



Minutes of the Hybrid meeting of  
**BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
held on  
**22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Chrissy Gee (Chairman)

Councillors: Jeffrey Brett-Roberts, Penny Brett-Roberts, Veronica Gay, Barrie Gregory, Ros Griffiths, Sam Jennings, Sara Mason and Billy Mullin

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

**75/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mike Lowe, Ryan McKeown and Gareth Williams.

**76/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

There were none.

**77/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024 be approved as a correct record.

## **78/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

There were none.

## **79/24 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT – 2025.26:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer shared the draft report and highlighted the budget implications for 2025-26. The draft proposals included the “extra costs” payments as mandatory at £156 per year plus £52 consumables. A total of £208 per member. All members would receive this payment in February of the financial year unless they provide, in writing, an instruction to the Clerk not to receive this payment.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that that the “extra costs payment” per member, travel and subsistence and car allowances be approved. The Chairman role, Deputy Chairman, Senior role, attendance allowance and financial loss be not approved.

## **80/24 SENEDD INQUIRY INTO THE ROLE, GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL SECTOR:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that she and Councillor Gee had attended the One Voice Wales annual conference last week. One Voice Wales had been liaising with Welsh Government about this Inquiry.

The Clerk and Financial Officer had prepared a draft response for approval, or otherwise, by Council. Approval had been obtained from the Welsh Government for the Council’s response to be submitted on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, as the original deadline had been 18<sup>th</sup>.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the draft response be approved for submission to the Welsh Government, as presented.

## **81/24 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:**

The Chairman thanked the Vice Chairman, Councillor McKeown, for chairing the last meeting in her absence and reiterated that she had recently attended the One Voice Wales Annual Conference.

The Chairman also referred to the recent carving of an owl at the tree stump in the Country Park.

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

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

### **82/24 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.

### **83/24 POLICE MATTERS:**

Members raised concerns at the lack of a Police presence within the community, particularly during the recent heavy floods. Residents had had to resort to blocking the roads themselves due to the safety of motorists.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that these concerns be forwarded to the appropriate Police Community Support Officer.

### **84/24 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:**

Members raised the following concerns:

- Lack of clear communication and guidance about the provision of sand bags during the floods;
- Streetscene emergency contact number provided mixed messages and took too long to be answered; and
- The trees outside the Offa's Dyke public house had not yet been cut down and had obscured the street lighting.

A member had asked the Chief Executive at Flintshire County Council for a meeting about the recent flooding as it is getting worse and there appeared to be no improvement.

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

### **85/24 COUNTY MEMBERS ITEMS:**

The Chairman referred again to the recent flooding issues and expressed her concern that more needed to be done to help residents. The authorities had been made aware of which houses had been at risk and something should be done.

The Community Flood Group had met seven times and a further meeting had been arranged for week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> November. Paul Reeves, Flintshire County Council, Natural Resources Wales and Welsh Water would be in attendance. Discussion had been held about the addition of an attenuation tank on land owned by the Gladstone Estate. Natural Resources Wales had donated some money to resolve an issue with a ditch but Flintshire County Council had not been able to provide top up funding.

The Clerk and Financial Officer said that there could be merit in combining the plan with Saltney Town Council/Community and had asked that a representative of Saltney be invited to the next Flood Group meeting.

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

#### **86/24 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:**

A member has been in contact with Ken Skates A.S. about pavement Parking and had been informed that it had been due to be looked at but the Welsh Government had implemented the new 20mph speed limit initiative which had taken priority.

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:**

##### **87/24 STREET LIGHTING:**

A member reported the street lights outside the Offas Dyke Public House that had been overgrown and distorted the light.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that this matter be chased up again with Streetscene.

**88/24 2024 ANNUAL SUMMER PLAY SCHEMES:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated a copy of the play scheme report and highlighted that the scheme had been very successful over the summer period. Members asked whether the total number of children who had attended could be clarified, as it had not been clear within the report.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the report be received and noted and the total number of children in attendance be obtained.

**89/24 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE: SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2024:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer provided a verbal update on the arrangements for Remembrance Services within the Community of Hawarden and Broughton.

A member advised that the Poppy Appeal would commence on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that information be noted.

**90/24 ADDITIONAL LAND AT BROOKES AVENUE:**

Flintshire County Council had asked if the Community Council would like to extend the area of land that is leased by the Community Council at Brookes Avenue, Broughton. There would be no financial cost for this amendment but it would add to the Council's Maintenance Team work programme. There was also fencing in a poor state of repair, uneven ground and an attenuation tank on the land with restrictive covenants.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that further information be obtained from Flintshire County Council and, if the council were to accede to this request, then the County Council would be asked to return the land into a good state of repair and replace the fence.

**FINANCE AND STAFFING COMMITTEE:**

**91/24 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated a mid-year financial report outlining the income and expenditure.

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the Income and Expenditure Report be approved.

**92/24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the list of payments in the sum of £10,331.67 for October, be approved.

**93/24 BANK RECONCILIATION:**

**IT WAS RESOLVED:** that the bank reconciliation for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> September, be approved.

**94/24 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:**

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the cost to the council for the Service Level Agreement in October had been £6,841.74.

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