



## **HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting

held on

**9<sup>TH</sup> October 2023**

**PRESENT:** Chairman: Councillor Janet Axworthy

**Councillors:** Joyce Angell, Helen Brown, Bill Cooper, Dave Mackie, Doreen Mackie, Emma Preece, Margaret Redfern, Ralph Small, Darren Sterry, Linda Thomas and Ant Turton

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

**Also present:** Bob Wilson, Hawarden Rangers

### **88/23 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR RAPHAELLE SOFFE:**

The Chairman said that she had received an email from Councillor Raphaelle Soffe who had had to resign from the Community Council due to a conflict of interest with her University research. The Chairman said that Raphaelle's resignation had been a loss to the Council and that Raphaelle had contributed well to the Council in such a short period of time.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that a letter be sent to Raphaelle Soffe to acknowledge her work with the Community Council and to express the Council's best wishes for her future success.

### **89/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies for absence had been received and accepted for Councillors Gillian Brockley (illness), Sarah Hinks (illness), Hayley Selvester (away), Sam Swash (personal) and Richard Taylor (work).

### **90/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

There were none.

### **91/23 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

A member referred to the reference in the minutes to the spring spout and advised that the date should read 1089.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 be approved as a correct record, save and except that the above date be corrected.

### **92/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

A member referred to page 20 and said that they had been omitted from the list of members to complete the Fire Authority Consultation response. For information, the member advised that she had also attended the Fire Station protest for one and a half hours.

The Clerk and Financial Officer referred to page 22 of the minutes, minute reference 82/23 and informed members that the Hawarden Estate Office felt that the increase in rent of £250.00 for Vicar's Close had not been excessive and asked the council for an alternative amount.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that a fee of £50.00 be proposed for the new lease for Vicar's Close.

### **93/23 REQUEST FROM HAWARDEN RANGERS TO SITE A COMPOUND AT THE REAR OF THE EXISTING OUTDOOR SEATED AREA:**

The Chairman welcomed Bob Wilson, Operations Manager from Hawarden Rangers Football Club to the meeting. Bob gave a brief summary of his background within the Hawarden Community and outlined his role with Hawarden Rangers.

Mr Wilson had circulated a report to members outlining the requirements for a compound for the "dug outs" including health and safety and practicalities. He said that he would ensure that the compound was aesthetically adequate and that the measurements had been included within the report.

Mr Wilson said that if the Council agreed to this request, all costs would be met by Hawarden Rangers including relevant insurance and anti-vandalism measures.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that this item be deferred to the next meeting so that sufficient quotes could be received, planning permission requirements be sought and photographs of the compound be provided to members.

**94/23 HYNET UPDATE:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that no further meeting had been held with representatives from Hynet.

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

**95/23 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:**

On behalf of the Chairman, the Clerk and Financial Officer read out the comments contained within a thank you card that had been received from Fran Griffiths, following her retirement as the Administrative Assistant on the 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2023. Members noted, with appreciation, the comments.

The Chairman had recently attended a Place Planning Summit in Ruthin with the Clerk and Financial Officer. Ruthin had been one of the few towns in North Wales that had a Place Plan and she felt that this is something that the Community Council should progress. The Clerk and Financial Officer would prepare a report for Council's consideration at the November meeting.

She had attended a sponsored horse-riding awareness campaign at Moore lane and Duckers Lane and a meeting of the North and Mid-Wales Transportation Group. The electrification of the North Wales line had been discussed and a copy of the minutes of that meeting would be circulated to members, on request.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the updates and that a report on the consideration of a Place Plan at the November meeting.

**STAFFING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:**

**96/23 POLICE MATTERS:**

Members expressed their disappointment about the lack of availability of PCSOs within the community. PCSO Gareth Price had been of assistance recently but members had been concerned that PCSO's moved on to other jobs or had been promoted to other roles.

A member referred to a recent incident on the St. David's roundabout in August 2023 and a public announcement for information had only recently been called for.

A member suggested inviting the Police and Crime Commissioner to a future meeting of the Council.

Another member referred to an incident on the Mancot playing fields where an elderly gentleman had been knocked over by a dog and sought clarity about how this gentleman can be assisted. The member was advised to raise the incident with the Police.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the updates and invite the Police and Crime Commissioner to a future meeting.

**97/23 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:**

John Griffiths, Highways Maintenance Officer, had submitted his apologies to the meeting. Members reported that there were cameras on lights at the St. David's roundabout which had been installed to monitor traffic prior to the introduction of the 20 miles per hour scheme.

A member reported a large pot hole on Wood Lane and some outstanding works.

Members raised issues with overgrown hedges at Mancot Lane, Gladstone Way and Park Avenue causing members of the public to walk on the road. This had been reported to the County Council who could issue letters to the owners to cut back. If no reply had been received following three letters, the County Council had the authority to cut the hedge and re-charge the owners.

The Chairman added there has been two incidents under the fly over since the 20mph speed had been implemented and that the barrier has been damaged.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the issues for onward submission to John Griffiths.

**98/23 LIGHTING FAULTS:**

No faults had been reported.

**99/23 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:**

A member shared a local art group that met in Level Road Community Centre would hold an Exhibition in the Scout Hut on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2023

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

**PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

**100/23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:**

(a) County Council Members:

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.
- (e) **70 New homes in Ewloe:** as the deadline for comments on the application for 70 new homes in Ewloe had been 1<sup>st</sup> November, a special meeting should be arranged with the developer to discuss the pre-planning consultation. Previous discussions with Developers had been considered to be helpful to members and members of the public having the opportunity to raise concerns prior to the full planning application submission.

**COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:**

**101/23 VACANCY FOR A GOVERNOR AT HAWARDEN VILLAGE CHURCH SCHOOL:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that Councillor Dale Selvester be considered for this position.

**102/23: NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE AT EWLOE:**

The Chairman advised that the next Delivery Team meeting would be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

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

**103/23 2023 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that invitations had been issued for the Remembrance Service together with the relevant times.

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

**104/23 DOG CONTROL ORDER ON GLADSTONE PARK:**

THIS ITEM HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN BY THE AUTHOR OF THE REPORT.

**105/23 ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS (ROSPA) ANNUAL INSPECTION OF PLAY AREAS:**

A summary of the inspection reports had been provided for Members' information. A member commented that a number of the issues had already been dealt with by the Council's Maintenance Team who undertake a great deal of work and had been appreciated.

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

**106/23 REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO USE GLADSTONE PLAYING FIELDS:**

A member of the community has requested permission to use a section of the Gladstone Playing Fields on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2024 to organise a community game of rounders for approximately 50 local residents. The event would take place between 11.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to support this request with the usual licensing and insurance conditions.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

**107/23 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the list of payments in the sum of £44,347.35 for October be approved.

**108/23 BANK RECONCILIATION:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the bank reconciliation for the period ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 be emailed to members.

**109/23 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated a detailed copy of the Council's six-monthly budget position as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to receive and approve the report.

**110/23 REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that Councillors Joyce Angell, Dave Mackie, Darren Sterry and Ant Turton review the report on fees and charges and report back to full council at its meeting in November.

**111/23 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to receive the Joint Maintenance contributions for October and November at the November council meeting.