

SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 16th NOVEMBER 2015 AT THE SEALAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.

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

Peter Richmond - the Clerk and Financial Officer.

Also in attendance – Three members of the public.

15/140 APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs. Gwyneth Bullock and Norman Jones.

RESOLVED – that apologies be received and accepted

15/141 CODE OF CONDUCT DECLARATION

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

15/142 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

No matters were raised.

15/143 CHAIR'S REPORT AND ACTIONS SINCE 19th OCTOBER 2015

The Chairman advised that he attended the Sealand Remembrance Service on Sunday 8th November 2015 at St. Bartholomew's Church.

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

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

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

15/144 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD 19th OCTOBER 2015

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 19th October 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

15/145 COUNCIL'S CHAIN / BADGE OF OFFICE

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

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

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

15/146 POLICE ISSUES

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

Martin had provided a report -

1 – Patrols have been continuing in the area.

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

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

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

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

The Clerk advised that he has asked Martin to clarify this report.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

15/147 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

a) Litter Bins and Benches – Sealand Manor Recreation Field

It was reported that the litter bins and benches will shortly be installed.

RESOLVED – that report be noted.

b) Additional Waiting Restrictions – Farm Road and Foxes Lane

The County Councillor advised that reported complaints are being investigated.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

c) Welsh Road Recreation Field - Gate(s)

It was reported that the gates on Welsh Road have been temporarily removed to enable contractors to access the field. The gates will be refitted on completion of the works.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

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

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

RESOLVED – that Wayne Jones – Flintshire County Council be asked to obtain a provide report.

e) Sealand Manor - West Green Ditch

Wayne Jones has previously advised he will investigate the ditch to determine whether work is required to improve the drainage flow

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

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

It was reported that pot holes have been filled in.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

g) Foxes Lane Corner/ West Green – Mud on the Road

RESOLVED – that the County Councillor will request that the Council’s road sweeper vehicle should clear the affected section of road.

h) Sealand Road - Lights Off

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

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

a) Street Lighting Report

All lights 128 columns / 124 lights are working – four lights are not working – 91 and 92 Sealand Avenue, 56 at West Green / Manor Road and 34 at Station Cottages. These have all reported to the County Council.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

b) Electrical Inspection / Structural Inspection of Street Lights

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

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

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

c) Lighting Improvements – 2015/16

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

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

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

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

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

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

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

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

15/149 SECTION 137 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1971
PAYMENT OF GRANTS

The Clerk advised that the Government has confirmed that the appropriate sum for the S137 Expenditure Limit for the purpose of Section 137 (4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the calculation of the Free Resource Base is based on the local population taken from the

current electoral role of 1964 and £6.50 per head produces an upper limit of £12,766

Allocation for the 2015/16 financial year is £2000 - the previous stipulation on payment dates has been removed. £1400 has already been paid out.

RESOLVED: - that the report be noted.

15/150 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 19th October 2015.

054444 - Application for variation of condition No. 1 following grant of planning permission. (048143) to allow further period of time for commencement of works at Green Lane Farm, Green Lane, Sealand, Deeside, CH5 2LH

054490 - Construction of a new surface level car park and associated road access at Communications House, Parkway, Deeside Industrial Park, Deeside, CH5 2NS

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

RESOLVED: - that -

- i) no objections be raised in respect of planning applications 054444 and 054490
- ii) with regard to 054513 Council has decided to defer its consideration of this planning application to its next meeting to be held on Monday 14th December 2015. This will give members of Council the opportunity to attend the consultation event at St. Andrew's Hub on Thursday 19th November 2015

15/151 NOTIFICATION OF PLANNING PERMISSIONS

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

053896 - Erection of general agricultural storage building at Manor House, Deeside Lane, Sealand, Chester, CH1 6BP. Decision Type: **Approved**. Decision Date: 3 November 2015. Determination Level: Delegated-Officer.

054110 - Change of use of waste land to garden area associated with the dwelling known as White House and erection of fence at White House, Sealand Road, Sealand, Flintshire, CH1 6BR. Decision Type: **Refused**. Decision Date: 9 November 2015. Determination Level: Delegated-Officer.

054289 - Erection of single storey rear extension at 10 Bridge View, Garden City, Deeside, CH5 2HY. Decision Type: **Approved**. Decision Date: 3 November 2015. Determination Level: Delegated-Officer.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

15/152 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED:- that -

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

Eye 2 Eye - £150.00

Garden City Pensioners Club - £150.00

Friends of Sealand Primary School - £150.00 – subject to receiving a bank statement.

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

Cheque No	Payable to	Details	Amount	VAT	Vat Code
002919	Eye 2' Eye	Grant	£150.00		
002920	P. Richmond	Salary – November 2015	£628.14		
002921	HM Revenues and Customs Only	Income Tax – PR – November 2015	£235.20		
002922	Waverton Handbells	Christmas Carol Concert – Chairman's Fund	£50.00		
002923	Flintshire County Council	2015 Play Leadership Scheme	£2,840.00		
002924	Flintshire County Council	Street Lighting Maintenance, Repairs and Energy September 2015 6 Replacement Lights and adoption charges	£14,266.90		
002925	Richie Hayes and Sons Dairy Ltd	School Milk – September 2015	£352.23		
002926	Cheque Destroyed				
002927	St. Bartholomew's Church	Remembrance Sunday – Refreshments /Heating/Lighting Chairman's Fund	£120.00		
002928	B & B Business Equipment Ltd	Repairs and Maintenance to Council's Zerox printer	£273.60	£45.60	397255608

002929	Garden City Pensioners Club	Grant	£150.00		
002930	Friends of Sealand Primary School	Grant	£150.00		
Total Spend			£19,216.07	£45.60	

15/153 INCOME

The Clerk advised that Council had received the following income –

Lloyds Bank	Bank Interest	£2.31
Total		<u>£2.31</u>

RESOLVED - that the income be received.

15/154 CORRESPONDENCE

a) Community Green Spaces Funding
Ella Jackson, Engagement Worker for Older People, Flintshire & Wrexham Online
Watch Link Association

Communities will soon be able to apply for grants of up to £12,000 for capital improvements to local community greenspaces.

Projects that would typically receive funding include:

- Parks, pocket parks and urban greenspaces.
- Green corridors - river and canals, cycle ways.
- Formal and informal play areas.
- Open access sports facilities within public parks and recreation grounds, such as football pitches, tennis courts and cricket pitches.
- Informal outdoor facilities, such as gym equipment, trim trails and woodland walks.
- Nature reserves, community woodlands and ponds.
- Churchyards.
- Seafronts.
- Community allotments, community garden.

The grants programme will be open to voluntary and community organisations, registered charities, health bodies, community councils, development trusts, local authorities and housing organisations in England, Scotland and Wales.

It is anticipated that there will be two funding rounds per year over the next three years.

The first funding round is expected to open to applications on 19 October 2015 with a deadline of 30 November 2015.

Further details are available from:

<http://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/wales/news/new-funding-for-community-green-spaces>

RESOLVED – that the correspondence be noted.

b) Safety of Horses and Cyclists on the Old Railway Bridge Over the Cycle Track

Shirley Hudspeth, Clerk to Saughall and Shotwick Park Parish Council

Copy email to Flintshire County Council - On making enquiries with your Council this morning I am told that this is a matter that falls within your remit.

My Council has serious safety concerns relating to the Sustrans Cycle Track on the Sealand/Saughall border. I attach a note that one of my Members has prepared on this and I am requesting you to carry out a site inspection and give consideration to the proposal detailed in the note.

Please let me have your comments on this matter asap.

RESOLVED – that the correspondence be noted.

c) John Summers High School

Ian Budd - Chief Officer, Education & Youth, Flintshire County Council

It was requested that this issue be considered by Council and should Councillors have any further observations please can you let us know by no later than Friday 27th November 2015 or at your earliest convenience following your next available Community Council meeting.

Members of your Community Council will be aware of the recent consultation in relation to John Summers High School which ran from 5th June 2015 to July 2015. During this period the Council sought the views of schools, communities, children and young People and other statutory consultees on the proposals to close John Summers High school. The Council received a high number of responses to the consultation and felt it prudent to feedback the views of the consultees to the Community Council.

Whilst, the Council did receive a number of positive responses to the consultation, notably from other local secondary schools and Estyn (the independent education inspectorate). The majority of the views expressed by children and young people, and mirrored by adult responses during the consultation period, expressed areas of concern summarised as follows:

- concern about travel - increase in travel time, travel costs, dangerous route to get to a new school, increased traffic congestion;
- concern about impact on friendships - splitting friends up as they may attend different schools;
- impact on education – may not do as well in another school;
- impact on the local community;
- impact on teachers – knowing their learning styles, what would happen to them, concern over inconsistency arising from teachers getting new jobs and leaving the current school);

- uniform – assurances sought about parents with children already in secondary school needing to buy new uniform;
- concern about safety and wellbeing (including pastoral care) being different in another school; and
- concern about overcrowding in classrooms in other schools.

These are areas that the Council is continuing to address through its decision making, implementation plans and ongoing communication.

The Community Council will be aware through its County Councillor membership that the Council is continuing to work with the local high schools on detailed transition plans to ensure continuity of education for pupils transferring to other schools, should the Minister determine to close John Summers High School.

Additionally, Cabinet had previously given a commitment to receiving a full and separate report on transport options. This will be considered by the County Council's Cabinet prior to Christmas.

Should your Councillors have any further observations that are not mentioned above please can you let us know by no later than Friday 27th November 2015.

RESOLVED – that –

- i) the correspondence be noted,
- ii) it be noted that there were no additional observations raised following the reporting of the communication received from Sarah Tomas at Flintshire County Council.

**d) Flintshire Bridge
Matt Brookfield – Technical Officer, Flintshire County Council**

Flintshire County Council will be undertaking inspection and maintenance works on the Flintshire Bridge under lane closures over the coming weeks up to the middle of December.

As part of this ongoing programme of work our contractor, Freyssinet Ltd, will be carrying out maintenance works on the bridge tower, and due to the nature of this work we will require the road/bridge to be closed.

The closures will take place over weekends the 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd, 28th and 29th November and the 5th and 6th, 12th and 13th December. The diversion will be the same that is used when the bridge is closed during high winds.

RESOLVED – that the correspondence be noted.

e) Luned Evans – North Wales Development Officer – One Voice Wales

Dates of the next few Area Committee Meetings -

26th January 2016 – Parish Hall, Holyhead Road, CHIRK. LL14 5NA

21st April 2016 – Mold Town Hall, Earl Road, MOLD. CH7 1AB

19th July 2016 – Capel y Groes, Bodhyfryd, WREXHAM. LL12 7AG

All meetings start at 7pm

Council representative is Councillor Mary Southall

RESOLVED – that the correspondence be noted.

15/155 COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER

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

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

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**15/156 VIBRANT AND VIABLE PLACES – LANDSCAPING SCHEME –
GARDEN CITY**

The Clerk advised that work has started at Sealand Primary School but is on hold whilst land ownership details are concluded.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

15/157 SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL – SUMMARY ACCOUNTS

The Clerk outlined expenditure and income for the 2015/16 financial year up to cheque number 002926 - .

2015/16

Financial Year

Income

	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
General Admin Inc. Precept.	£38,220.00	£57,000.00	-£18,780.00
Bank Interest	£13.37	£20.00	-£6.63
Insurance Claims / Refunds	£37.65	£0.00	£37.65
VAT Refund	£904.08	£900.00	£4.08
Milk Claims	£350.47	£500.00	-£149.53
Total	£39,525.57	£58,420.00	-£18,894.43

Expenditure

	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Play Areas	£2,840.00	£8,000.00	£5,160.00
Staffing Costs	£6,032.40	£9,049.00	£3,016.60
General Admin Costs	£2,972.96	£4,130.00	£1,157.04
S137 Grants	£1,400.00	£2,000.00	£600.00
CCTV	£3,907.20	£4,000.00	£92.80
Street Lighting	£19,621.94	£26,700.00	£7,078.06
Street Furniture Repairs	£0.00	£500.00	£500.00
Insurances	£2,356.02	£2,500.00	£143.98
Milk	£1,452.70	£3,200.00	£1,747.30
Chairman's Fund	£50.00	£800.00	£750.00
Total	£40,633.22	£60,879.00	£20,245.78

Current Summary

Balance as at 31 March 2015	£42,772.74
Total Expenditure	£40,633.22
Total Income	£39,525.57
Balance	-£1,107.65
Overall balance as at 16th November 2015	£41,665.29
VAT Costs for 2015/16 financial year	£877.67

End of Year Prediction

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

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

15/158 **COUNCIL'S 2015 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE**
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH
SUNDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2015

The Clerk advised that he had sent an email to Jennifer Watson thanking her and her colleagues for organising the Remembrance Sunday Service on Sunday 8th November 2015.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

15/159 **2015 SEALAND CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE**
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH
TUESDAY 15th DECEMBER 2015 – 7.30pm

The Clerk advised that he had sent a letter out inviting Chairman / Mayor and their partners for Flintshire County Council and Community/Town Councils in Flintshire to the Sealand Christmas Service. So far three have advised that they will be attending.

Members of Council were also invited to contribute prizes for the for the concert's raffle and to bring items to the next meeting of Council

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

15/160 **SEALAND FLOOD PLAIN**

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

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

The Clerk advised that he has sent two emails to Carl Sargeant AM and a reply has not been received

RESOLVED – that the–

- i) report be noted.
- ii) Clerk should now refer to matter to Carwyn Jones – First Minister of Wales.

15/161 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

- Perimeter fence still needs to be repaired - - Sealand Manor (Wayne Jones has contacted the Shooting School)
- Councillor Mike Walker to repair the notice board at Ferry Lane
- Issues at The Owl –alleged persons sleeping in caravans – to be referred by the County Councillor to the Planning Enforcement Officer.
- Issues at The Owl –alleged persons urinating into hedge – member (s) of the public need to report this to the police – to be referred by the County Councillor to the Planning Enforcement Officer.
- Issues at The Owl – large lorries turning into The Owl / cars obstructing their turning movement - member (s) to be referred by the County Councillor to the Planning Enforcement Officer.
- Issues at The Owl – sign advertising kitchen work top locked to Council light column to be referred by the County Councillor to the Planning Enforcement Officer.

15/162 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

When will repairs be carried out to remove the noise nuisance from the Ferry Lane footbridge

Query concerning the current position of Planning Application 053203 Extension to caravan park to provide for 88 touring caravans with associated landscaping and planting at Ferry Lane.

15/163 DATE OF COUNCIL’S NEXT MEETING – 14th DECEMBER 2015

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

15/164 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL’S CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Member	Item	Minute Reference
Councillor Mrs. Chris Jones	Grant Request from - Friends of Sealand Primary School	15/152
Councillor Alex Lewis	Grant Request from - Friends of Sealand Primary	15/152

	School	
Councillor Mrs Shelley Webber	Grant Request from - Friends of Sealand Primary School	15/152
Councillor Dave Wisinger	Grant Request from - Friends of Sealand Primary School	15/152

The meeting opened at 6.30pm and closed at 7.55pm

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Signed 14th December 2015 – Chairman of Council