

3 December 2013

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend the meeting of **ACTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL** to be held in the Training Room at **ACTON COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE**, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham, LL12 7LB on **TUESDAY next 10 DECEMBER 2013 at 6:30pm.**

Yours Sincerely

*Carole Roberts*

Clerk 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 Council held on 19 November 2013 (Copy attached)

### 4. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES:

5. **KEY ACTON ISSUES:** WCBC Members to report verbally on any new or Key Issues being considered by the County Borough Council that may affect the whole or part of the Community of Acton. (Item placed on the agenda in accordance with the decision contained in Minute 107 January 2011)

### 6. COMMUNITY FACILITIES - COUNCIL BUDGET REDUCTIONS AND THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS:

- 1 To consider the financial and other support for Acton Community facilities that the Community Council will provide for from 2014/15 onwards in the light of Wrexham County Borough Council's Executive Board decision on 12 November 2013 to approve in principle and subject to public consultation, a number of proposed revenue savings for 2014/15 including the cessation of service or transfer to Community Councils of the following Community Facilities in the Acton area – Playgrounds, School Crossing Patrols, Community Centres and Bowling Greens. (Copy of Report HF/52/13 Appendix 1 attached).
- 2 to consider and where appropriate, to respond to various correspondence that has been received since the last meeting concerning Community facilities. (Minutes 73 October 2013 and 94 November 2013 refers) :

### **School crossing patrols**

- i. Letter dated 19 November 2013 from Ian Lucas M.P requesting clarification on the latest position in respect of the Community Council's decision in relation to school crossings. The correspondence referred to in this letter was read out at the last meeting of the Community Council.
- ii. Letter dated 29 November 2013 from the Network & Infrastructure Manager providing tabular information of the three risk assessments for the three School Crossing Patrol sites within the Acton Community. The Community Council has been requested to confirm formally by 31 December 2013 whether it is prepared to fund the three School Crossing Patrol Sites in its area.

### **Community Centres**

- iii. Letter dated 21 November 2013 from Mr Lawrence Isted, Head of Community Well-being and Development, Wrexham County Borough Council enclosing a note summarising the staffing implications of transferring the service to Community Councils/ Community Groups.

**Note:** consideration will need to be given to the potential for disclosure of exempt information during the debate about employees affected under the Community Facilities budget reductions and the press and public will then need to be excluded from the meeting in accordance with the provision of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

**7. COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS:** To receive an update from the Acton Community Police Officers.

**8. CONSULTATIONS:** The following consultation papers have been received and Members are requested to consider whether to make any comments on them:

**1. Proposed Revocations and remaking of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005:** The Local Government Finance and Performance Division of the Welsh Government issued a letter on 22 November 2013 seeking views by 3 January 2014, on any aspect of the draft regulations, including the amendments and the format of the consolidation. A shorter consultation period is necessary to bring in some of the proposed changes by 31 March 2014. The Welsh Local Government Association have been consulted about this and agreed that in the circumstances this is sensible. One Voice Wales have also been canvassed. The regulations are likely to be in place and effective for the financial year 2013-14. A copy of the consultation paper will be available for perusal at the meeting.

**2. Consultation on the proposed amendment of the 1987 rules on community polls:** Prior to the amendments made by the 2011 Local Government Wales Measure, the provisions within the 1972 Local Government Act permitted a very small number of electors to call a meeting and trigger a poll. Such polls could prove costly with no obligation on the part of the principal or community council to abide by the outcome. The Welsh Ministers wish to consult on the Parish and Community Meetings (Polls) Rules 1987 ("the 1987 rules") with a view to amendment. The 1987 Rules have received only minor amendment since they came into force. The consultation focuses on the requirements within the rules in relation to polling station facilities and opening times, poll notice periods and posting voting. The consultation commenced on 20 November 2013 and closes on 12 February 2014. The Consultation document and response form can be found [by clicking here](#)

**9. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:** To receive a report from the Clerk to the Council in connection with the making of any grants under Section 137 Local Government Act 1972. Details Attached.

### **10. ANNUAL ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR 2014/15 FINANCIAL YEAR:**

i) **Annual Investment Strategy 2014/15:** Further to Minute 28 ii) June 2011, to review the Acton Community Council Investments Policy for the next financial year as part of the budget setting process. Report from the Clerk attached

ii) **Service Level Agreement 2014/15** – Youth Service Provision – Acton: Letter dated 25 November 2013 from the Children and Young People Service at Wrexham County Borough Council confirming the estimated cost for 2014/15 will remain at the current year’s SLA level of £ 21,691.00

iii) **Precept Requirements for 2014/15:** The Chief Finance and Performance Officer, Wrexham County Borough Council has indicated that the Community Council’s precept is required by 31 December 2013. The Acton Community Tax base for 2014/15 is 5791. To consider the Council’s Draft budget and precept requirement taking into account current commitments and any new provisions that are required to fund any Community Facilities that the Community Council decides to support. (Details to follow).

**11. REPORT FROM CLERK:** Clerk to report on correspondence and other information that has been received since the last meeting. Details Attached.

**12. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:** To note details of any payments received and authorise any outstanding debtor or other payments.

**13. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** To consider any comments the Council may wish to make on the following applications made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (to be determined by Wrexham County Borough Council):

<b>Case Number/ Address</b>	<b>Proposed Development</b>	<b>Decision</b>
1. P/2013/0660 Part of a field west of Commonwood Farm and South of, Borras Road, Commonwood, LL13 9TF	Drilling of an Exploration Borehole (Requiring 24 Hour Operations) to remove a core of coal for sampling and site restoration following cessation of drilling operations. The drilling operations to take approximately 60 days and a maximum of 75 days	
2.P/2013/0791 18 Trident Way, Wrexham	Single storey Side Extension including conversion of garage	
3.P/2013/0792 5 Lawson Close, Wrexham	First floor extension	

*\*the plans and documents for planning applications can be viewed online [by clicking here](#) and selecting the Community of Acton for the search. The Clerk to the Council requests an extension of the 21 day consultation period where appropriate.*