

## **NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the meeting of Northop Community Council held at the Memorial Institute, Northop on Monday, 11 January, 2016.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Marion Bateman (Chairman), Geoff Pierce (Vice-Chairman), Haydn Bateman, Linda Deane, John Carlin, Rob Mackey, Chris Ruddle, Alan Watkin, Jos Wynne-Williams and the Clerk.

**APOLOGIES** – Received from Councillors Pauline Lawton-Hughes Joanne Millar and John Roberts

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

No Declaration of Interests were made.

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

There were no matters to report.

#### **3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015 were confirmed as a correct record.

#### **Matters Arising**

Item 7(c) – The Chairman provided an update on Traffic Issues in Northop and following a meeting with Mr. Hickie of Flintshire County Council's Streetscene Services and a resident it had been agreed that:

- bollards would be located on the wide pavement outside the Edith Banks Memorial Hall to impede parking.
- the road markings on the slip road between the A5119 Flint-Mold road and the B5126 Connah's Quay Road will be re-marked.
- the road design at this location would be re-visited.

#### **4. STREET LIGHTING**

(a) There were no reports of faulty lights.

(b) It was resolved unanimously not to transfer any of the Community Council owned street lighting portfolio to Flintshire County Council. The decision was made on the basis of restrictive costs and uncertainty regarding future local government responsibilities. It was further resolved that consideration of the new programme of upgrading works to Community Council owned street lighting would be deferred until the February Council meeting.

The Clerk was thanks for providing an updated timeline of decisions/actions and comprehensive cost projections for the street lighting portfolio.

## **5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- (a) No planning applications were received for consideration.
- (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) **KYT/049816** - Delegated Officer Approval 11/12/2015. Retrospective application for the change of use of land from agricultural to livery stables, menage with floodlighting and associated facilities, at Land at Bryn Offa Lane, New Brighton, Mold CH7 6RQ
  - (ii) **LEJ/052178** – Delegated Officer Approval 14/12/15. Retention of marquee and log cabin previously approved under ref. 049700 at Soughton Hall Hotel, Sychdyn, CH7 6AB.
  - (iii) **DJM/054518** - Withdrawal on 14/12/15 of proposal for conversion of existing garage to form hydrotherapy room and erection of extension to form new garage at St. Pierre, Northop Country Park, Northop, CH7 6WD.
  - (iv) **LEJ/054070** – Delegated Officer Approval on 23/09/16. Conversion of existing outbuilding into 2no. self-contained flats at Cross Keys, Black Brook, Soughton, CH7 6LT
  - (v) **DJM/054538** – Delegated Officer Approval on 06/01/16. Erection of replacement dwelling at 15 Manor Park, Sychdyn, CH7 6EQ.

## **6. ACCOUNTS**

- (a) To Council approved the payment of the following accounts:-
- (i) Gwen Smith – Clerk's salary for January 2016 = £310.30 (net)  
(Cheque No. 1901) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
  - (ii) HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax payment of £77.60  
in respect of Clerk's salary January 2016  
(Cheque No. 1902) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
  - (iii) Annual membership of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales,  
£20.00. (as agreed at the Council meeting of 14/9/16)  
(Cheque No. 001903) (Local Government Act 2000 - Section.2)
- (b) At the October meeting, members approved the following payments, subject to receipt of appropriate audited accounts. Audited accounts were received therefore payments under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 were approved as follows:

- Flintshire CAB - £100 (Cheque no. 001904)
- Northop Silver Band - £500 (Cheque no. 001905)

## **7. APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR 2015-16**

The Council resolved to re-appoint JDH Business Services as the Council's Internal Auditor for the 2015/16 Annual Audit. The decision was made on the basis of past satisfactory services and cost.

## **8. CITIZENS' AWARD**

The matter to be deferred to the February Council meeting.

## **9. SOUTH FLINTSHIRE POLICE CONSULTATION MEETING**

The Clerk to confirm attendance by a Council member at the Consultation Meeting to be held at Mold Council Chambers, Town Hall, Earl Road, Mold on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

## **10. SUMMER PLAYSCHEMES 2016\*\*\***

(a) The Council resolved to fund the minimum 3 weeks' provision of Summer Playschemes in Sychdyn and Northop villages at a potential cost of £1,800 per location. It was noted that take up of the Playscheme in Sychdyn had increased by some 16% since 2014, whilst take up in Northop had remained static.

(b) The Council resolved to support the request by Sychdyn 2012 community group to provide a fourth week's Playscheme provision in Sychdyn village. Sychdyn 2012 would fund the £260 cost. Take up of the additional week's provision had increased by 20% since 2014.

## **11. STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE (ESTIMATED) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS ENDING 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2014 AND 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2015**

The Council considered the Clerk's report and agreed:

- To carry forward to 2016/17 the £250.00 provision for improvements to Public Rights of Way.
- Any underspend in 2016/17 would be allocated to the Capital Reserve Account to ensure the contingency fund remained above the 50% of Precept level.

The Council resolved to maintain the precept at £20.00 for the financial year 2016/17.

## **12. FOR INFORMATION**

Members received the following information.

(a) The Council has received a letter of thanks from Welsh Border Community Transport for the grant of £200.00

(b) The Wales Audit Office has appointed the company BDO LLP to undertake external audits of Town and Community Councils for the three years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18.

(c) The Welsh Government is currently consulting on the Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill which will influence the shape of future local authorities in Wales. Members and residents are invited to attend a consultation event will be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February at Venue Cymru, Llandudno (10:30-13:30). The consultation closes on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

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

<b>COUNCIL MEETING</b>	<b>DATE: 11<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2016</b>
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<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MIN. NO. REFERS</b>
	None.	