

Minutes of a Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Tuesday 16 February 2016 at Acton Community Resource Centre, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham

Present:

Councillor	L Closs	(Chair)	Councillor	W Baldwin * (Vice Chair)
"	E Boylin		"	Mrs C O'Toole
"	Mrs A Evans		"	G Pearce *
"	R Hardy *		"	T Pierce
"	J A Kelly		"	J Richards *
"	P Lloyd		"	K Roberts
"	G Lowe *		"	Mrs B Smith
"	Mrs A O'Neill		"	Mrs S Stanford

\* Absent

Also Present:

PC Kerry Evans PCSOs Lucy Green and Dave Gill , North Wales Police

Jo lane Dementia Friendly Communities Co-ordinator Alzheimer's Society Mold

Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

## 120 SYMPATHY

Members were saddened by the recent death of former Community Councillor Mrs Olive Simm and they stood in silence as a token of their sympathy.

## 121 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bill Baldwin Ralph Hardy Geoff Lowe, Gareth Pearce and James Richards.

## 122 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

1. Councillor Phil Lloyd declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda Item 9.3 - Allotment charges at Prices Lane
2. Councillor Barbara Smith declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda Item 12 – Application for Grant of a premises Licence under the Licensing Act 2003 for Grove Guest House, 36 Chester Road Wrexham.

There were no other Declarations of Interest made at this stage of the proceedings.

## 123 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the following Meetings were received:

1. The Council meeting held on 19 January 2016.
2. The Youth Committee meeting held on 2 February 2016.

**RESOLVED – that**

***i) the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Council held on 19 January 2016 be received and confirmed as a correct record; and***

***ii) the Minutes of the Youth Committee meeting held on 2 February 2016 be received and the recommendations to amend its terms of reference be accepted.***

## 124 INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES:

### Council Meeting -19 January 2016

1. **Minute 101.5: LOWER PARK FARM CO-OPERATIVE - ANAEROBIC DIGESTER PLANT:** The Clerk reported receipt of a letter of thanks and a request for assistance to raise awareness of the Co-operative's leading work in Green sustainable energy.

**RESOLVED - that the Community Council include a news item on its website advising how to arrange for an opportunity to view this facility on a Saturday morning.**

2. **Minute 116 Draft Local Government (Wales) Bill:** It was noted that Councillor Carole O'Toole and the Clerk had attended the Consultation event at Llandudno on 4 February 2016 and the Council's response to the Consultation had been submitted in advance of the Consultation deadline.

3. **Minute 117 Clerks Report Item 6.1 What's important to you?:** The Clerk reported that a further email had been received requesting the Council's two representatives to register for this event. It was noted that Councillor's Carole O'Toole and Sue Stanford were available to attend this event as the Council's representatives.

### Youth Committee – 2 February 2016

4. **Minute 20i – Review and Development of Options for 2016/17 and Future arrangements to provide for Young People across the five Acton Community wards:** It was noted that Councillor Len Closs had made contact with the Headteacher of Rhosnesni High School and would with Councillor Barbara Smith, shortly be meeting a group of pupils who live in the Acton Community area to engage and discuss with them their aspirations and needs.

## 125 COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS

The Chair welcomed PC Kerry Evans who was in attendance. She introduced two of the new PCSOs for the Acton Community. PC Evans gave a short update on the Monthly crime figures and other activities of the Police in the Acton Community area. In particular the following matters were highlighted:

- The new PCSOs had now completed their training and would shortly be fully operational. PCSO Erin Shawcross was due to return to work from maternity leave and the Acton Policing Team would then be fully staffed;
- The new monthly reporting format combined reports for all wards with a summary of actions taken during the month in respect of the three key priorities, Emerging issues and Good News Stories;
- Feedback was provided on the issues raised at the January 2016 Council meeting and the actions that have or will be taken in response including training for the new PCSOs on use of the GATSO gun;
- The recent Public Meeting for residents of the Fairways and Goulbourne estates had received good feedback and a further meeting will be arranged in six months' time. The Residents' Facebook group was proving to be effective and reassuring for the residents of the Fairways Estate. It is planned feed the OWL reporting into this Facebook Group;
- A burglary over the weekend had resulted in a significant arrest. PC Evans emphasised the message of Operation Twilight to leave lights on if away from home in the early evening;
- The monthly crime figures have been collated onto one sheet with the statistics for each of the five Acton wards being listed individually against the Crime type; and
- Burglaries other than dwellings for the twelve months were down together with Cold Calling. The Police and Trading Standards Office will be doing a joint operation in the summer.

Members then raised concerns about reports from the public of an unknown well-dressed male jumping from out of the bushes in Acton park and scarring females in the Park . The Police present undertook to look into this matter. Reference was then made to the drug and Antisocial Behaviour Statistics for Maesydre. It was noted that Internal Domestic Violence that was non conclusive had been included in the month's figures. The new style report had lost the previous sense of trend or the history of Crime incidence and Members asked whether there was any way to record comparisons that could be used as evidence when stating the case for resourcing for Community Policing.

The Chair commended PC Evans on her Team's work at the Fairways Estate and in arranging the Public meeting and for the action which has promoted a genuine Joint resident and Police Community Spirit. This model should be built on in terms of community action and sustaining momentum for preventative action.

**RESOLVED- that PC Evans' update report be received and noted.**

## **126 DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES**

The Chair welcomed Jo Lane dementia Friendly Communities. She gave a short presentation introducing and highlighting:

- An overview of the Alzheimer's Society and Vision
- Activities arranged including Singing for the Brain and Dementia cafes
- Research and the ten different points and seven criteria to be met to for an Award of Dementia Community Friendly status at Bronze, Silver or Gold levels
- A Dementia Friend is a Community Champion who has attended an awareness session and gained an insight about the issues affecting those with Dementia
- In 2014 there were 1759 persons affected by Dementia in Wrexham. Currently there are no Dementia Friendly Communities in North Wales and 13 in South Wales.
- A short video presentation on how simple assistance by the public and shop /bank staff can improve the quality of life and experiences for Dementia Sufferers.

Following the presentation Ms Lane advised that a Steering Group for Wrexham Town would be holding its first meeting at 11am on Monday 7 March 2016 in the Community Room at the Tesco Store in St George's Crescent Wrexham. Members of the Community Council were encouraged to attend. *Ms Lane indicated she would forward a copy of her presentation to the Clerk for circulation to Members.*

**RESOLVED - that Ms Lane be thanked for her presentation and Members note details of the first Steering Group meeting of the Wrexham Steering Group is to be held on Monday 7 March 2016 at 11:00am in the Community Meeting room at Tesco and Members attend if they are able to**

## **127 KEY ACTON ISSUES**

Wrexham County Borough Council Members advised that the current Budget Saving regime was continuing. There were no other new matters recently considered by the County Borough Council that may affect the whole or part of the Community of Acton. (Minute 107 January 2011 refers):

**The present position was noted**

## **128 PROCEDURAL MATTERS: APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR**

The Council's arrangements were reviewed to ensure the Independent Internal Audit testing during 2016/17 for the 2015/16 Financial Year end and in year Internal audit Services met the requirements as set out by the Audit Commission for Wales and the current Accounts and Audit Regulations. It was noted that the Council should review and appoint its internal auditor each year. Further evidence of this review will be requested by the external auditors in the 2015/16 audit as part of the new Thematic Review. Guidance states that internal audit must not influence the direction or extent of the review however it is good practice to seek their input. The Clerk referred to a Table received from the existing Internal Auditor that demonstrates how it could meet the required standards together with the relevant evidence. Members also considered and noted the scope of an Internal Audit Plan for one year-end Audit and one Audit Report. It was noted that the Council will market test for its Internal Audit Services for 2017/18 in early 2017.

**RESOLVED - that the matters now reported to the Council for the renewal of the current arrangements with JDH Business Services Limited concerning the provision of an internal audit service, be accepted and a letter of engagement detailing the Internal Audit Plan for 2016/17 as reported to the meeting, be signed by the Chairman and Clerk and forwarded to the JDH Business Services Limited.**

## **129 ITEMS PLACED ON THE AGENDA AT THE REQUEST OF MEMBERS**

**1. Environmental Day for Maesydre:** Members noted this item had been placed on the agenda at the request of Councillor Carole O'Toole who referred to an Environmental Clean-up day being arranged jointly

with Wrexham CBC's Housing Department on 13 April 2016 for residents of the Maesydre ward. It was noted that leaflets will be circulated to Council tenants and other residents about the event and there was provision made in this year's budget for Community Streetscene matters.

**RESOLVED – that a 50% contribution be approved towards the cost of hiring a skip on 13 April 2016 for the Maesydre Environment Day to enable all Maesydre residents to use the skip and the monies be spent from the 2015/16 Community Streetscene budget.**

**2. Wrexham County Borough Council crowd-funding initiative- Honouring our veterans preserving their memories:** Further to Minute 103.5 December 2015, the Chair, Councillor Len Closs referred to the recent appeal made Councillor David Griffiths Armed Forces Champion for a project that goes some way to acknowledging the gratitude and respect the people of Wrexham has for local armed forces personnel past and present through encapsulating and preserving the Standard, or ceremonial flags from the Normandy, Eighth Army, Burma Star, Dunkirk and Korean Campaigns by providing a permanent home in the Council Chamber at the Guildhall. The Chair had recently attended the launch of this project at the Wrexham Museum and sought the Council's views on whether it wishes to provide support.

**RESOLVED – to make a £100 donation to this crowd funding initiative.**

**3. Allotments at Prices Lane, Rhosddu:** This item was placed on the agenda at the request of Councillor Phil Lloyd in response to the concerns of Acton Residents who have plots on the Prices Lane Allotment Site. They have seen the Annual Rent for their allotments increase by 25% this year with no corresponding improvements in the Services offered to them apparent.

**RESOLVED – that the Clerk write to the Wrexham County Borough Council on behalf of the Acton residents who are allotment holders on the Prices Lane Allotment Site expressing genuine concern about the apparent lack of consultation on the detail of this increase and to establish whether the charges have previously been subsidised by the Council or if this is not the case, to seek an explanation as to why the Annual charge has been increased by 25%.**

*(Councillor Phil Lloyd declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of this agenda item and he withdrew from the debate after briefly explaining the background to this item.)*

### 130 REPORT FROM CLERK

The Clerk reported on correspondence and other information received since the last meeting as follows:

Organisation	Details
1.Ffion Williams, Solicitor Wrexham CBC	<b>Appeal for Members to sit on Education Appeals Panels:</b> Email dated 21 January 2016 inviting applications by 29 February 2016 from parents and professionals to become a voluntary Education Appeals Panel member. <b>RESOLVED - that members contact Ms Williams direct if they wish to submit an application.</b>
2.Delyth Pridding Commissioning & Planning Officer Wrexham CBC	<b>Community Agent:</b> Email dated 28 January 2016 advising that following the initial "Pilot" phase of the Community Agent, it is now planned to rollout this service to more areas within the Borough of Wrexham. Funding is available for these posts until 31 March 2018. <b>RESOLVED – to note the email and invite one of the "Pilot" Community Agents to attend a meeting to give an informed view on the value and practical operation of the position before proceeding any further.</b>
3.Tracy Gilmartin One Voice Wales	<b>1.Proposals relating to the Statement of Public Participation for the National Development Framework:</b> Email dated 1 February 2016 informing of release of this Consultation. The closing date for responses is 25 April 2016. The Consultation documents were available online <a href="#">here</a> . <b>Information noted</b> <b>2.Membership of One Voice Wales:</b> Email dated 9 February 2016 inviting the Council to become a member of One Voice Wales from April 2016. A summary

Organisation	Details
	of the current services, training, representation, consultancy services and future developments was available at the meeting. <b>Information noted</b>
4.Planning Aid Wales	<b>2016 Planning Training Events for Community and Town Councils:</b> Email dated 2 February 2016 providing information on three different types of training events being provided during 2016. A Summary of the proposed training events and costs was available at the meeting <b>RESOLVED – that the newer members of the Council be authorised, if they so wish, to attend any local Planning Aid training events that are being held on suitable dates to assist with their induction and training.</b>
5.North Wales Support & Development Officer Community Transport Association Wales, Rhyl	<b>Funding for Pan Wales Community Transport Project – Stakeholder Consultation:</b> Email dated 8 February 2016 advising CTA Wales have submitted an outline bid for EU funding for this Project and are seeking views and feedback on the outline of the project proposal by no later than 21 February 2016. Any responses received will be included in a full bid. <b>Information noted</b>
6. Wrexham County Borough Council	<b>1. Local Development Plan:</b> Email dated 8 February 2016 advising of drop in sessions in various locations throughout the County Borough. The drop in sessions from part of the Public Consultation that is being held between 12 February and 1 April 2016. <b>RESOLVED – that</b> <i>i. Members note detail of and attend any of the Consultation events they are able to;</i> <i>ii. the Clerk to the Council obtain and circulate electronically for members perusal details of the Candidate sites that will affect the Acton and adjoining Communities boundaries; and</i> <i>iii.the Community Council consider its response to this public consultation at its 15 March 2016 meeting.</i> <b>2. Off Street Parking Places Consolidation Order 2016:</b> Letter dated 15 February 2016 advising of a Notice Placed in Press regarding this matter. Comments to be submitted by 11 March 2016. A copy of this information will be available at the meeting. <b>RESOLVED – to welcome the Parking Place proposals for the Water World Car Park particularly in respect of weekends and not to raise any objections to the proposals</b>
7.HM Courts Tribunal Service	<b>Response to proposal on the provision of court and tribunal services in Wales:</b> Email dated 12 February 2016 advising of the issue of a written Ministerial statement in response to this recent consultation. Details were available at the meeting <b>Information noted</b>

### 131 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members noted that no payments had been received this month payments and considered the outstanding debtor and other payments.

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

VOUCHER NO & PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
47. Wrexham County Borough Council	2015/16 SLA Q3 instalment- School Crossing Patrols Acton School & Dean Road only [none for Borrass Park Schools] S137 Local Government Act 1972	£1,847.50

48.SLCC Enterprises Ltd	Clerk's Attendance fee for the SLCC Practitioners Conference on 25 & 26 February 2016 at the Holiday Inn, Stratford Upon Avon Section 112 Local Government Act 1972	£273.20 (vat £24.20)
49 Wrexham Citizens Advice Bureau	2015/16 Annual Service Level Agreement: Payment for Acton Outreach Service 1/4/15 to 31/3/16 S142 Local Government Act 1972	£6,269.07
50 Carole Roberts Clerk to the Council	Clerk's Expenses for February 2016 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972	£123.39
51.Wrexham County Borough Council	Clerks Salary and office expenses for December 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
52. Wrexham County Borough Council	Donation to "Honouring our veterans. Preserving their memories" crowd Funding appeal Section 137 Local Government Act 1972.	£100.00

### **132 APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003 – GROVE GUESTHOUSE, 36 CHESTER ROAD WREXHAM LL11 2SD**

The Clerk reported receipt of notification from Wrexham County Borough Council's Licensing Officers of this application for the Sale of Alcohol, Recorded Music and Late Night Refreshment at the Grove Guesthouse to be determined by Wrexham CBC. It was noted the Licence Application was for residents only and objections must relate to Licensing Objectives. Members noted that this property was situated in a Residential area and there was potential for disruption to nearby residents particularly from use of the conservatory on the application site if non-residents are permitted under this premises licence.

**RESOLVED – the Clerk to the Council seek reassurance that non-residents will not be admitted to the premises and if the Premises licence is granted, it should stipulate that it will be for the Guest House residents only.**

*(Councillors Anne Evans and James Kelly being members of Wrexham County Borough Council's Licensing Committee both declared personal and prejudicial interests in respect of this agenda item and left the meeting when the item was discussed.)*

*(Councillor Barbara Smith declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in this application being a nearby resident. She remained in the meeting during the debate but took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.)*

### **133 TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990, SECTION 78 APPEAL AT 3 CAMBERLEY DRIVE, WREXHAM; REFERENCE: P/2015/0745; - OUTLINE APPLICATION TO ERECT ONE DETACHED DWELLING ON LAND ADJACENT TO 3 CAMBERLEY DRIVE**

The Community Council noted that a notification on 27 January 2016 from Wrexham County Borough Council informed that an appeal has been made to the Welsh Ministers in respect of this Planning Application that was refused by Wrexham County Borough Council. The appeal will be decided on the basis of written representations received by 3 March.

The Council has objected to this Planning application on the grounds that the proposed development will not be in keeping with the Wrexham Town Character Area Guidelines for interwar Suburban areas in terms of:-

- Conserving and enhancing existing highway verges and street trees
- Conserving low density of development and will result in over-development of the plot (Local Council Planning Guidance Note No 19 refers)
- The proposed vehicular access from Park Avenue will create road safety and highways issues.

**RESOLVED to reaffirm the Community Council's objection and the comments it has previously submitted in respect of this application and these additional comments be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for consideration prior to determination of this appeal by the inspector appointed by the Welsh Ministers.**

### 134 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to 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):

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

<b>Case Number/ Address &amp; Proposed Development</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<b>1 .P/2016/0012: 25 Kensington Grove Wrexham</b> Crown Thin Two Mature Sycamore Trees Within The Rear Garden By 10-15% Removing Crossing, Rubbing And Duplicate Branches Within The Crown To Improve Crown Structure And Air Flow. Reduce The Lower Lateral Branches By 2-3 Metres Back To Suitable Side Branch	The Community Council has no objection to the proposed tree works provided that they are carried out under the direction, supervision and to the satisfaction of the Council's Arboriculture Officer
<b>2.P/2016/0042: Old Girls School Site The Groves Penymaes Avenue Wrexham</b> Application For Prior Notification Of Proposed Demolition Of Former Secondary Modern School	Acton Community Council has no comments to make on the mode of demolition for this landmark Wrexham Building. The proposed demolition should be carried out safely to ensure the public are not put at risk. The land once cleared should be landscaped to ensure the visual and other amenity of the area suffers no detriment or ill effect from the site.
<b>3.P/2016/0052: The Goulbourne, Borrass Park Road, Wrexham</b> External Alterations To Public House Including New Timber Entrance, Extended Patio Area To Front Elevation, New Play Kit Repositioned Following Removal Of Existing Kit, New And Replacement Windows, Areas Of New Wall Mounted Timber Cladding And New Led etc.	The Community Council welcomes this investment in a Community Resource that is currently an empty building. The proposed works will improve the amenity of this site.
<b>4.P/2016/0085: 3 Holly Walks Wrexham</b> T1 Sycamore, T2 And T3 Norway Maple - Crown Raise Along Road Boundary To Approximately 6 Metres Removing Branches Back To Suitable Growing Points To Maintain Statutory Clearance Over The Highway, Crown Reduce To Clear House By 2 Metres And Remove Dead, Rubbing & crossing branches etc.	The Community Council has no objection to the proposed tree works provided that they are carried out under the direction, supervision and to the satisfaction of the Council's Arboriculture Officer
<b>5.P/2016/0090: 21 Kensington Grove Wrexham</b> T14 - Common Beech - Reduce Lateral Branches By A Maximum Of 3 Metres To Suitable Branches With Selective Pruning And Tip Pruning, Crown Raise To Approximately 4 Metres On The North Side Of The Tree (Protected By TPO WMBC No 167)	The Community Council has no objection to the proposed tree works provided that they are carried out under the direction, supervision and to the satisfaction of the Council's Arboriculture Officer

*(Councillor Barbara Smith declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in respect of application P/2016/0042: Old Girls School Site, The Groves, Penymaes Avenue, Wrexham as her property adjoins the application site. She remained in the meeting during the debate but took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.)*

**Signed as a correct record this 15th day of March 2016**

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**Chair**