



Minutes of the Hybrid meeting of
BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
held on
24th September 2024

PRESENT: Councillor Ryan McKeown (Chairman)

Councillors: Jeffrey Brett-Roberts, Penny Brett-Roberts,
Barrie Gregory, Ros Griffiths, Sam Jennings, Ryan
McKeown, Billy Mullin and Gareth Williams.

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

59/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Veronica Gay, Chrissy Gee, Mike Lowe and Sara Mason.

60/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

61/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16th July 2024 be approved as a correct record.

62/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

There were none.

63/24 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

The Chairman referred to the owl that had recently been carved into the tree stump following the bad weather and asked the Clerk to send a letter of thanks from the Community Council. The carving was beautiful and a great asset to the park. .

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Clerk and Financial Officer send a card to the resident who caved the owl into the tree stump at Country Park.

PLANNING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

64/24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS 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.

65/24 POLICE MATTERS:

IT WAS RESOLVED: there was nothing to report.

66/24 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:

Members raised the following reports:

- The earth against the metal fencing on Church Road had not been removed. The brambles had recently been cut back by Flintshire, but sadly it had returned to its usual condition.
- The bridle way should be added to Flintshire County Council's planned schedule to ensure that it is maintained and kept tidy.
- Overgrown trees on the junction of Forest Drive had caused an obstruction to cars being unable to see clearly on exit.
- Cones have been left near Airbus on the left-hand side after an accident that had happened several weeks ago and had not been removed.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that these issues be submitted to John Griffiths, Senior Highways Officer for action.

67/24 COUNTY MEMBERS ITEMS:

The Chairman read out an email from Councillor Chrissy Gee, who had been on holiday, that had commended the new Youth Club Opening Day which had been a great success and around 40 children had been in attendance.

A member shared his frustration about the regularity of maintenance and the response time in dealing with Highways/Streetscene matters. All the weeds and gullies had overgrown and apparently, the weed killer that Flintshire County Council used, could no longer be used as regulations had changed.

Another member responded that Streetscene had been massively under resourced. There had been a suggestion that Community and Town Councils work with the County Council to share costs and consider the employment of seasonal workers.

Flintshire County Council would face a potential funding gap of £40m and had been required to make significant cuts to its budget.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the information.

68/24 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

A member has been in contact with Ken Skates in Cardiff regarding the Pavement Parking and had been informed that it was due to be looked at but the Welsh Government had implemented the new 20mph speed limit initiative.

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the pavement parking was not a Police issue unless it caused an obstruction in the highway and effected traffic.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the information.

LIGHTING AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE:

69/24 STREET LIGHTING:

A member advised that the tree outside the Offas Dyke Pub is covering the street light.

A member asked whether there had been an update on the provision of lights along the pathway at Brookes Avenue, Broughton. The Clerk and Financial Officer said that this had been discussed previously and she would provide an update at the next meeting.

23 Chair's signature_____

IT WAS RESOLVED: that arrangements be made for the tree outside the Offas Dyke Pub to be cut back and the Clerk and Financial Officer

provide an update on the pathway lighting at Brookes Avenue at the next meeting.

70/24 BROUGHTON COUNTRY PARK STEERING GROUP:

The Clerk and Financial Officer provided an updated following the recent meeting of the Steering Group. Members of the Steering Group considered the Management Plan in detail and the document would be a “live” document for regular review.

She provided an update on the restoration of the ponds and advised that a Method Statement had been submitted to the relevant authorities. Work could not be carried out on the pond until the Newt Licence had been granted, or otherwise, and therefore a decision had been awaited.

Members commented on various aspects of the plan

A member advised that, in the past, the ponds had been used by residents to dispose of household fish and that this could have caused damage to the ponds.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to welcome the Management Plan and congratulate the Steering Group on its content.

71/24 ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION HUB FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

The County Council had shared its new Engagement and Consultation Hub for members information and circulation.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note information.

FINANCE AND STAFFING COMMITTEE:

72/24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £15,146.27 for September, be approved.

24 Chair's signature _____

73/24 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the bank reconciliations for the periods ending 31st July and August 2024, be approved.

74/24 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the cost to the council for the Service Level Agreement in August had been £6,045.00 and £4,991 in September.

The Council's Seasonal Maintenance Officer had returned to work on a phased return following his recent illness. He wished to thank members for their kind wishes and gift.

The Administrative work experience had thoroughly enjoyed her time at Hawarden Community Council and had thanked the Team for making her feel so welcome. She had learned a lot and enjoyed her experience.

The three-month Maintenance Officer had thoroughly enjoyed his time with the Maintenance Team and would continue to volunteer for a short period pending his next placement.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the updates.