

SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 18th MARCH 2019 AT SEALAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

PRESENT: Councillors Chris Jones (Chair and County Councillor), Jean Fairbrother, Barbara Hinds (Vice-Chair), Mikael Khan, Alex Lewis, Mary Southall, Rhondda Whittaker and David Wisinger.

Peter Richmond: Clerk and Financial Officer.
Three members of the public.

18/283 APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Norman Jones, Mike Walker and Shelley Webber.

Apologies were not received from Councillor Sarah Wilson.

**18/284 NOTICE UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972 (Section 87(2))
VACANCY FOR A COUNCILLOR**

The Clerk confirmed that no request for an election was received by the Returning Officer at Flintshire County Council – confirmation is awaited. The public notice of co-option in accordance with Section 116 of the Local Government (Wales) Measures 2011 was issued on Monday 1st March 2019 with a closing date of Friday 29th March 2019. Copies have been added to the Council’s web site and notice boards.

Submissions of interest should be sent in writing to the Clerk to the Sealand Community Council, 3 Blakeley Court, Raby Mere. Wirral. CH63 0ND

The Clerk understands that 3 Sealand residents are intending to apply but no applications have been received to date.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/285 CODE OF CONDUCT DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No Declarations were submitted at the beginning of the meeting.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/286 CHAIR’S REPORT AND ACTIONS SINCE 18th FEBRUARY 2019

The Chair advised that she attended the recent Connah’s Quay Civic Ball.

Chair's Fund Update - Agreed Spend to date from the total allocation of £800.00
Cost of refreshments at the Remembrance Sunday Service and at the Christmas Carol Service – Total cost £250.00
£50 payment to the Deva Brass who performed at the Christmas Carol Service.
Payments of £25 to Eye to Eye, Sealand Happy Group, Calendar Girls Bingo, St. Bartholomew's Church and the Leprechaun Monday Club. Total £125

The Chair advised that she wished to make the following payments from the Chair's Fund –
Refund to Councillor Barbara Hinds for the cost of flowers to Mrs. Michelle Lewis - £30
And payments of £100 to each of the following – Sealand & Queensferry Memory Café, St Bartholomew's Church, Sealand Primary School and the Sealand Manor Residents Association.

Payments being made under expenditure powers - Ancillary Power Local Government Act 1972 (S11)

RESOLVED – that –

- i) the report be noted.
- ii) the Chair's proposed spend of the Chair's Fund be approved and Council notes that the total spend is £855 whilst the allocation was £800.

18/287 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

A member of the public raised the issues of –

- i) heavy goods vehicles including effluent tankers and car transporters using Deeside Lane. The road surface is breaking up as a consequence with the added problem that it's a narrow lane resulting in vehicles when passing other vehicles driving off the road and churning up the soft ground. One car having to do this resulted in damaging a tyre requiring road assistance to be called.
- ii) problems with the high side drainage ditch that runs near to Deeside Lane.

18/288 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OF COUNCIL HELD ON 18th FEBRUARY 2019

RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 18th February 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

18/289 POLICE ISSUES

The Clerk advised that he has received an email from PCSO 2872 Rob Bainbridge – Rob is taking over from PCSO Chris Phillips. Unfortunately, he is unable to attend the meeting.

The Chair advised that PCSO Chris Phillips has been promoted to PC.

Rob has advised he knows the Garden City / Sealand area very well, so will be able to get up to speed reasonably quickly. For info, he has links to the area for 40 years.

He has been made aware of concerns of drug use in the area – sadly, this seems to be a common theme in all areas. He stressed that for the Police to take positive action to try and get on top of this, they will require the full co-operation of councillors to liaise with their contacts and request they report the matter direct to Rob or crime stoppers. It means that when the Police submit the intelligence and put together information for warrants, the courts favour intelligence that has been passed directly to an Officer/ via crime stoppers. Rob's mobile number and email address are - 07974 243432 / rob.bainbridge@nthwales.pnn.police.uk

Rob has already been in contact with the Housing Officer for Clwyd Alyn to raise concerns about these persons who are tenants of theirs and they are liaising with their ASB Officers to see if any actions can be taken.

Rob will be responsible for the Garden City / Sealand areas though he is still a North Flintshire SNT Officer and will be requested to assist in other areas when working – this is simply down to the fact of reduced numbers, and effectively covering a larger area with less Officers.

In all areas that Rob has worked he likes to meet once a month with the County Councillor to discuss issues and will shortly be liaising with County Councillor Chris Jones

1. Riverbank cycle path - Shotton to Chester – Drugs Problem.
Police has previously advised that the police are continuing to carrying out patrols.
2. Ferry Lane – Drugs Problem
Police has previously advised that they will investigate the reports of drug activity taking place late mornings.
3. Community Speed Watch - should councillors wish to take part in the community speed watch to contact Councillor Mike Walker. Councillor Mike Walker has previously said he will again ask his police contact whether Speed Watch Signs can be installed at locations to be specified by the said the Councillor.
4. Cars are still doing U-turns – traffic lights Sealand Road/ Seahill Road. A site meeting was recently held and the County Council are looking at whether the light's sequences can be changed in order to improve the situation and whether some of the traffic lights can be repositioned. Police have previously said they will continue to visit the location.
5. Green Lane East – there is still concern about through traffic and speeding traffic especially at weekends. It was previously advised that the police are making visits. It was suggested that local residents should take photographs of the offending vehicles

and then contact the police on 101. Police have previously suggested that photographs of cars driving along Green Lane East be sent to the Police for investigation.

6. Very important that unsocial behaviour is reported to the Police via 101 – or via the Police’s on-line reporting facility. It was reported that the problem is on the increase in the evenings by the Spar Shop and the Sandy Lane Youth Club.
7. CCTV and laptop – the Clerk reminded Council that he has asked PCSO Chris Phillips 3686 for the police’s proposal to return the laptop to council to be reconsidered as the council entered into the CCTV/laptop arrangement in 2008 at the request of North Wales Police through CBM Dave Huxley with North Wales Police taking ownership of the said laptop. The Council does not want to take ownership of the laptop. At the previous meeting PC Craig Bellamy said he will discuss with his Sergeant.

Wayne Jones previously advised that he will arrange for a CCTV sign to be attached to the street light column on Foxes Lane

The Clerk reminded Council that PCSO Chris Phillips had reported that the Sealand CCTV isn’t connecting to the laptop and needs to be have the technical fault repaired. The Clerk has passed the contact details of the CCTV company to PCSO Chris Phillips so that he can arrange to meet them on site. This information has now been passed to PCSO 2872 Rob Bainbridge

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/290 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

a) Underpass - Lighting and Surface Water - Foxes Lane

Wayne Jones previously advised that he still understands that it is proposed to install new lighting at these two underpasses subject to funding being provided by NMWTRA. The Clerk advised that all lights have been repaired apart from one.

Wayne Jones previously advised that he will inspect the drainage situation. It was agreed that Wayne Jones should also be asked to arrange for the underpass road surface to be cleaned.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

b) Ferry Lane Footbridge – Noise Nuisance

The County Councillor advised that she understands that costings are being produced for remedial work to be undertaken to reduce the noise nuisance.

The County Councillor will ask Mark Middleton to provide a progress report.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

c) Car Sales – Sealand Road / St. Bartholomew’s Court

Council has been advised that the planning application will not be considered until the complaints regarding the lights have been actioned. The lights still need to be reviewed and repositioned and are now on till midnight.

The County Councillor will contact Planning Enforcement.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

d) Land opposite St. Bartholomew’s Church – The Spinney

RESOLVED –the matter be deferred.

e) Foxes Lane – Parking by the Shops and on the grass verge at Riverside Park

The County Councillor advised that the County Council’s Enforcement Team are currently monitoring both sites.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

f) Deeside Lane – Various Issues

The County Councillor advised on various issues at Deeside Lane. The issues are being investigated by the County Council’s Enforcement Team.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

g) Car Park – Welsh Road (Griffiths Pharmacy) Stopping Up Order

The Chair reported on recent progress about this matter including a site meeting. It is understood that the car park is now on the required list for consideration. The proposed improvements are now on the priority list.

RESOLVED –the report be noted.

h) Speed Limit – Ferry Lane – 30 mph

The Clerk advised that he has been informed by the County Council that the results of the speed survey have been returned and the average speed 24/7 is 34.9mph. As Ferry Lane joins with Cheshire a meeting has been scheduled for 21st March 2019 to discuss.

The County Council will shortly provide an update.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

i) Dandy’s Top Soil – Sealand Road

The Chair referred to the new building and signage that has been installed without planning permission. This has been referred to Planning Enforcement

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

j) Morriston Farm – Green Lane East

RESOLVED – that Neil Cockerton be again asked if he could advise on whether the farm’s tenancy agreements makes reference to the use of Green Lane East and the direction of the traffic flow to and from the farm.

k) Foxes Lane Corner – Access point into the Farm

At the previous meeting it was reported that on the farm corner, there are two very wide farm gates. Facing the left-hand side of the left gate, at the bottom, there is a blue pipe sticking up out of the concrete base. Also, where the gates are there is a large amount of hard core. Further into the field hardcore has recently been deposited and a concrete base has been installed that includes up right pipes.

The County Councillor advised that this is being investigated by Planning Enforcement

RESOLVED – that that the report be noted

l) Concerns about Risk of Traffic Accident – junction of Green Lane East and Old Sealand Road

RESOLVED – that Wayne Jones be asked to advise on whether any improvements can be made at this location.

m) All Sealand Ditches

RESOLVED – that Neil Parry Flintshire County Council be asked to report on the current condition of all Sealand drainage ditches

18/291 COUNCIL’S STREET LIGHTING

The Clerk advised that –

- a) all of the Council’s lights are working

- b) the old column 61 on Foxes Lane is still working and needs to be removed as soon as the supply has been transferred to the adjacent new column. The County Council have again been advised of this.

The Clerk reminded council that for the 2019/20 financial year the council agreed at its October 2018 meeting to upgrade the following 9 lights - 86 and 90 on Sealand Avenue, 167 on the footway alongside the former police station, and then Sandy Lane 100 to 104 (from Sealand Avenue to junction with Maplewood Avenue) and 109 (Sandy Lane cul-de-sac). The expenditure of £18,000 was approved by Council at its Annual Finance Meeting held on 10th December 2018.

The Clerk advised that he has informed that the new columns will be installed during April 2019 and will be connected to the mains supply via a transfer of service as soon as possible.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/292 SECTION 137 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972
PAYMENT OF GRANTS

The Clerk advised that the Government has confirmed that the appropriate sum for the S137 Expenditure Limit for the purpose of Section 137 (4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for the calculation of the Free Resource Base is based on the local population taken from the current electoral role of 2154 and £7.57 per elector produces an upper limit of £16,305.78.

The amount per elector has recently been increased to £8.12 and this will be applied in respect of the 2019/20 financial year. The recently issued electoral role from Flintshire County Council indicates a total of 2101. The amount per elector is £8.12 producing a total of £17,060.12

The grant allocation for the 2018/19 financial year is £2,500. Spent - £2,068.75

The expenditure on free school milk comes under well-being (Local Government Act 2000, Sections (1-5) - this power is again restricted again by the S137 limit (£7.57 per elector in any given financial year).

The school milk estimated expenditure for 2018/19 is £3,500. Spent - £2,326.05

The above indicates a total estimated Section 137 (4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 expenditure of £6,000 in the 2018/19 financial year. Total spent - £4,394.80

The Clerk advised that grant requests have been received from –

- i) Citizens Advice
- ii) 50+ in Flintshire Advisory Group
- iii) Wales Air Ambulance Charity

RESOLVED – that consideration of the above grant requests be deferred to the April 201 meeting of Council.

18/293 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Clerk advised on the planning applications received from Flintshire County Council.

059277 - Development of existing highway land to a Park & Ride facility with associated infrastructure at Proposed Park & Ride, Shotwick Road, Sealand, Deeside.

059547 - Redevelopment of the site to provide two new industrial units (Use Class B1(c)/B2/B8) with ancillary office and a management suite with associated car parking and landscaping at 12 First Avenue, Deeside Industrial Park, Deeside, CH5 2NU

059612 - Application for removal or variation of a condition following grant of planning permission. (059018) at land at Deeside Industrial Estate - Zone 1, Welsh Road, Deeside, CH5 2NY

059597 - Use of land for storage of cars and caravans at Hyperion House, Deeside Lane, Sealand, Chester, CH1 6BP

RESOLVED – that

- i) no objections be raised in respect of 059277,059547 and 059612.
- ii) objections be raised with regard to 059597 on the basis that the proposed development would be of major concern to Council as it would be against the requirements of the Sealand Green Barrier, it would conflict with the open landscape of the area, it would be detrimental for local residents, it would add to the current unacceptable traffic flows along the unadopted private Deeside Lane, it would create additional traffic hazards at the junction of Deeside Lane and Sealand Road and the additional traffic flows along Deeside Lane would create a significant nuisance for all local residents.

18/294 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

RESOLVED: - that –

- i) the under mentioned accounts be approved for payment.
- ii) it be noted that the Lloyds Bank charges for the period as previously notified to Council – £5 per month.

Cheque No	Payable to	Details	Amount	VAT	Vat Code	Expenditure Powers
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003226	Flintshire County Council	Contribution to Matched Funding – Sealand Manor Pay Area	£5000.00			Local Govt (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Section 19
003227	Councillor Barbara Hinds	Refund cost of flowers for Mrs. Michelle Lewis – Chair’s Fund	£30.00			Ancillary Power Local Government Act 1972 (S11)
003228	Sealand and Queensferry Memory Cafe	Chair’s Fund	£100.00			Ancillary Power Local Government Act 1972 (S11)
003229	St. Bartholomew’s Church	Chair’s Fund	£100.00			Ancillary Power Local Government Act 1972 (S11)
003230	Sealand Primary School	Chair’s Fund	£100.00			Ancillary Power Local Government Act 1972 (S11)
003231	Sealand Manor Residents Association	Chair’s Fund	£100.00			Ancillary Power Local Government Act 1972 (S11)
003232	Jolora Ltd	Web Site Maintenance Monthly Retainer February 2019	£192.00	£32.00	294456859	Local Govt Act 1972 (S142)
003233	P. Richmond	Salary etc. – February 2019	£686.44			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
003234	HMRC	PR – Income Tax March 2019	£270.80			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
003235	Flintshire County Council	Street Lighting Maintenance and Energy – December 2018 and January 2019	£1,195.44			Highways Act 1980 (301)

003236	Information Commissioner	Data Protection Annual Renewal Fee	£40.00			Local Govt Act 1972 (S111)
003237	Ritchie Hayes and Sons Dairy	School Milk – January and February 2019	£364.61			Local Govt Act 1972 (S137)
Total Spend			£8,179.29	£32.00		

18/295 **INCOME**

The Clerk advised that Council had received the following income –

Lloyds Bank	Interest	£2.10
Rural Payments Agency	Autumn Term 2018 Milk Subsidy	£191.53
Total		£193.63

RESOLVED – that the income be noted.

18/296 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk advised that some general correspondence had been emailed to members of council which did not need reporting at the meeting.

RESOLVED - that the correspondence be noted

18/297 **THE AIRFIELDS DEVELOPMENT**

There was no update.

RESOLVED – that the matter be deferred.

18/298 **MATCHED FUNDING SCHEME**
IMPROVEMENTS TO CHILDREN’S PLAY AREA - 2018/19
SEALAND MANOR

The Clerk advised he has received the invoice from the County Council in respect of the Council’s contribution to the matched funding scheme.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/299 **FRIENDS OF SEALAND - COMMUNITY STRATEGY- PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

The Vice Chair reported on issues raised by members of the public at the public meeting held on 11th March 2019 – Concern about lack of public transport to former RAF houses at Green Lane East, concern about future of bus services in general, difficulty in walking across Sealand Road due to volume and speed of traffic and concern about effluent tanks using Green Lane East.

It was agreed that that a group be set up to produce a Sealand Community Information Pack.

The Chair advised that she will arrange to hold County Councillor surgeries at St. Bartholomew's Church. It was agreed to not provide Community Councillor Surgeries.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/300 **MILK SUBSIDY CLAIMS – RURAL PAYMENTS AGENCY**

The Clerk advised that payment of £191.53 in respect of the Autumn Term 2018 claim has been received.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/301 **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – 2019**

The Clerk advised that he has spoken with Colin Sargent at the Royal British Legion to arrange to purchase a supply of poppies to be attached to street light columns. Further information is still awaited.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/302 **TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S PLAYSHEME PROGRAMME 2019**

The Clerk reported that he has been in discussion with Janet Roberts at Flintshire County Council who has advised that the County Council are planning to provide appropriate events shelters at both sites.

Janet will provide an update for the next meeting of Council.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/303 **SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS – 2018/19 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Clerk outlined the finalised expenditure and income for 2018/19 financial year up to cheque number 003237.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

2018 / 19 Financial Year	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Income			
General Admin Inc. Precept	£57,000.00	£57,000.00	£0.00
Bank Interest	£21.55	£20.00	£1.55
Insurance Claims / Refunds	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
VAT Refund	£307.60	£200.00	+£107.60
Milk Claims	£473.47	£500.00	-£26.53
Total	£57,802.62	£57,920.00	£82.62
Expenditure	Actual	Anticipated	Difference
Bank Charges	£6000	£60.00	£0.00
Chairman's Fund	£855.00	£800.00	-£55.00
Staffing Costs	£10,119.80	£9,882.00	-£237.80
General Admin Costs	£3,071.68	£3,320.00	£248.32
Council Web Site	£2,240.00	£2,000.00	-£240.00
Insurances	£852.61	£1,000.00	£147.39
Defibrillator – LGA Act 2000(S2)	£1,646.81	£1,000.00	-£646.81
Play Schemes and New Equipment	£9,949.00	£9,400.00	-£549.00
Highways	£1,400.00	£0.00	-£1,400.00
Street Lighting	£24,706.33	£25,400.00	£693.67
CCTV Maintenance	£0.00	£200.00	£200.00
Grants – Section 137	£2,068.75	£2,500.00	£431.25
School Milk – Section 137	£2,326.05	£3,500.00	£1,173.95
Total	£59,296.03	£59,062.00	-£234.03

Current Summary	Balance as at 31 March 2018 including £25,000 contingency fund.	£39,991.15
	Total expenditure	£59,296.03
	Total income	£57,802.62
	Balance in year spend	-£1,493.41
	Overall balance as at 18th March 2019	£38,497.74
	VAT Costs for 2018/19 financial year	£639.67
End of Year Prediction	Balance as at 31 st March 2018	£39,991.15
	Total anticipated expenditure	£59,062.00
	Total anticipated income	£57,920.00
	Anticipated balance for the year	-£1,342.00
	Anticipated Overall Balance as at 31st March 2019	£38,649.15

18/304 **COUNCIL'S WEB SITE**

The Clerk advised that all Town and Community Councils have been advised to consider the impact of the public sector bodies' websites and mobile applications Accessibility Regulations 2018.

The aim of the regulations is to ensure public sector websites and mobile apps are accessible to all users, especially those with disabilities. The new regulations are called 'The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018'

The Clerk advised that he still seeking further information on this and will be in discussion with JOLORA Ltd who manage and maintain the council's web site but that he is under the impression that the council's web sites meets the requirements of the said Regulations.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

18/305 **SEALAND PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY**

RESOLVED – that the council's representative on the school's Governing Body to replace Councillor Joan Keith should be Councillor David Wisinger.

18/306 **MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

- Samaritans signs to be provided at the Saltney Ferry footbridge – requires planning permission.
- Outcome of structural survey – Seahill Road Bridge.
- Need to have rubbish removed from former Air Raid Shelter – off Sealand Road – Wayne Jones previously advised that he will action this.
- Concern about ditches – Sealand Road.
- Concern about Effluent Tankers – Hazardous Waste – Deeside Lane and Green Lane East (Bridge Farm).
- Possible first aid training for members of Council.
- Concern about Sealand Manor West Green – ditches filled and hedges removed.

18/307 **MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Can internet access be provided at St. Bartholomew's Church?

18/308 **DATE OF COUNCIL'S NEXT MEETING – 8th APRIL 2019**

RESOLVED – that the meetings of Council for 2019 be held on the following dates 8th April 2019, 20th May 2019(AGM), 17th June, 15th July, 9th September, 21st October, 18th November and 9th December (Annual Finance Meeting)

18/309

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Council Member	Item	Minute Reference

The meeting opened at 6.30pm and closed at 8.30 pm

..... Signed 8th April 2019
Chair of the Council.