

NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Northop Community Council held at the Memorial Institute, Northop on Monday 9th April, 2018.

PRESENT: Councillors Chris Ruddle (Chairman), Linda Deane (Vice-Chairman), Paul Ashley, Alison Brebner, John Carlin, Rachel Hayward, Pauline Lawton-Hughes, Rob Mackey, Jo Millar Linda Scott, Alan Watkin and the Clerk.

APOLOGIES: PCSO Stephanie Jones

MEMBERS RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S DOMESTIC ENERGY EFFICIENCY TEAM – "HEALTHY HOMES HEALTHY PEOPLE AND WARM HOMES FUND"

Shelley Webber outlined the "Healthy Homes Healthy People and Warm Homes Fund" initiative. The project offers advice and practical solutions on:

- Home and Personal Safety
- Income maximisation and Personal/Family support
- Affordable Warmth
- Health and Wellbeing Outcomes

The project is open to tenants (private and social) and home owners. Shelley Webber sought the Council's assistance in identifying opportunities for the team officers to meet with prospective service users.

The Chairman thanked Shelley Webber for raising awareness of the project amongst Council members.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were made.

2. POLICE MATTERS

(a) PCSO Jones was unable to attend the meeting but provided an emailed update on Police matters in the community:

- 5/4/18 – St. Peter's Park, Northop. Report of suspicious circumstances – a male canvassing for work in the area.
- 10/3/18 – Hall Lane, Sychdyn. Theft of a trailer overnight. No CCTV, no further lines of enquiry.
- 10/3/18 – Pen Y Pentre, Sychdyn – Report that the rear window of a vehicle had been smashed outside the informant's property. No CCTV, no further lines of enquiry.

Members reported continuing problems with cars parked on Church Road, opposite Caernarfon Terrace. The Clerk to report to PCSO Jones.

Cllr. Brebner reported that the rubber speed detection strips had now been sited correctly adjacent to the college campus on the B5126. The results and recommendations by GoSafe were awaited.

- (b) To receive an update regarding the roundabouts on the junction of A55/A5119.

PCSO Jones confirmed that she had emailed GoSafe in relation to the concerns surrounding excessive speed on the A5119 Northop Road roundabout and would update members of progress.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting of the 12th March 2018 were confirmed as a true record subject to the change in wording to the second bullet point of item 7, which should read "Two types of defibrillator cabinets are available and members favoured the stainless-steel version at an additional cost of £250.00. The Clerk to make the changes.

4. STREETSCENE ISSUES

- (a) The following faults were noted:

- Reports of wooden stakes being put into the bank of the lane between Vownog Newydd and Alltami Road, at the back of 9 Pen y Pentre, Sychdyn.
- Report of rocks placed on the grass verges of a single track road by Vownog Cottage / Henfryn.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the condition of the footpath along the A5119 between Northop and Sychdyn, especially between the speed camera and the turning to Alltami Road where the surface is poor and grass is growing over the footpath.
- Possible blocked drain outside No. 2 Aber Crescent - drain floods in heavy rain.
- To request action by the Trunk Roads Agency to remove litter and debris from the A55 sliproads at junctions 33 and 33A.

- (b) No update had been received from FCC's Highways Dept. concerning the roundabouts on the junction of A55/A5119.

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) **ADW/058140** – Demolition of conservatory and garage and erection of single storey rear/side extension at 37 Llys Y Wern, Sychdyn, CH7 6BJ.

The Council had no objection to the proposal.

- (i) **ADW/058132** – Proposed detached double garage at The Mill House, Tyn'n y Caeau Farm, Northop Road, Northop, CH7 6BE.

The Council had no objection to the proposal.

- (i) **ADW/058211** – Erection of 6no. detached dwellings at Corton Wood, Blackbrook Road, Sychdyn.

Council objected to the development on the following grounds:

Impact on highway safety

- The proposed road access onto the A5119 would create a potentially dangerous junction on the approach into Sychdyn (from Mold) at a point, only some yards within the 30mph speed limit. The junction of Pen-y-Bryn and the A5119 is particularly busy during the morning and evening commuting times. The location of a bus stops which are used daily by school pupils at peak times, is within a short distance of the proposed access road. The establishment of a further access road onto the A5119 will add to congestion at this point and compromise pedestrian safety.
- The proposed second access road onto Blackbrook will further increase the traffic flow along a restricted stretch of roadway without a pedestrian walkway.

Impact on the character and appearance of an area

- The development of 6 large properties on a steep plot of this character, on the outskirts of a village is viewed as over-development. The gardens/immediate surroundings of the properties will be confined and not in keeping with a sustainable village development.

The Council's objection to the proposed development was based on the preferred option statement that need, rather than desirability, should be the driving force for residential development.

Local members considered that part of Plot 1 of the development sits outside the boundary of Cortonwood and does in fact encroach on land owned by Flintshire County Council. The Clerk to seek clarification.

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

None received to date.

(c) Members were advised by the Clerk of the response by Flintshire County Council's Planning Department to issues raised concerning traffic movements and associated disturbance to local residents at the Ffordd Eldon development site.

Mr. Harris confirmed that the Construction & Traffic Management Plans submitted by the developer had been considered acceptable by the Highways Department. Officers had been in recent dialogue with the developers given concerns and that these plans were not being adhered to in the early stages of development and FCC had to re-inforce the need for compliance with these approved plans. The situation would continue to be monitored. Mr. Harris extended an invitation for the Clerk and a member of the Council to discuss the development in further detail.

The Clerk to seek to secure a site meeting with Mr. Harris for the Chairman, Cllr. Ashley and herself.

6. ACCOUNTS

(a) The payment of the following accounts was approved:

- (i) Gwen Smith – Clerk’s salary for April 2018 = £326.45 (net)
- (ii) Gwen Smith – Short payment of £73.00
in reimbursement of expenses paid in March 2018. Clerk’s error.
(Cheque No. 2049) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (iii) HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax payment of £81.80
in respect of Clerk’s salary for April 2018
(Cheque No. 2050) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (iv) Flintshire County Council – Payment of February 2018 invoice totalling
£266.04 comprising:
 - Street Lighting = £186.04
 - Inspection and Maintenance = £80.00(Cheque No. 2051) (Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3)
- (v) Jim's Mowing – Grass Cutting on 12th and 23rd March, totalling
£110.00.(Cheque No. 2052) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (vi) FLVC – Colour photocopying - Deeside Corridor proposal maps, £5.58
(Cheque No. 2053) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)

(c) Council agreed the addition of Cllr. Ashley’s name to the Council’s bank mandate.

7. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

None.

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

Members heard that the Cabinet Secretary Ken Skates had accepted an invitation by Hannah Blythyn A.M. to visit the area. Further details would follow.

9. SCHOOL TRANSPORT

No developments to report.

10. NORTHOP TELEPHONE KIOSK

Members received Cllr. Scott’s report on the proposal to re-purpose the telephone kiosk outside the Red Lion Inn to house a defibrillator for the community. Cllr. Scott agreed to seek comparative quotes, to ensure best value for the scheme and to return to Council with the necessary information.

12. CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING

The Clerk had received confirmation that Gareth Owens, Chief Officer (Governance) of Flintshire County Council had agreed to undertake the training on the 1st May. A start time of 6:30pm was agreed. The Clerk to secure a suitable venue.

13. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2018

(a) Council received a report from the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer, on the final accounts for the financial year 2017/18, noting a closing balance of £37,700.24. Invoices of some £8,600 were awaited for upgrading work to the Council's lighting stock. The increase in the Annual Precept between 2017/18 and 2018/19 would raise a further £3,514.00 which would be earmarked for further improvements to the Council's lighting stock during the year 2018/20.

(b) Council authorised the submission of the final accounts and supporting documentation to the Internal Auditor on 26th April, 2018.

14. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR) - to follow**

It was agreed that the Clerk would undertake the necessary work to ensure that the Council complies with the GDPR requirements that will come into force on 24th May 2018. The Clerk would be recompensed for the additional hours worked to complete this task.

15. WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION: REVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL SECTOR**

Council agreed to submit a response to the Independent Review Panel, supporting the submission made by One Voice Wales and highlighting the issue of the need to ensure adequate funding is available to deliver services. The Clerk to complete the submission.

16. WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION: "STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNMENT: DELIVERING FOR PEOPLE"

This item to be deferred until the May Council meeting.

17. FOR INFORMATION

It was noted that

(a) Council had received a letter of thanks for the £50 donation to OWL – the Online Watch Link Association which provided information on Police, Highway and community matters.

(b) Council had received a letter of thanks for the £100 donation to Marie Curie Nursing Services for their work in the community.

(c) Council had received a letter of thanks for the £300 donation to Welsh Border Community Transport for their work in the community.

(d) Council had received a letter of invitation to join One Voice Wales at a cost of £204.00 for the year 2018/19. One Voice Wales offers training programmes, a consultancy service and networking events for Council members and Clerks. One Voice Wales also contributes to the dialogue with Welsh Government on relevant issues concerning local government.

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

COUNCIL MEETING	DATE: 9th APRIL 2018
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MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
None.		