

HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the MEETING of the STAFF AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 13 APRIL 2015

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor David Hough
Vice-Chair: Councillor Alison Halford

Councillors: As per Council Meeting

Officers: Mr R N Barnes, Clerk & Financial Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

As per Council meeting

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 9 March 2015 , be received as a true record and that they be signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Council Chamber

It was reported that Hawarden Institute's Management Committee had not yet replied to the Council's enquiry concerning the possible alterations to the Council Chamber.

POLICE MATTERS:

The Clerk welcomed PC Marie Jones and PCSO Ian Hughes to the meeting.

The following matters were raised:-

- The apparent increase in the number of burglaries in the Hawarden area. PC Jones undertook to look at the comparative period in 2014 to see if there had been an increase.
- Car parking in The Wigdale which was creating difficulties for residents to reverse safely from their driveways.
- Vehicles parking almost opposite Groomsdale Lane causing difficulties for motorists joining The Highway resulting in them were being met by on coming traffic.
- Vandalism to goal posts at Gladstone Playing Fields together with evidence of drug use. (weekend of 11/12 April)
- Drugs being offered to pupils leaving Hawarden High School. It was understood that this was being dealt with.

PC Jones noted the matters raised.

PC Jones referred to:-

- Contractors causing a nuisance in Crofters Way, Mancot by the parking of vehicles.
- Antisocial behaviour in Mancot Lane, Mancot.

Both these matters were being dealt with.

The Chair thanked the Officers for their attendance.

HIGHWAY AND CAR PARKING IN HAWARDEN:

The Chair referred Members to the letter received from the Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation).

Members variously expressed their disappointment with the reply which failed to properly answer the points raised and had not been co-ordinated amongst Officers of the Department in order to provide a comprehensive reply to the points raised.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to

- (a) send a critical letter to the Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation) regarding his Department's response.
- (b) to invite the Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation) to the Committee's June meeting to properly discuss the issues.

FACEBOOK:

Members were referred to the report attached to the agenda which set out the experiences of other local Councils using this Social Media Platform and their management arrangements. Following some discussion

IT WAS RESOLVED: that

- (a) the Council would start to use Facebook in relation to its services/activities.
- (b) the management would be carried out in house with responses to comments to made by the Clerk or in his absence the Chair of Council.
- (c) Councillor Preece be asked to provide any assistance/training should it be required and that Councillors interested in the training offered to staff be allowed to attend.

CLERK’S REPORT:

The following matters were reported:-

- As agreed at the Special meeting of the Council on 25 March an advert had been placed for a Temporary Grounds Maintenance Assistance (six months).
- The Council had been approached by North Wales Training Ltd to offer volunteer placements to two local gentlemen interested in grounds maintenance work. There would be no cost to the Council. All expenses, work wear etc would be provided by North Wales Training Ltd.

The Clerk confirmed that neither gentleman had the tractor driving experience required for the Temporary position which was currently being advertised.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Clerk, Chair of Committee and Senior Maintenance Officer interview selected candidates for the Temporary position.
- (b) that the Clerk, Chair of Committee and Senior Maintenance Officer interview the volunteers to ensure their suitability to work alongside the Council’s workforce.

MEMBERS’ INFORMATION ITEMS:

There were none.