

HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the MEETING of the STAFF AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 11 JANUARY 2010

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor George Hardcastle
Vice-Chair: -

Councillors: As per Council Meeting

Officers: Mr R N Barnes, Clerk & Financial Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Helen Yale and Mike Jones.

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 14 December 2009 be received as a true record and that they be signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Citizens Advice Bureau, Buckley

The Clerk said that he had received details of the proposed meeting at Buckley Town Hall and these had been forwarded to Councillors Ralph Small and Judith Hough who were representing the Council at the meeting.

POLICE MATTERS:

The Chair welcomed PC Chris Pullen and PC Julie Lynch to the meeting.

The Chair invited the Officers to address the meeting.

PC Pullen reported on the following matters:

- The CCTV system at Gladstone Playing Fields was in his opinion proving successful in reducing incidents of antisocial behaviour at that location.
- The owners of the M&S Store on Holywell Road, Ewloe had advised him that they were unsure how to operate the external CCTV system, installed by the Council some years earlier. The Clerk expressed his surprise at this as the system had been in situ for many years. The Clerk nonetheless undertook to speak to the owners of the store and if necessary arrange for AGS Security Systems to provide further tuition.

- PC Pullen requested that the external camera at the M&S Store be slightly repositioned in order to provide coverage front of a neighbouring shop where antisocial behaviour was occurring. The Clerk undertook to arrange for this to be carried out and suggested that PC Pullen be in attendance when AGS Securities were on site.
- Antisocial behaviour had risen substantially since the Christmas period due to the winter weather and youngsters snowballing residents, properties and motorists.
- Parking outside Cross Tree Lane schools – PC Pullen said that he had produced a letter which would be given to parents advising that action would be taken against anyone committing parking offences outside the schools. He said that he was arranging for warning signs to be erected and that he would be attending the schools at the beginning and end of the school days to enforce this. Members variously supported the action which PC Pullen was taking in view of the hazards being caused by indiscriminate parking and its effects on other motorists and the safety of the pupils.
- Flintshire Neighbourhood Watch was still seeking funding for ‘no cold calling’ areas and PC Pullen sought confirmation that the Council’s agreed contribution of £100 could be allocated to the Moorfield Court development where he considered residents were the most vulnerable. The Committee confirmed that this was acceptable.

In response to PC Pullen Councillor Halford clarified that the proposed parking restrictions on The Highway, Ewloe were progressing but that the County Council was required to meet with an objector to the scheme and that subsequent to that the matter would be put before the County Council’s Executive Committee for ratification.

In response to PC Lynch the Clerk advised that he had written to Flintshire County Council’s Highways department in respect of the issues raised at the Committee’s last meeting regarding the need for speed reduction measures in Ash Lane and Colliery Lane, Mancot. As yet no response had been received. The Chair thanked the Officers for their attendance at the meeting.

CLERK’S REPORT:

The following matters were reported:

- Members were invited to attend a tour of the North Wales Police Control Room at St Asaph which was taking place at 6.30pm on Tuesday 26 January 2010.
- A meeting of the Joint Administration/Maintenance Committee was taking place on Thursday 21 January. Councillors Helen Yale, Ralph Small, Clive Carver, George Hardcastle and David Hough would be in attendance at that meeting together with representatives of Broughton and Bretton Community Council and Shotton Town Council.

- A meeting of the North Wales Association of Larger Town and Community Councils was taking place at St Asaph on Friday 29 January. The Council's representatives on the Committee were Councillors Mike Jones, Ralph Small and John Walker.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be received.

MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS:

Councillor Kevin Jones queried what duties the Council's workforce had been undertaking during the snowy weather. The Clerk gave a full account of the activities which had been undertaken including the carrying out of a full review of the Council's health and safety policies, maintenance to the Council's Pavilion and Depot and its grass cutting machinery. He said that the Christmas lighting which the Council erected in Penyffordd, Broughton, Bretton, Hawarden, Aston, Mancot, Ewloe and Shotton had been switched off but due to the freezing conditions had not been taken down because the cables and insulation were brittle and could be damaged as a consequence.

Councillor Judith Hough commended the Clerk for the Eulogy which he had given at Councillor Edwards' funeral.