

SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 8th APRIL 2019 AT SEALAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.

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

Peter Richmond: Clerk and Financial Officer.

One member of the public.

Wayne Jones - StreetScene

18/310 APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Norman Jones, Mikael Khan and Shelley Webber.

Apologies were not received from Councillor Sarah Wilson.

The Clerk advised that he will remind Councillor Sarah Wilson that if a councillor fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of the last attended meeting to attend a meeting of council, they automatically cease to be a member of council.

18/311 NOTICE UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972 (Section 87(2)) VACANCY FOR A COUNCILLOR

The Clerk advised that two applications had been received by the closing date for submissions.

The two applications were read out by the Clerk.

A secret ballot was undertaken

RESOLVED – that –

- i) the report be noted.
- ii) Robert Aston James (Bob) be appointed as a member of Council.
- iii) the second applicant be informed of the outcome of the vote and also be thanked for their application.

Note – Councillor Bob James signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and the Register of Interest.

18/312 **CODE OF CONDUCT DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

No Declarations were submitted at the beginning of the meeting.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/313 **CHAIR'S REPORT AND ACTIONS SINCE 18th MARCH 2019**

The Chair advised that she recently attended two Civic Services – Connah's Quay Town Council and Flintshire County Council.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/314 **MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

No matters were raised.

18/315 **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OF COUNCIL HELD ON 18th MARCH 2019**

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 18th March 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

18/316 **POLICE ISSUES**

The Chair advised that PCSP Rob Bainbridge is currently on holiday.

1. Riverbank cycle path - Shotton to Chester – Drugs Problem.
Police has previously advised that the police are continuing to carrying out patrols.
2. Ferry Lane – Drugs Problem
Police has previously advised that they will investigate the reports of drug activity taking place late mornings.
3. Community Speed Watch - should councillors wish to take part in the community speed watch to contact Councillor Mike Walker. Councillor Mike Walker said he will again ask his police contact whether Speed Watch Signs can be installed at locations to be specified by the said the Councillor.
4. 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. Police have previously said they will continue to visit the location.
5. 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. Police have previously suggested that photographs of cars driving along Green Lane East be sent to the Police for investigation.

6. Very important that unsocial behaviour is reported to the Police via 101 – or via the Police’s on-line reporting facility. It was reported that the problem is on the increase in the evenings by the Spar Shop and the Sandy Lane Youth Club.
7. 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. At the previous meeting PC Craig Bellamy said he will discuss with his Sergeant.

Wayne Jones advised that he will arrange for a CCTV sign to be attached to the street light column on Foxes Lane

The Clerk reminded Council that PCSO Chris Phillips had reported that the Sealand CCTV isn’t connecting to the laptop and needs to be have the technical fault repaired. The Clerk has passed the contact details of the CCTV Company to PCSO Chris Phillips so that he can arrange to meet them on site. This information has now been passed to PCSO 2872 Rob Bainbridge

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/317 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

a) Underpass - Surface Water - Foxes Lane

Wayne Jones previously advised that he will inspect the drainage situation. It was agreed that Wayne Jones should also be asked to arrange for the underpass road surface to be cleaned. Wayne will arrange to meet on site with Mark Middleton.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

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 again 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 and are now on till midnight.

The County Councillor will contact Planning Enforcement.

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 County Councillor advised on various issues at Deeside Lane. The issues are being investigated by the County Council’s Enforcement Team.

A meeting is being held on 26th April 2019 including Mark Tami MP to discuss all related issues.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

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. The proposed improvements are now on the priority list.

RESOLVED –the report be noted.

h) Speed Limit – Ferry Lane – 30 mph

The Clerk advised that he has been informed by the County Council that the results of the

speed survey have been returned and the average speed 24/7 is 34.9mph. As Ferry Lane joins with Cheshire a meeting has been scheduled for 21st March 2019 to discuss.

The County Council will shortly provide an update.

RESOLVED – that the –

- i) report be noted.
- ii) County Council be asked to provide a separate footpath and separate cycleway along Ferry Lane.

i) Dandy's Top Soil – Sealand Road

The Chair referred to the new building and signage that has been installed without planning permission. This has been referred to Planning Enforcement

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

j) Morriston Farm – Green Lane East

RESOLVED – that Neil Cockerton be again asked if he could advise on whether the farm's tenancy agreements makes reference to the use of Green Lane East and the direction of the traffic flow to and from the farm.

k) Foxes Lane Corner – Access point into the Farm

At the previous meeting it was reported that on the farm corner, there are two very wide farm gates. Facing the left-hand side of the left gate, at the bottom, there is a blue pipe sticking up out of the concrete base. Also, where the gates are there is a large amount of hard core. Further into the field hardcore has recently been deposited and a concrete base has been installed that includes up right pipes.

The County Councillor advised that this is being investigated by Planning Enforcement

RESOLVED – that that the report be noted

l) Concerns about Risk of Traffic Accident – junction of Green Lane East and Old Sealand Road

It was reported that at certain times of the day cars are parked too near the corner of the highway (Old Sealand Road) which leads up to Saughall. The parking of cars at this location makes it impossible to exit Green Lane East safely to the right as there is no visual of oncoming cars from Sealand Road. Exiting to the left is still a concern as there is still no visual of oncoming cars.

Traffic exiting Sealand Road to access Saughall, having to pass parked cars will approach the corner on the wrong side of the highway with no warning of cars coming from Saughall around the corner. This concern applies to cars, motorbikes and cyclists.

RESOLVED – that Wayne Jones be asked to arrange for a site meeting.

m) All Sealand Ditches

The County Councillor advised that Neil Parry Flintshire County Council will shortly be inspection the condition of all Sealand drainage ditches and will be accompanied by Councillor Mike Walker.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

n) Pot Holes – Foxes Lane and Claremont Avenue

RESOLVED – that Wayne Jones be asked to report on the surface condition of Foxes Lane and Claremont Avenue.

o) Seahill Road Bridge Repairs

Wayne Jones advised that work will shortly start to carry out essential repairs to the footpath and highway

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/291 COUNCIL'S STREET LIGHTING

The Clerk advised that –

- a) 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.

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.

The Clerk advised that he has informed that the new columns will be installed during April 2019 and will be connected to the mains supply via a transfer of service as soon as possible.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/318 SECTION 137 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972
PAYMENT OF GRANTS

The Clerk advised that 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.

The amount per elector has recently been increased to £8.12 and this applies to the 2019/20 financial year. The recently issued electoral role from Flintshire County Council indicates a total of 2121 (Sealand East 861 and Sealand West 1260). The amount per elector is £8.12 producing a total of £17,222.52

The grant allocation for the 2018/19 financial year was £2,500. Total spent was £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 the 2018/19 financial year and £8.12 in 2019/20).

The school milk estimated expenditure for 2018/19 was £3,500. Total spent was £2,326.05

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 £4,394.80.

For the 2019/20 financial year the grant allocation is £2,200. And the school milk estimated expenditure for 2019/20 is £3,500. The total being £5,700.00.

The Clerk advised that grant requests have been received from –

- i) Citizens Advice
- ii) 50+ in Flintshire Advisory Group
- iii) Wales Air Ambulance Charity
- iv) Stoneleigh Close Residents Association

RESOLVED that –

- i) in accordance with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1971 that the Council should award a grant of £75.00 to the Wales Air Ambulance Charity and £75.00 to Citizens Advice which are in the best interests of the area and its inhabitants.

- ii) current bank statements be requested from 50+ in Flintshire Advisory Group and the Stoneleigh Close Residents Association.

18/319 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Clerk advised that no planning applications have been received from Flintshire County Council.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/320 **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
003238	Flintshire County Council	Street Lighting Maintenance and Energy – February 2019	£1,009.90			Highways Act 1980 (301)
003239	Jolora Ltd	Web Site Maintenance Monthly Retainer March 2019	£192.00	£32.00	294456859	Local Govt Act 1972 (S142)
003240	P. Richmond	Salary etc. – April 2019	£664.17			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
003241	HMRC	PR – Income Tax April 2019	£270.40			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
003242	Citizens Advice Bureau	Grant	£75.00			Local Govt Act 1971 (S137)
003243	Welsh Air Ambulance	Grant	£75.00			Local Govt Act 1971 (S137)
Total Spend			£2,287.47	£32.00		

18/321 **INCOME**

The Clerk advised that Council had received the following income –

Lloyds Bank	Interest	£1.47
Total		£1.47

RESOLVED – that the income be noted.

18/322 **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

RESOLVED - that the correspondence be noted

18/323 **THE AIRFIELDS DEVELOPMENT**

The Clerk advised on an email received from Keith Webster. Principal Consultant, ANCER SPA copied to members of council on 3rd April 2019 that attached a copy of a newsletter which was delivered on 4th April 2019 to residents in the vicinity of the Airfields development site. The principal reason for the newsletter is to inform residents of an impending submission of details of another phase of site preparation works. That involves Plot B towards the northern boundary of the site and this time further away from existing residents. This time it does not involve the breaking out of concrete foundations which was previously of concern to local residents. The application for those works is likely to be submitted within the next couple of weeks.

RESOLVED – that the matter be deferred.

18/324 **MATCHED FUNDING SCHEME**
IMPROVEMENTS TO CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA - 2018/19
SEALAND MANOR

It was reported that the work is still to start.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/325 **FRIENDS OF SEALAND - COMMUNITY STRATEGY- PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

The Vice Chair reported that she is still waiting on the outcome of the lottery application.

It was agreed that the group set up to produce a Sealand Community Information Newsletter should meet at St. Bartholomew's Church at 7pm on Monday 13th May 2019

The cost to produce a community newsletter is met under Local government Act 1972 Section 142.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/326 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.

18/327 TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL’S PLAYSHEME PROGRAMME 2019

The Clerk has previously reported that he has been in further discussion with Janet Roberts – Play Development Officer at Flintshire County Council who has confirmed that the County Council will sort out a suitable and practical arrangements for the food element at both of your council sites

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/328 SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS – 2018/19 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk outlined the finalised expenditure and income for the 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 March 2019 is –

Account - no – 0388217 - £13,907.21
Account - no – 7326098 - £31,534.05
Total - £45,441.26
Less unpaid cheque
003226 - £5,000.00
003228 - £100.00
003231 - £100.00
003232 - £192.00
003235 - £1,195.44
003237 - £354.61

Total - £6,942.05

Total bank accounts - £45,441.26 less the unpaid cheques of £6,942.05 leaves a closing balance of £38,499.21. This amount agrees with the reported summary income and expenditure report as at 31st March 2019

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

The Clerk confirmed that he had submitted to HMRC the Council's VAT claim for the 2018/19 financial year for £639.67

The Clerk also confirmed that he had completed the Council's HMRC end of year on line processes for 2018/19 and has set up the on-line process for the 2019/20 financial year.

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	£23.02	£20.00	£3.02
Insurance Claims / Refunds	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
VAT Refund	£307.60	£200.00	+£107.60
Milk Claims	£473.47	£500.00	-£26.53
Total	£57,804.09	£57,920.00	£84.09
Expenditure	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Bank Charges	£60.00	£60.00	£0.00
Chairman's Fund	£855.00	£800.00	-£55.00
Staffing Costs	£10,119.80	£9,882.00	-£237.80
General Admin Costs	£3,071.68	£3,320.00	£248.32
Council Web Site	£2,240.00	£2,000.00	-£240.00
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	£9,949.00	£9,400.00	-£549.00
Highways	£1,400.00	£0.00	-£1,400.00
Street Lighting	£24,706.33	£25,400.00	£693.67
CCTV Maintenance	£0.00	£200.00	£200.00
Grants – Section 137	£2,068.75	£2,500.00	£431.25
School Milk – Section 137	£2,326.05	£3,500.00	£1,173.95
Total	£59,296.03	£59,062.00	-£234.03

Current Summary	Balance as at 31 March 2018 including £25,000 contingency fund.	£39,991.15
	Total expenditure	£59,296.03
	Total income	£57,804.09
	Balance in year spend	-£1,491.94
	Overall balance as at 31st March 2019	£38,499.21
	VAT Costs for 2018/19 financial year	£639.67
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

18/329 **INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2018/19 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Clerk outlined the requirement on council for the internal audit and referred to the audit form (that was emailed to members of council for information on 26th March 2019) he is required to include various working papers and documentation when presenting for audit. Failure to do so may result in a delay in completing council's internal audit and additional audit costs. The internal audit will commence on Monday 15th April 2019 and will conclude on Thursday 18th April 2019.

RESOLVED: - that the report be noted.

18/330 **REPORT – ANNUAL FINANCIAL RETURN – 2018/19**

The Clerk detailed the accounts for Council in the Local Council for Wales Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2019

Statement of Accounts

31-Mar-18	31-Mar-19	
£	£	
£36,987	£39,991	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the council's financial records.
£57,000	£57,000	Total amount of income received in the year from local taxation (precept).
£1,900	£804	Total income or receipts recorded in the cashbook minus the amounts included in line 2. Includes support, discretionary and revenue grants.
£9,882	£10,120	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and related expenses e.g. termination costs
£0.00	£0.00	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the council's borrowings (if any).
£46,014	£49,176	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook minus staff costs and loan/interest expenditure/payments.
£39,991	£38,499	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year.

£0.00	£0.00	Income and Expenditure Accounts only. The value of debts owed to the council at the year end.
£39,991	£38,499	All accounts. The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and investments held as at 31 March – this must agree with the reconciled cash book as per the bank reconciliation.
£0.00	£0.00	Income and Expenditure Accounts only. The value of monies owed by the council (except borrowing) at the year end
£39,991	£38,499	Total balances

£150,777	£140,711	The original asset and investment register value of all fixed assets and any other long-term assets held at 31 March.
£0.00	£0.00	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties.
N/A	N/A	Trust Fund Disclosure

Section 2 – Annual governance statement

The Clerk outlined the Section 2 – Annual governance statement

We acknowledge as the members of SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control including the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Council's accounting statements for the year ended 31st March 2019 that -

	Agreed - Yes or No
We have put in place arrangements for – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • effective financial management during the year and • the preparation and approval of the accounting statements. 	YES
We have maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	YES
We have taken all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice, that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of the Council to conduct its business or on its finances.	YES

We have provided proper opportunity for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.	In progress
We have carries out an assessment of the risks facing the Council and taken appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and / or external insurance cover where required.	YES
We have carried out an assessment of the risks facing the Council and taken appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	YES
We have maintained an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the Council's accounting records and control systems throughout the year and have received a report from the Internal Auditor.	YES
We have considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year end, have a financial impact on the Council and, where appropriate have included them on accounting statements.	YES
We have taken appropriate action on all matters raised in previous reports from internal and external audit.	YES
Trust funds – in our capacity as trustee we have discharged our responsibility in relation to the accountability for the fund(s) including financial reporting and if required, independent examination or audit.	N/A
We have adopted standing orders and financial regulations as appropriate.	YES
We have ensured that the Council's standing orders and financial regulations have been followed for all relevant transactions.	YES
All committees and sub-committees of the council have been properly established and provided with appropriate terms of reference setting out the delegated responsibilities to make decisions or recommendations.	N/A

The Clerk advised that the above will be presented to Council at its next meeting following completion of the internal audit. Following certification by the Responsible Financial Officer the Council is required to approve the Annual Governance Statement Part 2

The Clerk outlined the letter and all required documents that Council will send with the Annual Return to the external auditor including those documents to be counter signed by the Chair and Clerk as being a true and record document.

The external auditor has requested that the completed Annual Return and all supporting information needs to have been received by the external auditor by 11th June 2019. This will include photographs showing the audit notice as displayed on the council's notice boards.

RESOLVED: - that –

- i) the report be noted.
- ii) it be noted that an interim copy of the Annual Return should be added to the Council's web site before 16th June 2019 with a final version being added on completion of the audit.
- iii) the Clerk be thanked for his excellent services in maintaining the Council's governance and finances.

18/331 NOTICE OF AUDIT- 2018/19 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk referenced the Notice of Appointment of Date for the Exercise of Electors' Rights, Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2019.

The Clerk advised that each year the Council's annual return is audited and any person interested has the opportunity to inspect and make copies of the annual return and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers and receipts relating to them.

The Clerk outlined the public notice and details of the public inspection arrangements. Inspection runs from 1st July 2019 to 26th July 2019.

The notice is required to be displayed on the Sealand notice boards and the Council's web site from 16th June 2019.

RESOLVED: - that the report be noted.

18/332 SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS – 2019/20 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk outlined the finalised expenditure and income for 2019/20 financial year up to cheque number 003237.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

2019/20 Financial Year	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Income			
General Admin Inc. Precept	£0.00	£57,000.00	-£57,000.00
Bank Interest	£0.00	£22.00	-£22.00
Insurance Claims / Refunds	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
VAT Refund	£0.00	£308.00	-£308.00
Milk Claims	£0.00	£500.00	-£500.00
Total	£0.00	£57,830.00	-£57,830.00
Expenditure	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Bank Charges	£0.00	£60.00	£60.00
Chairman's Fund	£0.00	£800.00	£800.00
Staffing Costs	£843.29	£10,120.00	£9,276.61
General Admin Costs	£91.18	£4,200.00	£4,108.82
Council Web Site	£192.00	£2,304.00	£2,112.00
Insurances	£0.00	£1,000.00	£147.39
Defibrillator – LGA Act 2000(S2)	£0.00	£75.00	£75.00
Play Schemes and New Equipment	£0.00	£10,500.00	£10,500.00
Highways	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Street Lighting	£1,009.90	£24,900.00	£23,890.10
CCTV Maintenance	£0.00	£250.00	£250.00
Grants – Section 137	£0.00	£2,200.00	£2,200.00
School Milk – Section 137	£0.00	£3,500.00	£3,500.00
Total	£2,136.47	£59,809.00	£57,672.53

Current Summary	Balance as at 31 March 2019 including £25,000 contingency fund.	£38,499.21
	Total expenditure	£2,136.47
	Total income	£0.00
	Balance in year spend	-£2,136.47
	Overall balance as at 8th April 2019	£36,362.74
	VAT Costs for 2019/20 financial year	£32.00
End of Year Prediction	Balance as at 31 st March 2019	£38,499.21
	Total anticipated expenditure	£59,809.00
	Total anticipated income	£57,830.00
	Anticipated balance for the year	-£1,979.00
	Anticipated Overall Balance as at 31st March 2020	£36,520.21

18/333 **ACCESS TO INFORMATION - MEMBERS ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES**
2018/19

The Clerk advised that a notice advising that – “In the 2018/19 financial year Sealand Community Council made no payments to its members of Council in respect of the remuneration of community and town councils as determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel of Wales” has been added to notices section on the web site and the on the council’s notice boards.

A copy has also been sent to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted

18/334 **PAYMENT TO MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

The Clerk advised on information received from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.

In the 2018 Annual Report the Panel formed 3 groups of community and town councils to reflect differences based on the level of income *or* expenditure, whichever is the highest, in the previous financial year. These remain unchanged as set out in Table 9.

Table 9: Community and Town Council Groupings

Community and Town Council Group Income *or* Expenditure in 2018-19 of:

A £200,000 and above

B £30,000 - £199,999

C Below £30,000

Sealand Community Council is in Group B

The Clerk reported that Determination 40 which relates to Councils in Group A and B making a payment available to each of their members of £150 per year for the costs incurred in respect of telephone usage, information technology, consumable etc. The payment of £150 is mandated for every member unless they advise the appropriate officer that they do not want to take it in writing. A letter for this purpose was circulated to members of council.

Determination 42: Community and town councils in Groups B or C can make an annual payment of up to £500 each to up to 5 members in recognition of specific responsibilities. This is in addition to the £150 payment for costs and expenses.

Determination 43: Community and town councils can make payments to each of their members in respect of travel costs for attending approved duties. Such payments must be the actual costs of travel by public transport or the

HMRC mileage allowances as below:

- 45p per mile up to 10,000 miles in the year.
- 25p per mile over 10,000 miles.
- 5p per mile per passenger carried on authority business.
- 24p per mile for private motor cycles.
- 20p per mile for bicycles.

Determination 44: If a community or town council resolves that a particular duty requires an overnight stay, it can authorise reimbursement of

- subsistence expenses to its members at the maximum rates set out below on
- the basis of receipted claims:
- £28 per 24-hour period allowance for meals, including breakfast where not provided.
- £200 – London overnight.
- £95 – elsewhere overnight.
- £30 – staying with friends and/or family overnight.

Determination 45: Community and town councils can pay financial loss compensation to each of their members, where such loss has actually occurred, for attending approved duties as follows:

- Up to £54.00 for each period not exceeding 4 hours
- Up to £108.00 for each period exceeding 4 hours but not exceeding 24 hours

Determination 46: All community and town councils must provide for the reimbursement of necessary costs for the care of dependent children and adults (provided by informal or formal carers) and for personal assistance needs up to a maximum of £403 per month. Reimbursement must be for the additional costs incurred by members in order for them to carry out their approved duties. Reimbursement shall only be made on production of receipts from the carer.

Determination 47: Community and town councils can provide a Civic Head payment to the mayor/chair of the council up to a maximum of £1,500. This is in addition to the £150 payment for costs and expenses and the £500 senior salary if these are claimed. It was noted that the Council has previously agreed to have a Chair's Fund in place which is not an allowance.

Determination 48: Community and town councils can provide a Deputy Civic Head payment to the deputy mayor/deputy chair of the council up to a maximum of £500. This is in addition to the £150 payment for costs and expenses and the £500 senior salary if these are claimed.

In addition the report pointed out that in relation to payment to members for the 2018/19 financial year then these need to be listed and sent to the Panel and displayed on the council's web site and Council notice boards – refer to Minute 18/333.

RESOLVED: That in relation to the 2019/20 financial year, the determinations required concerning payments to Members be as follows:

Determination 40 - Payment of £150 paid to Members – to be paid by Council
Determination 42 – Is applicable as relating to Councils in Group B
Determination 43 – Is applicable as relating to Councils in Group B
Determination 44 – Is applicable as relating to Councils in Group B
Determination 45 – Is applicable as relating to Councils in Group B
Determination 46 – Is applicable as relating to Councils in Group B
Determination 47 – Is applicable as relating to Councils in Group B
Determination 48 – Is applicable as relating to Councils in Group B

18/ 336 PROVISION OF A BENCH AT STONELEIGH CLOSE – GARDEN CITY

RESOLVED – that Councillor Alex Lewis should ask Wheelabrator at the next meeting whether they can fund a bench to be installed at Stoneleigh Close.

18/337 COUNTESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL

It was reported that Countess of Chester NHS Foundation Trust have decided due to unresolved funding issues that it will no longer take in patients from Wales except emergencies and maternity cases.

The decision will impact on thousands of people in Flintshire including Sealand who currently use it, with immediate effect.

It is reported that the decision follows a row over payments to the hospital for caring for patients from Wales.

GPs in Wales will no longer be able to refer patients for treatment over the border at the hospital.

Wrexham Maelor Hospital and Ysbyty Glan Clwyd are the next closest hospitals for patients in Sealand

RESOLVED that emails be sent to Vaughan Gething and Jack Sargeant at the Welsh Assembly be advised that the council is very concerned about the decision made by the Countess of Chester Hospital and urges that the cross-border practice that patients should be free to choose where they are treated and Council is extremely disappointed that Sealand patients could be adversely affected by this decision.

18/338 FIRST AID AND DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

The Clerk reported that Tomos Williams – Welsh Ambulance Service can provide 2-hour evening training sessions – future dates will be provided shortly.

It was agreed that the session should be provided at St. Bartholomew’s Church.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/339 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

- Samaritans signs to be provided at the Saltney Ferry footbridge – requires planning permission.
- Need to have rubbish removed from former Air Raid Shelter – off Sealand Road – Wayne Jones previously advised that he will action this.
- Concern about Effluent Tankers – Hazardous Waste – Deeside Lane and Green Lane East (Bridge Farm).
- Possible first aid training for members of Council.
- Concern about Sealand Manor West Green – ditches filled and hedges removed.

18/340 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No matters were raised.

18/341 DATE OF COUNCIL’S NEXT MEETING – 20th MAY 2019

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

18/342 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Council Member	Item	Minute Reference

The meeting opened at 6.30pm and closed at 8.45pm

..... Signed 20th May 2019
Chair of the Council.