

NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Northop Community Council held at the Memorial Institute, Northop on Monday 8th December, 2014.

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

APOLOGIES – Received from Councillors Pauline Lawton-Hughes, Joanne Millar, John Roberts, Tony Sharps and Alan Watkin.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were made.

2. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk read PCSO Turner monthly update on Police Matters in the community:

- PCSO Turner had visited the Post Office in Sychdyn and undertook to make regular visits.
- A speed survey would be undertaken along Blackbrook, Sychdyn to address the issue of speeding traffic.
- Distraction burglaries/thefts from outbuildings and sheds are a particular problem at this time of year. PCSO Turner asked that members of the public be made aware and advised to be extra vigilant and report to the Police any suspicious persons/circumstances in the area.

Cllr. L. Deane advised that the reported problem of parked vans adjacent to the Red Lion reducing visibility appeared to have lessened.

Cllr. R. Mackey advised that the issue of parking on the pavement of Church Road was now a daily occurrence which restricts the pavement for pedestrians. The problem is particularly bad on the right hand side of the road (approaching from the Red Lion), near 'Oakley'. The Clerk would ask PCSO Turner for assistance.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the 10th November 2014 was accepted as a correct record subject to the following amendments:

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Item 7 (i) – removal of text '(housing land)'

Item 7 (iii) – removal of the text 'so may have possessory title'.

The Clerk to query both issues with Flintshire County Council, the source of the information.

4. STREET LIGHTING

Councillor H. Bateman reported that Column no. 5 on Blackbrook, Sychdyn, opposite the White Hill footbath was out. The column had been lit prior to works undertaken in the area by Scottish Power. The Clerk to report.

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) **LEJ/052892** – PROPOSAL: Provision of additional car parking facilities at Llaneurgain House, Northop Country Park, Northop, CH7 6WD.

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) **BMK/052857** – PROPOSAL: Erection of two storey side extension and single storey extension at rear of 27 Pen y Bryn, Sychdyn, CH7 6EE. Delegated officer approval 1.12.14

6. ACCOUNTS

(a) The Council resolved to approve the payment of the following accounts:-

- (i) Gwen Smith – £466.98 comprising of:
- Clerk's salary for September 2014 plus $\frac{1}{4}$ of Annual Allowance (1.6.14 - 31.8.14) = £366.10 (net)
 - Quarterly internet rental (1.6.14 - 31.8.14) £48.00
 - Quarterly contribution to telephone calls (1.6.14 - 31.8.14) £25.00
 - Reimbursement of photocopying, printing materials, postage and stationary costs (1.6.14 - 31.8.14) £27.88
(Cheque No. 1834) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (ii) HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax payment of £91.40.
in respect of Clerk's salary for September 2014 plus $\frac{1}{4}$ of Annual Allowance (1.6.14 – 31.8.14)
(Cheque No. 1835) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)

(b) The Council approved a replacement cheque for un-cashed cheque 001800 dated 14.4.14 for £165.00 in payment for hire of rooms 203/14 to the Edith Bankes Memorial Hall. EBMH have undertaken not to cash, but rather, return cheque 001800 should it later come to light. (Cheque no. 001836) (Local Government Act 1972 – Section 111).

(c) 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:

- (i) Flintshire Citizens' Advice Bureau - £100 (Cheque no. 001837)
(ii) Northop Parish Churchyard Fund - £1,000 (Cheque no. 001838)
(iii) Sychdyn Village Hall - £1,500 (Cheque no. 001839)
(iv) Edith Bankes Memorial Hall - £1,500 (Cheque no. 001840)

7. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

- (a) **Repair of Flintshire County Council board map showing Northop Sychdyn circular walk.** (Cllr. G. Pierce)

There was agreement to Cllr. Pierce's request that the Council reinstate the Flintshire C.C. owned board map. Cllr. M. Bateman had made enquires of Cadwyn Clwyd and acting on the information that the original map insert had now been located, would enquire further and report back to the next meeting.

- (b) **Provision of further allotments in Northop** (Cllr. G. Pierce)

Cllr. Pierce advised there were some 8-9 people on the waiting list for allotments and identified the land to the rear of 72-78 St Peters Park as a possible site for development. The Council heard that the identified land was known locally as 'The Buffer Zone' and had purposely been left undeveloped as a natural break between the school and the houses. Consideration was also given to the Land adjacent to Ysgol Owen Jones (Allotment Field). Cllr. R. Mackey advised that once an appropriate site had been identified, a Community Garden Society may be the most appropriate option as funding could be sought from Cadwyn Clwyd. Cllr. M. Bateman suggested that a representative from Cadwyn Clwyd be invited to advise members on the most appropriate way to support any community interest in establishing a Community Garden Society.

- (c) Cllr. T. Sharps's request for Leave of Absence was approved for maximum of 6 months.
- (d) Cllr. P. Lawton-Hughes's request for Leave of Absence was approved for a maximum of 6 months.

8. PREPARATION OF THE ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/15

Members gave consideration to the current year's budget prior to the preparation of the 2014/15 and 2015/16 estimates report to be considered at the January 2015 Council meeting. Cllr. R. Mackey noted that the only significant variables could be identified in the Street Lighting budget heads and requested an increase in projections for upgrading and transfers from £7,500 to £16,000.

9. COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFERS (CAT)

- (a) Consideration of Item 7(b) above highlighted some discrepancies between the information received from Flintshire County Council on the following sites, and that known locally:

- (i) Allotment Land to rear of 70-78 St. Peters Park, Northop
- (ii) Ffordd Owen Play Area, Northop
- (iii) Vownog Play Area, Sychdyn
- (iv) Changing Rooms, Tenant Farm Playing Fields, Sychdyn.

The Clerk was asked to further clarify site information provided by Flintshire County Council. The item to be brought forward to the January Council meeting.

(b) Future use of the Land adjacent to Ysgol Owen Jones (Allotment Field) would be considered further along with Item 7(b) above. The item to be brought forward to the January Council meeting.

The Clerk to provide members with copies of Flintshire County Council's 'Expressions of Interest' documentation.

10. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN – TAITH CONSULTATION EVENT

Members heard that Cllr. John Roberts hoped to attend the Consultation Event on Monday 15th December at Mold Town Hall, 1.00 – 7.00 pm.

The Chairman drew the meeting to a close by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.

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

COUNCIL MEETING	DATE: 8th DECEMBER 2014
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MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
	None.	