



Minutes of the Hybrid meeting of
BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
21st November 2023

PRESENT: Councillor Billy Mullin (Chairman)

Councillors: Klaus Armstrong-Braun, Jeffrey Brett-Roberts, Penny Brett-Roberts, Veronica Gay, Chrissy Gee, Ros Griffiths, Samantha Jennings and Adam Williams.

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

107/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Barrie Gregory, Mike Lowe, Sara Mason, Ryan McKeown and Gareth Williams

108/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

109/23 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th October 2023 be approved as a correct record.

110/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were none.

111/23 JOINT MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Joint Maintenance Committee mid-year review held on Thursday 2nd November 2023 be received and noted.

112/23 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL – DRAFT REPORT FOR 2024-25

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated the draft report for members' consideration. The annual mandatory member allowance had been increased to £156 per member and would not be taxed and submitted via the Council's payroll system. Allowances would be paid in March 2024 unless any member elected to forego this amount, in writing, to the Clerk and Financial Officer.

In relation to the £52 per year for consumables the council had previously agreed that this would be payable on request and on proof of receipts.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the recommendations and include within the draft 2024/25 budget.

113/23 ANNUAL JOINT MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE:

The Clerk and Financial Officer, together with the Chairman and some members of the council, had attended the joint Standards Committee Meeting which had been very informative. Information about the Ombudsman Services and the Civility and Respect pledge had been welcomed and would be referred to the National Forum Meeting.

A summary report had been prepared by the Chief Officer - Governance, Flintshire County Council, that had recommended a number of key issues for successful meetings that the Community Council had already adopted.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and note the information.

114/23 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

The Chairman thanked the Streetscene employees, the Maintenance Team, Councillors and members of the public who had worked tirelessly during the recent floods to ensure the safety of local residents.

PLANNING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

115/23 REVIEW OF RECENT STORMS AND FLOODING RESPONSE:

A member advised that a public meeting had been held regarding the floods and around 150 people had attended. The main feedback related to a lack of information from Flintshire County Council and that the main drains remained insufficient.

It was suggested that an action plan be created by members of the community and that a flow chart be made available including the relevant emergency response telephone numbers.

The community of Sandycroft had been awarded a resilience grant and it was suggested that Broughton and Bretton Community might be eligible.

The Clerk and Financial Officer suggested that a register of volunteers be drawn up and the provision of sand bags and bins be reviewed.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk and Financial Officer email Andy Roberts at the County Council about the availability of a grant.

116/23 AWARENESS, ENGAGEMENT AND REPRESENTATION ON COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS: CALL FOR EVIDENCE:

The Democratic Health Task and Finish Group for community and town councils had been keen to receive evidence to find out information about awareness and engagement with community and town councils and to find out how to increase interest in, and representation on, community and town councils.

The deadline for responses is 27th November 2023.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that members email the Clerk and Financial Officer by Friday 24th November with any comments and that she the response on behalf of the community council.

117/23 REVIEW OF POLLING STATIONS:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that no proposed changes be recommended to the current polling stations.

118/23 BROUGHTON COUNTRY PARK STEERING GROUP:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that Councillors Armstrong-Braun, Griffiths, Jennings, Mckeown, A Williams and G Williams be represented on the Steering Group.

119/23 THE ROOKES, BROUGHTON AND BRETTON:

Councillor Gareth Williams had previously advised that he had nothing further to add to this recent report circulated to all members.

The Chairman had spoken to Warren Brown from Airbus who had advised that work should commence at the end of the year and completed in new year.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the above information.

120/23 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS:

(a) County Council Members:

That 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.

121/23 POLICE MATTERS:

No matters had been raised. A member asked who the PCSO was for Broughton and Bretton.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk and Financial Officer ascertain who the local PCSO was.

122/23 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:

A number of issues had been reported as followed:

- Overgrown hedges on the footpath on Broughton Clinic.
- Hedge cutting needed along the bus stops on the main road of Broughton. The two bus stops opposite each other had no bus stops signs
- The new signs for the crossing on the main road coming from Penyffordd to Broughton did not flash as much as the others due to the hedge blocking the view outside of the Co-Op shop

A member wanted to pass on a thank you to Streetscene for filling in the pot holes in the area.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the issues be noted and reported accordingly to John Griffiths, Senior Highways Officer.

123/23 COUNTY MEMBERS ITEMS:

There were no updates.

124/23 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

Members requested an update on the ponds at the country park. Great Crested newts had been established and would need to be protected. The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that she had recently met the County Biodiversity Officer, Sophie Roberts, who had identified some grant funding for the relevant work. A copy of the grant application would be circulated to members of the Steering Group prior to submission.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.

LIGHTING AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE:

125/23 STREET LIGHTING:

A number of faults had been reported as followed:

- two street lights had been reported where the wires had been pulled out at the bottom, leaving live wires on the pavement outside of the doctor's surgery
- light out on the street of the doctor's surgery on the path along the houses

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the issues be noted and reported accordingly.

126/23 WORKPLACE RECYCLING:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that Councillor Mckeown had been working with Flintshire County Council and the Community Library in Broughton who had agreed to be a hub for the recycling receptacles for the local community. This was welcomed by all members.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that members to promote this initiative within the local community and on their own social media platforms.

127/23 TREES IN BROOKES AVENUE SKATE PARK:

IT WAS RESOLVED: That a site meeting be held with some members, the Arboriculturalist and members of the Maintenance Team to review the proposals for additional trees to be planted.

128/23 SUMMER PLAYSCHMES 2024:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the playscheme contract be agreed on a three-year term and that the scheme remain at three weeks.

129/23 ADOPTION OF COMMUNITIY DEFIBRILLATOR:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Community Council purchase and maintain an additional defibrillator to be located at the Offas Dyke Public House.

FINANCE AND STAFFING COMMITTEE:

130/23 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £11,699.17 for November, be approved.

131/23 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and approve the bank reconciliation.

132/23 SMALL GRANTS SCHEME:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to award a grant of £400 to the Broughton & Bretton Senior Citizen's Club and £200 to Broughton and Bretton Bowling Club in accordance with the Council's grant policy.

133/23 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the Council's contribution to the Joint Maintenance Agreement for November had been £8,008.08.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.