



## **HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting

held on

**11<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**PRESENT:** Chairman: Councillor Bill Cooper

**Councillors:** Joyce Angell, Janet Axworthy, Helen Brown, Michael Crockford, Wendy Harrison, Sarah Hinks, Liz Kennedy, Stephen Lancashire, Dave Mackie, Doreen Mackie, Emma Preece, Colin Randerson, Margaret Redfern, Ralph Small, Darren Sterry, Sam Swash and Connor Wynne

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

**Also present:** Callum Hodgson, Youth Representative – Hawarden High School and one member of the public.

### **01/26 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN 2026/2027:**

The previous past Chairman invited nominations for the position of Chairman for the Municipal Year 2026/2027. On being put to a vote, Councillor Bill Cooper, was duly elected Chairman of Hawarden Community Council for the Municipal Year 2026/2027.

Councillor Cooper duly completed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and thanked members for his nomination.

### **02/26 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN 2026/2027:**

Councillor Turton had been nominated and seconded and on being put to the vote, Councillor Turton was elected as Vice-Chairman for the Municipal Year 2026-27.

Councillor Turton had sent apologies for the meeting due to a family bereavement. The Clerk will contact him direct to sign his Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

01 Chairman's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### **03/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

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

### **04/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Councillor Sam Swash declared an interest in Item 24 – Planning Applications and duly completed his Declaration of Interest form, noting that he had received a dispensation.

### **05/26 RETIRING CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS:**

The Chairman thanked and praised the Clerk and Assistant Clerk for all their work at the Community Council and said, without them, the Community Council would not be as efficient. He also praised the Council’s Maintenance Team for their excellent contributions.

He had thoroughly enjoyed his year of office during the last twelve months and read out a statement. He wished to place on record his particular thanks to his Vice-Chairman, Councillor Billy Cooper, who had attended a number of events on his behalf and also Councillor Janet Axworthy for representing him on the RYLA and NMWALC meetings.

He concluded by thanking all members for their vote of support as Chairman and for their contributions during the year.

### **06/26 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the previous meeting of the council held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 be approved as a correct record.

### **07/26 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

A member requested an update on the recent planning appeal for Church Lane, Ewloe. The Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that an email and other documents had been sent to PEDW but that she had not received a response but that she would chase the matter up.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Clerk and Financial Officer request an update on the appeal response for the Church Lane Planning Application.

**08/26 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to adhere to the Model Code of Conduct.

**09/26 STANDING ORDERS:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the adherence to the Council's Standing Orders, subject to an amendment to Standing Order 13, to be considered by council in June.

**10/26 EXPENDITURE POLICY AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the Council's Expenditure Policy and Financial Regulations, subject to confirmation of periodic budget reporting that would be updated at the June meeting.

**11/26 SCHEME OF DELEGATION:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the Council's Scheme of Delegation.

**12/26 CIVILITY AND RESPECT PLEDGE (WALES):**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the Civility and Respect Pledge (Wales).

**13/26 GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the General Power of Competence, following receipt of an unqualified audit.

**14/26 LOCAL RESOLUTION PROTOCOL:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the Local Resolution Protocol.

## **15/26 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the Standing Committees of Staffing and General Purposes (*including lighting*), Planning, Community and Environment (*including playing fields*) and Finance Committees and to continue to run the committees following council meetings on a 'rolling agenda'.

## **16/26 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to appoint the Chairmen for each of the council's standing committees, as above, for the municipal year as follows:

**Staff and General Purposes Committee** – Councillor Janet Axworthy  
**Planning Committee** – Councillor Connor Wynne  
**Community and Environment Committee** – Councillor Ralph Small  
**Finance Committee** – Councillor Dave Mackie

## **17/26 PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the membership of the Personnel Sub-Committee be retained with the exception of Councillors Brown, Small and Sterry to be replaced by Councillors Cooper, Kennedy and Randerson.

## **18/26 REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that Councillors Janet Axworthy, Bill Cooper and Colin Randerson be elected to serve on the Community Volunteers, Bursary Awards and RYLA appointments.

Governors to schools were approved as follows:

Ewloe Green CP School – Councillor Bill Cooper  
Penarlag CP School – Councillor Dave Mackie  
Hawarden Village Church School – Colin Randerson  
Sandycroft CP School – Ant Turton

## **19/26 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to confirm the appointment of the Council's Internal Auditor, JDH Business Services Ltd for the financial year 2026/26.

## **20/26 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 months of April and May had been £14,265.57 and £18,113.60 respectively.

The Clerk had also submitted a report for consideration about her proposal to stand for election as President of the Society of Local Council Clerks for the year 2027-28.

The Clerk and Financial Officer shared with members, for information, some recent bouts of vandalism to Circular Drive Play Area and the council office. A further incident had taken place at Mancot Play Area after a child had got their leg stuck in the metal bars which had resulted in the Fire Brigade being called out and the equipment cut.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the items be noted and that permission for the Clerk to stand as President of the Society of Local Councils (SLCC) be approved, with commendation.

## **21/26 DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2026/27:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the dates as follows:

15 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	11 <sup>th</sup> January 2027
13 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	08 <sup>th</sup> February 2027
14 <sup>th</sup> September 2026	08 <sup>th</sup> March 2027
12 <sup>th</sup> October 2026	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2027
09 <sup>th</sup> November 2026	10 <sup>th</sup> May 2027
14 <sup>th</sup> December 2026	

05 Chairman's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

The above meetings would commence at 6.30 p.m. unless an external presentation was to be received and the meeting would commence at 6.00 p.m. It is customary for the Council to go into recess during August, when only urgent business is transacted. For this purpose, the relevant Recess Sub-Committees, *comprising the Chair of Council, the Chair of the relevant Committee and the Clerk and Financial Officer will be held.*

#### **22/26 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the list of payments in the sum of £42,804.76 for May, be approved.

#### **23/26 BANK RECONCILIATION:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the bank reconciliation for the period ended 30<sup>th</sup> April be circulated following the year-end process.

#### **24/26 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 was one planning appeal.