



HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting

held on

8 FEBRUARY 2021

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor George Hardcastle

Councillors: Ve Amos, Joyce Angell, Gillian Brockley, Helen Brown, Bob Connah, Cheryl Carver, Clive Carver, Sarah Hinks, Dave Mackie, Dan Preece, Emma Preece, Ryan O’Gorman, Ralph Small, Darren Sterry, Sam Swash, Richard Taylor and Ant Turton.

Officers: Mrs S G Jones, Clerk & Financial Officer
Fran Griffiths, Admin Assistant

Also present: 2 members of the public

104/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies had been received from Councillors Janet Axworthy and Lowri Earith.

105/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor Dave Mackie declared an interest in item 16 (ii) application number 10 and would complete his declaration of interest form accordingly.

106/20 PRESENTATION: BORDERLANDS TRANSPORT

Councillor George Hardcastle welcomed Jamie Sant to the meeting. A copy of the latest ‘Borderlands Line News’ Bulletin had been circulated to members prior to the meeting for information.

Jamie said that a bus service through Hawarden had been operating between Wrexham and Bidston due to essential line maintenance taking place. Train services in all areas had been reduced due to the ongoing pandemic with no update on the roll out of new trains coming into service.

Jamie said that Enbarr was working to renovate the John Summers clock tower and asked for support from members who might be able to work with him to improve the area around Shotton High/Low Level railway station. Members suggested that Jamie contact Shotton Town Council direct.

Jamie confirmed that he would write to Network Rail for an update on the status of the Station House at Hawarden Railway Station due to its unsafe condition and follow up his original request for funding from the National Rail Heritage Awards.

Councillor George Hardcastle thanked Jamie for his informative presentation.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and note the update provided by Jamie Sant.

107/20 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the previous virtual meeting of the Council held on 11th January 2021 be approved as a correct record save and accept that minute 86/20 be amended to read *'After seeking clarity from the Clerk and Financial Officer, Cllr Sam Swash had agreed to attend the hearings as a representative of the local residents' campaign group, not as a representative of the Community Council.'*

108/20 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

In response to minute number 86/20, members requested an update on the pre-hearing Local Development Plan meeting that had recently taken place. Councillor Taylor said that he had attended the pre-hearing meeting and provided a brief summary to members.

Members had been reminded that the responsibility to declare an interest in relevant items had been the responsibility of individual members under the Code of Conduct.

109/20 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE:

Following the resignation of Councillor George Hardcastle from the Communications Sub-Committee an additional member required appointing.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that Councillor Dave Mackie be appointed to the Communications Sub-Committee.

110/20 ESTABLISHMENT OF A POLICY, AUDIT AND CONSULTATION COMMITTEE:

A proposal had been put forward at the previous meeting to consider the establishment of a Scrutiny committee which had been deferred to this meeting for amendment. A revised proposal for a policy, audit and consultation committee with an updated terms of reference had been circulated.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that a Policy, Audit and Consultation Committee be not established.

111/20 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

The Chairman had no updates to report but said that he looked forward to when the Community Council could meet face to face, as soon as Covid regulations allowed and it was safe to do so.

Councillor Darren Sterry, Chairman of Staffing and General Purposes presented the following items:

112/20 COMMUNITY FLOODING:

Councillor Bob Connah had requested whether the council could purchase its own sand and sand bags in light of the recent flooding experienced in Mancot, Sandycroft and Pentre and in the hope that a speedier response could be provided to the community. He had spoken to the Head Teacher of Sandycroft CP School who had agreed that a supply of sand and sand bags could be stored in the school car park for use in the future. Out-of-hours access would be provided by the caretaker, one resident who lived locally and Councillor Connah.

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that two tonnes of sand and 40 sand bags had already been donated to the Community Council by Jack Sargeant, MS and Wirral Builders Supplies (WBS). This had been delivered to the depot.

It was suggested that an Emergency Response Team be established to provide help and support to local residents in the event of inclement weather. The team would consist of members of the Community Council and members of the public.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the purchase of sand and sand bags and to establish an Emergency Response Team.

113/20 ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO FACEBOOK PAGE FOR INFORMATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that this item did not need to be placed on the agenda every month as the Communications Sub-Committee had agreed to establish a formal Hawarden Community Council Facebook page and items could automatically be added to Facebook at any time by the Clerk and Financial Officer.

114/20 POLICE, HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS:

Members advised of the following incidents to be forwarded to the appropriate authorities:

- Incidents of snowballs/stones being thrown at cars in the vicinity of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and by the Crown and Liver, The Highway, Hawarden.
- Cars had had eggs thrown at them in the St. David's Park area.
- Road signs missing on Green Lane, Ewloe.

35 Chair's signature _____

- Three lights out on Mancot Lane which had been due to a fault with Scottish Power.
- Thanks had been expressed to the Maintenance Team for the repair of lights at Park Avenue.

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised the County Highways Maintenance Officer had recently been off work and a new contact had been provided which would be forwarded to all members.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the updates.

115/20 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

Councillor George Hardcastle would lay a wreath at the memorial in memory of Captain Sir Tom Moore who had sadly passed away. Once the funeral details had been known the wreath would be placed at the memorial site.

116/20 COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the virtual Communications Sub-Committee meetings held on 14th and 27th January 2021 be noted and approved.

117/20 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SUMMER PLAY SCHEME 2021:

The County Council had requested the Community Council to consider sponsoring the annual Summer Play Scheme. A report outlining costs, duration and Covid safety measures had been circulated.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the financial costs for the provision of the Summer Play Scheme for 2021.

Councillor Cheryl Carver, Chair of Planning, presented the following item.

118/20 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS:

IT WAS RESOLVED:

(a) County Council Members:

It was noted that the participation of those Councillors who were also Members of the County Council, in both the debate and subsequent vote, was on the basis that the views expressed had been preliminary views taking account of the information made available to the Community Council.

The County Councillors reserved their final views on the applications until they were in full possession of all relevant arguments for and against.

(a) That the County Planning Authority be advised of this Council's observations on the applications submitted to it for consideration, as per the attached schedule.

(b) That the planning decisions be noted.

Councillor Dave Mackie, Chair of Finance, presented the following items.

119/20 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £26,020.06 for February be approved.

120/20 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the cost to the council for the joint maintenance agreement for February amounted to £11,881.49.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and approve the update.

121/20 BANK RECONCILIATIONS:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the bank reconciliations for the period ending 29th January 2021 be noted and received.