



## **HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting

held on

**10<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

**PRESENT:** Chairman: Councillor Darren Sterry

**Councillors:** Joyce Angell, Janet Axworthy, Bill Cooper, Michael Crockford, Sarah Hinks, Liz Kennedy, Stephen Lancashire, Dave Mackie, Doreen Mackie, Colin Randerson, Margaret Redfern, Ralph Small, Ant Turton and Connor Wynne.

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

**Youth Representatives:** Callum Hodgson & Joshua Stott, Hawarden High School

### **101/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Gillian Brockley, Helen Brown, Emma Preece, Sam Swash and Linda Thomas.

### **102/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Councillor Dave Mackie declared an interest in Item 19 – Small Grants Scheme and duly completed his Declaration of Interest form.

Councillor Ant Turton declared an interest in Item 19 – Small Grants Scheme and duly completed his Declaration of Interest form.

Councillor Ralph Small declared an interest in Item 19 – Small Grants Scheme and duly completed his Declaration of Interest form.

Councillor Sarah Hinks declared an interest in Item 19 – Small Grants Scheme and duly completed his Declaration of Interest form.

### **103/25 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

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

### **104/25 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

A member referred to page twenty eight, where it referred to the Place Plan and asked if it could be added to a future agenda as no decision was made about what the Council plan to do next.

The Clerk and Financial Officer stated that it could be considered at the Budget Meeting in December as the Council would need to put aside at least £20,000 if they wanted to go ahead with the development of a Place Plan. She also said that she had contacted the Police regarding the issue raised about the lack of response on the 101 number but had not had a response to date.

The Clerk and Financial Officer also said that she had been waiting for a response from the Planning Officer regarding the concerns raised with the new development in Mancot and the report from Welsh Water. The pending response had said that the Planning Officer involved would be asked to share a detailed report as it would have been mandatory for Welsh Water to have been contacted prior to the planning application being considered.

A detailed response had been sent to members via email about the Flintshire County Council annual play schemes.

### **105/25 HYNET UPDATE:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer reported all the concerns raised at the previous meeting to Hynet professionals and the response had been emailed to all members.

A member stated that they had attended the consultation meeting held in Aston when basic answers to the concerns raised had been provided. Hynet had confirmed that the final route had not been agreed as they now have the construction company on board and they had noticed other things that Hynet professionals had not noticed before as the construction company had been looking at it from a different angle.

Hynet had stated that the residents would not hear the drilling and there would be no vibration. Once the construction work started it cannot be stopped and then started again, it has to be 24 hour drilling.

He went on to say that there will be traffic management involved and Hynet had realised the culvert had been too small so they had to make it bigger which had also resulted in the felling of trees.

Work had commenced opposite Church Lane with heavy machinery on the field. This had resulted in the road being covered in mud. However, Hynet had recruited a sweeper and the road had been cleared at the end of the day.

Another member added that they had spoken to a member at the consultation about the tree they would be felling and had asked Hynet to make use of the tree. They had suggested asking the Hawarden Farm Shop to be involved or ask a sculptor to make something out of the tree. Hynet had confirmed that they would look into this matter.

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

### **106/25 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:**

The Chairman had attended the Remembrance Service on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November at Hawarden High School and the the Remembrance Service on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> at Hawarden where he laid a wreath on behalf of the council. Both events had been very commemorative and well attended.

He thanked the council's employees for organising the event so well on Sunday and also thanked the Vice Chairman for attending the Connah's Quay and Shotton Remembrance events on his behalf.

The Chairman also added that the War Memorial had been lit up red in memory of the soldiers and that this would be done every year for the month of November.

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

### **107/25 TRAINING PLAN UPDATE:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated an updated copy of the Council's Training Plan for November 2025. She had proposed one alteration to include 'to continue to support employees and 'members' in relation to continued professional development (CPD).

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

### **108/25 POLICE MATTERS:**

There were none.

### **109/25 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:**

The following matters had been raised, to be forwarded to the County Council's Senior Highways Officer, John Griffiths:

- There had been several concerns raised regarding the height of the table on the new crossing near Hawarden High School. It was dangerous as the path is very narrow and a similar height which meant that cars drove very close to the kerb when public are walking on the pavement.
- There continued to be ongoing concerns about the parked cars at Hawarden Village School despite there being clear double yellow lines. On occasion, there could be up to 32 cars parked around the school which caused congestion as traffic could not navigate through the area due to the amount of parked cars.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the above issues be reported to John Griffiths, Senior Streetscene Highways Officer and the head Teacher at the school.

### **110/25 LIGHTING FAULTS:**

The glass cover on a light on Greenville Avenue, just off the Main Road, had been missing.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the damaged light be reported to the Council's Maintenance Team.

### **111/25 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:**

A member shared they had attended an event at Connah's Quay for the Elderly Peoples Forum. The had spoken to the Chairman of Connah's Quay Town Council and had discussed the issue of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs). It transpired that a recent activity had seen eighteen people removed from one house that had been designed for four!

A member asked if the information regarding the extended brown bin collections could be added to the council's website.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the information and to add the information about the brown bin extended collection be added to the Council's website.

### **PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

### **112/25 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS:**

The Clerk and Financial Officers advised members that there would be a meeting of Flintshire County Council's Planning Committee on the 19<sup>th</sup> November about the Ewloe Housing Development and asked members to nominate a speaker from the Community Council.

**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) That Councillor Bill Cooper represent the Community Council at the Planning Committee on the 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2025.

**COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:**

**113/25 PLAY AREAS - ANNUAL INSPECTION:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Annual Play Area Inspection Report be noted.

**114/25 HAWARDEN ALLOTMENTS:**

There had been seven vacant plots on the Council's Allotment site with no waiting list. The Allotment Committee had asked whether the plots could be advertised to the wider community outside of Hawarden as stated within the Tenancy Agreement conditions.

Members felt that before this step was taken, there should be a promotional exercise undertaken in the community of Hawarden.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Allotments be promoted on the Council's website and social media before inviting the wider community.

### **115/25 GARY SPEED PLAY AREA:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer shared that there had been a request from Councillor Helen Brown for the installation of a bench outside the Gary Speed play area after a resident had requested it. It would be a “Happy to Talk” bench, with the appropriate signage, as this had been very successful in other areas and helped to promote health living and mental health issues.

Informal discussions had taken place with Flintshire County Council’s Highways Officer who had consented to this idea.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that a bench be purchased along with appropriate signage outside the Gary Speed play area.

### **116/25 NEW SIGNS FOR EWLOE GREEN:**

A resident had asked if there could be new signs erected in Ewloe Green to be erected on Mold Road and Liverpool Road to mark the boundaries between Ewloe and Buckley.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that this request be approved, in principle, subject to costings, planning consent and location.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

#### **117/25 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the list of payments in the sum of £38,223.91 for November, be approved.

#### **118/25 BANK RECONCILIATION:**

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

## **119/25 SMALL GRANTS SCHEME:**

The following grants had been awarded:

- Aston Bowling Club - £500
- Friends of Penarlag - £500
- Hawarden Cricket Club - £500
- Hawarden Park Ladies & Girls FC - £450
- Mancot Community Library - £200

## **120/25 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer stated the Council's contribution to the Service Level Agreement for October and November had been £17,332.39 and £15,315.55 respectively.

The Council has been awarded £10,362 in outstanding Section 106 money from Flintshire County Council as follows:

Ewloe	£2,200
Hawarden – Trueman's Hill	£4,400
Hawarden – Bluebell Inn	£1,466
Mancot – Leaches Lane	£1,466
Mancot – Mancot Lane	£1,100

The Clerk and Financial Officer had recently attended a Biodiversity Workshop that had been very informative and helpful. The contents would be added to the Council's Biodiversity Report due in December/January.

She advised that a working group would be scheduled in December for all members to review the budget and precept for 2026-27.

The Remembrance Day entrance decoration at the Gladstone Car Park had been created by local residents and the Clerk and Financial Officer suggested that a letter of thanks be sent to them. The Chairman confirmed that he would like to send a bouquet of flowers too.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the updates and that a letter from the Council and flowers from the Chairman be sent to the local residents in recognition of the voluntary contribution of knitted poppies.

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



**121/25 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the council approved the exclusion of the public and press for the following item of business due to its confidential nature.

**122/25 NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE AT EWLOE:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated a report on the proposal to build a new Community Centre on land at Hamilton Court, Ewloe.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the recommendations within the report were approved and are to be actioned