



'Your very Local Council'

Locum Clerk to the Council/RFO: Shaun Jones
Chairman: Cllr Mrs. Sharon Lloyd

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at 6:30 pm on **Wednesday 4th June 2025** in Piercy Hall, Marchwiell.

Present: Cllrs Lloyd S (SL), (Chair); Francis (CF); Grives (KG); Lloyd N (NL); Lydford (KL); Marriott (PM) & Rathbone (MR).

In attendance: Shaun Jones (SJ), Locum Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer, WCBC Cllr. John Pritchard (JP) & four Members of the Public.

Not Present: Cllrs. Woodhouse & Williams.

22.25/26 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE** –Cllr Clare Davies (Work Commitment) & Cllr. William Price (Work Commitment).

23.25/26 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None given.

24.25/26 **PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL BY A RECENTLY FORMED COMMUNITY GROUP** – Members welcomed all 4 members of the public here tonight to give a presentation on ideas to make sections of the disused railway line accessible for recreational use. A recent public meeting was held and an encouraging number of around 20 residents attended to discuss the idea. Background research on who are the land owners from whom permission will be sought to have volunteer working parties begin clearing the track bed. Meetings with our MP have resulted in his buy in to the plan. Slides were used to illustrate the thinking and Council Members welcomed the scheme. Feedback on issues of anti-social behaviour in the past were raised and certainly no motorised vehicles should have access. Also to be mindful of properties backing onto the planned route. The presenter was grateful for the Council giving the time to hear their plans and will regularly give updates on progress.

19:20hrs – 3 members of the public left the meeting once this presentation was given.

25.25/26 **PUBLIC SPEAKING/QUESTIONS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS** – 1 member of the public present. Council was addressed on a number of matters and these were received by members.

1. I have been looking at the financial statements published on www.marchwiell.org.uk . I have a concern that for staffing costs they are inconsistent when looking at the four most recent Annual Returns. What is

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the explanation ? SJ is aware and explanations are provided to Audit Wales who will sign off as the external reviewer and all will be published.

2. In the published Internal Audit report under FY 2022/23 a query over stating an Earmarked reserve of £50,000 while actual balances held are below this amount. Please explain.

26.25/26 **MINUTES** – To approve for accuracy and sign the minutes of the **Annual Council** meeting held on Wednesday 7th May 2025 – **Approved by all members present.**

27.25/26 **WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – WCBC Cllr. John Pritchard reported that :-

- In the very near future the speed limit in the A525 will revert to 30mph while all other roads remain at 20mph.
- The proposal to add double yellow lines on a section of the A525 opposite the Red Lion up to the Garage has been consulted on but no published results yet.
- A recently received complaint over a general issue, inconsiderate parking in the village. JP mentioned the recent efforts to make improvements – widening and layby schemes.

19:40hrs - JP left the meeting.

28.25/26 **STREET LIGHTING** – SJ informed members of the following:-

- Confirmation requested that the supply has moved to Ecotricity – effective 1st June 2025. Utility Aid brokered the contract and receive £100 annually for their trouble – factored into the quote to us of 29.55p/kWh and no standing charge. A three year fixed price contract has been completed saving about £1,000 annually over the previous supplier – Scottish Power. Quotes from Clear Utility Solutions were illustrating savings of c£896 & c£400 annually – Tomato Energy and Valda Energy respectively – the former quote was actually withdrawn. Minute 90.24/25 confirms power to contract delegated to SJ.
- SJ and PM met with Paul Rogers of Wrexham CBC yesterday at 2pm. We located and looked at the current condition of the 6 columns condemned (deemed unsafe) after a routine survey in 2023. Paul is going to provide more information on why a particular column was tagged for replacement. The quotation of c£15,000 is so significant financially, SJ is keen to gain the most information about each of the six to attempt a possible phased replacement.

29.25/26 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**
– To consider the following applications;

1. Reference: P/2025/0405: **Grove Cottage, Wrexham Road, Marchwiell:** Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission P/2024/0054 To Amend Floor Plans. : To view online : [Click here.](#)
– **Decision – No Observations or Comments to be submitted.**
2. To consider any planning applications validated since the publication of the agenda – received by email today:
Reference: P/2025/0243: **6 The Ridgeway, Marchwiell: Two Storey Rear Extension and Single Storey Front Extension.** : To view online : [Click here.](#)
– **Decision – No Observations or Comments to be submitted.**

Signed:..... Date:.....

30.25/26

PLANNING DECISIONS

– To note the following Planning Decisions;

1. Reference: P/2025/0115 **Penyllan Farm, Wrexham Road, Marchwiel:**
Erection of Replacement Agricultural Building. : **Granted** : To view online : [Click here](#). – **Noted**.

31.25/26

FINANCE MATTERS – The following points were tabled by SJ:-

- SJ walked through the Annual Governance section FY 2024/25. Q1, Q2 & Q8 will be a No entry and explanation given on a separate sheet. It will be for the External Auditor (Audit Wales) to determine if this passes, with respect to their opinion given, qualified or unqualified.
- Update on submission of Accounts for Internal Audit FY 2023/24 and 2024/25. Sharon Jones of JDH Business Services replied by email, confirming receipt of Audit Checklist for both periods and will commence work on your behalf from 12th June 2025.
- SJ presented the Monthly Bank Reconciliation – May 2025 report with bank statements to support and this was approved and signed off.
- SJ proposes an additional Full Council Meeting to cover off Finance Matters particularly related to the FY2024/25, in late June (maybe 25th – via Zoom).

32.25/26

LOCUM CLERK REPORT – INCLUDES CORRESPONDENCE –

- So very pleased to report that the VE Day 80th Anniversary Service at the Marchwiel Peace Memorial took place on Thursday 8th of May at 9:30pm. Rev. Marcus Pipe was kind enough to conduct a short service and we lit a Lamp of Peace. KG kindly sourced, painted & fuelled the lamp. Thank you very much. The chosen hymn, “I Vow to Thee My Country” was sung by all present. This commemoration was replicated right across the UK and beyond. I published on our Facebook page a report of this village event.
- A member of the public contacted SJ with concerns that access to the Bus Stop shelter on the A525 opposite The Ridgeway junction was in accessible due to nettles and hedge encroachment. SJ took action to remove the greenery to allow better access and wrote back with the “Report It” link on Wrexham Council’s website so the resident can alert the Council that the shelter needs a wash.
- An email received from WCBC Waste and Street Scene:- *“Hello, we have recently sent letters regarding new charges for places of worship. Marchwiel Church have contacted me to say that the 2x1100ltr bins which were on their contract are not theirs, they were the community councils. We have no contract for yourselves therefore we will need to instate a contract with yourselves if you wish to keep the 2x1100ltr bins at the address.”* SJ is now undertaking research and will have a conversation on this matter with a Church Warden.
- An email received from a resident about a dog barking all through the day. I’ve had 2 or 3 exchanges and directed them to Wrexham CBC. This person is satisfied for the time being.
- An email from Leukaemia & Myeloma Research UK requesting help in identifying a suitable location for an Outdoor Clothing Bank. It was agreed to “leave on the table” as there is an Ysgol Deiniol textile collection initiative currently in place.
- The Police Report for May has been received along with a letter from the Police Inspector. 5 reported incidents are noted, domestic violence (3), residential burglary (1) & anti-social behaviour (1). The Inspector highlighted where demand currently lies, drug crime & related offences, youth asb & criminal activity and domestic violence & safeguarding victims.

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- The Police & Crime Commissioner writes to inform of his upcoming review of CCTV across North Wales's six Local Authorities. He encloses the Terms of Reference for the review. Please raise awareness as an invitation to quote for undertaking this review is soon to be advertised on the PCC website.
- Notice of a new premises licence application relating to The Barns, The Plassey, Eyton. **No observation or comments to be submitted.**

33.25/26

VJ DAY 80th ANNIVERSARY – Friday 15th August 2025. SJ has been in touch with a resident who holds this anniversary close to their heart. I made a suggestion that the Monthly Lunch Club organised by The Rainbow Centre at Piercy Hall might like the VJ Day 80th Anniversary as a theme. In August the Lunch Club will be held on Thursday 21st August 2025. The contact at The Rainbow Centre is open to this idea. I suggested to the resident to speak a little on their knowledge of the history of VJ Day Commemorations. SJ will continue to follow up and keep members informed. In addition a short service on VJ Day at Marchwiell Peace Memorial with a Two Minute Silence is being considered. Rev. Pipe has been kept in the loop and SJ will also garner his view.

34.25/26

PROPOSAL TO ORGANISE A GARDENING COMPETITION 2025 – SL thanks the member of public present for putting forward this idea. It will bring back a regular for a number of years in the village. SJ has shared a couple of posters from neighbouring Community Councils as a possible template for our competition.

20:57hrs - PM left the meeting.

Three categories were agreed on, Best Kept Garden, Hanging Basket and Low Maintenance Garden. Posters and residents encouraged to enter will go up soon. MR will make enquiries with a nearby Garden Centre who may consider judging and their garden vouchers presented as prizes. We are to receive a donation of £150 from a resident towards the prize fund, **members agreed to match this** – so the winner of each category will receive a £75 voucher and the runner-up £25. It was agreed that entries should be received by Monday 14th July 2025. Judging will take place towards the end of July but will be firmed up and announced. **MR, KG and SJ will progress.**

Signed:..... Date:.....

PAYMENTS – The following payments were approved:-

Payment Number	Method of Payment	To	For	Net	VAT	Gross
BACS	Faster Pymt	AVOW	Salaries Account	1880.45	0.00	1880.45
BACS	Faster Pymt	Scribe Accounts	Subscription - June 2025	29.00	5.80	34.80
BACS	Faster Pymt	Leon Hughes	Burial Ground Maintenance	650.00	0.00	650.00
	D/D	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly Service Fee - 5/25	6.00	0.00	6.00
Card	PPCC	Giffgaff	Mobile - SIM Only - 18mth	6.67	1.33	8.00
Card	PPCC	Zoom Video Comms	June 2025 - May 2026 Annual Subs	100.99	20.19	121.18
BACS	Faster Pymt	Scottish Power	June 2025 Monthly Invoice	263.63	13.18	276.81
BACS	Faster Pymt	Rainbow Foundation	Room Hire - 5/25	10.00	0.00	10.00
Card	PPCC	HP	May Printing	5.41	1.08	6.49
BACS	Faster Pymt	ICCM	Annual membership	105.00	0.00	105.00
BACS	Faster Pymt	Equals Pre-paid Card	Funds Top-up	202.66	0.00	202.66
	D/D	ICO	Annual membership	47.00	0.00	47.00
	D/D	Hafren Dyrfdwy	Burial Ground Water Usage	33.94	0.00	33.94

TO PRESENT ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON A FUTURE MEETING AGENDA (FULL COUNCIL OR RESPECTIVE COMMITTEE) –

- Outstanding from recent meetings: Village Signs & Burial Ground records to review.
- Plans for Christmas 2025 – To consider refreshing the “Tree of Wishes” at the Welcome Garden – Lights switch-on event in early December.

The meeting closed at 9:12pm.

Signed:..... Date:.....