

**MINUTES of a MEETING**  
of the  
**GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**  
held in the  
Council Chamber, BUCKLEY  
on  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018

**PRESENT**

Councillor A Woolley - in the Chair

Cllr V E Bloudek	Cllr J S Jones	Cllr N Phillips
Cllr C A Ellis	Cllr R B Jones	Cllr E L Preece
Cllr D Ellis	Cllr W A Lewis	Cllr M P Teire
Cllr I D Howes	Cllr M J Peers	Cllr J F Thornton
Cllr E J Hutchinson	Cllr S Peers	Cllr A G Williams
Cllr H D Hutchinson	Cllr I Peters	

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr M B Wright – Town Clerk & Financial Officer  
Mrs L George – Office Administrator  
Mrs T J Reece – Office Administrator

**16943- APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence and reasons were received and approved from Councillors N A Cropper (family commitments) and C M Preece (holiday).

**16944- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Two Declarations of Interest were made in relation to Agenda item 7 – Flintshire Citizens Advice Bureau Statistics and Agenda item 8 – Visits by Independent Members of Flintshire County Council’s Standards Committee by Councillor A Woolley. It was –

*Resolved – that the Declarations of Interest were noted.*

**16945- MINUTES**

*Resolved - that the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017, as now submitted, be signed by the Committee Chair.*

**16946- APPROVAL OF DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2018/19**

The Committee was advised of its element of the Draft Budget for 2018/19. The Committee was requested to either recommend the Draft Budget, as presented, to the Finance and Economic Development Committee or to recommend an Amended Draft Budget to the Finance and Economic Development Committee. It was –

*Resolved – that the Draft Budget for 2018/19, as presented, in the value for this Committee of £52,663.00 be recommended to the Finance and Economic Development Committee.*

#### **16947- TOWN CENTRE MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT**

The Committee received and considered the Town Centre Manager's monthly report for January 2018. It was -

*Resolved – that the Town Centre Manager's report be received, noted and approved and that a note of thanks and appreciation be sent to all those who were involved in the successful installation of a defibrillator at Hawkesbury Community Centre.*

#### **16948- FREDERICK BIRKS VC MM CENTENARY PAVING STONE**

The Committee was reminded that at its June 2017 meeting it had resolved to "... make arrangements for the memorial paving stone to be placed in the pavement outside the Town Council Offices". Since that resolution the Clerk had corresponded with the Armed Forces Liaison Officer, North East Wales, who had advised that the Stonemason responsible for the memorial paving stone had stated that with it being made of sandstone the wording would be eroded by pedestrian activity. The recommendation from the Armed Forces Liaison Officer was that the Committee should review its decision and place the paving stone in Coronation Gardens, which was close to where Fred Birks was born and to also have the Gardens marked as a Centenary Field in Trust, this would make Coronation Gardens the first Centenary Field in Trust in Flintshire. It was –

*Resolved – that the recommendation made by the Clerk and the Armed Forces Liaison Officer be approved and that arrangements be made for the paving stone to be placed in Coronation Gardens and that Coronation Gardens be marked as a Centenary Field in Trust.*

#### **16949- FLINTSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU STATISTICS**

The Committee received the usage statistics from the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) in respect of the Buckley Outreach Office, for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017. Members were asked to note that of the 36 people who attended the Outreach office, 27 were from Buckley. It was --

*Resolved – that the usage statistics for the Citizens Advice Bureau, Buckley Outreach office for the period 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 be received and noted.*

#### **16950- VISITS BY INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

The Committee received and considered a report from the Clerk which included an email from the Chief Officer (Governance), Flintshire County Council, advising that an independent Member from the Standards Committee would be attending one of the Council's Council and Committee meetings during the next 12 months. The aim of the attendance was to observe how the meetings were conducted in order to understand the

issues facing the Council and how the Members' Code of Conduct was being applied when considering the issues. The Clerk advised the Committee that he would notify it when the visit was planned. It was –

*Resolved – that the Clerk's report and enclosed correspondence be received and noted.*

#### **16951- REGISTRATION OF GP'S IN WALES**

The Committee received and considered a covering email from the Chief Officer, North Wales Community Health Council. The email had attached to it an Options Paper for the NHS Wales Performers List, also attached was a letter from the Welsh Assembly Government headed 'Options Paper: NHS Wales Performers List'. The crux of the correspondence revolved around the fact that additional bureaucracy was required for a GP registered in England to work in Wales. The correspondence sought views on Options to ease the problems.

The Committee was particularly concerned in relation to the fourth paragraph of the Community Health Council's Options Paper which stated "Initially the response from Civil Servants was that it would be "unsafe" to allow Doctors registered in England to work in Wales – although they were unable to state where the risk might lie". The Committee could not understand why a GP registered in England could not merely transfer to a Welsh Practice, after all, all GPs were registered with the General Medical Council (GMC). Not only that, the United Kingdom was one Country and such bureaucratic obstacles should not be acceptable.

The Committee reviewed the seven Options offered by the Welsh Assembly Government and without exception, felt that Option 3 should be the chosen Option and that the disadvantages shown against Option 3 were to all intents and purposes scaremongering. It was –

*Resolved – that the Clerk be instructed to contact the Chief Officer, North Wales Community Health Council, expressing the Committees concerns about the content of the Welsh Assembly Government's Options Paper and recommending Option 3 which stated "Amend the Regulations to allow a GP or GDP Performer to be automatically listed on a LHBs List if they are already on a PCO performer list in the UK with a need to submit an application or provide relevant information and documentation. As has already been pointed out, if a GP or GDP is deemed fit to work in England then they should be fit to work in Wales".*

#### **16952- RHYDYMWYN VALLEY HISTORY SOCIETY**

The Committee received a report from the Clerk, which enclosed a pamphlet in respect of Tunnel Tours for 2018 arranged by the above Society. Councillor I D Howes offered that he could take seven Members on a private tour or arrange for 26 people to be provided with a tour whereby other volunteer Guides were involved. It was –

*Resolved – that the Clerk be instructed to correspond with Councillor I D Howes to find suitable dates for a tour by 26 people and to then invite Members to express an interest in attending.*

**16953- ITEMS TABLED FOR MEMBERS' PERUSAL**

The following items were tabled for Members' perusal:-

1. Flintshire Local Voluntary Council – Voluntary Voice Newsletter Issue 3 – 2017.
2. Email from Flintshire Voluntary Council – The Police and Crime Commissioners Early Intervention Fund.

*Resolved – that the above items tabled for Members' perusal be received and noted.*

**CHAIR**