

HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of **HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL** held on **12 SEPTEMBER 2016**

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor Glenys Diskin
Vice Chair: Councillor Alan Diskin

Councillors: Ve Amos, Joyce Angell, Helen Brown, Cheryl Carver, Clive Carver, Judith Hough, Kevin Jones, Dave Mackie, Helen Meredith, Emma Preece, and Brian Williams.

Community Youth Representatives: -

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Alison Halford, George Hardcastle, David Hough and Ralph Small.

PRESENTATION OF COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER AWARD TO MR JON MERRICK

Jon Merrick had been unable to attend Council to receive his certificate. The Clerk would make alternative arrangements with the Chair of the Council.

RYLAS PRESENTATION BY RAPHAELLE SOFFE AND ELOISE BULL

The Chair welcomed Raphaelle and Eloise to the meeting.

Raphaelle presented an in-depth day by day summary of her week long experience on the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLAS) Programme. She shared how she had learned to bond and trust colleagues, how to challenge herself and how to work as a team member. She had also learned how valuable the role of leader can be, how to perform as a leader and how to delegate and utilise the skills of others to bring out the best in them.

Raphaelle confirmed that during the week she had raised money for the charity BRAKE. Raphaelle wished to thank the Community Councillors for their support and this amazing opportunity she had been given.

Chair's signature _____

Eloise continued to provide an in-depth presentation and confirmed how she had grown in confidence both in public speaking and presenting, during the week. She considered she learnt much about herself and how to bond and interact with her colleagues. She stated that she had found it important to see colleagues in a different light and be considerate of their shortcomings.

Eloise thanked the Community Council for their support.

The Chair, on behalf of the Community Councillors, thanked Raphaele and Eloise for their presentations and visit.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

No declarations of interest were made by Members.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Council held on 11 July 2016 be approved as a true record and that they be signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were none.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEES:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meetings of the following Committees held on 11 July 2016 be received:

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

Chair's signature _____

The Clerk advised that the Auditor had raised three queries that had subsequently been resolved relating to a bank reconciliation, the asset register and the Joint Maintenance Agreement. The Clerk awaited a formal response from the Auditors and would advise Council in due course.

Local Government Re-organisation and Boundary Changes

A discussion took place regarding the proposed reduction in the number of Town and Community Councils from 735 to approximately 100. It was expected that the new Councils would be based on electorate numbers.

There were many factors that could affect the implementation of the changes and the North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils had requested the views of community councillors on issues prevalent to the changes.

Councillors commented that there could be issues with funding, planning applications could become problematic and communities could lose their identities.

Councillor Mackie commented that the number of residents in some communities was smaller than the whole of the Ewloe ward.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk prepared a response to the North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils expressing the views of the Community Councillors.

Committee Format

The Clerk shared a report that proposed four options for consideration in relation to a revised Committee format for the Council.

Councillor Mackie proposed a fifth option, which was moved and seconded, to retain the format at it was but impose a time limit for each committee.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the five options be deferred to the next meeting for further consideration.

Council Chamber

The Clerk and Councillor Brian Williams shared the current progress on the proposed re-design for the Council Chamber. The Clerk had sought assistance from the County Council in relation to recycled furniture but it was agreed that the items available would not be suitable.

a quote for bespoke furniture.

Councillor Clive Carver stated that ramps would need to be provided for disabled access and suggested that a permanent fixed screen be installed for presentations.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk write to the Trustees to obtain their consent for the re-design of the Council Chamber.

CHAIR'S REMARKS:

The Chair confirmed that the Community in Bloom judging and presentation had taken place during July and August. The standard of gardens this year had again been excellent, but the Chair expressed her disappointment at the limited number of Councillors who had attended the presentation evening.

The Chair thanked Councillors Amos, Brown, Mackie and Small for their support and praised Jason Norman, Manager from Strikes Garden Centre for sponsoring and supporting the event.

The Chair sought agreement to a Friday evening retirement dinner for Noel Barnes, the previous Clerk and Financial Officer. Councillor Kevin Jones also requested that the invitation be extended to the employees of the Community Council.

IT WAS RESOLVED: (i) that the Community and Environment Committee look at changing the categories for the 2017 competition;
and
(ii) that the Clerk contact Noel Barnes to arrange a convenient date.