

Minutes of the Meeting of
HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
12TH MARCH 2018

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor Dave Mackie

Councillors: Joyce Angell, Janet Axworthy, Helen Brown, Cheryl Carver,
Lowri Earith, George Hardcastle, Kevin Jones, Ralph Small and
Darren Sterry.

Officers: Mrs S G Jones, Clerk & Financial Officer

Also present: Sam Bidwell, Community Youth Representative

475/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ve Amos, Gillian Brockley, Clive Carver, Alan Diskin, Glenys Diskin, Wendy Mallin, Helen Meredith, Ryan O’Gorman, Dan Preece and Emma Preece.

476/17 PRESENTATION:

Members of the Hawarden Football Club had attended the meeting to outline the proposed changes introduced by the Football Association Wales and the changes to Tier 3 football. Stuart Lawrence provided an overview of why Hawarden Rangers needed to improve the facilities available at Gladstone Playing Fields. The Welsh FA had proposed to reduce the number of Tiers by half and Tier 3 required that Football Clubs had covered seating for 100 spectators. Mr Lawrence shared a photo of a covered seated area which would need to be located alongside the football pitch and could be painted green to blend into the area and would be erected, if approved, with lockable cage fronts and sides to prevent anti-social behaviour.

Mr Lawrence said that the cost of the seated area would be 80/90% funded by the Welsh Football Association with the remaining balance to be met from the Football Clubs own resources and all future maintenance costs would be met by the Club. Any relevant planning permissions and consents etc., would be sought by the Football Club.

Mark Evans, Senior Section Manager, outlined the potential impact on Hawarden Rangers should the requirements not be met in that the players, both senior and junior, would be likely to move to other local football clubs to the detriment of Hawarden Rangers.

142 Chair’s signature: _____

Members raised a number of questions to which the representatives responded. There had been a general concern about the increase in anti-social behaviour if the structure were to be erected including climbing onto the roof etc. Mr Lawrence advised that the structure would have anti-climb deterrents similar to the pavilion building.

Councillor Angell expressed her concern about the number of changes over the years and said that the language of local football players that she had recently observed had been disgraceful. Mr Evans apologised for any bad language and confirmed that all players and parents of younger children had to sign a form to say that bad language would not be tolerated.

Councillor Cheryl Carver requested that the Clerk establish whether there had been any covenants imposed on the land at the time of handing it over to the Community and becoming a Charity.

Following a lengthy discussion, IT WAS RESOLVED: to agree '**in principle**' to the proposal to erect a covered seating area near the football pitch, subject to the necessary consents and permissions.

477/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no Declarations of Interest from members.

478/17 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meetings of the Council held on 12th February 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

479/17 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were no matters arising.

480/17 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meetings of the following Committees held on 12th February 2018 be received:

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

481/17 CHAIR'S REMARKS:

The Clerk, on behalf of the Chair of the Council, Councillor Alan Diskin, wished to record his thanks to the Institute Management Committee for the use of the Council Chamber over the years and thanked all the staff and committee members for their support and assistance. Councillor Cheryl Carver also thanked the Community Council on behalf of the Institute Management Committee.

The Chair and the Clerk had recently attended a meeting of the Independent Review Panel that had been set up to consider the future role of Community and Town Councils in Wrexham. The Welsh Government had established the Panel and consultation had been ongoing around four key questions. The Clerk would forward the questions to Members and submit a response on behalf of the Community Council.