

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Tuesday 20 September 2016 at Acton Community Resource Centre, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham

Present:

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

* Absent

Also Present:

Dr Stan Moore and Mr Mike Meadows, ErLas Walled Garden Project
Mr Reg Herbert, Freelance Journalist
Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

45 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Richards, and K Roberts.

46 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Declarations of interest were made at this stage of the proceedings by Councillors Anne Evans and Geoff Lowe in respect of a request from Caia Park Community Council to consider endorsing its declaration objecting to proposals by the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service to reduce the number of Fire Engines stationed at Wrexham. The Councillors both declared personal and prejudicial interests in this urgent item being members of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority.

47 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 19 July 2016 were received.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Council held on 19 July 2016 be received and confirmed as a correct record.

2. The Minutes and recommendation of the Environmental Committee Meeting held on 13 September 2016 were submitted.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Environmental Committee meeting held on 13 September 2016 be received and the Committee's recommendation in respect of provision of the wooden seating and a bench in the Little Acton ward proceed subject to obtaining costings for this work within the £1,000 budget allocation for this ward be accepted.

48 INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19 JULY 2016

1. **MINUTE 33.2 – MEMORIAL BENCH:** The Chair reported on the present Policy of Wrexham CBC in respect of the provision of benches in Acton Park and the costs associated with this Policy.

RESOLVED - not to proceed with the provision of a Memorial Bench and the Chair request Elton Watson Arboricultural Officer at Wrexham CBC to provide guidance on a suitable memorial tree, the associated costs and most suitable location.

2. Minute 33.4 –CASUAL COUNCILLOR VACANCY – BORRAS PARK WARD: It was noted that no expressions of Interest had been received but advice taken from the Returning Officer indicated the Council **must** proceed to fill the Borrass Park Ward casual vacancy by Co-option in accordance with Section 116 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

RESOLVED – that the Casual vacancy be re-advertised and any expressions of interest received be considered for Co-option at the next meeting of the Community Council.

3. Minute 40 - ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - 2015/16: It was noted that following confirmation from the External Auditor of the Conclusion of Audit, the Clerk has issued a Public Notice on 6 September 2016 to comply with the Accounts and Audit Regulations by 30 September 2016.

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Clerk be endorsed

49 VARIATION IN ORDER OF THE AGENDA

Having regard to the absence of a representative of the Acton Policing Team due to an operational issue, the Chair proposed that the agenda for the meeting be varied.

RESOLVED – to bring forward consideration of Agenda Item 6 –Erlas Victorian Wall Garden Project.

50 ERLAS VICTORIAN WALL GARDEN PROJECT

The Chair welcomed Dr Stan Moore and Mike Meadows from the Project who had asked to come along to the meeting to consult and obtain ideas for inclusion in a proposed bid for £1.5 million Lottery Funding. A brief outline of the history of the Garden, establishment of the Charity in 2002, the restoration work undertaken by adults with learning disabilities and mental health issues, establishment as an independent provider of day care opportunities for adults and partnership with external organisations including Youth Justice, Veterans Associations. The Charity is consulting prior to bidding for Lottery Funding on its Development Vision for the Future Project.

Members warmly welcomed the proposal and noted it could be phased over a longer period if necessary. Members made suggestions about vehicular access constraints, the importance of signage from the main road and raising general awareness of this successful project with the general public. The Members were requested to complete a short questionnaire tabled during the presentation to support and demonstrate that the Consultation had taken place

The Chair thanked the Project representatives for their attendance and presentation.

51 COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS

The Chair advised that no representatives from the Acton Policing Team were available this evening to report to the meeting. However electronic copies of the ward Crime statistics for July and August 2016 had been emailed to the Clerk.

RESOLVED- that the Clerk circulate the ward Crime reports to all members of the Council

52 KEY ACTON ISSUES

Wrexham County Borough Council Members advised on the following 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).

- Budget Consultation – Difficult decisions – this was now available on the Wrexham CBC website
- The Maesydre Ward had now been included in the Public Places Protection Order within the Town Centre
- Consultation by North Wales Fire and Rescue Service was taking place and residents were urged to take part;

- The Infants and Juniors Borrass Park Schools had merged creating the Borrass Park Community School from 1 September 2016;
- Rhosnesni High School had achieved the best GCSE results ever and numbers applying to attend the School were increasing;
- In co-operation with Glyndwr University, Wrexham CBC would shortly be placing bins at the entrances to the Dean Road Playing Fields as part of a positive focus to help this area; and
- Weed control around the Rhosnesni Ward shops was being carried out by Streetscene staff

Members queried the future designation and uses for the former Groves High School but were advised that nothing further could be given until the results of the Judicial Review against the listing were known.

RESOLVED – that the present position be noted.

53 AUGUST RECESS MATTERS

Further to Minute 41 July 2016, a summary of the action taken by the Clerk in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair on the following urgent matters during the August recess was received and noted:-

- 1. Section 116 – Local government (Wales Measure) 2011 – Casual vacancy Borrass Park Ward – filling by co-option**
- 2. Town & Country Planning act 1990 – Householder Appeal under S78 – 2 Richmond Road Wrexham**
- 3. Planning Applications** for development or work to protected trees in the Community Council’s area
- 4. Payment of Accounts**
 - i. Information received by the Clerk - Wrexham CAB:** A holding response sent in response to an invitation for event that was subsequently cancelled.

54 ACTON PARK MATTERS – 2016 SEASONAL PARK RANGER

The report from the 2016 Acton Park Seasonal Ranger was received and noted. The report set out the general and extra duties undertaken during the fifteen week seasonal appointment, information about Park events organised, suggestions and the results and recommendations in respect of the Acton Park Lake Riparian Vegetation Survey that was carried out on 29 August 2016. It was also noted that the work undertaken by the Ranger had been welcomed by all park users

RESOLVED – That the Park Ranger be thanked for his work and report.

(Councillor Mrs Anne Evans left the meeting at this stage of the proceedings)

55 CONSULTATIONS & OTHER STATUTORY GUIDANCE

The Council considered details of the following Consultations and determined what responses if any, the Community Council should submit by the Consultation deadlines:-

- 1. CONSULTATION – “THE WREXHAM WE WANT”:** The outcome of this Consultation will help to create a long term vision and enable the Public Services Board to work with Community Councils and their Communities to deliver the vision. The Consultation Survey is available online by [clicking here](#) with the closing date for responses being 24 October 2016.
In addition the Community Council was invited to send a representative to attend a Consultation event being held at Coleg Cambria, Yale, Wrexham on Wednesday 12 October 2016 between 10am and 1pm. The event will allow attendees to find out more about the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales)

RESOLVED – that Members respond individually to the Consultation Survey and the Council be represented at the Consultation event on 12 October 2016 by Councillors Sue Stanford and Philip Lloyd

- 2. 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales Initial Proposals:** Communication from the Boundary Commission for Wales received on 15 September 2016 advising of the publication of this report and that any representations should be made by 5 December 2016.

RESOLVED -that Members respond individually to the proposals.

3. Difficult Decisions 2017-18 – Wrexham CBC Budget Consultation: This consultation was now live and the closing date for responses is 26 October 2016.

RESOLVED -that Members respond individually to the proposals.

56 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Members considered the Clerks report concerning the Council’s Policy to apportion the annual £3,250 budget equally between each of the quarterly meetings which equates to £812.50 per quarter for 2016/17. Members were reminded that one grant totalling £100 has been made during 2016/17. Members then proceeded to consider three applications 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 grants be made:–

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Decision</i>
2. Nightingale House Hospice	Seeking 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	Seeking 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 confirmation that the monies will be expended for services that are provided in the Acton Community area.

57 REPORT FROM CLERK

The Clerk reported on information and general correspondence that had been received and was available for members’ perusal at the meeting. The Clerk also reported on her attendance at the SLCC Welsh Roadshow conference on 14 September 2016 at Llandudno.

RESOLVED - that the Clerk be thanked for her attendance and report

Members also gave consideration to and dealt with the following correspondence as follows:

Organisation	Details and action taken
1. Kevin Forbes Poppy Appeal Community Fundraiser North Wales	Wrexham Poppy Appeal 2016: Letter dated 1 September 2016 advising that unlike previous years, the Council should submit an order direct to the Poppy Appeal in Aylesford for its Poppy Wreath for laying at the Annual Remembrance Day Service RESOLVED - That a donation of £100 be made to the appeal for the purchase of a wreath for the Remembrance Sunday Service on 13 November 2016
2. Society of Local Council Clerks	SLCC 2016 National Conference 13 -15 October 2016: The Clerk in consultation with the Chair has booked a place at this Conference to be held at Hinckley Leicestershire. The early bird delegate fee is £345.00 plus vat 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 preparing for and attending this three day Conference be paid

3.Civic Support Officer Wrexham CBC	Mayor's Charity Dinner Dance - Friday 7 October 2016 at 7:17pm at the Ramada Plaza: Email dated 24 August 2016 inviting the Council to send representatives to attend this event at a cost of £35.00 each. RESOLVED –that Councillor Phillip Lloyd and his wife attend this event on behalf of the Council and the £70 Ticket payment be approved
4.Marie Russell Wrexham CBC	Wrexham Town and Community Council Forum – 22 September 2016 at 4:00pm: Email dated 18 August 2016 inviting the Council to send 2/3 representatives to this meeting to be held in the Council Chamber at the Guildhall, Wrexham. It was noted that no members were available to attend the meeting
5.Trevor Coxon , Monitoring Officer Wrexham CBC	Standards Committee Appointment of Independent Member: Public Notice in local press inviting applications for this position. The closing date for applications is 30 September 2016 Information noted
6.Christine Cribbin Friends of Acton Park	1.Press Release Green Flag Award for Acton Park: Email dated 22 July 2016 providing a copy of this statement about achieving this prestigious award RESOLVED that a letter of congratulations be sent to the Friends of Acton Park 2. Minutes of Meeting held in July : A copy of the document will be available at the meeting for members perusal – Information noted
7.Jo Lane Dementia Friendly Communities	Dementia Champion Training : Emails dated 8 August 2016 and 12 September 2016 advising of training events in Mold and Wrexham Information noted
8.One Voice Wales	1.Planning Policy Wales Questionnaire Email dated 22 August 2016 providing <u>a link to a short online questionnaire</u> available until Friday 30 September 2016 as part of the Welsh Government's restructuring of Planning Policy Wales to align to and promote well-being goals set out in the Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. – information noted 2. Flood and Coastal Erosion Committee Consultation: Email dated 22 August 2016 advising that this Consultation will run until the 3rd November, 2016. It is seeking views on key aspects and the wide advisory role of the new Committee to ensure it can deliver its aim of providing sound, accurate and representative advice to Welsh Ministers on all aspects of flood and coastal risk management. More information can be found by clicking on this link. Information noted 3 Wales Remembers 1914 - 1918: Email dated 23 August 2016 providing information and links to some upcoming key dates for the First World War centenary commemoration in Wales including <u>Wales / Ireland 1916 conference: (event date 14 September)</u> ; the <u>Cymru'n Cofio Wales Remembers 1914 - 1918 Programme 2017 Call for Events: (deadline 1 December)</u> and <u>Poppies: Weeping Window in Caernarfon Castle</u> 4. Training Sessions - September - December 2016: Email dated 5 September 2016 providing information about training modules taking place until December 2016. There are two venues locally at Gwersyllt and Mold. The cost of each attendees attending the training is £45.00 It was noted that this information had been circulated to the newer Councillors but they were unable to attend
9.Wrexham Heritage Service	15c War of the Roses weekend - Holt Castle. 17-18th September 2016: Email dated 24 August 2016 advising of this event at Holt Castle involving the soldiers and household of Sir William Stanley at his stronghold in Holt. There will also be Living history and demonstrations of weapon & armour portraying the life and experiences of the troops whilst garrisoning a castle. Information noted

10.Home Instead Senior Care Wrexham	Wrexham Memory Café: Email dated 7 September 2016 advising that in conjunction with St Giles Church, Wrexham a new Memory café is being launched. This organisation will be supplying some of its experienced caregivers to help support local residents of Wrexham in memory and engagement activities, Whilst St Giles will be providing a centrally located venue, additional volunteers, tea, coffee and cake. The event is being held every 2 nd and 4 th Tuesday at 1pm – 3pm. Information noted
11.St John's Church Council Rhosnesni	Letter of Support request: Email dated 13 September 2016 advising that St. John's Church Hall in Rhosnesni is a community resource well used by a variety of local groups and organisations but is now in need of refurbishment and improvements including updating toilets and replacing broken blinds that no longer conform to British Standards. An application is being made to WREN for grant funding in this respect. The Community Council is asked to support the application by the grant deadline of 28 September 2016. RESOLVED - that a letter Supporting the grant Application be provided by the Clerk before the grant deadline.

58 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Clerk provided details of payments received progress against the budget and requested authorisation for any outstanding debtor or other payments.

RESOLVED – that the following payments be approved: -

Voucher No; Payee	Details	Amount
32. Society of Local Council Clerk	Clerk's attendance at the Welsh Regional Conference at Llandudno on 14 September 2016 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£82.80 (VAT = £13.80)
33 Carole Roberts Clerk to the Council	Clerks Expenses/ travel Costs for September 2016 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£ 134.50 (VAT= £10.00)
34 Wrexham & District Citizens Advice Bureaux	Quarterly SLA Payment to 30 September 2016 Section 142 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£1,536.54
35. Nightingale House Hospice	Financial Assistance towards running costs of Hospice Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£500.00
36. St John's Church Rhosnesni	Financial Assistance towards refurbishment of Church Hall Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£500.00
37. Shelter Wales	Financial Assistance towards service provided in Wrexham Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£100.00
38 Royal British Legion	Donation towards 2016 Poppy wreath and purchase of a wreath Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£100.00
39 Wrexham CBC Mayors Charity Fund	Purchas: 2 tickets @ £35 each for Mayor's Charity Dinner on 7 October 2016 Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£70.00
40 Clwyd Pension Fund	Superannuation Payments for September 2016 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	As notified by Wrexham CBC Payroll section
41. Wrexham County Borough Council	Clerks Salary and office expenses for September 2016 paid by the Council's Agent: Wrexham County Borough Council in accordance with Minute 99.1 December 2009 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	NJC Rates
41. Society of Local Council Clerk	Clerk's attendance at the SLCC Annual Conference at Hinckley island Leicester from 13-15 October 2016 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£372.00

59 PLANNING 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:-

Application No & Address	Details	Observations
1.P/2016/0773 23 Jeffreys Road Wrexham	Two Storey Extensions To Front, Side And Rear And Single Storey Other Side Extension	No objections
2.P/2016/0793 2 Ffordd Pedrog Wrexham	Erection Of Fence	No objections
3.P/2016/816 28 Little Acton Drive Wrexham	Replacement Of Existing Conservatory, Bedroom Extension And Porch	No objections
4.P/2016/0817 Orange Streetworks Site Telecommunications Mast Borras Park Road Wrexham	Proposed Upgrade Of Existing Site Comprising Removal Of Existing Monopole, Installation Of New 12.5M High Phase 5 Monopole, New Equipment Cabinet And Associated Works)	No objections
5.P/2016/0822 17 Kensington Grove Wrexham	Beech (T18) - Remove The Branch Growing Above And Parallel To The Conifer Hedge Back To The Main Stem, Remove The Low Branch Over The Paved Area And Adjacent Branch Back To The Main Stem, Remove The Low Branch Growing Over The Boundary Back To The Main Stem and selectively reduce the smaller low branches over the garden to suitable points (Protected by TPO WMBC NO 167)	<i>No observations to make subject to the Council's Arboricultural Officer being satisfied that such works are deemed necessary. If approved the works should be monitored and completed to the standard required by the Arboricultural Officer</i>

60 URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Chair was of the opinion that the following items of business should be considered as a matter of urgency as they would be unnecessarily delayed if held over to the next meeting.

- BUS SERVICE IN MAESYDRE WARD:** Councillor Carole O'Toole referred to the cessation of the GHA Bus service and its impact on the Maesydre Ward which had left it with no bus services whatsoever. She referred to the non-car owners and elderly and infirm residents in the ward who could not access the town centre despite their close proximity. Councillor O'Toole was seeking to have the No 35 bus re-routed or for the No 39 Bus route to be reinstated.

RESOLVED - that the Community Council supports Councillor O'Toole in her efforts for residents in her ward and the Clerk write to the Traffic Commissioner Designate indicating the Community Council's support for the re-instatement or re-routing of the Bus routes through the Maesydre ward.

- FIRE SERVICE CONSULTATION RESOLUTION FROM CAIA PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL:** Consideration was given to an email received by the Clerk on 20 September 2016 informing of the recent consideration and resolution by the Council and seeking this Council's support and endorsement of its resolution.

RESOLVED to endorse and support the resolution of Caia Park Community Council and to write to the Fire Authority for North Wales in the following terms:

Acton Community Council has considered and endorsed its support of the following resolution of Caia Park Community Council:

"This council opposes North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority's plan to save £1m by cutting 24 firefighters' jobs and one of Wrexham's two fire engines.

Wrexham's fire services are already dealing with 43% of all North Wales arson and a large proportion of the road traffic accidents across the North. As community councillors, we are very aware of the work being done in terms of fire prevention that needs enhancing to pro-actively stop fires, but there will always be a need for a comprehensive emergency service that has the firefighters and appliances available to deal with any incident.

This proposal comes at a time when £15m has been spent on a brand new combined station in the town with the ambulance service.

This makes even less when you consider that the Welsh Government is anticipating a 20% rise in the borough's population over the coming years and the new prison opens in 2017.

Both will inevitably mean more work for our fire service.

This council calls on the NWFRA to scrap its plan to cut Wrexham's fire service and supports proper funding of this essential emergency service.

This council also resolves to ask other community councils in the Wrexham area to support the motion."

(Councillor Geoff Lowe declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item being a member of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority. He took no part in the discussion or voting on this item.)

61 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED - that the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following item of business as it is likely that, if they were present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960.

62 MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 SEPTEMBER 2016

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Youth Committee held on 6 September 2016 were received together with the recommendation to extend its terms of reference. Members debated the proposed action of the Youth Committee to assess the demand by Young people from the Acton Community for the types of service under consideration through the purchase and provision of pilot projects over an initial six month period.

RESOLVED –

1. To extend the terms of reference of the Youth Committee to provide for *the insertion of the wording “for the remainder of 2016/17 and” to the first Terms of Reference just after “develop options” and directly before “for 2017/18 onwards ...” and*

2. To endorse the Youth Committee’s proposed Pilot projects over an initial six month period

Signed as a correct record this 18th day of October 2016

Chair