



NORTHOP HALL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ISSUE ONE - AUTUMN/HYDREF 2021

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MISSION STATEMENT

'The Role of the Community Council is to represent the residents of Northop Hall, by bridging the gap between the local authority and community and to work in partnership, to create a more informed, supportive and connected community for everyone.'



Responsibilities of a Community Council

As well as being a link to the local authority, the Community Council take on a wide range of responsibilities including the provision and maintenance of salt bins, dog waste bins, defibrillator installation, street lighting, involvement in village events, as well as considering donations to local village groups. The Community Council are asked to comment on any local planning applications and will share information with local residents regarding proposals for any large scale developments in the area. They bring local people together to help make things happen, and many Community Councils protect and promote the identity of their community.

Your Community Councillors

Councillor John Golledge
Chairman

01244 815002 or 07874657822
jegolledge@hotmail.com

Councillor Martin Richardson
Vice Chairman

01244 815083 or 07541260461
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Councillor Linda Thew

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lindathew@outlook.com

Councillor Graham Cook

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Sydney205@btinternet.com

Councillor Elaine Price

07917855530
Galvin-price-jones@sky.com

Councillor Peter Gibson

01244 811157

Councillor John Lamb

01244 795015

Councillor Steve Perry

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stevejperry@live.co.uk

Councillor Hilary Astbury

07477901830

Councillor Wendy Catherall

01244 821355
wendycatherall@yahoo.co.uk

Councillor Paul Edwards

07824483867
pauledwards6887@gmail.com

Members of the community can contact any of their Community Councillors regarding local matters. Their contact details can be found located in the notice-boards at the shop, the Methodist Church and Pavilion. Contact details are also provided on the Northop Hall Community Council website.

Do you want to have your Say?

Northop Hall Community Council meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of every month (except August) at the Pavilion. However, due to the pandemic and the Community Council are currently meeting remotely via Zoom Pro.

Residents are able to request to attend the remote meetings by contacting the Clerk prior to the Thursday before each meeting. The Clerk can then provide the access details to join the meeting remotely.

The Clerk to the Community Council is Mrs Sue Lovell. The Clerk works 12 hours per week and can be contacted via email:

northophallclerk@outlook.com or via mobile on 07593 584977.

Northop Hall Online

The Community Council has its own website which is updated on a monthly basis by the Clerk. The website can be accessed via:

<https://northophallcommunitycouncil.chessck.co.uk>

On the website you can access the following information:

Details of your Councillors and contact details;

Latest News and Updates;

Calendar and Meeting Dates for the year;

Event Information;

Projects;

Copies of previous and current Agendas and Minutes;

Policies and Statutory Documents including Financial Regulations,

Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, Complaints Policy, Audit Information;

Details of the annual Payment to Members and Members Interests;

Details of the budget for the financial year and the Precept;

Matters for Public Consultation;

Planning Matters and applications;

Useful links and contacts for the NHS and Police.

Current Matters

Traffic Issues

The Community Council have met with Flintshire County Council, the Police, Hannah Blythyn AM and representatives of the community regarding the ongoing traffic issues throughout the village. The Community Council have highlighted concerns regarding speeding on Smithy Lane, Wepre Lane, Brookside, Village Road, Vinegar Hill up to the roundabout, the junction off the A55. Also, parking issues on Llys Ben and around the school and the lack of a school crossing patrol on Village Road.

Following the last meeting with the working group, Flintshire County Council have drafted a scheme to create parking restrictions outside the school. The introduction of parking restrictions are determined through a Traffic Regulation Order Matrix Assessment, which will allow scoring and subsequent prioritisation when compared with other sites within the County, with the top five scoring schemes put forward for implementation on an annual basis. A scheme on Llys Ben will be scored ahead of the next financial year, and if this scores in the top five, a full public consultation will take place.

Flintshire County Council have also contracted a consultant to look at the wider traffic issues put forward at the working group meetings, and as soon as they have completed their studies, the County Council will arrange another meeting with the group to discuss next steps.

Defibrillators in the Community

The Community Council purchased and installed a new defibrillator at the Methodist Chapel on Village Road in 2020. It is located on the external side of the building.

Signage has now been purchased to inform residents of its location.

- The Methodist Church Village Road;
- The Top Monkey Village Road;
- Northop Hall CP School.

Play Area Improvements

Last financial year, the Community Council accepted an invitation from Aura Leisure and Libraries to match fund a new piece of play equipment at the Llys Ben Play Area. This year, 2021/22 the proposal is for Northop Hall Community Council to match fund £5000, with Aura Leisure and Libraries contributing the same figure, to install a new climbing structure, with a range of climbing activities suitable for 5-12 year olds.

St Mary's Church

For several months now, the Community Council have been liaising with representatives of the Church to try and ascertain what is proposed for the building.

Northop Hall Memorial Lighting

Northop Hall Memorial is located on the corner of Village Road and St Mary's Drive. Plans are also being made to install appropriate subtle lighting to illuminate the Northop Hall Memorial and informative lecterns will reflect village history and celebrate our rich industrial heritage to create a timeline. This year Remembrance commemorations will be held on Thursday 11th November and Sunday 14th November at 11.00am at Northop Hall Memorial.

BT Telephone Kiosk Project

The BT telephone kiosk on Village Road which had been decommissioned, has been purchased from British Telecom. Working alongside Cadwyn Clwyd, the aim is that the kiosk will be transformed into an Information Hub.

Heritage Hub Update



From left to right: Bill Roberts, Jana Roberts, Ray Wadcock and Linda Thew on the first day of filming the videos.

Thanks to the technical expertise of Mr David Moore and Mr Adrian Jones, the Heritage Hub is being channelled into on-line apps. We have introduced a Northop Hall Archive facebook page and now have Instagram and Twitter Accounts.

In September, our village historian, Mr Alan Peers was recorded sharing his Poem “The Four Lane End Smithy”. Our first video recordings of Mr Ray Wadcock and Mr Bill Roberts were recorded at the Pavilion, sharing treasured childhood memories of their time spent at Fern Bank and memories of the Northop Hall village. We plan to video all those interested in taking part. Mr Wadcock’s video was the first video shared to YouTube. Mr Bill Roberts kindly donated his drawings of village buildings to our village archive.

Below is a poem (The Four Lane End Smithy) written by Mr Alan Peers based on his memories of the village.

The Four Lane End Smithy

Lonely it stood at four lanes end
A nearby oak some shade did it lend
This was a favourite place of meeting
For one was always assured of a greeting
Here Fred and Evan plied their trade
Horses were shod, children’s hoops were made
Truly this was a strange combination
For, whereas Fred was given to meditation
Evan, when on occasion he was stirred
Would bring forth many a colourful word
Locals and wayfarers would often call
Discuss the news and the past recall

Work was life. Fred and Evan did not many
But relied on Mary Lizzie and Annie
These humble folk lived out their days
In rustic, unsophisticated ways
Alas, the flaming forge, the bellows roar
The homely ways are now no more
Gone the burning sparks the hammers blow
Where stood the smithy, weeds and bushes grow
Yet as we gaze on the spot where it used to be
We remember with love, Fred, Evan and the old
smithy

By Mr Alan Peers

Llwybr Digidol Northop Hall Northop Hall Digital Trail



Sganiwch yma i ddarganfod mwy
Scan here to discover more

www.northeastwalestrails.com

Community Council members have completed the Northop Hall Digital Trail and the village has now joined the other 22 town and villages in North East Wales, who have taken this opportunity to compile a body of work which reflects the area as it is today and documents its past.

Northop Hall was born out of the Industrial Revolution, though there are now few visible signs of our rich industrial past. Take a look at the photographs of our village – past and present. Each area of the village has been included from Smithy Lane to Foreign Parts – see how our village has grown over the years and see how the character of the village has changed.

Thanks go to our village historian, Mr Alan Peers, who shared his extensive recollections of village life and Mr Ian Roberts, who also shared his vast local knowledge.

Village Events

The **Scarecrow Festival** was held from the 3-10th July 2021. With 65 entrants this year, it was felt that the local residents had embraced the idea and it had served to cheer up the village.

The **Big Bash 21** took place on Saturday 10th July and was a very enjoyable and successful day. In attendance were Radio Deeside, Mr Colin Blanchard of KLS Sound & Lighting, North East Wales Search and Rescue and Deeside Silver Band and those who attended enjoyed a lovely afternoon, listening to music and picnicking. Mr Chris Lunt and Mr Andy Mackie organised games and activities for the children and there were twenty stall holders, who provided a great variety of items to purchase. £700 was raised from the raffles and the Women's Institute ladies provided refreshments throughout the day.

The Community Council are planning to hold Big Bash 22 on the 9th July 2022. If anyone is interested in helping with the organisation of the event, please contact the Clerk, Sue Lovell at northophallclerk@outlook.com or on 07593584977 for more information.

Future Events for 2021/22

Halloween activities for the community will include a Pumpkin Competition. Residents will be asked to submit their entry as a family and there will be three prizes, £30, £25 and £20. Entries will need to be in by Friday 29th October at 5pm and the Chair of the Community Council, Councillor Golledge and Councillor Gibson will select a short list. Residents will then be asked to vote for their winner. Please see the Northop Hall Newslink page for further details.

Remembrance commemorations will be held on Sunday 14th November and Thursday 11th November 2021 at 11am at the Cenotaph.

Christmas tree, handmade decorations and best decorated house competitions are also planned for this December. Look out for further information on Northop Hall Newslink page.

General Information

- To book the Pavilion Community Centre - phone Brenda Thomas on 01244 821546
- The Womens Institute meet every first Wednesday of the month at 7.15pm at the Pavilion – New Members are welcome.
- The tennis courts on Institute Lane are open to all villagers throughout the year.
- Northop Hall Cricket and Hockey Club – phone 01244 810461 to book your Afternoon Tea or your event.
- The Bowling Club on Institute Lane welcomes new members. For further information contact Martin Richardson on 01244 815083
- The Top Monkey has a new licensee, Ieuan Wyn Pritchard who is looking forward to meeting the local residents.
- Fitness with Netty – the following classes are held at the Pavilion:
Sunday 9am Yoga (plus one Wednesday in month Menopause Yoga).
Monday 6.15 – 7pm Zumba
Starting soon Fitness Pilates on Wednesdays (a time to be confirmed)
To book visit <https://nettyfitness.com/live-classes>
- Friends For All – Baby & Toddler Group meets at the Methodist Church every Thursday morning (term time only) 9.30-11.30am. £2 per adult and child, 50p for additional children. Includes unlimited drinks, biscuits and snack for your little one.
- The Glasson School of Dance Saturday mornings:
9.30am - 10am for 2.5 to 5 years;
10.00am -10.30am for 5 to 7 years;
10.30am -11.15am for 7 to 11 years;
11.15am -12pm for adult ballet for any age.
For more information contact Miss Sandra and Miss Victoria on 07858259449.

If you are new to the village – WELCOME! You will find a lot of useful information on our website:

<https://northophallcommunitycouncil.chessck.co.uk>