HAWARDEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hybrid Meeting
held on
14th September 2026

PRESENT: Chairman: Councillor Bill Cooper

Councillors: Joyce Angell, Janet Axworthy, Gillian Brockley, Michael Crockford, Wendy Harrison, Liz Kennedy, Dave Mackie, Doreen Mackie, Emma Preece, Colin Randerson, Margaret Redfern, Darren Sterry, Sam Swash, Ant Turton and Connor Wynne.

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

Also present:

COUNCIL MEETING:

66/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Helen Brown, Sarah Hinks, Ralph Small and Linda Thomas.

67/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

68/26 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting of the council held on 13th July 2026 be approved as a correct record.

 Chairman's signature: _____

69/26 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

A member made reference to paragraph 59/26 about a planning appeal. She shared that a detailed conversation had been held at the Inspectors Appeal Meeting and she had made several points about the impact the application would have on a small community. She added that the site and sensitivity of it could not be minimised as it would have a devasting impact for the community. The appeal had been upheld by the Inspector and the Planning Department had a written response to state that they would also uphold the appellants appeal.

70/26 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

The Chairman shared that he had recently attended the North and Mid Wales Association of Town Councils Annual Meeting on 17th July in Connah's Quay with the Chairman of Broughton and Bretton Community Council.

The August Recess Meeting had been held at the Council Offices with himself, the Clerk and the Chairmen of the Planning Committee and Finance Committee.

On the 6th September he had attended the Licensing of The Very Reverend Dr Sarah Rowland Jones along with the Clerk and Chairman of Broughton and Bretton Community Council. Councillors Dave and Doreen Mackie, Ant Turton and Connor Wynne had also been in attendance.

On Friday 11th September he and the Clerk and Financial Officer had met with Sam Rowlands, Member of the Senedd, following the receipt of his introductory letter. The meeting had been informative and issues such as planning applications, lack of responses from Streetscene and the ongoing concerns around the Hynet Project had been raised with him. He had been very interested and shared that he had a meeting with the Chief Executive of Flintshire County Council on Monday 14th September.

On the 30th September the Chairman would attend the One Voice Wales Innovative Conference in Builth Wales with the Clerk and the Chairman of Broughton and Bretton Community Council.

 Chairman's signature: _____

The Chairman reminded members of the Cricket Club visit for a presentation and refreshments on Thursday 17th September.

He also reminded members that the meeting in October had been moved to Monday 19th October 2026.

The Chairman ended his updates by belatedly congratulating Councillors Dave and Doreen Mackie for their 57th Wedding Anniversary on the 6th September.

71/26 COMMUNITY PLACE PLAN:

The Clerk and Financial Officer had received a quote from Planning Aid Wales for a proposal to assist the council with the development of a Place Plan. A member referred to the presentation they had received previously about a Community Place Plan and shared his concerns that the detail and depth of a Community Place Plan was beyond what the Community Council could ever afford in terms of finance. However he endorsed the proposal.

The Clerk and Financial Officer shared that Planning Aid Wales are one of only a few known authorities that could assist with the delivery of a Place Plan but she had sought information for alternative suppliers in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations.

The Clerk and Financial Officer requested that all members attend a bespoke training session on 19th October at 4:00pm on zoom as it is important that all members understand what the Community Place Plan is and what it will do to support the community. If members struggled with accessing zoom online, they could attend the meeting at the council office.

A member stated that he wished that a Community Place Plan had been in place ten years ago as it might have helped with current developments.

 Chairman's signature: _____

The Clerk and Financial Officer added that she had spoken to the Head of the Planning Department and they had been allocated an Officer however she had further been told that the Officer did not have the resources to support the Community Place Plan, so enquiries had been ongoing.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that (i) the Community Place Plan proposal be approved, in principle, and for the Clerk and Financial Officer to explore alternative suppliers and (ii) and that all members attend the on-line training to be provided at 4.00 p.m. on Monday 19th October 2026.

STAFFING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

72/26 REVIEW OF FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that Members be encouraged to share their comments online or send them, via email, to the Clerk and Financial Officer who would forward them on. Comments were to be received by Friday 18th September.

73/26 ACTIVE TRAVEL NETWORK MAP STATUTORY CONSULTATION:

The Clerk informed members that any comments on this consultation would need to be sent to her, or direct, by Monday 2nd November 2026.

A general discussion ensued about the worthiness of consultations, particularly in light of the new Catholic school proposal. Councillor Wynne offered to raise the issue regarding the dismissal of any comments made within a consultation as this would be against the wishes of the residents. He felt that no-one had been being listened to and the consultants were supposed to consider and include comments.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the information.

 Chairman's signature: _____

74/26 "HAVE YOUR SAY ON FUTURE BUS SERVICES IN NORTH WALES":

A member said that she had recently attended the public consultation in Flint as she used the bus service regularly and had wanted to voice her concerns that Mancot only had one bus service that travelled to Asda, Queensferry.

She advised that on the proposed plans there had been no change to the bus service in Mancot and that Transport for Wales had taken over the contract from Flintshire County Council in 2019.

The last face to face event would be held on Tuesday 15th September in Holywell.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the information.

75/26 COUNTY FORUM MEETING AND DRAFT COMMUNITY CHARTER:

The Clerk and Financial Officer referred to the draft Community Charter and advised that the red text related to her comments, on behalf of the council, and that members had been welcomed to add any comments or share their views. If members had any comments to add, they would need to write to the Clerk by Friday 18th September.

A revitalised meeting of the County Forum would take place on Tuesday 29th September and the Clerk would be in attendance.

Members thanked the Clerk and Financial Officer for her timely comments and the effort that she had put into the document.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk and Financial Officer's comments be approved and any further comments be sent to the Clerk and Financial Officer by Friday 18th September.

 Chairman's signature: _____

76/26 LOCAL PLAN SCOPING CONSULTATION – CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL (CW&CC):

IT WAS RESOLVED: that members share any comments they may have by Monday 28th September via the online link.

77/26 POLICE MATTERS:

There were no matters to be reported to PCSO Kayleigh Chilton however members reported the following issues, for information:

I. A young girl had been attacked by other girls in Aston when she had left the Yowley Road play area. The Police had been informed.

II. There continued to be an ongoing dispute between two neighbours in Mancot over a barking dog. Alcohol had been involved and aggression on both sides. The police had been called out and the issue had been under investigation by the Noise Pollution Department.

III. A resident from Ewloe and one in Mancot had reported illegal bikes driving around the area. They had been encouraged to report it to the Police via 101.

IV. A resident in Mancot had caught three people trying to break into their shed.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

78/26 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:

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

I. Castle Green Developments had cut all the hedge along Gladstone Way had made the footpath a lot wider for residents. The rest of the path needed to receive the same cut to extend the pathway for residents.

 Chairman's signature: _____

II. There continued to be issues with parking outside of the Hawarden Village CP School. A member advised that Flintshire County Council had said that this had been the school with the worse parking problems.

III. Residents had reported speeding cars along Gladstone Way and Old Aston Hill.

IV. Members raised a complaint about the delay in responses from the Streetscene operatives. A confirmation email from Streetscene stated that a response would be given within ten working days, however it appeared to be a lot longer and members had to send chaser emails for a response.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the above issues be reported to John Griffiths, Senior Streetscene Highways Officer and that Councillor Wynne collate the views of all members and write to Flintshire County Council voicing their concerns around consultations.

79/26 LIGHTING FAULTS:

A light outside the Pavilion on Gladstone Playing Fields had been constantly flashing.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the faulty light be reported to the Maintenance Team.

80/26 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

Councillor Turton said that he had held a site visit with the Castle Green Development Site Manager and had relayed all the issues raised by members and residents including noise, mess and heavy vehicles. Castle Green had been keen to resolve the issues and had said if anyone had any issues they could be contacted direct.

Councillor Mackie shared that he and Councillor Thomas had attended the Liverpool Bay meeting at which the Community Benefit Fund had been mentioned. Grants would be offered for up to twenty thousand pound for qualifying projects and there would be up to seven grants a year handed out in Flintshire and Cheshire.

 Chairman's signature: _____

A member suggested that Cerys Percival, Hynet representative, be contacted to discuss the grants scheme.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the information and for the Clerk and Financial Officer to contact Cerys Percival.

***PLANNING COMMITTEE*:**

81/26 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) The planning appeal updated had been noted.

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:

82/26 ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS (ROSPA), PLAY AREA INSPECTIONS 2026:

The Clerk and Financial Officer had advised that the annual Inspections had taken place and that no play areas, except the Skate Park and Trueman's Way, had been flagged as high risk. The skate park and Trueman's Way had been flagged due to the nature of the activity and the environment at Trueman's.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the information.

 Chairman's signature: _____

83/26 SUMMER PLAYSCHEME UPDATE 2026:

A brief report had been shared on the success of the play schemes and some positive comments that had been received. A further report would be submitted to the Council in October.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

84/26 RENEWAL OF LEASE OF LAND FOR ASTON COMMUNITY CENTRE:

The Clerk and Financial Officer stated that the rent for the lease of the land for Aston Community Centre had been increased by Flintshire County Council. This would be passed onto the Community Centre direct.

A member suggested that the annual grant that the Community Council provided to Community Centres had not increased for a long time and maybe it should now be increased. This would be considered during the budget setting process.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note this information.

85/26 LEASE FOR ASTON BOWLING CLUB:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised members that the lease had finally been near to completion between the relevant parties. It was anticipated that it should be finalised at the end of October 2026.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the information be noted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

86/26 ANNUAL REVISION OF ALLOTMENT FEES:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Allotment fees be approved.

 Chairman's signature: _____

87/26 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £42,833.98 and £35,568.95 for August and September, be approved.

88/26 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the bank reconciliations for the periods ending 31st July and 31st August be approved.

89/26 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer informed members that the Service Level Agreement for August and September had been £15,631.95 and £15,959.70 respectively.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the information.

 Chairman's signature: _____