

HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the STAFF AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 10th OCTOBER 2016

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor Joyce Angell
Vice Chair: Councillor Glenys Diskin

Councillors: As per Council Meeting

Officers: Mrs S G Jones, Clerk & Financial Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

As per Council meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

No declarations of interest were made by Members pertaining to this Committee.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 12 September 2016 be received as a true record and signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were none.

POLICE MATTERS:

PC Martin Price was welcomed to the meeting.

Councillor Carver shared the following issues:

- Tree set on fire at the Forest behind Gladstone Playing Fields; the Tree Protection Officer at Flintshire County Council had been asked to review the tree following this damage
- Fast cars driving down Overlea Drive and causing a nuisance
- Car parking at the end of Birch Rise had caused some concern
- Car continually dropping litter outside Councillor Carver's house and has shown threatening behaviour

Councillor Carver also requested an update on the animals at Vickers Way to which Martin replied that there was no new update.

61 Chair's signature: _____

Councillor Helen Brown reported that a bike had recently been stolen from the new houses.

PC Martin Price asked Councillors and their constituents to remain vigilant during this season of Halloween and Bonfire celebrations.

Councillor Judith Hough asked whether the Police had experienced any local problems with the “clowns” to which Martin replied that there had been an isolated incident in Sealand but that there did not appear to be a problem in this area.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the issues raised.

HIGHWAYS ISSUES:

Councillor Glenys Diskin reported that the bins had disappeared from the Playing Fields and the corner shop in Mancot and that litter had been strewn everywhere.

Councillor Brian Williams shared, for information, that the County had recently shared its gully clearing programme.

Councillor Clive Carver advised that Welsh Water would be replacing the water main beneath Gladstone Way from just south of Hillside to near to the junction with the old section of Gladstone Way. These works would start week commencing 17th October 2016 and following a two week Christmas/New Year break, it was anticipated that the work be completed by 22nd February 2017.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the updates be noted and forwarded to John Griffiths where applicable.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT:

Councillor David Mackie and the Clerk provided an update on the proposed Drop-in Session for the Community Transport project. Councillor Mackie expressed his concern that the Project Manager was not in attendance at the meeting and the importance of key dates had not been shared with him.

The Clerk suggested that rather than proceed with the drop-in session planned for 17th October that a session be arranged for Friday 28th October, 12.00 til 2.00 p.m. at the Aston Community Centre. This would enable more time to promote the event and she outlined the Communication Strategy to include local schools, residents homes, community centres and post offices etc together with website and social media advertising.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the drop-in session be held on *Friday 28th October* and that the Clerk ensures that the event is promoted throughout Hawarden as outlined.

CLERK'S REPORT:

The Clerk advised Committee of the following matters:

- Mark Drakeford AM, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government had issued a Statement on Local Government Reform. Within the statement he said that the 22 existing Local Authorities would be retained but that proposals to bring forward voluntary mergers had been welcomed; in relation to Town and Community Council's he said "I intend to enact a set of arrangements to help town and community councils, as they exist today, to become more effective, but that an independent group would be commissioned to review this tier of government (copy to be emailed to all Members);
- Following amendments to the Code of Conduct earlier in the year, the Ombudsman had issued revised guidance on the new model code. The principal changes to the guidance reflected the changes to the Code of Conduct and dealt with:
 - The repeal of the obligation to report suspected breaches of the code to the Ombudsman
 - The new right to make written representations where a Councillor had a prejudicial interest, where members of the public had a right to attend and speak at a meeting; and
 - The requirement to notify the Clerk of interests (rather than the Monitoring Officer)
- The Independent Remuneration Panel had produced its draft Annual Report 2017/18 and was available on the website; comments to be submitted by 28th November.
- Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan: Draft Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Distribution SPD – this draft was available for consultation during the period 7 October and 18 November 2016
- The next Liaison Committee Meeting for Parrys Quarry would be held on 26th October at 6.00 p.m; Councillor Mackie would be in attendance;
- Flintshire County Council had embarked on its Financial Consultation process and representatives of Hawarden Community Council had been invited to attend on the 14th November; however as this was the same evening as Council, the Clerk would write to seek alternative arrangements;
- The Clerk reminded Committee that Councillors Glenys Diskin and Judith Hough would attend the LDP Consultation event at Flintshire County Council on Monday 24th October 2016; and
- The Clerk advised that a letter had been received from Flintshire County Council about the preparations for the coming winter including information on the local weather forecast, salt bins and community involvement etc. (copy of which would be emailed to all Members)

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the updates are noted.