

**SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 18th MAY 2026 AT SEALAND COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL, FARM ROAD, GARDEN CITY, CH5 2HH**

PRESENT: Councillors: David Wisinger (Chair), Alex Lewis (Vice-Chair), Christine Jones (County Councillor), Bob James, Jean Fairbrother, Mary Southall, Gwyneth Bullock, Brian Ward, Shelley Webber, Linda Thomas, Barbara Hinds, Lionel Prouvé & Norman Jones.

OTHERS: One member of the public.

Aled Hughes – PCSO.

Two Friends of Sealand Representatives.

OFFICER: Ashley Griffiths – Clerk and Financial Officer.

**26/1 APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE**

RESOLVED – that all members of the Council were present; no apologies were necessary.

**26/2 IN-HOUSE TRAINING**

The Council will deliver a scheduled in-house training session in June 2026.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**26/3 SEALAND COMMUNITY FLOOD PLAN AND FLOOD WARDENS**

Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) reported that he had contacted Funding Cymru to explore potential funding opportunities for providing sandbags within the community. He advised that 33 funding schemes had initially been identified, offering grants of up to £1,000; however, many have now closed, leaving only a limited number of options for community groups. The Clerk stated that he would discuss the remaining opportunities with Gwenno from (NRW) to determine whether any suitable funding avenues could be pursued.

RESOLVED – that Gwenno Talfryn (NRW) be contacted regarding the funding.

**26/4 CODE OF CONDUCT DECLARATION**

RESOLVED - that it should be noted that one declaration of interest was made during the meeting.

**26/5 MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) had not received a request to hold a hybrid meeting.

**26/6 CHAIR'S REPORT AND ACTIONS SINCE 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026**

The Chairman thanked all Councils and the Clerk for their support throughout his year in office. He expressed his gratitude for the trust and confidence placed in him by electing him as Chairman and acknowledged the assistance, cooperation, and dedication shown by all during his tenure.

**26/7 ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR THE COUNCIL YEAR 2026/27**

Two nominations were received for the office of Chairperson, Councillor Alex Lewis and Councillor Barbara Hinds, each being duly proposed and seconded in accordance with the standing orders.

A vote was taken, and Councillor Alex Lewis received the majority of votes cast and was duly elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

RESOLVED – that Councillor Alex Lewis be elected chairman of Sealand Community Council for 2026/27.

The Chairman signed the required Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

#### **26/8 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR FOR THE COUNCIL YEAR 2026/27**

Two nominations were received for the office of Vice Chairperson, Councillor Christine Jones and Councillor Barbara Hinds, each being duly proposed and seconded in accordance with the standing orders.

A vote was taken, and Councillor Christine Jones was duly elected Vice Chairperson for the ensuing year.

RESOLVED – that Councillor Christine Jones be elected vice chairperson of Sealand Community Council for 2026/27.

#### **26/9 CHAIR'S FUND 2026/27**

Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) reminded the Council that the agreed spend for the Chair's Fund for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial year is £800.00. Payments are being made under expenditure powers— Ancillary Power Local Government Act 1972 (S1).

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

#### **26/10 POLICE ISSUES**

##### **a) Community Speed Watch**

A Scheduled speed watch will commence in May and June.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

##### **b) PCSO Aled Hughes – 3292**

PCSO Aled Hughes advised the Council that he is monitoring Foxes Lane and Farm Road for parking issues.

Concerns were raised regarding suspected drug-related activity within the community. The PCSO noted the matter for appropriate consideration as part of ongoing policing activities.

RESOLVED – that Aled Hughes will investigate the issues raised.

#### **26/11 MATTERS REFERRED TO FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

##### **I. Sealand Ditches**

##### **i) The Main River watercourse is adjacent to Dandy's**

Neil Parry (Project Engineer, Flintshire County Council) reported to the Council on March 16, 2026, that the full pipe drainage crossing is progressing through the FRAP process. Owing to the complexity of the procedure and associated timescales, the matter remains ongoing with no further update available at present.

Neil Parry will contact Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to seek an update on the progress of the FRAP process once he and his contact return to work.

RESOLVED – that Neil Parry will be asked for an update on the application to NRW when the contact returns.

**ii) The main river watercourse is located in England and crosses beneath Seahill Road**

Neil Parry, Project Engineer (Flintshire County Council), reported to the Council on March 16, 2026, that an inspection at the fisheries site had been completed, confirming that the flow depth was approximately half the pipe diameter. It was further noted that Natural Resources Wales was scheduled to attend a site meeting to conduct a land survey; however, the meeting was postponed and rescheduled to 31 March 2026.

Neil advised that, due to a period of illness, he was unable to provide an update. He confirmed that a site visit would take place on 20 May 2026 and apologised for the absence of further information at this stage.

RESOLVED – that Neil Parry will be asked for the NRW report once the survey has been completed.

**iii) Banks Farm**

Neil Parry, Project Engineer (Flintshire County Council), informed the Council on March 16, 2026, that, further to his most recent inspection of the watercourse at a landowner's site, during which the clearance of all impediments was observed, a further site visit would be undertaken at the end of the month in conjunction with visits to other areas in Sealand.

RESOLVED – that Neil Parry will be asked for an update upon completion of his next inspection, and contact will be made with Paul Reeves.

**iv) West Green**

Neil Parry, Project Engineer (Flintshire County Council), reported to the Council on March 16, 2026, that Street Scene had not identified the debris within the ditch. He advised that he would inspect the site during his next visit to the area and, if necessary, raise the matter again with Street Scene.

RESOLVED – that Neil Parry will be asked for an update upon completion of his next inspection, and contact will be made with Paul Reeves.

**v) Steel Works Road**

Neil Parry (Project Engineer, Flintshire County Council) reported to the Council on May 18, 2026, that the Trench Box is usually used in series to support the adjoining ground during pipework installation. Still, his initial thoughts are that it is being used as additional support to the brickwork structure.

RESOLVED – that Neil Parry will be asked for an update upon completion of his next inspection, and contact will be made with Paul Reeves.

**b) Concern about the condition of the side access – Spar Shop, Welsh Road**

Katie Wilby, Streetscene and Transportation (Flintshire County Council), reported to the Council on April, 16, 2026, that the matter remains with the Council's Legal Department and the Developer to establish the next steps to resolve the issue.

*Cllr Christine Jones declared an interest regarding the condition of the side access to the Spar Shop.*

RESOLVED— that Katie Wilby be asked for an update on the side access.

**c) River Dee Embankment – Coastal Path and Cycleway – Bluebridge to the Railway Bridge**

The Council noted that, notwithstanding efforts to secure external funding for new benches, it was necessary to proceed with the procurement of a replacement unit of one of the benches.

A resolution was duly proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously to procure a replacement bench.

RESOLVED – that Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) contact Mike Taylor (Coastal Ranger) regarding the proposed bench due to the possibility of a local organisation funding the replacement benches.

**d) Problem with Trees- Orchard Way and North Green at Sealand Manor**

Alex Philips (Housing Officer) informed the Council on 15 May 2026 that he is escalating the jobs to the Repairs team following the Council's last email regarding the health and safety of residents with the raised footpath, and noted that the tree stump on Orchard Way remains on the list of outstanding works.

Alex Philips and Councillor Christine Jones conducted a walkabout at Sealand Manor. They noted that the Council are trying to contact the owner of the property with the trees regarding the root systems of nearby trees, which are causing uplift and damage to the adjacent pathway.

RESOLVED—Alex Philips (Housing Officer) be requested to provide a progress update on the removal of the tree stump/roots.

**e) Foxes Lane – Underpass - Water leakage and Graffiti**

Darrel Jones reported to the Council on 18 May 2026. The Streetscene Team advised that they had previously attended the site and undertaken a range of maintenance activities, including sweeping and gully clearing. A new slot drain has also been installed to help intercept water seeping from the bridge expansion joints.

The pumping station is understood to be operational, although further checks are required to confirm its status. NMWTRA has been contacted regarding any additional actions or maintenance works that may be proposed in relation to the ongoing drainage and structural concerns. The Area Coordinator will undertake a full site inspection and review the issues and action points raised.

RESOLVED—that Darrel Jones be asked for an update on the inspection.

**f) Ferry Lane Footbridge**

Katie Wilby, Streetscene and Transportation (Flintshire County Council), reported to the Council on April 20, 2026, that she had confirmation that they are able to use the active travel element of the Regional Transport Fund for the feasibility/design work for the bridge this financial year 2026/2027, and Lee Shone and his team will be commencing procurement of this over the next few months.

RESOLVED— that the report be noted.

**g) Bus Stop Repairs (Sealand)**

The bus shelter on Welsh Road has been replaced; however, repairs to bus shelters at the remaining locations are still required.

RESOLVED— that streetscene be asked for a further update.

**h) Pot Holes**

Jones, Streetscene Officer (Flintshire County Council), reported to the Council on 18 May 2026 that he has asked for sections of Welsh Road to be put forward for resurfacing or class 1 patching if funding is available.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**i) Surface deposits from burrowing activity**

Rupert Frank (Flintshire County Council) informed the Council on 18 May 2026 that Ian Bushell is booking mole treatment for several of the pitches.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**26/12 COUNCIL'S STREET LIGHTING**

Dylan Williams Darrel Jones (Flintshire County Council) reported to the Council on May 18, 2026, that the 3 upgrades will be programmed for early July.

Thirty of the current lighting stock are in working order.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

**26/13 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 roll. The Welsh Government has 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 spending in 2026/27 is Section 137 grants of £3,035.00.

Spending in 2026/27 so far is nil.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted

**26/14 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

PA Number	Application details	Location
ADV/000326/26	Advertising consent for the installation of five signs, associated with the premises, comprising one building sign, one visitor car park sign, two identical welcome signs and one directional sign.	Unit D2 The Airfields, Welsh Road, Garden City, Deeside, CH5 2SZ.
FUL/000117/26	External works to include, Reconfiguration and provision of additional on-site parking spaces and EV chargers, New gates to service yard, Relocation of hedges, Upgrade to the existing front canopy, Installation of new ventilation louvers to elevations, Installation of four new fire exit doors to external elevations, Erection of a timber fence dedicated bin store within the yard area, Installation of new fencing to the	Unit 1 And 2a To B, New Tech Square, First Avenue, Sealand, Deeside, CH5 2NT

	rear elevation, Erection of a new pedestrian pathway within the site and installation of a bike store, External single storey glazed lean-to extension to facilitate separate occupancy at first floor Internal works to include ground floor refurbishment for veterinary practice.	
FUL/000343/26	Planning permission to erect a rock mineral wool insulation product manufacturing plant (B2), including storage (B8), office space (B1), guardhouse, vehicular access, landscaping, parking and associated infrastructure, external works, demolition, remediation and refurbishment of existing buildings.	Land East of Tata Steel Works, Deeside Industrial Estate, CH5 2LF.
FUL/000280/26	New clubhouse (modular and temporary) to replace existing steel containers to provide a meeting room, toilets, changing rooms, a cafe, and a store.	Saughall Colts JFC, Seahill Playing Fields, Seahill Road, Chester, CH1 6BJ.
FUL/000361/26	Two-storey side extension.	MORRISTON FARM, Green Lane East, Sealand, Deeside, CH5 2LH.
FUL/000362/26	Application for Removal or Variation of Condition 1 following Grant of Planning Permission RES/000071/23.	Plot H4, The Airfields, RAF Sealand South Camp, Welsh Road, Garden City, Flintshire, CH5 2RD.

RESOLVED -that –:

- i. No observations be raised in respect of the above applications - ADV/000326/26, FUL/000117/26, FUL/000343/26, FUL/000361/26 and FUL/000362/26.
- ii. The following observations were made: the importance of stringent monitoring by NRW of water extraction associated with the manufacturing of mineral wool insulation products at the site, together with the effectiveness of the chimney filtration system, to safeguard the amenity and wellbeing of local residents.
- iii. The following observations were made regarding flood risk and surface water management, with particular reference to the documented history of drainage issues and waterlogging affecting the playing field and surrounding area.

#### **26/15 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026**

RESOLVED—that the minutes of the Council meeting held on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

#### **26/16 REMEMBRANCE ITEMS**

The Council considered the acquisition of additional items to commemorate those who served in wartime. After due consideration and discussion, it was formally resolved that:

- i) Twenty additional poppies will be purchased for display on lampposts.

- ii) A memorial to honour the unrecognised woman who served during the war will be commissioned to be erected alongside the existing Unknown Tommy statue in St Bartholomew's church.

A resolution was duly proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously to purchase the remembrance items.

THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Council adopts the following resolution.

Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) informed the Council that he has liaised with the Royal British Legion and 2 weeks' notice is needed to purchase a memorial item.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

### **26/17 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

RESOLVED: - that-

- i) The under-mentioned accounts be approved for payment.
- ii) It is noted that the Lloyds Bank charges for the most recent period (30/04/2026) are £7.25 - re £4.25 per month for the account maintenance fee with an additional charge of 6 cheques x £0.50 = £3.00.

Cheque No	Payable to	Details	Amount	VAT	VAT Code	Expenditure Powers
Direct debit	NEST	Pension	£49.95			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
003773	Flintshire County Council	Energy costs January, February & March 2026.	£620.46	£103.41	636613732	Highways Act 1980 (301)
003774	JDH Business Services	Internal Audit 2025/26	£424.80	£70.80	771744412	Local Govt Act 1972 (S111)
003775	Ashley Griffiths	May 2026, Salary, allowance & Refund (HSE book & Mileage)	£1,000.92			Local Govt Act 1972 (S112)
Total spend			<b>£2,096.13</b>	<b>£174.21</b>		

### **26/18 INCOME**

Flintshire County Council	1 <sup>st</sup> precept payment 2026 (30/04/2026)	£21,333.33
HMRC	1 <sup>st</sup> VAT refund 2025/26	£1,772.44
Lloyds Bank	Interest Payment 11/05/2026	£30.74
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>£23,136.51</b>

RESOLVED – that the income received be noted.

## **26/19 CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was received from GWELLA regarding the Fed & Community Programme confirming that the event would take place on 22 July 2026, between 17:00 and 18:30 hours. Members noted the information.

RESOLVED – that the Clerk contact GWELLA to ask which locations they will be targeting and how many days a week the programme will be on for.

## **26/20 CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION POLICY**

Members noted that the proposed Certificate of Appreciation Policy had been circulated by Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) in advance of the meeting. The Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) presented the policy and outlined its purpose, scope and key provisions for Members' consideration. Following discussion and due consideration of the policy, it was proposed, seconded and resolved that the Certificate of Appreciation Policy be approved and adopted by the Council and that the policy be subject to annual review.

RESOLVED – That the Certificate of Appreciation Policy be approved and adopted by the Council and reviewed annually.

## **26/21 COUNCIL EMBLEM**

Members considered the proposal to adopt the emblem featured on the Chairman's Chain of Office for official Council purposes. The proposal was discussed in relation to its use on administrative documentation, printed materials, digital communications and civic correspondence. Members further considered using the existing blue design as the approved template for the emblem.

Following discussion and due consideration, it was proposed, seconded and resolved that the emblem displayed on the Chairman's Chain of Office be formally adopted as the official emblem of the Council for administrative, printed, digital and civic purposes, and that the existing design be approved as the standard format for its use.

RESOLVED – That the emblem displayed on the Chairman's Chain of Office be adopted as the Council's official emblem for administrative, printed, digital and civic purposes, with the existing blue design approved as the standard version for all official applications.

## **26/22 PAYMENT TO MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS 2026/27 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Clerk advised that, based on information received from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, the Panel has not changed the sums for members of the Council. The sum for Members of community and town councils will be paid £156 a year (equivalent to £3 a week) towards the extra household expenses (including heating, lighting, power and broadband) of working from home.

Councils must either pay their members £52 a year for office consumables required to carry out their role, or enable members to claim full reimbursement for the cost of their office consumables. (Determination 46 of 2023). These figures have not changed since the 2024/25 financial year.

Refer to Minute 21/268 - PAYMENT TO MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS 2022/23 FINANCIAL YEAR, and it was then resolved that, in relation to the 2022/23 financial year, the determinations required concerning payments to members are noted and that the Council will not introduce an attendance allowance for members.

Regarding payments to members for the 2026/27 financial year, they must be listed, sent to the Panel, and displayed on the council's website and council noticeboards. This is due to be actioned in April 2026.

RESOLVED: that –

- I. The report be noted
- II. Should a member of Council decide to request a payment of £156.00, then payment would be held back until March 2027.
- III. Council should affect a payment of £52.00 for office consumables rather than pay on a reimbursement basis. Should a member of the Council request a payment of £52.00, the payment would be held back until March 2027.
- IV. That, in relation to the previous determinations as required concerning payments to members, be again noted, as per Minute 21/268.

### **26/23 DEESIDE BUSINESS FORUM**

Councillor Bob James reported that he attended the Forum alongside Ashley Griffiths (Clerk), where they formally introduced the Council to Forum members. He noted that the meeting was positive and expressed the Council's intention to work collaboratively with the Forum in the future.

RESOLVED- That the report be noted.

### **26/24 FRIENDS OF SEALAND CHURCHES**

Friends of Sealand representatives attended the meeting and conveyed that the community café continues to operate successfully, with both sites being used by community groups. Concerns were raised regarding an ageing volunteer base and future sustainability; discussion focused on re-establishing the Friends of Sealand, maximising the use of both community facilities, and increasing awareness of the services available. St Andrews Church has space available for hire, and volunteers were invited to come forward to support future activities.

RESOLVED- that there was no report.

### **26/25 NOTICE BOARD INSTALLATION**

Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) reported to the Council that the new notice boards would be installed in May.

RESOLVED- that the report be noted.

### **26/26 SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS – 2026/27 FINANCIAL YEAR**

Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) outlined the expenditure and income for the 2026/27 financial year up to cheque number 003775.

**Sealand Community Council - Summary Accounts  
2026/27 Financial Year**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Anticipated</b>	<b>Difference</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Precept	£21,333.33	£64,000.00	-£42,666.67
Bank Interest and Refund of Fees	£59.52	£500.00	-£440.48
VAT Refund Flintshire County Council	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
VAT Refund HMRC	£1,772.44	£1,831.44	-£59.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£23,165.29</b>	<b>£66,331.44</b>	<b>-£43,166.15</b>

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Agreed Spend</b>	<b>Balance</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Bank Charges	£7.25	£165.00	£157.75
Chairman's Fund	£0.00	£800.00	£800.00
Staffing Costs	£3,161.06	£16,839.84	£13,678.78
General Admin inc	£1,758.84	£3,262.00	£1,503.16
Insurances	£600.08	£665.00	£64.92
Play Schemes and New Play Equipment	£0.00	£24,129.00	£24,129.00
Street Furniture Repairs	£0.00	£7,600.00	£7,600.00
Street Lighting	£873.11	£8,800.00	£7,926.89
Seasonal amenity provisions	£0.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00
Council Web Site	£384.00	£2,400.00	£2,016.00
S137 - Grants	£0.00	£3,035.00	£3,035.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>£6,784.34</b>	<b>£71,695.84</b>	<b>£64,911.50</b>

<b>Current Summary</b>	<b>Balance 1st April 2026 inc £34,000 contingency fund</b>	<b>£69,640.55</b>
	Total Expenditure	£6,784.34
	Total Income	£23,165.29
	Balance	£16,380.95
	<b>Balance as at 18th MAY 2026</b>	<b>£ 86,021.50</b>
	<b>VAT Costs for 2026/27 Financial Year</b>	<b>£350.32</b>

**End of Year Prediction**

Balance as at 1st April 2026	£69,640.55
Total Anticipated Expenditure	£71,695.84
Total Anticipated Income	£66,331.44
Balance Expenditure compared with income at 31st March 2026	-£5,364.40
<b>Anticipated Closing Balance as at 31 March 2027</b>	<b>£ 64,276.15</b>

## **26/27 INTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL FINANCIAL RETURN 2025/26 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Clerk advised the Council that JDH Business Services Limited reported on 6 May 2026 that the Council's systems of internal controls are in place, adequate for the intended purposes, and effective, subject to issue 1 in the internal audit report. Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) reported to the Council that issue 1 had been dealt with.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

## **26/28 EXTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL FINANCIAL RETURN 2025/26 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Clerk gave an overview of the requirement to Council for the external audit, noting that the Audit packs must be submitted to Audit Wales' email address, by post to the Cardiff office only or via Objective Connect where required, with a deadline of the 7th July 2026 and mandated the Council to publish an audit notice on all notice boards and the Council website. The Council requires that electors be given 20 working days of inspection from the 6<sup>th</sup> July to the 31<sup>st</sup> of July. Section 30 of the Public Audit Wales Act 2004 gives the right of the elector to inspect the Council's accounts.

The clerk received the audit notice 2026 for the audit of accounts and noted to the council that he would send the relevant documents to the auditors in the near future, after he has received the internal audit back and outlined the accounts for the Council in the Local Council for Wales Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The Clerk advised that, as RFO/Clerk, he had signed the certification of the Annual Return on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026, certifying that the account statements contained in the Annual Return fairly present the financial position of the Council, its income and expenditures or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be, for the year ending 31 March 2026.

RESOLVED – That –

i) the report be noted

ii) it be noted that an interim copy of the Annual return should be added to the Council's website, with the final version being added on completion of the Audit.

iii) the Chair be authorised to sign the Annual Return under resolution 26/28iii confirming that the accounting statements and Annual Governance statements are approved by Council.

## **26/29 ONE VOICE WALES DIGITAL MATURITY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVED DIGITAL OPERATIONS**

Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) informed the Council that he had completed the One Voice Wales programme of Digital Maturity Assessments for councils and had received the conclusion, which included several recommendations that were not mandatory. Furthermore, the Clerk presented a comprehensive report outlining a range of website hosting and content management system options, including the current provider and alternative packages. The report included a comparative analysis of features, costs, ease of use, and feedback from other Councils.

Following a thorough discussion and consideration of the options, members recognised the advantages of the Clerk's preferred choice, particularly in terms of value for money, user-friendliness, and positive experiences reported by comparable councils and voted unanimously to change providers.

THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Council adopts the following resolution.

RESOLVED— that the Council shall proceed with the setup and migration of a new website with an external hosting provider, and that the resolution be adopted.

### **26/30 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

Members considered the Certificate of Appreciation Scheme and discussed potential recipients. After due consideration, it was proposed, seconded, and resolved that two Certificates of Appreciation be awarded to Sealand Spartans FC and to the manager in recognition of their contributions and achievements.

Councillor Mary Southall and Councillor Bob James raised concerns regarding the lack of facilities available to Sealand Spartans FC. It was reported that Richard Roberts (GWELLA) indicated that providing a storage facility was not out of the question; however, any such proposal would need to be discussed with the relevant department within Flintshire County Council before further consideration could be given.

Councillor Mary Southall advised that a local Tiny Tots group regularly uses the football pitch on Saturdays. Concerns were raised regarding incidents of dog fouling on the playing surface, which present a health and safety risk to children and other users of the facility.

Councillor Barbara Hinds raised several concerns regarding environmental maintenance and highways matters in the community. These included:

- The road sign at St Bartholomew's Close has yet to be replaced.
- Incidents of fly-tipping at St Bartholomew's Close.
- Incidents of fly-tipping on Green Lane.
- Soil and mud deposits on the carriageway at St Bartholomew's Close, resulting from agricultural vehicles accessing adjacent fields.
- The presence of excessive weeds and moss on footways in the vicinity of St Bartholomew's Close and Old Sealand Road.
- The absence of a STOP sign at the junction of Sealand Road and Old Sealand Road.

Councillor Lionel Prouvé raised concerns about the condition of the grassed areas and footways throughout Sealand Manor, noting that the grass requires cutting and that the current state detracts from the area's appearance. An also expressed concern about vegetation and obstructions adjacent to the A548 that require cutting back. It was noted that the overgrowth is restricting visibility for both pedestrians and motorists, creating a potential highway safety issue at crossing points.

Councillor Gwyneth Bullock reported that the tree stump previously identified for removal remains in situ and has not yet been removed. It was further noted that the pavement remains in poor condition, with the surface displaced and damaged by the underlying tree roots, resulting in an uneven footway.

RESOLVED—that Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) report the above matters to the relevant departments and request that appropriate investigation and remedial action be undertaken and that two Certificates of Appreciation be awarded to Sealand Spartans.

### **26/31 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

A resident reiterated the concerns previously raised regarding increasing traffic volumes on the A494. It was noted that existing and proposed developments in the area are contributing to higher traffic

levels, resulting in increased noise and vehicle emissions. The resident also requested consideration of installing or improving acoustic fencing and associated screening measures to help mitigate the impact on nearby residential properties.

RESOLVED—that Ashley Griffiths (Clerk) reported that this matter had been raised previously and advised that a response had been received from the Welsh Government regarding concerns about traffic noise and emissions along the A494. The response indicated that mitigation measures are generally considered as part of highway maintenance programmes and may include low-noise road surfacing, green infrastructure, and, where appropriate, reduced speed limits. Acoustic barriers would normally be considered only as a last resort. No specific works are currently planned for the area; however, the location will be considered as part of a wider national review and funding assessment. The Clerk further advised that, following the recent change in Government, he is awaiting a further response on the matter and will contact the new minister.

**26/32 HYNET – ROUTE**

**26/33 PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS 2026/27 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Clerk has once again circulated a form for completion to the Councillors present at the meeting concerning the 2026/27 financial year. All 13 Councillors have now completed and signed the form, 12 advising that they declined the payments and 1 Councillor accepting the payment.

RESOLVED—that the report be noted and that one payment will be held back until March 2027.

**26/34 DATE OF COUNCIL'S NEXT MEETING – 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2026.**

**26/35 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT, DECLARATION OF INTEREST—** One Council member declared an interest to the Council.

Cllr Christine Jones declared an interest in minute number 26/11 (b).

The meeting opened at 6:00 pm and closed at 8:54 pm.

..... Signed 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2026, Chairperson of the Council