

SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 21st JANUARY 2019 AT SEALAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.

PRESENT: Councillors: Chris Jones (Chair and County Councillor), Jean Fairbrother, Barbara Hinds (Vice-Chair), Norman Jones, Mikael Khan, Alex Lewis, Mary Southall, Mike Walker, Rhondda Whittaker, Shelley Webber and David Wisinger.

Peter Richmond: Clerk and Financial Officer.

Three members of the public.

18/227 COUNCILLOR JOAN KEITH

The Clerk advised that he had received a letter of resignation from Councillor Joan Keith who had recently moved to Prestatyn. Joan said that she has enjoyed her time on the Council and many lessons have been learned. She wished all well in the future and hopes to meet up from time to time.

RESOLVED – that –

- i) Councillor Joan Keith's resignation be accepted.
- ii) a letter be sent to Councillor Joan Keith thanking her for her resignation and thanking her for her support of Sealand community activities over the past few years.
- iii) an item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting to appoint a replacement Council representative on the school's governing body.
- iv) the Clerk should contact Flintshire County Council to arrange to start the process to elect a new member of council.

18/228 APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

Apologies were not received from Councillor Sarah Wilson

18/229 CODE OF CONDUCT DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No Declarations were submitted at the beginning of the meeting.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/230 CHAIR'S REPORT AND ACTIONS SINCE 10th DECEMBER 2018

The Chair advised that she hadn't attended any meetings as Chair of Council since the December meeting of Council.

Chair's Fund Update - Agreed Spend to date

Cost of refreshments at the Remembrance Sunday Service and at the Christmas Carol Service – Total cost £250.00

£50 payment to the Deva Brass who performed at the Christmas Carol Service.

Payments of £25 to Eye to Eye, Sealand Happy Group, Calendar Girls Bingo, St. Bartholomew's Church and the Leprechaun Monday Club. Total £125

Allocation is £800 and spent £425

Payments being made under expenditure powers - Ancillary Power Local Government Act 1972 (S11)

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/230 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

No matters were raised.

18/231 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OF COUNCIL HELD ON 10th DECEMBER 2018

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 10th December 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

18/232 POLICE ISSUES

The Clerk advised that he had not heard from PCSO Chris Phillips 3686.

1. Riverbank cycle path - Shotton to Chester – Drugs Problem.
It was previously advised that the police are carrying out patrols.
2. Community Speed Watch - should councillors wish to take part in the community speed watch to contact Councillor Mike Walker.

RESOLVED – that Councillor Mike Walker to ask his police contact whether Speed Watch Signs can be installed at locations to be specified by said the Councillor.

3. Cars are still doing U-turns – traffic lights Sealand Road/ Seahill Road. A site meeting was recently held and the County Council are looking at whether the light's sequences can be changed in order to improve the situation and whether some of the traffic lights can be repositioned.
4. Green Lane East – there is still concern about through traffic and speeding traffic especially at weekends. It was previously advised that the police are making visits. It was suggested that local residents should take photographs of the offending vehicles

and then contact the police on 101.

5. Very important that unsocial behaviour is reported to the Police via 101 – or via the Police’s on-line reporting facility.
6. CCTV and laptop – the Clerk reminded Council that he has asked PCSO Chris Phillips 3686 for the police’s proposal to return the laptop to council to be reconsidered as the council entered into the CCTV/laptop arrangement in 2008 at the request of North Wales Police through CBM Dave Huxley with North Wales Police taking ownership of the said laptop. The Council does not want to take ownership of the laptop. A reply is still awaited.

RESOLVED – that -

- i) in respect of item 6 the matter be deferred to the next meeting of council.
- ii) the Clerk should contact PCSO Chris Phillips 3686 to confirm that he or a colleague will be attending the next meeting of Council.

18/233 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

a) Underpass Lighting - Foxes Lane and Green Lane West

Wayne Jones previously advised that he still understands that it is proposed to install new lighting at these two underpasses subject to funding being provided by NMWTRA. Wayne has previously said he will find out whether in the short term the defective lights can be replaced.

RESOLVED – Wayne Jones be asked to arrange for the defective lights to be repaired.

b) Ferry Lane Footbridge – Noise Nuisance

The County Councillor advised that she understands that costings are being produced for remedial work to be undertaken to reduce the noise nuisance.

The County Councillor will ask Mark Middleton to provide a progress report.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

c) Car Sales – Sealand Road / St. Bartholomew’s Court

Council has been advised that the planning application will not be considered until the complaints regarding the lights have been actioned. The lights still need to be reviewed and repositioned.

Another porta cabin has recently been installed.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

d) Land opposite St. Bartholomew's Church – The Spinney

RESOLVED –the matter be deferred.

e) Foxes Lane – Parking by the Shops and on the grass verge at Riverside Park

The County Councillor advised that the County Council's Enforcement Team are currently monitoring both sites.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

f) Deeside Lane – Various Issues

The Clerk outlined emails concerning complaints about digestate spreading on fields on and around Deeside Lane, Sealand and concerns that the land is becoming waterlogged to the point where this could affect adjacent properties in the event of winter rain. The digestate is flowing into nearby gardens.

The County Councillor advised that Honda cars are now being stored on a new area of land to that previously used for car storage. The issue is being investigated by the County Council's Enforcement Team.

RESOLVED – that the –

- i) reports be noted.
- ii) Clerk should contact the County Council to request clarification on when digestate can and should not be placed on the land.

g) Car Park – Welsh Road (Griffiths Pharmacy) Stopping Up Order)

The Chair reported on recent progress about this matter including a site meeting. It is understood that the car park is now on the required list for consideration. A site meeting was held on 18th December 2018 and Disabled Bays are being considered for inclusion.

RESOLVED –the report be noted.

h) Speed Limit – Ferry Lane

The Clerk advised that the Councillor Jones has received an email from a member of the public advising that he had been touch some months ago regarding the lack of a speed limit on Ferry Lane. Measures need to be put i place to make this busy route safer for vulnerable cyclists and pedestrians travelling between Blacon / Sealand Road and Broughton / Saltney. Nothing has changed and people are still at risk from speeding motorists. This is an

important link which has a 30mph limit at either end, but is oddly derestricted, despite the lack of footpath.

Note – Ferry Lane only has a 30mph limit at the Sealand Road end.

RESOLVED – that the –

- i) report be noted.
- ii) County Council be asked to undertake a review of the speed limit along Ferry Lane

18/234 COUNCIL'S STREET LIGHTING

The Clerk advised that –

- a) that all of the Council's lights are working.
- b) the old column 61 on Foxes Lane is still working and needs to be removed as soon as the supply has been transferred to the adjacent new column. The County Council have again been advised of this.
- c) he has carried out a full review of the council's street lighting and had concluded that at April 2019 council will have 89 lights and not 90 as previously stated. The County Council are in agreement with 89 and the 2019/20 financial year's maintenance and energy charges will be based on 89.
- d) on 31st December 2018 he had emailed to members of council a copy of the current street lighting inventory. The inventory also indicated whether the lighting is situated on unadopted roads.
- e) all 9 new 2018/19 lights have been installed and that one of the original columns is still in place No 61 at Foxes Lane and the power is still to be transferred to the new column. The invoice for the 9 lights - £18,000 has been received from Flintshire County Council.

The Clerk reminded council that for the 2019/20 financial year the council agreed at its October 2018 meeting to upgrade the following 9 lights - 86 and 90 on Sealand Avenue, 167 on the footway alongside the former police station, and then Sandy Lane 100 to 104 (from Sealand Avenue to junction with Maplewood Avenue) and 109 (Sandy Lane cul-de-sac). The expenditure of £18,000 was approved by Council at its Annual Finance Meeting held on 10th December 2018. Thus, reducing the lighting stock to 80 at April 2020.

Council originally had 169 street lights.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/235 **SECTION 137 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**
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 2154 and £7.57 per elector produces an upper limit of £16,305.78.

The amount per elector has recently been increased to £8.12 and this will be applied in respect of the 2019/20 financial year. The recently issued electoral role from Flintshire County Council indicates a total of 2101. The amount per elector is £8.12 producing a total of £17,060.12

The grant allocation for the 2018/19 financial year is £2,500. Spent so far - £2,068.75

The expenditure on free school milk comes under well-being (Local Government Act 2000, Sections (1-5) - this power is again restricted again by the S137 limit (£7.57 per elector in any given financial year).

The school milk estimated expenditure for 2018/19 is £3,500. Spent so far - £1,971.44

The above indicates a total estimated Section 137 (4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 expenditure of £6,000 in the 2018/19 financial year. Total spent so far - £4,040.19

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/236 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Clerk advised on the planning applications received from Flintshire County Council.

059277 - Development of existing highway land to a Park & Ride facility with associated infrastructure at Proposed Park & Ride, Shotwick Road, Sealand, Deeside

059304 - Rear extension to existing house to accommodate bedroom and bathroom for a disabled person and all associated works at 35 Sandy Lane, Garden City, CH5 2JFG

059343 - Proposed residential development for 12no. units and associated works to provide new and shared vehicular accesses, landscaping and car parking at land to the rear and side of St Andrews Church, Sealand Avenue, Garden City, Deeside, Flintshire, CH5 2HNG.

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

18/237 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: - that –

- i) the under mentioned accounts be approved for payment.
- ii) it be noted that the Lloyds Bank charges for the period as previously notified to Council – £5 per month.

Cheque No	Payable to	Details	Amount	VAT	Vat Code	Expenditure Powers
003212	Richie Hayes and Sons	School Milk – November 2018	£258.40			Local Govt Act 1972 (S137)
003213	Flintshire County Council	Street Lighting Maintenance and Energy – October 2018	£672.22			Highways Act 1980 (301)
003214	Cheque Cancelled					
003215	Cheque Cancelled					
003216	Flintshire County Council	Street lighting Maintenance and Energy – November 2018 and 9 Replacement Columns as adopted	£18,672.00			Highways Act 1980 (301)
003217	P. Richmond	Salary etc. – January 2019	£701.69			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
003218	HMRC	PR – Income Tax January 2019	£270.80			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)

003219	Jolora Ltd	Web Site Maintenance Monthly Retainer January 2019	£192.00	£32.00	294456859	Local Govt Act 1972 (S142)
003220	Communi Corp	Annual Subscription	£100.00			Miscellaneous Powers LGA 1972 (S111)
003221	Richie Hayes and Sons	School Milk – December 2018	£193.80			Local Govt Act 1972 (S137)
Total Spend			£21,060.91	£32.00		

18/238 **INCOME**

The Clerk advised that Council had received the following income –

Lloyds Bank	Interest	£2.19
Flintshire County Council	Precept – Third Instalment	£19,000.00
Total		£19,002.19

RESOLVED – that the income be noted.

18/239 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk advised that some general correspondence had been emailed to members of council which did not need reporting at the meeting.

- a) Letter dated 14th January 2019 received from Highway Network Manager – Public Health Wales) Act 2-1 Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 – Part 8 - Provision of Toilets

In July 2017, the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 received Royal Assent, bringing together a range of practical actions for improving and protecting health. Part 8 of the Act includes Provision of Toilets and introduces new responsibilities for Local Authorities to provide local toilet strategies. To deliver a strategic approach to the provision of toilets across Wales, the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 requires Local Authorities to assess local needs and facilities, and to publish a local toilets strategy for its area. To help Flintshire County Council develop its draft strategy, we would like to initially engage with a number of individuals, stakeholder networks and organisations to gather information which will help develop a needs assessment and inform the draft strategy. The duty to prepare a local toilets strategy does not require councils to provide and maintain public toilets directly, nor are they required provide additional dedicated facilities. They must however take a strategic view on how facilities can be provided and accessed, taking account of such things as location,

accessibility, facilities, frequency of use and quality of existing sites, as well as determining whether additional or fewer sites are required by their local population. The legislation published by Welsh Government has no funding for additional provisions attached to it. Since 2012 Flintshire County Council has undertaken two separate reviews of toilet provision across the County. These reviews highlighted that isolated facilities regularly attract antisocial behaviour, which puts people off using them. As a result Flintshire adopted a more enabling approach by promoting the use of existing toilets in Council buildings such as libraries and Connects Centres, which people feel more confident and comfortable using.

FCC/LTS 14 January 2019 Barry Wilkinson 01352 701234 Your Ref/Eich Cyf Our Ref/Ein Cyf Date/Dyddiad Ask for/Gofynner am Direct Dial/Rhif Union E-mail: Steve Jones Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation) Prif Swyddog (Gwasanaethau Stryd a Thrafnidiaeth) Darell.jones@flintshire.gov.uk FCCtoilets@flintshire.gov.uk

The first stage in the development of our draft strategy is to identify the provision of existing facilities, including location, access, facilities provided, frequency of use and quality of existing sites. This work is on-going and we would welcome your feedback which will help to inform the scope the draft strategy. We want to ensure that the draft strategy is inclusive of different people's needs and a link to the online survey can be found below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PublicConveniences>

Should you need a paper version of the survey, please let me know, and if you could also suggest any other local groups I could contact to ask for views, that would be really good too. We will publish a draft strategy at the end of January 2019 which will set out how we plan to meet the needs identified and the intention in which the County's strategy will be directed. This will be open for a full 12-week consultation period during which time you will again have the opportunity to comment on the full draft strategy.

RESOLVED - that the correspondence be noted

18/240 THE AIRFIELDS DEVELOPMENT

RESOLVED – that the matter be deferred.

**18/241 MATCHED FUNDING SCHEME
IMPROVEMENTS TO CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA - 2018/19
SEALAND MANOR**

The Clerk advised that he has been informed by Richard Roberts – Play Design Officer – AURA that the matched funding project at Sealand Manor has been approved – funding being SCC £5,000 – Sealand Manor Community Groups £5,000 and Flintshire County Council £10,000. AURA Ltd will deliver the project and further details will shortly be provided.

The invoice will be sent to council for payment before 1st March 2019.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/242 SEALAND COMMUNITY FLOOD WARDENS

Councillor Norman Jones outlined the roles to be undertaken by the 8 Sealand Flood Wardens regarding the section of the northern embankment running from Tata Steel to Bumpers Lane.

RESOLVED – that the –

- i) report be noted.
- ii) Flood Warden section on the council’s web site should be amended to say “The 8 Sealand Flood Wardens are involved regarding the section of the northern embankment running from Tata Steel to Bumpers Lane” – names and contact details are not to be added.
(The wording to be agreed by Councillor Norman Jones)
- iii) Council web site should include a link to NRW’s automated message flood warning service.

18/243 FRIENDS OF SEALAND - COMMUNITY STRATEGY- PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Vice Chair gave an update on the work currently being undertaken and outlined a summary of the results of the survey.

It was agreed that members of Council would hand deliver to local residents an update of the Survey and notification of the data/time of the next public meeting.

The Clerk advised that he had provided a letter on behalf of Council that outlined Council’s views with regard to the proposal to greatly improve the facilities at St. Bartholomew’s Church.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/244 MILK SUBSIDY CLAIMS – RURAL PAYMENTS AGENCY

The Clerk advised that he was about to submit the claim for the Autumn Term 2018.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/245 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – 2019

The Clerk advised that he has spoken with Colin Sargent at the Royal British Legion to arrange to purchase a supply of poppies to be attached to street light columns. Further information is still awaited.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/246

VISITS TO TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS
INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY'S STANDARD COMMITTEE

The Clerk advised on a letter dated 11th January 2019 and copies to members of council received from Gareth Owens, Chief Officer Governance reminding council that the independent members of the Standards Committee are currently undertaking visits to Town/Community Council meetings to observe practice and gain an understanding of how local council business is conducted. The findings from the visits are reported to the Committee so that feedback can be given to Town/Community Councils to give assurance on good practice and procedures.

The findings from the first four visits, undertaken in October, were received by the Committee this week. The four independent members agreed that these had been positive experiences and praised the level of commitment and contributions by those in attendance. They noted that the meetings had been well controlled by the Chairs (and Vice-Chair in one case), ably supported by Clerks.

Amongst the findings were some minor procedural points that may be of general interest and assistance to all Councils. The points focus on helping members of the public who wish to attend meetings:

- To promote accessibility, it is important that updated meeting information is available on the website and on noticeboards (for members of the public with no internet access) and that venues are clearly signposted where there is more than one room in the building.

Note – this is done by this council.

- Whilst recognising the varying levels of resources, Clerks should aim to respond promptly to enquiries from members of the public where possible.

Note – this is done by this council.

- Following the requirements of the Code of Conduct when declaring interests at meetings including explaining the nature of the interest and how it has arisen helps everyone to understand what is happening.

Note – this is done by this council.

- It would be helpful for members of the public to know whether they are permitted to speak. For example, some Town/Community Councils provide this opportunity via a separate standing agenda item or by stating on the agenda that members of the public are allowed to speak at the Chair's discretion.

Note – this is done by this council.

- To note the need to formally agree the minutes of previous meetings.

Note – this is done by this council.

The Committee hopes that this feedback is useful and wishes to acknowledge the dedication and good work undertaken by Town/Community Councillors in their voluntary roles.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/247 SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL – SUMMARY ACCOUNTS 2018/19
FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk advised that in line with council’s Financial Regulations and audit requirements he submits details of the Council’s overall bank balances in respect of – as at 30th June, 30th September, 31st December and 31st March each year.

The position as at 31st December 2018 is –

Account - no – 0388217 - £3,647.56
Account - no – 7326098 - £65,528.24
Total - £69,175.80
Less unpaid cheque
003203 - £50.00
Total unpaid cheque - £50.00

Total bank accounts - £69,175.80 less the unpaid cheque of £50.00 leaves a closing balance of £69,125.80. This amount agrees with the reported summary income and expenditure report as at 31st December 2018.

The Vice Chair authorised the reconciliation calculations as being a correct record.

RESOLVED: - that the report be noted

18/248 SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS – 2018/19 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk outlined the finalised expenditure and income for 2018/19 financial year up to cheque number 003221.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

2018 / 19 Financial Year	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Income			
General Admin Inc. Precept	£57,000.00	£57,000.00	£0.00
Bank Interest	£17.21	£20.00	-£2.79
Insurance Claims / Refunds	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
VAT Refund	£307.60	£200.00	+£107.60
Milk Claims	£281.94	£500.00	£218.06
Total	£57,606.75	£57,920.00	-£113.25
Expenditure	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Bank Charges	£50.00	£60.00	£10.00
Chairman's Fund	£475.00	£800.00	£325.00
Staffing Costs	£8,433.10	£9,882.00	£1,448.90
General Admin Costs	£2,374.63	£3,320.00	£945.37
Council Web Site	£1,856.00	£2,000.00	£144.00
Insurances	£852.61	£1,000.00	£147.39
Defibrillator – LGA Act 2000(S2)	£1,646.81	£1,000.00	-£646.81
Play Schemes and New Equipment	£4,949.00	£9,400.00	£4,451.00
Highways	£1,400.00	£0.00	-£1,400.00
Street Lighting	£23,510.89	£25,400.00	£1,889.11
CCTV Maintenance	£0.00	£200.00	£0.00
Grants – Section 137	£2,068.75	£2,500.00	£431.25
School Milk – Section 137	£1,971.44	£3,500.00	£1,528.56
Total	£49,588.23	£59,062.00	£9,473.77

Current Summary	Balance as at 31 March 2018 including £25,000 contingency fund.	£39,991.15
	Total expenditure	£49,588.23
	Total income	£57,606.75
	Balance in year spend	£8,018.52
	Overall balance as at 21st January 2019	£48,009.67
	VAT Costs for 2018/19 financial year	£575.67
End of Year Prediction	Balance as at 31 st March 2018	£39,991.15
	Total anticipated expenditure	£59,062.00
	Total anticipated income	£57,920.00
	Anticipated balance for the year	-£1,342.00
	Anticipated Overall Balance as at 31st March 2019	£38,649.15

18/249 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Pots holes – Rear Accesses – Kingsley Road

Good Food Taster Sessions – 23rd January 2019 – The Hb – 23 to 4pm

Highway will shortly be resurfaced at Hawthorn View.

Need to have rubbish removed from former Air Raid Shelter – off Sealand Road.

What is the defibrillator battery life?

18/250 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No matters were raised.

18/251 DATE OF COUNCIL’S NEXT MEETING – 18th FEBRUARY 2019

RESOLVED – that the meetings of Council for 2019 be held on the following dates
18th March 2019, 15th April 2019, 20th May 2019(AGM), 17th June, 15th July, 9th
September, 21st October, 18th November and 9th December (Annual Finance Meeting)

18/252 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Council Member	Item	Minute Reference

The meeting opened at 6.30 pm and closed at 8.35 pm

..... Signed 18th February 2019
Chairman of the Council.