

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

PRESENT: Councillors: Barbara Hinds (Chair), Gwyneth Bullock, Christine Jones (County Councillor), David Wisinger (Vice-Chair), Alex Lewis, Brian Ward, Linda Thomas and Jean Fairbrother.

Robin Davies – Acting Headteacher- Sealand Primary School

Ashley Griffiths – Clerk and Financial Officer.

24/63 NOTICE UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972 (Section 87 (2))

VACANCY FOR ONE COUNCILLOR

Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) advised that Flintshire County Council had informed him that no request for an election had been received within fourteen days of the Notice date, and it is for the Council to fill the vacancy by co-option. Council is required to give public notice of co-option in accordance with Section 116 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

The public notice has been emailed to Council members, attached to the notice boards, and added to the Council's website on the 1st day of July 2024 and will be advertised until the 21st day of July 2024. If no members of the public apply for the role, the vacancy will be deferred until the September meeting.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

24/66 CHAIR'S REPORT AND ACTIONS SINCE 24th JUNE 2024

Barbara Hinds (Chair) briefed the Council on a conference call she had with Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) and Sandra Donoghue (Ageing Well Engagement Officer) regarding the conditions Sealand Happy Group has to deal with and how the Council can support the group in resolving its issues. Along with the monthly meetings the Chair and Vice Chair have with the Clerk. Unfortunately, David Wisinger (Vice Chair) could not attend this month's meeting due to other commitments.

The Chair confirmed that the Clerk would create a timeline for updates and utilise One Voice Wales for their expert knowledge when necessary; the Chair also expressed that One Voice Wales has training courses for all councillors. Along with slide shows, the Council can use to inform members about different topics. Therefore, the October meeting will start at 5:30 PM to discuss one of the particular topics of interest. The Chair reiterated the need for monthly meetings with the Chair, Vice Chair, and Clerk because it is invaluable and purposeful.

The Council agreed that a monthly meeting would become mandatory for the Chair, Vice Chair, and Clerk to ensure the effective running of the Council.

The Chair expressed her desire to attend the Chair of Flintshire County Council Civic Service on September 8th, 2024.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

24/72 SECTION 137 – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – PAYMENT OF GRANTS

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. The Welsh Government have advised that the Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2024/25 is £10.81 per elector. The electoral roll from Flintshire County Council was 2538 in December 2022. So, per elector produces a total of £28,062.76.

The Allocated spend in 2024/25 is Section 137 grants of £3,035.00 and for school milk £0.00.

Spending in 2024/25 so far is £150.00.

A grant request has been received from Sealand Happy Group – An up-to-date copy of the bank statement has been provided.

RESOLVED – that in accordance with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1971, the Council should award a grant of £150.00 to Sealand Happy Group, which is in the best interests of the area and its inhabitants.

24/73 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

PA Number	Application details	Location
FUL/000521/24	Erection of a food store (Use Class A1); a drive-through bakery unit (Use Class A1/A3); associated car parking facilities including an electric vehicle charging hub; pedestrian access routes and servicing; landscaping; and associated site works (including two electrical substations).	Plot 2A, The Airfields South Camp, Welsh Road, Garden City, Deeside, CH5 2RD

RESOLVED – That no objections be raised in respect of FUL/000521/24.

24/74 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 £13.80 - re £7.00 per month with an additional charge of 8 cheques x £0.85 = £6.80
- iii) it be noted that Cheque numbers 003636 and 003637 have been Raised in Error.

Cheque No	Payable to	Details	Amount	VAT	Vat Code	Expenditure Powers
003634	Ashley Griffiths	July 2024 Salary etc	£939.84			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)

Chair's Signature:

003635	Sealand Happy Group	Grant	£150.00			Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1971
Direct Debit Payment	Nest	Pension	£46.90			Local Govt Act 1972 (\$112)
003636	Raised in Error					
003637	Raised in Error					
003638	HMRC	Income Tax - NI	£187.14			Local Govt Act 1972 (\$112)
Total Spend			£1,323.88	£0		

24/75 INCOME

Lloyds Bank	Interest payment	£58.47
Total Income		£58.47

RESOLVED – that the income received be noted.

24/76 CORRESPONDENCE

Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) informed the Council that after discussing the Council website with Barbara Hinds (Chair) and David Wisinger Vice-Chair, Sealand Happy Group should be added under the heading Local Sealand Groups.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

24/79 PLAY SCHEMES - 2024

Darren Morris (Lead Officer for play development) posted marketing material for the notice boards. He also emailed a bespoke marketing leaflet circulated to the Council and school and advised the Council that they could purchase a banner if needed.

The Council decided that purchasing two dateless banners to market the 2025 playscheme and future years would have a significant marketing impact. Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) will endeavour to gather quotations for the next meeting.

RESOLVED – that the Clerk will look at the cost of marketing banners

24/82 SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL – BANK RECONCILIATION – 30th JUNE 2024

In line with the 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 – £13,721.24. - Account - no – 7326098 - £57,541.52 Total - £71,262.76

Unpaid - Cheque number	Payable to	Amount - £
003631	Flintshire County Council	313.90
003632	Jolora Ltd	384.00
003633	Ashley Griffiths	939.84
Total		1,637.74

Total bank accounts –£71,262.76 less unpaid cheques of £1,637.74 leaves a nett balance of £69,625.02 This amount cross references with the summary of income and expenditure report as at 30th June 2024. Please see the attached summary income and expenditure report and bank statements.

David Wisinger (Vice-Chair) signed two hard copies of the bank reconciliation statements.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

24/85 EXTERNAL AUDIT - ANNUAL FINANCIAL RETURN – 2023/24 FINANCIAL YEAR AND NOTICE OF AUDIT

Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) conveyed the Council's external audit requirement, noting that the documents will be partly delivered to South Wales via recorded delivery and that the remainder will be uploaded to the objective portal. He also mentioned the public notice and details of the public inspection arrangements for the 2023/24 financial year, specifically that they are on the Council website and notice boards. Inspection runs from the 1st of July to 26 July between 10:00 and 17:00 on Monday to Friday in line with Section 30 of the Public Audit Wales Act 2004, which gives the elector the right to inspect the Council's accounts.

The Clerk advised that the completed Annual Return and most of the requested information were uploaded to the objective portal on July 10th, 2024, and 2 documents were posted via special delivery to Audit Wales on July 18th, 2024.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

24/89 DATE OF COUNCIL’S NEXT MEETING – 16th SEPTEMBER 2024.

24/90 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

DECLARATION OF INTEREST—Cllr Christine Jones, a Council member, declared an interest concerning minute number 24/70 (b).

The meeting opened at 6 pm and closed at 7:45 pm.

..... Signed 16th September 2024

Barbara Hinds, Chair of the Council

Chair’s Signature: