

QUEENSFERRY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 13th MAY 2025 AT SANDYCROFT COMMUNITY CENTRE, PHOENIX STREET, SANDYCROFT, CH5 2PD.

PRESENT: Councillors: Mrs. C. Jones (Outgoing Chair), Mrs. P. Connah (Outgoing Vice-Chair), Mr. B. Connah, Ms. K. Perry, Mrs. L. Povey, Mr. D. Wisinger

Mrs. C. Hughes – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

A representative from Gwella for agenda item 78/25. A member of the Flintshire Odour Action Group for agenda item 94/25.

72/25 APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

Councillors: Mrs. S. Salisbury, Mrs. P. Titley, Cllr Mrs. D Milner.

73/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Pat Connah and Cllr Bob Connah in relation to the Hynet Project, matters arising agenda item 80/25.

74/25 (a) TO APPOINT THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2025-26

The previous Chair invited nominations for the position of Chair for the Municipal Year 2025/2026. Councillor Mrs. Pat Connah, the current Vice Chair, was the sole nomination for the position. The nomination was proposed by Councillor David Wisinger and seconded by Councillor Karen Perry. On being put to a vote, Councillor Pat Connah, was duly elected Chair of Queensferry Community Council for the Municipal Year 2025/2026. Councillor Pat Connah duly completed her Declaration of Acceptance Office form and thanked Members for supporting the nomination.

RESOLVED - Councillor Mrs. Pat Connah was appointed as Chair for 2025-26.

74/25 (b) TO RECEIVE THE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FROM THE CHAIR AND TO RECEIVE ANY REMARKS

Signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office form received at the meeting.

75/25 (a) TO APPOINT THE VICE-CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2025-26

The previous Chair invited nominations for the position of Vice-Chair for the Municipal Year 2025/2026. Councillor David Wisinger was the sole nomination for the position. The nomination was proposed by Councillor Bob Connah and seconded by Councillor Chris Jones. On being put to a vote, Councillor David Wisinger, was duly elected Vice-Chair of Queensferry Community Council for the Municipal Year 2025/2026.

Councillor David Wisinger duly completed his Declaration of Acceptance Office form and thanked Members for supporting the nomination.

RESOLVED - Councillor David Wisinger was appointed as Vice-Chair for 2025-26.

75/25 (b) TO RECEIVE THE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FROM THE VICE-CHAIR AND TO RECEIVE ANY REMARKS

Councillor David Wisinger accepted the position of Vice-Chair and duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

RESOLVED - Signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office form received at the meeting.

76/25 CONFIRMATION OF MEMBERS REPRESENTING COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The following members representing Council on outside bodies were noted:

1. Councillor Mrs P. Connah - School governor at Sandycroft CP school.
2. Councillor Mrs K. Perry - School governor at Queensferry CP school.
3. Councillor Mrs S. Salisbury – Sandycroft Community Centre Committee.

77/25 TO RECEIVE THE OUTGOING CHAIR'S REPORT / REMARKS

The current Chair thanked everyone for their support over the past year. The new Chair thanked the outgoing Chair for her contribution to the Council during the past year.

NOTED – The outgoing Chair thanked Councillors and the Clerk for their support during 2024/25.

78/25 PHOENIX STREET PLAY AREA

The Chair welcomed the representative from Gwella who was in attendance to discuss the Phoenix Street Play area in Sandycroft.

The following update was provided to Council:

- Investment on MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) had been well received by the community.
- Enquiries regarding the ground and settlement of water had been looked into.
- Graffiti on equipment had been removed.
- Ongoing issues with dogs biting the pendulum seat.
- Concerns regarding the health and safety of the children playing there raised.

Following discussion, agreed actions were:

- Clerk to email PCSO and Flintshire County Council regarding damage to the pendulum seat being caused by dogs biting the equipment.
- Clerk to make enquiries as to whether gates can be locked.
- Cllr Mrs. Lesley Povey to issue communications to residents regarding the health and safety of children in the park.

Match Funding 2025-26 – The Gwella recommendation is to replace the six-sided swing with a tyre swing and replace the bark with a rubber mulch surface. Bark is being phased out due to costs and maintenance. Approximate costs to complete this work would be £10,000. The works could be completed by the summer holidays 2025. Council have already earmarked £5,000 match funding in the 2025-26 budget for works at the Phoenix Street play area.

Playground Communication Board - Council gave approval for Gwella to install the Playground Communication Board in the small children's playground at a cost of £100.

RESOLVED –

- Clerk to email PCSO and Flintshire County Council regarding damage to the pendulum seat being caused by dogs biting the equipment. Clerk to make enquiries as to whether gates can be locked. Cllr Mrs. Lesley Povey to issue communications to residents regarding the health and safety of children in the park.
- Gwella to organise installation of the Playground Communication Board, provided free of charge by Betsi Cadwalader Health Board, in the smaller children's playground at a cost of £100.
- Match funding 2025-26. Gwella recommendation to replace the six-sided swing with a tyre swing and replace the bark with a rubber mulch surface was approved by Council.

79/25 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 8th APRIL 2025

Councillor Chris Jones proposed the minutes as a true and accurate record and Councillor Karen Perry seconded.

RESOLVED - Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held 8th April 2025 accepted as a true and accurate record.

80/25 MATTERS ARISING /ACTION LOG

Hynet Project – Cllr Pat Connah advised that she had received correspondence serving notice to compulsory acquire Cllr Pat Connah and Cllr Bob Connah's property on a temporary basis under Section 34. This will entail tunnelling under the house. Work is due to start on 14th August 2025. Cllr Pat Connah has requested a meeting with Hynet.

RESOLVED – Clerk to arrange a special meeting regarding the Hynet Project.

81/25 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

Councillors agreed to reappoint the internal auditors for financial year 2025-26. The Clerk advised that a full audit is taking place for financial year 2024-25.

RESOLVED - Internal Auditors, JDH Ltd, to be reappointed 2025-26.

82/25 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS 2025 AND FINANCIAL INTERNAL CONTROLS 2025

Following discussion, Council approved and adopted the updated the QCC Financial Regulations 2025 and Financial Internal Controls 2025. The Risk Assessment will be reviewed at the next meeting in June.

RESOLVED – Financial Regulations 2025 and Financial Internal Controls 2025 adopted by Council. Risk Assessment to be reviewed at next meeting.

83/25 COUNCIL VACANCIES

3 vacancies continue to be advertised on the Council's Noticeboards and website. The closing date is 10th July 2025. No interest received to date.

NOTED – No interest to date in the 3 Council vacancies.

84/25 FLY TIPPING

Cllr Chris Jones advised on ongoing incidences of fly tipping in Sandycroft and Queensferry. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Streetscene on the matter. Cllr Karen Perry would make enquiries regarding community engagement / initiatives and forward these to the Clerk for further consideration by Council, in the hope of providing a solution to ongoing issues in the area.

RESOLVED – Clerk to contact Streetscene regarding ongoing incidences of fly tipping in Sandycroft and Queensferry. Cllr. Mrs. Karen Perry to send information to the Clerk regarding initiatives that seek to address / reduce fly tipping.

85/25 FLOODING / COMMUNITY FLOOD PLAN

Council requested that a further Community Flood Plan meeting be arranged between QCC, the Community Flood Action Group (CFAG) and partner organisations. The provisional date for this meeting was agreed as Monday 7th July 2025, 7pm at Sandycroft Community Centre.

RESOLVED – Clerk to arrange a Community Flood Plan meeting with partner organisations on Monday 7th July 2025, 7pm at Sandycroft Community Centre.

86/25 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

APPLICATION NUMBER	DETAILS	LOCATION
FUL/000308/25	CHANGE OF USE OF LAND USE OF LAND TO EXTEND THE EXISTING FAMILY GYPSY AND TRAVELLER SITE (NO ADDITIONAL PITCHES), ALONG WITH THE ERECTION OF A 2.2M HIGH BOUNDARY WALL WITH ACCESS OFF STATION ROAD	THE LODGE, Station Road, Sandycroft, Deeside, CH5 2PT
FUL/000274/25	EXPANSION AND RECONFIGURATION OF COPART CHESTER TO DEVELOP ADDITIONAL CAR STORAGE FACILITIES (USE CLASS B8), BOUNDARY TREATMENT, LANDSCAPING AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS	Land East of Copart, Prince William Avenue, Sandycroft, Flintshire, CH5 2QZ
Pre-Application Consultation	THE INSTALLATION OF 2,221 SOLAR PV PANELS AS PART OF CARPORT CANOPY (99) AND GROUND-BASED (2,122) SOLAR PV PANELS INSTALLATIONS, ASSOCIATED WORKS AND ANCILLARY DEVELOPMENT THERETO.	British Aerospace Airbus Ltd, Chester Road (A5104), Broughton, Chester, CH4 0DR

RESOLVED –

FUL/000308/25 – Council raised concerns in respect of drainage, given that the site is on a flood plain and is in close proximity to the brook.

FUL/000274/25 – Council raised concerns in respect of adverse impacts on the environment and habitat by building on Grade 2 Agricultural Land.

Pre-Application Consultation - No issues raised.

87/25 REQUESTS FOR GRANT PAYMENTS

The following request for grant donations had been received:

- **Llangollen International Festival 2025** – request for a donation towards the Festival and the Eisteddfod week running from 8-13 July 2025.
- **Kids Cancer Charity, Swansea** – to provide a donation towards their services, which include Compassionate Care Respite Breaks UK; Play Therapy, Bereavement Support; Befriending; & Support Groups, Paris Dream Experience. plus, an American Dream Experience.

RESOLVED – Requests for grant donations from organisations outside of the area were regrettably declined by Council.

88/25 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Invoices due during the period:

Sandycroft Community Centre Committee	WIFI	£20.34
DM Payroll Services Ltd	Payroll Fees 25/26	£120.00
Scribe	Accounts Software Fees 2025	£891.60
Clear Councils	Insurance Renewal 25/26	£1074.54
Flintshire County Council	Streetlighting Phoenix Street TA098046	£262.80
Flintshire County Council	Streetlighting Phoenix Street TA095094	£262.80
Flintshire County Council	Monthly Streetlighting Inspections Jan, Feb, March 2025 TA095097	£869.98
Flintshire County Council	Streetlighting Station Road TA095206	£525.60
R3 Safety & Rescue	Flood Warden Training 8 Delegates	£1344.00
Thomas Fattorini Ltd	Regalia Valuation Fee	£150.00
Clerk's Salary	May 2025	£714.19
HMRC Tax and National Insurance	5 June 2025 payment	£269.26

SLCC Enterprises	Training Course ILCA - Clerk	£144.00
Reimbursement to Clerk	Printer Ink / Stamps / Flowers for Councillor	£76.97
Total invoices due during the period		£6726.08

RESOLVED – Invoices authorised for payment. A transfer of £7000.00 to be made from one account to another to pay for invoices received in the period.

89/25 TO NOTE INCOME RECEIVED

NOTED – No income received during the period.

90/25 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

RESOLVED – Income and expenditure noted.

91/25 TO DISCUSS FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- Prosperous Communities Flintshire Fund – Funding available for community led projects (application deadline Sunday 8th June).

RESOLVED – Clerk to forward information regarding the Prosperous Communities Flintshire Fund to Cllr. Mrs. Pat Connah.

92/25 CORRESPONDENCE NOT PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED

- British Red Cross – Offer of Educational Workshops
- Section 6 Report – Requirement to publish a Biodiversity Plan

RESOLVED - Clerk to forward information received from the British Red Cross regarding educational workshops to Cllr. Mrs. Pat Connah. Cllr. Mrs. Karen Perry to make enquiries regarding biodiversity in relation to the Section 6 report, due to be published by the end of 2025.

93/25 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

RESOLVED – The following matters to be requested / reported:

- Replacement streetlights - agree programme of planned works with FCC.
- Dog Waste bin, entrance to car park, Pierce Street, Queensferry.

- Sinkhole, Watkin Street
- Hedges, Phoenix Street.
- Hedges, Station Road, Bridge Inn

Cllr Lesley Povey advised that she had emailed enforcement regarding the building works in Watkin Street. Cllr Lesley Povey had attended the VE Day event organised by the VC Hub.

94/25 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A representative was in attendance from the Flintshire Odour Action Group to raise a number of concerns on behalf of the Group regarding the ongoing odour in the area.

Cllr Chris Jones advised that Cllr Dale Selvester and Cllr Chris Jones had attended a meeting with the Public Protection Team at Flintshire County Council (FCC) on 12.05.25 to request that a public statement is issued on the matter. The outcome of that meeting was that a statement is being prepared which will be shared via Flintshire County Council's communication channels and social media platforms.

NOTED - A public statement has been requested by Local Members.

95/25 DATE OF COUNCIL'S NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

Ordinary Meeting - Tuesday 10th June 2025, 7pm, Sandycroft Community Centre, Phoenix Street, Sandycroft, CH5 2PD. The meeting opened at 7pm and closed at 8.38pm.

.....	Signed Chair
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