

HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the MEETING of the STAFF AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 12 MARCH 2012

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

Councillors: As per Council Meeting

Officers: Mr R N Barnes, Clerk & Financial Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

As per the Council meeting

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 13 February 2012, be received as a true record and that they be signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Housing Stock Transfer

The Clerk advised that Flintshire County Council had produced a response to inaccuracies being cited in advance of the housing stock transfer ballot.

Level Road, Hawarden

Flintshire County Council had advised that in response to the Community Council's representation it was to undertake an automatic traffic survey and subsequently to compare those results to its traffic calming policy.

Mancot Lane, Mancot

The Clerk referred to an email response received from North Wales Police. It confirmed that the Police would monitor the situation adjacent to the link footpath to Sandycroft CP School. Furthermore that they would support an application for double yellow lines on the bend opposite the White Bear Public House and into the junction with Cottage Lane. In the meantime the Police would support a joint letter being sent to residents living in that location.

Members concurred with the proposal by the Police to send a joint letter to residents and instructed the Clerk to progress this.

Attendance by Inspector McKeown

The Clerk confirmed that he had sent an email invitation via the North Wales Police website to Inspector McKeown. At the request of the Committee the Clerk undertook to send a further email inviting the Inspector to the Council's next meeting on 16 April 2012.

Town and Community Council Elections

The Clerk referred to a letter received from Flintshire County Council urging candidates to attend County Hall to have their nomination forms checked as many received to date by post had been incorrectly completed.

POLICE MATTERS:

Councillor Amos questioned whether any Member had any information concerning forthcoming Antisocial Behaviour Panel meetings. Members confirmed that they were unaware of any proposed arrangements.

Councillor Judith Hough referred to an incident which had taken place in Lower Aston Hall Lane, Hawarden involving an alleged speeding vehicle colliding with a gate. She said that her concern was that she had been unable to contact the Police on any of its telephone numbers including the new 101 number. She said that she was appalled that her calls had not been answered.

Councillor Williams referred to burglaries which had taken place in Wold Court and Overlea Drive together with vandalism to the fences of properties bordering Level Road children's play area. Councillor Williams expressed his frustration that there was no representative of the Police present to provide an update on the situation vis-à-vis crime and antisocial behaviour in the Community which he feared would only worsen with the approaching light nights.

Councillor Brown referred to a meeting which had taken place in the Aston/Ewloe area with local businesses to which the Police had failed to attend.

Councillor Hardcastle referred to an incident which had occurred at a property in Highland Avenue, Aston Park. He said that he had phoned the incident through on Friday 9th and had not received a response until Monday 12th March.

Councillor David Hough referred to evidence of drinking and drug taking in the subway beneath the A494. Councillor Hough was advised that the County Council's Street Scene Service would clean up the area if requested to do so.

Councillor Halford said that she was disappointed to learn of the Police's failure to respond to telephone calls and proposed that the Council should write to Mark Tami MP to express its concern over the matter.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that a letter be sent to Mark Tami MP drawing to his attention the difficulties faced in liaising and communicating with the Police.

WAR MEMORIAL/PLAQUE SURVEY:

The Chair advised that Flintshire County Council's Conservation Section was compiling a list of all War Memorials within Flintshire including War Memorial Plaques within Churches and Chapels. The information was relevant to the National Centenary events which were proposed to mark the First World War. In addition it would be a useful record when planning applications were submitted for the conversion of Churches, Chapels and School Buildings.

Councillor David Hough said that he believed that there was a Plaque in St Francis Church, Sandycroft.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to report this to Flintshire County Council.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH No. 114) MODIFICATION ORDER:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note that the Modification Order relating to this footpath which formerly ran from Groomsdale Lane to Wood Lane via The Dell had been made on 7 February 2012.

CLERK'S REPORT:

The following matters were reported:

- Together with the Vice-Chair of Council the Clerk had attended the launch of Flintshire County Council's Street Scene Service on 5 March 2012. He gave an account of the proposed new service which embraced duties connected with litter, street cleansing, gritting, grass cutting, road signs, dog fouling, recycling, road repairs, pest control and street lighting. He said that Flintshire had been divided into twelve areas each with its own Supervisor.
- Notification had been received from the Countryside Council for Wales that it was reviewing the maps of open access to mountains, moors, heaths, downland and registered common land in Wales. The Review was due to commence on 16 July 2012.
- Mr Paul Wilde, the Council's Litter Collector was on sick leave for a period of two weeks following a cataract operation. Members were asked to report any litter problems which they might see during that period to Flintshire County Council's Street Scene Service.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be received.

MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS:

Councillor Brown informed Members that at a recent meeting with parents in connection with the possible merger of High Schools, a suggestion had been put forward that John Summers High School should be merged with Hawarden High School. Flintshire County Council had responded by saying that it would look into the proposal although it was acknowledged that Hawarden High School was already over capacity.