



## **HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting

held on

**14<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**PRESENT:** Chair: Councillor Helen Brown

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

**Officers:** Mrs Sharron Jones, Clerk & Financial Officer  
Fran Griffiths, Admin Assistant

**Also present:** David Parkin, Project Director, Hynet  
Sue Thomas, Ian Beckett and John Griffiths from  
Flintshire County Council’s Highways Department  
Eight members of the public

### **143/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

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

### **144/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

There were none.

### **145/21 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HIGHWAY OFFICIALS:**

The Chairman welcomed officers from Flintshire County Council’s Highways department to the meeting. They had been invited to attend due to the number of concerns that members and residents had about the Ewloe roundabout and the potential for further developments that would impact on this already busy roundabout.

Sue Thomas explained that unfortunately as a Highways department they were not always given sight of all of the comments submitted on planning applications. Although she did advise that the access and egress to the site at the Old Boar's Head development had been changed due to local concerns. She could advise on any of the developments that she was aware of including the possibility of a right turn feeder lane at the junction with Holywell Road that might help alleviate the back up of traffic on the roundabout. Members expressed their concerns about the proposed development of apartment blocks and retail units at the Glanrafon site, Old Mold Road, Ewloe. They reported that at peak times, the Ewloe roundabout was already at full capacity and the increase in traffic would further exacerbate the issue.

In response to a question from a member, Ian Bushell said that the route to the local primary school could be looked at as a potential "safer routes to school" initiative that could attract funding and improvements to the school route for school children and their parents/carers. A local resident had requested that a pedestrian crossing be considered along Holywell Road.

Ian referred to a proposal that had been considered some fifteen years ago and Sue said that she would establish the current position in relation to any proposed improvements to the area and provide feedback to the council.

The Chairman thanked the officers for attending.

*Some members of the council attending via link had expressed their concerns and disappointment that they had been unable to hear this section of the meeting.*

#### **146/21 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the previous virtual meeting of the Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be approved as a correct record.

#### **147/21 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

There were none.

## **148/21 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the virtual Special Meeting of the Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be received and approved as a correct record.

## **149/21 JOINT SERVICES COMMITTEE:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the virtual meeting of the Joint Services Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 be received and approved as a correct record.

## **150/21 INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT:**

This item had been withdrawn as the report had not yet been received.

## **151/21 HYNET NORTH WEST:**

David Parkin, Director of Progressive Energy, a partner company of Hynet, provided a presentation on the proposal to lay a CO2 pipeline underneath the A494. The project was currently at public consultation stage with face to face and webinar platform events planned. Meetings with residents to allay any concerns would also be arranged if required.

The purpose of the pipeline was to tackle climate change, to capture CO2 emissions, store and produce hydrogen and to have the capacity to store CO2 underground. There would be no evidence of an underground pipeline, reinstatement would take place once completed with marker posts as the only visible evidence.

David confirmed that he would forward his presentation to members for information.

Members sought assurances around Compulsory Purchase Orders to which David advised that this would be an option that would be avoided. He was unaware that members of the public had been asked information about their mortgages and undertook to look into this as well as “loss of earnings”. In response to a question from a member, he said that he would be willing to attend a public meeting at a specific location

In relation to the Confirmation of Land Interest Information form that the council had received, it was agreed to not complete the form until feedback had been received from David Parkin about the request for mortgage information.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the presentation and await feedback from David Parkin about the member/resident concerns above.

### **152/21 SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOLKIT:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that a working group had met to consider the section entitled “Vision, purpose and community planning” and had completed the template. Members shared their positive experiences of working with the toolkit.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the council’s response.

### **153/21 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS (WALES) ACT 2021, CONSULTATION 2022:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer had prepared a draft response to the consultation and asked the council to agree or amend accordingly.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the response to be submitted to Welsh Government.

### **154/21 CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS:**

The Chairman said that Nanny Biscuit had been open for all members of the community to apply to for support or assistance where required. Since its commencement the organisation had delivered thousands of meals and currently offered ten items of food for £3. There had been two locations in Flintshire with a third opening planned for the future.

*Councillor Helen Brown, Chairman, presented the following items:*

### **155/21 POLICE MATTERS:**

In response to Inspector Stephen Roberts' proposal about Community Alert Action meetings it was agreed that Councillor Ant Turton attend the first meeting and that the representation be rotated amongst Aston and Mancot members (as Ewloe and Hawarden were not covered by this arrangement).

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to receive and note the updates.

### **156/21 HIGHWAYS MATTERS:**

There were no highways issues at this juncture.

### **157/21 MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS:**

There were none.

### **158/21 STAFF RETIREMENTS:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that two members of staff had recently announced that they would retire on the 31st March and 8<sup>th</sup> May, respectively. The vacancies had been advertised on several forums with a closing date of 25<sup>th</sup> February for The Maintenance Assistant and 4<sup>th</sup> March for the Senior Maintenance Officer. There would be a period of one week of shadowing for the Maintenance Assistant and two weeks for the Senior Maintenance Officer that would be payable.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the update and provide a gift for both members of staff to recognise their 8 years and 37 years' commitments respectively.

*Councillor Clive Carver, Chair of Lighting, presented the following item:*

## **159/21 SCOTTISH POWER INCREASE IN ENERGY PRICES**

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised of the impact of the increase in energy prices on the Council's budget. After speaking with Scottish Power it had been confirmed that there would be no negotiation on a reduction of the tariff prices but that the Council could seek an alternative supplier. Contact had also been made with the County Council for information and assistance.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to authorise the Clerk and Financial Officer to seek an alternative supplier.

*Councillor Joyce Angell, Chair of Planning, presented the following items:*

## **160/21 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.

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

**161/21 H.M. THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS:**

- a) The Clerk and Financial Officer had made enquiries into the provision of commemorative coins to all school pupils within Hawarden and that details of the quote could be considered at the next meeting.
- b) The Clerk and Financial Officer had spoken with the Sarah Slater, Bio-Diversity at Flintshire County Council for suitable locations and type of trees to plant. One tree would be planted as a replacement for the horse chestnut tree which had to be felled at Gladstone Playing Fields.
- c) Members had been encouraged to continue to promote the Big Jubilee Lunch with residents organising their own gatherings.

**IT WAS RESOLVED TO:**

- a) Consider the quotation at the next meeting of the council in March for the commemorative coins;
- b) Members to email the Clerk and Financial Officer with suggestions of where to plant trees within the community; and
- c) Members to promote the Big Jubilee Lunch within their own wards.

**162/21 NEW FOOTBALL GOALS AT GLADSTONE PLAYING FIELDS:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer outlined that the goals on two of the pitches at Gladstone Playing fields required replacement. They had not been replaced for thirty-eight years when they had been made from old heavy pipelines and constructed by the Council's workforce. The new goals would be more durable in relation to anti-social behaviour and would be light weight and modern.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the purchase of the new goals subject to three quotations being received and that a donation be requested from Hawarden Rangers.

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

**163/21 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the list of payments in the sum of £53,160.35 for February be approved.

**164/21 NEW VAN PURCHASE AND EXTENDED WARRANTY:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that an extended warranty of 12 months at a cost of £799, be approved.

**165/21 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer reported that the cost to the Council for the joint maintenance agreement for February had been £24,143.80.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the update.

**166/21 BANK RECONCILIATION:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the bank reconciliation for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> January be received and noted.

**167/21 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1060:**

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

*Councillor Richard Taylor voted against this decision.*

**168/21 NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE AT EWLOE:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the current position with the transfer of the land into the council's ownership.