



BROUGHTON AND BRETTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the
PLANNING AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
held on
21 FEBRUARY 2020

PRESENT: Councillor Phil Griffiths

Councillors: As per Council Meeting

Officers: Mrs S G Jones, Clerk & Financial Officer
Fran Griffiths, Administrator

285/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received as per Council meeting.

286/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no Declarations of Interest pertaining to this committee.

287/19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee held on 21st January 2020 be received as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

288/19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

In relation to minute number 253/19, the Clerk and Financial Officer said that the Trunk Roads Agency had endorsed the need to extend the safety railings along the B5125.

In relation to minute number 255/19, Councillor Billy Mullin advised that the planning application had been refused.

289/19 POLICE MATTERS:

PCSO Steph Jones had been unable to attend the meeting but had circulated a confidential incident report for members' information. Steph had confirmed that she had been offered another position in North Wales Police which she had accepted.

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- i) to receive the update and write a letter of thanks to PCSO Stephanie Jones.
- ii) write to the Police Commissioner to ascertain the future role of PCSOs and policing in the Community.

290/19 HIGHWAYS ISSUES:

John Griffiths, Area Co-ordinator, Flintshire County Council had been unable to attend the meeting and the following matters had been raised for action or information:

- The grid cover outside of the Community Centre should be an industrial cover.
- Pot holes in the car park near the shops and near the doctor's surgery and pharmacy in Main Road.
- Bin lorries damaged the grass verge on Main Road opposite the allotment site.

Councillor Billy Mullin wished to express his gratitude to John Griffiths and his team for resolving the HGV issues at Manor Lane roundabout.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to receive the updates.

291/19 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

IT WAS RESOLVED:

- (a) To formally note 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 at that time. 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 planning applications submitted at the meeting as per the attached schedule.
- c) There had been no appeals.

292/19 PLANNING DECISIONS:

IT WAS RESOLVED: that the decisions taken by the County Planning Authority be noted.

293/19 ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN:

The Clerk and Financial Officer had circulated a copy of the draft Action Plan with the agenda for the meeting and requested Member input. She outlined that a management plan would also be drawn up for the Country Park in due course.

Members endorsed the proposal within the Action Plan to liaise with the new Biodiversity Manager at the County Council and explore the option of further links with Airbus and other local businesses.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to approve the draft Action Plan.

294/19 COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORT:

County Members provided the following updates:

- Flintshire County Council had cut down several dangerous trees in the Country Park at the request of the Trunk Road Agency.
- Amazon had built a large distribution centre on Deeside Industrial Park which would generate hundreds of jobs.
- Jobs losses had occurred locally in the financial and manufacturing sector but some employees had been absorbed into other organisations.
- The number 3 bus has been replaced by a half hourly service. Further representation would be made to Arriva to request an alternative solution.
- Flintshire County Council had set their 2020-21 Budget with a 4.6% increase in the Council Tax.
- The Welfare Reform Act had been discussed at the County's Cabinet meeting earlier in the day. County staff had been experienced on how to access claims through the Universal Credit system and assist vulnerable people but there had been some disappointment in the lack of support from the Citizens' Advice Bureau.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the updates.

295/19 CLERK AND FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT:

The Clerk and Financial Officer advised on the following:

- The annual report from Flintshire Citizens Advice Bureau had recently been made available for viewing in the office.
- One Voice Wales had offered the Council a reduction in the membership fees of 50% but members declined to join due to the fact that the same level of support could be obtained, free of charge, from the Society of Local Council Clerks.

- A press release had been circulated earlier in the day to say that the Independent Charitable Organisation, Owl Cymru, would close with effect from 31 March 2020 due to a lack of funding.

The Clerk and Financial Officer expressed her disappointment that Councillor Klaus Armstrong-Braun had left the meeting earlier, without providing advance notice of his intention. Earlier in the day an email exchange had taken place and she had agreed to provide him with an update on the alleged breach of the Code of Conduct by Councillor Klaus Armstrong Braun.

She had advised Councillor Braun, via email, that the Monitoring Officer at the County Council had indicated that whilst there appeared to be no direct breach of the code, Councillor Braun's contact with outside agencies had not been helpful to the Community Council. Members cited a number of recent incidents where Councillor Braun had independently sought press coverage over matters that the Community Council had also expressed concerns over.

Members had been disappointed that Councillor Armstrong Braun had left the meeting without prior notification and before this item had been discussed as it had been at Councillor Armstrong Braun's request that this item be discussed this evening.

IT WAS RESOLVED: to note the updates and invite Councillor Armstrong Braun to a meeting with the Chairman of the Council and the Clerk and Financial Officer to seek a resolution.

296/19 MEMBERS' INFORMATION ITEMS:

Councillor Billy Mullin requested an update on the list of available defibrillators in Broughton and Bretton to which the Clerk and Financial Officer responded that this matter had been progressed.