

NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Northop Community Council held at the Memorial Institute, Northop on Monday 9th November, 2015

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

APOLOGIES – Received from Cllrs. Joanne Millar and Alan Watkin.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Declaration of Interest was made:

- Cllr. Haydn Bateman – Trustee of Bryn Seion Chapel (Agenda Item 5(b)(ii) – Planning Applications).

2. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Amy Jones was unable to attend the meeting but provided members with an update on Police Matters in the community:

- No further complaints had been received concerning parking outside Ysgol Sychdyn. PCSO Jones understood that the Traffic Wardens were adding the location to their areas to patrol.
- PCSO Jones has contacted Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop regarding parking issues there.
- Should the parking issue near the college persist, PCSO Jones would ask the Traffic Wardens to patrol that area too.

Members advised:

- Staff of Ysgol Owen Jones are now meeting pupils at the school gate so that parents do not have to park their cars in the vicinity and escort their children into school.
- The incidence of cars parked on the highway outside the College grounds had lessened.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the 12th October 2015 were accepted as a correct record.

4. STREET LIGHTING

Northop – lighting faults

- Opposite 'Mory', Church Road, Northop – light flickering
- Damaged column at Aber Crescent still out after 7/8 weeks
- Lamp out, outside Edith Bankes Memorial Hall

Sychdyn – lighting faults

- Light out by 17 Pen y Bryn, Sychdyn

The Clerk to report/pursue action on these faults.

(b) Flintshire County Council (FCC) had supplied plans of the Northop Community Council owned street lights in Sychdyn but the plans for Northop were incomplete. The Clerk would supply FCC with a copy of the historic schedule of NCC lights so that the Mayrise system could be updated and full plans provided. Consequently, the matter was deferred until the January budget setting meeting when Northop and Sychdyn ward members would present their findings for consideration.

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) **JZB/054208** – PROPOSAL: Erection of single storey rear extension at Pendalog, Connah's Quay Road, Northop, CH7 6BT.

The Council had no objection to the proposed scheme.

(ii) **LEJ/054380** – PROPOSAL: Part demolition and conversion of existing chapel into 2No. semi-detached houses at Bryn Seion Chapel, London Road, Sychdyn, Mold.

Concerns were raised regarding highway and parking issues and the Council considered that the outcome of the application should be guided by the Highway considerations and the response of that Service.

(b) To receive any correspondence from Flintshire County Council's Head of Planning regarding planning applications on which the Council had previously submitted observations.

(i) **PXR/054225** – Delegated Officer Approval 14/10/15. Erection of a two storey extension at Springfield Cottage, Connah's Quay Road, Northop, CH7 6BT.

6. ACCOUNTS

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

- (i) Gwen Smith – Clerks salary for November 2015, £310.30 (Cheque No. 1890) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (ii) HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax payment of £77.60 in respect of Clerk's salary for November 2015 (Cheque No. 1891) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (iii) Jim's Mowing – Grass Cutting on 5th and 26th October, totalling £110.00. (Cheque No. 1892) (Open Spaces Act - Sections 9 and 10)

- (iv) Flintshire County Council – July-September 2015 Street Lighting costs totalling £1684.71
- Inspection and Maintenance = £449.40
 - Energy costs = £485.31
 - Installation of new column on New Brighton Road = £750.00 (Cheque No. 1893) (Highways Act 1957 – Section 17)

7. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

- (a) **County Forum** (Cllrs P. Lawton-Hughes and C. Ruddle)
Cllrs Lawton-Hughes and Ruddle provide feedback from the County Forum meeting of 22nd October, in particular:

Medium Term Financial Forecast (MTFS) and Joint Working (FCC)

Purpose: Flintshire County Council would hold a series of public consultations meetings to identify possible budget savings to meet the substantial funding shortfall from central government and consequently the Welsh Government. It was hoped that Capital Asset Transfers and joint working between FCC and community bodies would secure certain services for the future.

Boundary Commission Consultation: The consultation is still underway however, on the issue of the representation ratio of electorate to representative, the Commission is not proposing to reduce the ratio for rural areas.

Town and Community Council Topics:

- Libraries – Concerns were raised regarding the possible loss of the mobile library service in rural areas and the closure of Mynydd Isa library to meet the funding shortfall.
- Police Visits – Attendees learnt that not all community council meetings are attended by the local PCSO or Police representative.

- (b) **Capital Asset Transfer (CAT) Training Event** (Cllr. J. Roberts)
Cllr Roberts provide feedback from the training event, arranged by FLVC which was held on 20th October. Cllr Roberts commented that the training event had been useful and that the issue of CAT should be re-visited to protect services and assets in the community council area.

Council resolved to submit an Expression of Interest on behalf of the community in respect of the Allotments in Northop, and to be supportive to any community group wishing to take on the management of the site.

- (c) **Sychdyn Festive Lights** (Cllr. J. Millar)

Council agreed to the request submitted by Cllr. Millar for permission to arrange connection of the Sychdyn Festive Lights to one of the Community Council's street lights for power. Sychdyn 2012 would bear the connection and disconnection costs.

8. NORTHOP VILLAGE SIGNS

Council approved the purchase and installation of three new village signs as per the draft Design and total costing of £1981.68 + VAT.

9. WELSH BORDER COMMUNITY TRANSPORT (WBCT)

Council approved the award of a £200 grant and noted the continued use of the service by residents of the Community Council area.

10. WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION – Alternative delivery models in public service delivery: an action plan for consultation

Council resolved to respond to the consultation document expressing the view that the Draft Principles (p.9) were the most important element of the document. The Clerk to submit the response by the closing date 13th January 2015.

11. LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES PROPOSALS FOR THE REVIEW OF COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES IN FLINTSHIRE

Council acknowledged the Commission's decision not to change the current community boundaries.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960

The press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following agenda item in view of the confidential information to be discussed.

12. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR 2016

The Clerk to seek quotations from three contractors for grounds maintenance services for periods of one and three years and to return the matter for further consideration in the New Year.

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

COUNCIL MEETING	DATE: 9th NOVEMBER 2015
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MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
Cllr. Haydn Bateman	5(b)(ii) – Planning Applications	5.