

18 April 2024

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend a **HYBRID MEETING** of the **YOUTH COMMITTEE** of **ACTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL** to be held in accordance with Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 on **Wednesday 24 APRIL 2024 at 6.30pm, in the TRAINING ROOM at ACTON COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham, LL12 7LB.**

Or you can join the Meeting online via Zoom using this [hyperlink to join the hybrid Youth Committee meeting on Wednesday 24 April 2024](#) or use the Meeting ID: 840 1237 6361 and Passcode: 055605.

Please note that the Meeting and those participating will be recorded. The business to be transacted is as set out in the agenda below.

Yours sincerely

Carole Roberts

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to the Council

AGENDA

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**
- 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If you become aware, during the course of a meeting, of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item you must immediately disclose it. You may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial. A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgment of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.
- 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:** To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Youth Committee held on 28 February 2024, as submitted to the Meeting of the Community Council on 20 March 2024 (Copy attached)
- 4. INFORMATION ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
- 5. TERMS OF REFERENCE: (FOR INFORMATION ONLY):** The Youth Committee was re-appointed at the Annual Community Council meeting held in May 2023 with the following **Terms of Reference:**
 - 1)** To **keep under** review and develop **emerging** options to enable future Service providers to provide Pilot or other Youth Projects across any of the five Acton Community Wards ensuring they are fit for purpose and reflect the requirements of the Community Council and current best practice;
 - 2)** To receive and monitor from existing and any future Service providers, reports to the Community Council on any subsequent projects to include performance monitoring reports to ensure the Service Specification is being met and such Projects represent good value for money;
 - 3)** To monitor the reporting requirements contained within the Service Level Agreements with the Caia Park Partnership to provide Youth Work Projects for 8-18 year olds for two sessions of Youth Work for 8-12 & 13-18 year olds per week at the Acton Community Resource Centre.
 - 4)** To bring any concerns about the performance or effectiveness of the current and any future Provider or Project immediately to the attention of the full Council. **5)** To investigate and report its findings and recommendations back to the Council on the feasibility of implementing the

Recommendations of the 2018 Borrass Park Play Sufficiency Assessment with focus initially on zero or minimal cost projects that can build on their success unless Wrexham County Borough Council Officers are able to identify funding for larger projects as part of its “Play Pledge”;

6) In the first instance, the primary focus of the Youth Committee shall be on Recommendations 2 and 3 from the 2018 Play Sufficiency Assessment (WCBC) namely :-

i- To develop a program of community activities, events and projects to be carried out in partnership with Wrexham CBC, the Acton Park Seasonal Park Ranger and established Community Groups such as the Friends of Acton Park; and

ii- to press for the Local Education Authority and Schools themselves to enable and permit access to school grounds during evenings, weekends and school holidays to enable young people to play safely and away from traffic in their own neighbourhood.

7) To receive quarterly updates and monitoring reports on the progress and success of the Rhosnesni and Little Acton Pilot Play Project from the WCBC Play Development Team.

8) The scope of the Service Level Agreement with the Caia Park Partnership can be extended to encompass emergency Detached Youth Work in response to any further Covid 19 Measures or similar that may be put in place to ensure continued service delivery of the Projects that may have to be held outdoors in accordance with National and Welsh Government advice and guidance and in order to react to any emerging risks in the future.

9) to consider and set parameters to receive and consider applications for funding from Acton Community Youth Organisations/Groups that will enable them to remain viable or provide financial support for special project for a set number of years (Approved by Council in September 2023)

6. ACTON YOUTH WORK PROJECTS – SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS: To receive and consider the Q4 Report and other information to be provided at the meeting by representatives of the Caia Park Partnership in respect of performance monitoring to 31 March 2024 on the operation of this Service Level Agreement for the provision of an Open Access Youth Service. (Report attached)

7. PLAY SUFFICIENCY PILOT PROJECT WITH THE WREXHAM CBC FOR STAFFED PLAY PROVISION IN THE ACTON COMMUNITY: The Play Development Team have been invited to attend the meeting to give an update on the Pilot Project which commenced in September 2022. (Report to follow)

8. PROVISION FOR LONGER TERM FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO YOUTH ORGANISATIONS/GROUPS IN THE ACTON COMMUNITY: Further to Minute 9 September 2023, to give consideration to progressing this matter.

Members are reminded that the Council at its meeting on 20 September 2023 agreed to extend the terms of reference of the Youth Committee to enable it to consider and set parameters to receive and consider applications for funding from Acton Community Youth Organisations/Groups that will enable them to remain viable or provide financial support for special project for a set number of years. At its meeting on the 25 October 2023, consideration was given to the criteria to be used when considering applications for financial support. Members were minded to adopt the S137 Grant criteria:

i) Principally for the benefit of Acton Residents

ii) A voluntary or charity group

iii) Must produce last 2 years accounts

TO: MEMBERS OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE: Chair and Vice-chair of the Council, Councillors Kevin Roberts (ex officio) and Ralph Hardy (both ex officio) together with Councillors Caroline Bettley, Anne Evans, Andy Gallanders, Holly Hewitt, Corin Jarvis, and Phil Lloyd. (1 Vacancy)

PLEASE NOTE: THE AGENDA IS ALSO BEING CIRCULATED TO ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL FOR INFORMATION

Minutes of the Remote YOUTH COMMITTEE held on Wednesday 28 February 2024

| | | |
|----------|------------|------------------------------|
| Present: | Councillor | Kevin Roberts (Chair) |
| | " | Andy Gallanders (Vice Chair) |
| | " | Caroline Bettley |
| | " | Anne Evans |
| | " | Holly Hewitt |
| | " | Corin Jarvis |
| | " | Phil Lloyd |

* Absent

Also Present: Mr Jon Stumpp, Caia Park Partnership
Mr Gareth Stacey, Wrexham CBC Play Development Team
Mrs. Michelle Williams, Acton Community Council

16. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk/RFO to Acton Community Council.

RESOLVED – that the apologies for absence be received.

17. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made at this stage of the proceedings.

18. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the remote Youth Meeting held on 25 October 2023, as submitted to the Meeting of the Community Council on 15 November 2023 were received and confirmed as a correct record.

19. INFORMATION FROM THE 25 OCTOBER 2023 MINUTES

There was nothing additional to report.

20. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Youth Committee was re-appointed at the Annual Community Council meeting held in May 2023 and its Terms of Reference were noted.

21. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT – ACTON YOUTH WORK PROJECTS

The Chair welcomed Jon Stumpp to the meeting. Members considered the report circulated prior to the meeting, in respect of the Quarter 3 performance monitoring to 31 December 2023, on the operation of this Service Level Agreement for the provision of an Open Access Youth Service. The report set out in

detail updates on the Acton Juniors and Acton Seniors, and positive outcomes from activities organized by staff. Members noted that there had been a small issue with a toilet door within the Acton Resource Centre but this was being dealt with by Jon Stumpp and the Resource Centre Management team. Members were very supportive of the work being done and thanked Jon Stumpp for his attendance and report.

RESOLVED –

- i. to accept the update and report as now submitted and***
- ii. that a further monitoring report after the end of quarter four be submitted by the Caia Park Partnership to the next Youth Committee Meeting on 24 April 2024***

22. PLAY SUFFICIENCY PILOT PROJECT WITH WREXHAM CBC FOR STAFFED PLAY PROVISION IN THE ACTON COMMUNITY

The Chair welcomed Gareth Stacey to the meeting. Members considered the Quarter 3 performance monitoring report from December 2023 to February 2024, on the operation of this Play Sufficiency Pilot Project which had been received prior to the meeting. Gareth Stacey reported to Members that the move to a single site provision had had an immediate impact on numbers attending, with an increase to nine in those visiting the Green in Little Acton. Staff had completed a leaflet drop, door to door and were looking to advertise with local Schools prior to the Easter half-term.

Members disputed that there had ever been nine children in attendance. The Chair discussed the concerns raised by members at the previous meeting regarding the value for money of this Play provision particularly given the poor attendance observed by some Members and whether it was more suited to summer months only. Gareth Stacey observed that the play provision could be held anywhere that Members wanted it to be held. Members felt that it might be best to wait, while the weather improves and re-evaluate the numbers and the service location at the next meeting on the 24 April 2024.

RESOLVED –

- i. To accept the update and report as now submitted and***
- ii. A further progress report on this Pilot Play Provision project in the Acton Community be submitted by Wrexham CBC Play Development Officers to the next Youth Committee Meeting on 24 April 2024.***
- iii. Gareth Stacey to complete some focused evaluation with the children that do attend the sessions on why they attend and what they enjoy about the sessions, and to provide more information to the next Youth Committee Meeting on the 24 April 2024.***
- iv. Councillor Bettley to attend a session at the Green, Little Acton and provide further information at the next Youth Committee Meeting on the 24 April 2024.***

Councillor Kevin Roberts Chair

Signed as a correct record this 24 day of April 2024

Presiding Chair

CAIA PARK PARTNERSHIP LTD:

**Contract Monitoring
between
Acton Community Council
and
Caia Park Partnership Ltd**

Quarter 3 Jan - Mar 2024



Service delivery January – March 2024

Our final quarter of the year has carried on much in the same vein as those before, with both sessions continuing to attract good attendance levels. Numbers continue to hit as many as 35 during our junior sessions and we have seen as many as 25 attend our senior sessions this quarter.

As always, the team have continued to deliver a diverse range of activities to both groups based on our pre planned 13 week programme.

Sessions have included cook and eat sessions, karaoke nights, pool competitions, Easter crafts and



Mother's Day crafts to name a few and we have also had 2 visits from the local PCSO over the course of this quarter. This went down particularly well with the groups as they were able to sit in the back of the car and the officers even allowed each of them to set off the "Blues and Two's".

We continue to offer the usual club staples such as pool, table tennis and video games on the Ps5, although the team have found

that we are unable to leave the console at the centre permanently due to the need for regular updates to both the games and the console itself. In one particular session, there were a number of updates required and unfortunately, the Wifi system in Local Authority centres doesn't allow internet access through the Ps5. This is not an uncommon occurrence, as it applies to several of the centres we deliver from across the county so the team bring each areas respective consoles back to our office where they can be updated without restriction and ensure that the groups have continued use each week.



On the whole, staff have had very little in the way of any behaviour issues over the course of the quarter but Andy has had to take the decision to ask members of the group arriving on bikes and/or scooters not to do so going forward. This decision was made due to the number of young people bringing bikes/scooters to club without any means of securing them to the

bike rack. Ultimately, this has led to occasions where other members of the group are taking bikes/scooters to have a go on them themselves. What we found was that these incidents were regularly impacting on sessions as a member of staff was required to retrieve the bikes/scooters, then spend time explaining the risks associated with taking other peoples belongings without permission and generally having to stop what they were doing to deal with it. The final straw came when a parent came into the centre to inform us that their son's bike had been intentionally dragged through dog muck as a means of payback for an unrelated incident that had happened away from club a few days earlier.

If anyone does arrive on a bike/scooter, the team now advise them to take them home and return to the centre on foot.



Junior Youth Club

As previously mentioned, the junior group continues to attract as many as 35 to sessions. This quarter has again seen several new faces begin attending as they have now reached 8 years old.

Our art and craft sessions this quarter has seen us able to tap into some of the various festivals/celebrations that happen early in the year so we have held craft sessions that have been built around themes such as Easter, Mother's Day and Chinese New year.

The team have purchased extra resources over the course of the quarter and we have also held sessions where members of the group were able to make jewellery, do hair braiding and we have also had to replenish our supplies of loom bands as that remains a very popular activity.

Our junior sessions often end with a game of prize bingo and the



group are now used to our practice of spending ten to fifteen minutes clearing away other activities and tidying up any mess before the bingo commences. Prizes are usually in the form of sweets and/or Craft kits and the level of friendly competition between members of the group as they get closer to that elusive call of "BINGO" is entertaining to say the least.

We have held a number of cook and eat sessions including pancakes for Pancake day, healthy wraps and pitta pizzas and in one session the group had some messy fun as they attempted to make Rice Crispie cakes.

As stated, we have purchased some extra resources including a range of board games which has also gone down well with the group, in particular the Yes No game, although as a team we think the attraction there may have something to do with being able to hit the bell and catch their friends out.

The team were in the process of arranging an end of quarter trip to Deeside Ice rink but several members of the group were away during the Easter Holidays so they wouldn't have been able to attend so we are now looking at running it on a Saturday to ensure as many of the group are able to attend as possible.

ACTON SENIORS

Our senior youth clubs sessions continues to attract an average of around 15 young people to the centre each session. As we have mentioned before, the senior group is a very different scene to our



junior session and on the whole is a lot calmer and quieter. Although we continue to offer many of the same activities as the junior session, some activities such as the table tennis, pool and often the Ps5 are a bit less appealing to this particular group and they would rather undertake activities such as karaoke and Just Dance. Although our Ps5 is unable to connect to the internet, Andy brings his laptop into the centre and as this is able to connect to the Wifi system, we are able to offer these activities using internet based resources such as Youtube and some music platforms to offer them a more varied array of songs.

The karaoke machine we currently have at the centre is a bit dated so the team are currently researching the best prices and options for a new one. The group have specifically asked that we look for one with Wifi/Bluetooth connections as the Karaoke CD's we currently use are also quite dated now and internet access offers them a greater range of opportunities to engage with songs they know and like, most importantly, those that are popular in current times and/or currently in the latest Singles charts.

The group regularly take part in discussion sessions and over the course of the quarter we have discussed many issues pertinent to young people and their feelings at a particular time, bullying and issues surrounding that, local events and access to them and as several of the group are at a point where they are making decisions regarding their plans for future education/ employment opportunities we have also discussed college options, work opportunities and even as far as discussing possible degree courses for further down the line.

As with the last quarter, we have seen a few more from the junior group reach an age where they can switch sessions and as before, the team always keep close observations on those individuals as they settle into the new group to ensure no issues arise such as bullying/exclusion or isolation.

The group are currently making plans for a summer trip and have asked about the possibility of a visit to Alton Towers. The team have said that we will look into the possibility of arranging this but it will more likely be an activity offered to everyone attending across both sessions as it would most likely involve hiring a bus and it would be more cost effective to do a whole youth club trip as opposed to two separate visits.



Age Ranges of Young People Engaged With for Jan – Dec 2024

Number of contacts

| | 8-10 | 11-12 | 13-16 | 17+ | Total |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Male | 66 | 77 | 29 | 3 | 175 |
| Female | 57 | 120 | 42 | 1 | 220 |
| Non Binary | 0 | 0 | 36 | 0 | 36 |
| Total | 123 | 197 | 107 | 4 | 431 |