



## **HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting

held on

**12<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**PRESENT:** Chair: Councillor Ralph Small

**Councillors:** Joyce Angell, Janet Axworthy, Helen Brown, Billy Cooper, Martin Davey, Sarah Hinks, Dave Mackie, Doreen Mackie, Emma Preece, Margaret Redfern, Darren Sterry, Sam Swash, Linda Thomas and Ant Turton.

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

**Also present:** Police Community Support Officer 2248 Daniel Jones

*Councillor Ralph Small advised members of the recent passing of the husband of a community councillor and requested a one minute silence.*

Councillor Ralph Small reminded members that texting on phones during meetings would not be permitted and any members seen to do so, would be asked to leave the meeting.

### **114/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies for absence had been received and accepted for Councillors Gillian Brockley (car problem), Lesley Evans (work), Margaret Redfern (bereavement), Dale Selvester, (work), Hayley Selvester, (work).

### **115/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

There were none.

### **116/22 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the previous hybrid meeting of

the Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 be approved as a correct record.

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### **117/22 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

With reference to minute 102/22, due to adverse weather conditions and other unforeseen problems, the roadworks at Wood Lane had continued for a longer period than had originally been anticipated. The roadworks should be completed by week ended 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

### **118/22 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:**

The Chairman thanked all members and staff for attending a very enjoyable evening at the Hawarden Golf Club. Members and members of staff thanked the Chairman for his kind generosity.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the Chairman's update.

### **STAFFING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:**

*Councillor Joyce Angell, Chair of Staffing and General Purposes, presented the following items:*

### **119/22 CONSULTATION ON FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S DRAFT WELL-BEING PLAN:**

Members had been provided with the link to the consultation on the County Council's Draft Well-being Plan. Members agreed that the plan had very little content to comment on and one member had already submitted his comments directly. It was suggested that members make their own comments via the link by 5<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the draft report and comments.

### **120/22 POLICE MATTERS:**

The Chairman thanked PCSO Daniel Jones for his attendance.

Dan commented on the previously reported incidents as follows:

- Five off road bikes had been seized in Connah's Quay and Shotton and the volume of calls had been reduced since then.

43 Chairman's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

- Distraction entry at News and Booze, Mancot had not been reported to 101 by shop owner - no further action taken.
- CCTV footage of theft from Penarlag CP had been viewed; a male wearing a mask could not be identified – no positive result.
- Parking on Old Aston Hill – no cars parked illegally, no action could therefore be taken.
- Dispute between neighbours over parking issue in Mancot had been resolved.
- Dan to circulate contact details for Flintshire South officers to the Clerk and Financial Officer.

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

### **121/22 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:**

Members raised the following issues:

- Road surface Upper Aston Hall Lane to Bennetts Lane had been in a very poor condition with white lines non-existent – further letter to be sent to the County Council.
- A car had collided with the railings at Hawarden High School after exiting Upper Aston Hall Lane too fast – request to be sent to the County Council about protective barriers on the kerb side at this location.
- Speed survey equipment and hole in the road at Cottage Lane. No information had been provided in advance to residents about this.
- Parking issues at Old Aston Hill (as per discussion above); letter to be sent to the County Council requesting assistance.

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

## **122/22 LIGHTING FAULTS:**

Light out at the bus stop at Gladstone Way near Daleside nursery had been reported to the County Council for repair.

44 Chairman's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## **123/22 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that Councillor James Walsh had resigned as Member of the Community Council with immediate effect. She confirmed that a Notice of the vacancy would be advertised that week with a closing date of 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

*Councillor Darren Sterry, Chair of Planning, presented the following items:*

## **PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

### **124/22 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.

(d) There were no planning appeals.

45 Chairman's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Councillor Sarah Hinks, Chair of Community and Environment, presented the following items:*

**COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:**

**125/22 REQUEST TO USE COUNCIL CAR PARK:**

Members had previously discussed a request from a pizza company to sell takeaway wood fired pizzas from its horse box trailer. The pizza company had confirmed that they had been based in Caerwys.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the request from the pizza company be approved for a trial six-month period at a cost of £15 per hour.

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

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

**126/22 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the updated list of payments in the sum of £51,075.23 for December, be approved.

During discussion about the Remembrance Service payments, it was noted that the Festival Committee had purchased the PA system used for the service and subsequent events. In the event of the equipment being loaned out, a disclaimer form would be completed.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the list of payments.

**127/22 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer reported on the following items:

- i) The costs to the council for the Joint Maintenance Agreement for December had been £19,561.12.
- ii) New arrangements for the payment of salaries had been agreed by Lloyds bank via the use of the “bulk-pay” services.

46 Chairman’s signature \_\_\_\_\_

iii) Items discussed at the County Forum meeting recently attended by the Clerk and Financial Officer included:

- New planning portal had been launched and training for Clerks would be available in January 2023.
- Code of Conduct training for all members had been mandatory.
- Community Councils could apply for General Power of Competency if eligible; the Community Council would be eligible subject to the satisfactory receipt of the 2021-22 External Audit, which had been outstanding.
- Match funding commitment for play area improvements would be honoured during the 2021-22 financial year.

iv) The Clwyd Pension Fund had increased the employers’ contribution from 21.9% to 23.1% following the latest actuarial valuation. This would take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

v) The latest letter from the Standards Committee had been circulated with the agenda, *the contents of which had been noted*, particularly in relation to the Code of Conduct exemption for grants up to £500 and the declaration of items of interest for members.

vi) The Clerk and Financial Officer had recently attended an Innovative Conference provided by One Voice Wales and the Society of Local Council Clerks. Useful information about the council’s biodiversity commitments had been received together with information about defibrillators and bleed control kits.

vii)Emergency First Aid training would be undertaken on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at the Aston Community Centre; four additional spaces had been available for councillors or community groups.

#### **128/22 BANK RECONCILIATION:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the bank reconciliation for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> November be emailed separately to members.

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#### **129/22 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT:**

Members had received a copy of the income and expenditure report for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to receive and approve the Income and Expenditure Report.

#### **130/22 THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the exclusion of the press and public as the following item contained tender documentation for play area improvements at Mancot play area.

#### **131/22 MANCOT PLAY AREA:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that four tenders for improvements at Mancot play area had been received which had been circulated to members for review and consideration.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to award the contract to company 'B' at a cost of £20,797.70 utilising the £1,524.00 ear marked reserves for Mancot and £10,000 matched funding promised by the County Council. It was also requested that the inclusive roundabout include a seat, if possible.

48 Chairman's signature \_\_\_\_\_