

NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Northop Community Council held at the Memorial Institute, Northop on Monday 12th February, 2018.

PRESENT: Councillors Linda Deane (Vice-Chairman), Paul Ashley, Marion Bateman, Alison Brebner, John Carlin, Rachel Hayward, Pauline Lawton-Hughes, Rob Mackey, Jo Millar, Linda Scott, Alan Watkin and the Clerk. PCSO Stephanie Jones attended for item 2.

APOLOGIES: Received from Councillor Chris Ruddle (Chairman).

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were made.

2. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Stephanie Jones attend the meeting and provided an update on Police matters in the community since the last Council meeting:

- 17/1/18 – Interference with a vehicle on Ffordd Celyn, Sychdyn. No damage reported but investigations ongoing.
- 20/1/18 – Theft of a slate plaque from a house in Alltami. No CCTV nor evidence to pursue.
- 3/2/18 – Theft of a horse box from Chester Road, Northop. Investigations ongoing.
- 5/2/18 – Milk stolen from doorsteps at Fox Field and St. Peter's Park. CCTV being reviewed.

Cllr. Brebner reported that she had contacted GoSafe regarding the delays in speed surveys along the B5126 adj. to the college campus. GoSafe advised that the January surveys would be repeated as snow had affected outcomes. PCSO Jones apologised for the delays by GoSafe.

Members heard that there had been reports on Facebook groups of a suspicious male seen by Sychdyn school. PCSO Jones reported that the Police were aware and asked members of the public to report any incidents via the N.W. Police website or by phoning 101.

Members heard that last month there had been 2 break-ins in Queensferry and 2 in Buckley, the aim of which were to obtain the keys to high performance cars parked on the dwellings' driveways. PCSO Jones reported that such crimes were on the increase and that all residents should take care to secure their vehicles and keys at all times. Those with high performance cars should consider garaging their vehicles and parking a lesser value vehicle in front of the garage door to deter would be thieves.

Further reports of inconsiderate/illegal parking at Caernarfon Terrace/Church Road, Northop were received. It was noted that the weekend parking was the most troublesome. PCSO Jones to investigate further.

It was reported that overweight lorries associated with the Ffordd Eldon development site are travelling along New Brighton Road between Sychdyn and New Brighton village. PCSO Jones to investigate.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting of the 8th January 2018 were confirmed as a true record subject to the following amendment:

ITEM 7 (a), to read “Northop Cricket Club are planning to install...”

Matters Arising

ITEM 14 – The Clerk to seek further information from Once Voice Wales.

ITEM 15 – Cllr. Scott advised that the Consultation was on procedural matters.

ITEM 18 (a) – Agreement in principle had been reached for an out-reach service to start in late March/early April offering two, half day sessions at Sychdyn Village Hall.

ITEM 18 (b) – The Clerk has written to CADW advising them of the situation. A response is awaited.

4. STREETSCENE ISSUES

Cllr. Ashley reported an overflowing ditch in Sychdyn, on the Alltami Road, opposite the junction to Greenbank Lane, causing flood threat to a dwelling there. The Clerk to report to Neil Hickie.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) No planning application were received for comment.

(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.

(i) **057795** – Delegated Officer Approval 12/01/2018. Removal of bay window, erection of two storey extension at 6 St. Peters Park, Northop.

(ii) **MES/052364** – Committee Approval after completing Legal Agreement 23/01/2018. Development of an Integrated Waste Management Facility at Brock PLC Stoney Beach Quarry, Pinfold Lane, Alltami.

(c) Members received an update on the Ffordd Eldon development site from Cllr. Bateman. It was noted that the pre-development agreements are not yet complete and therefore no construction work should currently be undertaken on site.

6. ACCOUNTS

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

(i) Gwen Smith – Clerk’s salary for February 2018 = £326.65 (net)
(Cheque No. 2037) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)

(ii) HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax payment of £81.60
in respect of Clerk’s salary for February 2018

- (Cheque No. 2038) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (iii) Planning Aid Wales – attendance fee for two delegates at the Training Event on 17.10.17. £70.00.
- (Cheque No. 2039) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (iv) Flintshire County Council – two invoices for November and December 2018 totalling £860.28 and comprising:
- Street Lighting = £372.08
 - Inspection and Maintenance = £488.20
- (Cheque No. 2040) (Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3)

(b) Deferred to the March Council meeting.

7. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

(a) Northop Telephone Kiosk (Cllr. L. Scott)

Cllr Scott provided an update on the proposed scheme to install a defibrillator in the decommissioned telephone kiosk in Northop village. It was noted that:

- the Community Heartbeat Trust (BHT) would provide a supportive role in terms of managing the facility and providing training. The BHT would not be providing funding for the scheme.
- Advertising planning consent would need to be sought from Flintshire County Council
- BT advise that every element of the scheme should be ready for implementation before applying to acquire the kiosk from BT
- Cllr. Scott was awaiting a response from the CHF regarding a door for the kiosk.
- Cllr. Scott to secure a quote for a defibrillator and the associated electrical work.
- The Clerk to liaise with the Council's insurers, Zurich Municipal, to query any implications of the scheme.
- Signage costs would need to be considered.

The matter to be returned to the Council agenda for the March meeting.

(b) Sychdyn Playgroup (Cllr. J. Millar)

Cllr. Millar's report summarised the difficulties faced by the Sychdyn Playgroup. Difficulties last year left the Playgroup short of reserves and low on attendance, however, since September numbers have increased and the future operation of the Playgroup looked more promising. It was noted that reserves needed to be increased and a concerted fund-raising programme had been drawn up. However, the level of reserves remains a major concern to all.

Cllr. Bateman expressed her thanks to Cllr. Millar for bringing the matter to her attention and having investigated, was able to confirm that monies due to the Playgroup by Flintshire County Council, had now been paid. Cllr. Bateman further proposed that a donation of £500 from the Council's reserves for emergencies, be offered to the Playgroup. Council agreed the donation and noted that the playgroup is an important part of village life that helps draw the community together and a facility that the Council did not want to see lost.

The unanimously agreed grant would be subject to receipt of audited accounts. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk were authorised to make the payment of £500 without delay.

Members were content to include an advertisement for the Playgroup on the Council's website.

8. SUMMARY OF EXENDITURE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2018 (AS AT 1 FEBRUARY 2018)

The quarterly report of the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer was received and noted.

9. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Council consider requests for financial support, and having regard to the overall remaining budget for 2017-18, agreed on the following basis:

Welsh Border Community Transport	£300
Marie Curie Nursing Services	£100
OWL On-line Watch Link Association	£50.

10. CAMPAIGN FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL WALES – ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Council agreed the continuing membership of CPRW at a cost of £20 for the year.

11. APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDIT 2017-18

Having regard to previous satisfactory service and competitive pricing, Council approved the appointment of J.D.H. Services as the Council's Internal Auditor for the 2017-18 Annual Audit.

12. CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING FOR MEMBERS

- (i) The Clerk to canvass for suitable dates for Code of Conduct Training to be provided by One Voice Wales and to secure the training session.
- (ii) Council agreed the option of inviting neighbouring Councils to the event.

13. SCHOOL TRANSPORT

No further updates were available therefore the issue to be returned to the March Council meeting.

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

Cllrs. Bateman, Brebner, Mackey and Scott reported on a meeting with Hannah Blythyn A.M., councillors from Flint Town Council, Holywell Town Council and Welsh Government Officials on the issue of the proposed Red Route link road. Amongst the issues raised with the Welsh Government officials were:

- The government's North Wales Road Plan and its impact on the traffic through Flint town and the route of HGV's to Mostyn docks
- Brexit
- The limitations of the Northop-Halkyn phase of the A55 had not been factored into the Welsh Government's choice of the Red Route
- The limitations of the Flintshire Bridge with narrow dual carriageways, susceptibility to closure in windy or icy weather
- The need for crawler lanes along extensive tracts of the A55
- No satisfactory improvements/adaptations to the Ewloe junction has been proposed by the Welsh Government
- Environmental impacts on woodland and farming
- The impact on outlying villages
- The validity of the traffic surveys used to support the Red Route, in particularly the lack of information on origin/destination of traffic
- The N.E. Wales metro scheme
- The Green Route – the Welsh Government conceded that all alternative routes must be considered at Public Inquiry.

The Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Hannah Blythyn A.M. for facilitating the meeting.

15. NORTH EAST WALES COMMUNITY VOICE

Members agreed in principle to support the North East Wales Community Voice group which seeks to represent the views of local communities on planning issues. The Clerk to register the Council's interest and to seek further information on the intended outcome.

16. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN – NORTHOP C.C. APPROACH

Members agreed that the following topics should be raised with Flintshire County Council at the March meeting of Northop Community Council.

- the LDP timescale - in particular when Town and Community Councils will have an opportunity to comment on the individual sites/type of development.
- the locations of the strategic sites to be developed across the county.
- how the different types of development fit in with the Spacial Plan.
- the locations of sites that have existing planning permissions but remain undeveloped across the county.
- the principle that development should be on the basis of proven need rather than speculative - Northop C.C.'s response to the recent consultation on the Preferred Strategy.
- risk of overdevelopment.

The Clerk to contact Flintshire County Council accordingly.

17. PIZZA OVEN

Members refused a request to site a hot food catering van on the car park at Northop.

18. COUNTY FORUM – 28th FEBRUARY – AGENDA ITEMS

There were no suggestions for agenda items to be considered by Flintshire County Council.

19. REVIEW OF COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS – ENGAGEMENT EVENT - “MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNCIL” – WEDNESDAY 7th MARCH, 2018

Cllr. Lawton-Hughes or the Clerk would attend the Engagement Event at Wrexham Memorial Hall, Bodhyfryd, Wreccsam, LL12 7AG, between 9:30am-12:30pm. Details to be confirmed.

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

COUNCIL MEETING	DATE: 12th FEBRUARY 2018
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MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
None.		