

**SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2015 AT THE SEALAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

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

Peter Richmond - the Clerk and Financial Officer.

Also in attendance –

Four members of the public.

Wayne Jones - Street Scene Flintshire County Council

CBM Andrea Griffiths - 1606

**14/246      APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE**

Apologies received and accepted from Councillors John Dodd, Wayne Morris and Mike Walker.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted,

**14/247      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.

**14/248      MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

No matters were raised.

**14/249      CHAIR'S ACTION SINCE 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2015**

The Chairman advised that he had no actions to report.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**14/250      MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2015**

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

**14/251      COUNCIL'S CHAIN / BADGE OF OFFICE**

The Clerk reminded Council that at the November 2014 meeting Council accepted the quotation submitted by Fattorini as detailed and the names of Chairman missing from the

current chain should be engraved on the new Chain and for Fattorini to be asked to action this.

The Chain arrived on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2015 and was returned on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2015 as the names of the current and two past Chairman had been engraved onto individual sections rather than as agreed two per section. The shoulder pins were also missing. The Clerk asked for the payment to be authorised with the payment being withheld until the corrected chain had been received.

The chain should be delivered to the Clerk during the next week or so.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

#### **14/252     POLICE ISSUES**

The Chairman welcomed CBM Andrea Griffiths 1606 to the meeting.

1. Problems with youths at Sandy Lane – Police to maintain visits. Reported that there had been a recent incident on Sealand Avenue,
2. Complaints about youths riding a motorcycle around Garden City and not wearing helmets. Police to action but require information on the details of the youths and the motorcycle.
3. Complaints about parking on the footway on Farm Road / Sealand Primary School – Police to action. Cars currently parked on the footway will be investigated immediately after the meeting.
4. Gypsies on the Kingsley Road site – moved to end of Farm Road- and at the weekend moved to the Deeside Industrial Park. Legal currently arranging for the gypsies to be moved again. The report of the three untaxed vehicles being used by the gypsies – police to investigate.
5. West Green at Sealand Manor – speeding tractors - police to investigate.
6. Reports of vandalism at Riverside Park - police to investigate.

RESOLVED – that the reports be noted.

#### **14/253     CCTV - SEALAND**

The Clerk reminded Council that at the Annual Finance Meeting it allocated £4,000 for the purchase of a new CCTV in the 2015/16 financial year. An email has been sent to the County Councils Community Safety Officer asking whether the County Council would contribute towards the cost – a reply has not been received.

Three quotations have previously been received and reported to Council -

The lowest cost option is the fixed low light camera. This offers a fixed 270 degree view but does not have pan/tilt/zoom capabilities are not able to see in complete darkness. £1,680 plus VAT - £366 – Total £2,106.00

The middle option would be for a HD 360 degree pan/tilt/zoom low light option, this can be moved and zoomed but doesn't have the ability to see in complete darkness. £2,922 plus VAT - £584.40 – Total £3,506.40

The plus model is also a HD 360 degree pan/tilt/zoom camera but with the addition of built in 100 metre infrared night vision for use in complete darkness £3,256 plus VAT - £651.20 – Total £3,907.20

RESOLVED – that –

- i) the quotation submitted by Wrexham Digital Surveillance Ltd for the plus model with an HD 360 degree pan/tilt/zoom camera but with the addition of built in 100 metre infrared night vision for use in complete darkness £3,256 plus VAT - £651.20 – Total £3,907.20 be accepted.
- ii) Wrexham Digital Surveillance Ltd be asked to deliver the CCTV to Darell Jones Alltami Depot, Alltami Road, Alltami. CH7 6LG
- iii) Council should decide at the next meeting where the new CCTV should be located
- iv) Council's remaining 5 CCTVs should be relocated as agreed by Council and noted by the Clerk.
- v) it be noted that Flintshire County Council will charge £75 per CCTV for their transfer.

#### **14/254 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 again deferred pending receipt of the detailed planning application for this area that will include details of proposed routes for public rights of way.

- b) **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.

- c) **Changes to Speed Limits – Seahill Road, Old Sealand Road and A548 Sealand Road**

It was reported that the new speed limits are now in force.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

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

The Clerk referred to a previous meeting of Council when he 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. At the February 2015 meeting Council resolved to advise Ian Jones - Senior Engineer (Traffic) that it was reported that on 4th February 2015 a bus could not pass the parked traffic on Foxes Lane and requesting an urgent update regarding Council's request for extended waiting restrictions at Foxes Lane. Ian confirmed that the location is on the County Council's list for consideration.

RESOLVED – that Wayne Jones should ask that Enforcement officers should monitor Foxes Lane regarding the ongoing parking issues.

**e) Fly Tipping – Green Lane East**

It was reported that issue is still taking place.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**f) Ferry Lane Bridge – Request for a Site Meeting**

The site meeting took place on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015 at 10am and Martin Bishop – Bridge Engineer, Flintshire County Council has now submitted his report.

Investigation of the parapet vibration on the Saltney Ferry Footbridge  
Meeting on site, Saturday 31 January 2015

Martin Bishop (MB) has been present at the bridge several times when the wind has been vibrating the handrail and causing the dull humming sound. The loudness of this humming has not been measured or recorded, but is acknowledged to be quite loud.

The manufacturers of the handrail Varney & Gulliver Ltd (<http://www.v-and-g.co.uk>) are a national company. They are aware of the complaint, and although based in Middlesbrough and Birmingham are willing to attend the bridge when it is vibrating. However, as it would take V&G +2 hours to reach this bridge it is unlikely they could directly witness the event before it desisted. Consequently, it is proposed to attempt to record the vibration and provide V&G with the evidence. With this in mind MB provided his telephone number (01352 704 732) so residents can contact him when the vibrating is occurring. MB can be in attendance within 30 minutes or so.

The engineers at V&G suspected that the problem lay with the top rail as a result of air vibrating within the tubing. V&G also said that they had never come across the problem before.

MB expressed the opinion that this was probably true since their remedy did not appear to either correctly diagnose the problem, or solve it.

MB pointed out that, because of the height of the parapet and its uncommon straight length of nearly 150m, it was most probable that even V&G had never supplied a similar sized installation in aluminium.

Residents in attendance agreed that that problem only occurred when the wind was in a particular direction. This appeared to be from the west/south-west, and probably also the reverse direction.

From their independent observations of the problem, both Community Cllr Mike Walker and MB agreed that the probable cause lay with the balusters (upright infill tubing), and the best way to test this view was to disrupt the natural frequency of this tubing. MB to arrange. Should this prove effective a more permanent fixture could be installed.

Wayne Jones advised that he will be carrying out the bridge repairs.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**f) Possible Pollution Tall Industrial Chimney at Sandycroft**

The County Councillor advised that Natural Resources Wales are investigating the reports of pollution and Council will be given a report of their findings.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**14/255      LIGHTING MATTERS**

**a) Street Lighting Report**

All lights 138 columns / 140 lights were working apart from Columns

- 129 at Cedar Close – the power connection is being investigated.
- 105 at Sandy Lane – new column still needs to be connected to the mains supply

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**b) Electrical Inspection –Street Columns**

The Clerk reminded Council that he has been informed by Darell Jones that all lights have now been electrically tested and a report outlining work that is required to be undertaken including costs will be issued to Council shortly. All lights are required to be electrically tested every five years.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

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

The Clerk reminded Council that at the Annual Finance meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Council agreed to proceed in the 2015/16 financial year with Phase 1 - Columns 40 / 41 / 42 / 38 / 54 (Greens) Sealand Manor cost £7,000 plus commuted sum of £4,725 Total £11,725) and Phase 2 to include replacement of 119 and 120 at Dee Road, Garden City.

Five lights have been installed at Sealand Manor – works to transfer the mains supply and the removal of the original columns still needs to be undertaken.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**d) Change of Street Lighting at High Grove Estate**

The Clerk reminded Council that the lighting works have been completed and that Council Columns 31 and 32 will shortly be removed following adoption of the highways and lights at this location. That will leave Columns 33 and 34 both located on the unadopted link to Station Cottages.

Following the February 2015 meeting the Clerk advised Darell Jones at the County Council that light 32 should only be removed provided it doesn't impact on the lighting of 33 and 34.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**14/256            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 awarded to date £1,697.96 and had allocated £2,000 for the 2015/16 financial year. The previous stipulation on certain payment dates has been removed.

At the previous meeting Council referred to the grant request received from Sue Willder from Flintshire Disability Forum (FDF). A financial statement has been requested but so far not received.

RESOLVED: - that the report be noted.

**14/257            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 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

053233 - Display of 2no. Internally illuminated, freestanding totem signs at Deeside Industrial Park, Deeside, Flintshire, CH5 2NU.

RESOLVED:-that all planning applications be noted and no objections raised.

**14/258            NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING PERMISSIONS**

The Clerk advised that the Head of Planning had advised that the following planning

Approved

052269 - Change of use of land to storage yard for plant, vehicles and machinery together with erection of 2.3m high palisade security fence and gates at land at Parkgate House, Welsh Road, Garden City, Deeside, Flintshire, CH5 2LR.

053078. Formation of hardstanding and erection of fence at Unit 29, Deeside Industrial Park, Deeside, Flintshire, CH5 2NT.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

**14/259            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 £150 to the Calendar Girl Bingo the following grants which are in the best interests of the area and its inhabitants.
- ii) 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>
002874	P. Richmond	Salary – March 2015	£567.09		
002875	HM Revenues and Customs Only	Income Tax – PR – March 2015	£189.60		
002876	Richie Hayes and Sons Dairy Ltd	School Milk – January and February 2015	£473.62		
002877	Information Commissioner	Annual Registration for Data Protection	£35.00		
002878	Calendar Girl Bingo	Grant	£150.00		
<b>Total Spend</b>			<b>£1,415.31</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	

## 14/260 INCOME

The Clerk advised that Council had received the following income –

Lloyds Bank	Bank Interest	£1.93
Allianz Insurance	Insurance Claim – Lighting	£1,352.59
Flintshire County Council	Milk Claim Jan – July 2015	£282.52
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>£1,637.04</u></b>

RESOLVED - that the income be received.

## 14/261 DEVOLUTION, DEMOCRACY AND DELIVERY WHITE PAPER

At the Council meeting held on 9th February 2015 Members noted the information circulated concerning Devolution, Democracy and Delivery White Paper - Reforming Local Government: Power to Local People and agreed that a report be prepared drawing together matters of generic interest to the Council such as references to Councillors and those which had a direct relevance to Community Councils. The document seems to class local authorities as just at County Council level and refers to Community Councils separately.

As reported last month the information being sought on the consultation is mainly directed at County Council level and the survey which can be completed online from the Welsh Government website contains numerous questions on which they are seeking views. I have been through the survey and extracted the parts which cover the aspects directly related to Community Councils and also some which have a generic nature on Councillors. It is up to Members to decide at the meeting which will then become the Council's formal response to the document. As indicated at the February meeting any person can take part in all or part of the online survey by the end date of 28th April 2015.

### **Chapter 3 Renewing Democracy**

#### **Local Government Elections**

3.1 4 years as now: 3.2 No: 3.3 N/A if agree with 3.2.

3.37 Agree: 3.38 To only apply in particular situations such as serious breaches of the Code of Conduct and require a minimum number by way of a petition.

#### **Equality and Diversity**

3.46 Agree: 3.47 Strongly Agree.

#### **Number of Elected Members**

3.49. Yes: 3.50 The need to balance the needs of both urban and rural areas and where ever possible to better average number of electors per member across a local authority area.

#### **Term Limits for Elected Members**

3.51 No as at Community Council level this could mean difficulty in recruiting sufficient to stand for election. 3.52 and 3.53 are for County Council level only.

#### **Electoral Qualifications**

3.54 Agree: 3.55 Agree.

### **Chapter 4 Connecting with Communities**

#### **Review of Community Councils**

4.12 Yes as even with reform making them larger they would still be more in tune with the locality and have knowledge about the Community Councils in their area rather than the system of using a Boundary Commission.:

4.13 Yes: 4.14 N/A if agree to response to 4.13:

4.15 Agree that some is needed as some are very small and very limited in their capacity due to financial constraints.

#### **Competent Community Councils**

4.16 Agree: 4.17 Strongly Agree: 4.18 The duties expected to be undertaken or enabled to be achieved under the general competence power should be clearly laid down and this is perhaps a role for either the Internal or External Auditor or both to review.

4.19 Disagree as it is a matter of public choice whether they choose to stand for election.

4.20 Disagree as many existing Clerks have the knowledge and experience to be capable although all existing and new Clerks should be encouraged to pursue qualifications which are now available through the Society of Local Council Clerks.

4.21 Strongly disagree as there are currently only 10% of Community Councils in Wales who have a minimum budget of £200k and if you merge or enlarge existing areas to meet such an arbitrary target which does not apply in England then they will become the size of the former district councils in some cases and lose all community relevance.

4.22 Strongly agree. 4.23 Don't know.

4.24 No as Community Councils are a legal entity in their own right. 4.25 No: 4.26 No.

4.27 Agree: 4.28 Agree with the caveat that for recording the Council should be informed before it takes place: 4.29 Neither Agree or Disagree, but it should perhaps be left for each Community Council to decide: 4.30: Disagree as it a matter for the Council to decide in consultation with the Clerk as per the contract of employment.

4.31. Strongly agree.

#### **Electoral Qualifications**

4.32 Strongly agree as it assists as a two way exchange of information. 4.33 Strongly disagree as some people work in one area and live in the neighbouring one and have an interest in what goes on in both with the existing distance caveat being maintained.

Council is pleased to see that there is a clear future Community Councils being part of public services in Wales and to be more actively involved in work supporting vulnerable groups and that a larger and more significant role for the sector is envisaged.

RESOLVED – that –

- i) the report be noted
- ii) Council endorses the comments set out by the Clerk and for them to be submitted to Reforming Local Government, Welsh Government.

#### **14/262            CORRESPONDENCE**

Flintshire Local Development Plan – Candidate Sites Register and General Update - letter dates 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015 from Chief Officer – Planning and the Environment

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

#### **14/263            SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL – SUMMARY ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk outlined expenditure and income for the 2014/15 financial year up to cheque number 002877

**2014/15**

Financial Year

**Income**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Anticipated</b>	<b>Difference</b>
General Admin Inc. Precept / Payment from Welsh Audit office of £30	£53,030.00	£53,000.00	£30.00
Bank Interest	£20.00	£20.00	£0.00
Insurance Claims / Refunds	£2,377.59	£0.00	£2,377.59
VAT Refund	£646.11	£750.00	-£103.89
Milk Claims	£282.52	£600.00	-£317.48
<b>Total</b>	<b>£56,356.22</b>	<b>£54,370.00</b>	<b>£1,986.22</b>

**Expenditure**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Anticipated</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Play Areas	£7,796.40	£9,200.00	£1,403.60
Staffing Costs	£7,692.60	£7,637.00	-£55.60
General Admin Costs (inc new Chain of Office)	£8,745.19	£5,760.00	-£2,985.19
S137 Grants	£1,697.96	£3,000.00	£1,302.04
CCTV	£0.00	£250.00	£250.00
Street Lighting	£23,134.42	£25,100.00	£1,965.58
Notice Boards	£0.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Insurances	£2,356.02	£2,500.00	£143.98
Milk	£2,635.76	£3,800.00	£1,164.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>£54,058.35</b>	<b>£58,247.00</b>	<b>£4,188.65</b>

**Current Summary**

Balance as at 31 March 2014	£40,623.37
Total Expenditure	£54,058.35
Total Income	£56,356.22
Balance	£2,297.87
Overall balance as at 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	£42,921.24
VAT Costs for 2014/15 financial year	£904.08

**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.

**14/262            COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER**

At a previous meeting Council agreed Council to express an interest concerning the four play areas in Sealand.

**Sealand Assets**

Sealand Youth Centre

Four play Areas – Kingsley Road; Riverside Park; Sealand Manor and Welsh Road

Two playing fields – Welsh Road and Sealand Manor

The Clerk had completed the expression of interest form which was reported to Council.

RESOLVED – that the expression of interest form be approved and submitted to Flintshire Local Voluntary Council.

**14/263            MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

- Mud on the road – Foxes Lane (cleared today)
- Farm Road – Rubbish needs to be collected (Wayne Jones to investigate)
- Solar Panels to be fitted to properties at Stoneleigh Close.

**14/264            MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Council was advised Peter Siddorn Chairman of the Ferry Lane Residents Association that it has been brought to his attention that Fir Trees Holiday Park has submitted a planning application (No. 053203) for a touring caravan site for 88 caravans on the field adjacent to their site. He is very disappointed that the residents association has not been informed about the application and with a deadline of Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March, this has left very little time for residents to respond. The Clerk advised that Council has not received this planning application and the County Councillor advised that it had only recently been referred to her and that the response date will more than likely be mid April 2015.

**14/265            DATE OF COUNCIL'S NEXT MEETING – 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2015**

RESOLVED – that the meetings of Council for the period to July 2015 be held on the following Mondays – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015 – Annual General Meeting; 15<sup>th</sup> June 2015 and 20<sup>th</sup> July.

**14/266            DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mrs Gwyneth Bullock declared an interest with regard to 14/259 – grant request received from Calendar Girl Bingo.

The meeting opened at 6.30pm and closed at 8.00pm

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Signed            20<sup>th</sup> April 2015 – Chairman of Council