



'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 8th April 2026** in Piercy Hall, Marchwiell.

Present: Cllrs Davies (CD), (Vice-Chair); Downes (PD); Francis (CF); Lydford (KL); Marriott (PM) & Rathbone (MR [via Zoom]).

In attendance: Shaun Jones (SJ), Locum Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer, 1 Member of the Public & Cllr. John Pritchard WCBC (JP).

150.25/26 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr Sharon Lloyd – Family Commitment, Cllr Kath Grives – Family Bereavement, Cllr Nigel Lloyd – Unwell, Cllr Matthew Ogden – Work Commitment & Cllr William Price – Work Commitment.

151.25/26 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None given.

152.25/26 **PUBLIC SPEAKING/QUESTIONS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS** – 1 member of the public present. Council was addressed on a number of place related matters and these were received by members as valid feedback.

1. Recently observed a rise in electric scooters (some modified) being used around the village. Some have no lights when it is dark. If this can be reported to the local Neighbourhood Policing team it would be appreciated. Just worried that accidents/injuries may come about. **Council agreed to highlight as suggested.**

153.25/26 **MINUTES** – To approve for accuracy and sign the minutes of the **Full Council** meeting held on Wednesday 25th February 2025. - **Approved by all members present.**

154.25/26 **WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** – WCBC Cllr. John Pritchard reported that :-

- JP highlighted some discussion on Tree Condition Reports for Wrexham County Borough Council and asked if MCC have made moves to have a report produce for Marchwiell Burial Ground. **SJ responded that this matter will be added to a future agenda for members to consider.**
- The WCBC Street Lighting team will be contacted for an update on the work underway to install a replacement column and lamp – opposite the Church. Also mention made of the column close to Penyllan Farm – the access plate is taped on and needs a replacement fitting.

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

1

- News received today about the planning application for Butterfly Solar Farm has been withdrawn, issues with the connection into the grid at Legacy was the stated reason.
- For information JP advised of a fatal road accident at the top of the straight mile yesterday. Our thoughts are with the affected families.

JP left the meeting – 6:55pm.

155.25/26

AUDITOR GENERAL’S REPORT AND OPINION 2022/23, 2023/24 & 2024/25 –

- 2022/23 in summary states a **Qualified** opinion and members acknowledge the Audit Wales statements to justify –
 - I am unable to conclude whether or not the Accounting Statement properly presents the Council’s receipts and payments and financial position:
 - The Council’s former Clerk failed to maintain proper accounting and other records eg burial records. Therefore I am unable to conclude whether or not the Accounting Statement provides a complete summary of the Council’s finances.
- 2023/24 in summary states a **Qualified** opinion and members acknowledge the Audit Wales statements to justify –
 - I am unable to conclude whether or not the Council has proper arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources:
 - 2023-24 meeting minutes not complete Section 55 of the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru etc. Act 2013 requires the Council to publish the minutes of its meetings, and in so far as is reasonably practicable, any documents which are referred to in the minutes. The Council has not published the minutes of its 2023 meetings, nor were they included as part of the audit submission. Therefore, I am unable to undertake sufficient audit work to enable me to draw a conclusion.
- 2024/25 in summary states an **Unqualified** opinion –
 - The current Clerk has taken steps to improve the Council’s records and I have issued an unqualified opinion for 2024-25. Nevertheless, the Council should continue to monitor the annual accounts process to ensure it does not experience similar issues again.

Council **resolved** to take account of the comments made and implement proper practice to ensure future audits give no cause for concern. Members thanked the Locum Clerk for completing this important stage in bringing the Council’s finances back into order.

156.25/26

PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUND – An update given by the Locum Clerk on progress to date on what funding ideas have been put forward so far and discussions with the Wrexham County Borough Council team on preparing an application that has the best chance of success. Mention made of some other organisations writing in with suggestions for use of the grant. It was stressed that the ideas had to take account that the fund is Capital funding only and benefits the community as a whole. A wide view suggests the following:-

- Bottom of Station Road Improvements
- Welcome Garden Improvements
- Village-wide Improvements
- Play Area/Outdoor Fitness Equipment Additions

Members agreed a working party should help refine the application.

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

157.25/26

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

– To consider the following applications;

1. Reference: P/2026/0136: **Roselyn, Eyton**: Single storey Side Extension: To view online : [Click Here](#).
– **Decision – No Observations or Comments to be submitted.**

158.25/26

PLANNING DECISIONS

– **Members noted the following Planning Decisions**

1. Reference: TPO 328/2026: **Aquino, 6 Tallesin, Marchwiel**: Tree Preservation Order of Beech Boundary Tree: 28 days from notice to make objections/representations.
2. Reference: P/2025/0875: **27 Berwyn Drive Marchwiel**: Erection of Garage : **Granted** : To view online : [Click here](#).

159.25/26

FINANCE MATTERS – To determine the following:-

- Present Monthly Bank Reconciliations – February/March 2026 reports and sign off. **Agreed and signed by the Chairman.**
- Present Q4 [January - March 2026] Expenditure against Budget report and sign off. **Reviewed and approved.**
- Update of application for a Barclaycard commercial credit card. **SJ reports the card account is open and a card received. £1,000 credit limit with a Direct Debit to pay off in full each month.**

160.25/26

LOCUM CLERK REPORT – INCLUDES CORRESPONDENCE –

- The Police monthly crime reports for February and March were reviewed – 2 and 3 reported incidents respectively.
- PM and SJ attended a session in Ty Pawb concerning the 10 year outlook on strategy for Culture.
- SJ attended the quarterly SLCC Clwyd Branch meeting – connecting remotely from Brisbane.
- SJ attended a Cyber Security Workshop – 26.2.26 online to learn the best steps to take to protect the Council and its data.
- SJ & KL attended the Annual Celebratory event at Piercy Hall on 11.2.26.
- 1st tranche of 2026/27 Precept received and put on deposit.
- Noted that the proposed Butterfly Solar Farm is not proceeding.
- The WCBC Local Plan has been officially withdrawn.
- WCBC schools are invited to design a sign. The competition has been sent to all primary schools within the borough, asking children to create colourful designs to remind everyone to pick up after their dogs and keep our spaces clean and welcoming.
- Congratulations to Michael Vellacott who met the King & Queen on Maundy Thursday while attending the Royal Maundy Service at St Asaph Cathedral. His Majesty presented recipients (including Michael) with two purses containing the unique Maundy Money. In the white purse was a set of specially minted silver Maundy coins totalling 77 pennies, to match The King's age, and in the Red Purse was a £5 coin commemorating 100 years since Queen Elizabeth II's birth, and a 50p coin that celebrated the 50th anniversary of The King's Trust.
- Congratulations to Rosemary Fox who has been recognised for her tremendous voluntary work in our community by the High Sheriff of Clwyd at her Annual Awards. CD accompanied her. Rachel Bostock as a voluntary first responder was also recognised. Well done both.

3

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

- A report by Rose on email of some railings that are broken in the Nature Reserve. PM and SJ will take a look.

161.25/26

PAYMENTS – The following payments were approved:-

Payment Number	Method of Payment	To	For	Net	VAT	Gross
BACS	Faster Pymt	AVOW	Salaries Account	1905.45	0.00	1905.45
BACS	Faster Pymt	Scribe Accounts	Subscription - March 2026	29.00	5.80	34.80
BACS	Faster Pymt	Leon Hughes	Burial Ground Maintenance	200.00	0.00	200.00
	D/D	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly Service Fee - 2/26	7.00	0.00	7.00
BACS	Faster Pymt	Rainbow Foundation	Room Hire - 02/26	10.00	0.00	10.00
	D/D	Ecotricity	February Unmetered Supply	158.42	7.92	166.34
BACS	Faster Pymt	S G Jones	Expenses Claim	32.50	6.48	38.98
	D/D	Ecotricity	March Unmetered Supply	148.72	7.44	156.16
BACS	Faster Pymt	Leon Hughes	Burial Ground Maintenance	650.00	0.00	650.00
BACS	Faster Pymt	Leon Hughes	Burial Ground Maintenance	1700.00	0.00	1700.00
BACS	Faster Pymt	Scribe Accounts	Subscription - April 2026	29.00	5.80	34.80
BACS	Faster Pymt	Wrexham CBC	Nature Reserve - Rent	10.00	0.00	10.00

162.25/26

TO PRESENT ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON A FUTURE MEETING AGENDA (FULL COUNCIL OR RESPECTIVE COMMITTEE) – Members are invited to propose.

- Outstanding from recent meetings: Village Signs & Burial Ground records to review.
- Training Courses – in person, look at scheduling a series of sessions.
- Playhouse graffiti – use nail varnish to repair.
- Look at improving the kerb appeal at the bottom of Station Road.
- Cllr Sharon Lloyd requests MCC look into obtaining - Unknown Tommy and Women In War Statue Pair – to display on the North side of the Welcome Garden.
- Keep in mind the planned works at Nature Reserve – Enfys Ecology and WCBC Open Spaces Team – scheduled for Oct/Nov 2026.
- Look at engaging an Arboricultural Expert to inspect trees at Marchwiell Burial Ground and produce a Tree Condition Report.

The meeting closed at 9:04pm.

4

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