

NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Northop Community Council held at the Memorial Institute, Northop on Monday 12th October, 2015.

PRESENT: Councillors Marion Bateman (Chairman), Haydn Bateman, John Carlin, Linda Deane, Pauline Lawton-Hughes, Rob Mackey, John Roberts, Chris Ruddle, Alan Watkin, Jos Wynne-Williams and the Clerk. PCSO Amy Jones was present for items 1-3.

APOLOGIES – Geoff Pierce (Vice-Chairman) and Joanne Millar.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Declarations of Interest were made:

- Cllr. Haydn Bateman – Member of Sychdyn Memorial Hall Committee (Agenda Item 7 (b) – Annual Grants to Local Organisations)
- Cllr. Marion Bateman – Member of Sychdyn Memorial Hall Committee (Agenda Item 7 (b) - Annual Grants to Organisations)
- Cllr. Linda Deane – Northop Community Council representative of the Northop Memorial Institute (Agenda Item 7 (a)) and Member of the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Northop (Agenda Item 7 (c) - Annual Grants to Organisations)
- Cllr. Pauline Lawton-Hughes – Secretary to the Sychdyn Memorial Hall Committee (Agenda Item 7 (b) - Annual Grants to Organisations)
- Cllr Rob Mackey – Chair of Trustee of Northop Memorial Institute (Agenda Item 7 (b) - Annual Grants to Organisations)
- Cllr. Alan Watkin - Chair of the Sychdyn Memorial Hall Committee (Agenda Item 7 (b) - Annual Grants to Organisations)
- Cllr. Chris Ruddle - Trustee of Sychdyn Memorial Hall (Agenda Item 7 (b) - Annual Grants to Organisations)

2. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Amy Jones provided members with an update on Police Matters in the community:

- A burglary took place at the The Boot public house on 29/9/15.
- On the 11/10/15 a car at Pant Glas, Sychdyn was damaged.
- There was no further update on the burglary that took place in Sychdyn on 4/9/15.
- Cars are being parked outside Sychdyn School on the pavements and over the school zig-zag road markings at the beginning and end of the school day. Traffic Wardens would be deployed to deal with the matter. Members suggested the Police also advise families via the School newsletter.

Members also raised concerns about:

- The abuse of the one-way system at the top of the High Street, Northop. Members suggested the Police advise families via the School newsletter.
- Between 3.45-4.00pm there remain 3-4 cars parked on the highway, outside the College grounds where the centre of the road is marked with double white lines. Through traffic is therefore forced to cross the double white line. PCSO Jones to investigate further.

The Halloween posters provided by the OWL messaging service were welcomed by members as it was noted that not all residents wish to receive the established “Trick or Treat” calls. Copies of the “No thanks” posters would be printed and distributed to such residents. The Clerk to forward the posters to members.

The Clerk to forward PCSO Jones’ contact details to members.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the 14th September 2015 were accepted as a correct record.

4. STREET LIGHTING

(a) Report of Faults

Northop

- The repair of the light on Aber Crescent, Northop which was damaged by a refuse lorry is in hand. It was noted that the column is the only one in the Crescent.
- Light out in front of the Edith Bankes Memorial Hall Northop.

Sychdyn

- The light on Blackbrook adj to the White Hill footpath (Column 5) had been repaired.
- Two lights out on Pen y Bryn – outside No. 17 and another across the road
- Light out on the bend and junction of Raikes Lane at the back of the Nursery (which fronts onto the A5119 just after County Hall).

(b) Update by the Clerk

The Clerk provided an update on street lighting issues:

- A column and light on New Brighton Road had been replaced by Scottish Power at a discounted price of £600.
- The upgrading work to lights along the High Street, Northop would begin in the coming weeks.
- Flintshire County Council had capacity to undertake the upgrading work to lights on Pen y Bryn during this financial year.
- In his new role as Operations North & Street Lighting Manager, Darell Jones hoped to attend the December Council meeting.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

- (i) **KCS/054207** – PROPOSAL: Proposed construction of summerhouse within rear garden at 2 Fox Field, Northop.

The planning application had already been approved. Delegated Officer approval dated 8/10/15.

- (ii) **PXR/054225** – PROPOSAL: Erection of two storey extension to dwelling at Springfield Cottage, Connah's Quay Road, Northop, CH7 6BT.

The Council had no objection to the proposed scheme.

(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) **KCS/054071** – Delegated Officer Approval 11/9/15. Erection of single storey extension to rear of dwelling at 66 St. Peters Park, Northop.

- (ii) **BMK/053778** – Delegated Officer Approval 11/9/15. Demolition of single storey side extension, erection of two storey side and rear extension, formation of new vehicular access and driveway at Plantation View, Vownog, Soughton.

- (iii) **PXR/053602** – Withdrawal 15/9/15. Details of siting, design, external appearance, access thereto and landscaping, submitted in accordance with condition no.1 attached to outline planning permission ref. 051751, at Land adj. Offa Bank, Wats Dyke Way, Sychdyn.

- (iv) **KCS/054009** – Delegated Officer Approval 22/9/15. Erection of first floor extension over existing garage at 9 Tan y Coed, Sychdyn.

- (v) **LEJ/054070** – Delegated Officer Approval 23/9/15. Conversion of existing outbuilding into 2no. self-contained flats at the Cross Keys, Black Brook, Soughton.

6. ACCOUNTS

The Council resolved to approve the payment of the following accounts:

- (a) Gwen Smith, Clerk's salary for October 2015 of £310.30 (net) (Cheque No. 1881) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (b) HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax payment of £77.60 in respect of Clerk's salary for October 2015 (Cheque No. 1882) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (c) Jim's Mowing – Grass Cutting on 7th and 21st October, totalling £110.00. (Cheque No. 1883) (Open Spaces Act - Sections 9 and 10)

7. ANNUAL GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

The following grants were approved subject to satisfactory sight of current audited accounts.

- (a) Northop Memorial Institute (£1,500)
- (b) Sychdyn Memorial Hall (£1,500)
- (c) St. Peter's Churchyard, Northop (£1,000)
- (d) Northop Silver Band (£500)

**8. SUMMARY OF EXENDITURE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING
31st MARCH 2016 (AS AT 30th SEPTEMBER 2015)**

The Clerk presented a summary of actual expenditure to date and revised projections to year end. The estimated credit balance at year end would accommodate further upgrading work to street lighting. The upgrading scheme along Pen y Bryn, Sychdyn was approved for the current financial year. Members were asked to consider appropriate locations for further street lighting upgrades and to review those at the Council's November meeting.

Members were advised of issues that would impact on the budgeting process for 2016/17 as follows:

- Increase in Insurance Premium Tax from 6% to 9.5%, effective from 1/11/15.
- The requirement to offer a pension to eligible staff, effective from 1/10/16.
- The likely reduction in the external audit fee for 2016/17.

9. FORMAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Members resolved to accept the Annual Risk Assessment.

10. INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Members accepted the report of the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer, agreeing no change to the current arrangements.

11. ASSET REGISTER

Members confirmed the Asset Register for the purposes of the Annual Audit.

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

COUNCIL MEETING	DATE: 12th OCTOBER 2015
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MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
Cllr. Haydn Bateman Cllr. Marion Bateman Cllr. Linda Deane Cllr. Pauline Lawton-Hughes Cllr Rob Mackey Cllr. Chris Ruddle Cllr. Alan Watkin	7. Annual Grants to Local Organisations	1 and 7