

HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the **STAFF AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held on **09 MAY 2011**

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor George Hardcastle
Vice Chair: Councillor Ralph Small

Councillors: As per Council Meeting

Officers: R N Barnes, Clerk & Financial Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mike Jones

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2011/2012:

Councillor Hardcastle was proposed by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor David Hough. There being no further nominations Councillor Hardcastle was duly elected Chair of Committee for the Municipal Year 2011/2012.

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 11 April 2011 be received as a true record and signed by the Chair.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Public House Licence Reviews

Councillor Alan Diskin clarified that a Public House licence could be reviewed by the County Licensing Panel on receipt of witnessed evidence relating to incidents within but not outside the premises.

Mancot Lane Play Area

The Clerk said that having reflected on this issue he considered that if the Council were to position a bench in the vicinity of where there was conflict between youngsters playing football and residents it might encourage youngsters to play in another area of the playing field which was unobstructed.

POLICE MATTERS:

The Chair welcomed Inspector Iwan Jones the recently appointed Inspector for South Flintshire to the meeting and invited the Officer to address the Committee.

Inspector Jones thanked Members for inviting him to attend the meeting and gave a brief outline of his career to date which had included working as a Police Officer on Deeside thereby giving him an understanding of the Hawarden Community Council area. Inspector Jones enquired whether Members had any issues which they might wish to raise with him.

Councillor Judith Hough referred to the recent changes which had recently been introduced to Policing in Flintshire and questioned who should be notified with issues when they arose. Inspector Jones said that the PCSO structure would not change but that Community Beat Managers were intended to be deployed on the basis of strategic impact i.e. they would be deployed at known problem times in known problem areas. He said that the number of CBM's engaged in South Flintshire had been increased.

Councillor Kevin Jones spoke of the importance of Community Beat Managers having local knowledge, which could only be gained by staying in an area for a length of time. Inspector Jones said that because of the need for professional development Officers moved around the Force area and whilst not working in an area their knowledge was not lost. He said that for instance when there were CCTV images of suspected persons these would be circulated Force wide. He said that the difficulty came when new people moved into the area who the Police were not already aware of. Councillor Clive Carver said that a resident of High Park, Hawarden had contacted him in connection with fires which had been lit at the Gladstone Playing Fields as the emails he had submitted to the local PCSO, CBM and Sergeant had received an automatic 'out of office' reply. Inspector Jones said that this illustrated the problem of contacting an individual Officer. He said there was a complement of 14 Community Beat Managers, any of whom could have dealt with the incident. He suggested that contact should be made on the 101 or 999 numbers depending on the seriousness of the incident.

Councillor Clive Carver referred to a recent incident when a long-sided vehicle heading for Airbus had struck the brick wall outside the Lloyds Bank because of its inability to negotiate the junction. He questioned whether a restriction could be placed on the use of the Tinkersdale Road by such vehicles. Inspector Jones said that the responsibility for this rested with Flintshire County Council but that he would be happy to contact Flintshire County Council.

The Clerk referred to antisocial behaviour at Gladstone Playing Fields involving the setting of fires and damage to the Pavilion and asked whether the Police could ensure that local patrols included this area. Inspector Jones said that Sergeant Arnold who had responsibility for Community Policing was looking at the issue of antisocial behaviour in Hawarden and Ewloe.

Councillor Hardcastle questioned whether the re-introduction of a Dispersal Order in the Hawarden and Ewloe area would be appropriate. Inspector Jones said that he did not consider that it would be helpful at this point and that the problem had to be tackled in stages.

The Chair thanked Inspector Jones for his attendance at the meeting.

CLERK'S REPORT:

The Clerk verbally reported on the progress which had been made in connection with the alterations to The Lodge which was to become the Council's Office. He said that a new internal doorway had been created and a replacement porch and entrance had been ordered following the receipt of quotations. Furthermore works had been commenced to the current bathroom which would become the staff toilets. He said that it was intended that the office would be established at The Lodge in the week commencing 20 June 2011.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be received.

MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS:

Speed Warning Sign Aston Hall Lane

Councillor Hardcastle commented that the sign which had been erected in the wrong position was no longer working because of an issue relating to its power supply. He said that the sign would be re-sited to a more suitable location in June.

Councillor Small said that he had received a complaint from a resident of Chippy Lane, Ewloe in connection with antisocial behaviour and he offered to pass the information on to the local Ward Members.