

SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 16th JUNE 2014 AT THE SEALAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.

PRESENT: Councillors: Norman Jones (Chairman), Mrs. Barbara Hinds, Alex Lewis, Mrs Chris Jones (County Councillor), Mrs Mary Southall and David Wisinger.

Peter Richmond - the Clerk and Financial Officer.

Also in attendance –
Wayne Jones – Flintshire County Council
Four members of the public.

14/28 APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Mike Walker and Mrs. Shelley Webber.

Apologies were not received from Councillors Mrs Gwyneth Bullock, John Dodd, John Griffiths and Wayne Morris.

14/29 REGISTER OF INTEREST

The Clerk asked that members of Council should advise him when they wished to make a change to their forms.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

14/30 CODE OF CONDUCT DECLARATION

RESOLVED – that it be noted that no declarations were made to Council at the beginning of the meeting in respect of the agenda.

14/31 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

No matters were raised.

14/32 CHAIR'S ACTION SINCE 19th MAY 2014

The Chair advised that he had attended Buckley Town Council's civic service.

RESOLVED – that the Chairman's action be noted.

14/33 **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD ON 19th MAY 2014**

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Council held on 19th May 2014 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

14/34 **FLOOD AWARENESS – SEALAND**

The Chairman advised that he has been in further discussion with Huw Webb and advised that feedback from the Bangor meeting that looked at the North Wales flooding experiences will be circulated to members of Council as soon as received by the Chairman.

RESOLVED – that that the report be noted.

14/35 **COUNCIL'S CHAIN / BADGE OF OFFICE**

Councillor Shelley Webber has previously advised that she had contacted the service provider who was preparing a quotation for Council to consider providing additional links for the chain. Council has not been given a quotation.

Following the May 2014 meeting the Clerk emailed Councillor Shelley Webber on two occasions requesting a progress report. Replies have not been received.

The Chairman advised that he will make enquires about improvements to the Chain of Office and will bring the Chain to the next meeting so that Council can consider what should be carried out.

RESOLVED – the report be noted.

14/36 **POLICE ISSUES**

The Chairman welcomed CBM Martin Price and PCSO Fiona Carmel to the meeting.

Martin outlined the current cover arrangements for Deeside and Sealand. Fiona will be cover for Sealand for a couple of month s and will then be replaced by PCSO Dave Huxley.

Issues raised at the meeting

1. Fly Tipping – Green Lane East – Rubbish has been removed. (Wayne Jones will continue arrange for rubbish to be removed).
2. Youth aged 13 who lives at Sandy Lane riding a motorcycle and using a catapult to break windows. Police are still awaiting information from Councillor Mrs Gwyneth Bullock.

3. Youth playing football in the highway – 72 Farm Road. Police are still awaiting information from Councillor Mrs Gwyneth Bullock.
4. Speeding BMW car throughout the day – Welsh Road. Martin requested that the car be reported via 101.
5. Martin highlighted recent speeding statistics in respect of Welsh Road.
6. Recent Anti-social behaviour at Sealand Manor which is now being dealt with by the County Council.
7. Parking is obstructing the footway o/s Sealand primary School on Farm Road.
8. Gypsies at Green Lane West – parked on private land.

RESOLVED – that the reports be noted.

14/37 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- a) Need to clarify re-routing of public right of way in the area of the closed steel works offices**

RESOLVED – that the matter be deferred pending receipt of the detailed planning application for this area that will include details of proposed routes for public rights of way.

- b) Speed Limit Review – Locations in Sealand**

RESOLVED – that this matter be deferred.

- c) Ferry Lane Footbridge - Noise Complaints.**

RESOLVED – that this matter be deferred.

- d) Litter Bins – Sealand Manor Recreation Field**

RESOLVED – that the provision of two new litter bins be deferred pending the completion of the landscaping work at the site of the former Community Centre.

- e) Need for a 40mph speed limit on Seahill Road**

The County Councillor reminded Council that whilst the limit on the A548 is to going to be reduced, it is also proposed to reduce the speed limit on Seahill Road to 40 mph. She will update Council as soon as she has an implementation date for the changeover to 40mph.

RESOLVED – that the reported be noted.

- f) Additional Waiting Restrictions**

The County Councillor and Clerk reported on correspondence with the County Council regarding Council's requests for additional waiting restrictions. These relate to Farm Road

and Foxes Lane at their junctions with Welsh Road. These sites are now on the appropriate list for consideration.

RESOLVED – that the reports be noted.

g) Change of street lighting at High Grove Estate

The Clerk reported that the Council has four lighting columns at this estate two will be part of the County Council's scheme and will be replaced by the County Council and adopted the remaining two are on private unadopted land at Station Cottages and will not be replaced by the County Council. The lighting project is now being planned.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

h) Missing Street Name Plate – Sandy Lane Square

Wayne Jones advised that street name plates are on order.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

i) Replacement Notice Board for Ferry Lane

Wayne Jones advised that he will obtain a cost for Council to have an opening lockable front fitted to the notice board.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

j) Hedges – Manor Road and Foxes Lane.

RESOLVED – that Wayne Jones be asked to arrange for the hedges to be cut back.

k) Access to the side of the Spar shop – Welsh Road

RESOLVED – that County Councillor Chris Jones be thanked for her work in arranging for the pot holes to be filled in.

l) Wayne Jones – Flintshire County Council

RESOLVED – that Wayne Jones be thanked for all his hard work and support.

a) Street Lighting Report

The Clerk reported all lights 138 columns / 140 lights were working apart from three lights on Sandy Lane. These have again been reported to the County Council.

The Clerk confirmed that all the new lights at East Green are now working.

The Clerk reminded Council that at the previous meeting he reported that there had been an incident on Deeside Lane where one of the 5 columns had been hit by a large vehicle – almost certainly a tractor. The incident has been reported North Wales Police reference number – R0389133. The incident was reported to Aon Insurance on Monday 3rd March 2014 in order to commence the insurance claim. At the previous the Council accepted a quotation from the County Council's Street Lighting for £1,227.50

The work has been completed. As soon as Council receives the invoice for the above it will be submitted to Aon Insurance to claim the refund of £1,227.50 less the £125 excess.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

b) Electrical Inspection –Street Columns

The Clerk advised that he has requested Darell Jones to provide the list of the individual columns that have been electrically tested. This information will be added to the Council's lighting inventory.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

c) Lighting Improvements – 2013/14 and 2014/15

The Clerk reminded Council that at the Annual Finance Meeting it allocated £14,000 for new / replacement columns for the 2014/15 financial year. This should enable 6 lights to be replaced, upgraded and adopted. This will mean that the Council's lighting stock will reduce to 132. At the meeting held on 17th February 2014 it was resolved that three lights be upgraded and adopted at Brookside taking the new lights to the junction with Sealand Avenue and three upgraded and adopted lights be provided at Sealand Manor.

The Council accepted the quotation received from the County Council to install and connect to cable network and adoption of column – Cost per column £2,200 and agreed that the following six columns be replaced and adopted – Brookside 76,77 and 78 and Sealand Manor 39, 43 and 44. Total cost - £13,200. The Columns have all been installed apart from the replacement for no 77.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

d) Flintshire County Council - Streetscene and Transportation - Town and Community Council Lighting

The Clerk advised that he had received an email from Stephen Jones, Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) thanking the Clerks for attending the briefing on Street Lighting in the Council chamber last month.

The Clerk outlined a brief summary of the County Councils proposals which were discussed at the meeting. Steve would welcome some feedback from each Town & Community Council on their preferred route forward and an indication on the level of interest in the project as it stands. Once he receives these notifications he will contact Council again to agree the timescales for the next stages.

Background

27 of the 34 Town and Community Councils (T&CC's) in Flintshire currently own and maintain street lighting systems within their community

The T&CC lighting stock is coming towards or is already beyond the expected design life and is generally (but not all) in poor condition and will require upgrading in the near future.

The majority of the lighting operates utilising old technology and inefficient lighting systems with high energy usage compared to more modern options.

Continually rising energy costs are placing an ever growing burden on the funding available to each T&CC

It is not an option for the County Council to take on the maintenance responsibility for the lighting, due to the financial consequences of the transfer. Before the T&CC lighting systems can be adopted a 10 year commuted sum would be required by the County Council to pay for energy and maintenance costs during the period. This would apply to any light adopted from the T&CC's and is in line with the County Council Street Lighting policy

Summary of Proposals

To provide support to the T&CC's to upgrade the footway lighting systems currently within their ownership and consider options which would allow the County Council to then adopt the lighting systems.

This will be achieved through the following:

1. By establishing the most energy efficient option for each element of the lighting system.

2. Providing some economy of scale for the procurement of a contractor to carry out the necessary upgrades
3. To review funding options to allow the communities to eventually present their lighting systems to the County Council for adoption

Phase 1 – In order to start the process a clear understanding of the scale and make-up of the combined T&CC street lighting infrastructure is required. Flintshire County Council (FCC) will on request produce a single inventory of all the T&CC lighting systems in each community. Inventories exist for those T&CC's that currently utilise the in-house Council service for maintenance and the Council will work with the incumbent contractor in the other communities to build the inventory there.

There will be no cost to the T&CC for this work.
Timescales for completion - 3 months from receipt of request.

Sealand Community Council has this in place already.

Phase 2 – FCC will carry out a critical appraisal of the T&CC lighting systems and make recommendations on energy saving options for each light or system. Option will include:

- Considering the most energy efficient lantern for the location
- Consider dimming options
- Consider part night lighting
- Challenge if the light is required at all at that location

Where dimming, part night or removal is considered FCC will also provide advice on the process and the consultation necessary to facilitate it

There will be no cost to the T&CC for this work.
Timescales for completion - 6 months from completion of Phase 1.

Sealand Community Council has this in place already.

Phase 3. - Develop a single contract to carry out the recommended upgrades and tender the works in accordance with the Councils tendering procedures.

There will be no cost to the T&CC for this work.
Timescales for completion - 6 months from completion of Phase 2.

Sealand Community Council welcomes this proposal.

Phase 4. - Manage the contract and ensure the works are carried out to the required standard.

There will be no charge for the supervision element and the actual cost of works will be charged net to the individual T&CC.

Sealand Community Council welcomes this proposal.

Phase 5. - Work with the T&CC to explore funding and long term borrowing opportunities for the upgrade and eventual adoption costs of the lights. The total cost of the upgrade and adoption charges will be met by the T&CC

Sealand Community Council welcomes this proposal.

This work will run concurrently with Phases 1 – 3.

Participation in the proposals is obviously voluntary and T&CC's can opt in or out of the agreement at any point. However the more T&CC's involved at the various stages, the greater the economies of scale and benefit will be accrued for all of the participants. Whilst the process will therefore clearly benefit from wide participation, there is no obligation or requirement for any T&CC to be involved at any stage of the project.

RESOLVED – that –

- i) the report be noted.
- ii) Council's welcomes this initiative and will participate and for Stephen Jones to be informed accordingly.

14/39 SECTION 137 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1971
PAYMENT OF GRANTS

The Clerk advised that the Government has confirmed that the appropriate sum for the S137 Expenditure Limit for the purpose of Section 137 (4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the calculation of the Free Resource Base is based on the local population taken from the current electoral role of 1964 and £6.50 per head produces an upper limit of £12,766

Allocation for the 2014/15 financial year is £3000.

Grants will be considered for payment at the May 2014, November 2014 and February 2015 meetings of Council.

RESOLVED:- that in accordance with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1971 that the Council should award the following grants which are in the best interests of the area and its inhabitants.

- Sealand Primary School - £500
- Sealand Happy Group - £150
- Flintshire Diabetes Voluntary Group - £100

Declaration of Interest

Sealand Primary School – Councillors Mrs. C.M. Jones, N. Jones and D. Wisinger
Sealand Happy Group – Councillor N.Jones
Flintshire Diabetes Voluntary Group – Councillor Mrs. C.M. Jones

14/40 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk advised on the planning applications that had been received electronically from Flintshire County Council since the meeting of Council held on 19th May 2014.

052050 - Removal of agricultural occupancy restriction at 76 Sealand Road, Sealand, Deeside, CH5 2RJ

052153- Erection of a replacement garage at 3 Station Cottages, Seahill Road, Saughall, Chester, CH1 6BL

052239 - First floor side extension at Lynton House, Sealand Road, Sealand, Deeside, CH5 2LQ

RESOLVED:-that no objections be raised in respect of the above planning applications.

14/41 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING PERMISSIONS

The Clerk advised that the Head of Planning had advised that the following planning application has been approved – None received.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

14/42 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:- that the under mentioned accounts be approved for payment.

Cheque No	Payable to	Details	Amount	VAT	Vat Code
002814	P. Richmond	Salary – June 2014	£574.26		
002815	HM Revenues and Customs Only	Income Tax – PR – June 2014	£190.00		

002816	Sealand Primary School	Grant	£500.00		
002817	Flintshire Diabetes Voluntary Group	Grant	£100.00		
002818	Sealand Happy Group	Grant	£150.00		
Total Spend			£1514.26	£0.00	

14/43 INCOME

The Clerk advised that Council had received the following income –

Lloyds Bank	£1.51
Total	<u>£1.51</u>

RESOLVED - that the income be received.

14/44 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported on the following correspondence –

Head of Planning – 051501 – Planning and Development Control Committee Meeting – 18th June 2014 at 1pm – Council Chamber, County Hall, Mold re PA 051501 - Change of use of land and buildings from B1 Use with storage in connection with that use, to use of the building for a mixed B1/B8 Use of the land for ancillary storage in connection with that use for caravan storage at the Owl Halt Industrial Site, Manor Road, Sealand.

RESOLVED - that the correspondence and required actions be noted.

Chief Officer -Planning the Environment – Preparation of an Environmental Statement in Respect of the Proposed Solar Farm, Land South of Sealand Road, CH11 6BP.

RESOLVED – that the correspondence be received.

14/45 BART ART – ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION – 19th to 22nd JUNE 2014

The Clerk advised that he had been informed by Councillor Mrs. Barbara Hinds that Bart Art, the annual art exhibition at St Bartholomew's Church, will take place on Wednesday 19th June until Sunday 22nd June. The exhibition is open from 12 - 8pm except for Sunday when the church holds a celebratory Evensong at 6pm.

The 250 paintings on view have been produced by local artists and the church provides a wonderful setting to display and enhance all the paintings. The exhibition provides an opportunity to purchase a piece of original art or to just marvel at the skills of the artists. St

Bartholomew's Church is a beautiful building and the exhibition provides the opportunity for the local community to see it at its best.

The continued success of the exhibition is not only due to the hard work and commitment of the parishioners but also the calibre of the artists who display their work. Bart Art enables the Church of St Bartholomew's to function in the community of Sealand.

The congregation look forward to welcoming you to the exhibition to enjoy the talents on display.

For more information contact the organisers on 01244 880533 or 01244 881393.

The Clerk confirmed that the reported information has been added to the Council's web site

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

14/46 NORTH WALES RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT PROJECT

The Clerk advised that Council has been approached by Stuart Fox, Director - Camargue - Corporate and B2B Communications concerning the media release about Wheelabrator Technologies Inc who were recently announced as the 'Preferred Bidder' for the North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Project and has requested an invite to attend the July 2014 meeting so that he can outline details of their proposal.

RESOLVED – that Stuart Fox, Director - Camargue - Corporate and B2B Communications be invited to attend the next meeting at 6pm on Monday 21st July 2014. Council noted that the meeting is for members of Council only.

14/47 AREA TO THE REAR OF FARM ROAD, BROOKSIDE, KINGSLEY ROAD AND BRIDGE VIEW

The Clerk advised that he has been informed by Neil Moffatt, Director of Housing Services, Clwyd Alyn Housing Association that the potholes have indeed been inspected both a few months and again in late May 2014 and there is no dispute that they require attention. The delay which Council refers to was whilst separate planned maintenance works were completed, the works compound cleared and the resulting reduction in traffic. Now that this is completed and hopefully the better weather is upon us, instructions to repair/fill the potholes will be issued this week. The repairs should all be completed by the end of June 2014.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

14/48 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – 9th NOVEMBER 2014

Prior to the meeting Councillors met with Jennifer Watson who reminded Council that the church will be providing a 4 year phase of exhibitions starting with 1914.

The following has previously been agreed –

- Representation at the Remembrance Parade / Service - Councillor Alex Lewis still to contact the Air Cadets – Councillor John Griffiths still to contact the Army Cadets and Jennifer Watson has contacted the Sea Cadets.
- Jennifer Watson will put together the list of the fallen in combat 1914 onwards. This is in progress.

For the service on Remembrance Sunday – to arrive by 10am. March to start from St. Bartholomew’s Court at 10.30am Service at 11am. Refreshments after the event.

Captain Dean has volunteered his support for the Remembrance Service

Dr Lesley Cooke will be taking the Service.

The Chair and Clerk have offered to read passages at the service. It was suggested that Councillors John Dodd and John Griffiths should also be invited to read passages.

Refreshments will be served to all, at the back of the church, following the Service.

RESOLVED – that Jennifer Watson be invited to attend the June meeting at 6pm.

14/49 SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL – SUMMARY ACCOUNTS

The Clerk outlined expenditure and income for the 2014/15 financial year up to cheque number 002816.

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Financial Year

	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Income			
General Admin Inc. Precept / contribution towards Council’s web site.	£17,666.66	£53,000.00	-£35,333.34
Bank Interest	£2.79	£20.00	-£17.21
Insurance Claims / Refunds	£0.00	£0.00	£0
VAT Refund	£646.11	£750.00	-£103.89
Milk Claims	£0.00	£600.00	-£600.00
Total	£18,315.56	£54,370.00	-£36,054.44

	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Expenditure			
Play Areas	£0.00	£9,200.00	£9,200.00
Staffing Costs	£1,923.15	£7,637.00	£5,713.85
General Admin Costs	£974.55	£5,760.00	£4,785.45
S137 Grants	£500.00	£3,000.00	£2,500.00
CCTV	£0.00	£250.00	£250.00
Street Lighting	£2,545.58	£25,100.00	£22,554.42
Notice Boards	£0.00	£1000.00	£1000.00
Insurances	£2,356.02	£2,500.00	£143.98
Milk	£268.65	£3,800.00	£3,531.35
Total	£8,567.95	£58,247.00	£49,679.05
C u r r e n t Summary			
Balance as at 31 March 2014	£40,623.37		
Total Expenditure	£8,567.95		
Total Income	£18,315.56		
Balance	£ 9,747.61		
Overall balance as 16	£50,370.98		
VAT Costs for 2014/15 financial year	£37.80		
End of Year Prediction			
Balance as at 31 March 2014	£40,623.37		
Total Anticipated Expenditure	£58,247.00		
Total Anticipated Income	£54,370.00		
Anticipated Balance for the year	-£3,877.00		
Anticipated Overall Balance as at 31 March 2015	£36,746.37		

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

14/50

REPORT – ANNUAL FINANCIAL RETURN – 2013/14

The Clerk referred back to the previous meeting and Minute 13/298 that detailed the accounts for Council in the Local Council for Wales Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2014.

The Accounts and Audit Regulations were amended in 2010. Process to follow is –

1. RFO / Clerk prepared the Annual Return sections 1 and 2 – Now Complete.
2. Pass the Return to the internal auditor along with all the Council's appropriate records – (16th April 2014– returned on 23rd April 2014) - Now complete.
3. RFO certified page 1 of the Return before 30th June 2014 and presented the Return to Council –19th May 2014 meeting.
4. The Council approved the Return in draft and the Clerk and Chair signed Page 1 – 19th May 2014 meeting of Council.
5. A copy of the Return was sent on 27th May 2014 to UHY Hacker Young / External Auditor with bank reconciliation and variance analysis together with requested documents.
6. UHY Hacker Young will send a letter at the end of the audit with details of their issues / comments on the proposed audit opinion. The Annual Return is not certified by the External Auditor at this stage.
7. RFO / Clerk certify Section 3 and present the Annual Return and the external audit report to Council.
8. Council approved the Return and RFO/Clerk and the Chair certify Section 3
9. Original copy of the Return is sent to the External Auditor.
10. External Auditor certifies Section 3 and sends back to Council for publication before 30th September 2014.

Notice of Appointment of Date for the Exercise of Electors' Rights, Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2014

The Clerk advised that the notice has been displayed since 10th April 2014 on the Council's notice boards and on the Council's web site. These remained in place until 30th May 2014.

RESOLVED: - that the report be noted.

14/51 SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEB SITE.

The Clerk advised that news items from Councillors and the Clerk have been added to the Council's web site. All members of Council agreed that Council has an excellent web site and should be used to promote the activities of Council.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

14/52 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

- Consideration to be given to funding the cost of providing all current pupils at Sealand Primary School with a mug to celebrate 100 years since the opening of the school. Headteacher to provide the Council with costs.
- Fence Panels stolen from area at the rear of Bridge View / Welsh Road.
- Need to have the hedge cut back – Pochins – opposite Ferry Hotel.

14/53 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- Issues in arranging to have a tree cut back – in Chester and Cheshire West Council Area not Flintshire

14/54 NEW MODEL COUNCIL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Clerk advised that he had received a new draft set of Financial Regulations from One Voice Wales. The Clerk will work his way through the draft amending to bring into line with Council and intends to circulate at the July meeting and to bring back to the September to consider adoption.

RESOLVED – that the Clerk’s report be noted.

14/55 DATE OF COUNCIL’S NEXT MEETING - 21st JULY 2014

RESOLVED – that the next meeting be held on Monday 21st July 2014 at 6.45pm – with a meeting at 6pm with Stuart Fox, Director - Camargue - Corporate and B2B Communications.

The meeting opened at 6.30 pm and closed at 8.10 pm.

14/56 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Refer to minute 14/39

Declaration of Interest

Sealand Primary School – Councillors Mrs. C.M. Jones, N. Jones and D. Wisinger

Sealand Happy Group – Councillor N.Jones

Flintshire Diabetes Voluntary Group – Councillor Mrs. C.M. Jones

Signed
21st July 2014

Chair –Sealand Community Council) PR