



HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting

held on

8TH NOVEMBER 2021

PRESENT: Chair: Councillor Helen Brown

Councillors: Ve Amos, Joyce Angell, Janet Axworthy, Bob Connah, Cheryl Carver, Clive Carver, George Hardcastle, Sarah Hinks, Dave Mackie, Emma Preece, Ryan O’Gorman, Darren Sterry, Ant Turton, Ralph Small, Sam Swash and Richard Taylor.

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

83/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Gillian Brockley (working), Lowri Earith (caring responsibility) and Dan Preece (working).

84/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

85/21 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous hybrid meeting of the Council held on 11th October 2021 be approved as a correct record.

86/21 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

With reference to minute number 73/21, the Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that two virtual sessions for Community/Place Plan training with One Voice Wales had been offered for Tuesday 30th November and Wednesday 1st December, both at 6.30pm and Members should advise of their preference.

The Clerk and Financial Officer also advised that there would be a virtual meeting of the Herbert Gladstone Playing Fields Trust on Tuesday 30th November at 1pm.

87/21 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL – DRAFT REPORT:

The Independent Remuneration Panel had undertaken a fundamental review of payments to members of community and town councils ready for implementation on 5 May 2022. The original groupings of councils had changed based on electorate and Hawarden had been placed in Group 1.

The guidance set out that members are not volunteers as a formal Declaration of Acceptance of Office is signed and members carry out their role as part of the Welsh Local Government structure.

The Independent Remuneration Panel continued to liaise with HMRC about the taxation of the mandatory allowance of £150.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- i. That determination number 44 be accepted as mandatory, noting that some members may elect to forego this entitlement; members should notify the Clerk in writing if they do not wish to receive it.
- ii. To accept determination numbers 45, 46 and 47.
- iii. Determination number 48 be not approved.
- iv. To accept determination numbers 49, 50 and 51 and
- v. Determination 52 is not applicable.

88/21 MANDATORY CHAIRMAN TRAINING:

Councillor Sam Swash had submitted a report to consider making it mandatory for incoming Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the council to have undertaken 'chair training' provided by One Voice Wales. A discussion ensued and it was suggested that the Clerk and Financial Officer provide an induction training package for new members following the elections in May 2022 that would include chair training.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk and Financial Officer prepare an induction training package for consideration at a future meeting.

89/21 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

There were none.

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

90/21 POLICE, HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) had been due to attend the meeting but had subsequently been called away. The PCSO had been notified of future meeting dates and it was hoped that she would be able to attend a future meeting.

Members reported the following issues:

- Light out on the flyover near the Plough Inn, A494.
- Bonfire night had passed without incident or any reports of anti-social behaviour.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the updates.

91/21 MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS:

Councillor Ralph Small reported that the Santa Dash 2021 would take place at the Hawarden Estate on Sunday 5th December. Attendees would be able to park on Tinkersdale car park with the event commencing at the castle gates. Marshals would be in attendance and refreshments would be available at the Glynne Arms. All proceeds would be given to the Carnival Committee who had agreed to donate the money, along with a generous offer from Sir Charles Gladstone to match all money raised, to Deeside Community Hospital League of Friends.

In response to a question, the Clerk and Financial Officer said that work on the new council's website had commenced and she would report progress in due course.

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the Order of Service for Remembrance Day had been finalised and she would contact Hawarden High School to request that the car park be opened for attendees of the Remembrance parade.

Councillor Dave Mackie advised that the Hynet route had yet to be confirmed. To avoid congestion and disruption, the pipeline may be laid by horizontal drilling which would be taking place under the A494 and test boreholes will be drilled to ascertain what is under the ground.

Councillor Joyce Angell, Chair of Planning, presented the following item:

92/21 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.

- (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) That the planning decisions be noted.

93/21 MAJOR DEVELOPMENT AT GLANRAFAN, OLD MOLD ROAD, EWLOE:

A pre-planning application had been submitted for a proposed development at Glanrafon, Old Mold Road, Ewloe.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to arrange a virtual meeting with the developer and members to discuss a number of queries about the development.

Councillor Ant Turton, Chair of Community and Environment presented the following items:

94/21 REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL STREET FURNITURE IN MANCOT:

Councillor Ant Turton had requested the council to consider the purchase of additional street furniture in Mancot. He had spoken to officers at the County Council and had approached local businesses who had said that they would be content to fund the street furniture, which would include 2/3 benches and 2/3 planters to be maintained by the local community.

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the council would need to add the street furniture to the council's asset register and included within the council's insurance policy.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the purchase and installation of the street furniture, subject to the necessary planning consent.

95/21 THE QUEEN’S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that there would be an additional bank holiday during the spring of 2022 as part of The Queen’s platinum jubilee celebrations. A number of events would take place including beacon lighting ceremonies, church bells ringing and communities participating in the “big jubilee lunch”. Communities had been encouraged to get together and hold their own events which could be advertised locally and on social media.

The Queen’s Green Canopy event proposed that a formal planting of seven trees to represent each decade of the Queen’s reign take place in local communities.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to participate in the Queens Green Canopy event and plant seven trees in each of the council’s three wards.

96/21 REQUEST TO ERECT A COVERED SEATING AREA AT GLADSTONE BOWLING CLUB:

A request had been received from the Chairman of the Gladstone Bowling Club to erect an outdoor seating area within its boundary.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that this item be considered at the meeting of the Herbert Gladstone Playing Fields Trust meeting on 30th November.

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

97/21 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £35,436.49 for November be approved.

98/21 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER’S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer reported that the cost to the Council for the joint maintenance agreement for November had been £11,989.09.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.

99/21 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the bank reconciliation for the period ending 31st October be approved.

100/21 DRAFT BUDGET SETTING FOR 2022-23 AND CONSIDERATION OF A MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note that the draft budget review meeting would take place on 23rd November and that a draft Medium Term Financial Plan be considered.

101/21 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the exclusion of press and public as the following item contained sensitive legal information.

102/21 NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE AT EWLOE:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update on the transfer of the land into the council's ownership.