



## **HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting

held on

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

**PRESENT:** Chairman: Councillor Joyce Angell

**Councillors:** Janet Axworthy, Helen Brown, Bill Cooper, Michael Crockford, Dave Mackie, Doreen Mackie, Colin Randerson, Margaret Redfern, Hayley Selvester, Ralph Small, Darren Sterry, Sam Swash and Connor Wynne.

**Officers:** Sharron Jones, Clerk & Financial Officer  
Georgina Griffiths, Assistant Clerk

**Others:** Joshua Stott, Community Youth Representative

### **207/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

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

### **208/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Councillors Helen Brown and Ralph Small declared an interest in the item relating to a Service Level Agreement with Hawarden Rangers and duly completed their Declaration of Interest forms.

### **209/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** the minutes of the previous meeting of the Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025 be approved as a correct record.

### **210/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

A member asked for an update on the flag pole that had been requested at the March meeting.

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that Planning Permission would be required so it would be unlikely that it could be installed in time for VE Day 2025.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Clerk establish the costs for the purchase, permission and siting of a flag pole within the Community Council's grounds.

### **211/24 VACANCIES IN HAWARDEN – MANCOT AND HAWARDEN - ASTON WARDS:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer informed members that there had been a private and confidential resignation from Councillor Amanda Wormall, which meant that an additional vacancy was available in the Hawarden - Aston ward.

Michael Crockford has expressed an interest in the vacancy in the Hawarden – Aston ward. The Chairman welcomed Michael to the meeting and invited him to introduce himself. Michael said that he lived in the Hawarden area and had an interest in working within his community. He had worked for the Health and Wellbeing Sector in Flintshire and would like to make a difference within the community. He had experience working in different Local Authorities as well as Flintshire and had designed the 'Aura' brand. He also held a Degree and Masters in Design.

A member asked Michael if he represented any political party to which he responded that he would be an independent candidate.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that Councillor Michael Crockford be co-opted as a Community Councillor for the Hawarden – Aston ward and he duly completed his Acceptance of Office form.

The Chairman and members congratulated Michael upon his appointment and duly welcomed him to the meeting.

## **212/24 INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2024/25:**

The Internal Auditor had made a few comments about the administration of the Service Level Agreement between the three councils and the data used, suggesting that the Rialtas ledger should be used for this purpose. Members also felt that the current reporting of the budget had been adequate and that the Financial Regulations would need to be amended at the annual meeting to reflect this.

The Clerk and Financial Officer would speak with the council's accountancy software provider to see if this could be achieved, noting the unique arrangements of the Service Level Agreement.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Interim Internal Auditor's report be received and the actions be looked into as outlined above, if not already implemented.

## **213/24 2024/25 YEAR END ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT PROCESS:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated an exploratory report to members outlining the annual year end accounts and audit process.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the report be noted.

## **214/24 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:**

The Chairman had recently attended Flintshire County Council's Charity Ball and the Mold Mayor's Charity Ball, both of which had been very enjoyable events and over £5,000 had been raised for charities.

She had attended the funeral of the late, Alison Halford which had been a solemn occasion.

Together with the Clerk and Financial Officer she had attended an online Planning event that had been hosted by One Voice Wales. There had been some really interesting subjects discussed but some of the issues would require a policy and perhaps legislative change.

She did however, feel that the Council would need to be more organised in relation to planning changes and bring forward the council's previous decision to deliver a Place Plan. She asked that this item be placed on the June agenda for further discussion.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the information and request the Clerk and Financial Officer to arrange a further training event for Place Plans.

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

#### **215/24 POLICE MATTERS:**

Police Community Support Officer, Kayleigh Chilton had submitted her apologies at the previous meeting.

Members had no police matters to report.

#### **216/24 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:**

Members raised the following issues for Senior Highways Officer, John Griffiths:

- A member asked if the corner of the road by the Cenotaph that could be reviewed again, prior to Remembrance Sunday, to prevent flooding.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the information be sent to Streetscene.

#### **217/24 LIGHTING FAULTS:**

Members had no lighting faults to report.

#### **218/24 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:**

The Clerk asked members on behalf of Councillor Turton if Mancot Hall Village and Library could hold a fun day on 5<sup>th</sup> July on the Mancot Playing fields; this was approved subject to the usual conditions.

A member asked whether there had been any events organised for VE Day 2025 on 8<sup>th</sup> May or during the previous weekend. The Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that there would be a small commemorative wreath laying event at the Cenotaph at 12:00 noon on the day and other smaller events, that she would finalise over the next week and inform members.

A Member advised that he had received an email from Flintshire County Council regarding the plans to add a parking fee on the main Wepre Park car park. Together with this plan, it had been proposed to add parking restrictions on the Stanford Way road near the pathway to the Castle. They have had full support from everyone involved and it is for safety reasons why there will also be parking restrictions around the perimeter of the park.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Fun Day at Mancot playing fields be approved and the above information noted.

### **PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

#### **219/24 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:**

**220/24 NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE EWLOE:**

Members were informed that Scottish Power had agreed to attend an onsite meeting and an update would be shared once it had been arranged.

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

**221/24 ADDITIONAL SCHOOL SIGNAGE IN THE VICINITY OF LOCAL SCHOOLS:**

A report had been circulated to members to consider the introduction of additional signage around schools to assist with speeding vehicles and that funding might be available from the North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the report be approved, in principle, and that costs be obtained, grant funding explored and members consider which schools should benefit.

**222/24 HAWARDEN RANGERS GIRLS' TOURNAMENT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Hawarden Rangers Girls' Tournament be approved on the basis that appropriate first aid cover for this sports event be provided.

## **223/24 GWELLA – REQUEST FOR MATCH FUNDING 2025-26:**

The annual request for play area improvement match funding had been received. Members had been asked to consider which play area should benefit from the scheme this year.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that match funding for improvements to the Gary Speed play area be submitted this year and that Mancot be prioritised next year, if funding permits.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

### **224/24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the list of payments in the sum of £39,313.45 for April, be approved.

### **225/24 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that the costs to the council for the Service Level Agreement for the month of April would be emailed to members in due course.

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

### **226/24 BANK RECONCILIATION:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the bank reconciliation for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 be received and approved.

### **227/24 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the exclusion of the public and press for the following items of business as they relate to confidential and commercial interests.

**228/24 HAWARDEN RANGERS LEASE/SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the draft Service Level Agreement be approved as a Management Lease Agreement.

**229/24 ASTON BOWLING CLUB LEASE:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Community Council get the land valued and register the land with the Land Registry, as advised, and approve the costs of £350 plus VAT and disbursements.