

NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Northop Community Council held remotely via Zoom Pro on Monday 10th January 2022

PRESENT: Councillors Pauline Lawton-Hughes, Linda Scott, Linda Deane, Marion Bateman, Alison Brebner, Rob Mackey, Alan Watkin, Cara Baker, Louise Higgs, Levi Hamilton, Jarred Livesey, Joanne Millar and the Clerk.

ABSENT: Councillor Carlin

APOLOGIES: The Clerk had received no apologies.

Councillor Scott welcomed Ms. Alison Price to the meeting. Ms Price had requested to speak to members on matters relating to the Sandhole Field. The Chair thanked Ms. Price for attending the meeting and confirmed that members would consider her comments and respond in due course.

Ms. Price left the meeting at 7.08pm.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no new declarations of interest made at the meeting.

2. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk had spoken with PCSO Adeline Olaru who confirmed that there were no matters to bring to the attention of members this month regarding Northop and Sychdyn villages.

3. MINUTES

A copy of the draft minutes had been shared with all members prior to the meeting. Councillor Brebner highlighted that clarification was required regarding Agenda Item 12 Page 6 that as the monies in the budget for the VAS signs for this financial year would not be needed, the £2000 would be carried over into general reserves and not as stated into the budget for 2022/23. The Clerk agreed to make the necessary amendments. The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, subject to the amendments being made. All members were in agreement.

Matters Arising

Agenda Item 3 Police Matters

Councillor Bateman had liaised with the Streetscene Manager and confirmed that dog waste in bags can be disposed of in the normal council waste bin if necessary.

4. STREETSCENE ISSUES

Northop

- (a) Councillor Livesey reported that the dog waste bin at the top of the High Street was broken. Councillor Scott stated that a number of dog waste bins in Northop required repairing. These have been reported to Streetscene previously and are on order. Councillor Bateman would request a new dog waste bin for the top of the High Street but advised that due to the pandemic and significant staff shortages, Flintshire County Council services have been impacted and replacement may take longer.

Sychdyn

- (b) There were no Streetscene issues raised by members.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- (a) To consider the following planning applications:

- (i) **063882**

PROPOSAL: To demolish existing single storey sub standard extension and conservatory. Construct new extension. Extension will be two storey in part to the rear of the property.

AT: Clars Mount, Church Road, Northop, Flintshire CH7 6BS

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

- (ii) **063892**

PROPOSAL: Two storey rear extension, small front single extension and attached garage. Demolition of existing garage.

AT: 3 Park View, Northop, Flintshire CH7 6DD

(There were comments raised regarding this proposal made by Northop Community Council).

- (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) **063085** Delegated Officer Refused 15/12/2021

PROPOSAL: Erection of two storey extension to Annexe.

AT: Cobblers Wood Farm Annexe, Soughton, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6RH

- (ii) **063585** Delegated Officer Approved 10/12/2021

PROPOSAL: Removal of rear conservatory, single garage and mock Tudor cladding. Erection of rear extension, two storey garage with living accommodation above and front infill porch.

AT: 2 Bryn Rhyd, Northop, Flintshire CH7 6EH

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

- (iii) **063514** Delegated Officer Approved 10/12/2021
PROPOSAL: Erection of a single storey rear extension, rear roof dormer and front dormer above existing garage.
AT: 12 Fox Field, Northop, Flintshire CH7 6GQ
(There were no objections raised by Northop Community Council).

6. ACCOUNTS

- (a) To approve the payment of the following accounts:-
- (i) **Clerks Salary** – January 2022 Mrs S C Lovell at **£614.84 (Net); Cheque Number 002360**
 - (ii) **HMRC** – Income Tax in respect of Clerk's salary paid January 2022 at **£46.20; Cheque Number 002361**
 - (iii) **Clwyd Pension Fund** Employers & Employee Pension contribution for Clerk January 2022 at **£182.79; Cheque Number 002362**

Councillor Deane proposed that the payments be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Hamilton. All Members were in agreement.

Motion Carried Unanimously

7. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

There were no matters raised by members.

8. TRAFFIC MATTERS

Councillor Brebner informed members that the VAS sign had been installed in Northop on the 23rd December 2021 and thanked Lee Shone and Streetscene for bringing the matter to a successful conclusion.

Councillor Deane raised the matter of difficulty exiting the junction at the top of the High Street due to parked vehicles near the junction. Councillor Bateman had met with representatives of the construction company to discuss parking issues. The construction company have nowhere else to park whilst undertaking building works on the old Chapel site. Although there are no parking restrictions on that section of the road, they have been asked to not park so close to the junction. Members pointed out that it is not just the construction company that park there, as there were vehicles also parked on that particular section of Holywell Road, all over the Christmas period and at weekends.

Councillor Bateman informed members that public consultation which encompasses many of the traffic issues in Northop, has had to be placed on hold temporarily due to the pandemic and staffing shortages. However, she advised that these issues be raised by members as part of the consultation process, when it opens for public consultation.

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

Councillor Brebner stated that the STAMP Group were enquiring as to whether the Community Council would be prepared to write to the Highways Review Panel highlighting the previous concerns regarding the Red Route and members confirmed they were in agreement. The Clerk to share the correspondence with members and send prior to the next meeting. Councillor Bateman to write as Local Member.

Councillor Hamilton enquired as to whether there is a route that the Community Council support. Councillor Bateman advised that the Community Council were in support of the proposed improvements to the existing A55 which they believed would resolve many of the problems. It was agreed that the Clerk would share previous minutes with Councillor Hamilton regarding the proposed A55 road improvements.

10. MANAGEMENT PLAN – NORTHOP CAR PARK & ENVIRONS

- (a) The Clerk confirmed that she had liaised with Hannah James who confirmed that Andrew Barnard is due to meet with DWJ Fencing & Groundworks on Friday 14th January 2022 on site, to discuss the quote and will report back to members in due course.
- (b) The Clerk had liaised with John Williams, trustee of the Northop Silver Band, who is able to meet with representatives of the Community Council to discuss the maintenance of the Band Hall site. Councillors Deane, Councillor Bateman and Councillor Baker agreed to attend. The Clerk to liaise with them directly regarding a meeting date.

11. STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE (ESTIMATED) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS ENDING 31st MARCH 2020 AND 31st MARCH 2021 AND PRECEPT CALCULATIONS FOR 2022/23**

The Clerk, as Responsible Financial Officer, had shared a copy of the report on the estimates for the financial years ending 31st March 2021 and 31st March 2022 and associated appendices with members prior to the meeting, for their consideration. As well as suggested levels of expenditure for the next financial year, details were included in relation to probable/actual income and expenditure for 2022/23. The report indicated the projected increase in the precept if the proposals, as submitted, were approved. It was noted that projects such as, the Northop Car Park and Environs project maintenance of the ditch at the Sandhole Field would have an impact on the Council's reserves.

The Clerk, as Responsible Finance Officer, confirmed that a 0% increase would meet the agreed budget for 2022/23 and would ensure that a reserve of 50% minimum was maintained.

Having given due consideration to the matter, Councillor Mackey proposed the Community Council maintain a 0% increase in the precept for Band D equivalent properties for 2022/23 and this was seconded by Councillor Bateman. A vote was taken with eleven members in favour and one against.

Motion Carried

12. CAMPAIGN FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL WALES – ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Members agreed to continue membership of CPRW at a cost of £20 for the year for 2022-23.

13. APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDIT 2022-23

Members agreed and authorised the appointment of JDH Business Services as the Council's Internal Auditor for the 2022/23 Annual Audit.

14. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY MATCHFUNDING UPDATE 2022

Members thanked Councillor Mackey for his report on the condition of the footpaths in Northop and Sychdyn which had also been shared with Stuart Jones and Jon Hills at Planning, Environment & Economy, Flintshire County Council. Councillor Bateman requested that the Clerk also send a copy of the report to Derrick Charlton. Members discussed additional options for match funding projects for 2022/23 and Councillor Mackey suggested that priority be given to the Northern section of Springy Lane (Footpath Code 141/72/20) as it would benefit being upgraded.

Councillor Livesey left the meeting at 8.15pm having a prior appointment.

15. CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING

The Clerk to arrange Code of Conduct training for Councillor Baker, Councillor Higgs and Councillor Hamilton and liaise directly with members regarding a training date. It was agreed that the matter of members requiring refresher Code of Conduct training will be discussed following the May elections.

16. SANDHOLE FIELD

A resolution under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this item was proposed by Councillor Mackey and seconded by Councillor Bateman. A vote was taken with all members in favour.

Approved Unanimously

17. FOR INFORMATION

- (a) The Clerk informed members that the representations received by the Boundary Commission for Wales during the Initial Consultation Period have now been published. All of the representations can be found on the Commission's website at <https://bcomm-wales.gov.uk>

The Second Consultation Period will be opening in January, where people will have the opportunity to comment upon the representations received during the Initial Consultation period and in January and February, five Public Hearings will also be held across Wales.

Councillor Bateman had viewed the representations made and noted that there was no representation from either herself as Local Member or Northop Community Council regarding the proposed name of the new ward. Members agreed that the Clerk to send the link to all members, for them to make individual representations under the second period of consultation and the matter to be discussed at the next meeting.

- (b) The Clerk informed members that the Appropriate Sum under Section 137(4)(A) of the Local Government Act 1972. Council has been advised by the Welsh Government that the Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2022/23 has been increased from £8.41 to £8.82 per elector.
- (c) Information was shared regarding the HyNet North West Carbon Dioxide Pipeline - Prior Notification of Consultation. The Planning Act 2008 requires that consultation is carried out with statutory and non-statutory consultees in advance of an application being made. The Local Planning Authority is a stakeholder in the process and will also be consulted on the proposal. Also, there is a duty to consult with other stakeholders and people living in the vicinity of the Proposed Development before an application is submitted.

The statutory consultation for this project will take place over a 6 week period which is anticipated to take place from early February to March 2022. In advance of this statutory consultation, any residents or businesses that are believed to have an interest in land and/or property that may be affected by this project have recently been contacted directly prior to the statutory consultation period. They have been requested to complete a Land Information Questionnaire to ensure that they are consulted directly when the statutory consultation takes place. Councillor Mackey stated that a provisional date for consultation had been given as the 5th March 2022.

The meeting closed at 8.37pm

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

COUNCIL MEETING	DATE: 10th January 2022
------------------------	---

There were no new declarations of interest made at the meeting.

MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS