

Minutes of the Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Tuesday 21 January 2020 at Acton Community Resource Centre, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham

Present:

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

* Absent

Also Present:

North Wales Police: PC Stuart Roberts & PCSO James Yoxall

Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

115. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sian Hope

116. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

Agenda Item 14-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.

117. 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.

118. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED –that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 17 December 2019 be received and confirmed as a correct record.

119. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES:

- 1. Minute 103.1 – Passive Drugs Dog Operation:** The Clerk had now received the original cheque and a replacement will be issued
- 2. Minute 105.1 Casual Councillor Borrás Park Ward Vacancy:** The Clerk had arranged for Councillor Bettley's Induction on 17 January 2020.
- 3. Minute 105.4 Environment (Wales) Act 2016 – S6:** It was noted that this report had been published on the Council's Website by the relevant deadline and the Council's obligations under this Act have been met.
- 4. Minute 106.i) - Invitation to Sarah Atherton MP to attend a Council meeting and introduce herself to the Council:** The Clerk was liaising with Sarah Atherton MP Office and provisional dates after the Annual Council meeting had been offered.

5. **Minute 106.ii) Proposals for Dean Road Playing Field:** The response from the Chief Executive was reported. In addition the local Member confirmed that a 12 month Licence was to be granted to Borrass Park Albion YFC to use the Wrexham County Borough Council owned land
6. **Minute 107.3 Shaping the Future of Wrexham Library Service:** The Clerk had submitted a request for the Acton specific information and a response was awaited. The present position was noted.
7. **Minute 109.2.5 Acton Playground Provision:** A detailed response from Wrexham County Borough Council was read out at the meeting. It was noted that the Service Level Agreements should be signed off before 1 March 2020 to ensure the three Playgrounds in the Acton Community are retained.
RESOLVED - that Members seek and identify suitably qualified independent contractors and advise the Clerk accordingly with a view to testing the market, but in order to ensure retention of the three Playgrounds in Acton Community, the Community Council sign off the agreements with Wrexham County Borough Council by 1 March 2020 and thorough market testing take place once suitably qualified contractors have been identified.
8. **Minute 109.3 Precept Requirements – Budget Provision:** The Clerk advised that arrangements were in place for the Council’s website to be upgraded to comply with Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018 and a full Survey of the Maesydre Power House would take place on 17 January 2020.
9. **Minute 110.5 Town and Community Council Forum 30 January 2020 – Agenda Item:** The Clerk confirmed this item had been accepted and she would be attending the meeting.

120. COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS

1. **Update from the Acton Community Police Officers:** PC Stuart Roberts was in attendance and referred to the Crime Report figures that had been circulated to all members of the Council. In respect of Anti-social behaviour (ASB) by Youths particularly at Acton Park, an Operation Order had been introduced to direct resources and tackle the situation and all Acton Community Police Officers had bodycams to capture footage during their Community Foot patrols. It was noted that the Friends of Acton Park had suffered losses as a result of the ASB in the Park and members wished resolution of this situation to be given a high priority.

PC Roberts referred to recent IT issues with sending emails whilst in the Community and that the situation was being looked at by the Town Inspector. An update was given on staffing changes together with contact details for PC Roberts. Members referred to recent complaints they had received regarding traffic issues in the local area, particularly speeding on the link road, Chester Road and the Holt Road. PC Roberts referred to the work of Arrive Alive.

2. **Pilot CCTV Scheme:** PC Stuart Roberts advised that the Acton Community Policing Team have now concluded a survey of the local residents in the vicinity of the sunken gardens in Maesydre and there were no objections raised to the proposed CCTV camera being placed at this location. Arising from this debate members noted that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Community Council had attended a quarterly meeting with the Town Inspector Vic Powell and it was possible for members of the Council to visit the control room at St Asaph.

RESOLVED – that

- 1) **Officers be thanked for their report and the additional work they were carrying out at Acton Park;**
- 2) **The Friends of Acton Park be given a donation from the Chairs Charity Account up to a sum of £80.00 to reimburse the Friends of Acton Park Group for the cost of rectifying the damage to the Notice Board off the Car Park to the Jeffreys Road entrance to the Park, subject to the production of receipts for the work;**
- 3) **PC Stuart Roberts make arrangements for Councillors Caroline Bettley, Philip Lloyd and Kevin Roberts to visit the Control Room at St Asaph; and**
- 2) **The Clerk now proceed to instruct the relevant officers in Wrexham County Borough Council to provide and install the CCTV camera at the agreed location in accordance with the Service Level**

Agreement that has been signed off by both the Community Council and Wrexham County Borough Council.

121. PROCEDURAL MATTERS:

The following matters were considered as set out below:-

1. SECTION 116 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE 2011: Co-option of Members & Casual Councillor Vacancy in the Maesydre Ward. IT was noted that **no expressions of Interest were received by the 12 noon deadline on Monday 20 January for this vacancy in the Maesydre Ward.**

RESOLVED – that the Clerk proceed to advertise by Public Notice the Council’s intention to fill this Casual vacancy in the Acton Park ward through co-option and to have a closing date of 12 noon on 17 February 2020 to enable any nominations from eligible persons to be considered at the Community Council meeting to be held on 18 February 2020.

2. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT REPORTING:

The Council considered the Quarter 3 Reports upon the outputs and outcomes in respect of the following Service Level Agreements:-

- i) Acton Community Resource Centre
- ii).Citizens Advice Bureaux – Acton Outreach Service

RESOLVED - that the Reports be received and noted.

122. KEY ACTON ISSUES

WCBC Members reported verbally on new and Key Issues being considered by the County Bough Council that may affect the whole or part of the Community of Acton. (Item placed on the agenda in accordance with the decision contained in Minute 107 January 2011)

Updates were given as follows:

- 1. Proposals for town centre Car parks:** The Executive Board were considering the introduction of free parking in most council owned town centre car after 2pm 7 days a week for a 12 month period starting early April.
- 2. Proposed new retail and leisure hub:** An application has been put forward to redevelop a group of shops along Hope Street, Queen Street, Argyle Road and Rhosddu Road to reinvigorate the fortunes of Wrexham town centre. The Chapter Court scheme would see a mixture of stores and restaurants established on the ground floor with offices and bars above them.
- 3. Estyn Inspection of the LEA Department:** The Report had recently been published and the Department had been placed in Special Measures. It was also noted that Ian Roberts, the Chief Officer for education and early intervention at Wrexham will retire in August.
- 4. Dean Road Playing Field:** The local member advised that a local Committee of Residents was looking to fundraise to commence a legal and planning challenge to the proposals to build on this Green open and amenity space.

The County Borough Councillors were thanked for their updates.

123. ITEM PLACED ON THE AGENDA AT THE REQUEST OF COUNCILLOR SALLI EDWARDS

Further to Minute 98iii) November 2019, the Chair invited Councillor Salli Edwards to lead on the debate and the Council considered suggestions for minimal cost Acton Community related projects and priorities that may be of benefit to the Community and that will help to engage with and encourage public participation. The possibility of an informal plan of action was mooted and suggested schemes were environmental and aesthetic improvements to the underpasses near the former Groves High School, Powell Road and on Herbert Jennings Avenue, it was suggested that members could canvass interest from

local residents to participate (subject to advice and a risk assessment) in carrying such work and look at Street artists and local involvement on an intergenerational basis.

RESOLVED - that Councillor Salli Edwards collect information on Street artists and lead on organising visits with Councillors Kevin Roberts and Bill Baldwin to the sites now mentioned and report her findings back to the Council in due course.

124. CONSULTATIONS

The following consultation paper received since the last meeting was considered so that comments can be submitted by the response deadlines:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DEMOCRACY) (WALES) ACT 2013 - REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF WREXHAM: It was noted that the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales have completed the first stage of their review of Wrexham. The Commission has published its Draft Proposals and report on its webpage: <https://ldbc.gov.wales/reviews/01-20/wrexham-draft-proposals>. The notice period for receipt of representation ends on 6 April 2020. After this date the Commission will consider the representation and any new evidence that has been received before they prepare their Final Proposals. These will be published and submitted to the Welsh Government, who may give effect to the proposals either as submitted or with modifications.

In particular Members were of the view that the preferred option of Wrexham County Borough Council should be adopted or if there is no preferred option then the Maesydre ward should be left as it is, failing this the Community Council's preference then is for the boundaries of the Maesydre ward to be extended to include the whole of the left hand side of the Holt Road from its Junction with Powell Road down to the Greyhound roundabout when it should then extend left to the existing Ward boundary at Rhosnesni Lane; this extension would result in a reduce of the size of the Rhosnesni Ward enabling it to remain as a one member ward.

RESOLVED - that members provide the Clerk with any comments they have on this consultation document and a composite draft response be finalised at the next meeting of the Council for submission by 6 April 2020

(Councillor Paul Jones left the meeting at this stage of the proceedings)

125. REPORT FROM CLERK

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

Organisation	Details
1.Wrexham County Borough Council	Valuing Childhood in Wrexham: Email dated 18 December 2019 advising that places are available to attend this free all day Conference being held at Catrin Finch Centre, Glyndwr University, Mold Road, Wrexham, LL11 2AW on 28 February 2020. RESOLVED – that Councillor Mrs C Bettley attend this event on the Council's behalf
2.Power for the People	Request to Support the Local Electricity Bill: Further to Minute 112 December 2019 an email dated 29 December 2019 had confirmed that this Bill will apply to Wales as well as Scotland and England RESOLVED – that the request be noted

3. One Voice Wales	1. WALES & VE DAY 75: Email dated 3 January 2020 with information about the important part of women during WWII while their husbands, daughters, sons and sweethearts were overseas, by working in the fields, factories and hospitals etc., during dreadful conditions. VE Day 75 is on 8 May 2020, and nominations as part of the 'Nation's Toast to the Heroes of WWII' at locations of their choice within their own local communities, - www.veday75.org . Information noted.
	2. Buckingham Palace Garden Party: Email dated 3 January 2020 inviting the current Chair of the Council to put his name forward for the draw for this year's Buckingham Palace Garden party. It was noted the Chair had put his name forward. 3 One Voice Wales National Awards Conference Thursday 26th March 2020: Email dated 10 January 2020 inviting the Council to submit entries for an award/s and help One Voice Wales to highlight and promote the innovative practices that take place in local communities throughout Wales. Information noted

126. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The third quarter end Bank Reconciliation and progress against the 2019/20 Budget was considered together with details of any payments received and authorise any outstanding debtor or other payments.

The bank reconciliation was as follows:

Current Account	£ 12,668.41	(inc 3 unpresented cheques for £904.70 as at 31 December)
Deposit Account	£ 155,833.32	
Money Market Account	<u>£ 125,135.35</u>	
Total	<u>£ 293,637.08</u>	

Members noted receipt of Interest Payments for the Council's Deposit Account to 6 December 2019 of £ 70.65 and its Money Market Account to 1 January 2020 of £258.64. The Clerk requested authorisation for outstanding debtor or other cheque and BACS payments as set out in the schedule below

RESOLVED – that

- 1. the third quarter accounts and progress against the Budget be noted;**
- 2. The Clerk be authorised to make an immediate transfer of £50,000 from the Council's HSBC Deposit Account to its HSBC Current Account to ensure there are adequate funds to cover payments due; and**
- 3. the following payments be approved:-**

Voucher No	Payment Ref	Payee	Details	Amount
88.	BACS ref 28.1.20	Borras Park Rangers	Sponsorship /Reimbursement for U7 Team's Kit for 2019/20 S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£600.00 (VAT=£0)
89.	BACS ref 29.1.20	Carole Roberts	Clerks Salary and office expenses for December 2019 calculated by the Council's Agent: Shropshire County Council in accordance with Minute 47 July 2017 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per payroll schedule)
90.	BACS ref 30.1.20	Clwyd Pension Fund	Pension payments for December 2019 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)

91.	BACS ref 31.1.20	HMRC	Payroll payments for December 2019 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
92.	Cheque No 201998	Fibrous Funeral Supplies	Equipment for Operation London Bridge S112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£874.80 (VAT= £145.80)
93.	C01heque No 201999	Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner	Replacement for cheque no. 201925 for 2019 contribution towards costs of a Town Centre Drugs Dog Operation Section 92 Police Act 1996	£100.00
94.	Cheque No 202000	Carole Roberts	Clerks Expenses for January 2020 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£88.00 (VAT = £9.83)
95.	Cheque No 202001	Caia Park Partnership	2019/20 SLA Q4 instalment- Youth Work 8-13 S19 Local Government (Misc Provisions) Act 1976	£2,938.63 (VAT=£0)
96.	Cheque No 202002	Caia Park Partnership	2018/19 SLA Q4 instalment- Pilot Youth Work 14-18 S19 Local Government (Misc Provisions) Act 1976	£2938.63 (VAT=£0)
97.	Cheque No 202003	Wrexham & District Citizens Advice Bureaux	2019/20 SLA Q4 instalment- Acton Outreach Service Section 142 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£1,630.47 (VAT=£0)
98.	Cheque No 202004	Wrexham County Borough Council	SLA 2nd half year payment - Acton Play Areas x3 S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£3,223.62 (VAT= £537.27)

127. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council considered any comments it may wish to make on any 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 application below:

Case Number/ Address & Proposed Development	Decision
1. P/2020/0019 21 Ffordd Dyfed Wrexham Single-Storey Side Extension	No comments to make on this application

(Note Further to Minute 116 above Councillor Paul Jones who had earlier advised of his intention to declare a personal and prejudicial interest for this item had already left the meeting before this item was reached.)

128. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED - that the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following items 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.

129. LITTLE ACTON COMMUNITY CENTRE TASK AND FINISH GROUP

Further to Minute 11.8.6) May 2019 and Minute 81 October 2019, the Council received an update and further recommendations of this Group from its Chair.

RESOLVED – to accept the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group and agree to proceed to enter into a 25 year Lease Agreement with Wrexham County Borough Council from 1 April 2020 to take over responsibility for the Little Acton Community Centre and to authorise the Task & Finish Group to proceed as a matter of urgency to implement the action points agreed by the Community Council in October 2019 (Minute 81 refers) as follows:

- 1) To develop and report back to the Council on a list of priorities and detailed costings for building repair works identified in the Condition Survey and future upgrades to the building to include improvements to energy consumption and conversion of a storeroom to office space***
- 2) As part of the development of a Business Plan, to hold an early meeting of the Task & Finish Group to develop a questionnaire for a Public Consultation exercise with residents of Little Acton, to make arrangement and hold a Consultation event at Little Acton Community Centre and to use the outcome of the Consultation exercise to prepare a marketing plan identifying target audiences, equipment, IT and Security requirements, and draft a policy for the terms & conditions of hire, payments and caretaking***
- 3) The Clerk be authorised to instruct Hopleys GMA Solicitors on Grosvenor Road Wrexham to carry out legal work having regard to the Condition Survey from 19 December 2019, the Asbestos Survey for 2017 and the 2019 EPC rating to enable due diligence before entering into the long term agreement, checking the heads of terms, the inclusion of conditions to protect the Community Council's future interests in respect of Electrical Safety checks; Building Compliance with relevant Regulations and the EPC rating on handover to the Community Council; and***
- 4) The Clerk check & report on implications for Public Liability and Insurance costs with the Council's insurer.***

Signed as a correct record this 18th day of February 2020

Presiding Chair