

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of
HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
15TH MAY 2018

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor Alan Diskin

Councillors: Ve Amos, Joyce Angell, Janet Axworthy, Helen Brown, Cheryl Carver, Glenys Diskin, Lowri Earith, George Hardcastle, Kevin Jones, Dave Mackie, Helen Meredith, Dan Preece, Emma Preece, Ralph Small and Darren Sterry.

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

01/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gillian Brockley, Clive Carver, Ryan O’Gorman and Wendy Mallin.

02/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillors Helen Brown, Helen Meredith, Daniel Preece and Darren Sterry declared an interest in Item 14 - Tennis Courts and duly completed their Declaration of Interest forms.

03/18: RETIRING CHAIR’S REMARKS:

The Chair extended his thanks to Members for their help and support during his year of office and said that it had been an honour and a privilege to serve as the Chairman of the Council during the past year. He said that he had attended many interesting events and had met many wonderful people.

He also wished to thank Sharron and the staff of Hawarden Community Council for all their assistance during his period of office.

Councillor George Hardcastle thanked the Chair for his work and contributions during his period of office, a comment, which was endorsed by Members.

04/18 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR 2018/19:

The previous past Chair invited nominations for the position of Chair for the Municipal Year 2018/2019. It was noted that in accordance with the Council’s adopted policy of seniority Councillor Dave Mackie, the current Vice Chair, was the agreed nominee.

1 Chair’s signature: _____

On being put to a vote, Councillor Dave Mackie, was duly elected Chair of Hawarden Community Council for the Municipal Year 2018/2019.

Councillor Dave Mackie duly completed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and thanked Members for supporting his nomination.

05/18 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR 2018-2019:

It was proposed that in accordance with the Council's adopted policy of seniority Councillor George Hardcastle, was the agreed nominee.

On being put to a vote, Councillor George Hardcastle, was duly elected Vice Chair of Hawarden Community Council for the Municipal Year 2018/2019.

Councillor George Hardcastle duly completed his Declaration of Acceptance Office form and thanked Members for supporting his nomination.

06/18 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Council held on 24th April 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

07/18 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were no matters arising.

08/18 MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the revised version of the Code of Conduct and confirm adherence to it.

09/18 STANDING ORDERS:

Councillor Helen Brown conveyed her thanks to the Sub-Group for their work on reviewing the Council's Standing Orders.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the revised Council's Standing Orders and confirm adherence to them.

10/18 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS and EXPENDITURE POLICY:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the Council's Financial Regulations and Expenditure Policy.

11/18 REPRESENTATIONS ON OUTSIDE BODIES:

Councillor Cheryl Carver commented that as the Community Council no longer held their meetings at Hawarden Institute there would be no requirement for a representative to be on the Committee. Members were opposed to this comment and said that it would be good practice to have a local ward member present on the Institute Management Committee. It was agreed to defer this matter to the next meeting of the Council following discussions with the Institute Management Committee.

The Clerk confirmed that there was no requirement for a Community Council representative at Sandycroft CP School.

Councillor Kevin Jones said that he wished to resign as the Council's representative on Ewloe Green CP School but that Councillor Darren Sterry had agreed to become the new representative subject to any other nominations.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to update the representation on outside bodies as above and defer the representation on the Institute Management Committee to the next meeting.

12/18 PAYMENTS TO MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS:

The Clerk provided a resume of the outcome of the final report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. The Panel had proposed three groups of Community and Town Councils to reflect the differences across the sector. The banding had been based on the level of income or expenditure as the panel felt that this provided more of an indication as to the level of activity that the Community or Town Council undertook. Hawarden Community Council had been placed in Band A.

The Panel had determined that Community and Town Councillors were not volunteers. This is due to the democratic process that they had accepted with formal responsibilities and some degree of liability in respect of Council functions.

A number of payments had been determined as mandatory and therefore budgetary provision would need to be determined during the annual budget setting process. However, should an individual member wish to forgo this payment(s), then he/she would need to write to the Clerk of the Council to give notice. The Clerk had sought clarification that this element of the budget could be vired with a formal Council resolution to some community project if appropriate, as earlier indications had been that members did not wish to receive this allowance directly.

Members in receipt of a senior salary from a principal council could not receive any payment from any Community or Town council other than travel and subsistence and reimbursement of costs of care.

The Clerk would be required to produce an annual return to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales by the 30 September even if this is a nil return.

Where not mandated, each determination required a formal decision by Council on an annual basis. A Council can adopt any or all of the non-mandated determinations but if it does make such a decision, it must apply to all members.

Following discussion, IT WAS RESOLVED:

- (I) To accept Determination numbers 44, 46, 48, 49 and 51
- (II) Determination numbers 45 and 47 are not applicable
- (III) To not accept Determination numbers 50, 52 and 53.

13/18 DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018/2019

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the dates and times of meetings for the Municipal Year 2018/2019 as listed on the agenda.

14/18 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- i. To note the Council's contribution to the Joint Maintenance Agreement for the month of May of £10,098.86.
- ii. To receive the bank reconciliation for the period ending 30th April 2018, previously emailed.
- iii. To approve that the Section 106 money received from the Aston Mead development be used to replace the front part of the fencing at Aston Community Centre to ensure continuity of visual appearance alongside the replacement fencing at the Bowling Club. The Clerk had sought legal advice about the derivation from the terms of the lease and the use of section 106 monies and it had been agreed that as long as this was a one-off gesture and only possible due to the section 106 monies being available and unallocated, then this was acceptable.
Councillor Ralph Small asked if there had been any Section 106 money available to replace the fencing at Mancot Community Centre. The Clerk advised that monies had been due in but as yet not received but that she would chase it up.
- iv. To approve the Community Council's insurance renewal of £4,114.67.

- v. To approve the purchase of a WW1 Commemorative beacon for the beacon lighting ceremony in November; ***Councillor Ralph Small asked that his name be recorded as having voted against this decision.***
- vi. To agree to fund the repainting of two of the tennis courts at a cost of £1,200 per court. Councillor Helen Brown commented that the tennis club had proved to be very successful with some very enthusiastic members driving the initiative and a waiting list drawn up for members.
- vii. To note the feedback from the Clerk following the meeting of the County Forum held in May and to approve, in principle, the Community Charter and note the Bus Network Consultation Review.

15/18 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the updated list of payments in the sum of £23,805.22 for April be approved.

16/18 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

(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 were 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.

- (b) 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.
- (c) There were no appeals.
- (d) IT WAS RESOLVED: that the decisions taken by the County Planning Authority be noted.