brought to council at a later date for approval
Issue no 3 – This is an oversight as the amount has always previously been written in the minutes, the precept request for 2025/26 is £176,953.00 one hundred & seventy six thousand, nine hundred and fifty three pounds.

Members thanked the Clerk for the work involved with the interim audit and approved the recommendations as listed.

	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	FOLLOW UP
1	Testing of a sample of receipts identified for invoice 359 the following issues: • The invoice did not specify the hours charged for. • The amount charged was for 2 hours however the hall hire agreement states the booking is for 2.5 hours.	*The invoice should specify the hours charged for which should correspond to the hall hire agreement.*	
2	There is no formal adopted budget timetable in place evidencing the key milestones leading to the agreement of the precept request for the year and approval of the annual budget.	*A comprehensive formal budget timetable should be established annually covering the main elements of the Council's budget setting process together with key dates and responsibilities.*	
3	The Council minutes did not state the amount of the budget or the precept when approving the 2025/26 precept.	*The amount of the precept request should be recorded within the council minutes to ensure transparency and compliance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992.*	

167. MONTHLY ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTS TO BE PASSED FOR PAYMENT 15th APRIL 2025

EXPENDITURE

Wages/Sal from (month 12) – Staff 7532.78

Invoice No

INV NO	CHQ NO	RETRO	FROM	£
24/277	106758	Y	RBLI - Invoice for VE Day flag and poppies	43.94
24/278	BACS	Y	ACS Technology - Invoice for Office IT	161.10
24/279	BACS	Y	Loorolls.com - Invoice for Hall Supplies	45.54
24/280	106759	Y	JDH Business Services - Invoice for DPA 2024/25	966.00
24/281	106760	Y	Hafren Dyfrdwy - Invoice for Trefynant Cemetery	110.31
24/282	BACS	Y	TMNS - Expenses for March/April (LGA 1972 sect 112) -	243.96
24/283	BACS	Y	Ropes Direct - Invoice for Muga	156.90
24/284	BACS	Y	Peter Green Groundcare - Invoice for Park Maintenance	760.00

24/285	BACS	Y	Peter Green Groundcare - Invoice for Trefynant Cemetery Maintenance	712.00
24/286	BACS	Y	Steve Pugh - Invoice for Gravedigging	525.00
24/287	106761	Y	Azets - Invoice for payroll services for 6 months	300.00
24/288	DD	Y	British Gas - Invoice for GE Hall	367.57
24/289	BACS	Y	Vibrant Nation - Invoice for DBS	15.60
24/290	BACS		MEGA Electrical - Invoice for replacement column Ogwen	1764.00
24/291	BACS		MEGA Electrical - Invoice for repairs from Jan-march 25	1810.85
24/292	106762		Griffiths Hire Shop - Invoice for muga	60.96
24/293	DD		EDF Energy - Invoice for GE Hall	409.68
25/001	BACS		ORP Surveillance - Invoice for repair to CCTV hard drive	192.00
25/002	106763		Viking Direct - Invoice for GE Hall & Office	423.17
25/003	106764		PHS Group - Invoice for GE Hall	390.38

Invoices Received During Mar/April 25

HMRC Tax & NI	1672.66
Clwyd Pension Fund	1309.61
CSA Payment	337.74
CSA Payment	125.25
HSBC	17.20
	£20454.20
Income	
WCBC (low Carbon grant)	3000.00
Tesco Stores(Rec0535)	6250.00
Burial	
Francis Roberts (Rec0534)	1210.00
WJ&R Thomas (Rec0533)	110.00
GE Hall	
Phantasmagoria (Rec0529)	42.00
Cefn Labour Party (Rec0532)	24.00
WCBC Labour Group (Rec0530)	97.50
Maelor Boxing Club (Rec0531)	229.00
Interest	
Business Money Manager 13.03.25	203.00
	£11165.50

Resolved that the listed payments be approved

168. CORRESPONDANCE

Correspondence Received During March/April 25:

Bolded items are recommended to be noted by the Chairman:

1				Welsh Government - Email re: Transfer of functions from the IPRW to Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru

				The Clerk explained that she had received an email from the Welsh Government regarding the transfer of functions from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) to the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru.
2				WCBC - Email re: End of year reports for Community Agent ***The Clerk reported that she had received an email from Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC) requesting the end-of-year reports for the Community Agent. She noted that the reports had been submitted and had received very positive feedback. WCBC representative Vicky expressed that the reports were exemplary, and she was so impressed with the work of Community Agent Donna Thornley that she plans to attend the upcoming VE Day Celebration to use the project as a case study showcasing best practice.***
3				Llangollen Eisteddfod - Request for financial Assistance - ***Resolved to move to grants meeting in December***
4				Ms Valentine - Email re: Request for financial assistance ***Cllr Stella Matthews*** *declared a personal interest in the item. The Clerk informed the Council that an email had been received requesting financial assistance to help fund the replacement of a poolside chair for individuals with disabilities at Plas Madoc Leisure Centre. The current chair is no longer fit for purpose and requires replacement. Following discussion, Chairman, Phil Vaughan, stated he would propose a donation in support of the application.*
5				WCBC - Email re: SLA for Commercial Waste Collection - Clerk to sign ***The Clerk sought approval from the Council to sign the upcoming Service Level Agreement (SLA) for the Commercial Waste Collection. The Council unanimously agreed that the Clerk should proceed with signing the agreement. The Clerk confirmed that the cost of the service is £1,599 and that this amount has been precepted for.***
6				**WCBC - Email re: Monthly Event Listing**
7				**Ken Skates MS - E Newsletter**
8				**JDH Business Services - Letter of engagement & Audit plan for 2024/25**

169. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None received

170.REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

171.1 Vice Chairman Cllr Derek Wright delivered a PowerPoint presentation summarising the verbal report and site visit to the Pen-Y-Bont Newbridge Road developments, which he attended alongside Cllr Paul Blackwell and Stella Matthews.

171.2 Cllr Kate Tiltman raised concerns regarding information emerging in the public domain suggesting that the Opportunities Centre in Plas Madoc may potentially be converted into an Additional Learning Needs (ALN) centre. She asked if any councillors had further information on this matter, particularly in relation to the impact on the local area, including potential parking issues due to children being brought in from outside the community.

Cllr Stella Matthews clarified that the proposal involves establishing an ALN Unit, not a full school, and it would cater to a small number of children. She highlighted the success of similar units, particularly the NOVA Unit at Gwersyllt CP School. Cllr Matthews stated that the proposal is still under exploration and assured members that it should not pose any major issues.

Cllr Sonia Benbow-Jones confirmed that the matter had been raised during a recent school governors' meeting.

Cllr Paul Blackwell expressed his full support for the initiative, noting that if the land is not used for educational purposes, it could potentially be sold to private landlords. He emphasised the importance of supporting projects that promote children's development.

Cllr Derek Wright added that the proposed unit is intended for secondary school-age children, clarifying earlier mentions that suggested it may be for primary-age pupils.

Cllr Stella Matthews confirmed that the unit would accommodate children aged approximately 8 to 16.

171.3 Cllr Angela Williams informed the Council that Suicide UK will be visiting Cefn Mawr on Saturday, 4th October 2025, as part of their baton relay campaign, which will pass through Acrefair. She also shared that she has been selected as a baton bearer, in recognition of her role with the Cefn Community Wellness initiative.

The Chairman thanked members for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed.