

HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the MEETING of the STAFF AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 8 NOVEMBER 2010

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor Alison Halford
Vice-Chair: Councillor Ralph Small

Councillors: As per Council Meeting

Officers: Mr R N Barnes, Clerk & Financial Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Kevin Jones and Danielle Platten.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

No declarations of interest were made by Members.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 11 October 2010 be received as a true record and that they be signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Relocation of Council's Office

The Clerk confirmed that as agreed Elevation drawings had been prepared and a planning application submitted to the County Planning Authority identifying the alterations proposed in connection with disabled access to the building. Members were shown a copy of the drawings.

POLICE MATTERS:

The Chair welcomed PC Catherine Jones, and PCSO's Adam Wilson and Sian Atkinson to the meeting and invited the Officers to address the Committee.

PC Jones said that the Halloween and Bonfire night period had been much quieter than previous years and that antisocial behaviour remained at a low level.

PC Jones referred to complaints she had received from residents whose properties backed onto the Chippy Lane footpath in connection with the congregation of youngsters who it was believed were attracted there because of its out of the way location and the provision of footway lighting. She asked that the Council give consideration to turning the lighting off for a trial period to see if the situation improved. The Clerk advised that this matter was due for discussion at the Council's Lighting Committee later on in the evening when due consideration would be given to the request made by PC Jones.

Councillor Clive Carver questioned whether the antisocial behaviour which PC Jones had referred to was in any particular area of the Community, In response she advised that it was spread out across Hawarden and Ewloe.

PCSO Atkinson referred to the issue of underage drinking in Mancot which had been raised at the previous meeting. She said that this matter was being given priority and patrols were being undertaken to improve the situation. She also confirmed that she was monitoring the complaints received in connection with dog fouling in the area.

The Chair thanked the Officers for their reports and invited Members to raise any relevant matters.

Councillor Hardcastle referred to complaints he had received in connection with the playing of live music at the Crown & Liver, Ewloe until 3.20am on Sunday 31 October. He said he was aware that permission had been granted for a 2am drinks licence but understood that music had to be curtailed at 1am. PCSO Wilson said that he was aware of the change to the licence conditions and had asked residents in advance to contact him if there were any resultant problems. He said that he understood that the Licensee of the Crown & Liver had confirmed that in future music would not be played beyond 1am and that it would be restricted to inside the building as the licence didn't extend to outdoors. He said that there had been no further complaints on the subsequent weekend.

The Chair thanked the Officers for their attendance at the meeting.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S LEISURE ACTION PLAN:

The Chair referred Members to the letter received from the Director of Lifelong Learning and the questionnaire attached to it seeking the Community Council's view on how Flintshire County Council could reduce its operating costs, increase its income and ensure that it continued to maintain a high quality sustainable leisure programme.

The Chair then referred Members to the questionnaire and asked for comments on the issues raised. Following discussion:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to advise that Hawarden Community Council

- Supported the continuation of crèche facilities at Leisure Centres
- Considered that catering in the cafés could be undertaken by private contractors
- Supported the continuation of the Swim Flintshire Elite Programme
- Considered that Leisure Services could be amalgamated with neighbouring Counties.
- Supported a review of staffing in the Leisure Services.

DOCUMENTS FOR PERUSAL:

It was noted that the Flintshire County Council's Overview and Scrutiny report for the period May 2009 – April 2010 was available for perusal at the meeting.

CLERK’S REPORT:

The following matters were reported

- Preparations for winter

Flintshire County Council was seeking a representative in each Community to receive daily details of the local weather forecast and Flintshire County Council’s proposed gritting actions for the period. The Clerk said that if the Council so wished he would be happy to be the contact point.

- Puffin Crossing – The Highway, Hawarden

Flintshire County Council had advised that it intended to proceed with the provision of the puffin crossing in its advertised position, despite objections raised.

- Bimonthly Police Consultation Meeting

This was scheduled to take place at 11am on Monday 6 December at Mold Police Station. Councillor Judith Hough indicated that she would be attending that meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be received and that the Clerk act as the nominated representative in respect of the preparations for the winter.

MEMBERS’ INFORMATION ITEMS:

There were none.