

HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the MEETING of the STAFF AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 13 SEPTEMBER 2010

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

Councillors: As per Council Meeting Plus Councillors Cheryl Carver and
Clive Carver

Officers: Mr R N Barnes, Clerk & Financial Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Alison Halford 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
12 July 2010 be received as a true record and that they be signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Police Matters

The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the Chief Constable commending the work which PC Lehrle and PCSO Wilson had been undertaking in the Hawarden and Ewloe ward and supporting their continuation in the face of possible reorganisations within the Police Force.

Joint Services Committee

It was confirmed the meeting was taking place at 7pm on Thursday 16 September 2010.

Bus Stop – Courtland Drive

The Clerk referred Members to correspondence received from Flintshire County Council indicating that the County Council could only proceed with a scheme which provided facilities for persons with disabilities.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to advise Flintshire County Council that Hawarden Community Council would be happy to support such a scheme but could only contribute £600 towards it.

POLICE MATTERS:

The Chair welcomed PC Gill Lehrle and PC Sue Holmes to the meeting.

PC Holmes said that there were no matters in Aston which she particularly wished to refer to but advised Members that a meeting similar to the old Policing Panels was taking place at Connah's Quay Civic Hall on 23 September involving all areas policed from Deeside Police Station. All Members were welcome to attend.

PC Lehrle apologised for not having carried out speed detection in Lower Aston Hall Lane but explained that this was due to not having access to a speed detection gun. She confirmed that she would however be undertaking the work shortly.

PC Lehrle said that month on month reporting of antisocial behaviour between April and August this year had shown a 64.7% reduction. She said that she was now concentrating on localised crime and referred to 7 arrests which had been made recently in this connection.

Councillor Kevin Jones questioned whether PC Lehrle had any information in connection with a series of burglaries from garden sheds in the Level Road area. PC Lehrle said that there had indeed been a number of such crimes but the offender had now been caught.

Councillor Hardcastle referred to an incident in Lower Aston Hall Lane involving a lorry which had knocked down a resident's garden wall and driven off without stopping. It appeared that the driver had not been able to negotiate the low bridge and had attempted to reverse back down the lane.

Councillor Clive Carver questioned whether there had been any improvement in the parking problems at Mossley Court, Hawarden. PC Lehrle said that it appeared to have improved as she had received no further complaints from residents.

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

CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE:

The Chair referred Members to the correspondence received from the National Assembly for Wales.

The Clerk gave an explanation of the proposed Measure as set out in the correspondence, drawing Members attention to the proposals to develop and strengthen the role of Community Councils in Wales.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to advise the National Assembly for Wales that the Community Council was broadly in support of the aspects of the Measure which would strengthen the role of Community Councils and improve their ability to work in partnership with other bodies and in so doing deliver local services more effectively.

OUTREACH CAB FACILITY AT BUCKLEY:

The Chair referred the Committee to a report which had been produced by the Flintshire CAB in respect of the first three months of the Outreach Office at Buckley.

Members noted that the number of members of the public using the facility was relatively low but noted the importance of such a facility and the value which it had to those who used it.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be received.

CLERK'S REPORT:

The following matters were reported

The Standards Conference was being held at Cardiff City Hall on 4 October and any Member wishing to put themselves forward for attendance at the conference was invited to do so.

The Police Authority had advised it no longer intended to hold Community Forums but that it was reviewing how these would be replaced. The Forum planned for September would not therefore be held.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be received.

MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS:

Councillor Hardcastle advised the Committee of assistance he was giving to residents of Clay Lane to have the lane closed to traffic at its junction with the A494. Members noted the good sense of this proposal.

Councillor Clive Carver referred to the visit to the Police Force Firearms Complex and commented on how interesting the visit had been.

ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS IN FLINTSHIRE DRAFT PROPOSALS:

The Chair explained that it had been necessary to include this matter as an additional item to the agenda in view of the requirement by the National Assembly for responses to be received by 8 October 2010.

The Chair referred Members to the report which had been circulated that evening summarising the revised proposals and enclosing excerpts from the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales Report together with the Community Council's response to the first consultation.

It was noted that the Commission now proposed to merge Ewloe and Aston into one ward to be known Ewloe and Aston with 4 ward Councillors. Hawarden was now proposed to be merged with Mancot into a ward to be known as Hawarden with 3 ward Councillors.

Councillor Glenys Diskin said that she was pleased that the proposal to include Higher Kinnerton and Penyffordd in the same ward as Hawarden and Mancot was no longer proposed. She was however disappointed that Mancot was not included in the ward name particularly as Mancot was the largest of the two existing wards. She said that she felt it should be either Hawarden and Mancot ward or Mancot and Hawarden ward.

Councillor Clive Carver supported Councillor Glenys Diskin's views and whilst welcoming the revised proposal he did have some concern about the concept of multi-Member wards.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to advise the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales that the Community Council was satisfied with its proposals so far as the Hawarden and Mancot and Ewloe and Aston wards were concerned but that it would wish to see Mancot included in the name of the proposed Hawarden ward.