

SEALAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 21st SEPTEMBER 2026 AT SEALAND COUNTY
PRIMARY SCHOOL, FARM ROAD, GARDEN CITY, CH5 2HH**

PRESENT: Councillors Christine Jones, County Councillor Vice-Chair (Acting Chair), David Wisinger, Gwyneth Bullock, Lionel Prouvé, Brian Ward, Bob James, Linda Thomas & Barbara Hinds.

OFFICER: Ashley Griffiths – Clerk and Financial Officer.

26/127 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 003785.

Sealand Community Council - Summary Accounts 2026/27 Financial Year							
Income				Actual	Anticipated	Difference	
	Precept			£42,666.66	£64,000.00	-£21,333.34	
	Bank Interest and Refund of Fees			£189.53	£500.00	-£310.47	
	VAT Refund Flintshire County Council			£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
	VAT Refund HMRC			£2,113.44	£1,831.44	£282.00	
	Total			£44,969.63	£66,331.44	-£21,361.81	
Expenditure				Actual	Agreed Spend	Balance	
	Bank Charges			£36.25	£165.00	£128.75	
	Chairman's Fund			£0.00	£800.00	£800.00	
	Staffing Costs			£8,286.24	£16,839.84	£8,553.60	
	General Admin inc			£1,907.34	£3,262.00	£1,354.66	
	Insurances			£600.08	£665.00	£64.92	
	Play Schemes and New Play Equipment			£1,000.00	£24,129.00	£23,129.00	
	Street Furniture Repairs			£0.00	£7,600.00	£7,600.00	
	Street Lighting			£1,125.76	£8,800.00	£7,674.24	
	Seasonal amenity provisions			£0.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	
	Council Web Site			£2,212.80	£2,400.00	£187.20	
	S137 - Grants			£0.00	£3,035.00	£3,035.00	
		Total			£15,168.47	£71,695.84	£56,527.37
	Current Summary	Balance 1st April 2026 inc £34,000 contingency fund			£69,640.55		
Total Expenditure			£15,168.47				
Total Income			£44,969.63				
Balance			£29,801.16				
Balance as at 21st September 2026			£ 99,441.71				
VAT Costs for 2026/27 Financial Year			£697.23				
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				
Anticipated Closing Balance as at 31 March 2027			£ 64,276.15				

26/129 EXTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL FINANCIAL RETURN 2025/26 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk gave an overview of the requirement to the Council for the external audit, noting that the Audit packs must be submitted to the Audit Wales email address, by post to the Cardiff office only or

via Objective Connect where required, with a deadline of 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 6th July to the 31st 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 noted that an interim copy of the Annual Return had been added to the Council's website, with the final version to be added upon completion of the Audit. The Audit Notice 2026 had been added to the website and notice boards, with an announcement dated 2nd June 2026, regarding electors' rights to inspect the accounts and all documents for the year ending 31st March 2026, from 6th July to 31st July 2026.

Publication of audited accounts for the year ending 31 March 2026

Regulation 15(5) of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended) requires that by 30 September 2026, Sealand Community Council publish its accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 together with any certificate, opinion, or report issued, given or made by the Auditor General.

The accounting statements in the form of an annual return have been published on the Council's website. However, the accounts are published before the conclusion of the audit. The Auditor General has not yet issued an audit opinion.

The Clerk advised Members that a further notice concerning the publication of the accounting statements for the year ended 31 March 2026 had been published on the Council's website and displayed on the Council's noticeboards on 9 September 2026. The notice confirmed that the audit had not yet concluded and that the Auditor General had not issued an audit opinion.

RESOLVED – that the report be noted.

26/134 DATE OF COUNCIL'S NEXT MEETING – 19 OCTOBER 2026.

26/135 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 26/110 (b)

The meeting opened at 6:00 pm and closed at 8:35 pm.

..... Signed 19th October 2026, Chairman of the Council