

## **NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Northop Community Council held remotely via Zoom Pro on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Pauline Lawton-Hughes, Linda Scott, Linda Deane, Marion Bateman, Alison Brebner, Jarred Livesey, Rob Mackey, Alan Watkin, Jo Millar and the Clerk.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Rachel Hayward and John Carlin (received apologies following the meeting).

#### **1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Scott declared a personal interest regarding Agenda Item 5 Planning Application 061879, being a friend of the property owner.

#### **2. POLICE MATTERS**

The Clerk shared with Members the emailed update which she had received from PCSO Ryan Thomas.

##### **Northop**

- There were no issues reported in Northop this month.

##### **Sychdyn**

- There were no issues reported in Sychdyn.

PCSO Ryan Thomas had informed the Clerk that there had been a recent restructuring and PCSO Adeline Olaru had now joined the team covering the Northop and Sychdyn villages, there now being three PCSO's in total. Members requested a copy of the latest PSCO contact details. The Clerk to undertake this.

#### **3. MINUTES**

Councillor Deane noted that under Agenda Item 8 Streetscene Issues Page 4, the Minutes had stated Church Lane when it should have read Church Road. The Clerk agreed to amend the minutes accordingly. Subject to the amendment being made, Councillor Mackey proposed that the Minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and this was seconded by Councillor Bateman. All Members were in agreement.

## **Matters Arising**

### **Agenda Item 8 Streetscene Issues**

Councillor Bateman and Councillor Mackey updated members on the issue of vehicles attempting to access Church Road via Foxfield Lane. Following correspondence sent to Google Maps from both Councillor Mackey and Flintshire County Council, Google Maps have now amended their map of the area and Foxfield Lane is no longer shown as a through road. As a result, Councillor Bateman confirmed that the request for signage and a gate had been put on hold. Councillor Mackey had informed residents of Church Road and Foxfield Lane and it was agreed that the situation will be monitored and residents would advise Councillor Mackey of any further issues.

Councillor Mackey thanked Councillor Bateman for her help in liaising with Flintshire County Council regarding the matter.

#### **4. STREETSCENE ISSUES**

##### **Northop**

- (a) Councillor Livesey had contacted the Clerk and highlighted evidence of fly-tipping in Northop. The Clerk had contacted Sam Tulley at Streetscene, Flintshire County Council in January to request that the area be cleaned. As neither Councillor Livesey or the Clerk had received confirmation that the work had been undertaken, it was agreed that the Clerk would liaise with Streetscene following the meeting.
- (b) The Clerk had reported a large pothole sited after the traffic lights in Northop heading towards Mold. Councillor Deane confirmed that it had now been repaired.

#### **5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- (a) To consider the following planning applications:

- (i) **062210**

- PROPOSAL:** Change of timber to render to match the front elevation, addition of Roof light, movement of windows.

- AT:** The Tannery, Church Road, Northop, Flintshire CH7 6BS

- (There were no objections raised to this proposal by Northop Community Council).

- (ii) **062362**

- PROPOSAL:** Erection of single storey side extension

- AT:** Mory, Church Road, Northop, Flintshire CH7 6BS

- (There were no objections raised to this proposal by Northop Community Council).

(iii) **062044**

**PROPOSAL:** Application for a non-material amendment to planning permission Reference 060577

**AT:** Green Bank Cottage, Greenbank Lane, Soughton, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6ES  
(There were no objections raised to this proposal by Northop Community Council).

The Clerk had received three additional planning applications for consideration following the agenda being despatched. They included:

(iv) **061879**

**PROPOSAL:** To change the use of an existing agricultural stone building into a three bed holiday let. The existing outbuilding is Grade 2 Listed

**AT:** Mynalchog, Northop Road, Northop, Flintshire CH7 6AF

(There were no objections raised to this proposal by Northop Community Council).

(v) **062432**

**PROPOSAL:** Orangery extension at the Celtic Arms

**AT:** The Celtic Arms, Northop Country Park, Northop, Flintshire CH7 6WA

As the details of this proposal had not yet been made available on-line to view, Members agreed to request an extension to the deadline to comment and consider the application at the next meeting. The Clerk to inform Planning Consultation.

(vi) **062378**

**PROPOSAL:** Erection of climbing shed attached to gable end of house

**AT:** 5-6 Quarry Cottages, Quarry Lane, Soughton, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6EG

As the details of this proposal had not yet been made available on-line to view, Members agreed to request an extension to the deadline to comment and consider the application at the next meeting. The Clerk to inform Planning Consultation.

(b) The Council accepted correspondence from Flintshire County Council's Head of Planning regarding planning applications on which the Council had previously submitted observations.

(i) **061855** – Delegated Officer Approval 20/02/2021. Proposed store over existing garage at 32 Wats Dyke Way, Sychdyn, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6DX  
(No objections were made by Northop Community Council).

(ii) **062045** – Delegated Officer Permitted Development 22/01/2021. Application for a lawful development certificate for the proposed demolition of rear single storey and erection of rear single storey extension at 85 St Peters Park, Northop, Flintshire CH7 6YU  
(No objections were made by Northop Community Council).

## 6. **ACCOUNTS**

To approve the payment of the following accounts:-

(i) **Clerks Salary** – February 2021 Mrs S C Lovell at **£598.36 (Net)**; **Cheque Number 002268**

- (ii) **HMRC** – Income Tax in respect of Clerk’s salary paid February 2021 at **£62.20; Cheque Number 002269**
- (iii) **Clwyd Pension Fund** Employers & Employee Pension contribution for Clerk February 2021 at **£185.15; Cheque Number 002270**
- (iv) **Flintshire County Council** Street Lighting Maintenance 27/7/2020 at **£91.81; Cheque Number 002271**
- (v) **Clwyd Pension Fund** Employers & Employee Pension Contribution for Clerk Additional payment for Jan 2021 at **£47.42; Cheque Number 002272**
- (vi) **Flintshire County Council** Street Lighting Energy Oct/Nov/De 2020 at **£457.95; Cheque Number 002273**
- (vii) **Flintshire County Council** Street Lighting Maintenance 11/12/2020 at **£90.05; Cheque Number 002275**
- (viii) **Flintshire County Council** Street Lighting Maintenance 18/12/2020 at **£90.05; Cheque Number 002276**
- (ix) **Barnard Engineering Ltd** Structural Inspection Report for Northop Car Park at **£240; Cheque Number 002277**
- (x) **Citizens Advice Bureau** Annual Grant at **£100; Cheque Number 002278**

Councillor Mackey proposed that the accounts be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Watkin. All Members were in agreement.

## **7. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS**

There were no matters raised by Members.

## **8. TRAFFIC MATTERS**

Councillor Brebner reported that there was no traffic update this month.

## **9. UPDATE ON THE A55/A494/A548 - DEESIDE CORRIDOR PROJECT**

Councillor Brebner informed Members that a number of MP’s and Welsh Assembly Members had recently become involved in the discussion regarding the Red Route and did not appear to be in favour of the project. Also, the Petitions Committee Report is due out in the coming days and is likely to recommend that the project be paused until further technical assessments and investigation can be undertaken, along with renewed traffic surveys. It is unclear however, whether the Petitions Committee Report has to be acted on.

## **10. MANAGEMENT PLAN – NORTHOP CAR PARK & ENVIRONS**

The Clerk had received a copy of the Structural Inspection Report on Northop Car Park undertaken by Barnard Engineering Ltd and had shared it with Members prior to the meeting. Councillors agreed it was a thorough and comprehensive report.

Barnard Engineering Ltd had also requested a quote for the repair work from Henry Williams, Rhosymedre and this had been shared with Members prior to the meeting. The Clerk had also requested an additional three quotes for the repair. At present the Council are awaiting a quote from Hollingsworth Bros and EE Civils. Griffiths Groundworks were contacted to request a quote but stated that they were not taking on any work at present.

It was agreed that the matter would be discussed again at the next meeting when it is expected that the Clerk will have received additional costings for the repair work to consider.

Councillor Scott stated that Northop Band had raised the matter of an overhanging tree at the rear of the Band Room and asked whether this was the responsibility of Northop Community Council. Councillor Mackey agreed to look at it and the matter will be discussed further at the March meeting.

#### **11. NHS, SOCIAL CARE & FRONTLINE WORKERS DAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021**

Members discussed the correspondence received and the suggestions for set events and organisations to benefit from any fundraising. Concerns were raised regarding whether it would be possible in the current circumstances for people to get together to participate in the suggested events in July, as well as who would benefit from any monies raised. Councillor Brebner stated she had no objection to a local village event being held when able to do so however, the National Care Association, described in the letter received as being a charity, is in fact a public limited company exclusive to England.

Members agreed and Councillor Mackey proposed that the Council should not pursue the suggestions for events and fundraising due to being wary about the motivation behind it and this was seconded by Councillor Livesey. All Members were in agreement.

Councillor Deane suggested that in the circumstances, perhaps a local village event could be organised such as ringing of the Church bells and a two-minute silence, as a mark of respect for those that have sadly died, would be more appropriate. Members also felt that any fundraising undertaken, should be done for good causes and NHS Charities and not for a private limited company.

#### **12. FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL PLAYScheme 2021**

Janet Roberts, Playscheme Manager for Flintshire County Council had requested confirmation of expression of interest from Town & Community Councils regarding funding a summer Playscheme in 2021.

Councillors agreed unanimously to fund the Playscheme at both Northop and Sychdyn villages. It was agreed the Clerk would confirm this with Flintshire County Council.

#### **13. COUNCILLOR VACANCY – SYCHDYN WARD**

Councillor Lawton-Hughes had received a letter of resignation from Councillor Chris Ruddle and the Clerk had informed Members prior to the meeting.

A letter accepting Councillor Ruddle's resignation and expressing sincere thanks and appreciation for his many years of service, to both the Community Council and members of the local community, in his role as Community Councillor had been sent on behalf of the Chair and Community Council.

Members expressed their sadness at Councillor Ruddle's resignation and it was acknowledged by all, that he will be hugely missed.

#### **14. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS AS REQUIRED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 SECTION 85**

The Clerk confirmed that Councillor Ashley had not attended the previous six Community Council meetings as required by the Local Government Act 1972 Section 85. The Clerk advised that she had contacted Councillor Ashley on several occasions to offer support to access remote meetings and discuss the matter with little if any response.

The Monitoring Officer had been made aware of the situation some weeks ago and Councillor Ashley had been formally notified that he risked automatic disqualification, should he continue to not attend.

The Clerk had received a late email prior to the meeting in which Councillor Ashley had given a personal reason for his non-attendance and which he had requested the Clerk not to share.

Members agreed that the Clerk should liaise with the Monitoring Officer for further advice and guidance and that the decision to use their discretion to exclude Councillor Ashley from automatic disqualification, could not be taken at the meeting, as Members were not fully aware of all the facts as Councillor Ashley had requested this information not be shared.

#### **15. DONATION REQUEST – URDD**

The request for financial assistance had been shared with Members prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the Community Council generally supported the two local Primary Schools enabling students to get involved with the Urdd.

Members accepted the letter.

#### **16. FOR INFORMATION**

- a) The Clerk reported that Northop Community Council had received a letter of thanks from Marie Curie Flintshire for their recent donation of £250.
- b) The Clerk had received an email survey from HM Land Registry, encouraging those Town & Community Council's with land to register. It was agreed that the Clerk would check if the land owned by Northop Community Council had been registered.

Councillor Mackey noted that there is a cost implication in applying to the Land Registry and that this expenditure would need to be ratified by full Council, prior to an application being made. The Clerk would check held documentation initially and feedback to Members at the next meeting.

- c) The Clerk updated the meeting regarding the Citizens Awards. All the posters, guidance and nomination forms had been sent out to all the required parties at the beginning of January and had been advertised in the Evening Leader. To date there have been no nominations. Members agreed to keep the closing date as Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 and share the information on the Sychdyn Facebook page and on the notice board by the Edith Bankes Memorial Hall.

**The meeting ended at 8.15pm.**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S  
CODE OF CONDUCT**

<b>COUNCIL MEETING</b>	<b>DATE: 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2021</b>
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There was one new declarations of interest made at the meeting.

<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MIN. NO. REFERS</b>
Councillor Scott	Agenda Item 5 Planning Application 061879	Page 3