



Minutes of the 'Virtual' Meeting of
BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
16 FEBRUARY 2021

PRESENT: Councillor Ryan McKeown (Chair)

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

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

75/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Lindsay Jones and Adam Williams.

76/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillors Adam Lee, Ryan McKeown and Billy Mullin declared an interest in item 8 and would complete the relevant forms to be sent back to the office accordingly.

77/20 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th January 2021 be approved as a correct record.

78/20 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were none.

79/20 MINUTES OF THE JOINT SERVICES COMMITTEE:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2021 be approved as a correct record.

80/20 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF LIGHTING AND AMENITIES:

Councillor Donna Lalek was proposed and seconded and, there being no other nominations, Councillor Donna Lalek was duly elected Chair of Committee.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that Councillor Donna Lalek be appointed Chair of the Committee for the remainder of Municipal year 2020/21.

81/20 CO-OPTION VACANCY:

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that one application had been received and satisfied the requirements. Details of the application had been circulated to members previously.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that Adam Lee be co-opted as Community Councillor for Broughton South and that the Clerk and Financial Officer arrange for an induction and the signing of his Declaration of Acceptance form in due course.

82/20 BROOKES AVENUE PLAYING FIELDS:

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that a confidential report had been circulated to members previously about a proposal to improve the drainage at Brookes Avenue Playing Fields. As the land is leased from Flintshire County Council permission would need to be sought if the proposal went ahead. This would be minimal cost to the Community Council due to very generous donations and grants that could be secured from the Sports Council for Wales.

Councillor Derek Butler said that previous surveys had been carried out in the past, the area is prone to flooding and sits on a base of clay and that advice should be sought from other relevant agencies.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to establish a working group of Councillors and other relevant organisations to review the current position and a forward work programme.

83/20 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SUMMER PLAY SCHEME 2021:

The County Council had requested the Community Council to consider sponsoring the annual Summer Play Scheme. A report outlining costs, duration and Covid safety measures had been circulated.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the financial costs for the provision of the Summer Play Scheme for 2021.

84/20 COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO FLOODING:

Members advised there had been several locations in Broughton and Bretton where serious flooding had occurred during the recent inclement weather and discussed how the Community Council could assist.

Councillor Derek Butler confirmed that he had been in discussion with the Flintshire County Council Flood Officer, Ruairi Barry and that he would continue to work closely with him, and other relevant agencies, to help investigate and hopefully alleviate problems in the future.

Councillor Billy Mullin reported that Boys and Boden had offered sand and sand bags for residents to fill and take away.

The Clerk and Financial Officer suggested that an Emergency Response Team could be established, together with the Council purchasing sand and sand bags to assist the community and possibly provide a quicker response in some instances.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- i) to liaise with Flintshire County Council about the proposal to establish a Community Response Team; and
- ii) To establish suitable locations where sand and sand bags could be stored and easily accessed at short notice.

85/20 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the updated list of payments in the sum of £7,808.05 for February be approved.

86/20 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive the bank reconciliation for the period ending 31st January 2021.

87/20 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*.
- (c) There were no planning appeals.
- (d) That the planning decisions be noted.

88/20 POLICE/HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING MATTERS:

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that John Griffiths, Senior Highways Maintenance Officer, was currently off work due to illness and that Paul Eastwood is the temporary contact.

Members commented on the deterioration of the pot holes on Main Road by the doctor's surgery and by the disused railway bridge.

Councillor Derek Butler had recently met with the North and South teams of North Wales Police and had been advised that police on the streets had been diverted to assist other teams due to the current pandemic. He also stated that the Community Council used to part fund a Police Community Support Officer and had asked whether this could be reinvestigated, together with the reinstatement of Police Community Liaison meetings.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- i. That the Clerk and Financial Officer forward contact details for Paul Eastwood to all Members
- ii. That a letter be sent to North Wales Police about the possibility of part-funding a Police Community Support Officer.
- iii. That a card be sent to John Griffiths to wish him a speedy recovery on behalf of the Community Council.

89/20 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the cost to the council for the joint maintenance agreement for February amounted to £5,102.56.

A consultation on a new Code of Conduct had been issued by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales and this item would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and approve the updates.

90/20 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

Members commented on the following issues:

- One hundred redundancies to be made at local food factory.
- Prospects for small companies surviving the pandemic did not appear to be positive, however long term job prospects looked more promising after enquiries from several large organisations to relocate to the area.
- Flintshire County Council, Council Tax would increase by 3.5% an increase of .60p for a Band D property.
- The budget had been agreed by the County Council.
- Colin Everett, Chief Executive and Steve O. Jones, Chief Officer, Streetscene and Transportation had both indicated that they would be leaving the authority later in the year. Members requested that a letter be sent to both officers who had served the council for a long period of time and undertaken a good job.

91/20 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

Councillor Ryan McKeown had received an email from an ex-Councillor who had further apologised for his actions at a meeting in December with an external organisation.