

Minutes of the Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Tuesday 19 November 2019 at Acton Community Resource Centre, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham

Present:

Councillor	K Roberts (Chair)	Councillor	Ms S Jarvis * (Vice Chair)
"	W Baldwin	"	Ms P Kidd *
"	M Davies *	"	P Lloyd
"	Ms S Edwards	"	G Lowe
"	Mrs A Evans *	"	M Pritchard
"	R Hardy *	"	Mrs D Wallice
"	Ms S Hope	"	Ms L Williams
	P D Jones		1 Vacancy

* Absent

Also Present:

Pc Stuart Roberts and PCSO Lucia Pritchard , North Wales Police
Wayne price & Sharon Roger, Wrexham Clothing Exchange
Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

85. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Mike Davies, Anne Evans, and Ralph Hardy.

86. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

In accordance with Standing Order No. 3e; it was noted that no Members of the Public residing within a ward of the Community Council area had given notice to speak at this meeting.

87. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The following Declaration of Interest was made at this stage of the proceedings:-

Agenda item 13- Planning Applications: Councillor Paul Jones declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item being a member of Wrexham County Borough Council's Planning Committee.

88. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Council meetings:

1. The Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Council held on 15 October 2019 were received

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Council held on 15 October 2019 be received and confirmed as a correct record.

2. The Minutes of the Special meeting of the Community Council held on 5 November 2019 were received.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Community Council held on 5 November 2019 be received and confirmed as a correct record.

Committee Meetings

3. The Minutes of the Youth Committee Meeting held on 29 October 2019 were received.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Youth Committee Meeting held on 29 October 2019 be accepted

89. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES:

1. **Minute 58.7 - Borrass Park Albion YFC – Sponsorship:** The Clerk advised that an acknowledgement letter had been received and a news item and photograph of the presentation had been placed in the news section of the Council's website and a Press Release has been Circulated to the Leader, Wrexham com and the Daily Post
2. **Minute 77.2 Update of website:** The Clerk advised that she would shortly start the process of ensuring compliance by September 2020.
3. **Minute 81 Minute 81 – Little Acton Community Centre:** It was noted that no expenditure or action has been yet been taken. The Clerk reported details of an update provided today by Wrexham CBC confirming that its aim is to transfer the remaining community centres by 1 April 2020, which includes this Centre

RESOLVED that the Community Council receive and note the update provided and the Clerk now expedite arrangements for a Condition Survey of the Building to be carried out by a competent Building Surveyor as soon as practicable from within the existing budget provision for the Little Acton Community Centre and the outcome be considered by the Task and Finish Group and Wrexham CBC be advised accordingly.

4. **Minute 84.1b – Employers Costs:** The Clerk had attended a Clwyd Pension Fund Joint Consultative Meeting on 12 November 2019 and the 3 year actuary review outcome had been received. The Council's employer's costs will increase from 19.6% to 22.9% and a lump sum of £200 will need to be paid annually for the next three years. It was noted that this draft budget will now be adjusted to reflect this new information.
5. **Minute 84.2.h – Crime Prevention Projects:** The Clerk advised that Aled Pugh Jones has provided confirmation the approved Service Level Agreement differs to other Town Community Council and this Project will be progressed once the Police and Wrexham CBC Officers have concluded a Consultation with nearby residents

90. COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS

The Chair welcomed PC Stuart Roberts who presented the Monthly Policing and Operations Report from the Acton Community Police Officers which had previously been circulated to members. Particular reference was made to ongoing consultation with residents, work with Housing Officers over one particular issue and other action being taken in respect of incidents and burglaries as set out in the report. Updates were given about Operations Twilight and Santa. It was also noted that two new PCSO s would be starting training on 16 December 2019 together with one more Police Officer

Members referred to the number of phones calls received by the Police with regards to an off road motorbike causing alarm and distress in the locality. It was noted that one bike has been recovered during this month. Members were disappointed to note there were local Service restrictions imposed on Police Officers regarding this anti-social behaviour.

RESOLVED –

- i) ***The Police Officers be thanked for their attendance and report at the meeting; and***
- ii) ***The Clerk Write to the Chief Constable of North Wales Police expressing the concerns of the Community Council with regard to the ongoing anti-social behaviour by a small number of off road bike users and to request an explanation as to why North Wales Police Officers are being prevented by Operational Protocol from undertaking active pursuit of such offenders.***

91. TOGETHER IN WREXHAM APPLICATION - WREXHAM CLOTHING EXCHANGE

The Community Council was asked to support this application. Sharon Rogers, the Founder and Chair of this new organisation attended the meeting to speak in support of her application which had been circulated in advance and answered members' questions.

RESOLVED – that the subject to the undertaking now given by the Wrexham Clothing Exchange officers to provide a detailed report on how and when any grant monies have been spent, the Community

Council agrees to support the Wrexham Clothing Exchange's Together in Wrexham application and the Clerk sign the Enabling Grant Application Form on behalf of the Community Council.

92. PROCEDURAL MATTERS - SECTION 116 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE 2011: CO-OPTION OF MEMBER TO FILL THE CASUAL COUNCILLOR VACANCY IN THE BORRAS PARK WARD

The Clerk reported that no expressions of Interest had been received by the deadline on Monday 11 November for the casual vacancy in the Borrass Park Ward.

RESOLVED – that the Clerk to be authorised to re-advertise the vacancy and to fill the vacancy by Co-option at the December 2019 meeting after consideration of any expressions of interest that are received by noon on Monday 16 December 2019..

93. KEY ACTON ISSUES

The Wrexham CBC Members present were invited to report verbally on new or Key Issues being considered by the County Borough Council that may affect the whole or part of the Acton Community. It was noted that due to the forthcoming general election on 12 December 2019 and the purdah period there was nothing significant to report.

94. CONSULTATIONS & OTHER STATUTORY GUIDANCE - ENVIRONMENT (WALES) ACT 2016 PART 1 REPORTING ON SECTION 6 - THE BIODIVERSITY AND RESILIENCE OF ECOSYSTEMS DUTY

The Council considered options to formulate the Council's report on the action it is taking to encourage biodiversity in order to meet its duties under this Act. Detailed advice from One Voice Wales had been circulated to Councillors together with further advice from Wrexham's Biodiversity officer. The Clerk advised the Plan must be published by December 2019 and suggested for inclusion was advice in planning application responses, Seasonal Ranger duties and other SLA agreements to make reference to encouraging Biodiversity; the Council undertaking to support the work of the Friends of Acton Park and Acton Park Angling Society as at present; to encourage the retention of green open spaces, mature trees and green corridors for wildlife; use of native plants and the potential to change and plant up hardscape/paved areas and to publicise the work of Groundwork and other ecology groups on the Council's website.

RESOLVED -That the Clerk be instructed to populate the Plan and Report with the issues now discussed and submit the final draft for approval prior to its publication at the December 2019 Council Meeting.

95. REPORT FROM CLERK

The Clerk reported on correspondence and other information received since the last meeting and upon her attendance at the SLCC National Conference as follows:-

Organisation	Details
<p>1. Society of Local Council Clerks</p>	<p>2020 Practitioners Conference: Email dated October 2019 advising that this Conference at Chesford Grange, Kenilworth will be held on 25 - 27 February 2020. The all-inclusive conference fee is £424 plus VAT.</p> <p>RESOLVED – that the Clerk be authorised to book a place and attend the Conference as part of her continued professional training and the delegate's fees, travel and other costs and the additional hours incurred by the Clerk for attending the Conference be paid</p>
<p>2. Nightingale House Hospice</p>	<p>Newsletter Autumn/ Winter 2019: A copy of this document will be available at the meeting for members' perusal. Information noted</p>
<p>3. Wrexham Area Civic Society</p>	<p>Newsletter Issue 49 Autumn 2019: A copy of this document was available at the meeting for members' perusal.</p>

96. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

1. The Clerk reported that an unrepresented £100 cheque (No 201925) drawn in March 2019 made payable to Warrington Borough Council as payment of the Council's contribution to the 2019 Drugs Dog Operation was now out of date. There had been an issue about where the payment should be sent to and the Clerk had contacted the Police requesting confirmation of who any replacement cheque should be made payable to. The present position was noted.

2. The Clerk advised that Virgin Mobile had ceased offering the PAYG Big Talk phone plan the Council had been using for the Clerk's Contact Mobile. The Clerk was now reviewing various network providers and seeking to obtain the best value for money plan but advised that it may be necessary to take out a direct debit mandate to authorise payments for any new Community Council mobile phone contract. The Clerk was authorised to proceed as detailed at the meeting and if necessary to obtain authorisation from two of the Council's four signatories if a direct debit mandate is required (in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulation 6.7) and report back to the Council accordingly.

3. The Clerk requested authorisation for outstanding debtor or other cheque and BACS payments as set out in the schedule below

RESOLVED – that .the following payments be approved:-

Voucher No Cheque BACS Ref	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
69. BACS ref 20.11.19	Carole Roberts	Clerks Salary and office expenses for November 2019 calculated by the Council's Agent: Shropshire County Council (Minute 47 July 2017 refers) Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per payroll schedule)
70. BACS ref 21.11.19	Clwyd Pension Fund	Pension payments for November 2019 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
71. BACS ref 22.11.19	HMRC	Payroll payments for November 2019 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
72. Cheque No 201987	Vivid	Wreath for laying at Remembrance Day Service S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£70.00 (VAT = £11.67)
73. Cheque No 201988	Came & Co	Cyber Insurance to 27/8/20 Section 112 & S140 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£319.20 (VAT = £0)
74. Cheque No 201989	Wrexham County Borough Council	Q2 SLA Payment School Crossing Patrols S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£2,283.00 (VAT=£0)
75. Cheque No 201990	Wrexham County Borough Council	2019 SLA Payment for Acton Seasonal Park Ranger S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£6,868.20 (VAT=£1,144.70)
76. Cheque No 201991	Pear Technology	Preparation of Acton Community Ward Boundaries Maps S112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£180.00 (VAT= £30.00)
77. Cheque No 201992	Carole Roberts	Clerks Expenses for November 2019 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£ 110.19 (vat £19.81)
78. Cheque No 201993	Wrexham County Borough Council	Q2 SLA payment - Little Acton Community Centre S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£1,688.05 (vat =£0)

97. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council considered whether to make any comments on the following applications 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:-

Case Number/ Address & Proposed Development	Decision
1.P/2019/0814 The Four Dogs, Box Lane, Wrexham Flat Roof Extension To The Rear To Create Larger Kitchen Area, With Extract, Removal Of Side Window And Dropping The Sill Into A 'pergo-Tender' Structure With Retractable Awning And Bi-Fold Doors, New Children's Play Area To The Front, Festoon Lighting	To make no objection to the application provided no nuisance is caused to nearby neighbours as a result.
2. P/2019/0830 240 Chester Road (Access Road) Acton Wrexham Erection Of Fence (In Retrospect)	The Community Council recognises the fence is over height and may not be in keeping with the neighbourhood but it has no objection to this application.
3. Confirmation of Tree Preservation Order No 294/2019 "6 Yarwood Drive Wrexham".	The Community Council wishes to draw attention to the close proximity of this tree to the neighbouring property and wishes to stress the importance of the need for this Protected Tree to be properly managed.

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

98. URGENT ITEM - RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR SHARON JARVIS

The Chair reported that he had today received the resignation of Councillor Sharon Jarvis with immediate effect due to personal family circumstances. Members asked that their thanks and best wishes be conveyed to her for the hard work and valuable contribution she has given to the Council whilst serving as a member.

RESOLVED - that

- i) ***Councillor Sharon Jarvis' resignation be accepted and the Clerk arrange for a token gift in appreciation of her valuable contribution to be purchased from the Chair's Charity Account and sent to her together with Members thanks and best wishes;***
- ii) ***the Clerk to be authorised to make arrangements to advertise by Public Notice the Council's intention to fill this casual vacancy and advising the public that 10 members of the Maesydre Ward may request an Election within 14 days of the Notice date by contacting the Returning Officer and the Clerk place copies of the Notice on the Council's notice Board and Website; and***
- iii) ***Members at the January 2020 meeting consider and prepare suggestions for minimal cost Acton Community related projects and priorities that may be of benefit to the Community and will help to engage with and encourage public participation***

99. 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.

100. MAESYDRE POWERHOUSE

Further to Minute 47 July 2019, the Clerk provided an update and the Council was asked to determine how it wishes to proceed. The response from the Police was noted with regret. However of paramount importance was for the building to be kept in a good state of repair.

RESOLVED – that the Clerk proceed to arrange for a competent Building Surveyor to carry out a full Condition survey of the Maesydre Power House Building with such costs to be met from within the current year’s budget provision and to obtain professional advice and information to enable the Council to seek tenders for the external works necessary to ensure the building stays wind and water tight, with a view to such works being carried out in the spring/summer of 2020.

Councillor Kevin Roberts
Presiding Chair

Signed as a correct record this 17th day of December 2019

Presiding Chair