

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Tuesday 16 June 2015 at Acton Community Resource Centre, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham**

Present:

|            |                 |            |                          |
|------------|-----------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Councillor | L Closs (Chair) | Councillor | W Baldwin * (Vice Chair) |
| "          | E Boylin *      | "          | T Pierce *               |
|            | Mrs A Evans *   |            | J Richards               |
| "          | R Hardy         | "          | K Roberts *              |
| "          | J A Kelly *     | "          | Mrs O Simm *             |
|            | G Lowe          | "          | Mrs B Smith              |
| "          | Mrs A O'Neill   | "          | Mrs S Stanford           |
| "          | Mrs C O'Toole * | "          | 1 vacancy                |

\* Absent

Also Present:

PCSOs Wil Roberts and Sarah Pawley, North Wales Police  
Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

## 18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors W Baldwin, E Boylin, Mrs A Evans, J Kelly, Mrs C O'Toole, T Pierce, K Roberts, and Mrs O Simm. Members were sorry to learn that Councillor K Roberts had recently been admitted to hospital and asked that their best wishes for a speedy recovery be conveyed to him.

## 19 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Mrs A O'Neill declared a personal and prejudicial interest in respect of an application from the Gate Hangs High Bowling Club to be considered under Agenda Item 7 – Financial Assistance being an active member of the Bowling Club.

## 20 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 19 May 2015 be received and confirmed as a correct record.**

## 21 INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2015

- Minute 7.1.iii – Acton Community Resource Centre:** It was noted that Mrs Lynn Williams had recently been appointed as the Manager of the Centre and her start date was yet to be confirmed. In respect of the security concerns previously raised by the Community Council, they had been addressed through the works to enclose the reception area of the Centre and restricting access to the side door of the building so that all visitors now have to use the main entrance.
- Minute 15.1 – Open Space Audit Assessment:** The Clerk confirmed that she had submitted the agreed written representations and received an acknowledgement on 10 June 2015.
- Minute 15.2 – Wrexham Town and Community Council Forum, 11 June 2015:** It was noted that both Councillor Kevin Roberts and Councillor Olive Simm had **not** been able to attend the Forum. The Clerk advised that she had subsequently received notification that the next Forum meeting will consider the "Together in Wrexham" Report submitted to the Wrexham County Borough Council's Executive Board meeting on 9 June 2015.

## 22 COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS

- Acton Community Policing Report:** The Chair welcomed PCSOs Wil Roberts and Sarah Pawley, who were attending the meeting on behalf of North Wales Police.

The monthly report tabled at the meeting provided breakdowns of relevant Crime and Incident statistics. However Members noted there was no information about the current live operations involving the

Neighbourhood Policing Team for the five Acton wards. Since April 2015 there had been a reduction in the number of Burglaries and there had been a small spike in criminal damage/arson. In respect of the ongoing Operation in respect of security of garages, tenants were being encouraged to keep nothing other than their vehicles in the Garage as anything portable by hand was an easy target for intruders.

It was noted that the Wrexham Town Policing team were responding with resources, house to house intelligence gathering and reassurances to the public following the recent large scale arson attacks in Hightown. During the presentation members had received reports of speeding traffic in the vicinity of Elm Grove. The Officers indicated that it may be possible to reserve the Community Speed gun to raise awareness and help reduce speeding in this area.

2. **Policing Objectives** progress against the Policing Priorities set at the meeting with North Wales Police and Acton Community Councillors in December 2014. The Chair advised that together with the Clerk he had met on 15 June 2015 with the Town Inspector; the five Borough Councillors had not been able to attend and whilst the Policing Objectives had not been reviewed, the discussion was useful and had covered Acton Community Crime levels, perception and reporting, the Maesydre Power House and Timing of Objective setting meetings.

3. **Dedicated Acton Community Safety Camera - Funding Streams:** Further to Minute 69.2 October 2014, it was noted that this item had been included on the agenda to keep Members updated and there was presently nothing further to report.

**RESOLVED- that the Police Officers be thanked for their attendance and report to the meeting and subsequent reports from the Acton Policing Team include a summary updating members on the active policing operations within the Acton Community.**

## 23 KEY ACTON ISSUES

Wrexham County Borough Council Members advised that apart from the current Budget Saving regime, and awaited outcomes of the Welsh Assembly Government paper on Reforming Local Government in Wales, there were no other matters that had been recently considered by the County Borough Council that may affect the whole or part of the Community of Acton. (Minute 107 January 2011 refers). It was noted that the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service had approved the modernisation and upgrading of communications for the Wrexham Fire and Ambulance Service. The new station at Wrexham was expected to be completed by the spring of 2016.

**RESOLVED – that the present position be noted.**

## 24 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Clerk submitted a report detailing one application for financial assistance received since the March 2015 meeting. The Council's Policy was to apportion the annual £3,250 budget equally between each of the quarterly meetings. A further sum of £1,500 from within the 2014/15 Financial Assistance budget has been carried forward for allocation into the 2015/16 financial year. This equates to £1187.50 per quarter for 2015/16. Members then proceeded to consider the application and whether the Council wished to make any grant to the applicants under the provisions of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

**RESOLVED – that the following Financial Assistance grant be made:–**

| <b>Organisation</b>             | <b>Details</b>   | <b>Decision</b> |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| 1. Gate Hangs High Bowling Club | Exceptional financial assistance grant towards the cost of unexpected repairs to the Gate Hangs High Bowling Club's lawnmower. | £400.00         |

(Councillor Ann O'Neill having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this application being an active member of the Bowling Club, she left the meeting during consideration of this item taking no part in the discussion or voting thereon.)

## 25. REPORT FROM CLERK

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

| Organisation  | Details and action taken   |
|---|--|
| 1.Civic Support Officer<br>Wrexham County<br>Borough Council                  | <b>Mayor's Civic Visit to Church – St Giles Parish Church – Sunday 21 June 2015 at 11:00am:</b> Letter dated 21 May inviting two representatives of the Community Council to join the Worshipful the Mayor of Wrexham for the Civic Service had been circulated to all members of the Council. It was noted that the Community Council will be represented at the Service by the County Borough Councillors from the Acton wards.<br><b>Information noted</b>  |
| 2.Tracey Gilmartin, One<br>Voice Wales  | <b>One Voice Wales Larger Councils Conference on 8 July 2015 at the Royal Welsh Showground:</b> Email dated 1 June 2015 advising of this Conference whose Guest speakers will include the Chair of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales and representatives from the Independent Remuneration for Wales. The cost is £55 per person for non-members.<br><b>RESOLVED – that the Clerk be authorised to attend this event as part of her continued professional training and the delegate's fee, travel costs and additional hours incurred by the Clerk attending this one day Conference be paid</b>                            |
| 3.Angharad Hobbs<br>Development and<br>Training Officer<br>Planning Aid Wales | <b>Planning Aid Wales AGM -22 June 2015 at 4:00pm at Glyndwr university:</b> Email dated 2 June 2015 inviting the Community Council to send a representative to this event which includes a workshop session exploring potential "Place Plans" and community engagement in Planning.<br><b>It was noted that no members of the Community Council were available to attend the AGM</b>  |
| 4.Chris Tudor Smith<br>Senior Responsible Officer                             | <b>Public Health (Wales) Bill – Provision of toilets for use by the public:</b> Email dated 10 June advising of the content of this Bill and in particular the duty to prepare and publish a local toilets strategy.<br><b>RESOLVED that the Clerk keep a watching brief on the progress of this Bill and advise the Community Council as and when appropriate.</b>  |
| 5.Society of Local Council<br>Clerks  | <b>Update on recent legislation and regulation:</b> Email dated 11 June 2015 advising the 2015 Annual SLCC conference will have keynote speakers and workshops dealing with the new challenges and opportunities. The Conference will be held 15-17 October 2015 at Hinckley Leicestershire. The full conference fee early bird rate up to 11 September 2015 is £395<br><b>RESOLVED – that the Clerk be authorised to attend the SLCC Annual Conference as part of her continued professional training and the early bird delegates fee, travel costs and additional hours incurred by the Clerk attending this three day Conference be paid</b> |
| 6.Darren Green<br>Network Policy & Road<br>Safety manager,<br>Wrexham CBC     | <b>Wrexham County Borough Council Proposed Composite Traffic Regulation Order:</b> Email dated 15 June 2015 providing plans for proposed restrictions on the highway at Glyndwr Road and Norfolk Road<br><b>RESOLVED – to make no comments on the proposed restrictions at Glyndwr Road and Norfolk Road.</b>  |

## 26. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members noted that a payment of £821.88 being a refund of VAT to 31 March 2015 from HMRC had been received on 30 April 2015.

Members received details of payments that required authorisation. It was also noted that the invoices requesting payments from 2014/15 for the Acton Community Resource Centre Service Level Agreement payments and the Operational costs for 2014/15 for the Little Acton Community Centre had now been received. However the Community Council wished to look at the costings to enable the Community Group of volunteers to take over responsibility for the management and running costs of the Little Acton Community Centre.

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

| <b>Voucher No; Payee</b>                  | <b>Details</b>   | <b>Amount</b> |
|---|--|---------------|
| 7 Zurich Municipal                        | Renewal of Local Council Policy Insurance YLL-2720431173 from 1/6/15 to 31/5/15 – Extension Year 3<br>Section 112 Local Government Act 1972  | £976.29       |
| 8. Wrexham County Borough Council         | Acton Community Resource Centre – Running Costs for 2014/15<br>S19 Local Government ( miscellaneous provisions ) Act 1976  | £ 11,042.00   |
| 9. Wrexham County Borough Council         | Little Acton Community Centre – Running Costs for 2014/15<br>S19 Local Government ( miscellaneous provisions ) Act 1976  | £ 8,401.26    |
| 10 Carole Roberts<br>Clerk to the Council | Clerks expenses for June 2015<br>Section 112 Local Government Act 1972   | £ 97.75       |
| 11 Gate Hangs High Bowling Club *         | Donation towards unexpected Lawn Mower repair costs<br>S137 Local Government Act 1972  | £400.00       |
| 12 One Voice Wales*                       | Delegate Fee for Clerk to attend the One Voice Wales' Larger Council's Conference on Wednesday 8 July 2015 at the Royal Welsh Showground.<br>Section 112 Local Government Act 1972               | £55.00        |
| 13 Wrexham County Borough Council         | Clerks Salary and office expenses for May 2015 paid by the Council's Agent: Wrexham County Borough Council in accordance with Minute 99.1 December 2009<br>Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 | NJC Rates     |

**27. PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS**

The Council considered whether to make any comments on the following Planning Applications for development in the Community Council's area that has been received since the last meeting or that had been made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (to be determined by Wrexham County Borough Council).

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

| <b>Application No &amp; Address</b>                    | <b>Details</b>   | <b>Observations</b>   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Organisation</b>                                    | <b>Details</b>   | <b>Decision</b>   |
| * P/2015/0349<br>Coop Store 34 Borrass Park Rd Wrexham | Display of advertisement – 2 Replacement Fascia Signs (illuminated) and Car Parking Sign | No Objections.<br>(The Community Council noted that the signs are only permitted to be illuminated during the Store's opening hours and at no other times.) |
| * P/2015/0386<br>47 Windermere Road<br>Acton Wrexham   | Single-Storey Rear Extension And Internal Alterations                                    | No observations   |

Signed as a correct record this 21st day of July 2015

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Chair