

SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**DECISIONS SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 15th APRIL 2024
AT SEALAND COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL, FARM ROAD, GARDEN CITY. CH5 2HH**

PRESENT: Councillors: Barbara Hinds (Acting Chair), Gwyneth Bullock, Christine Jones (County Councillor), Lionel Prouve, Mary Southall, Norman Jones, Linda Thomas, Alex Lewis and David Wisinger.

Ashley Griffiths – Clerk.

Peter Richmond – Retiring Clerk attending in an advisory capacity.

Councillor Norman Jones joined the meeting at 6.30pm

23/265 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

PA Number	Application details	Location
FUL/000209/24	The redevelopment of the former hotel site to provide 4 no. food and retail units falling within use class A1 and A3, together with landscaping, car parking and site signage	Former Gateway to Wales Hotel, Welsh Road, Garden City, Deeside, CH5 2HX
FUL/000144/24	Proposed installation of SR1 powder coated black rated mesh fencing to the boundary and two cantilever gates at the vehicular entrances to the facility	AkzoNobel, UNIT 101, Tenth Avenue, Sealand, Deeside, CH5 2UA
FUL/000226/24	Application for Removal or Variation of Conditions 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 following Planning Permission 063591	Former Corus Site, Northern Gateway, Welsh Road, Garden City, Deeside, CH5 2RD

RESOLVED – that –

i) Objections be raised in respect of the above planning application - FUL/000209/24 on the grounds that the application has not been amended since the council last objected to the application.

a) On the grounds that the proposal will increase traffic flows leading to potential road safety problems with its nearness to the traffic roundabout and bus stop.

b) The entrance to the site is of course the same entrance as used by the former Gateway to Wales Hotel, however, there is now more traffic using this roundabout than in the past.

c) The proposed development potentially may cause traffic queues that could prove a danger to traffic leaving the dual carriageway to enter Welsh Road.

d) Improvement is needed to the current entrance and exit for the proposed site if this development is to go ahead.

ii) That no objections be raised in respect to FUL/000144/24 and FUL/000226/24.

23/266 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 most recent period is £10.40 - re £7.00 per month with an additional charge of 4 cheques x £0.85 = £3.40.

Cheque No	Payable to	Details	Amount	VAT	Vat Code	Expenditure Powers
003621	Jolora LTD	Web Site Maintenance	£384.00	£64.00	294456859	Local Govt Act 1972 (S142)
003622	Wainwrights Accountants	Annual Payroll Charge, Nest Pension Set Up, Management of Pension	£474.00	£79.00	932721925	Local Govt Act 1972 (S111))
003623	Ashley Griffiths	April 2024 Salary etc	£946.64			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
003624	Peter Richmond	April 2024 Salary etc	£809.51			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
003625	HMRC	Income Tax - NI	£879.00			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
Total Spend			£3,494.15	£143.00		

23/261 MATTERS REFERRED TO FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**ii) A frame barrier amendment proposals**

The County Councillor advised Council that the new A frames have been targeted and illegal attempts to remove them have triggered Flintshire County Council to repair the newly installed fixings.

RESOLVED – That an email of support should be sent to Mike Taylor regarding the Councils stance on keeping A frames in the area.

K) Garden City – Dog faeces bag dispensers

The two County Councillors reported on 2nd April 2024 that after a walkabout in the community that dog bag dispensers would be a good idea to clean up the area. The Clerk reported that Council could purchase dispensers under Section 137 of the Local Govt Act 1972.

RESOLVED: That –

- i) Councillor Linda Thomas will convey with Council in the near future the data on how successful dog faeces dispensers work in Hawarden and Ewloe.

23/267 INCOME

Lloyds Bank	Interest payment	£51.81
Total Income		£51.81

RESOLVED – That the income be noted.

23/275 **SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL – BANK RECONCILIATION –**
31st MARCH 2024

In line with Council’s Financial Regulations and audit requirements the Clerk submits details of the Council’s overall bank balances in respect of – as at 30th June, 30th September, 31st December and 31st March each year.

Account - no 0388217 – £11,793.05 - Account - no – 7326098 - £45,042.83 Total - £56,835.88

Unpaid - Cheque number	Payable to	Amount - £
003614	Jolora Ltd	384.00
003616	Information Commissioner	40.00
003619	Sealand Happy Group	100.00
003620	Sealand Primary School	360.00
Total		884.00

Total bank accounts – £56,835.88 less unpaid cheques of £884.00 as outlined above leaves a net balance of £55,951.88. This amount cross references with the summary of income and expenditure report as at 31st March 2024.

The Chair signed two hard copies of the bank reconciliation statements.

RESOLVED: - That the report be noted.

23/276 **INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2023/24 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Clerk outlined the requirement to Council for the internal audit and referred to the audit form that has been completed with the retiring Clerk to members of council for information on the way the Audit is conducted. It is required to include various working papers and documentation, failure to do so may result in a delay in completing council’s internal audit and additional audit costs. Subsequently this could possibly delay the External Audit.

The Clerk advised Council that he had submitted the Audit check list form, Annual return and uploaded a variety of documents to the online portal for JDH Business Services Ltd on 12th April 2024 and will be handing additional documents for the internal audit on 25th April 2024.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

23/277 **EXTERNAL AUDIT - ANNUAL FINANCIAL RETURN – 2023/24 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Clerk gave an overview of the requirement to council for the external audit noting that the documents can be delivered by hand to South Wales or sent via recorded delivery with a deadline of the 30th June 2024 and mandated the council to publish an audit notice by the 16th of June on all notice boards and council website for a period of 14 calendar days, after the forementioned period it is the requirement of council to allow the electors 20 days of inspection from the 1st July to the 26th of July.

Section 30 of the Public Audit Wales Act 2004 gives the rights of the elector to inspect the councils accounts.

The clerk received the audit notice 2024 for the audit of accounts and noted to council that he will send the relevant documents to the auditors in the near future after he has received the internal audit back and outlined the accounts for Council in the Local Council for Wales Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Annual governance statement – Part 1

We acknowledge as the members of the Council our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 as outlined by the Clerk.

Expenditure under S137 Local Government Act 1972 and S2 Local Government Act 2000

Section 137(1) of the 1972 Act permits the Council to spend on activities for which it has no other specific powers if the Council considers that the expenditure is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, the area or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants, providing that the benefit is commensurate with the expenditure. Section 137(3) also permits the Council to incur expenditure for certain charitable and other purposes. The maximum expenditure that can be incurred under both section 137(1) and (3) for the financial year 2023-24 was £9.93 per elector.

In 2023-24, the Council made payments totalling £1,900 under section 137. These payments are included within 'Other payments' in the Accounting Statement.

The Clerk advised that the report / Annual Return will again be presented to Council following completion of the internal audit. Following certification by the Responsible Financial Officer the Council is required to approve the Annual Governance Statement Part 2

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

23/278 PAYMENT TO MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR

A form for completion concerning the 2024/25 financial year has been circulated by the Clerk to all 13 Councillors. 11 Councillors have signed the forms advising that they have declined the payments this leaves 2 Councillors to complete and sign the form – Councillors Jean Fairbrother and Norman Jones.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

23/281 DATE OF COUNCIL'S NEXT MEETING – 20th MAY 2024

23/282 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT - DECLARATION OF INTEREST - NONE

The meeting opened at 6pm and closed at 7.58pm

..... Signed 20th May 2024