

SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 18th
FEBRUARY 2013 AT THE SEALAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

PRESENT: Councillors: Mrs S. Webber (Chairman), Mrs G Bullock, J. A. Dodd, Mrs C M Jones (County Councillor), N. Jones, A. Lewis, Mrs B.M.A Southall, M. Walker, and D. E. Wisinger.

Peter Richmond - the Clerk and Financial Officer.

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

**12/221
050340**

PLANNING APPLICATION –

050340 - Construction of the Southern Converter Station comprising valve halls, a control building and a spares building together with outdoor electrical equipment and associated access improvements, infrastructure, earthworks, security fencing, landscaped areas and habitat creation at Converter Station - Land south of Weighbridge Road, Deeside Industrial Park, Deeside

The Council received a detailed and comprehensive presentation regarding PA – 050340. Council was informed that the project is led by National Grid / Scottish Power and that they intend to install a 420 kilometre high voltage cable linking Hunsterton in Scotland to Deeside. The cable will come on land at Leasowe then running underground along the Wirral. The current Deeside transmission station is the strongest point on the existing national grid system on the west coast of England / Wales. The proposed site is categorised as Brownfield and was previously part of the Shotton Steelworks site that closed in 1978.

The total cost of the entire Western Link project amounts to £1 Billion and will take three years to construct and complete.

Councillors asked various questions concerning possible noise, visual and smell pollutions. Questions were raised regarding impact on existing and proposed residential properties; impact on the countryside and wildlife and if approved the importance of having strong links with the Community of Sealand.

12/222 APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors J.J. Griffiths, G. Shotton and W. Morris.

12/223 CODE OF CONDUCT DECLARATION

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

12/224 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

No matters were raised.

12/225 CHAIR’S ACTION SINCE 19th JANUARY 2013

The Chair advised that she had no report to give to Council.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

12/226 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL FINANCE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 21st JANUARY 2013

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 21st January 2013 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

12/227 FLOOD AWARENESS – SEALAND

Councillor Norman Jones - Chief Flood Warden for Sealand gave an update on his work and advised that he will shortly be meeting with Huw Webb from the Environment Agency to work on the Sealand Flood Plan.

RESOLVED – that

- i) the report be noted.
- ii) Councillor Norman Jones should give an update at the next meeting of Council.

12/228 COUNCIL’S CHAIN / BADGE OF OFFICE

The Clerk reminded Council that at the previous meeting for Council it agreed to give further consideration on how additional links should be attached to the chain of office.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted and for Council to give further consideration on how additional links should be attached to the chain of office and for the Chairman to bring the Chain of Office to the next meeting.

12/229 POLICE ISSUES

The Clerk advised that unfortunately the police cannot be represented at the meeting - PCSO Gareth Price 2944. The following is the report from the December 2012 and January 2013 meetings.

- Three males have been seen cycling to Deeside from Blacon along the Greenway with air rifles. They stop on the lane and shoot at birds. Police advised that they require further information in order to act on the reports. Police report - Extra patrols have been conducted in the area, negative sighting of these males. Please urge complainant to contact the control as soon as this is occurring.
- Van is parked on Deeside Lane causing an obstruction. Advised that the County Council are dealing with this under their planning enforcement responsibilities.
Police report - Negative sighting of the van causing the obstruction..
- Kids on Scooters
Previous Action for Council – Council emailed the Head teacher at John Summers High School to highlight Council’s concern regarding the practice of children and young people using scooters without regard to traffic dangers and asking if this could be brought to the attention of pupils at the school. No reply from the school – Clerk has recopied the email to the Chairman.
- Drugs
Police report - Request that anyone with information regarding drugs to either email / phone me with as much information as possible or to contact control room if it’s happening at that time.
- Parking outside Sealand CP School.
Police report – Patrols have been done several times and several drivers have been warned. Patrols will continue.
- Speeding Traffic on Kingsley Road
Police report - No issues regarding speed.
- Parking Foxes Lane near to junction with Welsh Road – not on double yellow lines.
Police report - Unable to action this if not parked on double yellow lines. I suggested at the meeting to increase the yellow lines. Will continue to monitor.
- Problem with youths – mainly from outside Sealand: 7pm to 10pm: various locations: Garden City.
Police report - Talk to be carried out in the youth club in relation to this. Anti-vandal paint to be put on the walls of the centre. Spoke with Spar who have stated they already have a Mosquito. Have urged them to phone me or control if they have any issues. Will continue to patrol.
- Blue Bridge – secondary school pupils playing with the crossing lights
Previous Action for Council – Council to send an email the Head teacher John Summers High School to highlight Council’s concern regarding the practice of children and young people playing with the highway crossing lights which is causing annoyance for motorists and asking if this could be

brought to the attention of pupils at the school. No reply from the school – Clerk has recopied email to the Chairman.

Police report - Will continue to monitor this.

- Concern about racial abuse in Garden City
- CCTV has been installed on a lighting column at Riverside Park
- CCTV needs to be put back on the column at South Green.
- Gareth has advised that GO SAFE (arrive alive) will be doing some at Manor Road. Will update when he has news from them.
- Bike Etching day in Sealand Manor with Neighbourhood Wardens Gareth has advised that he has arranged for the Neighbourhood Wardens to do some Bike Etching in the Sealand Manor Community Centre on Thursday 28th February and starting at 11pm. He will be sending out the posters as soon as he gets them.

RESOLVED - that the -

- i) report be noted.
- ii) PCSO Gareth Price be advised of its great concerns regarding the reported drug activity on the cycleway beneath the A494 over bridge adjacent to the River Dee.

12/ 230 ADDITIONAL CCTV PROVISION – 2013/14
FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk reminded Council that at the January 2013 Annual Finance Meeting it allocated £1285 to spend on CCTV improvements in the 2013/14 financial year

RESOLVED - that consideration to install additional CCTVs should be deferred to a later meeting of Council.

12/231 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

a) Meadow View– Need for Additional off Street Car Parking

RESOLVED - that the County Councillor's should arrange a site meeting to determine possible project details to achieve improved car parking for Meadow View.

b) Improvement to Road Surface – Brookside.

The County Councillor advised that the recently published Public Notice indicates that a number of roads will benefit from road surface repairs – the work potentially could start with in week and 6 or 18 months.

RESOLVED - that the County Councillor's report be noted.

c) Public Footpaths

Missing footpath direction signs – North Wales Shooting School.

Councillor John Dodd advised that the County Council have now installed the additional way marking together with a new near to Deeside House.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted and for John Davies – Public Rights of Way Officer to be thanked for his support in improving this right of way.

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

It was reported at the previous meeting that Councillor Norman Jones had met representatives from Pochins on site to discuss possible routes for the replacement public right at this location. It is understood that three routes were discussed which are now being considered by Pochins.

RESOLVED – that Pochins be asked again to provide an update on the situation regarding the Council's request for the footpath to be rerouted.

d) New Dog Bin Green Lane Estate – Green Lane East – near to St. Bartholomew's Church

The County Councillor advised that the dog bins are on order.

RESOLVED – that Kevin Edwards at Streetscene should be advised of the Council's request for the installation of the two dog bins.

e) Houlbrooks Site – Planning Appeal – Public Enquiry

The County Councillor reminded Council that the planning appeal had been dismissed and that the site should be cleared of caravans within 6 months of the decision being made.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

f) Pot Holes – Bridleway – Green Lane East

RESOLVED – that the County Councillor should arrange for the pot holes to be filled in and for the Clerk to advised John Griffiths at the County Council that the work still remains to be undertaken.

g) Seahill Road (near to County Boundary) – Damaged Road Surface

RESOLVED – that the County Councillor should arrange for the damaged road surface to be repaired and for the Clerk to advised John Griffiths at the County Council that the work still remains to be undertaken..

h) Drainage Ditches - Green Lane East

RESOLVED – that the Clerk should advise John Griffiths at the County Council that the drainage ditches at Green Lane East need to be cleared of rubbish to ensure that they are working effectively.

i) Fly Tipping Signs – Green Lane East

RESOLVED – that the County Councillor should arrange for the fly tipping signs to be reinstalled at Green Lane East.

j) No Dog Fouling Signs – Farm Road: Kingsley Road: Queens Road

RESOLVED – that the County Councillor should arrange for No Dog Fouling Signs to be fitted to the street columns at Farm Road, Kingsley Road and Bridge View.

k) Street Scene

The Clerk advised that he had sent two invites to the Head of Street Scene to attend the March 2013 meeting of Council at 6pm – as he had not received a reply he had asked the County Councillor to assist. This she has done but still no reply.

RESOLVED – that the Head of Street Scene be again invited to attend a meeting of Council to outline the services provided Street Scene.

l) Need for Street Cleaning – Riverside Park and Farm Road

RESOLVED – that the County Councillor should arrange for street cleaning to be undertaken at Farm Road and Riverside Park.

m) Damaged Road Surface – Welsh Road near to Hotel Leprechaun

RESOLVED – that the County Councillor should arrange for the damaged road surface to be inspected and repaired as required.

n) Speed Limit Review

The Clerk advised that the County Council are carrying out a speed limit review and the County Councillor has proposed a reduction in the speed limit on Welsh Road outside the Sealand CP School to 20 mph. Also at the Deeside Industrial Park along the main stretch between roundabouts, to 50mph and for Sealand Road 40mph from the slip road by RAF Sealand and then to 50mph after entrance to Manor Rd.

RESOLVED – that the –

- i) County Councillor's report be noted.
- ii) Council should submit the following comments to the County Council – Neil Cockerton

A reduction in the speed limit on Welsh Road outside the Sealand CP School from 30mph to 20 mph.

At the Deeside Industrial Park along the main stretch between roundabouts reduction from 60mph to 50mph.

A reduction from 40mph to 30mph from Welsh Road to Sealand Road – just beyond junction with Manor Road.

A reduction to from 60mph to 50mph from the above location on Sealand Road for 300 metres towards Chester.

12/232 LIGHTING MATTERS

a) Street Lighting Report

The Clerk reported that his most recent lighting inspection of the Council's 149 columns and 151 lights took place on 16th February 2013 all lights were working.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

b) Electrical Inspection – 20% of Street Columns

The Clerk advised that the work will shortly be undertaken.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

c) Review of Street Lighting Responsibilities – Flintshire County Council

The Clerk advised that he had responded to the Head of Streetscene to the County Council's review of Street Lighting as outlined at the February 2012 meeting of Council. A reply is still awaited.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

d) Possible Lighting Improvements – 2013/14

The Clerk reminded Council that at the previous meeting he advised that he had been informed by the County Council of the following cost details –

North Green x 5 columns and Column 47 on East Green

Transfer of Services x6 £4,410

Take out, dispose and install 6 metre column x6 £4,110

Install 45w CPO Lantern (PEC & Lamp) x6 £2,791.50

Total £11,311.50 less 15% = £9,614.78

Total cost to install x 6 columns complete £9,614.78 (dependent upon 3 mtr transfer of service)

The Clerk has now received this quotation in writing from the County Council.

The Clerk reminded Council that at the January 2013 Annual Finance Meeting it allocated £12,000 to spend on lighting improvements in the 2013/14 financial year.

The Clerk also reminded Council that at the previous meeting he advised that Council has one column at Green Lane West and is hoping to gain agreement from the County Council that it will take over the column providing Council covers 50% of the cost to replace it. A written quotation is awaited. The Council's column has been removed and the location has been permanently reinstated.

RESOLVED - that the Council should defer its decision regarding which columns should be replaced in the 2013/14 financial year to the next meeting of Council.

12/233 FLOOD RISK - HIGHWAYS

a) A550 Drainage Scheme

It was reported that even though there has been significant rainfalls there have been no issues of flooding at this location

RESOLVED - that matter be deferred.

b) Foxes Lane Underpass

The Chairman read out the structural report of the bridge that she received a few months ago and displayed photographs that clearly demonstrates that rainwater is leaking through the walls of the sides of the underpass. The Chairman will refer the matter back to the County Council to both John Griffiths and Tim Barnes.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

12/234 SECTION 137 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1971
PAYMENT OF GRANTS

a) Summary of Grant Payments – 2012/13 Financial Year

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 2192 and £6.50 per head produces an upper limit of £14,248.

Grants are considered for payment at the May 2012, November 2012 and February 2013 meetings of Council.

Allocation for the 2012/13 financial year is £4,000 with £3,125 being allocated so far.

Allocation for the 2013/14 financial year is £4000.

RESOLVED:- that the report be noted.

12/235 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk advised on the following planning applications had been received electronically from Flintshire County Council since the meeting of Council held on 19th January 2013. 050340 was deferred at the previous meeting.

050340 - Construction of the Southern Converter Station comprising valve halls, a control building and a spares building together with outdoor electrical equipment and associated access improvements, infrastructure, earthworks, security fencing, landscaped areas and habitat creation at Converter Station - Land south of Weighbridge Road, Deeside Industrial Park, Deeside

050371 - Use of building as a warehouse Class B8 at 12 First Avenue, Deeside Industrial Park, Deeside, CH5 2NU.

050446 - Erection of extension to music studio at 38 Welsh Road, Garden City, Deeside, CH5 2RA

050452 - Renewal of planning permission ref: 046991 for the erection of two dwellings at 108-110 Welsh Road, Garden City, Deeside, CH5 2HX

RESOLVED:- that -

- i) no objections be raised in respect of planning applications – 050340, 050371, 050446 and 050452.
- ii) County Councillor David Wisinger be asked if he could arrange for the Council to receive notification of planning applications both by email and hard copies in the post.
- iii) when required the Council should view planning applications on line via the school's IT facilities.

12/236 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING PERMISSIONS

The Clerk advised that the Head of Planning had advised that the following planning application has been refused -

- 050296 – Change of use from office to shop at 42 Evans Business Centre, Minerva Avenue, Chester West Employment Park.

The Clerk advised that the Head of Planning had advised that the following planning application has been approved

- 050090 - Extension to a warehouse for the use of storage (B8) at Unit 108, Tenth Avenue, Deeside Industrial Park, Deeside, CH5 2UA
- 050123 – Change of use of land for open storage at land off Drome Road, Deeside Industrial Park, Zone 1 - Deeside
- 050389 - Erection of a flag pole advertisement at Ivor Williams Trailers Ltd, Fourth Avenue, Deeside Industrial Park

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

12/237 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

Cheque No	Payable to	Details	Amount	VAT	V a t Code
002699	Flintshire County Council	L i g h t i n g Maintenance – December 2012	£440.28		
002700	Flintshire County Council	Lighting Maintenance – November 2012	£903.13		
002701	Flintshire County Council	Lighting Maintenance – October 2012	£522.88		
002702	Flintshire County Council	Lighting Maintenance – September 2012	£492.23		
002703	Flintshire County Council	Lighting Maintenance – August 2012	£564.28		
002704	Flintshire County Council	New Lighting – North Green, Bridge View and Kingsley Road	£11,350.00		
002705	P. Richmond	Salary – February 2013	£549.55		
002706	HMRC	Income Tax – PR – February 2013	£187.90		
002707	Hayes Dairy Ltd	School Milk – December 2012 and January 2013	£544.32		
002708	Scottish Power	Street Lighting Energy 31/12/2012 to 31/1/2013	£530.75	£88.46	659372008
Total Spend			£16,085.32	£88.46	

12/238

INCOME

The Clerk advised that Council had received the following income –

Lloyd TSB	Bank Interest	£2.13	
Total			£2.13

RESOLVED - that the income be received.

12/239

CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk detailed the correspondence received by Council.

- Chair of Flintshire County Council – Best Kept Communities Competition 2013.
- Head of Planning – notification of specific planning applications on the agenda for the next meeting of the Planning and Development Control Committee to be held on Wednesday 20th February 2013 – 050249, 050339 and 050340 as reported in full by the Clerk.
- Flintshire County Council – Third Flintshire Regeneration Conference 2013 – Thursday 7th March 2013 Clwyd Theatr Cymru at Mold.
- Flintshire County Council – Notice of Temporary Traffic Order – Kingsley Road.
- Flintshire County Council – Draft Lease Agreement – Kingsley Road Play Area

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

12/240 COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

The Clerk referred to the contact list circulated with the agenda that still requires information from some Councillors. The Clerk highlighted the communication advantages if members could provide their email addresses and mobile phone numbers. There were no updates to report.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

12/241 SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL – SUMMARY ACCOUNTS 2012/13 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk outlined overall expenditure and income for the 2012/13 financial year up and including cheque number 002708

2012/13 Financial Year		Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Income	General Admin Inc. Precept	£53,000.00	£53,000.00	£0
	Bank Interest	£18.09	£20.00	-£1.91
	Insurance Claims / Refunds	£22.93	£0.00	+£22.93

	VAT Refund	£1,366.08	£1,366	+£0.08
	Milk Claims	£679.17	£750.00	-£70.83
	Total	£55,086.27	£55,136.00	-£49.73
		Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Expenditure	Play Areas	£1,571.32	£6,570.00	£4,998.68
	Staffing Costs	£6,817.25	£7,437.00	£619.75
	General Admin Costs	£4,140.24	£4,420.00	£279.76
	S137 Grants	£3,125.00	£4,000.00	£875.00
	CCTV	£1,284.00	£4,000.00	£2,716.00
	Street Lighting	£23,154.45	£23,500.00	£345.55
	Notice Boards	£1,200.00	£250.00	-£950.00
	Insurances	£5,377.54	£5,100.00	-£277.54
	Milk	£2,931.57	£3,750.00	£818.43
	Election Costs	£350.19	£3,000.00	£2,649.81
		Total	£49,951.56	£62,027.00
Current Summary	Balance as at 31 March 2012	£43,972.48		
	Total Expenditure	£49,951.56		
	Total Income	£55,086.27		
	Balance	£5,134.71		
	Overall balance as 18th February 2013 including cheques authorised for payment.	£49,107.19		
	VAT Costs for 2012/13	£1,346.99		

12/242

COUNIL EXPENDITURE 2013/14 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk reminded Council that at the 2013 Annual Finance Meeting it agreed to the following allocations for the 2013/14 financial year

- School Milk - £4700
- Chair's Allowance - £800
- Clerk's Salary - £5,637
- Clerk's Allowance - £1,900
- Summer Play Schemes - £4,200

- Play Area Improvements - £5000 for Sealand Manor and possible roll over of £5000 from the 2012/13 financial year for Kingsley Road
- Energy Street Lighting - £7,000
- Street Lighting Maintenance - £6,000
- Street Lighting Improvements - £12,000
- Street Lighting Electrical Testing - £800
- CCTV Improvements - £1,285
- Grants - £4,000
- Insurances - £5,600
- Printer Cartridges - £200
- Repairs Seats / Notice Boards - £500
- Stationery -£100
- Annual Subscriptions - £470
- Audit Fees - £550
- Conference Fees - £650
- Postage,Mileage,Telephone - £1,600
- Repairs to Chain of Office / New Links - £500

The Clerk advised that the Council had agreed to an indicated expenditure of £68,492. Estimated income excluding precept is £2,070. Estimated opening balance at 1 April 2013 is £46,914 or £51,914 depending on the spending of the £5000 allocated for Play Area expenditure in 2012/13. To achieve an estimated balance at 1 April 2014 of £35,000 (approx.) a precept of £53,000 is required. Council concluded on a precept of £53,000
 Current years precept – 2012/13 - £53,000
 Current Tax Base of equivalent Band D properties is £1,118.42
 The current Band D charge is £47.39

The precept for 2013/14 - £53,000
 Tax Base for 2013/14 of equivalent Band D properties is £1,109.41
 The band D charge for 2013/14 is £47.97
 The increase in the Band D charge amount is £0.58
 The percentage increase in the 2013/14 band D charge compared to the 2012/13 band D charge is 1.22%

RESOLVED:- that the report be noted

12/243
CLAIM

AUTUMN TERM 2012 MILK

The Clerk advised that he had recently submitted the Council’s milk claim in respect of the Autumn Term 2012 to Flintshire County Council.

Month	Days	Pupils	Cartons	Cost
September	19	90	1710	£323.19

October	16	90		
	3	60	1620	£322.38
November	20	90	1800	£358.20
December	15	90	1350	£255.15

Total 73 - Term dates. 4th September to 21st December 2012

RESOLVED:- that the report be noted

12/244 SEALAND MANOR COMMUNITY CENTRE

It was reported that the Management Committee have decided to close the Centre and request the County Council to demolish as soon as possible.

The Chairman read out the Management Committee's press statement that highlighted their success in raising funds to improve the centre and the Christmas day break-ins when three people broke into the centre and stole all the stock from the tuck-shop, Xbox and computer games.

The Chairman reported on the meetings called on 9th January and 13th January 2013 for all local residents to consider the future of the centre. 6 attended on the first date 7 attended on the second date. It was then agreed to close the centre.

The Chairman advised all funders that had donated to the centre have been informed and that the Management Committee had raised approximately £39k to carry out improvement works at the centre. These funds were pledged in principle and would be paid directly to the contractors upon completion of works. Funders of the smaller donations have agreed that the Management Committee can put these funds towards the environmental project to make good the area left where the community centre stood. Management Committee have agreed to continue and fund-raise until the area is complete.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

12/245 COUNCILLOR JACK HARTY

Members of Council expressed their condolences following the recent loss of Jack Harty. Jack had been a very active member of the Council for over 20 years as well as being Chairman on two occasions.

Jack will have a service at Blacon Crematorium on Friday 22nd February 2013 at 1.30pm

Members held a minutes silence as a mark of respect

12/246 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

- Contact Pochins hedge still needs to be cut – Farm Road
- Concern about delay in reinstalling the CCTV at South Green
- Public payphone at 26 Sealand Road has been removed.
- Concern expressed about the situation highlighted regarding Dave and Val Jones formerly of Bridge Farm

The meeting opened at 6.30 pm and closed at 8.50 pm.

Signed Monday 18th March 2013.

Chair – Councillor Mrs. S. Webber - Sealand Community Council) PR