

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the proceedings of the hybrid meeting of the General Purposes Committee, held on Monday the 20th July 2026.

PRESENT: Councillor N. Davies (in the Chair).

Councillors: D. Challenger, C. Griffiths, M. Hanson, E. Jones, M. Moore, V. Nevitt, M. Perfect, V. Perfect and M. Whittaker.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors M. Buckley, I. Roberts and J. Stoneley

IN ATTENDANCE: L. Wood, Town Clerk and N. Thornton, Support Officer and Members of the Public.

58. PUBLIC ENQUIRY ITEM

There were no public enquiry items.

59. DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declaration of interests.

60. MINUTES

Councillor M. Whittaker proposed the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15th June 2026 be approved, which was seconded by Councillor V. Nevitt.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 15th June 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

61. FLINT FESTIVAL & TOWN EVENTS

The Clerk circulated a report detailing the expenditure and income associated with the Festival, which had taken place earlier in the month. The report provided Councillors with an overview of the event's financial position and enabled them to consider and approve the associated expenditure.

Councillor D. Challenger wished to place on record his thanks to Councillor M. Perfect and everyone involved in the organisation and delivery of the Festival for their hard work, commitment and contribution to its success.

Councillor M. Perfect proposed that the Council accepts the report and expenditure, and this was seconded by Councillor R. Davies.

RESOLVED: That the Council approves the report and expenditure for the Flint Festival.

62. NATURE FRIENDLY ACTION UPDATE 26/27

The Chair, Councillor R. Davies, reported that he had attended a meeting with Flintshire County Council Biodiversity Officers, Ms. S. Slater and Ms. S. Roberts, alongside Councillor M. Buckley and the Town Clerk.

The meeting considered a number of biodiversity initiatives and potential projects within Flint and surrounding areas, including:

- Tree planting opportunities and volunteer work to control invasive Himalayan balsam at Pandy Pool, Oakenholt, with significant areas already cleared.
- Clarification of site boundaries between mown areas and wildflower areas at Pandy Pool.
- Potential town projects, including a sensory/breeding garden behind Flint Library, pollinator-friendly planter seating at the Cenotaph (subject to land ownership confirmation), and converting the disused Flint Fountain into a planter.
- Exploring suitable locations for community orchards and trialling alternative non-toxic weed control methods.
- The development of information boards, maps and signage for wildflower areas to explain biodiversity improvements and encourage community engagement.

It was noted that these initiatives are supported through grant funding and do not form part of Flintshire County Council's budget.

Representatives from the Biodiversity Team will attend future Town Hall coffee mornings to engage with residents and provide information on local biodiversity projects.

The meeting also discussed concerns regarding the condition of trees on Church Street due to recent dry weather. Flintshire County Council Officers confirmed that watering arrangements were being progressed.

The Biodiversity Team advised that surveys had recorded a range of species within local green spaces and that ongoing monitoring, cut-and-collect programmes and management plans would continue to support biodiversity improvements. The impact of recent dry weather on wildflower areas was acknowledged, with future management adjusted accordingly.

Safety considerations, including wildfire risks associated with dry vegetation, were discussed. It was confirmed that these matters form part of the risk assessment process when managing wildflower areas.

Councillor M. Hanson welcomed the proposals contained within the report, particularly the plans for community orchards, and commented that the biodiversity initiatives would make a positive contribution to the health and wellbeing of the community.

She also highlighted the importance of ensuring that the biodiversity proposals are aligned with the wider town development and placemaking plans, so that future investment is coordinated and delivers the greatest benefit for Flint.

Councillor M. Whittaker welcomed the proposals and commented that the Town Council should seek to facilitate the delivery of as many of the projects as possible at the earliest opportunity. He emphasised the importance of maximising available funding and ensuring that investment is coordinated to achieve the greatest benefit for the town.

Councillor D. Challenger proposed that the Council supports the suggested biodiversity initiatives and potential projects outlined in the report. This was seconded by Councillor M. Whittaker.

RESOLVED: That the suggested biodiversity initiatives and potential projects be supported.

63. PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS – CORNIST PARK

The Council considered the email from Mr. R. Roberts, Aura Play Design Officer regarding the previously agreed match funding proposal for Cornist Park play area. The email detailed the proposals for new equipment.

Councillor D. Challenger proposed that the Council supports the proposal and requests that consideration be given to the provision of sensory play equipment, recognising the current lack of sensory facilities within playgrounds across the town.

RESOLVED: That the proposal be supported and that the need for sensory play equipment within Flint's playgrounds be highlighted.

64. CONSULTATION TO RENEW ALCOHOL CONTROL AND DOG CONTROL PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

The Council considered a letter from Flintshire Chief Officer - Place and Grove regarding the Public Spaces Protection Order consultation survey.

Councillor M. Perfect proposed that all Councillors complete the survey in respect of their own ward. This was seconded by Councillor M. Whittaker.

RESOLVED: That all Councillors complete the Public Spaces Protection Order consultation survey for their respective wards.

Date of Council Meeting	Monday 20th July, 2026
..... Vice - Chair	