



Minutes of the 'Virtual' Meeting of
BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
19 JANUARY 2021

PRESENT: Councillor Ryan McKeown (Chair)

Councillors: Klaus Armstrong-Braun, Penny Brett-Roberts, Derek Butler, Chrissy Gee, Ros Griffiths, Lindsay Jones, Donna Lalek, Mike Lowe, Billy Mullin, Sue Stevens, Linda Thomas and Adam Williams

Officers: Mrs S G Jones, Clerk & Financial Officer
Fran Griffiths, Administrator

Also Present: 1 member of the public

56/20 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN 2020/2021:

Following the resignation of Councillor Phil Griffiths in December, nominations had been invited for the position of Chairman for the remainder of the Municipal year 2020/2021. In accordance with the Council's adopted policy of seniority Councillor Ryan McKeown had been nominated.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that Councillor Ryan McKeown be appointed Chairman of the Community Council for the remainder of the Municipal year 2020/21.

57/20 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR 2020/2021:

Nominations had been sought for the position of Vice Chair for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2020/2021. In accordance with the Council's adopted policy of seniority, Councillor Penny Brett Roberts had been nominated.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that Councillor Penny Brett Roberts be appointed Vice-Chair of the Community Council for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2020/2021.

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the Chairman of the Lighting and Amenities Committee would be nominated and appointed at the next meeting of the Community Council.

58/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

There were none.

14 Chair's signature: _____

59/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

60/20 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th November 2020 be approved as a correct record.

61/20 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

In relation to minute number 45/20, the Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that she had spoken to the External Auditor who had confirmed that they had made a mistake and that the External Audit report had been re-issued as unqualified.

62/20 VACANCY IN BROUGHTON SOUTH WARD:

The Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that the vacancy had duly been advertised and no call for a by-election had been made. The vacancy had been advertised for co-option on the Council's website and notice boards with a closing date of 4th February 2021. Expressions of interest would be considered at the next meeting of the council when an appointment will be made.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.

63/20 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated a comprehensive report on the Council's financial position as at 30th November 2020. The report highlighted the Council's income and expenditure with some areas of under and overspend related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and accept the Income and Expenditure Report.

64/20 PURCHASE OF A 'FIT FOR PURPOSE' VAN FOR THE COUNCIL'S LITTER COLLECTOR:

The Clerk and Financial Officer reported that the Litter Collector had used his personal vehicle for transporting and storing rubbish bags since his appointment in September. She had recently met with the Chairman of the Council and the Chair of Finance who had confirmed that due to the underspends in the current budget, as highlighted in the previous item, a "fit for purpose" van could be purchased before the end of the financial year with Council's approval. This would also benefit the Litter Collector by being more health and safety compliant.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the purchase of a new van for the Council's Litter Collector at a maximum of £10,000.

65/20 BUDGET PROPOSALS AND PRECEPT FOR 2021-22

The Chairman presented the Council's budget proposals for 2021-22 together with the Council Tax precept proposal. He said that together with the Clerk and Financial Officer and the Chair of Finance they had reviewed the budget line by line, to ensure that the Council's commitments had been affordable and reviewed against spending patterns and inflation costs.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to accept the draft budget proposals for 2021-22 as presented and agree that the Council's precept be set at 4.90%.

66/20 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the updated list of payments in the sum of £9,564.84 for January be approved.

67/20 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive the bank reconciliations for the periods ending 30th November 2020 and the 30th December 2020 respectively.

68/20 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

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.*

The Clerk and Financial Officer reminded members of the amendment to the pre-planning application submitted by **Redsun Projects Limited** for a proposed development on land at Manor Lane, Hawarden. Comments needed to be submitted by the 11th December 2020.

Councillor Derek Butler advised that the land had been owned by the Welsh Government and was within the area of the aerospace park complex. A cycle way and improved lighting from Broughton to Manor Lane had already been provided for in the development plans.

- (c) There were no planning appeals.
- (d) That the planning decisions be noted.

Note: The Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that there would be a number of virtual meetings held by the Bretton Hall Solar Farm project company, YnNi Newydd, to review their proposals to which members of the community council had been invited to attend. The proposal would generate clean and renewable energy and would maximise benefits to the local community.

69/20 POLICE/HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS:

There were no major issues to report. The Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that a meeting of the Joint Services Committee would be held tomorrow evening when she would provide an update on the LED replacement lighting programme across the three councils.

70/20 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER – ‘HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT POLICING IN NORTH WALES’

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised members to complete the online survey. Although members noted that resources at North Wales Police (NWP) had been stretched, particularly with the Covid-19 pandemic, some members felt that there should be more involvement and attendance from NWP at community council meetings or at least, the statistical report of recent incidents. The Clerk and Financial Officer reminded members to report all incidents via 101.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and note the update.

71/02 CROSS BOUNDARY HIGHWAY SCHEME:

Councillor Derek Butler said that the scheme had been under discussion between Flintshire, Wrexham and Cheshire and Cheshire West for many years. Scoping reports and alternative routes had been published and put out for consultation. However, as a result of the Covid pandemic and changes in work travel arrangements, alternative schemes would need to be looked at.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to request an update from Flintshire County Council and to seek assurances that the Community Council would be involved in due course in any further consultations.

72/20 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER’S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the cost to the council for the joint maintenance agreement for January amounted to £10,784.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and approve the update.

73/20 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

Members commented on the following issues:

- the Christmas lights on the street columns had been appreciated by the community, particularly during this difficult time.
- Christmas lights to be considered for Bretton for next year.
- Councillor Linda Thomas had been appointed as the Chairperson for the War Memorial Institute.
- Incident of raw sewage spill at Hawkers Close. Dwr Cymru may need access to a manhole in the Country Park to investigate the cause.

74/20 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

Councillor Ryan McKeown would attend the next meeting of the North and Mid Wales Association of Town and Community Councils on Friday 22nd January 2021.

Councillor Ryan McKeown wished to convey his thanks and appreciation to ex-Councillor Phil Griffiths, who had recently resigned from the council, for his hard work and dedication as a Councillor of Broughton and Bretton and also for his friendship over the years. Phil Griffiths had always provided sound and practical advice and support over the years and represented his community with enthusiasm. This sentiment was echoed by other Members.