

FLINT TOWN COUNCIL

The Minutes of the proceedings of the hybrid special meeting of Flint Town Council, held on Monday 31st July, 2023.

PRESENT: The Mayor, Councillor B. Goldsborough (in the Chair).

Councillors: M. Buckley, D. Challenger, N. Davies, R. Davies, C. Griffiths, E. Jones, L. Leigh, M. Moore, M. Perfect, V. Perfect, I. Roberts and J. Stoneley.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors: P. Cunningham and M. Whittaker.

IN ATTENDANCE: L. Wood, Town Clerk, N. Thornton, Support Officer, W. Williams North Wales Police Inspector, M. Holt, Flintshire Youth Service.

74. DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest made.

75. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN THE TOWN

The Mayor introduced W. Williams, North Wales Police Inspector and M. Holt, Flintshire Youth Services Officer. Both gave an introduction and a brief overview of their respective roles.

Councillors shared issues relating to anti-social behaviour within the town. Issues varied but namely drugs and fly tipping.

W. Williams, North Wales Police Inspector addressed the issues and detailed how the Police are dealing with these issues, such as visual patrols, designing bespoke plans, engaging with residents, understand reasons why crimes are committed and also considering the CCTV provision in hotspot areas. The Police work closely with National Resources Wales to help combat fly tipping.

W. Williams, North Wales Police Inspector added it is vital that information and crimes are shared with Police and that organisations work together. Residents must report crimes to the Police as some of the issues shared at the meeting, the Police were not aware of. It is not the responsibility of a Councillor to report issues on behalf of residents but for residents to do this.

M. Holt, Flintshire Youth Service explained the role of Outreach workers within the Community, the teams tend to work in towns and communities that do not have youth services provisions. Youth Workers work with schools; however, resources are limited, and we hope to expand this in the future.

W. Williams, North Wales Police Inspector added that the Police are also involved with schools and currently have 16 School Liaison Officers, they work with children aged 8 to 12 years old.

Councillors said they felt that when crimes are committed by children, sometimes this is due to lack of parenting and asked when the Police would act and report this as a protection issue.

W. Williams, North Wales Police Inspector said, if necessary, they would involve the relevant services. The Police then review the case and consider how and why the crimes are committed and how the parent and child can be helped to prevent re offending.

Councillors asked how the Police help to facilitate community / resident action groups as many residents feel intimidated or are scared to report crimes.

W. Williams, North Wales Police Inspector said they try to engage with community groups and residents. The Police have an Active Participation Reward scheme whereby, if a member of the community contributes, for example, takes part in a litter pick, a reward is given and for a youth this could be a ten-pin bowling voucher.

A Councillor suggested holding a Crime Safety Awareness Day at schools involving a number of organisations including the Police, Prison Officers and Ex-Offenders.

M. Holt, Flintshire Youth Officer said he supports this suggestion; however, this is out of his remit and the Council would need to contact Ms. C. Homard, Flintshire Chief Officer, Education. These awareness days could be held at Youth Centres. W. Williams, North Wales Police added that this was a good idea and would support.

Cyber Crime was raised, and Councillors asked what the Police's approach is to protecting residents. W. Williams, North Wales Police said there is a dedicated Cyber Crime Team. Education is the key for prevention of this crime.

The Mayor thanked both W. Williams North Wales Police Inspector and M. Holt, Flintshire Youth Service Officer for attending and said it had been a very informative meeting and hoped that we can meet on a regular basis moving forward.

RESOLVED: That all the reports and information were noted.

Date of Council Meeting	Monday 31 st July, 2023
..... Mayor	