

HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the
STAFF AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
held on **9 SEPTEMBER 2019**

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor Darren Sterry

Councillors: As per Council Meeting

Officers: As per Council Meeting

114/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

As per Council meeting.

115/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

No Declarations of Interest were made by Members pertaining to this committee.

116/19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 8th July 2019 be received as a true record and signed by the Chair.

117/19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were none.

118/19 TERMS OF REFERENCE OF COMMITTEE:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the draft terms of reference for the committee be approved with the addition of the following wording on number 2 "*subject to budget proposals and considerations reviewed at the beginning of the year during the budget setting process*".

119/19 POLICE MATTERS:

PCSO Stephanie Jones provided an update on recent activity within the area and encouraged members to phone 101 to report any incidents of drug use or anti-social behaviour. A discussion ensued about cars parking on pavements and obstructing access to which Steph responded that if the car is causing an obstruction, it is illegal and, if discrete photographic evidence is supplied, then action could be taken. Members discussed the effective use of a "metal mickey" device to rotate around the community at problem 'hot spots' and requested that this item be added to a future agenda for discussion.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the updates and add the provision of a metal mickey to the next agenda.

120/19 HIGHWAYS ISSUES:

Members raised a number of issues with John Griffiths, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, including the need for a new litter/dog bin and overgrown weeds in Mancot and the removal of old street furniture throughout the community. John duly agreed to look into these matters.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the updates.

121/19 CROSS TREE LANE – HIGHWAYS ISSUES:

This item had been placed on the agenda following continued concerns from residents at Cross Tree Lane about car parking and traffic management, in particular at the blind bend. Councillor Lowri Earith outlined the school position in relation to the situation. Members raised a number of concerns and solutions including the repositioning of the cemetery gate and designated parking for school teachers and parents but it was agreed to await the results of the traffic management survey in lieu of the trial 'one-way' proposal.

Members in general had not been supportive of the one-way suggestion as this would only move the problem of traffic congestion to another area and asked the Clerk and Financial Officer to write to the County Council, on behalf of the residents, to request a timetable of events and encourage the County Council to pursue yellow lines, with enhanced enforcement, on the blind bend rather than the one-way proposal

Within the communication from residents that had been circulated to Members, the residents of Cross Tree Lane had been particularly upset not to have received leaflets about these proposals following a residential leaflet drop by the County Council. A formal complaint had been submitted to the County Council and the officer concerned had apologised for this error.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to write to the County Council as outlined above.

122/19 REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY OF FLINTSHIRE – DRAFT PROPOSALS

The Council considered the proposals from the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales in relation to the electoral arrangements for the County of Flintshire. The consultation period had been 5th September to 27th November 2019.

Members had been disappointed that the County Councillors' proposal had not been considered with the suggestion of the merger of the existing four community wards into three community wards and renamed Hawarden North, East and West.

The Boundary Commission had proposed that the Mancot ward of the Community of Hawarden be combined with Queensferry to form an electoral ward to be named 'Mancot and Queensferry'. This would mean the merger of two Community Council areas and would be too confusing for the electorate in general, but particularly on polling days.

The Boundary Commission proposed to merge the Aston and Hawarden community wards and rename them 'Aston and Hawarden' but as mentioned above the name of Hawarden West had been preferred.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the County Council members meet to review the proposals and draft a response to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission and that the Community Council also registers its disappointment and concerns.

123/19 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL STANDARDS COMMITTEE:

Members noted the contents of the seventh letter following visits by the Independent Members of the Standards Committee to Town and Community Council meetings.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the contents of the letter.

124/19 CLERK'S AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised on the following issues:

- A complaint from a member of the public had been upheld by the Information Commissioner who had requested that the Community Council ensure that all staff attend mandatory 'data protection' training and that all policies and procedures be updated to reflect the new obligations on controllers and processors under the General Data Protection Regulation.
- The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 had come into force, which meant that from the 23rd September 2019, every new public sector website and app would need to meet certain accessibility standards and publish a statement saying that they had been met. Existing websites had until the 22nd September 2020 to comply and the host website provider had scheduled Hawarden Community Council in for review after October 2019.
- A Joint meeting of the Standards Committee with the Town and Community Councils would take place in Caerwys at 6.00 p.m. on Monday 30th September.
- Flintshire County Council would host two briefings on the Local Development Plan (LDP) to provide an awareness and understanding of the Deposit LDP prior to public consultation on the 30th September. The Clerk and Financial Officer, together with Councillors Joyce Angell and Sam Swash, would attend the event on Wednesday 11th September.
- The Clerk and Financial Officer would attend the National Conference in October and take a particular interest in the session entitled "Understand your responsibilities as a Charity Trustee".
- Hawarden would be hosting the Clwyd branch meeting of the SLCC on Thursday 12th September.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approved and note the updates.

125/19 COMMUNITY YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer had been pleased to advise Members that Sam Bidwell, the Council's Community Youth Representative, had been accepted to read Law at Cambridge University and had therefore submitted his resignation.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk and Financial Officer send a letter to Sam to thank him for his contributions over the last couple of years and to congratulate on him on gaining entry to Cambridge University.

126/19 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

There were none.