



Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of
BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
18 OCTOBER 2022

PRESENT: Councillor Penny Brett-Roberts (Chairman)

Councillors: Klaus Armstrong-Braun, Jeff Brett-Roberts, Chrissy Gee, Veronica Gay, Barrie Gregory, Ros Griffiths, Donna Lalek, Mike Lowe, Sarah Mason, Billy Mullins and Ryan McKeown

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

Also present: 1 member of the public

A one-minute silence was held in honour of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

59/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received from Councillors Samantha Jennings (family commitment) and Gareth Williams (IT difficulties).

60/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

61/22 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th July 2022 be approved as a correct record.

20 Chair's signature: _____

62/22 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

With reference to minute 55/22, a meeting had been held with officer from Flintshire County Council where it had been confirmed that access from Parc Jasmine through the Country Park would not be considered as 'Safe Route to School'. A member said that she had met with the developer and another option to access the Country Park could be viable following discussion with the Clerk and Financial Officer at a future date.

63/22 CIVILITY AND RESPECT PROJECT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer outlined that the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and One Voice Wales (OVW) had asked local town and community councils to sign up to the Civility and Respect Pledge in an attempt to reduce the number of cases of bullying within the sector. To sign up to the pledge a template tick list had been circulated and members of the council reviewed each pledge and agreed to sign up as follows:

- *Our council has agreed that it will treat all Councillors, clerk and all employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations, and volunteers, with civility and respect in their role.*
- *Our council has put in place a training programme for Councillors and staff*
- *Our council has signed up to Code of Conduct for Councillors.*
- *Our council has good governance arrangements in place including, staff contracts, and a dignity at work policy.*
- *Our council will commit to seeking professional help in the early stages should civility and respect issues arise.*
- *Our council will commit to calling out bullying and harassment when it happens.*
- *Our council will continue to learn from best practice in the sector and aspire to being a role model/champion council.*
- *Our council supports the continued lobbying for the change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge, including sanctions for elected members where appropriate.*

A member questioned what sanctions would be imposed if a complaint was made and was advised that the pledge was the first step in the process.

In accordance with Standing Order number 47, Councillor Ryan McKeown requested that a recorded vote be taken. The vote was recorded as follows:

COUNCILLOR	DECISION
Klaus Armstrong Braun	Not present at the time the vote took place
Penny Brett Roberts	For
Jeff Brett Roberts	For
Chrissy Gee	For
Veronica Gay	For
Barry Gregory	For
Ros Griffiths	For
Donna Lalek	For
Mike Lowe	For
Sara Mason	For
Ryan McKeown	For
Billy Mullin	For

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the council accept and sign the Civility and Respect Pledge.

64/22 CHAIR’S REMARKS:

The Chair had attended the following events:

- On 11th September she had signed the Book of Condolence and laid flowers at the War Memorial Institute in memory of the Late Queen Elizabeth II and had attended the Proclamation to King Charles III at County Hall, Mold.
- On 18th September she had attended a service at the Council Offices in Hawarden to hear the Proclamation to King Charles III read by Lord Barry Jones and a minute silence for the late Queen Elizabeth II.
- On 20th September, with the Clerk and Financial Officer, she had assisted in removing the flowers from the War Memorial Institute.

Councillor Donna Lalek, Chair of Planning, presented the following items:

65/22 WARM HUBS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY:

A general discussion took place about the benefits of such schemes but members were cautious about how the hubs would be financed, whether there would be funding available to resource the centres and would there be enough volunteers to man them.

A member confirmed Flintshire Local Voluntary Council had been scheduled to host a meeting at 1.00 p.m. on Thursday 20th October for those communities interested and answers might be available to address member concerns. A few members would be in attendance.

Members suggested that funding may be available from local supermarkets who had already done so much to help the community.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to consider the request and discuss again in the future when more information had become available.

66/22 PLANNING APPLICATION 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.

67/22 POLICE MATTERS:

Members raised the following issues:

- Incidents of illicit relationships at locations at The Old Warren and the lane between Dobshill and Penyffordd. Members were advised to report any incidents to the North Wales Police 101 incident line.
- A new PCSO had joined the team at Saltney and a request would be made to ask them to attend future meetings of the council, if possible.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive the updates.

68/22 HIGHWAYS MATTERS:

Members raised the following issues:

- Overgrown hedge alongside the allotments at Main Road – reported to Flintshire County Council repeatedly.
- White lines at Simpson Way near the junction by the cattle bridge had disappeared and had been in urgent need of renewal.
- Overgrown footpath behind Cineworld that belonged to Broughton Park.
- An abundance of rubbish and overgrowth remained at the rear of 43 Larne Drive – private property. A member had been in communication with Airbus who might undertake this clearance work as a voluntary project.
- A traffic and safety audit had proposed that the pedestrian crossing by the Co-op should be located further down Main Road towards the farm shop.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the updates.

69/22 COUNTY MEMBERS ITEMS:

A county member had recently met with the bio-diversity officer from the County Council to assist with the country park management plan and reviewed the ponds, flora and fauna. The Officer had confirmed that funding could be made available and would write to the Clerk and Financial Officer with further information.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.

70/22 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

A member, on behalf on an absent member, provided an update on the problem of rooks nesting locally and the noise that they made. Airbus had also raised their own concerns about the problem of the rooks striking aircraft.

A County Councillor advised that he had been awaiting information from North Wales Trunk Road Agency about what action they could take, if any, and that he would report back to council accordingly.

Councillor Mike Lowe, presented the following items:

71/22 STREET LIGHTING:

A member reported lights out next to the off-licence at Lansdown Road opposite the junction.

72/22 2022 PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORTS:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note and approve the inspection reports received from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

73/22 2022 REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE:

The Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that the invites for the Remembrance Day service had been distributed and the road closures agreed with the county council.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.

74/22 REQUEST TO ERECT A MEMORIAL BENCH ALONG THE MAIN ROAD:

Members had suggested that a memorial bench be located at the location of the old water pump on Main Road, Broughton dependent upon the re-location of the pedestrian crossing.

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that a bench had not been budgeted for this year and the cost would have to be considered during the budget meeting in January but that quotes could be obtained.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to support the request 'in principle' subject to budgetary consideration in 2023.

75/22 COUNTRY PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN:

The Clerk and Financial Officer thanked a member for the useful information and that she would produce a management plan for the country park in due course.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to accept the report and submit a draft country park management plan to a future meeting.

Councillor Ros Griffiths, Chair of Finance, presented the following items:

76/22 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £5,092.85 for October be approved and that the list of payments for August in the sum of £14,339.79 and September in the sum of £8,925.48 be noted and approved following the summer recess committee and the meeting convened using the Scheme of Delegation during the sad period of mourning for the late Queen Elizabeth II.

77/22 MANDATORY MEMBER ALLOWANCE (MMA):

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the virement of £300 for mandatory member allowances be approved for equal donation towards the cost of improved Wi-Fi in the Council Chamber and Broughton Football Club.

78/22 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated a half year financial report outlining the council's current expenditure to date. Within the report underspends and overspends had been identified together with the need to draw on the Council's reserves for the cost of public lighting and the national pay award 2022. Christmas lighting was also mentioned due to the current energy crisis but as the costs for LEDs was low and the council's own workforce installed the lights, it was considered beneficial to members of the community in lifting their spirits and contributing to positive health and well-being.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and approve the report.

79/22 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and approve the bank reconciliations for the periods ending 31st July, 30th August and 30th September 2022.

80/22 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised of the contributions to the Joint Maintenance Agreement as follows:

July	£5,757.49
August	£7,094.62
September	£5,340.54

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and approve the updates.