



HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting

held on

8th April 2024

PRESENT: Chairman: Councillor Janet Axworthy

Councillors: Joyce Angell, Gillian Brockley, Helen Brown, Bill Cooper, Dave 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: Megan Hinks, Rob McKenzie, David Walker (Hynet) and two members of the public.

205/24 PRESENTATION:

Officials from the Hynet Project provided a presentation about the current status of the Hynet project. A Development Control Order had been passed recently by the Secretary of State and letters had been sent out to all interested parties including approximately 140 land owners.

A number of questions had been asked by members which had been responded to by the officials from Hynet in due course. It was requested that Hynet provide an update on the Schools programme in due course.

The Chairman thanked the Hynet officials for their attendance, useful presentation and update.

206/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Sarah Hinks, Doreen Mackie, and Richard Taylor.

207/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

208/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2024 be approved as a correct record.

209/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were none.

210/24 VACANCIES IN HAWARDEN – MANCOT AND ASTON WARDS:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised of the four vacancies, three in Mancot and one in Aston that had all been advertised and re-advertised accordingly. She said that she would design a poster that might be more appealing to members of the public.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive the update.

211/24 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

The Chairman congratulated Councillor Preece on her nomination as incoming Mayor of Buckley and also to the Clerk and Financial Officer on her recent graduation for the achievement of her Community Governance Foundation Degree at Level 5.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the updates.

STAFFING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

212/24 FLINTSHIRE'S LOCAL AREA ENERGY PLANNING WORKSHOP:

The Clerk and Financial Officer had recently attended the above workshop and had shared a summary report and slides with members.

The County Council had indicated they would like to have an all-electric fleet by 2030 but concerns had been raised about the larger vehicles that might be better served by hydrogen.

IT WAS RESOLVED: the update had been noted.

213/24 POLICE MATTERS:

Members raised concerns about the number of young people and adults that had been using electric scooters in the community and not adhering to any traffic lights, speeds or traffic signs.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk and Financial Officer email PCSO Davies informing her of the issues raised and that a letter be sent to Hawarden High School to request additional promotion of this issue.

214/24 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:

A number of issues had been raised for John Griffiths, Highways Supervisor about the pot holes on Wood Lane, Kearsley Avenue and Aston Hall Road.

A street lamp that belonged to Flintshire County Council had also not been fixed which had been raised during the previous year.

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

215/24 LIGHTING FAULTS:

There were no lighting faults reported.

216/24 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

The Chairman informed members that a student from Hawarden High School would be taking part in some work experience in the office for 5 days in July.

On the 15th April a young gentleman would also join the Maintenance Team for a three-month work placement. A Risk Assessment had been undertaken and he would work supervised by Members of the Maintenance Team. During his first week he would be accompanied by his case worker until he is confident enough to carry out tasks with the work force.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to welcome these appointments.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

217/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that she had spoken to Andy Roberts from Flintshire County Council and had requested a meeting with some members on the Local Development Plan and new large-scale applications.

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) The Clerk would write to the Planning Department to request that a member of the Community Council speaks at the Planning Committee to discuss the Ewloe and Mancot applications.

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:

218/24 NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE AT EWLOE:

The Chairman of the Working Group provided an update on the project and confirmed that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 17th April, 2024.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

219/24 ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer provided a report outlining the steps involved in the Year End accounting process, internal and external audit.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be noted by members.

220/24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £53,315.60 for April, be approved.

221/24 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer stated that the Joint Maintenance cost for April was £15,809.

She also provided an update on team member issues including illness and compassionate circumstances.

Members requested that a hamper and a get well soon card be forwarded to Mr Davies.

IT WAS RESOLVED: a hamper of food to be sent to Paul, seasonal worker, along with a get well soon card.

222/24 BANK RECONCILIATION:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the bank reconciliation had been completed earlier in the day and would be emailed out to members.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the bank reconciliation for the period ended 31st March be sent to all members.