

**Minutes of a Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Tuesday 18 February 2014 at Acton Community Resource Centre, Off Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham**

Present:

Councillor	E Boylin (Chair)	Councillor	A Whitfield * (Vice Chair)
"	W Baldwin	"	G Lowe
"	R A Davies	"	Mrs A O'Neill
"	Miss J Dudley	"	Mrs C O'Toole *
"	Mrs A Evans	"	T Pierce
"	R Evans	"	J Richards
"	R Hardy	"	Mrs O Simm
"	J A Kelly		Mrs B Smith

\* Absent

Also Present:

PCSOs Gina Subacchi and James Yoxall, North Wales Police  
Mr Joss Thomas, Licensing Team Leader, Wrexham CBC  
Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

## 127 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs C O'Toole and A Whitfield

## 128 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor J A Kelly declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item 12 - Planning Applications, being a member of Wrexham County Borough Council's Planning Committee.

## 129 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Council held on 21 January 2014 be received and confirmed as correct record.**

## 130 INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

- Minute 117i January 2014 - School Crossing Patrols:** A response was received and noted from Ian Lucas MP detailing clarification from the County Borough Council about the legal basis upon which the funding is to be allocated to the School Crossing Patrols.
- Minute 122 January 2014 - Annual Estimates of Income and Expenditure for 2014/15 Financial Year:** The Chair reported that arrangements had now been made for a special meeting of the Council to be called for Tuesday 25 February 2014 at 6:30pm in the Acton Community Resource Centre.

## 131 KEY ISSUES - ACTON

WCBC Members reported on the following issues currently being considered by the County Borough Council that may affect the whole or part of the Community of Acton. (Minute 107 January 2011 refers):-

- Road maintenance** - Local members had made representations to WCBC Officers' regarding the poor state of many roads within the Acton Community. It was pleasing to note that long outstanding resurfacing works to some roads had recently been undertaken. However after several bad winters, numerous other roads are now in very poor condition with large and potholes. It would seem as though repairs may be carried out on an ad-hoc basis with areas of less need being given priority. Members

enquired about the process for the repair and maintenance of roads within the County and whether there was a waiting list of prioritised road repair/ resurfacing schemes with projected dates for completion.

2. **Street Lighting Review** – the Homes, Environment and Communities Scrutiny Committee had recently considered a report on issues surrounding the delivery of the street lighting service with specific reference to Community footway lighting and the future maintenance and investment in the street lighting infrastructure. Members referred to the current maintenance contract for Community Footway lighting which specifies that repair works should be completed within twenty eight days. However when large sections of street lights are out for over twenty one days during the winter months this is not very satisfactory.

***RESOLVED – that the Clerk write a letter to Wrexham County Borough Council expressing the Community Council’s dismay and grave concerns about the state of the roads throughout the Acton Community and seeking clarification of the current Policy for funding, assessing and prioritising roads for repair and resurfacing.***

### **132 POLICING MATTERS - ACTON COMMUNITY POLICING**

The Chair welcomed PCSOs Gina Subacchi and James Yoxall who were attending the meeting on behalf of North Wales Police. A copy of the Policing report for February 2014 was tabled providing a breakdown of the relevant statistics and the current live policing operations and intelligence gathering involving the Acton Neighbourhood Policing Team. Members were pleased to note that the Acton PCSOs were no longer assisting with town centre patrols and would be based full time in the Acton Community. The Officers then responded to Members’ questions as follows:-

- The recent spate of burglaries had taken place early in the day and officers had followed this up with Crime awareness/prevention leaflet drops in the surrounding streets. A member praised the Police for their excellent response to one of these incidents.
- The OWL system was being used to good effect and Community Councillors could also assist with intelligence gathering if descriptions of suspects were circulated to them as well
- Anti-social behaviour was being targeted through high visibility foot patrols in hotspot areas and Members referred specifically to intelligence that was being given to them by the public. The Officers requested more detailed information about specific instances so that they could investigate further.

The Chair thanked the Police Officers for their report and attendance at the meeting.

### **133 ADVICE AND GUIDANCE ON MAKING REPRESENTATIONS WHEN APPLICATIONS ARE MADE FOR PREMISES LICENCES FOR BOTH ALCOHOL AND ENTERTAINMENT**

The Chair welcomed Mr. Joss Thomas, Licensing Team Leader, Wrexham County Borough Council who was attending the meeting to give advice and guidance on making representations in respect of applications for Premises Licences for both Alcohol and Public Entertainment

Mr Thomas circulated a Guide document prepared for Community Councils and Councillors. The Guide set out the legal framework for Licensable activities , details of statutory Consultees, summaries and examples of Premise Licenses, Licensing objectives, an explanation of interested parties and on making representations within the 28 day period. Mr Thomas explained the Guide content in detail to Members and confirmed that Licence fees were based on the Rateable Value of the Premises to be licensed but there were exemptions for Community Halls. In respect of objections, the reason with examples should be given together with which Licensing objective was applicable.

The Chair on behalf of the Council, thanked Mr Thomas for his useful and informative advice and his attendance at the meeting.

### **134 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003 –McCOLL NEWSAGENTS, 22 BORRAS PARK ROAD, WREXHAM LL12 7TG**

Members considered a letter 3 February 2014 from the Head of Housing and Public Protection, Wrexham County Borough Council informing that the above application has been received for the grant of a premises licence at Martin McColl newsagents to sell alcohol. If the Council wished to make any representations, the closing date is 3 March 2014. Members noted that a condition of a Premises licence is that a CCTV camera is installed and footage retained for 30 days in case of investigations under crime and disorder or in respect of underage sales. It was noted there had previously been an off-licence shop in the Borrass Park shopping parade and the nearby Co-operative store already sells alcohol until 10pm.

**RESOLVED – to make no comments and note the application.**

*(Councillors W Baldwin, J Kelly and G Lowe being Members of Wrexham County Borough Council's Licensing Committee declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in this item. They remained in the meeting during consideration of this item but took no part in the consideration, discussion or voting)*

### 135 CONSULTATIONS

**1. Consultation on play areas:** Letter dated 22 January 2014 received from the Head of Environment, Wrexham County Borough Council advising that the Budget Reductions will be presented to the Full Council meeting of Wrexham County Borough Council to be held on 26 February 2014. The letter requested a decision as a matter of urgency from the Community Council as to what it would like to do with the Play areas in Acton. The default position if no specific reply is received from a Community Council stating whether it will pay for the care of Play areas, is closure and removal of equipment from the Play areas.

**RESOLVED – that the Clerk writes to Mr Bradbury and confirms that:**

**1. the Community Council will provide relevant funding from 1 April 2014 for Wrexham County Borough Council to continue to provide the maintenance, inspection and litter clearance of the following play areas within the Acton Community:**

- i. New Junior Play area at Acton Park, Wrexham**
- ii. Ffordd Garmonydd Play Area**
- iii. Aran Road Play Area**

**The level of maintenance and funding to be provided for these three play areas will be notified immediately after the Special Meeting of the Community Council being held on 25 February 2014 to finalise the Community Council's 2014/15 Budget allocations; and**

**2. the Community Council having given regard to the present poor condition of the Senior Play area at Acton Park, Wrexham and the lack of proposals to refurbish it, is unable to provide the required resources to maintain this play space and sadly notes that this will result in the closure and removal of the remaining equipment from the Senior Play area at the Park.**

**2. Statement of Public Participation (SPP) for the Welsh National Marine Plan:** Letter advising that the Minister for Natural Resources and Food is seeking views on this consultation document that sets out how and when the Welsh Government will engage during the process of producing the Welsh National Marine Plan and seeking views on the approach method. Replies to the Consultation should be submitted by 28 March 2014. The Consultation document and response form were available online.

**Resolved to make no observations on the Consultation document**

### 136 REPORT FROM CLERK

Information and general correspondence that had been received and was available for members at the meeting was reported and dealt with as follows:

Organisation	Details and action taken
1. Richard Walden Society of Local Council	<b>The Clerk Magazine:</b> Email Invitation to consider contributing a case study to an article he is preparing on the Williams Commission for the Clerk magazine.

Organisation	Details and action taken
Clerks	Members noted that the Williams Report was still being debated and would not wish to take part at the present time.
2.Mr Morgan Jones Lifelong Learning Wrexham CBC	<b>Improving Learning and attainment in Wrexham</b> : Letter dated 4 February 2014 inviting a representative of the Community Council to a discussion evening to be held at the Catrin Finch Centre , Glyndwr University on Wednesday 19 February 2014 between 6pm and 8pm <b>RESOLVED - that Councillor James Richards attend the event on behalf of the Community Council.</b>
3.Democracy, Ethics & Partnership Division Welsh Government Cardiff	<b>1.Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report – February 2014:</b> Email dated 12 February 2014 advising that the Panel’s Annual Report, dated February 2014 to be implemented in the financial year 2013/14, has been published and queries about the Annual Report should be directed to the Independent Remuneration Panel Secretariat <b>Information noted</b> <b>2. Local Government (Wales) Byelaws Act 2012 – Implementation:</b> Email dated 13 February 2014 advising of this Consultation which ends on 11 May 2014. An electronic copy of the documents is available and views are being sought on Statutory Instruments to facilitate implementation of the Local Government (Wales) Byelaws Act 2012 (the Act); and Guidance to support authorities in exercising functions under the Act. <b>Information noted</b>
4.AVOW Egerton Street, Wrexham	<b>1.Upcoming training from AVOW in March 2014:</b> Email dated 13 February detailing a range of courses being held at TY AVOW to enable community Members to develop skills for the benefit of their voluntary and community organisations <b>Information noted</b> <b>2. Project Wild Thing:</b> Email dated 13 February advising that WCBC Play Development Team are to hold a free screening on Friday 21st March at 2pm in the main auditorium in the Catrin Finch centre, Glyndwr. “Project Wild Thing” is a feature-length documentary film that aims to reconnect all children in the UK with nature. <b>Information noted</b>
5.Corporate and Customer Services Dept., Wrexham County Borough Council	<b>Wrexham Town and Community Council Forum- Thursday, 20 March 2014 at 6.00 pm.:</b> Email dated 14 February 2014 advising of the arrangements for this meeting and inviting the Community Council to send 2/3 representatives to attend. If the Community Council has any Items it wishes to be included on the Agenda, they should be submitted by no later than 4 March 2014. <b>RESOLVED – that the Community Council be represented at the Forum by Councillors R Evans and R Hardy.</b>

### 137 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members received and considered details of payments received and those set out below that required authorisation.

**Payments Received:** HSBC Deposit account – Website Grant from WCBC £ 500.00

**RESOLVED – that the following payments be approved: -**

Voucher No; Payee	Details	Amount
49 Society of Local Council Clerks	Practitioner Conference Fee – Clerks attendance from 28 February to 1 March 2014 at East Midlands. Section 111 & 112 Local Government Act 1972	£264.00
50 Wrexham County Borough Council	SLA Payment for Acton Young People Provision 2013/14 – 2nd instalment S19 Local Government Misc Provisions Act 1976	£10,845.50

51 Carole Roberts Clerk to the Council	Clerks Expenses for February 2014 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972	£ 115.00
52 Wrexham County Borough Council	Clerks Salary and office expenses for January 2014 paid by the Council's Agent: Wrexham County Borough Council in accordance with Minute 99.1 December 2009 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972	NJC Rates

### 138 PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

The Council considered whether to make any comments on the following Planning Applications for development in the Community Council's area that had been received since the last meeting or that had been made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (to be determined by Wrexham County Borough Council). It was also noted that copies of recent planning decisions within the Acton area were available for perusal at the meeting.

**RESOLVED - that the following observations be made on the applications set out below:-**

Application No & Address	Details	Observations
1. P/2014/0034 Land adjacent to Cherry Hill Nursery accessed off Daleside Avenue, Borrass Park, Wrexham	Erection of 6 Dwellings and Construction of new access road and Parking Facilities	The Community Council objects to this application for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The mature trees on the application site add to the overall amenity of the area and the proposal to fell two of the trees will detract from that amenity;</li> <li>• The application will result in over development of the site;</li> <li>• There is no provision for amenity or open space on the site;</li> <li>• Highway and safety concerns due to poor visibility at the junction of the proposed new access road and the emergence of increased traffic onto Borrass Park Road from its junction with Daleside Avenue adjacent to the traffic chicane and at the start of the 20mph speed restriction outside Borrass Park Junior School.</li> </ul>
2. P/2014/0037 Kraken, Cedar Close, Wrexham	Single Storey side Extension and Two storey side Extension	No observations
3. P/2014/0076 34 Denbigh Close Wrexham	Two Storey Side Extension To Provide Kitchen With Bedroom Over	No observations
4. P/2014/0079 105 Norfolk Road Wrexham	Lounge Extension To Front Of Dwelling And New Pitched Roof	No Observations
5. P/2014/0080 18 Denbigh Close Wrexham	Parking And Operation Of 2 No Private Hire Vehicles	The Community Council objects to this application as it considers that two private hire vehicles operating from this property is incompatible with the residential character of the area due to the potential for frequent vehicle movements, noise and disturbance to residents caused by unsocial hours of operation.

*(Councillor J Kelly being a Member of Wrexham County Borough Council's Planning Committee declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in this item. He left the meeting during consideration of this item taking no part in the consideration, discussion or voting on any of the planning applications)*

**Signed as a correct record this 18th day of March 2014**

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Chair