

HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the MEETING of the STAFF AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 14 NOVEMBER 2011

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor Clive Carve
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 Alan Diskin, Glenys Diskin, Alison Halford, George Hardcastle and John Walker.

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 10 October 2011, be received as a true record and that they be signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Police Matters

The Clerk advised that the Police had not visited the Office to view the CCTV evidence of damage being caused to the bowling green.

Crown & Liver, Ewloe

The Clerk confirmed that he written to the Licensing Officer in relation to the incident raised by Councillor Mike Jones however as the letter was sent after the Review date had ended it could not be included in the Review.

Attendance at a Future Meeting of the Community Council by Flintshire County Council's Chief Executive

The Clerk said that he had received a telephone call from Mr Colin Everett, Flintshire County Council's Chief Executive Officer in respect of the Committee's decision not to accept his invitation to attend one of the Council's future meetings to apprise it of headline issues the County Council was dealing with and to learn of matters of importance the Community Council was dealing with.

Councillor Kevin Jones said that as a relatively new Community Councillor he would welcome the opportunity to hear from the Chief Executive. This was seconded by Councillor Judith Hough and supported by other Members. It was agreed that Mr Everett be invited to attend a future meeting of the Council on a date convenient to him.

POLICE MATTERS:

Councillor Ve Amos said that she had attended a recent meeting in Connah's Quay with Councillor Glenys Diskin when the Police had advised that their resources were at a premium and on occasions they would have insufficient Officers available to attend meetings in Town & Community Councils. Councillor Mackie recalled at a previous meeting the Inspector had said that he would attempt to attend on a quarterly basis and there seemed to some inconsistency in what was being said. He said that it was important that there should be an arrangement in respect of communications with which both parties agreed. Councillor Brown observed that the Police should be aware that Town & Community Councils were an important conduit between the Police and residents.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to write to the local Inspectors to ascertain what proposals they had for ongoing communication and a schedule of dates of the meetings of the Antisocial Behaviour Panels.

WINTER MAINTENANCE:

The Chair referred Members to the County Council Salt Bin Matrix which was attached to the agenda identifying the criteria used to determine the location of salt bins. It was suggested that the County's criteria could be studied to ascertain if there were locations within the Community Council's area where it was considered that salt bins should be positioned despite them not meeting the criteria and further that the Community Council could ask directly whether particular critical locations were being serviced by the County Council.

It was noted that the County Council's criteria was ambiguous in that gradients were classified as slight, steep and very steep. It was suggested therefore that an explanation of these classifications should be sought.

Councillor Kevin Jones said that when he originally raised this issue it was in connection with the Community Council spending a small sum of money on a stockpile of salt which could be applied by the Community Council to particular locations on a needs basis.

Councillor Mackie referred to the scheme which operated in Buckley last winter where a group of volunteers, with support from the County Council cleared important areas in the Town which were not being addressed immediately by the County Council and the proposal to extend such a scheme across the County. Members expressed support for this being introduced in the Hawarden Community Council area, co-ordinated by the Community Council.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- (a) that the Community Council should acquire a stockpile of salt up to a cost of £500.
- (b) that the Community Council should endeavour to establish a group of volunteers to attend to important locations in the Community Council area which were not being attended to by Flintshire County Council.
- (c) to advertise for volunteers on the Council's website, in the local press and in the Living magazine.
- (d) to seek clarification on the classification of gradients in the County Council's area.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU – BUCKLEY OUTREACH:

The Chair referred members to the report attached to the agenda outlining the visits to the Buckley Outreach Office, towards which the Council made a financial contribution.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be received.

CLERK'S REPORT:

The following matters were reported:-

- A Public meeting regarding the proposed North Wales Waste Treatment Plant was to be held at Connah's Quay Civic Hall on Tuesday 22 November at 6pm. Members were welcome to attend.
- The Olympic Torch would be passing through Hawarden on 29 May 2012. It was possible that the Community Council might be contacted with reference to local Torch Bearers.
- Remembrance Sunday – The event had been attended by over 600 people with some 30 wreaths being laid. The Clerk recorded his thanks to Paul Wilde for his assistance on the day. Members variously commented on the successful organisation of the event which included the laying of a wreath by the family of the recently deceased James Smart who had lost his life whilst on duty in Italy. It was noted that his name had been inscribed on the War memorial.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be received.

MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS:

There were none.