



HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting

held on

11th December 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, Sam Swash and Ant Turton

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

Also present: Andy Dunbobbin, Police & Crime Commissioner

143/23 PRESENTATION FROM THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER - ANDY DUNBOBBIN.

Andy Dunbobbin provided an overview of what his role involved as a Police and Crime Commissioner and an update on the organisations that the Police had been supporting.

In the last 12 months the Police Department had recruited 206 Police Officers. The number of Polices Officers per capita had changed due to population growth across Wales and England.

Within the current police plans there had been rural crime, road safety and organised crime issues that had been addressed. Crime had reduced by around 13% and performance had increased by 2-3% depending on the area of policing.

Cyber Crime had reduced by 10%, although it had been hugely under reported and continued to be a serious crime. Andy had commissioned an organisation called 'Get Safe Online'. The organisation worked across England and Wales with Local Authorities, schools and other parties.

Andy advised that he worked with other organisations including Crime Stoppers, the Victim Help Centre in St. Asaph, substance misuse support networks, Gorwel, Domestic Abuse Safety Unit and Kaleidoscope.

Andy said that his priorities within the Police and Crime Plan had been to deliver safer neighbourhoods, support victims and the communities and ensure a fair and effective criminal justice system.

The Chairman advised Andy that the PCSOs had been invited each month to the Council meeting but that they rarely attended and there had been an ongoing issue around trying to find out who the PCSO was for which area and their contact details. Andy said he would raise the issue and see if some representation can be secured for future meetings or alternatively a monthly report provided for inclusion within the agenda. He would ask the Inspectors to see if a report could be produced.

A member referred to a sports group that the PCSO's had previously organised for children on a Friday night in Hawarden that had reduced anti-social behaviour when the youth clubs closed down. Andy also offered to review this and highlighted that funding had been available to support organisations that ranged from £5,000 to £10,000. He encouraged the Community Council to apply for this funding towards a relevant project in the area.

The Chairman thanked Andy for attending the meeting and his very useful presentation and invited him to return at any time.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and note the report of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

144/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Gillian Brockley, Sarah Hinks and Linda Thomas.

Councillors Dale Selvester, Hayley Selvester and Richard Taylor had attempted to join the meeting virtually. Due to a lack of internet and telephone services within the Scout Hut they had been unable to join the meeting. Councillor Dale Selvester had reached the six-month trigger point but had attempted to join the meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to allow Councillor D. Selvester one extra month to attend due to the technological difficulties that the council had not been made aware of.

145/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

146/23 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st November 2023 be approved as a correct record.

147/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

Minute number 130/23 – the zoom meeting with the developer of the new homes in Ewloe had not yet been arranged due to a further application being submitted for 400 homes in Mancot and the possibility of a joint meeting. A member stated that any previous issues with the development in Ewloe had since been resolved and that he did not feel that a zoom meeting would be required. It was suggested that one meeting take place for the Mancot development and if any further issues arose about Mancot, they could be discussed within the same meeting.

Minute number 137/23 - in relation to the increase of rent for the Pizza Van business, the Clerk and Financial Officer had spoken to the owner who had said that at the current time they could not afford the increase to £25.00. Members agreed to remain with the £15 per week charge, to be reviewed again in six months.

148/23 HAWARDEN – MANCOT – CASUAL VACANCIES:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that there had been three vacancies in the Hawarden – Mancot ward.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the three casual vacancies be re-advertised in the Hawarden - Mancot Ward and on the council's social media platforms.

149/23 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

The Chairman said that and the Clerk and Financial Officer had been involved with the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards ceremony and three students had provided extremely informative presentations.

The Chairman had also attended the Hawarden Village CP School full Governors meeting and would attend the Christmas performance.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and note the information.

STAFFING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

150/23 POLICE MATTERS:

A member advised that a tree had come down on the B5125 and the Police had attended straight away. There had been no one available from Flintshire County Council.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.

151/23 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:

A member raised concerns about the speed of the HGV wagons going down the Aston Hill and the state of the road due to mud and debris.

Another member commented and said John Griffiths and Wayne Jones, Streetscene had been out and cleared the roads the night before.

The Chairman raised concerns about the lack of signs regarding the speed limit from the B5125 road travelling east from the St. David's Park mini roundabout. There are no signs to indicate the speed limit which had resulted in HGV wagons speeding.

A member raised that the road surface damage at the top of Wood Lane still remained following work undertaken by Welsh Water and that the cushions on Wood Lane were still missing.

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

152/23 LIGHTING FAULTS:

Street light out on Kearsley Avenue, previously reported and belonged to Flintshire County Council.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the light fault be reported to Flintshire County Council.

153/23 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

A member raised a query about the chain link fencing to land at the side of the Co-op to which another member responded that it had been reported to County Council Officials.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and note this information.

PLANNING COMMITTEE:

154/23 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.

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:

155/23: NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE AT EWLOE:

The Chairman of the Delivery Team advised that there had been no further update other than the Architect required a more detailed 'wish list' from the Delivery Team so that they could create some draft plans for consideration. A site meeting had been held on Friday 8th December which Councillors Cooper, Mackie and Mackie had attended.

The next meeting of the Delivery Team would take place on Wednesday 13th December, 2023.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.

156/23 HYNET UPDATE / VICKER'S CLOSE:

No further update had been received from Hynet. The Estate Office had requested the Community Council to review the proposed rent increase for the Vicker's Close lease.

The Council had declined a higher offer than £75 and all agreed that the council should not have to reconsider this as the council had agreed to pay for the new lease to drawn up.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Estate Office be advised of the above.

157/23 SUMMER PLAYSCHEMES 2024:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the playscheme contract be extended to a 3-year agreement, subject to annual finance review, and that the scheme be extended from three weeks to six weeks provision.

158/23 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £39,193.47. for December, be approved.

159/23 REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES – BOWLING CLUBS:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to retain the current status quo.

160/23 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note that the Council's contribution to the joint maintenance agreement for December amounted to £12,374.84.

161/23 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the bank reconciliation for the period ended 30th November 2023 be emailed to members.