

NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Northop Community Council held at the Memorial Institute, Northop on Monday 8th July, 2019.

PRESENT: Councillors Pauline Lawton-Hughes (Chairman), Linda Scott (Vice-Chairman), Marion Bateman, Alison Brebner, John Carlin, Linda Deane, Rachel Hayward, Chris Ruddle, and retiring Clerk & incoming Clerk.

APOLOGIES: Received from Councillors, Jo Millar, Paul Ashley, Rob Mackey, Alan Watkin and Jarred Livesey.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. POLICE MATTERS

- There were no updates by the PCSO.
- The Clerk referred to an email received by Cllr Mackey from a local resident in regard to the theft of 5 hanging baskets in Northop. The incident has been reported to PCSO Prytherch. Members had heard of the incident and although CCTV recorded the theft by persons in a white van, no apprehensions have been made.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting of the 10th June, 2019 were confirmed as a true record.

Matters arising

Item 4 – Cllr Bateman reported that she had visited the layby at The Green, Northop and had found and removed a child's car seat from the upper bank. The lower bank is private property and nothing else could be seen amongst the shrubbery.

Cllr Deane confirmed that the gully at Ffordd Owen has been cleared.

Item 6 – 12 Members have now contacted the Clerk to confirm that they wish to opt out of receiving the mandatory payment of £150 p.a. towards expenses incurred in executing their duties as Councillors, the remaining Cllr needs to confirm their decision in writing to the Clerk without delay.

Item 8 – Clerk has actioned planning application information request to the Planning Department for Members to be informed of any developments in New Brighton which could potentially have an impact on Sychdyn.

Item 13 – Cllr Ruddle has spoken to the Sychdyn Bowling Club and they will submit an application to Bryn Gwalia Trust for a grant to resurface the bowling green.

4. **STREETSCENE ISSUES**

Members reported the following issues:

- Cllr Bateman advised that the road between New Brighton and Sychdyn would be top-dressed once the pot holes had been filled in, in the coming weeks.
- 30-mile traffic sign by traffic lights by Northop Band Room on Northop to Mold Road needs repairing.

The Clerk to contact Flintshire County Council to request remediation.

5. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

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

(i) **CXK/060009** – Proposed rear extension, internal modifications and alterations to existing windows/doors of dwelling at Bryn Morgan House, Starkey Lane, Northop, CH7 6DG.

The Council had no objection to the proposed development.

(ii) **KJH/059999** – Outline application with some matters reserved for the development of land to provide Lodge/Chalet park to include single storey and two storey lodges, a site office with shop/convenience store and cycle hire facility at Land at Northop Country Park, Northop, CH7 6WA.

The Council unanimously agreed to object to the proposed development on the following grounds:

- the proposal is out of character with the existing site which has a number of residential properties
- the development would result in an increase in the volume of traffic on the narrow site road and through Northop village - for access to the on and off slip roads of the A55 at junction 33.
- the original planning permission for the development of Northop Country Park precluded any further development of the site.

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

(i) **059410** - Delegated Officer Approval 5/6/2019. Demolition of existing church, and erection of 4no. houses and 2no. apartments at United Reformed Church, High Street, Northop. (Supported in principle by Northop C.C. but with conditions, regarding access)

(c) Members heard that Sychdyn Primary School has now received the educational contribution from Stuart Milne linked to the development of the Ffordd Eldon Site at Sychdyn.

6. ACCOUNTS

- (a) Payment of the following accounts were approved:
- (i) Gwen Smith – £828.12 comprising of:
 - Retiring Clerk's salary July 2019 plus 5/12 of Annual Allowance of £360.00 (1.3.19 – 31.7.19), £463.68
 - Internet rental (1.3.19 – 31.7.19), (5/12 x £192.00) = £80.00
 - Contribution to telephone calls (1.3.19 – 31.7.19), (5/12 x £100.00) = £41.67
 - Reimbursement of photocopying, printing materials, postage and stationary costs (1.3.19 – 31.7.19), £242.77. Costs include the purchase of a printer/scanner and ink supplies (some VAT costs to be recovered).
Cheque No. 2136 (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
 - (ii) Karen Jones – New Clerk's salary for July 2019, £466.90.
Cheque No. 2137 (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
 - (iii) HMRC – Income Tax payment of £232.40 Clerks' salaries July 2019.
Cheque No. 2142 (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
 - (iv) Jim's Mowing – Grass Cutting on 12th and 26th June 2019. Total of £120.00
Cheque No. 2138 (Open Spaces Act 1906 - Sections 9 and 10)
 - (v) Flintshire County Council – Street lighting Energy Costs. May 2019. £156.35
Cheque No. 2139 (Highways Act 1957 – Section 17)
 - (vi) Compumedic Ltd., Flint – supply of laptop, Microsoft Office, security software &. Total £804.77 (including VAT which will be recovered).
Cheque No. 2140 (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
 - (vii) One Voice Wales – Cllr Training 21 May 2019. £60.00
Cheque No. 2141 (Government Act 1972 – Section 111)
 - (viii) Northop Heritage Group in support of the Northop History Day in September grant of £250.00. Grant approved at the Council meeting on 10th June 2019, Cheque No 2144 (Government Act 1972 - Section 137).
 - (ix) Zurich Municipal-Additional cover for laptop (June 2019 to June 2020) £27.84
Cheque No 2143 (Government Act 1972 – Section 111)
- (b) Cllr Lawton Hughes and Cllr Deane authorised the Council's bank mandate to include the new Clerk, Karen Jones as a signatory and once implemented, to delete the retiring Clerk, Gwen Smith.
- (c) The Clerk confirmed that the transfer of £10,000 from the Capital Reserve Account to the Council's Current Account has now been actioned to correct the transfer error, as the £10,000 had initially and accidentally been transferred from the Current Account to the Capital Reserve, this has now been corrected and has been done to meet commitments.

7. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

(a) Space to dedicate a Local Tree, Northop (Cllr. P Lawton Hughes)

Cllr Lawton-Hughes had received an email from the Secretary to the Northop WI in regards to a tree planting initiative asking for observations as to appropriate situ for a tree and help with moving this forward. Members discussed a suitable location for the tree, with car park being identified as a good location. It was felt that the suggested siting at the cricket club would not be suitable due to the proximity of the Churchyard wall. Members also discussed what type of tree would be suitable

perhaps Rowan or Yew and agreed to take Cllr Mackey's advice. Members agreed that the option to site a tree at the Northop car park should be explored.

The Clerk to contact to contact Cllr Mackey and the Clerk to respond to the Secretary of Northop WI.

8. TRAFFIC MATTERS IN THE COMMUNITY AREA

(a) Cllr Brebner provided an update on the siting of a GoSafe camera van on the B5126 between the College Campus and Northop village. GoSafe have visited 3 times in a month with 12 speeding offences being recorded. No NIP's have been issued to offenders. Cllr Brebner will enquire with GoSafe what sanctions do offenders receive and what the next steps are. Go Safe have confirmed that this site will be monitored. Cllr Bateman will speak to the relevant FCC Highway Safety Officers.

(b) Cllr Scott had received reports and photographs of vehicles blocking the entrance to Pilgrims Close, and would report this ongoing issue to the PCSO.

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

Cllr Scott reported that the on-line petition to Stop the Red Route had been discussed at the Welsh Governments Petitions Committee and the main petitioners have been invited to attend at the Welsh Government in Cardiff on 1st October 2019 to present their case against the Red Route.

10. COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR

Cllr. Scott advised that she has the application form to order the defibrillator and to secure the necessary defibrillator training. It is hoped that the training will take place in September 2019.

11. SUMMARY OF EXENDITURE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2020 (AS AT 30th JUNE 2019)

The Members considered and accepted the quarterly report prepared by the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer. The projected outturn for 31st March 2020 is more favourable than was earlier anticipated.

12. TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Members approved the costs associated with providing web-editor training to the new Clerk. The estimated costs of £85 will include a software upgrade and 2 hours training.

13. SANDHOLE FIELD

Members received and noted correspondence on this matter received by the Chairman, the Chairman will respond accordingly.

The management of the site was discussed with a view to arranging a top-mowing in the coming weeks.

14. CITIZEN'S AWARD AND YOUNG VOLUNTEER'S AWARD

Members confirmed that the Young Volunteers Award will be renamed "Young Persons Award". This will be open to young persons from both Wards. The Citizens Award (Seniors) will be open to Sychdyn residents this year and the general arrangements will be reviewed in February 2020

Consideration was given to the time scales of launching the award. It was agreed that the Award will be launched end of September. Closing dates for nominations will be the end of November. Considerations of the nominations will be made prior to the December meeting.

Cllr Carlin suggested that in 2020 the Awards are launched in May and be promoted at the Sychdyn Carnival in June and through local Facebook Groups

The Clerk will prepare a poster and press release for consideration at the September Council Meeting.

15. PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

- (a) Council received with thanks the useful report produced by Mr. J. Roberts, on the condition of the local Public Rights of Way Network.
- (b) Members agreed the Clerk would contact Mr Roberts for his suggestions on the footpaths in need of the most urgent action. Mr Roberts response would be considered at the September meeting when a decision will be made on which section of Public Rights of Way will be put forward for improvement and for match funding by Flintshire County Council
- (c) The Clerk to clarify with FCC what progress is being made on the footpaths at Maes Y Grug (N21) and (N21A).

16. THE AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING

- (a) It was confirmed that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk will meet on Monday 12th August to deal with any urgent matters. The remit of the August Meeting will be:
 - To authorise payments of account due,
 - To respond to Flintshire County Council on any requests for comments on planning applications,
 - To deal with any urgent matters which cannot wait until the September meeting.

The actions taken to be reported to the September Council Meeting

- (b) To note that the next full Council meeting will be on Monday 9th September at 7.00pm at the Edith Bankes Memorial Hall.

17. FOR INFORMATION

Members received the following information.

Flintshire County Council's Local Development Plan.

Flintshire County Council advise that the LDP will be placed on Deposit for consultation in September 2019. Prior to this the draft Deposit LDP will be reported to Council on Tuesday 23rd July at 2.00pm seeking formal approval to go out to consultation. Further details on the consultation arrangements and how to comment on the Plan will be issued prior to the start of consultation. In particular, the use of the on-line consultation portal, as an easy and convenient way to comment on the Plan will be encouraged. Objections and representations submitted in advance of the start of the consultation exercise will not be accepted. The updated LDP Delivery Agreement document can be viewed at:

<https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Planning/Preferred-Strategy-Consultation/LDPDeliveryAgreement-MainDoc-MAY2019.pdf>

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

COUNCIL MEETING	DATE: 9th July, 2019
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MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
None		

Chairman's Signature..... Date.....