

NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Northop Community Council held at the Memorial Institute, Northop on Monday 16th March, 2020.

PRESENT: Councillors Linda Scott (Vice-Chairman), Linda Deane, Rob Mackey, Alison Brebner, John Carlin and the Clerk.

APOLOGIES: Received from Councillors Pauline Lawton-Hughes (Chairman), Alan Watkin, Chris Ruddle, Jarred Livesey, Paul Ashley, Jo Millar, Rachel Hayward and Marion Bateman

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declaration of Interest were made.

2. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk had shared with members the e-mailed report, which had been provided by PSCO Owen, on Police Issues in the community area over the past month:

09/02 – threats - trem y foel, Sychdyn
09/02 – road related – shell, New Brighton
10/02 – asb – tan yr ysgol, Sychdyn
13/02 – domestic, Sychdyn
13/02 – rtc – ffordd owen, Northop
14/02 – road disruption – Northop road, Northop
15/02 – road related incident – Northop road, Northop
18/02 – threats – wats dyke, Sychdyn
19/02 – common assault – Northop road, Sychdyn
21/02 – drugs – Northop road, Sychdyn
25/02 – criminal damage – main road, Sychdyn
27/02 – rtc – main road, Sychdyn
28/02 – asb – vownog newydd, Sychdyn
07/03 – road disruption = Northop road, Northop
08/03 – theft from vehicle – high st, Northop

Council noted the report. The Clerk will thank PSCO Owen and ask if a more detailed report can be provided. The Clerk reported that FCC Neighbourhood Wardens can provide a service to vulnerable residents including fitting window alarms and providing safety checks.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting of the 10th February, 2020 were confirmed as a true record subject to the following amendments.

Page 1 - Item 2 - Amending to wording for clarification: The yellow double lines High Street, Northop are faded and need redoing and this needs to be enforced.

Page 1 - Item 2 - Amending to wording for clarification: People have been seen looking at cars at Maes Celyn, Northop and a bike has been stolen.

Matters arising

Item 8 – Essential resurfacing work on the A55. Council noted a letter received from Dr. I. Godfrey.

4. STREETSCENE ISSUES

Members reported the following issues:

Northop

- Cllr Carlin, the bin collection day has been changed from Friday to Thursday the majority of residents were informed but not all.
- Cllr Brebner, there needs to be a better policy on recycling collection, bins and bags.
- Cllr Scott, not all of the bins in Pilgrims Close are being emptied. Cllr Scott has reported this and the residents of Pilgrims Close are having to continually complain that the bins are not emptied. The Clerk to report to FCC

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) The following planning application was considered and observations agreed to be submitted to Flintshire County Council's (FCC) Head of Planning:

(i) **059999** – PROPOSAL: Amendments to Outline application with some matters reserved for the development of land to provide Lodge/chalet park to include single storey & two storey lodges, a site office with shop/convenience store and cycle hire facility. At: land at Northop Country Park, Northop, Mold, CH7 6WA

The Council unanimously agreed to object to the proposed development on the following grounds:

- the proposal is out of character with the existing site which has a number of residential properties
- the development would result in an increase in the volume of traffic on the narrow site road and through Northop village - for access to the on and off slip roads of the A55 at junction 33.
- the original planning permission for the development of Northop Country Park precluded any further development of the site.

(ii) **059420** – PROPOSAL: Amendments to application for Erection of 1no dwelling. At: Land adjacent Offa Bank, Wats Dyke Way, Sychdyn, Mold, CH7 6DX

The Council had no objection to the proposed development.

(iii) **060920** – PROPOSAL: Garage extension. At: High Ash, 38 St Peters Park, Northop, Mold, CH7 6DR

The Council had no objection to the proposed development.

(iv) **061099** – PROPOSAL: Proposed garden walls and fencing, proposed replacement concrete to front driveway. At: Athenia, The Green, Northop, Mold, CH7 6BD

The Council had no objection to the proposed development.

(v) **061038** – PROPOSAL: Conversion and refurbishment of the existing stables building from vacant restaurant to private function venue. At: Soughton Hall, Soughton Mold, CH7 6AB

The Council had no objection to the proposed development

(b) The Council received and noted information from Flintshire County Council's Head of Planning on planning applications on which the Council has previously submitted observations.

(i) **059951** – Proposal: Change of use to provide extension of existing graveyard for ashes plots only. At: Land to the rear of St Eurgain and St Peters Church, Church Road, Northop, Flintshire, CH7 6BQ. Delegated Officer Decision – Refused. Decision Date: 15/01/2020
(No objection by Northop C.C.)

(ii) **060756** – Proposal: Small ground floor rear single storey extension to existing dwelling. At: Rusan, The Green, Northop, Mold, CH7 6BD
Delegated Officer Decision: Approved. Decision Date: 29/01/20
(No objection by Northop C.C.)

6. ACCOUNTS

(a) Payment of the following accounts were approved:

- (i) Payment to Clerk – £534.08 comprising of:
- Clerk's salary for March 2020 £441.01 (net)
 - Quarterly home working allowance (01.01.20 – 31.03.20) £54.00
 - Reimbursement of photocopying, printing materials, mileage, postage and stationary costs (01.01.20 – 31.03.20) £39.07
(cheque no. 2202) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (ii) HMRC – Income Tax £110.40 Clerk's salary March 2020
(Cheque No. 2199) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (iii) Clwyd Pension Fund Employers & Employees Pension contribution for Clerk, March 2020, £148.21
(cheque no. 2200) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)

(b) Consideration was given to completing payments, under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, to the following organisation:

- (i) St Kentigern Hospice (Charity Reg. No. 519931) – a donation of £250.00, as agreed at the Council meeting of 10/02/20
(Cheque no. 2201)

7. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Coronavirus

Council discussed what can be done to help the vulnerable in the Community. There is concern for those without relatives and how individuals who need help can be identified. Cllr. Brebner confirmed a WhatsApp group had been set up for residents in Maes Celyn. The use of other forms of social media was also discussed. Cllr. Scott will speak to Mr. Tanton, Northop Post Master about displaying posters. Cllr. Brebner said Mr. I. Brebner will be able to do a community poster, in regards to helping identify those who need help and volunteers who can provide help. Cllr. Carlin asked if flyers could be sent out with newspapers and could flyers be displayed in the community area. Members will suggest this is done in both the Sychdyn and Northop Community to help those in need.

Management Plan – Car Park & Environs

Council requested that this should be a standing item on each agenda.

8. TRAFFIC MATTERS

Members received updates on:

(a) Cllr. Brebner, the reports recently provided by FCC were historical, the information is out of date. It is the FCC site assessments on the B5126 which should have been done by 6th December that Council have requested.

The Clerk advised that she has requested this report several times. The Clerk to contact FCC and again request the report. The Clerk will ask FCC for an explanation of why the report has not been made available to date.

(b) Cllr Deane reported that the zigzag lines (enclosed hatching), on the Northop to Connahs Quay Road on the Connahs Quay side of the Traffic lights near to the road turning towards the Northop car park and Northop Band Stand are faded and need repainted asap. The lines are so faint cars cannot clearly see them and are driving straight over them.

The Clerk to report to FCC.

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

Cllr. Scott reported that the next Stop the Red Route group meeting on 30th March has been postponed due to Coronavirus.

10. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2020

Members accepted the quarterly report of the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer on expenditure as at 16th March, the anticipated out-turn at the end of the financial year and the budget for 2020/21. The 2020/21 budget would include a carry forward sum of £4,500 for the grant allocated to the Edith Bankes Memorial Hall for 2018/19 and 19/20 £790 for AGM Services for removal of the tree in the car park/work has not yet been carried out, and £750 for the Pension Actuary Fee/invoice has not yet been received.

11. ASSET REGISTER

Members approved the Council's revised Asset Register for 2019/20 noting the value of 8 upgraded streetlights at Church Road, Northop (value £6,800) , 8 upgraded streetlights Duke Street, Sychdyn (value £6,800) and 1 replacement column light at Duke Street, Sychdyn (value £900). In accordance with the requirements of the Welsh Audit Office, the total value of the council's fixed assets were noted as £45,978.18.

12. CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

(a) Council accepted, the resignation of the Clerk of the Council with effect from 30th June, 2020.

(b) It was agreed that the new Clerk would be appointed w.e.f. 1st June, 2020, initially to shadow the existing Clerk, but to take full responsibility from 1st July, 2020.

(c) A Panel of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and a Sychdyn Member was appointed to undertake, the short listing and interviews for the role of the new Clerk. The Sychdyn Member is tbc.

Council requested that before appointment is made a recommendation is made to Council of the shortlisting.

13. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

Council considered the report from Mr John Roberts dated 18th Feb which was prepared in consultation with FCC Public Rights of Way Officer Mr Jon Hill. Council noted and agreed that the 3 identified areas of work were all worthy causes in their own right and if they can be done within budget Council agreed they would support the work.

The Clerk to contact FCC Public Rights of Way Officer Mr Jon Hill and Mr John Roberts.

14. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Council noted the letter from Mrs Cooper in regards to replacement planters in the Sychdyn community area. The Clerk to seek financial information from Mrs Cooper and return the item to the agenda at the April Council Meeting.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

COUNCIL MEETING	DATE: 16th March, 2020
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MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
	None.	