

## **NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the meeting of Northop Community Council held at the Edith Bankes Memorial Institute, Northop on Monday, 13 February, 2017.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Geoff Pierce (Chairman), Haydn Bateman, Marion Bateman, Linda Deane, John Carlin, Pauline Lawton-Hughes and the Clerk. Mr. Neil Hickie was present until the completion of his presentation. Five members of the public were present throughout the meeting.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Received from Councillors Chris Ruddle (Vice-Chairman), Rob Mackey, Joanne Millar, John Roberts, Alan Watkin and Jos Wynne-Williams

### **PRESENTATION/LINK OFFICER MEETING – Neil Hickie, Coorodinator, Area 2, Streetscene Services, Flintshire County Council (FCC)**

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Hickie (NH) to the meeting. Mr. Hickie provided an update on recent issues and responded to Members' questions on the following categories:

#### **Road Safety**

- NH responded to this Council's request for improvements to the sight lines at the junction of Northop High Street and the B5126 Holywell Road. NH advised the Department of Transport's recommendation is to improve visibility rather than rely on mirrors. Motorists turning left out of the High Street onto the B5126 are regularly faced with vehicles parked adjacent to Brook Street. These create a further obstacle forcing drivers to manoeuvre out from the kerb and partially onto the other side of the carriageway. Members proposed a reduction in the speed limit surrounding the junction and improved signage and road markings.

NH undertook to ask the Highways service to undertake a traffic survey of the area. NH would return to this Council will proposals to improve safety at the junction.

- Members requested the re-lining of the traffic light junction of the B5126/A5119 to clarify where/when traffic should filter. NH to action.

#### **Signage**

NH and Cllr. M. Bateman advised that reinstatement of the map of the Northop-Sychdyn Circular Walk was in hand.

#### **Bins**

It was noted that the dog waste bins around the village were heavily used and in particular the bin adjacent to the Golf Course. NH undertook to ensure the bins were emptied the following day and that the bin adjacent to the Golf Course would be replaced with one of greater capacity.

Cllr. M. Bateman thanked NH for the works undertaken on Lllys Y Wern, Sychdyn and on the main Mold to Northop road. The Chairman thanked Mr. Hickie for his informative guidance and assistance.

## 1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declaration of Interests were made.

## 2. POLICE MATTERS

It was reported that the District Inspector, Jonathan Bowcott had been re-assigned and his position filled on a temporary basis by Geraint Richards. Insp. Bowcott is due to return to South Flintshire in May.

Cllr. Carlin wished to thank PCSO Stanton for the crime reports but asked that a little more detail be provided. The Clerk to convey.

## 3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 were confirmed as a true record.

## 4. STREETSCENE ISSUES

### Sychdyn

The on-going issue of the faulty light at Manor Park had not been remains unresolved. Scottish Power had failed to complete the repair. The Clerk to pursue the matter with FCC and to clarify the process of recompense for the inconvenience suffered by local residents.

Faulty lights were also reported in the areas of:

- 29 Llys Y Wern
- Within the one-way road sign at the bottom of London Road at Chapel Walk.

There were no reports of faults in Northop.

## 5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

- (i) **CEM/056410** – PROPOSAL: Erection of two storey extension at Bryn Gwyn, London Road, Sychdyn, CH7 6EL.

The Council had no objection to the proposal.

- (ii) **RMH/056386** – PROPOSAL: Listed Building application for the conversion of school wing into 2no. dwellings and refurbishment of existing school house, demolition of curtilage storage buildings on boundary at School House, The Green, Northop, CH7 6BD.

The Council wished to see the property refurbished and occupied without further delay and supported a speedy conclusion to the matter.

(iii) DGJ/-56451 – PROPOSAL: Application for variation of condition N05 following the grant of planning permission 0324/89 relating to personal permission at land rear of 3 Tai Cochion, Sychdyn.

The Council had no comment to make on the application

(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) **DJM/055903** – Delegated Officer Decision 03/01/2017 - Erection of replacement dwelling including changes to land levels, construction of retaining wall and raised garden at 15 Manor Park, Sychdyn, CH7 6EQ.

(ii) **JZP/056238** – Delegated Officer Decision 03/01/2017 - Erection of sunroom extension to rear of dwelling at 23 Wats Dyke Way, Soughton, CH7 6DX.

(iii) **ADW/056160** – Delegated Officer Decision 16/01/2017 – Erection of extension front and side of dwelling and loft conversion at The Tannery, Church Road, Northop, CH7 6BS

(iv) **DJM/055976** – Application Withdrawn 23/01/17 – Construction of external composing disabled W.C. at St. Eurgain & St. Peters Church, Church Road, Northop.

## 6. ACCOUNTS

(a) To Council approved the payment of the following accounts:-

(i) Gwen Smith – Clerk's salary for February 2017 = £323.25 (net)  
(Cheque No. 1966) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)

(ii) HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax payment of £81.00  
in respect of Clerk's salary February 2017  
(Cheque No. 1967) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)

(iii) Flintshire County Council –invoice totalling £315.27:

- Electricity consumption December 2016 = £161.77
- Inspection and maintenance of street lighting August 2016 = £153.50  
(Cheque No. 1968) (Highways Act 1957 – Section 17)

(iv) Wales Audit Office – Recharge of External Audit 2015/16 fee by HBO  
£214.20. To be brought forward to March agenda.

(v) 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. 001969) (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 payment under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 was approved as follows:

- Sychdyn Memorial Hall –£1,500 (Cheque No. 001970)

The payment of £1,500 to the Edith Bankes Memorial Hall to be brought forward to the March agenda pending receipt of current audited accounts.

**7. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS**

None raised prior to the meeting.

**8. CITIZENS' AWARD**

Nominations for the Citizens' Award would be considered by a Sub-Committee of the Chairman, Cllrs. Marion Bateman and Linda Deane. The Sub-Committee would meet at 6.30pm before the next Council meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March, at the Memorial Hall.

**9. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The Council considered requests for financial assistance and resolved to make the following awards under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, to support the local activities of the organisations:

- £100 to Mcmillan Cancer Support
- £200 to Welsh Border Community Transport
- £300 to Marie Curie Nursing Services

**10. APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDIT 2016-17**

Members resolved to appointment J.D.H. Business Services as the Council's Internal Auditor for the 2016-17 Annual Audit. The appointment was based on past satisfactory service and a reduction in the fee from last year.

**11. WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION – REFORMING LOCAL GOVERNMENT – RESILIENT AND RENEWED**

To be brought forward to the March Council meeting for consideration.

**12. WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION - A55 JUNCTION WITH A494 AND A548 - DEESIDE CORRIDOR**

Members resolved to form a Task & Finish Group to formulate the Council's response to the consultation. Membership of the Task & Finish Group would be considered at the March Council meeting prior to a Group meeting being called. The Task & Finish Group's recommendations would be considered at the April Council meeting. The consultation closes on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017.

**13. FOR INFORMATION**

The Council received the following information:

- (a) OWL Reports on telephone scams and the availability of tamper-proof number plate kits.

- (b) The North Wales Magistrates' Recruitment Campaign 2017/18 is well underway and members are asked to pass on this information to all their contacts.
- (c) Betsi Cadwaladr – Consultation
- (d) Welsh Government Consultation – Local Government Reform (closing date 10<sup>th</sup> April) on Agenda for March meeting.
- (e) T&CC Election Nomination Packs to be distributed during February.
- (f) FCC Best Kept Communities Competition 2017. The Council has been advised that all entry forms and associated papers will be available w.e.f. 8<sup>th</sup> February. Entry forms must be returned by 26<sup>th</sup> May and judging will take place during the week commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017.
- (g) The Council has received a message of thanks for the Trustees of Edith Bankes Memorial Hall for the Council's grant of £175.00 towards the repair of the noticeboard.
- (i) The Council has received confirmation from FCC that this Council's contribution of £500 towards the repair of the sandpit in Sychdyn Playarea will be matchfunded. FCC have advised that their match funding contribution will be £2,000. The balance of the matched £2,000 will be raised by Sychdyn Community groups.
- (j) One Voice Wales has written to the Council offering a reduction in the cost of membership for the year 2017-18. The cost to this Council of membership for 2017-18 would be £194.50

**14. ADDITIONAL ITEM – PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF No.43 HOUSES OFF ELDON ROAD, SYCHDYN**

Members were advised that the Planning Application would be considered at FCC's Planning and Development Control Committee on 23.2.17. Cllr. M. Bateman advised that she would be sitting on the Committee. It was anticipated that a Member of Northop Community Council would be available to speak against the development at the Committee.

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

<b>COUNCIL MEETING</b>	<b>DATE: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017</b>
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<b>MEMBER</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>MIN. NO. REFERS</b>
	None.	