



Bronington Community Council

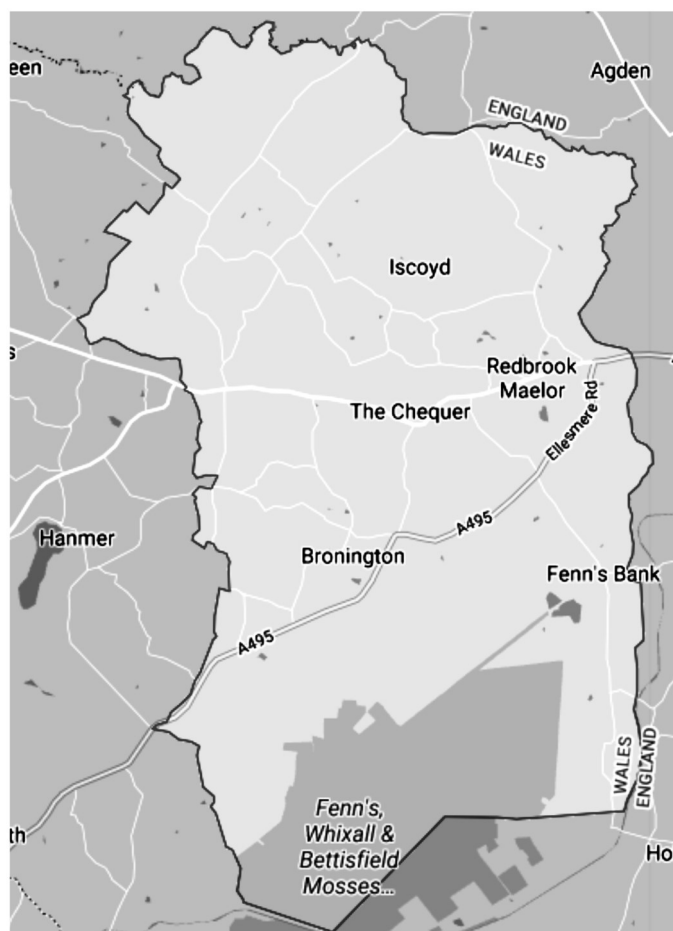
Annual Report and Accounts - 2021-2022

If you live anywhere on this map, you are a resident of one of the three wards which are served by **Bronington Community Council**. Our area extends from Whixall Moss in the South West to Higher Wych in the North East which includes the communities of Bronington, Fenn's Bank, Redbrook Maelor, Iscoyd, Whitewell, The Chequer, Eglwys Cross and Higher Barnes.

The area that our Council covers is particularly large, nearly 9,000 acres, with a population of some 1250 people. Our job is to ensure that we properly represent and equally serve every resident in our area, and for every resident to see us as their local council.

Bronington Community Council is made up of twelve councillors who are either elected or co-opted onto the Council, and each represents one of our three wards: Six councillors for Bronington Ward, four for Iscoyd Ward and two for Tybroughton Ward. All councillors live within our area.

Like every community council in Wales - equivalent to a parish council in England - we are the lowest and most local tier of government. Councillors deal with a wide range of local matters - from planning applications and road issues, to support for local organisations and the improvement of local facilities. A small amount of money - known as the 'precept' - is taken annually from each household's council tax, and this is used by the council to support activities in our area.



Bronington Community Council meets on the third Wednesday every month. The agenda and minutes for every meeting are published on the Council's website www.bronington-cc.org. Notices for meetings are displayed on noticeboards located outside Bronington shop, Tybroughton bus shelter and Whitewell Parish Rooms. Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings and have the opportunity to speak during public participation.

Community Council News

Supporting Local Causes

Each year the Community Council makes donations and offers support to a number of local organisations and causes which are of benefit to our residents. This year we have granted a total of over £3500 to organisations including Bronington School, Bronington Brownies, and St Mary's, Whitewell.

War Memorials

The Community Council has responsibility for looking after our 3 local war memorials: the Grade II listed Bronington and Iscoyd memorials, and the lesser known shelter memorial at Eglwys Cross.

This year we have been undertaking important renewal work on the Bronington memorial: in February the iron chains were sandblasted and repainted, work arranged by Councillor Robert Millington and generously carried out by local restoration expert Ron Bradley at no cost to the Council. Later this Summer the joints in the stonework are due to be scraped out and repointed, the work being carried out by Richard Yates and Son.

Planning Issues

An important role of the Community Council is the scrutiny of local planning applications. We are obliged to study every planning application in our area against an objective set of planning criteria, and then respond in one of three ways: Support, Object (with reasons), or No Comment. The Community Council's position is a factor in the county council's final decision on an application, and in those cases where we have raised an objection the application will automatically come before the full Wrexham Planning Committee for consideration, rather than being solely dealt with by the Planning Department officers – as a so called 'delegated' decision.

This year we have had a wide range of planning applications come before us, and at times there has been keen debate, including with members of the public attending. Anybody affected is welcome to come and have their say on a planning application up for consideration: these are itemised in the published agenda preceding each meeting.

Recently we have expressed concern through our previous and current county councillors that the Wrexham planning system seems slower and more opaque than the services offered by neighbouring county councils. A further complication is that new, stricter Welsh Government legislation on phosphate levels in rivers has severely delayed newbuild applications in the River Dee catchment basin – which includes all our area. It is in the best interests of applicants, developers and objectors alike that planning applications are dealt with in a fair, clear and timely fashion. We will continue to monitor this situation.

Community Council News

Roads Working Group

The most frequently voiced concern raised with the Council is about the poor state of our roads, and the excessive speed of some of those using them. Recent events on both the A525 and A495 have reinforced how dangerous our main roads can be, whilst the poor state of many of our minor roads may be being exacerbated by our changing weather patterns.

It's clear that Wrexham Council don't have the resources to keep all the many miles of roads and footpaths in the county in proper repair, so it is necessary for us to be very vocal in demanding that our own roads are not neglected. To this end the Community Council has been working hard to forge good relationships with the council's Highways Team, and we have now set up a Roads Working Group to look at speeds and speed limits on our main roads, particularly though Bronington and the Chequer, as well as the state of all our roads and footpaths.

New Councillors?

Bronington Community Council has a maximum of 12 councillors, 6 representing Bronington Ward, 4 for Iscoyd Ward and 2 for Tybroughton Ward. At present we have a full complement of councillors but vacancies do regularly arise and we would like to have the widest possible range of ages, occupations and interests represented on the council. If you are interested in joining the Community Council and would like to be kept informed of any vacancies that may arise, please contact our clerk Ruth Shackleton at **broningtoncommunitycouncil@hotmail.co.uk**.

Alternatively, if you feel you have a particular contribution to make in some area of the council's work and would like to be considered as a non-voting Associate of the Council, please contact our clerk as above.

Defibrillators

The Community Council provides and maintains 2 defibrillators in our area, one being located outside Bronington Primary School, and the other located outside Whitewell Parish Rooms. When needed they open easily by turning a handle, and no code is required. Simple-to-follow instructions are prominently displayed on each unit.

Barry Barlow Playground

The council is responsible for the development and maintenance of the Barry Barlow Playground, Bronington's children's play area adjacent to Maesllwyn Close. Last year we added a new 'walker' feature which has proved popular with children using the play area.

We are looking at how we can improve the experience of the playground for our children, so now would be an excellent time for any parents – or children – to put forward ideas to the council about ways we can further enhance what the play area offers.

Community Council News

Finance and Scrutiny Committee

As the council has become busier and involved in more projects it has been deemed wise in the last year to establish a Finance and Scrutiny Committee.

The primary function of the committee is to ensure that the Council's finances and resources are managed in a responsible manner, and have proper regard to the impact of any expenditure on the Community Council's budget and precept (the part of each household's Community Tax bill that pays for the Community Council). The committee also monitors the overall governance in terms of making sure policies are up to date and ensuring the council is adopting any new rules/recommendations from the Welsh government.

The committee, under the chairmanship of Councillor Steve Swinden, consists of three councillors and the council clerk, and will meet at least four times a year depending on workload. Members of the public are welcome to attend to see first-hand how the budgets are set and precepts are decided upon, and as with our full council meetings, members of the public have the opportunity to make representations directly to the committee.

Community Room

The Bronington Community Room, which the community council recently developed and maintains, has been getting into full swing this year. The local Brownie troop make use of it weekly, and in addition it has hosted regular council meetings, one-off meetings, parties and events. Bi-monthly coffee mornings, organised by councillor Vanessa Brodie and her team, are proving very popular, with each raising money for a particular good cause.

The Community Room, situated in the grounds of Bronington School, is a large, light, flexible space with its own kitchen, loo, and ample parking.

If you would like to enquire about using the room for a weekly group or one-off party or event, please contact our clerk Ruth Shackleton at [**broningtoncommunitycouncil@hotmail.co.uk**](mailto:broningtoncommunitycouncil@hotmail.co.uk)

Representatives on Outside Bodies

Each year at our annual meeting the community council appoints representatives to a number of outside bodies. This year these appointments have been as follows:

Hanmer Charities Board – Councillors Dave Evans and Mark Watson

Higher Wych School Charity – Past councillor (and Chair) Chris Smith

Whitewell Parish Rooms Committee – Councillor Sue Clark

If you would like to find out more about any of the above organisations, please contact the relevant councillor.

Community Council News

Representatives on Outside Bodies cont.

Bronington School Governing Board – Councillor Steve Swinden

As the council's representative on the school governing board – where he is also a member of the Finance Committee – Steve gives the council an oral update at each monthly meeting on current developments and issues at the school, as well as any support the school might require from the council.

Ideas for Future Projects

The Community Council exists to help make the lives of local people better. We have enthusiasm and energy and a modest amount of money - and the capacity to fundraise for more. What we don't have is a monopoly of the best ideas.

If you have something in mind that could improve our area, a project that might benefit from community council involvement to help make it happen, then please come forward and tell us your idea! Drop an email to our clerk Ruth Shackleton at **broningtoncommunitycouncil@hotmail.co.uk**.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2021-2022

	£
Balance Brought Forward	
	17,247.91
	£17,247.91
Receipts	
Precept	19,000.00
Other Income	114.29
VAT refund	961.59
Community Room Income	514.00
	£20,589.88
Expenditure	
Insurance	687.88
Clerk's Salary	4,508.40
Churchyard Donations	1,000.00
Other Giving	500.00
War Memorials	300.00
Audit Fees	95.00
Room Rental/Zoom	20.00
Running Costs	524.34
BT wifi	268.68
Membership	220.00
Website Costs	50.00
Christmas Expenses	80.30
Barry Barlow Play Area	2,974.61
BBPA - New Equipment	2,915.00
Participatory Budget/Grants	2,405.00
Training	90.00
Defibrillators/Cabinets	1,304.00
Rainbow Centre	160.00
Community Room	535.44
Cllr expense payments	3,237.50
VAT	1,580.37
	£23,456.52
Balance Carried Forward	
	£14,381.27

Full details of **Bronington Community Council's** income, expenditure and annual audits, as well as a wide range of other council documents, are available under the 'Council Documents' tab on our website

www.bronington-cc.org

Your Bronington Community Councillors

Please contact a councillor from your ward to bring up an issue in your area.

Bronington Ward

Vanessa Brodie Brook Farm Eglwys Cross SY13 2JT 01948 830396 <i>v.brodie@btinternet.com</i> co-opted May 2017	Rob Hill Oakfields Ellesmere Road Bronington SY13 3HW 01948 780287 <i>r1wdt@outlook.com</i> co-opted June 2017	Richard Mottershead Drury Lane Farm Drury Lane Tybroughton SY13 3BD 01948 780793 <i>rhmmottershead@hotmail.com</i> co-opted February 2018	Dianne Nunnerley 1, Old Hall Ellesmere Road Bronington SY13 3HW 01948 780588 <i>diane.nu@btinternet.com</i> co-opted February 2020
Steve Swindon Redbrook House Redbrook Maelor SY13 3ET 07712 190176 <i>steve.swinden@flamefast.co.uk</i> co-opted February 2020	Mark Watson Green Dragon Ellesmere Road Bronington SY13 3HX 01948 780252 <i>r1wdt@outlook.com</i>		

Iscoyd Ward

Sue Clarke Mannings Lane Cottage Painters Green Redbrook Maelor SY13 3AH <i>sueclarke63@icloud.com</i> co-opted September 2020	Anna Edwards Oaks Farm Ellesmere Road SY13 3EU 01948 780353 <i>anna.edwards.oakfarm@gmail.com</i> co-opted November 2017	Ben Martin Redbrook Lodge Redbrook Maelor SY13 3ET 07771 358810 <i>benedictmartin@tiscali.co.uk</i> co-opted January 2019	Annemarie Warren Iscoyd House Broomers Lane Iscoyd SY14 3AR 01948 780555 <i>benbuigordons@gmail.com</i>
--	--	---	--

Tybroughton Ward

Dave Evans Little Green Farm Tybroughton SY13 2JW 01948 780280 elected May 2017	Rob Millington Holly Bank Tybroughton SY13 3BG 01948 780257 <i>j.r.millington@btinternet.com</i> elected May 2017
--	---

Clerk to the Council

Ruth Shackleton Langdale Sarn Malpas SY14 7LN 01948 770678 <i>broningtoncommunitycouncil@hotmail.co.uk</i>

For more information about **Bronington Community Council** please contact

Ruth Shackleton, Clerk to the Council

Langdale, Sarn, Malpas, Cheshire SY14 7LN

t: 01948 770678 e: broningtoncommunitycouncil@hotmail.co.uk

or visit our website

www.bronington-cc.org