

## **HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the MEETING of the STAFF AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 14 SEPTEMBER 2015**

**PRESENT:** Chair: Councillor Joyce Angell  
Vice-Chair: Councillor Cheryl Carver

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 13 July 2015, be received as a true record and that they be signed by the Chair.

#### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

There were none.

#### **POLICE MATTERS:**

The Chair welcomed PCSO Will Evans to the meeting and invited Members to raise any relevant matters. The following matters were raised and noted:

- Possible drug dealing/taking in the subway linking Aston with Aston Park
- Criminal damage to a vehicle in Moorfield Road, Aston
- Parking outside Sandycroft CP School on both Mancot Lane and Leaches Lane including the need for the parking restrictions on Mancot Lane to be extended.

In response to questions raised by Members PCSO Will Evans advised the following:

- There had been a reduction of vandalism at the Unilever building on St David's Park following the installation of new CCTV cameras
- It was an offence to park within 10 metres of a junction and also parking on the pavement which would obstruct passage by a wheelchair/pushchair user.

The Chair invited PCSO Evans to report on any relevant issues. The following matters were reported:

- Burglaries had taken place in Oakfield Road, Hawarden, Firbrook Avenue, Hawarden, Castle Rise, Hawarden, Circular Drive, Ewloe and at the Morris Homes site off Mold Road, Ewloe.
- Antisocial behaviour in the vicinity of the Crown and Liver Public House, Ewloe

The Chair thanked PCSO Evans for his attendance at the meeting.

### **ACTION PLAN FOR HIGHWAYS AND CAR PARKING ISSUES IN HAWARDEN:**

The Chair referred Members to the update received from Flintshire County Council, a copy of which had been attached to the agenda. The update advised that consideration had been given to the possibility of re-lining and extending the Tinkersdale car park. The findings were that the car park was currently lined to make optimum use of the space available and that the cost of extending the car park towards the Tinkersdale Road would cost in the order of £20,000 and only lead to the creation of a further 7 parking bays. The site was also currently used by Go Safe van as a dedicated location for the monitoring of speed.

The update also referred to the matter of extending the bollards outside Hawarden Post Office in a north westerly direction. The County Council confirmed that there was no objection to this subject the Community Council agreeing and being willing to contribute to the cost.

Councillor Clive Carver circulated some photographic evidence of the problems currently being caused at this location by vehicles parking on the footpath.

### **IT WAS RESOLVED:**

- (a) To note the position concerning Tinkersdale car park and not to proceed with a request for it to be re-lined or extended.
- (b) To agree in principle to the extension of the bollards outside the Post Office in a north westerly direction and to contribute to their cost subject to a quotation being received from Flintshire County Council and agreed to by the Community Council.

### **STAFFING MATTERS:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the press and public be excluded during the discussion of this item due to its confidential nature.

The Committee was referred to a confidential report, a copy of which had been attached to the agenda setting out recommendations for the positions of Maintenance Officer and Assistant Maintenance Officer.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- (a) Mr Howard Williams be appointed to the permanent position of Maintenance Officer with the Community Council with effect from 1 October 2015.
- (b) Mr Len Whitney's temporary position be extended to 30 April 2016 when it would be further reviewed in the light of possible alterations to the Direct Maintenance Teams' workload arising from Community Asset Transfers.

**DRAFT DIRECTIONS TO THE LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES:**

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- (a) To receive and note the consultation document
- (b) For Members to respond individually to the consultation

**SHARED PURPOSE SHARED FUTURE – DRAFT STATUTORY GUIDANCE FOR THE WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015:**

IT AS RESOLVED: to receive and note the Draft Statutory Guidance

**REPORT FOR THE MINISTER'S OFFICE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE:**

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive the report produced by the North and Mid Wales Association of Local Councils in connection with the transfer of Community Assets by principal authorities.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

The following matter was raised:

Community Asset Transfers

The Clerk referred Members to the information sent to them on 11 September 2015 providing an update on the matter of Community Asset Transfers.

The Clerk invited Members to consider the transfer of Hawarden Library in the light of the annual running costs advised by Flintshire County Council and other relevant factors.

The annual running costs of Hawarden Library excluding staffing and line management/support fees to Flintshire County Council had been identified as £16,977 per annum. The Committee also noted that neither the County Councillor for Hawarden nor the Community Council had received any representations from members of the public concerning the possible closure of the Library and no third party group had expressed an interest in running it on a voluntary basis. Furthermore it was noted that Mancot Library was expected to be run in the future by a voluntary group which was in advanced discussions with Flintshire County Council. Mancot Library was located within one mile of Hawarden Library.

Members noted the information and commented on the possibility of focusing its funding support on one Library thereby ensuring the continuance of a library service in the Community Council's area.

#### Play Areas

The Committee noted that there were no Section 106 agreements in place with regard to the four play areas/open spaces identified by Flintshire County Council as potential community asset transfers.

#### Mancot Bowling Club

The Committee noted that a copy of the Lease had been provided and that it was a fully repairing insuring one which ran until 31 January 2031.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:**

- (a) To advise Flintshire County Council that Hawarden Community Council did not wish to pursue an expression of interest with regard to the transfer of Hawarden Library given the costings and factors discussed.
- (b) To consider a report to be produced by the Clerk at the Committee's October meeting on the likely revenue and capital costs associated with accepting the asset transfers of the four play areas/open spaces offered to the Community Council.
- (c) To advise Flintshire County Council that the Community Council did not wish to take on the lease of the Mancot Bowling Club.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the report be received

#### **MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS:**

There were no matters raised by Members.