

NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Northop Community Council held remotely via Zoom Pro on Monday 14th December, 2020.

PRESENT: Councillors Pauline Lawton-Hughes (Chair), Linda Scott (Vice-Chair), Linda Deane, Alison Brebner, Jarred Livesey, Rob Mackey, Alan Watkin, Rachel Hayward and the Clerk.

APOLOGIES: Received from Councillors Chris Ruddle, Jo Millar and Marion Bateman. No apologies received from Councillor Ashley and Councillor Carlin.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

2. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk shared with Members the emailed update, which had been provided by PSCO Ryan Thomas on Police issues in the community area over the past month:

Northop

- High Street, Northop – One incident of anti-social behaviour reported which involved cars racing around the neighbourhood, over revving and causing a disturbance. The traffic officers were informed and patrols conducted.

Sychdyn

- Chestnut Close, Sychdyn – Incident of ant-social behaviour nuisance involving a group of youths acting suspiciously around the location. Officers searched the area on arrival however, there were no sightings or further issues.

Councillor Watkin requested that the Clerk liaise with the PCSO and ask if incidences in Sychdyn and Northop could be differentiated clearly in future reports and that if there were no incidents in a particular village, it be recorded as such in the report.

3. MINUTES

Councillor Brebner raised a request to amend Agenda Item 9 Traffic Matters, as she had not referred to the hedges needing to be cut. The Clerk agreed to amend the minutes accordingly. Members agreed that the Minutes of the Council meeting of the 9th November, 2020 subject to the above amendment, were a true record of the meeting.

Matters Arising

Agenda Item 12 Emergency Appeal for Funding for Marie Curie

At the previous meeting, it was agreed that the Clerk would check the Community Donations budget for 2020/21 and liaise with Councillor Lawton-Hughes and Councillor Scott regarding the matter. The Clerk confirmed that there were sufficient monies remaining in the Community Donations budget to date (£1035.00) and Councillor Scott proposed that the Community Council donate £250.00. All members were in agreement and it was agreed that the Clerk would prepare the cheque donation.

4. STREETSCENE ISSUES

Members reported the following issues:

Northop

- Councillor Deane reported that the pothole on the High Street in Northop between Yacht Terrace and the Post Office has not been repaired to date. The Clerk informed the meeting that she had contacted Sam Tulley, Streetscene on the 12th November, 2020 regarding the pothole and agreed to follow it up with him again.
- The Clerk reported that she had been contacted by a local resident regarding a faulty streetlight by the garage in Northop and trees overhanging the same light. It had been reported to Streetscene on the 23rd November, 2020 and the resident had informed the Clerk that the light had been repaired.

Sychdyn

- There were no reports of any issues in the Sychdyn area this month.

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) **062044**

PROPOSAL: Application for a non-material amendment to Planning Permission Reference: 0650577 at Green Bank Cottage, Greenbank Lane, Soughton, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6ES

There were no objections to this proposal by Northop Community Council. All members were in agreement.

(ii) **062042**

PROPOSAL: Application for approval of details reserved by condition no.3 (Materials) attached to Planning Permission Reference: 060577 at Green Bank Cottage, Greenbank Lane, Soughton, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6ES

There were no objections to this proposal from Northop Community Council.

(iii) **062094**

PROPOSAL: Application for a no-material amendment to Planning Permission Reference: 058211 at Corton Wood, Blackbrook Road, Sychdyn, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6LT

There were no objections to this proposal from Northop Community Council. All members were in agreement.

(iv) **062076**

PROPOSAL: Application for approval of details reserved by condition no.'s 3 (Landscaping), no.4 (Materials) and no.5 (Archaeological Work) attached to Planning Permission Reference: 059420 at Wats Dyke Way, Sychdyn, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6DX

There were no objections to this proposal from Northop Community Council and all members were in agreement.

(v) **062080**

PROPOSAL: Erection of single storey side extension at Cypress Point, Northop, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6WD

There were no objections to this proposal from Northop Community Council and all members were in agreement.

Any applications received after the agenda was printed will be reported to the meeting.

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

(i) **059999** Committee: Refused 30/09/2020

Proposal: Outline application with some matters reserved for the development of land to provide Lodge/Chalet Park to include single storey and two storey lodges, a site office with shop/convenience store and cycle hire facility.

At: Land at Northop Country Park, Northop, Mold, Flintshire CH& 6WA (Objections had been raised by Northop Community Council).

6. ACCOUNTS

- (a) Councillor Watkin proposed that the payment of the following accounts be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Mackey.

(i) **Clerks Salary** December 2020 Mrs S C Lovell at **£578.87 (Net)** Cheque Number: 002260;

(ii) **HMRC** – Income Tax in respect of Clerk's salary paid December 2020 at £57.20 Cheque Number: 002261;

(iii) **Clwyd Pension Fund** Employers & Employee Pension contribution for Clerk December 2020 at **£178.09** Cheque Number: 002262;

(iii) **Clerk Expenses – 15th September – 14th December, 2020 Total at £97.19 Cheque Number:** 002260;

Postages at £46.81; Mileage at £21.60; Payment to Clerk for covering the cost of purchase of Zoom Pro for the use of Northop Community Council for October and December 2020 at £28.78 (£14.39 per month)

- (iv) SLCC Membership Renewal 2020/21 at £82.00 Cheque Number 002263;
- (v) Northop Memorial Hall Annual Grant at £3,000.00 (£1,500.00 for the year 2017/18 and £1,500.00 for the year 2018/19 Cheque Number 002264;

The Clerk noted that the payment of the Annual Grant to Northop Memorial Hall for 2019/20 would be awarded when the 2019/20 audited accounts had been received and that the grant for the Citizen's Advice Bureau of £100.00 was also yet to be awarded and was awaiting a copy of their audited accounts of 2019/20.

The Clerk also noted that a cheque for £82.00 for the SLCC Membership Renewal for 2020/21 was also included again this month, as SLCC had quoted the incorrect renewal price initially of £44.00 (which was paid in November 2020) and an additional payment of £82.00 was required as the total was in fact £126.00.

7. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

(a) Refill Wales (Cllr A. Brebner);

Councillor Brebner felt that this was an interesting initiative to consider however, was unclear of the practicalities of the scheme. Councillor Livesey stated that it would be local establishments that already provide beverages, that may consider participating in the scheme and providing access to refilling water bottles. Councillor Watkin felt that in the current circumstances, it would not be the ideal time to approach local establishments regarding the scheme. Members agreed not to take any action at present and to re look at the scheme next April 2021 when hopefully such premises will have reopened.

8. TRAFFIC MATTERS

Councillor Brebner reported that Councillor Bateman had received an email from Anthony Stanford, Senior Manager Highway Strategy and Transportation at Flintshire County Council confirming that Northop are currently fifth on the waiting list for traffic calming signage provided that the scheme is not superseded in the interim. It is hoped that it will be installed in the next financial year 2021/22. Councillor Brebner confirmed that she will raise the matter for review again.

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

Councillor Scott informed members that the Petitions Committee held on the 13th October, 2020 had recommended to the Welsh Government that the road scheme be halted for the present pending an enquiry of the Environment Committee.

10. MANAGEMENT PLAN – NORTHOP CAR PARK AND ENVIRONS

Following the last meeting, Tom Cartwright at Streetscene had visited the Car Park and assessed the gulley and provided general advice on the nature of the repair in the form of a brief report. The report had been shared with Councillors prior to the meeting. Councillor Mackey stated that in his opinion any work undertaken would need to ensure that an additional 30-40mm of flow would need to be created to ensure the flooding ceased and that any repairs do not simply put the gulley back as it was.

Members agreed that it would be appropriate to obtain a detailed assessment from a surveyor and specify clearly that a quote was required to solve the drainage problem and create a flow from end to end and that Councillor Mackey liaise with Councillor Lawton-Hughes, Councillor Scott and the Clerk regarding which surveyor to approach and obtain quotes for a surveyor's report and for the work to be undertaken.

Councillor Watkin asked where the tree felling at the Car Park was up to and the Clerk confirmed that there had been no feedback from the Planning Department regarding the application having been approved or denied. It was agreed that the Clerk would look into the matter.

11. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2020 (AS AT 30TH NOVEMBER 2020)

The Clerk shared an update regarding budget expenditure up to the 30th November, 2020 and members were asked to give consideration to any other community schemes for the coming financial year that would require further funds to deliver.

- Members agreed to include the proposed amount of £2,500.00 for Member Mandatory Allowance/Expenses in the budget schedule for 2021/22;
- Councillors felt that the match funding for Sychdyn Play Area and the Community Donations budget should be looked at in January 2021;
- Regarding the Buildings/Repairs/Road signs/Litter expenditure for 2021/22, members agreed that the £2000 allocated for contributions towards traffic calming measures/option to purchase a speed detector be carried forward. However, it was felt that £500 would not be sufficient to cover the cost of the gulley repair in the Car Park at Northop. Members agreed that this would be discussed at the January meeting when it hoped a quote for a surveyor report and repair works would have been obtained;
- Council agreed to maintain the £550.00 budget for the next financial year for the Sandhole Field Maintenance and confirmed that only one cut per year was required;
- Members agreed that £750 allocated for match funding in the 2020/21 budget for Public Rights of Way should be carried forward to 2021/22 to be used as agreed to replace stiles in the area, with gates and any other improvements;
- Members agreed to fund 3 weeks' provision of the Summer Playschemes in both Sychdyn and Northop and that £2850.00 be allocated to this budget for 2021/22. The underspend from this financial year (due to the reduced service being provided by Flintshire County Council as a consequence of the pandemic) of £1107.00 will transfer to General Reserves;

- It was agreed that the underspend in the Website budget for 2020/21 would transfer to the General Reserves;
- The underspend in the Member Training budget (£500) and the underspend in the Clerk Training budget (150) for 2021/22 would transfer over to the 2021/22 budgets as no training had been undertaken this financial year due to the pandemic;

A further report would be presented at the January meeting when the annual precept would be set.

12. NATIONAL SALARY PAY AWARD

Members approved the national salary pay award and backdate to April 2020.

13. STREET LIGHTING MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 2020/2025

Members had received a copy of the contract prior to the meeting for consideration and agreed approval of the contract. The Clerk to sign the contract on behalf of the Community Council and return a copy of the contract to Flintshire County Council.

14. NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL RESIDENTS' AWARDS, YOUNG VOLUNTEERS AWARDS AND CITIZENS AWARDS 2020/21

Members agreed that the awards should be launched in the New Year and that the closing date should be the end of February, 2021 which would ensure time to consider all applications prior to announcing the award winners in April 2021. It was agreed that the panel would comprise Councillor Lawton-Hughes (Chair), Councillor Scott (Vice Chair) and Councillor Deane.

15. FOR INFORMATION

(a) The Community Council had received a letter of thanks from Sychdyn Memorial Hall for the grant of £1,500.00.

(b) An expression of thanks was also received from Mr Gavin Thomas on behalf of the Northop Silver Band for the grant award of £500.00.

(c) The Clerk reported that the Community Council had been informed by the Welsh Government that the Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2021/22 has been increased from £8.32 to £8.41 per elector.

The meeting closed at 8.02pm

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

COUNCIL MEETING	DATE: 14th December, 2020
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There were no new declarations of interest made at the meeting.

MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS