

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the proceedings of the hybrid meeting of the General Purposes Committee, held on Monday 20th October, 2025.

Before the opening of the meeting the Mayor invited Mr. R. Dawson to lead all present in prayer.

PRESENT: Councillor M. Buckley (in the Chair).

Councillors:, R. Davies, C. Griffiths, M. Hanson, E. Jones, M. Moore, V. Perfect, J. Stoneley and M. Whittaker.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors D. Challenger, P. Cunningham, N. Davies, D. Jones, M. Perfect and I. Roberts.

IN ATTENDANCE: L. Wood, Town Clerk and N. Thornton, Support Officer, Mr. D. Morris, Flintshire Lead Officer for Play Development and Play Sufficiency and Member of the Public.

116. PUBLIC ENQUIRY ITEM

There were no public enquiry items.

117. DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest.

118. SUMMER PLAYScheme 2026

Mr. D. Morris, Flintshire Lead Officer for Play Development and Play Sufficiency, gave a presentation covering information regarding both the 2025 and 2026 Playschemes. He provided an overview of attendance figures, explained how the scheme operates, and outlined the training provided to staff. He also asked for the support of Councillors in encouraging local schools to distribute leaflets to ensure that all families are aware of the scheme dates and times.

Councillor R. Davies suggested that flyers could also be circulated to local businesses and enquired whether feedback was received from staff following the playscheme. Mr. Morris confirmed that staff had provided positive feedback, particularly in relation to the training.

Councillor J. Stoneley asked whether staff were trained in the Welsh language and if its use was encouraged during the sessions. Mr. Morris advised that Welsh language use is included and promoted throughout all playschemes.

The Chair thanked Mr. Morris for his informative presentation and asked Council to consider the proposal for the 2026 scheme, sharing the projected costs.

Councillor M. Hanson proposed that the Council engage in a six-week scheme, with a 3 year commitment, across all five sites. This was seconded by Councillor M. Whittaker.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council will participate in a six-week Summer Playscheme, with a three-year commitment, across all five sites from 2026.

119. MINUTES

Councillor E. Jones proposed the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15th September be approved, which was seconded by Councillor M. Moore.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15th September be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

120. TOWN CLERKS UPDATE

The Clerk reported the following updates:

The soldiers and poppies have now been installed throughout the town in preparation for Remembrance.

Following last month's resolution that the Council approves the costs for the installation of the heavy-duty pole for the "Welcome to Flint" Christmas light display, pending authorisation from Flintshire County Council, the Clerk informed Members that approval has been granted by Flintshire County Council and the pole has now been installed.

Following last month's resolution that the Council writes to Welsh Water requesting that a representative attend a future Council meeting to address contingency planning, the Clerk confirmed that Welsh Water will be attending the November meeting.

Following last month's resolution that a letter be sent to Flintshire County Council requesting the installation of a No Entry sign at McDonald's, the Clerk reported that Flintshire County Council has replied to advise that the request has been noted, however, funding is not currently available.

Following a previous resolution to ask Flintshire County Council for a Historic Information Board by the Footplate at the Railway Station, the Clerk reported that Flintshire County Council has responded to confirm that the request has been noted, however, funding is not currently available.

RESOLVED: Noted.

121. FLINT FESTIVAL & TOWN EVENTS

The Clerk circulated a report detailing the proposed expenditure and income for the Flint Festival 2026. This enabled Councillors to make informed decisions regarding the authorisation and approval of bookings and payments for the town's events.

Councillor E. Jones proposed that the Council accepts the proposed expenditure, and this was seconded by Councillor R. Davies.

RESOLVED: That the Council approves the proposed expenditure for the Flint Festival 2026.

122. ZEBRA CROSSING ON NORTHOP ROAD

Councillor C. Griffiths reported that she had received resident complaints regarding the road on the Flint side of the Coach & Horse Public House, near the bus stop, being dangerous to

cross especially for the elderly residents. She therefore proposed that the Council write to Flintshire County Council to request that they consider installing a zebra crossing, as this would significantly improve pedestrian safety when crossing the road.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk writes to Flintshire County Council to request consideration be given to the installation of a zebra crossing near the bus stop on the Flint side of the Coach & Horse Public House.

123. REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Town Clerk reported that, following last month's meeting where it was agreed that the Mayor, Councillor R. Davies, Councillor E. Jones, and the Town Clerk would meet to discuss the Remembrance Service due to the changes in venue and parade route, a meeting had taken place, and the updated arrangements were shared with Council.

Councillor R. Davies proposed that the arrangements be accepted and approved, and this was seconded by Councillor E. Jones.

RESOLVED: That the arrangements for the Remembrance Service and revised parade route be accepted and approved.

124. WEED BUSTERS

Councillor R. Davies provided an update on the Weed Busters scheme. He reported that the initiative started in late August and that volunteers have mainly been Councillors along with Ms. A. Blackburn from Flint Litter Pickers. Teksol, a local Flint business, kindly donated all the equipment, which has been excellent. However, other businesses who offered volunteering support have not yet been available.

The scheme has been highly effective, with positive feedback received both verbally and through social media. It is hoped that a few more sessions can take place before winter, with plans to restart the initiative in the spring.

Councillor R. Davies noted that one key observation from volunteering was how weeds are causing damage to tarmac pavements and roads. He acknowledged that certain weedkillers can no longer be used due to environmental impact but queried what approach Flintshire County Council Streetscene takes to prevent such damage year after year, and the resulting cost of repairs. He also highlighted that the amount of soil blocking drainage channels is considerable.

Councillor M. Hanson commented that she is fully aware of the impact weeds have on tarmac, which can create health and safety risks. She reported that she had recently sustained a serious fall due to a trip hazard caused by uneven and broken tarmac.

Councillor M. Moore reported problems with weeds and overgrown bushes in Oakenholt, between Bennetts Row, and Gardners Row, noting that the bushes are extremely high and in need of attention.

Councillor M. Buckley advised that, in addition to Streetscene, Ms. S. Salter, Biodiversity Officer, may be able to offer advice or solutions on weed control.

Councillor M. Whittaker proposed that the above issues and questions be directed to the Flintshire County Council Streetscene Officer and Biodiversity Officer, and this was seconded by Councillor R. Davies.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk write to Flintshire County Council's Streetscene and Biodiversity Officers to raise the above concerns and seek advice on future weed management strategies and preventative measures.

125. ROAD RE-SURFACING

Councillor C. Griffiths shared concerns regarding the condition of road surfaces on the A548 from Oakenholt to Greenfield, specifically Coed Onn Road, Prince of Wales Avenue, the top section of Woodfield Avenue, and Queens Avenue, noting that these roads are in a poor state of repair. She proposed that the Council write to Flintshire County Council to request a copy of their re-surfacing and maintenance programme.

A number of Councillors raised concerns about vehicles parking on pavements, which is causing damage and obstructing pedestrians, particularly those using mobility scooters.

Councillor R. Davies asked whether Flintshire County Council has a system in place to monitor pavement parking and obstructions.

Councillor M. Whittaker suggested also requesting a copy of Flintshire County Council's Asset Management Policy.

Councillor M. Hanson proposed that all the above be submitted to Flintshire County Council, and this was seconded by Councillor R. Davies.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk write to Flintshire County Council requesting:
A copy of their re-surfacing and maintenance programme for the roads; Information on monitoring and enforcement of pavement parking and obstructions; A copy of Flintshire County Council's Asset Management Policy.

NOTE: Councillor J. Stoneley left the meeting.

126. TOWN CENTRE ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS GRANT: TREASURE MAP TRAILS

Council considered an email from Ms. S. Birch, Flintshire Project Development Officer, regarding the Treasure Map Trails initiative, a scheme designed to encourage families to visit and engage with the High Street. The information indicated that funding may be available through the Activities and Events Grant.

Councillor E. Jones proposed that the Council proceed to consider participating in the scheme should the Activities and Events Grant be available. This was seconded by Councillor M. Hanson.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk make further enquiries with Ms. S. Birch regarding the Activities and Events Grant and the potential participation in the Treasure Map Trails scheme.

Date of Council Meeting	Monday 20 th October, 2025
..... Chair	