

Minutes of the Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Tuesday 17 October 2017 at Acton Community Resource Centre, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham

Present:

Councillor P Lloyd (Chair)
" W Baldwin
" M Davies
" Mrs A Evans
" Ms S Hope
" P D Jones
G Lowe

Councillor R Hardy (Vice Chair)
" D Picken *
" Kevin Roberts
" Mrs D Wallice
" Ms A Waters *
Ms L Williams *

3 Vacancies

* Absent

Also Present:

Sgt Vic Powell and PCSO Jessica Nunn, North Wales police
Mr Basil Pritchard
Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

62 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Darren Picken, Ms Aimi Waters and Ms L Williams.

63 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Paul Jones in respect of Agenda item 11 Planning Matters: He declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item being a member of Wrexham County Borough Council's Planning Committee.

64 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Acton Community Council meeting held on 19 September 2017:

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Council held on 19 September 2017 be received and confirmed as a correct record.

2. Minutes of the Environmental Committee meeting adjourned on 12 September 2017 and reconvened on 5 October 2017: The Minutes were received and the Council considered the recommendations made to it by the Committee. During the debate that took place, the Council was mindful of the advice of its Clerk that the Environment Committee does not have the remit within its Powers and Duties to look at the provision of a CCTV camera in the Maesydre ward from the Environmental Committee's budget which is provided under the powers contained in Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. However there is a separate £5,000 provision in the 2017/18 Budget for Crime Prevention Measures including the provision of CCTV Cameras under powers contained in Section 31 of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997. The Police Officer present indicated that without any specific examples, in general any CCTV cameras that may be provided should be placed at a conspicuous and not overt site and the images captured should be date and time stamped.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes be received and the recommendations be accepted subject to the amendments as set out below:-

- 1) The full Council shall at an early meeting (prior to determining whether to use any of the Crime Prevention budget monies) receive a short report from Councillor Paul Jones setting out the information he is able to obtain on costings and the viability of providing a CCTV camera in areas where anti-social behaviour takes place within the whole of the Acton Community area and whether evidence collected from such a CCTV camera could be used as evidence by the Police in tackling this behaviour;**
- 2) Councillor Ralph Hardy be authorised to peruse and report to the Environment Committee on investigations into the Committee providing funding for planters at the Borrass Park and Acton shops subject to the agreement of the site owners and obtaining the support and involvement from local schools, the Co-op and the expertise of the staff at the Erlas Victorian Walled Garden, together with an option for cost effective ways of providing maintenance for the Planters;**
- 3) The Clerk now proceed to order a metal commemorative seat from David Ogilvie Engineering Limited and arrange for it to be sited at the agreed location on The Green, Little Acton in consultation with Wrexham County Borough Council who are the owners of the land.**
- 4) To accept the recommendation that the Council approves any future requests from Wrexham County Borough Council for the Community Council to fund a skip for non-housing residents as part of an Environmental clean-up day;**
- 5) To accept the recommendation that the Council holds in abeyance as a future option the Environment Committee’s previous priority to improve the Acton Community street scene and the appearance of the area through providing funding from the Community Streetscene budget to undertake repainting and refurbishment of the older street lamps in the Maesydre and Rhosnesni wards initially subject to the Community Council not being required to take over responsibility and insurance obligations for any of the street lights and Wrexham County Borough Council giving its consent for these works to be carried out;**
- 6) The Clerk write to Mr Lawrence Isted of Wrexham County Borough Council asking him to arrange for the prominent landmarks on the main approach into the Town Centre such as the Acton Smithy and the Four Dogs Gateway that are owned by Wrexham County Borough Council to address their untidy and unkempt state and bring them back to a clean and tidy appearance through regular maintenance; and**
- 7) The next meeting of the Environmental Committee is held in approximately six weeks so that reports and proposals to spend the Environment Committee’s budget can be developed so that the monies are spent within the current financial year**

65 INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2017

- 1. MINUTE 51.2 Drugs Dog Operation:** It was noted that the Council’s contribution to this Operation had now been paid.
- 2. MINUTE 59.3.2 Action Day at Acton on 29 September 2017:** The Clerk referred to the report by Councillor Geoff Lowe to the Environmental Committee on 5 October 2017 (Minute 64.2 above refers) advising of the successful day and large amount of bulky items and other household/ garden waste collected. The invoice for the Community Council’s half share towards the cost of providing the skip will be submitted in due course.

66 COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS

The Chair welcomed Sergeant Vic Powell who was representing Wrexham Town Inspector Paul Wycherley together with PCSO Jessica Nunn who was in attendance and had previously circulated electronic copies of the high level Crime statistical reports for each of the Acton Community Wards. Members received guidance from Sergeant Powell on the interpretation of the high level data provided in the report and how anomalies and crime spikes were highlighted and acted upon.

Members then received updates on action being taken in response to a recent assault in the vicinity of the Acton Community Resource Centre and in respect of shed break-ins and the combined Operation Bang. In

response to concerns raised Sergeant Powell indicated that Policing Patrols were being deployed out of the Wrexham Police station as effectively as they can, in response to the daily statistical information received but they may not be as highly visible to the general public. It was noted that the Chair and Clerk to the Council had with the other three Town Community Councils met with Inspector Wycherley on 4 October 2017 to discuss policing operational matters and priorities. It was anticipated that this combined meeting would be held quarterly. The Chair Thanked Sergeant Powell for his attendance and report.

67 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

The Clerk's report concerning the following procedural matters was considered as follows:

1. CASUAL COUNCILLOR VACANCIES: Members noted that the relevant Statutory Notices had been on display advertising the Council's intention to fill the following vacancies by co-option:

Acton Park	– 1 vacancy
Borras Park	– 1 vacancy
Little Acton	– 1 vacancy

Only one suitably qualified person had expressed an interest in putting their name forward for co-option to fill the vacancies by the noon deadline on 16 October 2017. A copy of the application had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members proceeded to consider the application and invited the applicant to give a short address to the meeting in support of his application. Members then proceeded to consider the filling of this vacancy by a show of hands.

RESOLVED –that

- i) Unanimously, Mr Basil Pritchard of 9 Elm Grove Way, Acton, Wrexham, Wrexham be co-opted as a Member of the Community Council to fill the vacancy for the Acton Park Ward on the Council; and***
- ii) the Clerk proceed to re-advertise the two remaining vacancies in the Borras Park and Little Acton Wards and any applications received be considered at the 12 December 2017 meeting of the Community Council.***

(Councillor Bill Baldwin left the meeting at this stage of the proceedings)

2. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT REPORTING:

i) ACTON COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE: The reports setting out the agreed outputs and outcomes for the Service as set out in the ten year Service Level Agreement and as submitted to the Acton Community Resource Centre Management Committee meetings on 3 July 2017 and 4 October 2017 were received and accepted. It was noted that the detailed 3 July 2017 Report was the Annual report whilst the higher level figures had been submitted to the 4 October 2017 meeting.

RESOLVED - that the information be accepted.

ii).CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX – ACTON OUTREACH SERVICE: The report submitted in accordance with this three year Service level Agreement set out the outputs and outcomes for the Service for the second quarter to 30 September 2017. In particular members noted the level of benefits and debt advice being provided and referred to the changes taken place from April 2017 as a result of the introduction of Universal Credits.

RESOLVED - that the Report and information be accepted

68 KEY ACTON ISSUES

Wrexham County Borough Council Members advised that the training and induction process following the full Council Elections was now almost complete. The following matters were highlighted by the Wrexham CBC Councillors:

1. The Groves School: The homelessness situation had now resolved itself and following a clean-up, fences were being put up to improve the site security. The present position was noted

2. Budget resourcing: It was noted that County Borough Councillors had been advised that up to £30m cuts would need to be made over the next two year and would form part of an autumn budget consultation process. Members referred to the potential for pressure from the County Borough Council for services proposed for budget cuts to be taken over by the Community Council. However it was noted that taking over existing Wrexham CBC services may result in an increase to the Community Council's precept level.

The Chair suggested that in order for the recently elected members of the Council to be appraised of existing Budget provision and contractual and other new spending commitments a special single item meeting of the Council should be held as soon as practical.

RESOLVED – that a special meeting of the Community Council be held as soon as possible in order to inform the budget setting process for 2018/19 and to consider Priorities, Spending Powers and current budget headings

69 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: GUIDANCE FOR PRINCIPAL COUNCILS ON THE REVIEW OF COMMUNITIES– It was noted the closing date for this Consultation is 21 December 2017. It contains updated guidance on the conduct of community reviews by principal councils to support greater consistency in the manner in which community reviews are conducted.

RESOLVED – that Members respond individually to the Consultation.

2. DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017/18 OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL: It was noted that Section 13 of this draft report relates specifically to Town and Community Councils. The closing date for responses to this Consultation is 29 November 2017. The Report can be viewed [online here](#).

RESOLVED that any implications financial or otherwise together with the Council's response to this Draft report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales be determined at the Special meeting of the Council to be arranged in accordance with the resolution contained in Minute 68 above.

3. INDEPENDENT REVIEW PANEL TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE ROLE OF COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCIL'S - CALL TO EVIDENCE – This Review will take twelve months and there was more information about the initial four high level questions [online here](#).

RESOLVED – that Members respond individually to the Consultation.

4. DRAFT BUDGET | WELSH TAX POLICY REPORT | RATES AND BANDS: It was reported that alongside the draft budget 2018-19, the Finance Secretary has published the Welsh Tax Policy Report setting out progress to date on the tax policy framework and proposing a short list of ideas for new taxes; details of which can be found [online here](#).

RESOLVED – that Members respond individually to the Consultation.

5. PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN (WALES) BILL: It was reported that the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee of the National Assembly for Wales are consulting on this Bill. More information can be found on the [Bill webpage](#).

RESOLVED – that Members respond individually to the Consultation

70 REPORT FROM CLERK

The Clerk reported on information and general correspondence that had been received and was available for members' perusal at the meeting. Members also gave consideration to and dealt with the following correspondence as follows:

Organisation	Details and action taken
1.Wrexham CBC	<p>1. Remembrance Day Service on Sunday 12 November 2017: Official invitation from the Civic Support Officer for the Community Council to send two representatives to the Service and to lay a wreath as part of the Service. RESOLVED – that the Council be represented at the Service by the Chair and Vice- Chair of the Council.</p> <p>2. Online Planning Consultation: Email letter from Mr Lawrence Isted indicating that from January 2018 cost reduction savings had been identified and paper to Community Councils will be submitted electronically and training arrangements were provided to access the pdf application documents online. Information noted</p>
2.Geoff Ryall Harvey Chief Officer North Wales Community Health Council	<p>North Wales Community Health Council response - NHS White Paper "Services fit for the future". Email dated 28 September 2017 attaching a 118 page response to this Consultation. A pdf copy of the document is available for members perusal. Information noted</p>
3.Jeff Tomlinson Wrexham Youth Justice Services (YJS)	<p>Unpaid Work - Wrexham Youth Justice services: Email dated 3 October 2017 indicating that the Service is looking for projects that will benefit the Acton community. This work will be completed by supervised young people who attend the YJS on orders and provide free work to help pay back to the communities that are affected by crime. Information noted</p>
4.Mac Kendrick General Manager Wrexham PFI Ltd	<p>Invitation to visit to the Wrexham Recycling Park: Email dated 11 October 2017 advising the FCC Liaison Committee is inviting all members of the Community Council to visit Phase 2 MBT facility of the Wrexham Recycling Park on Thursday 26 October 2017 at 6.00pm. Information noted</p>

71 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Clerk provided details of payments received and the second quarter monitoring reports setting out progress against the budget during 2017/18 and requested authorisation for any outstanding debtor or other payments.

In particular it was noted that Interest of £18.45 had been paid on the Council's HSBC Deposit Account to 31 August 2017. Arrangements were now being made to establish a direct debit mandate for the Shropshire Payroll SLA payments following receipt of an invoice each month.

Action taken or to be taken in respect of the following vouchers was endorsed:-

1. **Voucher No 36 - Cheque No 201790:** this cheque had been replaced with Cheque No 201798 as HSBC had not implemented new banking mandate dated July 2017. (the original cheque had been marked stopped as not signed in accordance with Banking Mandate). The Clerk had now arranged and ensured that HSBC are now using the correct Mandate as confirmed on 28 September 2017.

2. **Voucher No. 39 - Cheque No 201793:** The Payee will be amended to Prinity Stars Morris Dancers due to a name duplication of Unity Morris Dancers

RESOLVED – that the following payments be approved: -

Voucher No; Payee	Details	Amount
44 Royal British Legion	Poppy Appeal 2017 – Wreath and donation on behalf of Acton Community Residents S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£100.00
45.Caia Park Partnership	2017/18 SLA Q3 instalment- Youth Work 8-13 S19 Local Government (Misc Provisions) Act 1976	£2,960.65 (VAT=£0)
46 Wrexham & District Citizens Advice Bureaux	2017/18 SLA Q2 payment Acton outreach Service S142 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£1,536.54 (VAT =£0)
47. One Voice Wales	Training Fees x2 Local Government Finance Training at Coedpoeth on 26 September 2017 S112 local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£120.00 (VAT =£0)

48. Carole Roberts Clerk to the Council	Clerks Expenses for October 2017 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£ 27.15 (VAT =0)
49 Wrexham County Borough Council	Replacement of Wooden Retainer Edge to play area at Ffordd Garmonydd S19 Local Government (Misc Provisions) Act 1976	
50. Shropshire County Council Via BACS payment	Clerks Salary and office expenses for October 2017 paid by the Council's Agent: Shropshire County Council in accordance with Minute 47 July 2017 to include SLA Payment of £35 +Pension Contributions direct to the Clwyd LGPS Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	NJC Rates
51 Wales Audit Office	External Audit Fee for 2016/17 Account & Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended)	£276.75 (VAT =£0)

72 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council considered whether to make any comments on the following application made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (to be determined by Wrexham County Borough Council) and on the Town and Country Planning (Trees) Regulations 1999.

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

Application No & Address	Details	Observations
P/2017/0806 8 Gleneagles, Wrexham	Application For Works To Tree Subject To Tree Preservation Order No, Wcbc Tpo 273, 2017:- Sycamore (T6) - Trim Back Epicormic Growth Up To 4 Metres, Remove Branch Stub And Reduce Growth Over Garden By 2 Metres	The Community Council has no objection to this application provided the works are carried out under the supervision and the satisfaction of Wrexham CBC's Arboricultural Officer

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

73 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.

74 MINUTES OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10 OCTOBER 2017

The Minutes of this meeting were received and its recommendations to the Council as contained within them were considered. It was noted that a clear steer is needed from the Community Council so that the Youth Committee can progress with its work. The Clerk to the Council advised that in accordance with previous instructions, a copy of the Service Level Agreement Report and quotes/ costings had been circulated to all Members of the Council prior to the meeting.

Members suggested that comparative information should be compiled on the level of and any reductions in the Anti-Social behaviour within the Acton Community so as to monitor and assess whether the six month Pilot for 14-18 Young People impacts positively on the area.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes be received and the recommendations of the Youth Committee be accepted subject to the amendments as set out below:-

- i) The Community Council agrees to accept the quote and costings now submitted by the Caia Park Partnership and extend for a further 12 months from 1 April 2018 until 31 March 2019, the Service Level Agreement to provide the Youth Club for the 8-13 Age group of Acton Community and that any Young People who have regularly been attending the 8-13 age group Youth Club be**

permitted to continue after their fourteenth birthday until such time as the older 14-18 age group Youth Club commences;

- ii) the Community Council agrees that the Youth Committee should now proceed to finalise negotiations with the Caia Park Partnership for the provision of a further Service Level Agreement from 1 April 2018 initially to be carried out as a six month Pilot to assess demand to provide for an additional Youth Club for the 14-18 age group with an option to extend the Project for a further six months at the maximum quote now submitted if it proves to be as successful as the Pilot 8-13 Age Group's Youth Club;*
- iii) subject to the approval now given for the recommendations in i) and ii) above, the Community Council in accordance with its powers under Section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 approves in principle the inclusion of the appropriate sums in the Estimates of Income and Expenditure for 2018/19 ; and*
- iv) A further monitoring report, together with costings for a six month Pilot of the Youth Club 14-18 age group and draft Service Level Agreements for 2018/19 be submitted by the Caia Park Partnership to the next Youth Committee proposed for Tuesday 9 January 2018*

Signed as a correct record this 21st day of November 2017

Chair