



CYNGOR CYMUNED BRYCHDYN A BRETTON
BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

HYBRID MEETING

19th November 2024

A G E N D A

COUNCIL MEETING:

1. ONE MINUTE OF SILENCE:

Members are asked to observe one minute of silence in remembrance of the late Councillor Veronica Gay following her recent sad and unexpected passing.

2. PRESENTATION:

A presentation will be received from Ian McDermott, Manager of Welsh Border Community Transport to outline the work of the organisation.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

To receive any declarations of interests from Members.

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

To receive and approve the minutes of the previous hybrid meeting of the Council held on 22nd October 2024, copy attached.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

7. AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS:

Members are asked to consider an amendment to Standing Orders to change the start time of the meeting rather than 7.20 p.m. The meetings had been put back to 7.20 p.m. to allow for an earlier class to finish in the main hall and clear up, but that event no longer takes place.

8. VACANCY IN THE BROUGHTON NORTH EAST WARD:

To receive a verbal update from the Clerk and Financial Officer.

9. CONCLUSION OF OUTSTANDING EXTERNAL AUDITS:

Annual Returns attached for 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24. Members will recall that the External Auditor had received a back log of audits and had been late in returning the Annual Returns.

The council will be asked to consider the External Auditor's report and produce an action plan, as necessary.

10. GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE:

Since the introduction of the Local Government Elections (Wales) Act 2021 the council can resolve to become a council with the ***General Power of Competence (GPoC)***.

What this means is that the council is considered "competent" in making its decisions and the decision to adopt GPoC permits the council to "*do anything that an individual might do, as long as no other legislation does not forbid it*". For example, a council could give financial assistance to a struggling local enterprise by purchasing share capital just as an individual could.

Similarly, the council could lend money to support a local activity and earn interest on the loan and it can raise sponsorship for a community project.

The three qualifying criteria are that the council has to have received the last two years audited accounts as unqualified, the Clerk has to be CILCA qualified and the council needs to have at least two-thirds of its Councillors elected and not co-opted.

Now that the Annual Returns have been returned and are unqualified the council is asked to consider a resolution to become a council with the General Power of Competence.

11. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

PLANNING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS:

County Council Members:

- (i) To formally note that the participation of those Councillors who are also members of the County Council, in both the debate and subsequent vote, is on the basis that the views expressed are preliminary views taking account of the information presently made available to the Community Council. The County Councillors reserve their final views on the application until they are in full possession of all relevant arguments for and against.
- (ii) To consider the planning applications received to date for the month of November.

Members are asked to view the applications on-line prior to the meeting via

<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Planning/Home.asp>

[X](#)

(iii) To note any planning appeals.

(iv) To note the attached planning decisions for November.

13. POLICE MATTERS:

To consider any matters of concern.

14. HIGHWAY/STREETSCENE MATTERS:

To raise any relevant matters for communication to the Senior County Highways Officer.

15. COUNTY MEMBER ITEMS:

To receive any relevant items for information.

16. MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

To receive any relevant information items.

LIGHTING AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE:

17. STREET LIGHTING:

To raise any street lighting issues.

FINANCE AND STAFFING COMMITTEE:

18. TRAINING PLAN UPDATE:

Report attached.

19. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

To receive the list of payments for November, copy attached.

20. BANK RECONCILIATION:

To receive and note the bank reconciliation statement for the period ending 31st October 2024, copy to follow.

21. SMALL GRANTS SCHEME:

To consider the following applications for the Small Grants Scheme, which will be emailed separately to members:

- Broughton & Bretton Bowling Club
- Broughton Youth Club
- Broughton United Football Club

A confidential pack of grant applications will be emailed separately to all members as they contain confidential information.

22. CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

To receive a verbal report on the Council's contribution to the Joint Maintenance Committee for the month of November and any other relevant matters.

23. ANNUAL GRANTS TO COMMUNITY CENTRES:

To review the current provision of annual grants to the Community Centres prior to the detailed budget work required for the 2025-26 budget and precept.



Minutes of the Hybrid meeting of
BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
22nd October 2024

PRESENT: Councillor Chrissy Gee (Chairman)

Councillors: Jeffrey Brett-Roberts, Penny Brett-Roberts, Veronica Gay, Barrie Gregory, Ros Griffiths, Sam Jennings, Sara Mason and Billy Mullin

Officers: Mrs S G Jones, Clerk & Financial Officer
Miss G Griffiths, Assistant Clerk

75/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mike Lowe, Ryan McKeown and Gareth Williams.

76/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

77/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th September 2024 be approved as a correct record.

78/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were none.

79/24 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT – 2025.26:

The Clerk and Financial Officer shared the draft report and highlighted the budget implications for 2025-26. The draft proposals included the “extra costs” payments as mandatory at £156 per year plus £52 consumables. A total of £208 per member. All members would receive this payment in February of the financial year unless they provide, in writing, an instruction to the Clerk not to receive this payment.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that that the “extra costs payment” per member, travel and subsistence and car allowances be approved. The Chairman role, Deputy Chairman, Senior role, attendance allowance and financial loss be not approved.

80/24 SENEDD INQUIRY INTO THE ROLE, GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL SECTOR:

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that she and Councillor Gee had attended the One Voice Wales annual conference last week. One Voice Wales had been liaising with Welsh Government about this Inquiry.

The Clerk and Financial Officer had prepared a draft response for approval, or otherwise, by Council. Approval had been obtained from the Welsh Government for the Council’s response to be submitted on 23rd October, as the original deadline had been 18th.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the draft response be approved for submission to the Welsh Government, as presented.

81/24 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

The Chairman thanked the Vice Chairman, Councillor McKeown, for chairing the last meeting in her absence and reiterated that she had recently attended the One Voice Wales Annual Conference.

The Chairman also referred to the recent carving of an owl at the tree stump in the Country Park.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk and Financial Officer send a card to the resident who had carved the owl into the tree stump at Country Park to thank him.

PLANNING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

82/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS:

IT WAS RESOLVED:

(a) County Council Members:

It was noted that the participation of those Councillors who were also Members of the County Council, in both the debate and subsequent vote, was on the basis that the views expressed were preliminary views taking account of the information made available to the Community Council. The County Councillors reserved their final views on the applications until they were in full possession of all relevant arguments for and against.

- (b) That the County Planning Authority be advised of this Council's observations on the applications submitted to it for consideration, as per the attached schedule.
- (c) That the planning decisions be noted.
- (d) There were no planning appeals.

83/24 POLICE MATTERS:

Members raised concerns at the lack of a Police presence within the community, particularly during the recent heavy floods. Residents had had to resort to blocking the roads themselves due to the safety of motorists.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that these concerns be forwarded to the appropriate Police Community Support Officer.

84/24 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:

Members raised the following concerns:

- Lack of clear communication and guidance about the provision of sand bags during the floods;
- Streetscene emergency contact number provided mixed messages and took too long to be answered; and
- The trees outside the Offa's Dyke public house had not yet been cut down and had obscured the street lighting.

A member had asked the Chief Executive at Flintshire County Council for a meeting about the recent flooding as it is getting worse and there appeared to be no improvement.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the issues be submitted to John Griffiths, Senior Highways Officer, for action.

85/24 COUNTY MEMBERS ITEMS:

The Chairman referred again to the recent flooding issues and expressed her concern that more needed to be done to help residents. The authorities had been made aware of which houses had been at risk and something should be done.

The Community Flood Group had met seven times and a further meeting had been arranged for week commencing 18th November. Paul Reeves, Flintshire County Council, Natural Resources Wales and Welsh Water would be in attendance. Discussion had been held about the addition of an attenuation tank on land owned by the Gladstone Estate. Natural Resources Wales had donated some money to resolve an issue with a ditch but Flintshire County Council had not been able to provide top up funding.

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that there could be merit in combining the plan with Saltney Town Council/Community and had asked that a representative of Saltney be invited to the next Flood Group meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the information.

86/24 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

A member has been in contact with Ken Skates A.S. about pavement Parking and had been informed that it had been due to be looked at but the Welsh Government had implemented the new 20mph speed limit initiative which had taken priority.

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the pavement parking was not a Police issue unless it caused an obstruction in the highway and effected traffic.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the information.

LIGHTING AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE:

87/24 STREET LIGHTING:

A member reported the street lights outside the Offas Dyke Public House that had been overgrown and distorted the light.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that this matter be chased up again with Streetscene.

88/24 2024 ANNUAL SUMMER PLAY SCHEMES:

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated a copy of the play scheme report and highlighted that the scheme had been very successful over the summer period. Members asked whether the total number of children who had attended could be clarified, as it had not been clear within the report.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be received and noted and the total number of children in attendance be obtained.

89/24 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE: SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER, 2024:

The Clerk and Financial Officer provided a verbal update on the arrangements for Remembrance Services within the Community of Hawarden and Broughton.

A member advised that the Poppy Appeal would commence on Thursday 24th October.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that information be noted.

90/24 ADDITIONAL LAND AT BROOKES AVENUE:

Flintshire County Council had asked if the Community Council would like to extend the area of land that is leased by the Community Council at Brookes Avenue, Broughton. There would be no financial cost for this amendment but it would add to the Council's Maintenance Team work programme. There was also fencing in a poor state of repair, uneven ground and an attenuation tank on the land with restrictive covenants.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that further information be obtained from Flintshire County Council and, if the council were to accede to this request, then the County Council would be asked to return the land into a good state of repair and replace the fence.

FINANCE AND STAFFING COMMITTEE:

91/24 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated a mid-year financial report outlining the income and expenditure.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Income and Expenditure Report be approved.

92/24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £10,331.67 for October, be approved.

93/24 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the bank reconciliation for the period ending 30th September, be approved.

94/24 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the cost to the council for the Service Level Agreement in October had been £6,841.74.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.

ITEM

BROUGHTON AND BRETTON Community Council
Accounts for Payment
Oct-24

Ref:	Voucher No:	Payee:	Amount
GG 6335	BB/24/44	SSE Energy - Street Lighting - August	£769.30
BACS	BB/24/45	FCC - Westminster Rd Garage	£93.71
BACS	BB/24/46	FCC - Land - Brookes Ave Playing Field	£66.00
BACS	BB/24/47	HMRC - Salaries - Oct	£278.91
BACS	BB/24/48	Clwyd Pension Fund - Salaries - Oct	£493.09
BACS	BB/24/49	Litter Collector - Salaries - Oct	£1,415.58
BACS	BB/24/50	HCC - SLA - Oct	£6,841.74
LD	BB/24/51	BL Motor Repairs - Vehicle Repair	£15.00
SJ 0734	BB/24/52	HW Oultram - Vehicle Fuel	£54.34
BACS	BB/24/53	HMRC- HMRC VAT	£200.00
GG 6335	BB/24/54	One Voice Wales Accommodation - Cllr Gee	£81.00
GG 6335	BB/24/55	Expenses - Cllr Gee	£23.00
		TOTAL	£10,331.67

Chairman:



Chair of Finance:



