

Minutes of the Hybrid meeting of BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL held on 15th April 2025

PRESENT: Councillor Chrissy Gee (Chairman)

Councillors: Klaus Armstrong-Braun, Jeffrey Brett-Roberts, Penny

Brett-Roberts, Barrie Gregory, Eileen Gregory, Ros Griffiths, Sam Jennings, Mike Lowe, Ryan McKeown,

and Billy Mullin.

Officers: Sharron G Jones, Clerk & Financial Officer

Georgey Griffiths, Assistant Clerk

Others: Mike Summers

171/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

An apology for absence had been received from Councillors Sara Mason.

172/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were none.

173/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th March 2025 be approved as a correct record.

174/24 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised members that one VE Day grant had been given to the War Memorial Institute and that the afternoon tea they host would be available to the wider community.

A member added that the Community Centre would also hold a themed coffee morning on VE Day and observe one-minute silence.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the information.

175/24 VACANCIES IN THE BROUGHTON NORTH EAST AND SOUTH WARD:

The Chairman welcomed the two prospective candidates to the meeting and asked them to outline why they would like to be a Councillor.

Eileen said that she had been Councillor for the neighbouring Saltney Town Council and had worked well with some of the Broughton and Bretton Councillors whilst being a Councillor for Saltney; she felt that they would continue to work well together and she could share her knowledge with the community of Broughton and Bretton.

Mike said that he had wanted to apply for the vacancy in 2012 but had missed the deadline. He had worked with education and Unions for a number of years and felt that he could share a lot of general experience in committee work. He had also worked nationally with a Welsh Education group.

Both candidates confirmed they were not affiliated to any political party and would stand as independent Councillors.

The Chairman thanked the candidates for their contribution.

The Clerk and Financial Officer said 6 expressions of interest had been received for the two vacancies but two had since withdrawn. Biographies had been sent to all members for all four candidates with two being unable to attend the meeting due to prior commitments.

Members had been asked to vote for two candidates and the Clerk and Financial Officer conducted the ballot. Following the votes, Eileen Gregory and Luisa Rosada had been successfully co-opted as Councillors having received the majority of votes.

The Chairman thanked Mike Summers for his expression of interest and congratulated Eileen and Luisa on their appointments.

Councillor Gregory signed her declaration of acceptance of office form and thanked members for their support.

The Clerk and Financial Officer would contact Luisa and arrange for her to sign her declaration of acceptance of office form. An induction for both Councillors would be arranged in due course.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that Councillors Eileen Gregory and Luisa Rusado be duly co-opted to the Community Council.

176/24 2025/26 YEAR END ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT PROCESS:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

177/24 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:

The Chairman had recently attended the Flintshire County Council Chairman's Charity Ball that had been a successful evening and £5,000 had been raised for charity.

Councillor Penny Brett-Roberts and Councillor Ros Griffiths, on behalf of the Chairman, had attended the Mold Mayor's Ball and the Chairman thanked them for attending.

The Chairman wished to bring to members attention the 'Flexi Bus Service' that was available for residents in the area. She and Councillor Penny Brett-Roberts would hold some coffee mornings so that they could explain the bus service to members of the public and handout leaflets.

PLANNING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:

178/24 PLANNNG 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.

179/24 POLICE MATTERS:

Members had nothing to report but asked if PCSO Enfys Roberts could be invited to the next meeting again as she had yet been unable to attend a meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that PCSO Enfys Roberts be invited to the next Council meeting.

180/24 HIGHWAYS/STREETSCENE MATTERS:

Members raised the following issues for Senior Highways Officer, John Griffiths:

- a large pothole in the middle of the road near 79 Wynnstay, Broughton.
- Could an overlapping gate be put in between Lancaster Park and Llys Caia to try and stop people riding at high speed on motorbikes?

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the information be sent to Senior Highways Officer, John Griffiths.

181/24 COUNTY MEMBERS ITEMS:

Councillor Ryan McKeown advised that he was on the Environmental Committee and that the draft consultation on flooding report had been brought to the Committee. It had been shared with Professor Maureen Wayman and the Chair of the Flooding Meetings. It had been hopeful that further funding from the Welsh Government would be received and they would know more at the next meeting on Friday 25th April 2025. He had also suggested to Professor Wayman that they collaborate with Councillors from Saltney to push the issues with Bretton as it affected the Saltney ward too.

Flintshire County Council had now moved to the Ewloe Offices, Ty Dewi Sant.

Councillor Billy Mullin said that he had been in contact with John Griffiths about the trimming of the privets by the GP Surgery and along the length of the main road. It was an issue that would soon be resolved.

Work had been done on the new road surface by Airbus but there had been potholes off the church roundabout that needed to be addressed.

John had indicated that a new budget for repairs had been made available and together with the new machine it was anticipated that potholes would be repaired in due course. He also referred to a sign that had fallen down in Bretton that either needed to be fixed or replaced.

Councillor Chrissy Gee said that she would visit two residents in the week with Paul Reeves from Flintshire County Council to see the extent of the damage caused to the properties from flooding.

A member asked whether the two-way valve that could be shut off at Airbus had been mentioned as it had been alleged that this was the main cause of the flooding. Councillor Gee said she had not yet received the report but when she did she would forward it onto the member.

A member added that the pond at the County Park looked much improved after the work had been carried out as it looked bigger and brighter.

A member asked the Clerk and Financial Officer a question about the Great Crested Newts to which she responded that they had been treated properly and in accordance with the licence.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the information be noted

182/24 MEMBERS INFORMATION ITEMS:

There were no reports.

LIGHTING AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE:

183/24 STREET LIGHTING:

No reports.

184/24 GWELLA - REQUEST FOR MATCH FUNDING 2025-26:

The Clerk and Financial Officer shared the annual letter received from Gwella and recommended that no match funding be applied for this year as the Community Council's budget was reducing and the new piece of play equipment had yet to be installed in Brookes Avenue.

4	Chair's	signature

Match funding had been secured to replace the pole with a junior multiclimb. It had also been agreed previously to replace the old rocking horse, but the Clerk and Financial Officer suggested that members replace the rocker during the next financial when the council could apply for match funding again in 2026.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that no application for match funding be made this current financial year.

FINANCE AND STAFFING COMMITTEE:

185/24 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the list of payments in the sum of £8,623.61 for April, be approved.

186/24 BANK RECONCILIATION:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the bank reconciliation for the period ending 31st March, 2025 be received and noted.

187/24 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised that the Service Level Agreement costs had not been calculated but would be done as soon as possible.

She apologised to all members who received the MMA payment as there had been an admin error and they had been paid £206 instead of £208. Chair asked the members if they would like the £2 or if they want it to go towards the Community Council budget. The members wished to add the extra £2 to the Community Council budget.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the information.

188/24 GARAGE RENT, WESTMINSTER ROAD:

The Clerk advised that in accordance with the Council's Financial Procedures, the Council had to resolve to agree to Direct Debits. The council's Litter Collector used a garage at Westminster Road to store rubbish and the rent needed to be collected via Direct Debit.

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the Direct Debit be set up for the rent for the garage.