

HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the MEETING of the STAFF AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 10 DECEMBER 2012

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor Brian Williams
Vice-Chair: Councillor Ve Amos

Councillors: As per Council Meeting plus Councillor Helen Brown

Officers: Mr R N Barnes, Clerk & Financial Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

As per the Council meeting

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

No declarations of interest were received by Members.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 12 November 2012, be received as a true record and that they be signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- Communication to Chief Constable

There had still been no communication received from either the Chief Constable or the Chair of the North Wales Police Authority. The Clerk would write again to the Chair of the North Wales Police Authority.

- Redecoration of the Council Chamber

The Clerk advised that a revised quotation for the complete redecoration had been received. It would be £936 if only one coat of paint was required above the dado rail and ceiling or £1,121 if two coats were required.

The Clerk also confirmed that it was considered that the external walls could be filled and treated with stabiliser and sealant to overcome their condition which had been caused by damp.

Members confirmed their agreement to proceed with the complete redecoration.

It was noted that this would be referred to the Finance Committee for ratification.

POLICE MATTERS:

(a) The Clerk said that he had received an email late in the afternoon from Temporary Inspector Griffiths advising that due to personal reasons he would be unable to attend the meeting. He had offered to provide an up date to the Clerk later in the week.

PC Butlin had also apologised but had sent a short report. The report stated that complaints of antisocial behaviour had decreased, possibly due to the weather. Crime had however increased directly due to four house burglaries in Hawarden on one evening. These were believed to be the work of a small group of travelling criminals who target an area for one night. There had also been an attempted armed robbery of Ewloe Post Office.

Councillor Kevin Jones asked whether the Council's CCTV cameras had captured the incident at Ewloe Post Office. Councillor Joyce Angell confirmed that they had.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that PC Butlin's report be received and that the Clerk meet with Temporary Inspector Griffiths.

(b) Report of the Bimonthly Meeting with the Police Inspector (South Flintshire)

The Chair thanked Councillors David and Judith Hough for attending the meeting and producing a full report for the Committee's information.

Councillor Judith Hough said that there was nothing further to add to the report of the meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be received.

REVIEW OF SPEED LIMITS – CLASS A & B ROADS:

The Chair advised that Flintshire County Council was in the process of reviewing speed limits on Class A and Class B roads in the County. The County Council would shortly be consulting on sections of road on the appendix attached to the agenda. It would also be inviting representations on other lengths of Class A and B roads which it was believed should be reconsidered based on local knowledge.

Members considered the three lengths of road in the Community Council area which appeared in the appendix. i.e.

1. Hawarden, from a point 300m south of B5125 to Dobshill (Tinkersdale). Recommended to reduce from 60mph to 50mph or 40mph.
2. Queensferry, from the B5129 to the Daleside Garden Centre - To comply with WAG Guidelines consider reduction to 40mph.
3. Ewloe, from Shotton Lane to a point 275m west of Moor Lane, Hawarden – To consider extending the existing 30mph speed limit to a suitable point east of Moor Lane.

Members confirmed their support for all three proposals. With regard to the extension of the existing 30mph beyond Moor Lane it was suggested that this should be extended to encompass the Hawarden Farm Shop entrance where numerous accidents and near misses had occurred.

Arising from this discussion Members also referred to the hazard created by the wide junction to Rake Lane opposite the Farm Shop entrance. Three Members confirmed that on leaving the Farm Shop in a westerly direction they had crossed the inside lane having mistaken the junction opposite for the east bound lane.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

(a) respond to the County Council's consultation on speed limits on the three locations in the Community Council's area positively. With regard to the extension of the 30mph speed limit beyond Moor Lane to ask that it encompasses the Rake Lane junction opposite the Farm Shop entrance.

(b) draw the County Highway's Department's attention to the situation at the Farm Shop entrance where motorists are confused by the Rake Lane junction appearing to be the east bound lane.

A55 A494 WeLTAG STUDY – STAGE 1 APPRAISAL:

The Chair referred Members to the Study's conclusion, a copy of which was attached to the agenda.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that it be noted.

CLERK'S REPORT:

The following matters were reported:

- The Council's office would be closed 25 & 26 December 2012 and 1 January 2013.
- Hawarden Calender

A copy of the calendar which depicted the Jubilee Beacon, the Hawarden Carnival and the Council Chamber, amongst other village scenes was circulated.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be received.

MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS:

There were none.