

12 December 2018

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 18 DECEMBER 2018** 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 20 November 2018 (Copy attached)

### 4. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES:

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

6. **PROCEDURAL MATTERS – SECTION 116 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE 2011: CO-OPTION OF MEMBERS & CASUAL COUNCILLOR VACANCIES:** Clerk to provide an update

7. **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)

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

1. **REFORM OF FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITIES IN WALES:** The Welsh Government is seeking views on proposals to reform how fire and rescue authorities (FRAs) in Wales are governed and funded. Focus is being placed on Membership, Scrutiny and Funding. Consultees can offer alternative proposals for reforming FRAs. These will need to meet the criteria set out in the consultation document which can be accessed by [clicking here](#). The Consultation period ends on Tuesday **5 February 2019**.

- 2. CONSULTATION ON LOCAL HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY:** Wrexham County Borough Council recognizes that Homelessness is an important issue and is working to develop a Local Homelessness Strategy and is currently seeking comments on [this document](#). Comments can be made **until 31 January 2019**
- 3. USE OF WELSH LANGUAGE SURVEY:** The Welsh Government proposes to develop a package of resources for Community and Town Councils to increase their awareness and help increase their use of Welsh. The package will include practical resources and support in the most appropriate format whether that is online, in hard copy or delivered in other ways to assist individual Councils to increase their use of Welsh. All Councils are being asked to complete the [survey here](#) by the **end of January 2019**
- 9. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:** To receive a report from the Clerk to the Council in connection with the making of any grants under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. Details Attached.
- 10. ANNUAL ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR 2019/20 FINANCIAL YEAR:** Further to the special meeting of the Council held on 6 November 2018, to consider all matters pertaining to determination of the Council's income, expenditure, balances and precept requirements for the financial year 2019/20.
- 1. Annual Investment Strategy 2019/20** Further to Minute 28ii) June 2011, to review and confirm the Acton Community Council Investments Policy for the next financial year as part of the budget setting process. Report from the Clerk attached.
- 2. Service Level Agreements 2019/20:-** To review and confirm the Service Level Agreements for the next financial year as part of the budget setting process:-
1. Payroll Service – (Year 2 of 3)
  2. Acton Resource Centre- Revenue Costs – (Year 7 of 10)
  3. Young Persons Projects: 8-13/14-18 year olds – (1 year)
  4. Seasonal Ranger Acton Park – (Year 2 of 3)
  5. CAB Acton Outreach Worker for Acton Community Advice Service (Year 3 of 3)
  6. Acton Playground Provision – (Annual ongoing – to include Acton Park Play area from 1 April 2019)
  7. School Crossing Patrols – (Annual ongoing)
  8. Little Acton Community Centre – (Year 3 of Contribution Commitment)
- 3. Precept Requirements for 2019/20:** The Chief Finance and Performance Officer, Wrexham County Borough Council has indicated that the Community Council's precept is required by 11 January 2019. The Acton Community Tax base for 2019/20 is 5720; a reduction of 29 from last year. To consider the Council's Draft budget and precept requirement taking into account current commitments and any new provisions 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 any 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/2018/0945 McColls 36 To 38 Rhosnesni Lane Wrexham	Installation Of Automated Teller Machine (Atm) (In Retrospect)	
2.P/2018/0946 McColls 36 To 38 Rhosnesni Lane Wrexham	Display Of 2 No. Internally Illuminated Fascia Signs (In Retrospect)	
3.P/2018/0966 17 Larchwood Road Wrexham	First Floor Extension To Form 2 No. Additional Bedrooms And Internal Alterations	
4.P/2018/1014 46 Chester Road Wrexham	Change Of Use From HMO To Wellness Centre Including Enlargement Of Existing Car Parking Area	
5.P/2018/1025 20 Ffordd Garmonydd Wrexham	Proposed Rear And Side 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.*

Minutes of the Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Tuesday 20 November 2018 at Acton Community Resource Centre, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham

Present:

Councillor	Kevin Roberts (Chair)	Councillor	P D Jones (Vice Chair)
	W Baldwin	"	P Lloyd
"	M Davies	"	G Lowe
"	Mrs A Evans	"	D Picken *
"	R Hardy	"	Mrs D Wallice
"	Ms S Hope *	"	Ms L Williams
"	Ms S Jarvis	"	
"	Ms P Kidd	"	2 vacancies

\* Absent

Also Present:

North Wales police : Inspector Vic Powell and PCSO Michael Bell

Homestart: Jill Morris and Sue Glover

Play Development Wrexham CBC: Jay Davies & Mike Barclay

Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

## 85 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sian Hope, and Darren Picken.

It was noted that Councillors Anne Evans and Paul Jones had been delayed at a previous meeting but were expected to attend this meeting. A quorum was present and the meeting proceeded.

## 86 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The following Declaration of Interest was made at this stage of the proceedings:-

**Agenda item 13- Planning Applications** Councillor Paul Jones declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item being a member of Wrexham County Borough Council's Planning Committee.

## 87 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**Council meetings:**

1. The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 16 October 2018 were received.

**RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Council held on 16 October 2018 be received and confirmed as a correct record.**

2. The Minutes of the Special meeting of the Council held on 6 November 2018 were received.

**RESOLVED – that**

**i) subject to the final resolution of Minute 84.2.ii) on the last page being amended to read 2.c) instead of 2.b), the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Community Council held on 6 November 2018 be received and confirmed as a correct record.; and**

**ii) to endorse the decision to set up a Task and Finish Group to investigate, collate information and Report its findings back to the Community Council before the current funding commitment ends on the issues that were raised in Minute 84.2 c) concerning the potential asset transfer of the Little Acton Community Centre from Wrexham County Borough Council to the small Voluntary Group currently running it or to the Community Council itself.**

*(Having regard to some members still being delayed and not in attendance at this stage of the proceedings it was proposed that the Membership of the Task and Finish Group may consist of the Chair and Vice Chair together with Councillors Bill Baldwin, Anne Evans or Ralph Hardy, Philip Lloyd and Lynne Williams; subject to ascertaining the availability of Councillors Anne Evans and Paul Jones.)*

### **3. Committee Meeting:**

The Minutes of the Youth Committee meeting held on 30 October 2018 were received and consideration given to the recommendations contained in Minute 14.1.ii and 14.2.ii) & iii)

#### **RESOLVED – that**

**i) The Minutes of the Youth Committee meeting held on 30 October 2018 be accepted; and**

**ii) the Youth Committee’s recommendations be endorsed as follows:-**

- 1. to approve the Community Council investing in the Youth Club up to a sum of £800 to enable the purchase of folding Pool Table and Table Tennis Tables and ancillary equipment for use by both the 8-13 and 14-18 young people attending the Youth Clubs;**
- 2. to give authorisation for the approximate £400 cost of the coach for the bigger residential style trip to be met from the 8-13 Youth Work Funding if the 14-18 project does not have sufficient funds; and**
- 3. the Service Level Agreements for both Youth Work Projects for 8-13 and 14-18 year olds be continued and extended to 31 March 2020.**

## **88 INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES**

**1.Minute 72.2 - Acton Park Play Ground surfacing:** The Chair reported on a site visit he had held with the Vice Chair and Clerk and Mr Martin Howorth, the Parks, Countryside and Rights of Way Officer and Carla Hughes from Wrexham County Borough Council on 15 November 2018. The Play facility itself was great but the surfaces were “natural” and “unkempt” and whilst in keeping with the Park setting, the Community Council’s concerns regarding costs that may be incurred to remedy the surfacing, slope and drainage issues once it takes the facility over in April 2019 had not been allayed. However there was a dilemma to be addressed as the Play area may be removed if the Community Council does not take over the funding for this play area when the Grant funding ends. A straw poll of parents using the Play area had indicated the concerns were genuine for parents of children using the facility. It was noted a final decision would have to be made on this issue when setting the precept for 2019/20.

## **89 COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS**

The Chair welcomed Wrexham Town Inspector Vic Powell who was attending his first Council meeting following his recent promotion. He gave a perspective from a Police viewpoint and referred to ongoing work at Community Level and behind the scenes to meet the challenges ahead. He set out the present context of a reduced PCSO Neighbourhood team and the increased challenge and importance of ensuring the remaining PCSOs were making contact with the Community. It was proposed to meet with Chairs and Clerks to the Town Community Councils twice a year to discuss the arrangements in place and issues of concern.

The Police Incident Report and update to 14 November 2018 had been included in the agenda pack and a brief explanation was given by the about current trends, other Operational News and PCSO activities. Members welcomed the speeding Operation planned for the end of the month. The PCSOs contact telephone numbers will be circulated to all Members of the Council and it was noted there was a dedicated Acton Policing team email address of: [ActonSectorWrexham@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ActonSectorWrexham@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)

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

## **90 HOMESTART WREXHAM**

In accordance with Minute 28.2 June 2018, the Chair welcomed Jill Morris Treasurer/ Trustee and Sue Glover Chair of Homestart. They gave a short presentation on how this service spent the £300 grant

awarded to it for the benefit of residents in the Acton Community. In particular they referred to the six week in depth course to give volunteers an induction and training to provide support, advice and friendship to families and parents. The Freedom Programme for partners subject to Domestic Abuse was also outlined. Homestart is based at the Salvation Army premises and more families are now dealing with mental health issues, a number of families use English as a second language and need support but in other areas families struggle and their need is masked. Referrals are made through GPs, Community Organisations and Social Services. Homestart has been working with 110 families or 62 adults and 245 children. Over the 25 years Homestart has been working in the area, it has developed the ethos of enabling families in need to receive preventative support and providing family learning and links groups. The funding for Homestart relies on Grant funding and it has recently obtained Children in Need and Henry Smith Foundation Funding so it is able to continue supporting all families referred to it. Some of the parents and children helped by Homestart are becoming volunteers themselves and now have the confidence to give back to the Communities they have lived in.

Members referred to the incredible work Homestart is doing and recognized it is vital to the wider community with the cost of funding Volunteers being an investment and saving in the long term. The Chair thanked the Homestart Volunteers for their presentation and for the work they do and they then left the meeting.

*(Councillors Anne Evans and Paul Jones arrived and Councillors Bill Baldwin and Debbie Wallice left the meeting during the next presentation)*

## **91 BORRAS PARK PLAY SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT**

Further to Minute 72.3 October 2018, Mr Mike Barclay and Jay Davies for the Play Development Team were welcomed by the Chair. They presented their Report and conclusions of the Play sufficiency Assessment in the Borrass Park ward to the Council. A copy of the presentation had been circulated to members.

The Report set out the benefits of play; methodology used; challenges during the assessment; demographics, a mapping of out of school activities, results of the Play sufficiency Satisfaction Survey; research with Children in Barkers Lane School focussing on Timetabling and time/space for play, barriers and improvements; research with parents . The spatial audit had identified that there a very few traffic free routes or footpaths in the ward creating reluctance by parents to allow their children to cross busy roads unaccompanied.

The presence of “No Ball games” signs discouraged play; the proposed development of Barkers Lane School should ensure there is no impact on children’s space for play both in and out of school and recommended children should have access to parts of the school grounds outside of school hours. Acton Park play area is not adequate for the demand placed on it and the Park would benefit from better play facilities on the Borrass Park side but this is dependent on Wrexham CBC securing external grant funding. The Assessment made five recommendations but members noted it did not provide costings or give advice on what external help is available as the Community Council does not have the capacity or expertise to undertake any implementation work particularly as most of the land referred to in the recommendations is in the ownership of Wrexham CBC or in private ownership.

It was noted that Wrexham CBC had signed a Play Pledge for Children’s Play but Austerity measures had impacted on its ability to implement this pledge. The findings of the Play Assessment relied on Wrexham CBC being proactive and considering how to mitigate risk elements and nominate unused informal space in close proximity to where the children wish to play and develop opportunities in consultation with the whole community including the elderly as had been achieved for the scheme at the Ffordd Garmonydd play area. It was recognized that the density of development in the Borrass Park Ward has resulted in little or no space for the provision of formal play. The Year 5 school children were not aware of the Wednesday evening Youth Projects at the Resource Centre and communication of existing provision was important to ensure reach to all Young people.

***RESOLVED – that the Play Development Team be thanked for the report and a representative from the Wrexham CBC Play and Youth Support Team be requested to attend the next Youth Committee meeting to provide advice on how the Play Assessment recommendations can be progressed and financed given the Community Council’s lack of ownership of land in the Borrass Park Ward.***

## **92 TASK & FINISH GROUP – LITTLE ACTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSET TRANSFER**

Members referred to the decision earlier in the meeting regarding establishment and membership of this Task & Finish Group (Minute 87.1.ii refers) and to the fact that Councillors Anne Evans and Paul Jones were now in attendance and the work of the Group should commence as soon as practicable. They were asked about their availability to sit on this Group. Councillor Paul Jones indicated that due to his County Borough Council workload in the New Year he would not be available to sit on this Group. Councillor Anne Evans indicated she would be available and Councillor Ralph Hardy indicated that he would stand aside.

***RESOLVED - that the Membership of the Task and Finish Group shall consist of the Chair, Councillor Kevin Roberts together with Councillors Bill Baldwin, Anne Evans, Philip Lloyd and Lynne Williams***

## **93 PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

**1. CASUAL COUNCILLOR MAESYDRE WARD VACANCY:** The Clerk reported that no electors had come forward to call an election during the Public Notice Period and the Returning Officer had now advised that the Community Council must proceed to fill this vacancy by co-option.

***RESOLVED – that the Clerk now proceeds to advertise by Public notice the Council’s intention to fill this Casual vacancy in the Maesydre ward through co-option and to have a closing date of 12 noon on 14 January 2019 to enable any nominations from eligible person to be considered at the Community Council meeting to be held on 15 January 2019.***

**2. RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR BASIL PRITCHARD – ACTON CENTRAL WARD:** The Clerk reported on the resignation submitted by Councillor Basil Pritchard.

***RESOLVED:***

- 1. to accept the Resignation from Councillor Basil Pritchard and to thank him for his contribution to the Acton Community; and***
- 2. the Clerk to be authorised to make arrangements to advertise by Public Notice the Council’s intention to fill this casual vacancy and the right for ten electors from the ward to call an election.***

## **94 KEY ACTON ISSUES**

Wrexham CBC Members reported as follows on 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 :-

1. Local Development Plan – this would be considered at the Council meeting to be held on 22 November 2018
2. The Local Government Funding Settlement for 2019/20 was lower than expected and it will be difficult to deliver services with the outlook for Wrexham CBC funding and cuts continuing to be bleak ;
3. Boundary Commission Review Consultation – it was expected that Community Councils will keep the same boundaries, however ward sizes were to be reviewed,
4. Groves High School: A task and Finish group was to look at this situation and Councillor Paul Jones would give updates and further information as it becomes available.

The County Borough Councillors were thanked for their updates.



## 95 CONSULTATIONS & OTHER STATUTORY GUIDANCE

Members considered the following Consultations/ Statements and determined what responses if any, the Community Council wishes to submit by the relevant deadlines:

1. **BARKERS LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL PROPOSAL TO PERMANENTLY INCREASE THE SCHOOL CAPACITY TO 315 PUPILS:** This Wrexham County Borough Council [consultation document](#) set out information on the proposal to increase the pupil numbers at this School by 105. The Consultation process follows regulatory guidance as set out in the School Organisation Code 2013. The consultation period runs from 18 October 2018 to 12 December 2018. Wrexham County Borough Council has recognised the importance of all views being taken into account before a decision is made.

**RESOLVED – that the following observations and recommendations be submitted as the Acton Community Council response to this Consultation with a strong recommendation that they should be considered and endorsed as part of the Consultation outcomes:**

“Acton Community Council at its November 2018 meeting has received a Presentation from the Play Development Team about the findings of a Play Sufficiency Assessment that has recently been carried out in the Borrass Park Ward. The Play Pledge already made by Wrexham County Borough Council to undertake improvements to Children’s play was referenced by the Team. The Play Assessment has identified a Play Deficit in the vicinity of the Barkers Lane Primary School.

The Community Council strongly **recommends** to Wrexham County Borough Council that in carrying out its Play Pledge and as part of this Consultation, it gives serious consideration to enabling “Open Access” to the School grounds outside school hours to ensure safe play for the children who reside in the Borrass Park ward, and to enable improved access for Children to the public realm.

- Some of the detail in the Consultation document is challenged, particularly the statement that Acton Park Primary School has no capacity.
- The Community Council expresses grave concerns about the potential to increase traffic using Barkers Lane at the start and end of the School day and the resulting congestion if this proposal to increase pupil numbers goes ahead.
- The road serving the School is not a “through road” and is quite narrow at certain points. It is anticipated that greater congestion and potential gridlock on a daily basis will result due to the increased number of parents choosing to use cars when dropping off/ picking up their children and having to turn around and return past the School creating unavoidable double journeys past the School at these times.

The Community Council is of the view that the ability of Local Roads to cope with increased traffic flow if the proposed increase goes ahead is a very concerning Health and Safety issue which, will require careful management and active regular enforcement of parking restrictions close to the School to ensure that the safety of children is paramount and to ensure nearby residents on the adjoining estate will not be inconvenienced due to overflow parking on the local estate roads.”

2. **DIFFICULT DECISIONS BUDGET CONSULTATION FOR 2019-20:** It was noted that Wrexham CBC is seeking views until 28 November 2018 on its proposals to create savings and generate income by an online survey [Difficult Decisions 2019-20](#). It was noted a consultation event consisting of a presentation of the Council’s budget proposals for 2019-20, along with a chance to discuss the proposals with Lead Members will be held at the Guildhall on Thursday 28 November 2018 at 5.30pm.

**RESOLVED – that:**

1. **Members be encouraged to respond individually to the Consultation; and**
2. **the following comments be made on behalf of the Community Council:-**
  - i. **There is increasing use by the Local Authority of Community Asset Transfers to save money. However the outcome of such Transfers must be a sustainable solution where there is a strategic**



*approach to work and collaborate with partners such as Acton Community Council to enable asset transfers. It is important that Wrexham County Borough Council works with its Communities to develop their capacity and skills to be able to take on and manage the asset in the future. Voluntary Community Groups often require ongoing support from their local authority following transfer.*

*Acton Community Council's experience has been to receive a "take it or lose it" approach from Wrexham County Borough Council and has lost a community Facility from within Acton Park due to this approach. The Community Council should be considered an equal partner and recognition made that income as well as liabilities for a community asset should be transferred across. It is important to have sufficient lead in to any proposed Community Asset transfer to allow for financial and other resource planning as the Community Council has to raise any additional monies required through its precept and is subject to its own Audit regime to ensure sound financial planning. This view is endorsed by the Wales Audit Office; and*

- ii. *In respect of the playing fields adjacent to the Spider Park and St Johns Field in Acton which has been granted an Owain Glyndwr Field in Trust status, there should be a central register so that there is no ambiguity as to the status and protection granted for this and similar land.*

**3. LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES - REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH INITIAL CONSULTATION PERIOD:** It was reported that the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales are conducting a review of Electoral Arrangements for the Wrexham County Borough. The initial consultation ends on 7 January 2019. The proposal document can be [viewed here](#)

**RESOLVED – that the Community Council note the initial Consultation and awaits the outcome of this initial Consultation period when firmer proposals will have been drafted that may or may not affect the Acton Community boundary and its wards.**

**96 REPORT FROM CLERK**

The Clerk reported on correspondence and other information that has been received since the last meeting. Details attached.

Organisation	Details
1.Wrexham CBC	<b>Variation to Licensable activity under the Licensing Act 2003 – Asda Holt Road, Wrexham LL13 8HL:</b> Notification of this application was received on 23 October 2018 and circulated to all members of the Council as the closing date for representations was 16 November 2018. The present position was noted
2.Wrexham Area Civic Society	<b>Newsletter Issue 47 Autumn 2018:</b> A copy of this document was available at the meeting for members’ perusal.
3.Nightingale House Hospice	<b>Newsletter Autumn/ Winter 18:</b> A copy of this document was available at the meeting for members’ perusal
4.Welsh Hearts	<b>Defibrillator Appeal for Wrexham Town and Community Councils:</b> Email dated 28 October 2018 indicating a wish to work with the Town and Community Councils in an attempt to make sure that there plenty of functional public access defibrillators available at all times within your area. Information has also been requested on whether there are defibrillators in our community so that Welsh Hearts can update its own and the Welsh Ambulance service records. <b>RESOLVED to look at this suggestion in the new year</b>

<p><b>5.Mrs Audrey Nicholas</b></p>	<p><b>Provision of Dog Poo bags:</b> Letter dated 14 November 2018 advising that Marchwiell Community Council supplies Poo Bags to its residents and Acton Community Council do not. Members referred to previous Dog Fouling Awareness Campaigns the Community Council had held and the difficulty and the cost and logistics of providing a regular supply of the bags for dog owners. Reference was also made to the legal requirement for dog owners to have the means on them to clean up after their dogs when in a public place.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that the Clerk write and thank Mrs Nicholas for providing the information and advise her that the Community Council does not have the resources to provide this service over the much larger Acton Community.</b></p>
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## 97 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members noted no payments had been received and that outstanding debtor or other payments as set out in the schedule below required authorisation

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

VOUCHER NO & PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
47. Caia Park Partnership Ltd Cheque no 201893	SLA Acton Youth Work Project – 8to 13yo Q3 Payments S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 )	£2,912.46 (VAT =£0)
48. Caia Park Partnership Ltd Cheque no 201894	SLA Acton Youth Work Pilot Project – 14-18yo Q3 Payments S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 )	£3,049.95 (VAT =£0)
49 SLCC Enterprises Cheque no 201895	Reference books for Clerk to the Council S112 local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£127.99 (VAT=£0)
50. Wrexham County Borough Council Cheque no 201896	SLA Acton School Crossing Patrols x3 Q2 Payments S112 local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£3,291.00 (VAT =£0)
51. Wrexham County Borough Council Cheque no 201897	Q2 Running Costs contribution for Little Acton Community Centre S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 )	£1,546.65 (VAT =£0)
52.Carole Roberts Cheque no 201898	Clerks Expenses for November 2018 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£ 117.00 (VAT =£15.33)
53 Wrexham CBC Cheque no 201899	SLA Costs for 2017 Seasonal Park Ranger at Acton Park S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£5,949.61 (vat= £961.60)
54 Shropshire County Council Cheque no 201900	Clerks Salary and office expenses for November 2018 paid by the Council’s Agent: Shropshire County Council in accordance with Minute 47 July 2017 to include SLA Payment +Pension Contributions direct to the Clwyd LGPS Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	NJC Rates

## 98 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council considered any comments it wished to make on the following applications made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (to be determined by Wrexham County Borough Council)

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

<b>Case Number/ Address &amp; Proposed Development</b>	<b>Decision</b>
1.P/2018/0893 17 Glyndwr Road Wrexham - Removal Of Existing Conservatory To Form Pitched Roof Rear Extension	No Objection
2.P/2018/0893 22 The Triangle Wrexham - Application For Works To Trees Subject To Tree Preservation Order Wcbc No. 64:- T1 Mature Oak - Lightly Reduce Crown By 1 - 2 Metres To Reduce Risk Of Branch Failure And To Maintain The Tree's Current Size And Remove Deadwood From Within Crown	The Community Council has no objections provided the proposed works to these protected trees are considered by Wrexham County Borough Council's Arboricultural Officer to be essential and necessary to ensure the best and continuing good health of the Trees referred to in this application and all works to the Protected Trees are carried out under the supervision and to the satisfaction of the Council's Tree Officer.
3.P/2018/0920 36 Hawkstone Way Wrexham - Erection Of Garage	No Objection
4.P/2018/0935 The Goulbourne Borrass Park Road Wrexham - Application For Variation Of Condition 13 Imposed Under Planning Permission P/2016/1048 To Allow Surface Water Drainage To Be Partially Disposed Of In The Public Sewer Network.	The Community Council objects to the proposed removal of the original Planning Permission's Condition No.13 and strongly recommends that having regard to the topography of the site and the surrounding lower lying properties and open space off Ansell Road/Birkdale Road Wrexham it is retained to ensure there are no issues around drainage capacity, the potential for flooding (particularly during storm events) and subsequent blockage.  This development should not create additional run-off compared with the previous single building development. The final re-development scheme for this land at the former Goulbourne Public House should aim to reduce and manage run-off and minimize the consequences of storm and other exceptional events.

(Councillor Paul Jones having previously declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item as a member of Wrexham County Borough Council's Planning Committee left the meeting taking no part in the discussion or voting on this item.)

**Signed as a correct record this 18th day of December 2018**

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**Chair**



**HEDDLU GOGLEDD CYMRU**  
Gogledd Cymru diogelach

**NORTH WALES POLICE**  
A safer North Wales

## Police Update – Acton

### Contact Details:

PC 76 Kerry Evans- 07896171914

Email: [Kerry.Evans@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Kerry.Evans@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)

PCSO 3666 Sam Gostage- 07989167941

Email: [Sam.Gostage@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Sam.Gostage@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)

PCSO 3912 Mike Bell- 07974243640

Email: [Michael.Bell@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Michael.Bell@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)

PCSO 3952 Rhys Yaxley- 07974243270

Email: [Rhys.Yaxley@nthwales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Rhys.Yaxley@nthwales.pnn.police.uk)



HGC Trêf Wrecsam/ NWP Wrexham Town

Incident update - (from 14/11/2018 to 13/12/2018)

## Anti-Social Behaviour Issues/Trends:

- Reports of suspicious person in the area. Every call we received has been responded to.
- Op Santa is now up and running. This is to tackle shoplifters over the Christmas period. Compared to last year shopliftings have reduced as a result of this.

## Crime Issues / Trends

### Acton

- There has been a burglary in the area. The door to the property had been left unlocked. The vehicle was taken but has since been recovered. There have been reports of ASB in the area. We are working closely with Tenancy enforcement to rectify this.

### Maesydre

- There was an attempt arson in the area but no damage had been caused to the vehicle. There have been no more reports since this incident.
- We have received reports of suspicious people within the area.

### Rhosnesni

- There has been an attempt burglary in the area. No access was gained. There have been reports of suspicious persons in the area. Residents are urged to contact the police via 101 or their local PCSO.

### Little Acton

- There has been an attempt burglary in the area. Local officers are speaking to residents and providing home safety advice when possible.
- Reports of suspicious groups in the area. We are pleased that these incidents are being reported to us.

## Borras

Suspicious people in the area. Officers have increased patrol and are continuing to execute Operation Twilight during the evenings.

## Other News/PCSO activities:

- Op TWILIGHT

**This Op is now in full swing. PCSO's have been tasked to deliver leaflets** about Operation Twilight. Early evening patrols are being conducted to highlight properties that are showing signs that no-one is home. Social media is also being used to highlight this issue.

### Op Bakings

The speeding operation has now begun. It is proving very successful in the first couple of weeks. There has been plenty of positive feedback. After the Christmas period Local councillors will be invited to go out with Mike and Sam during their operation.

Police officers have been in attendance with Mike and Sam and vehicles have been stopped and given strong words of advice. There are plans in place for the **go safe vans to attend location with the PCSO's.**

## APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### INTRODUCTION

In September 2009, the Community Council determined its procedure to deal with requests for financial assistance from Organisations that work or are based in the Acton Community Area; this report summarises the applications received to date during the year and sets out the Grants/ donations that have been awarded during the previous financial year. A small Task and Finish Group is presently reviewing the Financial Assistance Policy and is expected to report back to the Council shortly (Minute 143 March 2018 refers)

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

To note that no applications for financial assistance have been submitted since the last quarter meeting in accordance with the Policy agreed at the September 2009 meeting of the Council.

### DECISION REQUIRED

To note the present position.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. In September 2009 the Community Council, agreed its process and Policy for considering applications for financial assistance made under the provisions of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). (Minute 48 September 2009 refers). At that meeting, a standard financial application form was approved and is now circulated for completion to all persons and organisations seeking financial assistance from the Community Council. This ensures that the information from each applicant is received in a consistent format and all questions frequently asked by members are answered.
2. To ease pressures on the Council's budget, its Policy is to consider applications on a **quarterly basis** with the **budget apportioned equally** to each quarter to allow the Community Council to be more focused and equitable when determining financial assistance applications. The emphasis and focus of financial assistance is on providing pump priming to help local community groups to become self-financing rather than providing a regular guaranteed grant income year on year that may preclude other new local groups from being established to the benefit of the community. The quarterly meetings are March, June, September and December each year.
3. The Local Government Act 1972 sets out in Section 137, the powers and scope for a Community Council to make expenditure that benefits the local Community. Additional powers are also contained in Section 145 of the Act. A **sum of £3,500 has been set aside** in the estimates of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2019 for this purpose.
4. The current Budget Allocation is much less than the limit permitted by Section 137(4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972. For Parish and Town Councils in England and Wales, an amount of £7.86 per person of the Community Councils' population is permissible for 2018/19. The total number of Acton Community electors at January 2018 is 10,556. An extract will be available at the meeting of the powers contained in Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 that enables the Community Council to incur expenditure (up to £82,970.16 in 2018/19), which in their opinion is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to their area or any part of it or all or some of its inhabitants. Attached at Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 for information is a summary of the Financial Assistance Grants awarded during 2016/17 and 2017/18



5. In the current financial year, the Community Council has awarded the following grants totaling £1,070.00:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Decision</b>
1. AVOW Become a Friend of Shop Mobility	Appeal to help fund the annual costs of providing the Shopmobility Service in Wrexham Town Centre (Minute 143.2 March 2018 refers)	No grant
2. Home Start – County Borough of Wrexham	Financial support towards the costs of providing volunteer support for existing and newly referred disadvantaged and vulnerable young families who reside in the Acton Community.	<b>£300.00</b>  (subject to a representative of Home Start giving a report to the Community Council on how this grant has been spent and what benefit there has been to the Community of Acton)
3. Nightingale House Hospice	Financial assistance to support the work of the Hospice in the delivery of Palliative care and other day centre, outpatient and residential services from within the Community Council's area	<b>£500.00</b>
4. St John's Church Rhosnesni	Financial donation towards the costs of the Community Christmas Meal for mainly residents of Acton, Borrass Park and Rhosnesni	<b>£150.00</b>
5. Royal British Legion	Donation and Purchase of a Wreath to lay at the Annual Remembrance Day Service on 11 November 2018	<b>£120.75</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,070.75</b>

6. To ensure equal distribution of the budget, it has been apportioned equally between the quarterly meetings. This equates to £875.00 per quarter for 2018/19. I have circulated several application forms in response to general requests for financial assistance together with a standard letter setting out the Council's policy and the deadline for receipt of applications for this meeting. No application forms have been returned in time for this meeting.

***End of December 2018 update.***

## SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GIVEN DURING THE 2016/17 FINANCIAL YEAR:-

Name	Detail	Amount
1. Tenovus Cancer Care – North Wales	Financial assistance to continue to support cancer patients and their loved ones in their local community+	£100.00
2. Nightingale House Hospice	Financial assistance to support the work of the Hospice in the delivery of Palliative care from within the Community Council's area	£500.00
3. St John's Church Rhosnesni	financial donation towards the costs of the planned refurbishments and modernisation of the Church Hall which is now 25 years old	£500.00
4. Shelter Cymru	Assistance with cost of providing its housing needs services to people in the Acton Community. I confirm that the monies will be expended for services that are provided in the Acton Community area.	£100.00 Subject to the monies being expended for services that are provided in the Acton Community area.
5. Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	Poppy Wreath & Donation	£100.00
6. Mayor's Charity Fund Wrexham CBC	Tickets for Acton CC attendance at Mayor's Charity Dinner Dance 7 October 2016	£70.00
7. Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod	Financial assistance towards the substantial general running costs of this annual event	£100.00
8. Anglesey National Eisteddfod 2017	Financial support towards this annual festival which costs a total of £1.4m	£50.00
9. Wrexham Family Friends for 5's to 11's	Contribution towards the cost of supporting four families currently disadvantaged in the Acton Community	£500.00
10. Cunliffe Bowling Club	Financial assistance towards the costs of installing an environmentally friendly automatic watering system	£100.00
11. Wrexham Allotment & Leisure Gardeners' Association	Financial donation towards the costs of the Annual Open Flower, Vegetable and Home Produce show	£50.00
12. Bobath Children's Therapy Centre	Financial assistance to enable provision of extra therapists to treat more children across Wales who have Cerebral palsy	£100.00
13. Home Start County Borough of Wrexham	Assistance towards supporting newly referred young families who are vulnerable and disadvantaged and their volunteers who live within the Acton Community	£400.00
14. Borrass Park Albion Youth Football Club	Support towards the cost of youngsters from the Borrass /Acton area to go on the Club's 37th Exchange of Football and Friendship in Germany in April 2017	£300.00
15. Acton Park Primary School	Financial Assistance towards the costs of an improvement and renovation project for the wooden building in the school grounds	No Grant made – applicant referred to LEA
16. Barkers Lane Play Group	Financial assistance towards the cost of purchasing a range of IT resources to promote ICT development and skills for the children	£280.00
<b>Total Grants to 31 March 2017</b>		<b>£3,250.00</b>

## SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GIVEN DURING THE 2017/18 FINANCIAL YEAR:-

Name	Detail	Amount
1.Friends of Bellevue Park	Financial support to provide a memorial in the Park to remember all from Wrexham who served and died in WW1	£ 100.00
2. Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust Fund	Donation to enable the purchase of a third First Responder Scheme kit for use mainly in the Acton Community area. (Minute 38 July 2017 refers)	£1,000.00
3.The Vic Studios	Financial assistance towards the appeal for help with the repair and maintenance of the Studio's facilities and quality of service delivered by this music project.	£ 50.00
4.Unity Morris Dancers (Prinity Stars)	Financial support for start-up costs for this newly merged Group run by Volunteers initially based in the Acton Community Resource Centre	£ 250.00
5. Royal British Legion	Donation to 2017 Poppy Appeal and purchase of a wreath on behalf of Acton Community Residents (Minute 58.1 September 2017 refers)	£ 100.00
6. Wrexham Hospice and Cancer Support (Nightingale House)	Financial assistance to enable the Hospice to deliver palliative care to the highest standard for the Community	£ 500.00
7. Wrexham Foodbank	Financial assistance towards the warehouse costs of this Project in Wrexham to enable it to receive, sort and store food donations and continue to provide emergency food to local people in crisis from within the Acton Community (subject to a Wrexham Foodbank representative attending a subsequent Community Council meeting to give a report on how the grant is spent and its benefit to the Community of Acton)	£ 500.00
8. Family Friends for 5's to 11's	Financial support towards the costs of continuing to provide support to disadvantaged families and their children in the Acton Community	£ 150 00
9. K2 Explorer Scout Unit	Financial Assistance to support the Group's expedition to Hungary in the summer of 2018	£ 100.00
10 Little Acton Walking Football Group	Financial support to purchase equipment and defray the costs of hiring pitches at Queensway Sports Centre	£ 150.00
11. Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Urdd Gobaith Cymru	Financial assistance to support the costs of staging the 2018 Urdd National Eisteddfod to be held in Brecknock and Radnor	£ 50.00
12.Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod	Financial assistance to support the costs of staging the Eisteddfod in July 2018.	£100.00
13. Wales Air Ambulance	Financial Assistance requested to purchase vital equipment to be used in conjunction with on-board ventilators	£150.00
14.Wrexham Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association	Request for £50 donation to sponsor a group of classes at the Annual Flower and Vegetable Show	£50.00
Total Grants to 31 March 2018		<b>£3,250.00</b>

**ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2019/20**  
**INTRODUCTION**

Guidance was issued by the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) for the 2004/05 Financial year on Section 15(1) (a) of the Local Government Act 2003. It indicated that some elements of this Legislation would apply to Community and Town Councils. The Guidance on Local Government Investments was intended to formalise the Investment procedures undertaken by Community Councils but was not meant to be overly onerous and only applies in full to the very largest Community Councils or to those with significant sums to invest.

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To enable Members to review the Community Council's Investments Strategy for 2019/20 as part of the Annual budget setting process.

**DECISIONS REQUIRED**

1. To consider and if appropriate, approve the Investment Strategy for Acton Community Council for the financial year 2019/20 as set out in the appendix to this report; and
2. To agree to review the Acton Community Council Investments Policy each financial year as part of the budget setting process.

**INFORMATION**

The WAG Guidance on Section 15(1) (a) of the Local Government Act 2003 was applied with effect from the financial year 2004/05 and anticipates that the Annual Investment Strategy is agreed before 1 April of each financial year in question. The Strategy is meant to be a document that sets out the categories, Investments plan to be undertaken and the amounts intended to be invested over relevant periods of time. Community Councils have been encouraged to include approval of the Strategy within their budget processes or documentation. In accordance with Minute 84.2 November 2018, the Council agreed at its special meeting on 6 November 2018 that the present Investment strategy be retained and not to take up the option of investing in the Public Sector Deposit Fund

Members are reminded that this Authority presently holds three accounts at the HSBC Bank at Wrexham. There are two interest-bearing accounts, the Business Money Manager, which is a no notice account where all precept payments are now made. This is linked to a Money Market No Notice Account which holds earmarked capital monies for the Acton Community Resource Centre and year marked monies for Election costs, the Maesydre Power House Building valuation and the repairs/ replacement of Playground equipment of the Service Level Agreement with Wrexham County Borough Council and other earmarked monies. There is also a non-interest bearing Community (current) Account from which all creditor payments are made. The interest is paid gross each quarter and half yearly on the Money Manager and Money Market accounts respectively.

The return on the Council's Investments is low owing to the continuing historic low rate of interest. The interest amount currently being received is negligible, so there has been little opportunity to secure improvement. The earmarked contingency balances proposed in the estimates of Income and Expenditure from 2019/20 onwards will require consideration of the options for flexible longer term investment in the future. The Council's Banking strategy review, following repeal of Section 150 requirements for the signing off of cheque payments, determined to maintain the status quo as that currently represents the best internal safeguard and financial control of expenditure.

## ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY FOR ACTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL 2019/20

**This Annual Investment Strategy is prepared in accordance with the statutory guidance on Local Government Investments issued by the National Assembly for Wales.**

All cash, bank balances, financial assets, borrowings and credit arrangements are defined as a part of the Council's treasury management activities. This Annual Investment Strategy will concentrate on the Council's temporarily surplus resources (or other financial assets it holds) and the investments it undertakes of these resources.

The Council undertakes to ensure that for all its investments, priority will be given to security and liquidity rather than to yield. In drafting this Annual Investment Strategy, the Council has made appropriate arrangements for:

- Identification, management and control of risks in the investments/treasury management activities it undertakes.
- Budgeting, accounting and audit arrangements.
- Its cash and cash flow management requirements
- Segregation of responsibilities, organisational arrangements, adequate documentation and the identification of a responsible officer for investment/ treasury management activities.
- Corporate governance.
- Procedures to ensure it is alert to the possibility it may become subject to an attempt to involve it in a transaction involving the laundering of money.

All investments undertaken by this Council will be made and repaid in Sterling.

### SUMS TO BE INVESTED

All monies not required for approved expenditure purposes to be invested in the Council's Money Manager Account and earmarked contributions for Elections, Acton Community Resource Centre, future repairs/maintenance to the Maesydre Power House, repairs/replacement of Playground equipment under the Service Level Agreement with Wrexham County Borough Council together with any earmarked budget underspend item to be invested in the Money Market Account.

### LISTING OF INVESTMENTS UNDERTAKEN

The Council will undertake the following categories of investment for the financial year 2019/20.

- All excess funds to be held in a Money Manager Account or any other Deposit Fund that may be identified as providing low risk, adequate daily liquidity and optimised returns.

### NEW INVESTMENTS – REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

If any new investment instruments (other than those approved in the list above) are proposed during the financial year before such an investment is undertaken it will need to first be approved by Acton Community Council and the Council's Standing Orders refreshed to reflect such decisions.

### GLOSSARY

Credit arrangements – this covers all forms of borrowing or credit transactions that the Council may undertake.

**INFORMATION AND GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>1</b> .	Play for Wales	<b>Autumn 2018 Newsletter Issue 51:</b> A copy of this document will be available for members' perusal at the meeting	
<b>2</b> .	Society of Local Council Clerks	<b>2019 Practitioners Conference:</b> Email dated 23 November 2018 advising that this Conference will be held at Chesford Grange, Kenilworth on 14th and 15th February 2019. The conference, has a unique mix of interactive sessions on topics selected by previous attendees and is very well attended. The all-inclusive early bird price of £464 ends on 10 January 2019.	
<b>3</b> .	Wrexham County Borough Council	<b>UK Youth Parliament Update:</b> Email dated 19 November 2018 giving an update on the outcomes of the Mark Your Ballot campaign during 2018. Further information will be available at the meeting.	