



Minutes of the Hybrid meeting of
BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
16th January 2024

PRESENT: Councillor Ryan McKeown (Chairman)

Councillors: Klaus Armstrong-Braun, Jeffrey Brett Roberts, Penny Brett Roberts, Veronica Gay, Barrie Gregory, Chrissy Gee, Ros Griffiths, Sam Jennings, Sara Mason and Adam Williams.

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

134/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mike Lowe, Billy Mullin and Gareth Williams.

135/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor Chrissy Gee declared a personal interest in a planning application and duly completed her declaration of interest form.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the declaration.

136/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Councillors Gee and Mason said that they did not wish to be named as members of the Country Park Steering Group, as recorded.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st November 2023 be approved as a correct record, save and except that Councillors Gee and Mason be removed from the Country Park Steering Group membership.

137/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

The Clerk and Financial Officer informed members that the council had received a grant of £10,000 from Flintshire County Council towards the flood alleviation measures within the community. A meeting would need to be held with the community group to determine how to best utilise this grant.

A member advised that Flintshire County Council had been liaising with Natural Resources Wales and Welsh Water and they were anticipating an update next month.

The meeting with Flintshire's Arboriculturalist and Maintenance Team regarding the extra trees on the skate board would be arranged in due course.

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that a grant had been submitted for works to the ponds at the Country Park; a decision would be made by 22nd February 2024.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the updates.

138/24 CHAIRMANS REMARKS:

The presiding Chairman had no updates to report but a 'Get Well' card had been sent to the Chairman, Councillor Billy Mullin wishing him a speedy recovery after a short hospital stay.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update.

PLANNING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

139/24 TREE CANOPY IN BROUGHTON AND BRETTON:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the County Council’s Arboriculturalist and Biodiversity Officers from Flintshire County Council be invited to attend a future meeting of the council.

140/24 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – STANDARDS COMMITTEE VACANCY:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that there is a vacancy for a member to sit on the Standards Committee at Flintshire County Council which is on a voluntary basis, but expenses are paid. If members wished to be considered for this post, they had been asked to provide a “pen-picture” to the Clerk by Friday 19th January for onward submission to the County Council ahead of the 1st March deadline.

The Clerk and Financial Officer provided a brief outline of the duties of the Standards Committee member and said that the Committee met every first Monday of the month.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that any member who wished to be considered for the vacancy to email a ‘pen-picture’ to the Clerk and Financial Officer by Friday 19th January 2024.

141/24 D-DAY COMMEMORATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that a Lamp Light of Peace be purchased and discussions held with the Reverend of the local Church to see whether the lamp can be located next to the solid silhouette on the Church grounds; the lamp will continue to be lit each Remembrance Sunday.

**142/24 FLINTSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN –
CONSULTATION ON DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING
GUIDANCE FOR PLACE PLANS:**

IT WAS RESOLVED: that a working group of members meet to review the guidance and provide a council response before the deadline of 5.00 p.m. Sunday 19th March 2024.

143/24 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.

144/24 POLICE MATTERS:

There were none.

145/24 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:

Members raised a number of issues about pot holes in the area and the durability of temporary filling. The Chairman advised that recent inclement weather conditions had not helped.

John Griffiths, Senior Highways Officer, had previously confirmed that tickets had been raised for the pot holes in the area and that they were on a list of repairs for the contractors.

IT WAS RESOLVED: (i) that the issues be noted and reported to John Griffiths, Senior Highways Officer. (ii) Councillor McKeown to challenge the decision about Senior Highways Officers no longer being allowed to attend future Community Council meetings.

146/24 COUNTY MEMBERS ITEMS:

A member shared that they had contacted Flintshire County Council about the bizarre smell in the area; the County Council had been investigating the matter and believed that they had been made aware of the source.

There is a mental health support group starting in Broughton which would be run by a female and supported by a male. Councillor Gee would meet with the lady who would organise this to review how she would like the group to be run. Anyone within the community can be involved.

The flood action group would be established in due course.

A member had recently attended a zoom meeting about the A55 resurfacing work and there would be major disruption for around 6 weeks. Diversions would be in place and a lot of the work would be completed overnight. Sadly, Flintshire County Council had not considered the airbus shift patterns and how it would cause traffic to back up. Work would begin from 7:00 p.m.

No update had been received about the improvements to the crossing at the Co-Op crossing that had been reported over 12 months ago. Councillor McKeown had emailed the cabinet member from Streetscene and the Chief Executive on 19th December 2023 and had been told that there would be an update in the new year.

Residents had expressed their concerns about the Christmas recycling collection as only food waste was collected for half the village, despite being told there would be a collection on 28th December. Parc Jasmin had not received any collections.

Christmas hampers had been delivered and very well received.
A one-off payment of £25 had been given to families who received free school meals.

The recycling and receptacles project at the community library had progressed well with no negative feedback.

Broughton United Football Club now had access to the sports hall in Saltney, which had been welcomed.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive and note the information.

147/24 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

A member asked if more dog poo bag dispensers could be purchased as they had been well received within the community.

IT WAS RESOLVED: the consideration of additional dog poo bag dispensers be added to the February agenda.

LIGHTING AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE:

148/24 STREET LIGHTING:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that an audit on the Christmas lights had been undertaken and some faulty and outdated lights would be upgraded.

A member stated that they had been in discussion with an Officer about the full adoption of the estate lighting at Parc Jasmin as there are issues which had not been attended to.

IT WAS RESOLVED: information received and noted.

FINANCE AND STAFFING COMMITTEE:

149/24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum £13,783.18 for January, be approved.

150/24 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: copies of the bank reconciliation statements for the periods ending 30th November and 31st December to be emailed.

151/24 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that Flintshire County Council had recently launched its own Facebook Page and encouraged members to promote within the community.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the update and add to the Community Council's website.

152/24 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the Council's Income and Expenditure report.

153/24 DRAFT BUDGET AND PRECEPT DEMAND FOR 2024-25:

IT WAS RESOLVED: (i) to agree the draft budget proposals for 2024-25 which included a 10% increase on utilities, national insurance deductions and 5% salary increases and (ii) to set the precept at £144,475 which equated to a council tax band D property of £52.49 representing an increase of £4.92 per annum, £0.09 per week.

