

RR3654

Mr Colin Everett
Chief Executive
Flintshire County Council
County Hall
Mold
CH7 6NB

15 October 2020

RE: Pandy Pool

I am writing on behalf of a number constituents who I recently met regarding the upkeep and maintenance of the Pandy Pool and surrounding park area.

I have recently visited the site and it is clear the park has been subject to a lack of care for some time, even the basic upkeep such as the clearing of overgrown footpaths, and the removal of general waste and littering, has not been maintained to any reasonable standard. I understand that the lack of maintenance has led to the loss of the wildlife that previously occupied the park despite residents regularly raising their concerns to Flintshire County Council and as a result, what could be an area of beauty for local residents, is not being used by the community as it does not fulfil it's potential as a place to relax, unwind and get closer to nature.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and not being able to venture far from home, we all now feel the importance of our local natural spaces. It is important local residents have safe and well-maintained outdoor spaces for all to use. As you may be aware, local residents have expressed a clear commitment and enthusiasm to work with Flintshire County Council to maintain the site and would certainly welcome ongoing engagement to make improvements to the area.

More broadly, it was suggested during discussions that the site was previously overseen by the Flintshire Countryside Service who maintain both Wepre Park and Greenfield Valley, yet responsibility for the park was recently handed over to Streetscene. Given, by it's very nature, the specialist recourses required to maintain the upkeep of Pandy Park, this would appear to be an unusual decision as the maintenance of the site would be more in keeping with that seen in the parks at Wepre and Greenfield respectively.

The news article below clearly shows what can be achieved when the appropriate resources are dedicated to our local community effectively, this is a fantastic local success and testimony to the hard work for all involved.

www.deeside.com/wepre-park-and-greenfield-valley-named-as-two-of-the-countrys-best-green-spaces/

Please could you therefore outline by return:

- What representations have been made to officials by local members and Flint Town Council in relation to the upkeep of the area over the past 3 years, and what was the outcome of those representations?
- When did the upkeep of the area change from the Countryside Service to StreetScene, what was the reasoning behind the change, what was the purpose of the change, and who made the decision?
- On the FCC website, the "contact us" page for StreetScene says "You can report a problem that affects the **street scene** like litter, dog fouling, recycling, faulty streetlights,

problems with the road or pavement.” These don’t appear to be consistent with maintenance of a wildlife area whereas the “contact us” for the Flintshire Countryside Service says “Management of Council owned parks and urban nature areas” which would be much more in-keeping with the area in question. Please could you therefore explain why you feel that the Pandy Pond area falls better under the remit of StreetScene rather than the Countryside Service.

Thank you for your assistance and I look forward to hearing from you.

With best wishes,

Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rob Roberts', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Rob Roberts MP
Member of Parliament
Delyn