

Minutes of the Meeting of
HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
11TH SEPTEMBER 2017

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor Alan Diskin

Councillors: Ve Amos, Janet Axworthy, Gillian Brockley, Helen Brown, Cheryl Carver, Clive Carver, Glenys Diskin, Lowri Earith, George Hardcastle, Kevin Jones, Dave Mackie, Wendy Mallin, Helen Meredith, Dan Preece, Emma Preece and Ralph Small

Officers: Mrs S G Jones, Clerk & Financial Officer
Fran Griffiths, Administrator

140/17 – PRESENTATION:

Reverend Brian Harvey had been unable to attend the meeting due to illness.

141/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Joyce Angell and Sam Bidwell, Community Youth representative.

142/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

143/17 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Councillor Helen Brown had requested, via written notification to the Clerk, that the following words be added to minute no 85/17: *'due to the ongoing police investigation and the mis-information given by the Chief Officer, Governance from Flintshire County Council'.... it should be for the people of Ewloe to decide on their candidate'*.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Council held on 10th July 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair save and except the amendment above.

144/17 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

The Clerk had received an email from Ryan O’Gorman who had requested that Members confirm their reasons for rejecting his application for co-option.

Councillor George Hardcastle said that as he had not seen the CCTV evidence and that the police investigation was on-going he felt that he had not been in a position to make an informed decision.

Councillor Glenys Diskin said that the Clerk and the Police Officer had viewed the evidence and as such, their word should be accepted and there should be no need for Members to question it.

Councillor Kevin Jones had indicated to the Clerk that the reason he had not supported Mr O’Gorman’s application was due to the fact that Mr. O’Gorman did not live in the ward of Ewloe.

145/17 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meetings of the following Committees held on 10th July 2017 be received:

Staff & General Purposes Committee
Lighting Committee
Playing Fields Committee
Planning Committee
Community & Environment Committee
Finance Committee

146/17 VACANCIES IN EWLOE AND ASTON WARDS:

The Clerk advised that the two casual vacancies for Aston and Ewloe would be advertised on Wednesday 13th September in accordance with elections guidance. The closing date would be midnight on 3rd October when ten members of the public would be required to write to the Returning Officer at Flintshire County Council to request that an election be called. If no names were forthcoming then the Council would need to advertise for the vacancies to be filled via co-option.

147/17 END OF YEAR ANNUAL RETURN 2016/2017:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve and sign the re-approval and re-certification section of the Annual Governance Statement as requested by the External Auditor.

148/17 STANDING ORDERS:

A general discussion took place about the Council’s Standing Orders and whether they were fit for purpose. It was agreed that a working group be established with one member from each ward.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that a working group including Councillors Gillian Brockley, Clive Carver, Glenys Diskin and Dave Mackie be established to review the Standing Orders.

149/17 WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015 – ANNUAL REPORT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk drafts an initial Annual Report for approval at a future meeting.

150/17 COUNCIL POLICIES:

Councillor George Hardcastle asked about the Council's policy on the election of Chairs to which the Clerk advised that the Council had previously agreed that this item should be considered six months following the election of the new Council in May 2017 May. This item will therefore be considered at the November meeting.

Councillor Helen Brown requested that the Committee structure be reviewed at the next meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk organise a number of working parties to review and update the policies.

151/17 MODEL LOCAL RESOLUTION PROTOCOL FOR COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk incorporate this policy within the review of the other Council policies as outlined in minute number 150/17 above.

152/17 COUNCIL CHAMBER:

The Clerk informed Members that she had invited several companies to tender for the refurbishment work in the Council Chamber. Two of the companies had subsequently failed to provide a quote and one company had provided a comprehensive quote in excess of £7,000.

Discussions had subsequently taken place with Councillor Clive Carver, the Clerk and members of the Council's own workforce who had indicated that they would be able to carry out the modifications required for a fraction of the cost. The current tables could also be adapted by the maintenance team which would be more cost efficient.

Some discussion took place over the work programme for the maintenance team particularly leading up to the Christmas period and the erection of Christmas lights etc; to which the Clerk responded that that the works to the Council Chamber would be carried out during December and that the workload was acceptable to the maintenance team.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the maintenance team adapt one of the existing tables to demonstrate its effect in time for consideration at the next meeting and that the workforce be requested to undertake the necessary modifications.

153/17 CONSULTATIONS:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that Members' review the consultation documents and respond direct if desired.

154/17 COMMUNITY YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

155/17 CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair had recently attended the following events:

Local Development Plan – Strategy Briefing on 25th July 2017 – this had been an informative event outlining the County Council's Local Development Plan overall strategy. There would be formal consultation later in the Autumn and a second call for candidate sites.

North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils – 27th July 2017 – key topics of discussion had included Local Government re-organisation, recycling and transport networks.

Community in Bloom Presentation evening – 23rd August 2017 – this had been a very successful evening held at the Glynne Arms in Hawarden with a number of the entrants receiving prizes kindly donated by the Hawarden Estate Farm Shop.

Funeral - Councillor Ron Hampson – 19th August 2017 – this had been a very well attended funeral for a highly respected Councillor who would be sadly missed.