

SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 18th SEPTEMBER 2017

PRESENT: Councillors: Alex Lewis (Chairman), Barbara Hinds, Chris Jones (County Councillor and Vice Chairman), Jean Fairbrother, Joan Keith, Mikhael Khan, Mary Southall, Rhondda Whittaker, Shelley Webber, Sarah Wilson and David Wisinger.

Peter Richmond: Clerk and Financial Officer.

Wayne Jones – StreetScene – Flintshire County Council

Also in attendance: 3 members of the public.

Prior to the meeting members of council met to discuss with members of the public on street parking and associated traffic congestion at Farm Road. One member of the public was in attendance.

Various suggestions were discussed and it was agreed that the –

- a) County Council should be informed of the current on street parking problems and traffic congestion and asked whether the section of Farm Road from Bridge View to Welsh Road could be restricted to one way and
- b) Clwyd Alyn Housing Association (Sally Tonks) should be informed of the current on street parking problems and traffic congestion and asked for them to consider the providing residents parking area at the rear of properties on Farm Road / Welsh Road.

17/85 APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Norman Jones and Mike Walker

RESOLVED – that the apologies be received and accepted

17/86 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.

17/87 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE, REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS' INTEREST AND BANK MANDATE

Councillors Jean Fairbrother and Rhondda Whittaker advised that they had completed the required signature forms and will pass to the Clerk.

The Clerk advised that he is still awaiting forms that can be completed by Councillors Mikhael Khan and Sarah Wilson

The Clerk reminded members of Council that should there be change to their registered information that they should advise the Clerk so that the core information can be updated.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

17/88 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

No matters were raised.

17/89 CHAIR’S REPORT AND ACTIONS SINCE 17th JULY 2017 AND CHAIRMANS FUND 2017/18

The Chairman advised that he had no actions to report nor any further information concerning the Chairman’s Fund for 2017/18.

The Clerk advised he had referred the three planning applications below by email to all members of council and no objections had been received. The Chairman had advised that no objections be submitted to Flintshire County Council in respect of the following planning applications -

056875 - Extension to provide storage in connection with the existing lawful use at field to North of Marcher Court, Sealand Road, Sealand, Chester, Flintshire, CH1 6BS

057220 - Erection of bus depot comprising maintenance workshop / offices and associated car parking, chassis / bus wash, bus refuelling and bus parking at land adjacent to Chester City Football Club Stadium, Sovereign Way, Sealand Industrial Estate, Chester

057227 - Expansion of production area into rear carpark at Fourth Avenue, Deeside Industrial Park, Deeside, CH5 2NR

RESOLVED – that the –

- a) report be noted.
- b) Chairman’s action in advising on no objections regarding the above planning applications be endorsed.

17/90 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OF COUNCIL HELD ON 17th JULY 2017

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 17th July 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

17/91 POLICE ISSUES

The Clerk advised that the police will not be attending the meeting.

The items carried forward from the previous meeting are -

1. Need someone to monitor school crossing patrol – previously police advised that a motor vehicle passing through any red light is committing an offence, if members of the public manage to catch this on video this can automatically be uploaded to the North Wales Police website and will be dealt with dependant on the quality of the

footage provided. The link is –<https://www.north-wales.police.uk/contact/minor-incident-reporting/roads-policing-intel>.

The County Councillor advised that a school crossing patrol person has now started.

The District Inspector had previously advised this will be kept under review.

2. ASB on riverbank cycle path by Blue Bridge – Wayne Jones had previously advised that the Council seat is going to be temporarily removed and hopefully will be reinstated at the same location. The seat is still in place.

3. **Updated Item**

Community Speed Watch – Councillor Mike Walker has arranged for John Morris Community Speed Watch Manager to attend the October meeting of Council at 6pm.

This was agreed Council.

4. Concerns were raised about the amount of speeding traffic along Seahill Road in particular in the vicinity of the former railway bridge.

District Inspector be asked whether speed checks have been undertaken.

5. Cars doing U-turns – traffic lights Sealand Road/ Seahill Road – various times of the day.

District Inspector had previously advised that this will be kept under review.

6. Green Lane East – concern about through traffic and speeding traffic - Need for improved signage.
7. The County Councillor advised that the Clwyd Alyn Housing Association will not close off the alleyways following reports of motorbikes and quad bikes.

The Police have previously said that they need information about the motorbikes and quad bikes so that they can take action.

RESOLVED – that the reports above be noted.

17/92 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

a) Welsh Road Recreation Field – Dogs

The County Councillor advised that the new orders are still going through public consultation and through the required committee process.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

b) Water Leaking from Walls – Foxes Lane Underpass

Wayne Jones advised that a drain has been installed across the footway and Mark Middleton is still speaking to NMWTRA regarding the issue of water leaking from the side walls.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

c) Underpass- Foxes Lane and Green Lane West

Wayne Jones advised that he understands that it is still proposed to install new lighting at these two underpasses.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

d) Ferry Lane Footbridge – Noise Nuisance

Wayne Jones advised that Mark Middleton is dealing with this issue.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

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

The County Councillor advised that the County Council have requested that the external lights be lowered and re angled to reduce the nuisance for local residents. This has not been actioned by the proprietors of the car sales site.

It was reported that the planning application will not be considered until the complaints regarding the lights have been actioned.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted

g) The Owl Industrial Estate – Manor Road

The County Councillor advised that this site is part of a ongoing enforcement investigation.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted

h) Fire Place Signs – on Street Light Column – Sealand Road

Wayne Jones has advised that the fire place signs have been installed and removed again - Wayne will continue to monitor the area.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

i) Trees – opposite St. Bartholomew’s Church

It was reported that the skip has gone from this site but there is rubbish left in bags and a pile of hardcore. The owner needs to be asked to clear the site. The covenant is required for it to be passed to Stuart Body to see if any development on the area can be stopped. Councillor

Rhondda Whittaker advised that she has a copy of the tree preservation order and will pass a copy to the Clerk.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

j) Straw – Welsh Road

It was reported that straw has been dropped along Welsh Road from tractors and their trailers. The trailers are piled high and are uncovered.

Note - This situation has since improved.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

k) Mud – Manor Road

It was reported that there is a significant amount of mud left by tractors on sections of Manor Road. Wayne Jones advised that he will action.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

l) New Signage – Green Lane East

Wayne Jones advised that he will find out what's happening regarding the signs that the County Council has agreed to install on Green Lane East – the amount of non-local traffic using the lane has not reduced.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

17/93 LIGHTING MATTERS

a) Street Lighting Report

All lights are working.

Old columns 98 at Sealand Avenue and 55 at Manor Road (has CCTV fitted) still need to be removed. These will be removed as advised by Wayne Jones.

Lantern cover is still missing from column 61 at Foxes Lane. Wayne Jones advised this will be actioned.

Council now has 108 lights this will further reduce at 31st March 2018 by 9 lights leaving the Council's stock at 99. The Annual Finance Meeting in December 2017 will determine the allocation of funds for 2018/19 which could mean a further 10 lights are replaced and adopted by Flintshire County Council thereby reducing the lighting stock to 89 from 1st April 2019.

The Clerk reminded Councillors again that should they see a light that needs attention to phone / text or email the Clerk straightaway or to contact Wayne Jones rather than leave to the next meeting of Council. This will ensure that lights can get fixed as soon as possible.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

17/94 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 £7.42 per head produces an upper limit of £14,572.00

Allocation for the 2017/18 financial year for grants is £2,500. Allocated so far is £1,400

The expenditure on free school milk comes under well-being (Local Government Act 2000, Sections (1-5) - this power is restricted by the S137 limit (£7.42 per elector in any given financial year). The school milk estimated expenditure for 2016/17 is £3,200.

Giving a total estimated expenditure of - £5,700

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

17/95 GRANT REQUESTS

a) Sealand Rainbows

At the previous meeting council received a grant requested from the new Sealand Rainbows and resolved that a grant payment of £150.00 will be made to the Sealand Rainbows as soon as they have set up a bank account.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

17/96 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk advised that the following planning applications had been received from Flintshire County Council.

057404 – Proposal: Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval 049320 for phase one enabling works comprising; an access road, surface water drainage, landscaping and engineering works to create developments platforms at RAF Sealand South Camp, Welsh Road, Sealand, Deeside, CH5 2RD

RESOLVED: - that no objections be raised in respect of PA 057404.

17/97 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
003080	Wales Audit Office	External Audit Fee 2016/17	£201.75			Ancillary Power, Local Government Act 1972, (S111)
003081	Flintshire County Council	Street Lighting Maintenance and Energy – June 2017	£627.33			Highways Act 1980 (301)
003082	P. Richmond	Salary etc – September 2017	£766.88			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
003083	HM Revenues and Customs Only	Income Tax – PR – September July 2017	£262.40			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
003084	Flintshire County Council	Street Lighting Maintenance and Energy – July 2017	£496.23			Highways Act 1980 (301)
003085	Flintshire County Council	Rechargeable Election Costs for Uncontested Election 2017	£249.91			Ancillary Power, Local Government Act 1972 s111
Total Spend			£2,604.50	£0.00		

17/98 INCOME

The Clerk advised that Council had received the following income –

Lloyds Bank	Interest	£1.71
Flintshire County Council	Precept – 2 nd Payment	£19,000.00
	Total	£19,001.71

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

17/99 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to report on.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

17/100 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT PROJECT

There was no further action or information to report on.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

17/101 THE AIRFIELDS DEVELOPMENT

There was no further action or information to report on.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

17/102 SUMMARY ACCOUNTS 2015/16 FINANCIAL YEAR – AS AT 30th JUNE 2017

The Clerk advised that in line with the new Financial Regulations 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 Vice-Chair had signed off and agreed the bank reconciliation amount of £47,858.75 on 26th July 2017.

RESOLVED: - that the report be noted.

17/103 REPORT – ANNUAL FINANCIAL RETURN – 2016/17

The Clerk reported that he had been advised by letter dated 20th July 2017 by BDP on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales that they had completed the council's audit for the 2016/17 financial year.

BDO advised that there were no matters which came to their attention which required the issuing of a separate additional issues arising report. The Annual Return is now required to be presented to council, now that the audit opinion has been given, and a minute should be made to show that the Annual Return has been approved and accepted by council.

As required the Annual Return and Notice of Conclusion of Audit has been displayed on notice boards and the council's web site for the required 14 days.

RESOLVED – that the –

- i) report be noted.
- ii) re-submitted Annual Return be reapproved and accepted by council whilst noting that no changes or actions are required by Council.
- iii) Clerk be thanked for his work in undertaking the 2016/17 financial year's audit.

17/104 SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL – SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS - 2017/18 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk outlined the expenditure and income for the 2017/18 financial year up to cheque number 003085.

	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Income			
General Admin Inc. Precept	£38,000.00	£57,000.00	-£19,000.00
Bank Interest	£6.39	£24.00	-£17.61
Insurance Claims / Refunds	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
VAT Refund	£389.11	£500.00	-£110.89
Milk Claims	£234.10	£500.00	-£265.90
Total	£38,629.60	£58,024.00	-£19,394.40
Expenditure	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Bank Charges	£30.00	£60.00	£30.00
Chairman's Fund	£0.00	£800.00	£800.00
Staffing Costs	£4,940.88	£9,276.00	£4,335.12
General Admin Costs	£1,780.27	£3,795.00	£2,014.73
Insurances	£893.98	£1,200.00	£306.02
Election Costs	£240.91	£4,500.00	£4,250.09
Play Areas	£0.00	£8,100.00	£8,100.00
Highways	£0.00	£700.00	£700.00
Street Lighting	£3,318.11	£23,400.00	£20,081.89
CCTV Maintenance	£660.00	£1,000.00	£340.00
Grants – Section 137	£1,400.00	£2,500.00	£1,100.00
School Milk – Section 137	£1,218.85	£3,200.00	£1,981.15
Total	£14,492.00	£58,531.00	£44,039.00

Current Summary	Balance as at 31 March 2017 including £25,000 contingency fund.	£36,987.43
	Total Expenditure	£14,492.00
	Total Income	£38,629.60
	Balance	£24,137.60
	Overall balance as at 18th September 2017	£61,125.03
VAT Costs for 2017/18 financial year	£173.80	
End of Year Prediction	Balance as at 31 March 2017	£36,987.43
	Total Anticipated Expenditure	£58,531.00
	Total Anticipated Income	£58,024.00
	Anticipated Balance for the year	-£507.00
	Anticipated Overall Balance as at 31st March 2018	£36,480.43

17/105 **PARKING PROBLEMS – PROVISION OF YELLOW LINES – RIVERSIDE PARK**

The Clerk reminded council that at the July 2017 meeting it resolved approve part funding for this project be given utilising its powers given under the Highways Act 1980 (274a).

The Estimate Pricing breakdown of the Lining Scheme is below.

Legal & advertising - £1450, Road Markings - £350, Design and implementation - £700
Total estimated cost - £2500.00

The Clerk advised that he has been advised that of the two received observations one of the observations was rectified as FCC reduced the waiting restrictions in length from in front of his property.

As for the other observation of the displacement of the parked vehicles FCC cannot pre-empt the outcome of where the vehicles would move to, FCC will look at the problem if it should happen. All of the residents will have the opportunity to object against the scheme when it goes to advertisement for the 3-week legal consultation. The estimated cost for council for its part contribution is £1500.

RESOLVED – that –

- i) the report be noted.
- ii) Council utilising its powers given under the Highways Act 1980 (274a) should agree to its estimated part contribution of £1500 for the provision of double yellow lines at Riverside Park.

17/106 **POLICY ON COUNCIL’S FINANCIAL RESERVES**

RESOLVED – that the draft policy circulated by the Clerk be adopted and that the contingency fund for the 2018/19 financial year be set at the council ‘s Annual Finance M meeting to be held in December 2017.

17/107 **COUNCIL ASSET REGISTER**

RESOLVED – that the updated Council Asset Register dated September 2017 be received and noted.

17/108 **MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

County Councillor has arranged a Community meeting at St Andrew's Hub on 19th Sept 6.30pm with police and Housing Officers.

Graffiti on Foxes Lane underpass - Wayne Jones advised that's that it is on the list to be done.

Crack in the Centre Joint - A548 roundabout, Welsh Road site of former British Legion and at the Foxes Lane underpass - Wayne Jones to advise.

Two Openreach Poles leaning - Sealand Road. – Near to Woodnook Nurseries.

FCC have installed a new light by access gate to Green Lane East – can council have an explanation regarding its installation.

Complaints about over grown hedge – 26 Farm Road – Wayne advised that he is not getting a response from the occupiers.

Perspex required for the notice board at Ferry Lane - Wayne Jones has given this to Peter Siddorn who will install on the notice board.

Remembrance Sunday 2017 Service - St. Bartholomew's Church – Councillor Norman Jones has ordered 4 wreaths – 2 more will be ordered for Queensferry Community Council. Ashley Griffiths will provide on the day the standard and the gauntlets.

Councillors contact details on the council web site – the Clerk advised that this can be removed / amended whenever requested by members of council. .

17/109 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No issues were raised.

17/110 DATE OF COUNCIL'S NEXT MEETING – 16th OCTOBER 2017

RESOLVED – that the meetings of Council for 2017 be held on the following Mondays 16th October, 20th November and 11th December 2017.

17/111 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Council Member	Item	Minute Reference
No interests were reported.		

The meeting opened at 6.30pm and closed at 8.20 pm

..... Signed 16th October 2017
Chairman of the Council.