



HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting

held on

8 MARCH 2021

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor George Hardcastle

Councillors: Ve Amos, Joyce Angell, Janet Axworthy, Gillian Brockley, Helen Brown, Bob Connah, Cheryl Carver, Clive Carver, Lowri Earith, 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: 8 members of the public

122/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Sarah Hinks.

123/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillors Ve Amos, Ralph Small and Ant Turton declared an interest in item 13; Councillors Janet Axworthy, Bob Connah and Ralph Small declared an interest in item 16 and Councillor Bob Connah declared an interest in item 17. They would complete their declaration of interest form accordingly.

124/20 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous virtual meeting of the Council held on 8th February 2021 be approved as a correct record.

125/20 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

In response to minute number 112/20, the Clerk and Financial Officer said that a list of Emergency Response Team members had been compiled and in due course, an introductory virtual meeting would be held to outline key roles.

126/20 INTERIM INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT:

The Internal Auditor had undertaken an interim internal audit and had made some recommendations about the Charitable Trust status, the Service Level Agreement recharges and confirmation of VAT for new payees. The Clerk and Financial Officer had produced an Action Plan for Members approval in relation to the implementation of the recommendations.

In response to a question, the Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that the issues raised about the Herbert Gladstone Playing Fields would be clarified in the forthcoming meeting of the Trustees.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to accept and endorse the action plan.

127/20 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES:

The Remuneration Panel had recently issued a final report which had been circulated for Members' information. There had been no changes to the remuneration for Town and Community Councils although a new consultation had been launched and the council would be involved in that process.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive the final report.

128/20 PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES: DRAFT GUIDANCE ON THE CODE OF CONDUCT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated the consultation on the new Code of Conduct for comments from members by Friday 21st March.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that a working group of members be convened to review the Code of Conduct and agree a response on behalf of the council.

129/20 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

The Chairman said that on 26th February, along with the Clerk and Financial Officer, he had laid a wreath at the memorial in memory of Captain Sir Tom Moore who had recently passed away.

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

130/20 POLICE, HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS:

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

- Inconsiderate parking on Yowley Road/Crossways preventing re-cycling vehicles from accessing road.
- Youths riding bikes with no helmets, lights or visible licence plates in Hawarden/Mancot area – advised, if possible, to take a photo from a safe distance and ring 101
- Road sign top of Ash Lane had not been replaced.
- 2 lights out o/s 6 Hawarden Way and a light out on a double column by square on Mancot Lane
- Incident in Mancot of local resident being attacked whilst walking her dog in an attempted robbery – under police investigation.
- North Wales Police had been unable to attend virtual meetings but had suggested a walkabout with Members when Covid 19 restrictions allow and monthly statistical reports.

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT: several members would be interested in attending a local walkabout with the Police Community Support Officers when conditions allow.

131/20 FLY TIPPING AT LEACHES LANE, MANCOT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that fly tipping had been an ongoing problem at Leaches Lane and Duckers Lane and members cited recent examples.

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT: permission be sought from Flintshire County Council to place a Closed Circuit Television unit in trees to help identify the main culprits.

132/20 MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEM:

A member suggested that all national and international events such as today, *International Women's Day*, be celebrated and published on the Council's Facebook and other local social media platforms.

Councillor Lowri Earith, Chair of Community Amenities presented the following items:

133/20 COMMUNITY PLAN:

A member had outlined a proposal to develop a Community Plan (*Place Plan in Wales*). This would provide an opportunity for the community to influence local community strategies by working with the Community Council to develop a plan with measurable targets to be reported on publicly.

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that it would take time to prepare a Place Plan properly, with public consultation and the input of the Planning Officers at Flintshire County Council to ensure that this document could materially influence planning applications. The Planning Department had already been contacted and had offered to support the Community Council but that it had to prioritise the Local Development Plan which had commenced to its next stage.

The Clerk and Financial Officer suggested that the Council's Annual Report could be adapted to include more measurable targets and had been due for renewal in April 2021.

Following a discussion, a motion had been proposed and seconded to approve the development of a Community Plan, in principle, and that a Community Steering Group be established within the next six months.

In accordance with Standing Order number 47 a recorded vote had been requested, the results of which had been as follows:

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain
Ve Amos	√		
Joyce Angell	√		
Janet Axworthy			√
Gillian Brockley	√		
Helen Brown	√		
Cheryl Carver		√	
Clive Carver		√	
Bob Connah	√		
Lowri Earith	√		
George Hardcastle	√		
Dave Mackie		√	
Ryan O'Gorman	√		
Dan Preece	√		
Emma Preece	√		
Ralph Small	√		
Darren Sterry	√		
Sam Swash	√		
Richard Taylor	√		
Ant Turton	√		

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the development of a Community Plan, in principle, and that a Community Steering Group be established within six months.

134/20 REPLACEMENT FENCING, MANCOT VILLAGE HALL:

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that £5,864 had been received from the County Council in section 106 money for Mancot which could be used towards the replacement fencing around the play area adjacent to the Village Hall.

In accordance with Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, three quotes to supply the fencing had been received and circulated to members as confidential documents.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to award the replacement fencing contract to Company B as outlined in the report.

135/20 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION: DOG AGILITY PARK(S):

The Clerk and Financial Officer provided an update on the proposal from the Play and Recreation Sub-Committee, subsequently agreed by council, to undertake a public consultation exercise on the possibility of turning the Vickers Close play area into a dog agility park. This would be instead of a play area that appeared to be underused due to its unsecure location. In addition, since the closure of the play area in March 2020 due to Covid-19, not one request from a member of the public been received to re-open it.

A member of the public had addressed the council to outline that Vickers Close play area had been utilised since it had been locked via an unofficial entrance and that the play area proved popular in the local area. She said that it would be an asset if the play area could be enhanced and that a dog agility area could be accommodated within the grounds. It would be a concern about the increase in dog fouling if a dog agility area had been agreed.

Another member referred to an area of land where a dog agility area could be created in Penarlag but that too would be subject to consultation.

IT WAS RESOLVED: a public consultation be arranged to assess the response from local residents, including residents of Mancot, once the current pandemic had eased and it would be safe to do so.

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

136/20 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.

137/20 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN, COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that members email the Clerk and Financial Officer to outline the requirements of the Council's representative at hearing meetings of the Local Development Plan.

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

138/20 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £28,811.87 for March be approved.

139/20 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the cost to the council for the joint maintenance agreement for March amounted to £13,389.43.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and approve the update.

140/20 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the bank reconciliation for the period ending 28th February 2021 be received and noted.