

**SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2015 AT THE SEALAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

**PRESENT: Councillors:** David Wisinger (Chairman), Mrs. Gwyneth Bullock, John Dodd, John Griffiths, Mrs. Barbara Hinds, Mrs Chris Jones (County Councillor), Norman Jones, Alex Lewis, Mrs Mary Southall, Mike Walker (Vice Chairman) and Mrs. Shelley Webber.

Peter Richmond - the Clerk and Financial Officer.

Wayne Jones – StreetScene - Flintshire County Council.

Also in attendance – one member of the public.

**15/165      APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Wayne Morris and Mrs. Shelley Webber.

RESOLVED – that apologies be received and accepted

**15/166      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.

**15/167      MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

No matters were raised.

**15/168      CHAIR’S REPORT AND ACTIONS SINCE 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2015**

The Chairman advised he had no actions to report.

The Clerk advised that the allocated Chairman’s Fund payments so far this year are -

- £120 - Cost of refreshments – Remembrance Sunday Service.
- £120 - Cost of refreshments – Christmas Carol Service.
- £50 - Waverton Handbells - Christmas Carol Service.

Total - £290

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**15/169      MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2015**

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

**15/170            COUNCIL'S CHAIN / BADGE OF OFFICE**

The Chairman said that he will enquire about having the chain engraved locally

Councillor John Dodd said he will bring the Council's original chain of office to the next meeting.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**15/171            POLICE ISSUES**

The Clerk advised that Martin Price and Dave Huxley are not available to attend the meeting.

The following is the report Martin gave to Council at its previous Meeting.

1 – Patrols have been continuing in the area.

2 – A complaint has been received re males getting off a private bus and causing a nuisance. Enquiries are on-going.

3 – Karting event - Operation Bang' took place on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 with 14 youth members of the community taking part. Excellent opportunity to engage with positive results.

4 – There was an incident reported where damage was believed to have occurred at Sealand Primary School. On closer inspection the wooden chair had been pushed over as it was only secured with 4 extra-long nails/screws being pushed into the ground. No actual damage to the chair.

5 – Consideration requested for funding towards opening the Youth club during the summer holidays as it is currently closed for the 6/7 week period. This would provide a venue for the youths to attend and hopefully reduce Anti-Social Behaviour incidents.

The Clerk advised that following the November meeting of Council he had asked Martin to clarify this report. A reply has not been received.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**15/172            FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

**a)    Litter Bins and Benches – Sealand Manor Recreation Field**

It was reported that the litter bins and benches will shortly be installed following completion of the redesign of the play area..

RESOLVED – that report be noted.

**b) Additional Waiting Restrictions – Farm Road and Foxes Lane**

The County Councillor advised that reported complaints are being investigated by Ruth Cartwright at Flintshire County Council.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**c) Welsh Road Recreation Field - Gate(s)**

It was reported that the gates on Welsh Road have been temporarily removed to enable work to take place on the field.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**d) Ferry Lane Foot Bridge – Remedial Repairs / Vibration Noise Levels**

The Clerk advised that he still awaits an update from Wayne Jones – Flintshire County Council regarding works required to the bridge.

Wayne Jones advised that he will chase the correspondence between the County Council and the supplier of the bridges' metal tubing.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**e) Sealand Manor - West Green Ditch**

Wayne Jones advised that the landowner – Jones The Balers are responsible for maintaining this drainage ditch and they will be advised of their responsibilities to maintain it.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**f) Green Lane East – Clarification of Responsibility to Maintain as a Bridleway**

It was reported that pot holes have been filled in between the former railway bridge and Seahill Road but not between the railway bridge and the former RAF houses.

Wayne Jones advised that he will contact Steve Bartley to arrange for the full section of the unadopted Green Lane East to be inspected and for the pot holes to be filled.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**g) Sealand Road / Cottage Garage – Mud on the Road / New Access onto Sealand Road**

Wayne Jones advised that he will investigate the reported mud on the highway and reported new access from the field onto Sealand Road.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**h) Sealand Road - Lights Off**

The County Councillor advised that the Council's Lighting Engineer is fully aware of the lights that are not working and that all affected lights have been marked with tape to identify that they require attention.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**15/173      LIGHTING MATTERS**

**a) Street Lighting Report**

Of the 128 columns / 123 lights are working – 5 lights are not working – 91 and 92 Sealand Avenue, 24 and 56 at West Green / Manor Road and 34 at Station Cottages. These have all reported to the County Council together with the two county lights that are off on Farm Road – either side of the underpass.

The Clerk reminded Council that should they see a light that needs attention to phone / text or email the Clerk straightaway.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**b) Electrical Inspection / Structural Inspection of Street Lights**

At the July 2015 meeting Darell Jones confirmed that all lights have now been electrically tested and the project will not need to be restarted until 2018. Darell also advised that the Council should commence a structural inspection programme which would identify the lights that Council should replace.

The Clerk has asked Darell Jones to advise Council by December 2015 which 8 / 10 lights following structural inspections should be considered for replacement in 2016/17. This is still awaited.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**c) Lighting Improvements – 2015/16**

Council has now received an invoice from Flintshire County Council in respect of the replacement columns installed at Sealand Manor and column 105 at Sandy Lane

Replacement columns 158 and 159 at Riverside Park have been installed and await the transfer from the old columns – total cost including adoption is £4,460.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**d) Change of Street Lighting at High Grove Estate – Columns 31 and 32**

At the July 2015 meeting Council agreed that Column 31 should be removed and that further consideration be given at the September 2015 meeting regarding the removal of column 32.

It was concluded that 32 should be retained and reviewed in six months.

The Clerk advised that he has been informed that Column 31 will shortly be removed.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**15/174            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 2015/16 financial year is £2000 - the previous stipulation on payment dates has been removed. £1850 has already been paid out.

RESOLVED: - that the report be noted.

**15/175            a) 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 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

054488 - Reserved matters application for phase 1 of the highway works and associated infrastructure works following outline approval 049320 for a mixed use development and associated infrastructure at RAF Sealand South Camp, Welsh Road, Sealand, Deeside, CH5 2RD

Deferred from the previous meeting - 054513 - Erection of 21 no. dwellings including 15 no. 2 bed apartments and 6 no. 1 bed apartments at land side of Gateway to Wales Hotel, Welsh Road, Garden City, Deeside, CH5 2HX

054516 - Outline application for the residential redevelopment of the former filling station, for 6 no. dwellings at Smithy Garage, Sealand Road, Sealand, Deeside, CH5 2LQ

054560 - Erection of steel portal framed building at City Furniture Marcher Court, Sealand Road, Sealand, Chester, Flintshire, CH1 6BS

054593 - Variation of a condition no. 5 attached to planning permission ref: 054138 to allow external storage on site at Land adjacent to Units 43 & 44 First Avenue, Sealand, CH5 2NT

RESOLVED: - that -

i) no objections be raised in respect of planning applications 054488, 054513, 054560 and 054593

ii) objections be submitted in respect of 054516 -

The site in question will create additional traffic hazards for traffic entering and leaving the A548 – Sealand Road.

The site in question sits in the Sealand Flood Plain which precludes new developments from taking place.

Council is very concerned that the development is proposing the installation of a shared septic tank and holding tank.

Council is concerned that the use of a septic tank if not used correctly can lead to various problems. Council understands that none of the following should be flushed into a septic tank bleach, fats, soap powder, dish washer tablets, sanitary products.

Bleach as we know kills most germs, the problem here would be, where the septic tank has bad bacteria in it, the soak away/holding tank should have what is commonly known as friendly bacteria in, making the water suitable to enter the water course. The bleach kills both the good and bad bacteria, resulting in foul water entering the water course.

In addition, fats block up the filtration system from the soak away to the water course, as do soap powder and dish washer tablets (granules), which reform into granules at the bottom of the soak away again blocking it.

Council is very concerned that if 6 houses share the same septic tank system as proposed system it will only take one house to render the whole system unusable. Imagine how this could be rectified in a shared system. Council considers that each house should be responsible for their own waste water.

It would appear that it is proposed to install a shared septic tank and a shared holding tank with the foul water being pumped under Sealand Road and drained into an open ditch. The ditch is for ground water only and is part of the water course for this area of Sealand. Council considers that an appropriate system for the new properties to be a closed system in keeping with other properties in the vicinity and Council understands would be in line with building regulations and environmental restraints.

In addition if the water being is pumped into an open ditch with the prevailing winds coming from a north west direction, the smell from this open ditch will be passing adjacent properties 24 hours / 365 days of the year. This is totally unacceptable. Thus creating a major nuisance in the area.

b) **NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING PERMISSIONS**

The Clerk advised that the Head of Planning had advised that the following planning have been considered -

054279 - Construction and operation of a 16MW embedded Short Term Operating Reserve and Peak Power (STOR) generating plant within a bespoke building and auxiliary equipment and access at Land off Weighbridge Lane, Shotton. Decision Type: **Approved**. Decision Date: 17 November 2015. Determination Level: Delegated-Officer.

054511 - Application for the approval of details reserved by condition 11 (Code for sustainable homes) attached to planning permission ref: 051518 at Starlight's Social Club, Sealand Avenue, Garden City, Deeside, CH5 2HL. Decision Type: Approved. Decision Date: 23 November 2015. Determination Level: Delegated-Officer.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**15/176**      **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

RESOLVED: - that -

- i) in accordance with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1971 that the Council should award a grant of £ which are in the best interests of the area and its inhabitants.

£150.00 to St. Bartholomew's Church.  
£150.00 to Leprechaun Monday Club

- ii) a payment of £150.00 be made from the Chairman's Fund to St. Bartholomew's Church.

- iii) cheque no – 002930 £150.00 made payable to the Friends of Sealand Primary School as authorised at the meeting of Council held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015 be passed to the Friends of Sealand Primary School – it be noted that the required current bank statement is still awaited.

- iv) the under mentioned accounts be approved for payment .

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Payable to</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Vat Code</b>
002931	Richie Hayes and Sons Dairy Ltd	School Milk – October 2015	£278.60		
002932	Wrexham – Birkenhead Rail Users Association	Annual Subscription	£10.00		

002933	The Society of Local Council Clerks	Annual Subscription	£118.00		
002934	HM Revenues and Customs Only	Income Tax – PR – December 2015	£234.80		
002935	P. Richmond	Salary – December 2015	£619.46		
002936	St. Bartholomew's Church	Chairman Fund – Christmas Carol Services- Use of the Church / Refreshments	£120.00		
002937	St. Bartholomew's Church	Grant	£150.00		
002938	St. Bartholomew's Church	Chairman Fund	£150.00		
002939	Leprechaun Monday Club	Grant	£150.00		
<b>Total Spend</b>			<b>£1830.86</b>		

**15/177      INCOME**

The Clerk advised that Council had received the following income –

Lloyds Bank	Bank Interest	£2.28
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>£2.28</u></b>

RESOLVED - that the income be received.

**15/178      SAUGHALL PARISH COUNCIL –SAFETY OF HORSES AND CYCLISTS – SEAHILL ROAD RAILWAY BRIDGE**

The Clerk reported on a communication received from Saughall Parish Council – Councillor Howard Jennings about his concern about the safety of horses and cyclists that cross the railway bridge on Seahill Road.

Councillor Howard Jennings has said that Council will have seen the request from his Clerk regarding a new entrance/exit from the cycle track on to Seahill Road. He has provided the document outlining the safety analysis on the entrance to the track – copy was distributed at the meeting.

As far as he understands there are no specific regulations that cover pedestrian, cycle, horse riding exits entrances onto roads. Can your Council inform us further as to the requirements as regards the road exit entrance that we would need to enable us to create this new exit/ entrance to the cycle track.

Councillor Howard Jennings' understanding of the land ownership position is that the land up to the road needed for the new track will be covered by the Sustrans licence to use the old rail route. His has a made a request to Sustrans to clarify this further. Sustrans have advised that

they are looking at the proposal.

RESOLVED - - that the –

- i) report be noted.
- ii) matter is the responsibility for Sustrans to consider and determine whether a new access be provided to the cycleway off Seahill Road.

**15/179            COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER**

The Clerk advised that at the previous he reported that he had –

- i) requested and received from John Gray - FLVC the required forms for Council to proceed to Stage 2
- ii) requested Ian Bancroft – Flintshire County Council to provide Council with the required details and costings so that Council can make a Stage 2 submission in respect of the four Sealand play Areas – Kingsley Road; Riverside Park; Sealand Manor and Welsh Road. Not received

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**15/180            VIBRANT AND VIABLE PLACES – LANDSCAPING SCHEME – GARDEN CITY**

The County Councillor advised that work on the project has been resumed and that a new project is being formulated for the 2016/17 financial year.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**15/181            SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL – SUMMARY ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk outlined expenditure and income for the 2015/16 financial year up to cheque number 002937 - .

**2015/16**

Financial Year

**Income**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Anticipated</b>	<b>Difference</b>
General Admin Inc. Precept.	£38,220.00	£57,000.00	-£18,780.00
Bank Interest	£15.65	£20.00	-£4.35
Insurance Claims / Refunds	£37.65	£0.00	£37.65
VAT Refund	£904.08	£900.00	£4.08
Milk Claims	£350.47	£500.00	-£149.53
<b>Total</b>	<b>£39,527.85</b>	<b>£58,420.00</b>	<b>-£18,892.15</b>

**Expenditure**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Anticipated</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Play Areas	£2,840.00	£8,000.00	£5,160.00
Staffing Costs	£6,786.45	£9,049.00	£2,262.55
General Admin Costs	£3,213.17	£4,130.00	£916.83
S137 Grants	£1,850.00	£2,000.00	£150.00
CCTV	£3,907.20	£4,000.00	£92.80
Street Lighting	£19,621.94	£26,700.00	£7,078.06
Street Furniture Repairs	£0.00	£500.00	£500.00
Insurances	£2,356.02	£2,500.00	£143.98
Milk	£1,731.30	£3,200.00	£1,468.70
Chairman's Fund	£290.00	£800.00	£510.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£42,596.08</b>	<b>£60,879.00</b>	<b>£18,282.92</b>

**Current Summary**

Balance as at 31 March 2015	£42,772.74
Total Expenditure	£42,596.08
Total Income	£39,527.85
Balance	-£2,798.23
<b>Overall balance as at 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015</b>	<b>£39,704.71</b>
VAT Costs for 2015/16 financial year	£879.67

**End of Year Prediction**

Balance as at 31 March 2015	£42,772.74
Total Anticipated Expenditure	£60,879.00
Total Anticipated Income	£58,420.00
Anticipated Balance for the year	-£2,459.00
<b>Anticipated Overall Balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016</b>	<b>£40,313.74</b>

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

**15/183            2015 SEALAND CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE  
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH  
TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2015 – 7.30pm**

Councillor Barbara Hinds expressed her thanks for the raffle prizes donated by the Clerk and members of Council.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**15/184            SEALAND FLOOD PLAIN**

The Clerk advised that following the previous meeting of Council the following issues raised by Council were referred to Carl Sargeant AM

1. This was a very significant project and no doubt expensive - why did this project not include a raising in height of the embankments?
2. Why was new cycle way surface removed and then resurfaced?
3. The Council understood before the flood defence work had started that when complete it would remove Garden City and the new development area from the Sealand Flood Plain - this would then result in the removal of the flood excess charge that has to be paid. Council is now aware that even after this work the area still sits in a designated flood plain and there is no change to property insurance charges. Can you please explain why the outcome is so different to the project proposal?
4. The entire project is Welsh Government funded and Council wants to know when will the above be fully explained to all affected residents?
5. The entire project is Welsh Government funded and Council wants to know will the proposed developments be allowed to go ahead with the entire new development area sitting in a designated flood plain?

The Clerk advised that a reply has been received from Edwina Hart AM – Minister for Economy, Sconce and Transport - I am replying in view of my portfolio responsibilities. The embankment was raised to a minimum level of 7.20m AOD as stipulated by Natural Resources Wales (NRW). The new cycle way surface was removed and then resurfaced as a trench had to be excavated through the surface to allow the installation of the piles that strengthen the embankment. To meet the required AOD the most appropriate method of reinstatement was to resurface the whole width of the path.

The strengthening works to the embankment were carried out in response to restrictions imposed by the planning condition on Northern Gateway before any development could commence, and the completion of this work has complied with this condition.

Questions regarding restriction to the surrounding area, or the Council's plans for communicating with affected residents, should be directed to Flintshire County Council.

RESOLVED – that the–

- i) report be noted.
- ii) an email be sent to Carwyn Jones, Edwina Hart and Carl Sargeant advising that Council was both concerned and disappointed that the points raised in its previous emails have not been adequately answered and would appreciate a more informative and relevant response.

What Council needs to know is that with the completion of the flood defence works funded by the Welsh Assembly is Sealand now not sitting in or not sitting in a flood plain - this is something that was indicated when the project was first announced.

Can you also clarify that with these works being completed that the land relevant to the Northern Gateway is not in the Sealand Flood Plain and that development of the site will now be permitted to start.

**15/185      PLAY AREA COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME – PLAY AREA 2016/17**

The Clerk advised that he had received a letter from Alan Roberts, Flintshire County Council advising that in 2016/17 the equipped play match funding scheme will be replaced by the Play Area Community Grant Scheme. Details of this scheme are as follows:

Where a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of a play area is agreed the local authority proposes to make a ‘one off’ payment of up to £5,000 per play area transferred with a maximum of £10,000 per community per year. This funding can be used to either enhance these play facilities or be put aside to support future replacements costs.

For 2016/17 a fund of £105,000 will be available for the ‘Play Area Community Grant Scheme’ Any unallocated funds will then be made available on a match funding basis for the enhancement of children’s fixed play areas as follows:

Match funding will only be available to town and community councils or community groups where the fixed play facility has transferred out of local authority control; and/or match funding will be available to improve those play areas retained by the Council and agreed as a priority for retaining or developing. In such instances, match funding will be based upon a maximum contribution of £10,000 from the authority per Town and Community Council making a total investment of £20,000 i.e. £10,000 from the local authority and £10,000 from the town or community council.

If the fund is under-subscribed it will then be determined on a priority basis and in accordance with the findings of the Play Survey, with investment targeted to strategically important sites.

## **Flintshire County Council Summer Playscheme Programme, 2016**

Flintshire County Council is currently awaiting confirmation of the level of grant funding it will receive in 2016 from Families First. We have been informed that it will be February/March 2016 before any confirmation from Welsh Government is received. This funding part funds the summer Playscheme programme which helps to keep the contribution from Town and Community Councils to a minimum.

We have been advised that there is likely to be a further reduction, possibly severe, in the level of grant awarded generally and we have no indication as to how the reduction would be achieved across the projects in Flintshire. As in 2015, our aim is to forewarn all town and community councils of the potential deficit for councils to prepare for a worst case scenario, of there being no match funding being available for 2016. The summer play scheme programme, in partnership with local town and community councils, is highly valued by children, families and communities.

For 2015, The Flintshire Families First grant enabled the council to offer match funding for schemes of three weeks duration in each town and community council area, at a cost of £900.00 per location. Councils were also able to purchase additional weeks four or five, at a cost of £260.00 per week per location. If the Families First grant is withdrawn then the costs to each council would be doubled at a cost of £1,800 for a three week scheme and the costs for additional weeks would remaining at the current level.

In summary this means that for Council to maintain its same level of support for the 2016 Summer Playscheme the potential cost is £6,000 and the Council can continue to match fund play equipment in 2016/17.

RESOLVED – that the –

- i) report be noted.
- ii) Council agrees in principle subject to the Annual Finance Meeting to set aside £6000 for the 2016 Summer Playscheme and £5000 for matched funding.

### **15/186 COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS, POLICIES, REGULATIONS AND PROTOCOLS**

The Clerk advised that it is required to review on annual basis and then endorse the Council's – Standing Orders - Financial Regulations – Internal Financial Controls – Annual Investment Strategy – Risk Assessment processes, Freedom of Information Access Arrangements, Complaints Procedure, Data Protection Policy, Records Management Policy, Information Security Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Press Media Policy, Public Participation Protocol.

Copies have previously been provided to members of Council and are all currently available on the Council's web site.

The Clerk advised that the following had been updated – Internal Financial Controls – Annual Investment Strategy and Risk Assessment processes.

A master set is held by the Clerk at the meeting for scrutiny.

RESOLVED – that

- a) the report be noted.
- b) consideration of the Clerk’s Risk Assessment Reports be accepted as the formal risk assessment for 2015 and that this is again be undertaken in December 2016.
- c) in relation to the key risks, these be identified as relating to the Council’s assets, bank accounts, internal controls and insurance cover for statutory and other purposes.
- d) the arrangements highlighted in the Risk Assessment Report items 1a) to 1d) and 3a) to 3l) of the report be accepted as having taken all the appropriate steps to minimise risks in conjunction with the documented Internal Financial Controls. .
- d) JDH Business Services Ltd be reappointed as the Council’s internal auditor.
- e) the changes to the Internal Financial Controls and Annual Investment Strategy be noted.
- f) the following be endorsed – Standing Orders - Financial Regulations – Internal Financial Controls – Annual Investment Strategy – Risk Assessment processes, Freedom of Information Access Arrangements, Complaints Procedure, Data Protection Policy, Records Management Policy, Information Security Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Press Media Policy, Public Participation Protocol.

**15/187      COUNCIL’S ASSET REGISTER**

RESOLVED – that the Council’s Asset Register be approved and that it be noted that the Council’s fixed assets are currently valued at £220,051.20

Chains of Office	£6,933.56
Notice Boards	£5,556.46
Office Equipment	£462.02
Public Seats	£6,829.77
Wayside Lights	£195,000
Digital Recorder Camera	£3,907.20
5 Non Active CCTVs	£1,362.20
Total	£220,051.20

**15/188      CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING**

The Clerk advised that he had recently received an email from Mandy Haslam PA to Chief Officers (Governance) & (Planning & Environment) and copied to members of Council confirming that the training evening on the Code of Conduct has been arranged for Tuesday, 26 January 2016 starting at 6pm in the Cymau Community Centre, Cymau,

Wrexham LL11 5EP.

The training will be hosted by the Monitoring Officer, Gareth Owens and all Clerks and Members of Town and Community Councils are invited to attend.

Councillor Alex Lewis has advised that he will be attending as may the Clerk

No other Councillors will be attending

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

### **15/189      THE PENSION REGULATOR – AUTO ENROLMENT**

The Clerk advised that the automatic enrolment legislation will affect all employers with at least one worker working or ordinarily working in the UK and employers will only have duties in respect of their workers. Under the terms of the legislation, a worker is classed as someone who either works under a contract of employment, or has a contract to perform work or services personally (i.e. they cannot send a substitute or sub-contract the work) and is not undertaking the work as part of their own business. Automatic enrolment will affect all workers between the ages of 16-74.

At the employer's staging date which for Council is March 2017 Council will be required to assess its workforce, if Council has any eligible jobholders that fall into the below category it will be required to automatically enrol them into an automatic enrolment pension scheme.

- Aged 22- SPA
- Working or ordinarily working in the UK
- Earning above £10,000

If an employer does not have any workers who fall into the above category they may not be any requirement to put a pension scheme in place. However, there are also two other categories of workers, non-eligible jobholders and entitled workers. Non eligible jobholders have the right to opt in to an automatic enrolment pension scheme which the employer will need to contribute towards and entitled workers have the right to join a workplace pension scheme. It is important to note that the jobholder can request to opt into a scheme at any point and the employer must action this where appropriate.

Council will receive a letter from the Pension Regulator in March 2016 to remind Council of its task it will need to complete to comply with its automatic enrolment.

Council will need to ask the Clerk at the appropriate time whether he wishes to be auto enrolled

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**15/190            MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

- Perimeter fence still needs to be repaired - - Sealand Manor (Wayne Jones has contacted the Shooting School)
- Councillor Mike Walker to repair the notice board at Ferry Lane
- Issues at The Owl –alleged persons sleeping in caravans – Clerk to request a progress report from the Planning Enforcement Officer.
- Issues at The Owl –alleged persons urinating into hedge - Clerk to request a progress report from the Planning Enforcement Officer.
- Issues at The Owl – large lorries turning into The Owl / cars obstructing their turning movement - Clerk to request a progress report from the Planning Enforcement Officer.
- Issues at The Owl – sign advertising kitchen work top locked to Council light column - Clerk to request a progress report from the Planning Enforcement Officer..
- Concern about the Sealand Main Drain – near to the Hotel Leprechaun – Clerk to contact Neil Parry - FCC
- Flintshire County Council – No tolerance re litter.
- Query concerning the current position of Planning Application 053203 Extension to caravan park to provide for 88 touring caravans with associated landscaping and planting at Ferry Lane – now being considered by FCC.

**15/191            MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

No matters were raised.

**15/192            DATE OF COUNCIL’S NEXT MEETING – 18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016 – start at 6pm.**

RESOLVED – that the meetings of Council for 2016 be held on the following Mondays - Annual Finance Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> January, 15<sup>th</sup> February, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 18<sup>th</sup> April and 16<sup>th</sup> May.

**15/193            IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Member	Item	Minute Reference
Councillor Barbara Hinds	Grant request from St. Bartholomew’s Church	15/176
Councillor Mike Walker	Grant request from St. Bartholomew’s Church	15/176

The Chairman wished all present festive greetings and best wishes for a very happy new year.

The meeting opened at 6.30pm and closed at 8.35pm

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Signed            18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 – Chairman of Council