

Minutes of the Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Tuesday 21 October 2014 at Acton Community Resource Centre, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham

Present:

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

* Absent

Also Present:

PC Kerry Evans, North Wales Police

Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

66 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ann O'Neill and Barbara Smith.

67 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

1. Councillor Anne Evans declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda Item 13 - Planning Applications being a member of Wrexham County Borough Council's Planning Committee.
2. Councillor Carole O'Toole declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda Item 10.2) as a member of her family sits on the Independent Remuneration Panel

68 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Council held on 16 September 2014 be received and confirmed as a correct record.

69 INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

1. **Minute 41.2: KEY ACTON ISSUES - Weed Controls/ Gully emptying:** It was noted that the Area Streetscene Manager – Paul Fairclough will be attending the next meeting on 18 November 2014 to address the issues raised by the Community Council.
2. **Minute 54.1: Community Safety Camera:** The Clerk reported on the information received from Caia Park Community Council. Consideration was also given to the proposal in the Wrexham CBC Consultation Document Difficult Decisions in respect of CCTV and funding for mobile Community Safety Cameras. Members indicated they would prefer to have a dedicated Community Safety Camera for use in the Acton Community area but efforts should be made to identify any other small grants/ Proceeds of crime funding streams that could offset the cost of purchase.

RESOLVED – that

- 1) **The option to support the purchase of a Community Safety Camera remain a high priority for the Community Council; and**
- 2) **PC Kerry Evans' offer to make enquiries and report back to the Community Council on the criteria for accessing payments from the Proceeds of Crime fund be accepted.**
3. **Minute 54.4: Community Agent Pilot Scheme:** Members were advised that no applications had been received by the closing date for this temporary post. There was a short debate about other options available to make this post feasible before the funding for this Pilot Project expired.

RESOLVED - that the Clerk make enquiries with Caia Park Community Council to ascertain whether combining with its Part time Community Agent Post was feasible.

4. **Minute 54.5: Access for the disabled and elderly at Acton Community Resource Centre:** Members were disappointed to note that a response to this enquiry was still awaited
5. **Minute 56.2 Community Policing Matters - : Dean Road Recreation Ground:** The Clerk read out the response of Glyndwr University. Members were pleased to note that security staff had now been instructed to check and secure the Dean Road site in the evenings in order to try and assist with the anti-social behaviour and crime rate in the vicinity.
6. **Minute 63 Acton Community Centre SLA Review arrangements:** Members were disappointed to note that a response to this enquiry was still awaited

70. COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS

The Chair welcomed PCSO Kerry Evans who was attending the meeting on behalf of North Wales Police. The monthly report tabled at the meeting provided breakdowns of relevant Crime and Incident statistics and the current live operations involving the Neighbourhood Policing Team for the five Acton wards. The weekly Police Surgery sessions at Acton Community Resource Centre had been reviewed and would subsequently be held each Wednesday morning between 9am and 12 noon. Members received details of the following Police work: -

- Operation hydroplane – Officers were stepping up efforts and Members were asked to encourage residents whose profile may make them a target to contact the Police for preventative advice
- Vulnerable people in the Community were being visited by the PCSOs to advise and reassure them on Crime prevention
- Dark nights - awareness raising about the potential for an increase in Burglaries from dwellings where there is clearly no one at home
- St Johns Church Community Christmas lunch will be going ahead on Wednesday 17 December 2014.
- Final arrangements and posters are being distributed for the Acton Haunted Walk on Wednesday 29 October 2014.
- Rate of Crime in four of the five Acton community wards are showing a minus.
- Noted PCSO Gina Subacchi was currently being shared with the Grosvenor Ward but a new PCSO for the Little Acton wards was expected to be announced shortly.

Members referred to recent issues including speeding traffic in the Elm Grove / Chestnut Avenue area and the need for more PCSOs to be trained in use of the GATSO Camera which would act as a massive deterrent. Concern about the speed of vehicles coming off the A483 towards Smithy Lane was also raised. There being no further issues that members wished to raise, the Chair thanked the Officers for their report and attendance at the meeting and congratulated the Officers on the work they were doing to the benefit of all in the Community

71. CASUAL COUNCILLOR VACANCIES- SECTION 116,LOCAL GOVERNMENT WALES MEASURE 2011

Further to Minute 58.1 September 2014, it was noted that the Returning Officer had advised that there have been no requests to fill the three vacancies within the Acton Central and Little Acton Wards by an election and the Community Council should now proceed to arrange to fill the vacancies by co-option. In accordance with Section 116 of the 2011 Measure, it is proposed to display public notices until 14 November 2014 to advise of the Council's intention to fill these vacancies by co-option and inviting expressions of interest to the Clerk from suitably qualified members of the public who are prepared to represent their community on Acton Community Council. It was noted that the 2011 Wales Measure allows for applicants to be present in the meeting when selection takes place

RESOLVED - that the Clerk place the relevant public notices within the Little Acton and Acton Central wards and on the Council's website. The closing date for the receipt of applications be noon on Friday 14 November, 2014 and the Clerk circulate any applications so received to Members and invite each of the

applicants to attend the next meeting of the Council on Tuesday 18 November 2014 to speak for a maximum of three minutes before proceeding to co-opt and fill the three vacancies.

72. PROCEDURAL MATTERS - MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

Further to Minute 58.2 September 2014, Members noted that consideration of this item had been deferred until this meeting. Regard was given to the decision taken earlier in the meeting (Minute 71 refers) to authorise the Clerk to the Council to proceed to take the necessary steps to fill the three casual Councillor vacancies by co-option.

RESOLVED – to defer consideration of this matter until the December 2014 meeting of the Community Council when the three Community Councillor vacancies will have been filled by Co-option.

73. KEY ACTON ISSUES

WCBC Members advised on the following matters that may affect the whole or part of the Community of Acton. (Minute 107 January 2011 refers):-

1. Difficult Decision Consultation: the deadline for this Consultation is 24 October 2014 and everyone was being encouraged to respond.
2. Traffic & Speeding from Llanypwll Link Road onto Borrass Park Road past the Schools: Councillors had raised this issue and had also spoken to parents who obstruct access to nearby properties at the beginning and end of the school day
3. Resurfacing of Roads: Barkers Lane had been resurfaced but parts of the bus route on the Plas Goulbourne estate were still to be repaired.

74. ACTON PARK MATTERS - 2014 SEASONAL PARK RANGER

The report from the 2014 Acton Park Seasonal Ranger was received. It detailed the general duties undertaken, other educational work, activities organised within the Park and problems dealt during the summer months. The Ranger's Report also made several suggestions for the Park of an operational nature such as advertising Community Clean up days, donations and raising the profile of the Friends of Acton Park, access to storage for tools used by the Ranger, arranging evening patrols in the Park to deter anti-social behaviour and employing a Ranger in future years for fewer days over a longer time period. The Seasonal Ranger indicated that the position benefits the public by having a visible point of contact in the Park. Many people visiting the Park had enjoyed talking about park issues; with litter and dog fouling being the most frequently discussed issues. The success of the Park Ranger service was endorsed by members. In respect of the Park Ranger's recommendations, Members referred to the Park being a great asset which was receiving visitors from places as wide as Manchester the USA as well as the local area.

RESOLVED - that the report be noted and consideration be given when determining the scope of the 2015 Service Level Agreement to the Rangers suggestion to extend the period of the Seasonal Ranger Post but on reduced hours.

75. CONSULTATIONS

The following consultation documents received since the last meeting and Members were considered:

- i. **The Review of Designated Landscapes in Wales:** The Welsh Government had commissioned an Independent Panel to conduct a review of designated landscapes in Wales (National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty). The review was in two stages to gather a variety of types of evidence from both stakeholders and members of the public. Evidence to the review panel should be submitted by Wednesday 5 November 2014 regarding the first stage of its work. The Panel will also conduct focused evidence gathering sessions and Public engagement workshops within the reach of the designated landscapes during the week commencing the 10 November 2014. The review will then turn its attention to the future governance and management arrangements of designated landscapes in Wales.

RESOLVED – to make no comments on the Review

- ii. **Independent Remuneration Panel For Wales draft Annual Report 2015/16:** This draft report was accessible on the Panel’s website. The Community Council has been requested to submit any representations it may wish to make about this report by no later than 27 November 2014. The report will have effect for the financial year 2015/16. The Report’s Chapter 10 relates to Town & Community Councils

RESOLVED – to make no comments on the draft Plan

(Councillor Mrs C O’Toole declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in this item of business as a member of her family sits on the Independent Remuneration Panel. She left the meeting taking no part in the consideration, discussion or voting on the item)

76. 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
1.Planning Aid Wales	<p>Help with Planning: Email dated 2 October 2014 advising of the services provided by Planning Aid Wales, a charity that supports community engagement in planning. The services include an Advice Line, Guidance publications including a Community and Town Councillor’s Handbook. Planning training for Councillors can also be provided at a local venue.</p> <p>RESOLVED – that the Clerk contact Planning Aid Wales Office to ascertain whether Training could be provided at the Acton Community Resource Centre</p>
2.Elton Watson Senior Tree Officer Wrexham CBC	<p>iTree Project: Email dated 10 October 2014 advising of research and sample plots for the Wrexham iTree Eco study Project that had been carried out in the Acton community. The email provided a research summary and information on Wrexham’s Urban Trees together with recommendations for planting a wider variety of species to decrease the risk of existing trees and identifying a further 28% of urban land in the Borough could be planted with trees.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Information noted</p>
3.Aled Roberts AM	<p>Review of Trunk Road Speed limits: Letter posted 13 October 2014 referring to a Review being undertaken by the Welsh Government and the Trunk Road Agency which is due to be completed by December 2014. The letter encouraged the Community Council to submit its views and any representations received from residents relating to speed limits on trunk roads to ensure they form part of the Welsh Government’s review process.</p> <p>RESOLVED – that any issues Members have been made aware of by residents be forwarded to the Clerk for submission before the end of this Review.</p>
4.Society of Local Council Clerks	<p>9th Practitioners Conference 5-6 March 2015 at Stratford Upon Avon: Email dated 14 October 2014 advising of planning for this conference and a 5 minute survey for the preferred Conference topics. The early bird delegate fee is £235.00 plus vat.</p> <p>RESOLVED – that the Clerk be authorised to reserve a space to attend the Practitioners Conference as part of her ongoing training</p>

77. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members received and considered details of payments received, the 2nd quarter bank reconciliation and payments as set out below that required authorisation.

PAYMENTS RECEIVED**Payment - refund of Audit Fee from redistribution of reserves by Wales Audit Office - £30.00****2014/15 2nd QUARTER END BANK RECONCILIATION:**

HSBC Current Account £ 34,851.98
 HSBC Deposit Account £108,675.75
 HSBC Moneymarket Account £ 32,081.12
 [Chairman's Charity Account] £ 531.21
 Balance as at 30 Sept 2013 **£175,608.85**
 (less 6 unpresented cheques totalling £1,759.24 net balance of £173,849.61)

PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION

Voucher no & Payee	Details	Amount
CCA1 Wrexham CBC Mayor's Charity Fund	Donation to Mayor's charity Fund on 17/10/14 at charity Dinner Dance S15 local Government Act 1972	£25.00
33 Wrexham & District Citizen's Advice Bureaux	SLA Acton Outreach Service 1 October 2014 to 31 March 2015 S142 Local Government Act 1972	£3,073.08
34 Carole Roberts Clerk to the Council	Clerk's Expenses for October 2014 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972	£ 107.80
35 Wrexham County Borough Council	Clerks Salary and office expenses for July 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

78. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council considered whether it wished 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 and had been made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (to be determined by Wrexham County Borough Council).

Case Number/ Address	Proposed Development	Decision
P/2014/0713 Asda Stores Ltd Holt Road Wrexham	Variation Of Condition 3 Of Planning Permission Cb02597 (As Amended By P/2000/1074) To allow deliveries of goods or other materials between the hours of 0700 - 2200 on weekdays and Saturdays and 0700 - 2000 hours on Sundays and Bank Holidays and number of Articulated Vehicle Deliveries on Sundays and Bank Holidays not to exceed one vehicle per hour and restrictions on other deliveries	The Community Council objects to the proposed variation and is mindful of the negative impact this would have on the amenity for occupiers and users of nearby dwellings/ buildings. The existing Condition 3 with a limitation on the number of calling vehicles on Sundays and Bank Holidays was imposed by the Planning Inspector in October 2001 and the Council does not see any reason to alter that decision.
P/2014/0722 43 Smithy Lane, Acton, Wrexham	Single Storey Side / Rear Extension	No observations

P/2014/0745 13 Heol Dafydd, Wrexham	Extension and Pitched Roof to garage	No Observations
P/2014/0379 Post Office 81 Holt Road, Wrexham	Installation of ATM within shop front	No Objections
P/2014/0379 Post Office 81 Holt Road, Wrexham	Display of signs on advertising collar on new ATM machine	No Objections

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

79. ARRANGEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 2014 MEETING

Members noted that the presentation of prizes to School Pupils who are the winners of the Council's Dog Fouling Campaign School Poster Competition would take place at 4pm on Tuesday 9 December 2014 in the Acton Community Resource Centre. In order to avoid unnecessary delay for those attending both the presentation and the Council meeting scheduled for the same evening, the Chair proposed to bring the start time of the Council meeting forward to 6pm.

RESOLVED –that the start time of the Community Council meeting for Tuesday 9 December be brought forward to 6:00pm.

Signed as a correct record this 18th day of November 2014

Chair