



Minutes of the Hybrid meeting of  
**BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
held on  
**18 APRIL 2023**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Penny Brett Roberts (Chairman)

Councillors: Klaus Armstrong-Braun, Jeffrey Brett Roberts, Chrissy Gee, Veronica Gay, Barrie Gregory, Ros Griffiths, Samantha Jennings, Donna Lalek, Mike Lowe, Sarah Mason, Ryan McKeown, Billy Mullin and Gareth Williams.

Officers: Mrs S G Jones, Clerk & Financial Officer  
Mrs F C Griffiths, Administrative Officer

Also present: 11 members of the public

**PUBLIC MEETING:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised members of the council that a video recording of the meeting would be taken by a member of the public present and requested that if anyone was uncomfortable with this to advise him immediately. Councillors Mike Lowe and Ros Griffiths objected to being filmed.

A member called a point of order to the withdrawal of *item 15, Access to the rear of the Country Park*, prior to the meeting, by the Clerk and Financial Officer.

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that the item had been withdrawn due to a conflict of interest and a pending police investigation due to the unlawful installation of a wooden gate in the council's boundary to the country park. It had ultimately been deemed dangerous due to the closing mechanism not being compliant with Health and Safety and, in the interests of safety, removed by the council's workforce.

Despite the item having been withdrawn from the agenda several members of the public had attended the meeting to outline their support for the installation of a gate into the Country Park citing the benefits that it would bring.

A petition in support of a gated access was formally handed to the Chairman of the Council and acknowledged.

It was agreed that an extraordinary meeting of the council be called, when appropriate, to consider this request and the report that had been withdrawn/deferred.

#### **163/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

There were none.

#### **164/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

There were none.

#### **165/22 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 be approved as a correct record.

#### **166/22 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

With regard to item 148/22(ii), the Clerk and Financial Officer confirmed that Councillor Klaus Armstrong Braun had expressed his interest in the role of the 'Champion' for Climate Change and Biodiversity. It was agreed that Councillor Braun be the 'Champion', assisted by Councillors Chrissy Gee and Sara Mason. In response to a question from a Member, the Clerk and Financial Officer said that she would prepare a job description and Terms of Reference for this role.

57 Chair's signature \_\_\_\_\_

## **167/22 EXTERNAL AUDIT OF THE COUNCIL'S ACCOUNTS:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the dates for the external audit of the council's accounts.

## **168/22 USE OF COUNCIL EMAIL ADDRESSES:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer stated that it had not been mandatory to have a council email address but that it was good practice. A member suggested the Chair of the Council have an email address which would be used to accept invitations, express thanks to organisations etc.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the report and consider the establishment of an email address specifically for the Chairman of the Council.

## **169/22 CHAIR'S REMARKS:**

The Chairman said that she had attended the Mayor of Holywell's Charity Buffet at the Stamford Gate on 1<sup>st</sup> April. It had been an enjoyable event and she had been pleased to meet other Chairmen of Community and Town Councils.

## **PLANNING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:**

### **170/22 CONSULTATION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF ETHICAL STANDARDS FRAMEWORK (Richard Penn report):**

The consultation had been shared with members and the Clerk and Financial Officer suggested that a small group of members meet to review the consultation and provide the council's response.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that Councillors Penny Brett Roberts, Veronica Gay and Ros Griffiths meet with the Clerk and Financial Officer to provide a response on behalf of the council.

## **171/22 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.
- (d) There were no planning appeals.

## **172/22 POLICE MATTERS:**

Members commented on the ongoing issues of drug abuse at various locations in Broughton and the lack of response from North Wales Police. Members were advised to continue to ring 101 or use the on-line chat facility with North Wales Police.

Another member suggested that the Police and Crime Commissioner be given advance notification of any issues that members might wish to raise with him prior to his attendance at the annual meeting in May.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to note the updates.

## **173/22 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:**

John Griffiths, Flintshire County Council, had been welcomed to the meeting. He confirmed that the repair of potholes had been an ongoing project, but due to the recent bad weather the repairs had become unstable.

Members raised the following issues:

- Broken fence by Parc Jasmin/Broughton park – advised that it is owned by a company in Jersey and they had been notified of the need to repair it.
- Bus stops in need of a clean or replacement – advised there is only a small budget but John said to write to Kerry Hanson at Flintshire County Council.
- The brown ‘Welcome to Broughton’ sign had been damaged – advised ownership belongs to the North Wales Trunk Roads Agency.
- Graffiti at Llys Caer and Broughton Hall Road bridge.
- Well-worn location signs in Broughton – John to establish responsibility.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to receive and note the updates.

## **174/22 COUNTY MEMBERS ITEMS:**

Members reported on the following issues:

- i) Lord Barry Jones had been awarded the ‘*Freedom of the County of Flintshire*’ due to his long serving commitment to the county over the years.
- ii) The Housing Committee would meet tomorrow to consider a report about the number of houses in Flintshire that were in need of refurbishment to make them need habitable.

- iii) A member said that she had attended a workshop regarding the new 20mph restrictions of residential roads. This would come into effect on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Roads could be put forward for selection but it had been anticipated that all roads in Broughton would be affected.
- iv) A proposal to establish a youth club in Broughton CP school with the assistance of an Inclusion Officer from Flintshire County Council would also be considered.
- v) A member reported that there had been a proposal to install CCTV outside all primary schools.
- vi) A working group from the Environmental Education Youth Committee was to be established.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to receive and welcome these updates.

#### **175/22 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:**

A member suggested that the community council sign up to the North Wales Police updates.

Another member agreed to speak to the County Council about the slow response to queries.

It was noted that there was no Connects Centre in Broughton for residents to collect re-cycling receptacles but that there was a facility for collection in Sandycroft.

St. Mary's church committee members had expressed an interest to become more involved with the community council; it was suggested that the Secretary contact the Clerk and Financial Officer.

#### **LIGHTING AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE:**

##### **176/22 STREET LIGHTING:**

There were none.

### **177/22 ACCESS TO THE REAR OF THE COUNTRY PARK:**

ITEM WITHDRAWN.

### **178/22 AURA LEISURE MATCH FUNDING FOR PLAY AREAS:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer recommended that no match funding be applied for this year due to the reduction in the council's reserves. However, members proposed that £2,500 be applied for and, if successful, a number of improvements to equipment at Brookes Avenue could be considered.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve applying for match funding.

### **FINANCE AND STAFFING COMMITTEE:**

#### **179/22 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the list of payments in the sum of £21,828.33 for April, be approved.

#### **180/22 BANK RECONCILIATION:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to receive and approve the bank reconciliation for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023 that had been emailed earlier in the day.

#### **181/22 REQUEST TO TRANSFER MANDATORY MEMBER ALLOWANCES:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** to approve the transfer of Councillors Ryan Mckeown, Billy Mullin and Mike Lowe be transferred to the local church for grounds maintenance work.

#### **182/22 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the Council's contribution to the Joint Maintenance Agreement for April had been £6,304.49.

She also advised that, to date, two applications had been received for Coronation grants. The closing date for applications had been Friday 21st April.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of Finance meet with the Clerk and Financial Officer on Monday, after the deadline, to review and consider the grants on behalf of the council.