



Minutes of the 'Virtual' Meeting of
BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
15 FEBRUARY 2022

PRESENT: Councillor Ryan McKeown (Chairman)

Councillors: Klaus Armstrong-Braun, Penny Brett-Roberts,
Jeff Brett-Roberts, Chrissy Gee, Ros Griffiths,
Donna Lalek, Mike Lowe and Adam Williams

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

104/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received from Councillors Derek Butler (illness), Lindsay Jones (work), Adam Lee (work), Billy Mullin (illness) and Linda Thomas (illness).

The Clerk and Financial Officer welcomed Councillor Jeff Brett-Roberts to the meeting and confirmed that he had attended an Induction meeting and signed his Declaration of Office form in her presence.

105/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor Adam Williams declared a retrospective interest in a planning application that had been considered at the previous meeting and had subsequently completed his declaration of interest form.

106/21 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th January 2022 be approved as a correct record.

107/21 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were none.

108/21 JOINT SERVICES COMMITTEE:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the virtual meeting of the Joint Services Committee held on 19th January 2022 be approved as a correct record.

109/21 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS (WALES) ACT 2021, CONSULTATION 2022:

The Clerk and Financial Officer had prepared a draft response to the consultation and asked the council to agree or amend accordingly.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the response to be submitted to Welsh Government.

110/21 H.M. THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS:

- a) The Clerk and Financial Officer made enquiries into the provision of commemorative coins to all school pupils within Broughton Primary School and that details of the quote could be considered at the next meeting.
- b) The Clerk and Financial Officer had spoken with Sarah Slater, Bio-Diversity at Flintshire County Council for suitable locations and types of trees to plant. A member suggested that a circle of five trees be planted at the country park with a further two trees at Bretton.

- c) Members had been encouraged to continue to promote the Big Jubilee Lunch with residents organising their own gatherings.
- d) The Clerk and Financial Officer sought approval from Members for the Broughton Carnival to be held on 3rd and 4th June.

IT WAS RESOLVED TO:

- a) Consider the quotation at the next meeting of the council in March for the commemorative coins;
- b) Approve a ring of trees in the Country Park and two in Bretton;
- c) Members to promote the Big Jubilee Lunch within their own wards; and
- d) Approve the use of Brookes Avenue on 3rd and 4th June for the annual carnival.

111/21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- (i) 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.

- (ii) 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 for February 2022.
- (iii) There were no planning appeals.
- (iv) That the planning decisions be noted.

- iiv) The Clerk and Financial Officer said that a formal notice for a pre-planning application had been submitted for the Solar Farm at Bretton Hall. A member suggested that the Community council should be able to receive funding from the project as part of a climate change initiative to plant trees and improve canopy cover.

112/21 LIGHTING FAULTS:

There were none.

113/21 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £31,049.47 for February be approved.

114/21 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and approve the bank reconciliation for the period ending 31st January 2022.

115/21 STAFF RETIREMENTS:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that two members of staff had recently announced that they would retire on the 31st March and 8th May, respectively. The vacancies had been advertised on several forums with a closing date of 25th February for The Maintenance Assistant and 4th March for the Senior Maintenance Officer. There would be a period of one week of shadowing for the Maintenance Assistant and two weeks for the Senior Maintenance Officer that would be payable.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update and provide a gift for both members of staff to recognise their 8 years and 37 years' commitments respectively.

116/21 SCOTTISH POWER INCREASE IN ENERGY PRICES:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised of the impact of the increase in energy prices on the Council's budget. After speaking with Scottish Power it had been confirmed that there would be no negotiation on a reduction of the tariff prices but that the Council could seek an alternative supplier. Contact had also been made with the County Council for information and assistance.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to authorise the Clerk and Financial Officer to seek an alternative supplier.

117/21 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 £9,885.23 subject to the approval of the Council's contribution towards the new van.

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that Hawarden Community Council had purchased a new Ford Transit van which had been paid for out of its reserves. She asked the Council if it would be willing to contribute its proportion of the costs of £3,826.05 from reserves or receive the re-charge in April.

IT WAS RESOLVED TO: to receive and note the update and to pay the Council's contribution towards the cost of the van immediately with the amount to be taken from reserves.

118/21 POLICE AND HIGHWAYS MATTERS:

A Member reported pot holes in the road outside number 63 Forest Drive.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.

119/21 COUNTY MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

A member said that earlier in the day Flintshire County Council had set their budget for the next financial year and that there would be an increase of 3.95% in council tax which was one of the lowest across the region.

120/21 MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS:

A member referred to Aled Roberts, Welsh Language Commissioner, who had recently passed away and requested that a letter of condolence be sent.

A member expressed concern about the amount of dog waste in Broughton. The Clerk and Financial Officer said that the area had not been raised as one of concern by the County Council who had been responsible for dog mess and advised members to encourage members of the public to log any incidents and locations on the County Council's "app" or contact Streetscene direct.

Some members queried the continued absence of the County Councillor who had been attending virtual meetings at the County Council but not the Community Council. Members had been advised that the County Councillor had been in poor health and had had his period of absence from the Community Council meetings extended until March 2022.

A member commented that he had been disappointed with the County Councillor involved in the MUGA application at Parc Jasmin that he had not updated the council periodically who had been unaware of the issues raised regarding the location of the MUGA. The Chairman advised members that this discussion should be held outside of the meeting.

Members had been reminded that they should not approach officers of the County Council directly with community council related matters. All approaches should be made through the Clerk and Financial Officer. A discussion ensued about breaches of the Code of Conduct and the appropriate ways in which to raise matters.

121/21 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

There were none.