GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Special hybrid meeting of the General Purposes Committee, held on Monday 2nd November 2026.

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

Councillors: D. Challenger, N. Davies, R. Davies, M. Hanson, E. Jones, V. Nevitt, M. Perfect, V. Perfect, I. Roberts and M. Whittaker.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillors: C. Griffiths, M. Moore and J. Rees.

IN ATTENDANCE: L. Wood, Town Clerk.

138. DECLARATION OF INTEREST – MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no declarations of interest made.

139. RNLI BONFIRE

Councillor M. Perfect explained that Flintshire County Council had issued the RNLI with an invoice for £1,500 for the road closure arrangements required for the forthcoming Bonfire Night event on Friday, representing a significant increase on the previous year's charge of approximately £250. She explained that the increase was due to the use of an external contractor and that, despite considerable efforts made by herself and fellow County Councillors, they had been unable to reduce the charge.

Councillor M. Perfect proposed that Flint Town Council make a one-off payment of £1,500 from its reserves towards the road closure costs, to ensure the RNLI event could proceed as planned. She expressed concern that road closure arrangements were being undertaken by a profit-making external company, questioning why this approach had been adopted and the significant increase in costs as a result. She also proposed writing to Flintshire County Council to challenge the increased charges and highlight the potential impact this could have on community events across the County. The Town Clerk advised Members of the Council's current reserve balances to assist with their consideration of the proposal.

Councillor I. Roberts seconded the proposal and highlighted further concerns regarding public safety and traffic management, particularly as the bonfire event coincided with a local football derby between Flint Town United and Connah's Quay, expected to attract approximately 3,000–4,000 spectators. Concerns were raised regarding car parking, the safety of residents and visitors, access for residents and emergency services, and potential traffic congestion. He added that the letter to Flintshire County Council should also emphasise the importance of ensuring that the traffic management company takes full account of the needs of residents living within the affected area when planning and implementing road closures.

Councillor M. Buckley added her support for the proposal, noting that she understood the RNLI had budgeted for the road closure costs based on the previous year's arrangements but had only been notified of the significant increase in charges approximately two weeks before the event. She added that as County Councillors, they would continue to challenge Flintshire County Council's decision regarding the increased road closure charges.

RESOLVED: That the Council make a one-off payment of £1,500 from its reserves towards the RNLI's Bonfire event road closure costs; that the Council write to Flintshire County Council expressing its serious concerns regarding the significant increase in road closure charges, the use of an external profit-making contractor and the potential impact these costs may have on future community events across the County.

Date of Council Meeting	**Monday 2nd November, 2026**
…… **Chair**	