

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

Present:

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

* Absent

Also Present:

Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

171. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Salli Edwards and Mike Pritchard. It was also noted that as the remote meeting was being hosted on a Zoom platform the Acton Sector Policing Team were not able to attend.

172. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

Agenda Item 13-Consultations

1. Councillor Lynne Williams declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item being *a local resident whose property is in close proximity to the Nine Acre application site and is involved in the Campaign Group against the development of it*
2. Councillor Debbie Wallice declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item being *employed by St Mary's Catholic School that is planning to relocate to the Nine Acre site;*

Agenda Item 14 Planning Applications:

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

173. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

In accordance with Standing Order No. 3e; it was noted that no Members of the Public had given notice that they wish to speak at this meeting.

174. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 16 June 2020 were received

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Council held on 16 June 2020 be received and confirmed as a correct record.

175. INFORMATION FROM THE 16 JUNE 2020 MINUTES:

1. MINUTE 161 -WREXHAM FOODBANK & FRIENDS OF DEAN ROAD PLAYING FIELDS – GRANT PAYMENTS: It was noted that the BACS payments in respect of these two grants had now been acknowledged

2. MINUTE 169 - VOLUNTEER WORK TO ENHANCE THE ENVIRONMENT AT JEFFREYS ROAD: An update given by Councillor Debbie Wallice confirmed the risk assessment had been completed and three quotes had been received for the initial supplies of paint and equipment. The three quotes were reported to the meeting. The merits of using a local company instead of a nationally owned company were noted.

RESOLVED - that subject to receiving confirmation from Wrexham County Borough Council as landowner that it consents to its metal fence along Jeffreys Road being cleaned and painted by the Residents voluntary group under the supervision of Acton Community Council and the local members, consent be given for the Community Council to place an order for the purchase the paint and any other equipment needed to complete this work up to a sum of £ 500.00 from Colour Supplies at Wrexham.

176. COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS

1. Monthly Policing and Operations Report from the Acton Community Police Officers: The Report submitted dealing with the following matters

- Staffing Update
- Acton Park – various matters
- Cold Callers
- Borrass Bog
- Covid 19
- Speeding
- PACT Funding for target hardening equipment

2. Policing priority objective for the remainder of 2020: The Clerk reported she had been contacted by Sgt Simon Williams seeking consideration and confirmation of the Community Council's key policing objective for the remainder of 2020. Members referred to the present position at Acton Park and the need for a combined approach and assessment from all agencies to address recent matters and review CCTV, options to prevent unauthorised access to the Park whilst keeping it open for business as usual to regular park user groups.

RESOLVED – that:

i) The Monthly Policing report be received and noted;

ii) In respect of ongoing concerns at Acton Park, a small task and finish group comprising of Councillors Caroline Bettley, Philip Lloyd, Geoff Lowe Kevin Roberts and Lynne Williams be tasked with investigating and looking at the various matters now raised (to include the potential location for additional CCTV cameras within Acton Park;; measures to prevent traveller access onto the Acton Park; Park usage and user Groups) and report its recommendations back to the Council in due course. Such investigations to include liaison with the Police, Youth Workers, Wrexham CBC officers and Christine Cribbin, Chair of the Friends of Acton Park Group; and

iii) The Acton Community Council's key and priority objective for the remainder of 2020 be a focus of ensuring public safety and continued open access to the Park by all members of the Public and user groups within the Park and Sgt Simon Williams be advised accordingly.

177. COVID 19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE

IT was noted that there were no urgent matters dealt with by the Clerk in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair.

178. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

The following matters were considered:

1. August Recess Arrangements

RESOLVED – that owing to the current Covid19 Pandemic crisis, the Council forego a recess in August 2020 and hold a meeting on 18 August 2020 to deal with any urgent matters that may arise

2. Ffordd Garmonydd Safety Surface: Consideration was given to information from Wrexham County Borough Council that the existing bark safety surfacing at this play area is rotting down and monthly rotavating was taking place to inhibit and control weed growth. This cannot be sustained and the bark surface needs topping up to provide adequate protection as a safety surface. An estimate for the removal, disposal and replacement of the existing bark was noted to be £1,200. The remedial work if carried out is expected to last approximately three years.

RESOLVED – to approve the payment of £1,200 from within this year’s budget for Acton Playground Provision to enable the replacement of the safety bark surfacing at the Ffordd Garmonydd Play area and the Community Council continue to investigate other suitable surfaces and costings for this fenced junior play area.

179. KEY ACTON ISSUES

WCBC Members to report verbally on any new or Key Issues being considered by the County Borough 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) The following matters were highlighted:

- ASDA Consultation on Proposed Drive Through
- Consideration of proposal for 600 houses on land off Holt Road Wrexham at Planning Committee meeting on 27 July 2020
- Appointment to CAB – Councillor Mike Davies
- Tin Can Youth Club holding a clean-up day shortly

Members were thanked for their updates.

180. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2019/20

The Clerk advised that the relevant papers and documents had now been submitted and the updated Public Notice advertising Electors in respect of the External Audit of the Council’s Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 had been published on 10 July 2020 on the Council’s website.

RESOLVED - the Clerk be thanked for her work and report.

181. REPORT FROM CLERK

The Clerk reported on correspondence and other information that has been received since the last meeting as follows:-

Organisation	Details
Play Wales	<p>1. Play: mental health and well-being: Information sheet circulated via email on 18 May 2020</p> <p>2. Play Bulletin for families - Issue 5 and “things to find” themed walk: Email from Wrexham CBC dated 26 May 2020 enclosing details of the themed walks for families to use</p> <p>3. Focus on play: Email dated 26 May 2020 concerning re-opening of parks, play areas and open spaces for children's play.</p> <p>4. Play: health and well-being: Information sheet circulated via email on 28 May 2020</p> <p>5. Supporting Children’s Play in Schools: Reading List for Teachers circulated by email on 1 June 2020</p> <p>6. Play eBulletin for June 2020: Newsletter circulated via email on 4 June 2020</p>
Cathy Boardman , Managing Director, Your Trusted Friend Limited	Moving Forward from Coronavirus and Lockdown: Email dated 29 May 2020 attaching a leaflet highlighting the work offered by Your Trusted Friend and providing a link to its website:

Organisation	Details
	www.yourtrustedfriend.co.uk
Jayne Dickson	Travellers: Email received 1 June 2020 regarding the caravans pitched at the edge of Acton Park. The Chair had responded to this email in the Clerk's absence.
Planning Aid Wales	June Newsletter: circulated via email on 2 June 2020
Calor Uk	Calor Rural Community Fund : Email dated 4 June 2020 advising that Public Supporting continues until 16 July 2020 and winning projects to be announced on 19 August 2020
One Voice Wales	1. World Environment Day - New funds for nature to help communities plant the seeds for the Wales we want to see post Covid-19: Email dated 5 June 2020 advising Applications are now open for two funds – the National Forest Community Woodland Grant Fund, and the Local Places for Nature Capital Fund – to help communities and organisations fulfil their role in responding to the climate emergency. 2. Report from Mike Parry, One Voice Wales' representative on the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board sent via email on 8 June 2020.

182. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members considered details of payments received the first quarter progress against the budget and were requested to authorise any outstanding debtor or other payments.

RESOLVED –

- i) That the Quarter 1 2020/21 Financial Reports together with the Budget outturn and Bank Reconciliation be approved.
- ii) To receive and note the payment set out below received since 16 June 2020. Money Market Account Interest Paid 30 June 2020=£233.92
- iii) To note an internal banking transfer was made on 9 July 2020 from the Business Money Manager Account (Deposit Account) to Community Account (Current Account) : £30,000.00
- iv) To approve the payments as set out in the schedule below to be made in July 2020:-

Current Account:				
Voucher	Reference	Payee	Details	Amount
29.	BACS ref 12.7.20	Carole Roberts	Clerks Salary and office expenses for July 2020 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)
30.	BACS ref 13.7.20	Clwyd Pension Fund	Pension payments for July 2020 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
31.	BACS ref 14.7.20	HMRC	Payroll payments for July 2020 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
32.	Cheque No 202034	Wrexham County Borough Council	2020/21 SLA 1st half year payment - Acton Play Areas x3 S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£3,385.80 (vat £564.30)
33.	Cheque No 202035	Wrexham County Borough Council	2020/21 SLA 1st half year payment Revenue costs at Acton Community Resource Centre S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous	£15,000.00 (vat = £0)

			Provisions) Act 1976	
34.	Cheque No 202036	Wrexham County Borough Council	2020/21 SLA Q1 payment School Crossing Patrols x3 S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£3,378.25 (VAT=£0)
35.	Cheque No 202037	Wrexham & District Citizens Advice Bureaux	2020/21 SLA Q1 payment for Acton Outreach service S142 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£1,630.47 (VAT=£0)
36.	Cheque No 202038	Wrexham & District Citizens Advice Bureaux	2020/21 SLA Q2 payment for Acton Outreach service S142 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£1,630.47 (VAT=£0)
37.	Cheque No 202039	Caia Park Partnership	2020/21 SLA Q2 instalment- Youth Work 8-13 S19 Local Government (Misc Provisions) Act 1976	£2,945.14 (VAT=£0)
38.	Cheque No 202040	Caia Park Partnership	2020/21 SLA Q2 instalment- Youth Work 13-18 S19 Local Government (Misc Provisions) Act 1976	£2,945.14 (VAT=£0)
39.	Cheque No 202041	Shropshire Council	Payroll SLA Costs for April – June 2020 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£105.01 (VAT= £17.50)
40.	Cheque No 202042	Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	Alpha Software Annual Support – single user S112 local Government act 1972 (as amended)	£148.80 (VAT = £24.60)
41.	Cheque No 202043	Carole Roberts	Clerks Expenses for July 2020 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£111.63 (VAT= £12.25)
42.	Cheque no 202044	Vision ICT	Hosted email account to June 2021 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£21.60 (VAT=£3.60)
43.	Cheque no 202045	Society of Local Council Clerks	Renewal of Clerks Membership for 2020/21 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£202.00
NB: The following payment was authorised under Minute 183.2ii) below and is recorded here for reference only				
44.	BACS ref 15.7.20	9 Acre Field Campaign Group	Financial Support towards professional costs to be incurred opposing proposals to build on the 9 Acre Field, Westminster Drive, Wrexham Power of Well-Being (SS 1-5 Local Government Act 2000)	£1,000.00* Cost to be met from un-earmarked General Reserves

(Councillor Paul Jones declared a personal interest in the remaining items of business on the agenda being a member of Wrexham CBC's Planning Committee. He left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting on the remaining items of business on the agenda)

183. CONSULTATIONS:

1. WELSH MEDIUM PRIMARY SCHOOL AT BORRAS PARK: Details had been circulated previously for this Wrexham County Borough Council Consultation that had closed on 20 July 2020 regarding proposals

for Borrass Park CP School including the refurbishment and extension of the Borrass Park CP's school's junior building to accommodate the English medium and the refurbishment of the infants to create a new Welsh medium primary school. It was noted that the Clerk had consulted with all members of the Council prior to submitting a response on behalf of the Council within the Consultation period. All Responses to this Consultation including that of the Community Council, will now be considered and may form part of the formal plans for the site which will then be the subject of further consultation through a full planning application.

RESOLVED - that the actions of the Clerk in preparing and submitting a response on behalf of the Council be endorsed.

2. PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION FOR NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL, NINE ACRE, WESTMINSTER DRIVE, WREXHAM: Details of this Consultation and how to access the papers online had been circulated to Members. Several concerns and objections were raised to this pre-planning application including the open and green space deficit within the Acton Community, the proposed felling of mature trees being contrary to the Wrexham Planning Guidance Note No 17, the creation of a new vehicular access to the site, the ability to manage site congestion with risks to pupils and visitors; impact of providing car parking spaces on a green open space and adverse impact on permeable open space on the site; the Acton Community already has four established and one planned Primary school within its community together with a Secondary school, will the re-location of another primary school in the Community have an adverse effect on road and pedestrian safety and pupil numbers in existing schools? Members questioned why all Education and Schools expansion is in one ward and the general trends indicate that the population in Wales is decreasing.

Members referred to a local Campaign Group and their work engaging with and obtaining professional planning and legal advice in its Campaign objecting to the loss and development of this green Public Open Space at the 9 Acre Field.

RESOLVED – that

- i) the Community Council make a detailed response to the full planning application for this site in due course. However in the meantime, the Clerk was instructed to prepare a response with provisional comments in respect of the current pre-application Consultation referencing the matters discussed at the meeting and to circulate it to all members of the Council prior to the Community Council making its submission before the Consultation deadline of 16 August 2020***
- ii) a grant of £1000 be made to the 9 Acre Field Campaign Group to provide financial support towards professional costs to be incurred opposing Wrexham County Borough Council's proposals to build on 9 Acre Field and the Power of Well-Being (SS 1-5 Local Government Act 2000) be used to make this payments from the Council's General Reserve balances***

(The following declarations of personal interest in respect of the Pre-Planning Consultation for the Nine Acre Field were made for the following reasons :

- 1. Councillor Debbie Wallice has a personal interest as she is employed by St Mary's Catholic School that is planning to relocate to this site; and*
- 2. Councillor Lynne Williams has a personal and prejudicial interest as she is a local resident whose property is in close proximity to the application site and is involved in the Campaign Group against the development of it*
Following their declarations, both Members were placed electronically in a separate online waiting room whilst this item was debated and determined and they were both unable to take part in any of the discussion and voting thereon)
- 3. Councillor Tom Stanford declared a personal interest in the Consultations as he has two young children who may attend the Schools in future. He remained in the meeting during considerations of this item*

184. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

To consider any comments the Council may wish to make on the following applications made or to be made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (to be determined by Wrexham County Borough Council)

Case Number/ Address Proposed Development	Decision
1.P/2020/0200 * Asda Superstore Holt Road Bodhyfryd Wrexham Drive Thru Coffee Shop / Cafe	<p>The Community Council objects strongly to the proposed drive thru for the following reasons:</p> <p>1. the Community Council has concerns about the increase in applications in the town centre for drive through facilities in Wrexham and in particular the approval already granted for the Drive Through Coffee shop on the former Police Station Site at Bodhyfryd which is very close to this application site. The proliferation of Drive Through facilities in the immediate vicinity of the town centre does not encourage shoppers to linger in the Town Centre and may have a detrimental impact on the economic viability and vibrancy of the town centre;</p> <p>2. There is strong scientific evidence that shows an increase in ground level ozone pollution at drive through sites. Given that the proposed site is adjacent to the Alexander School, any increase in pollution levels and traffic is unacceptable. In particular, the open design of the classrooms within the Alexander School encourages the doors to be open during teaching. The School caters for special needs pupils and the potential to expose all of its pupils including those with special needs to unacceptable high levels of omissions from idling vehicles will have the potential for an adverse impact on their health; this is of particular concern given the School's susceptibility to the impact of increased traffic pollution from the vehicles using the drive through.</p> <p>3. There are residential properties around the edge of the site. The resulting noise, vibration, light pollution and air pollution so close to homes is unacceptable.</p> <p>4. Current research indicates that any staff working for long periods at the drive through will be subjected to higher than normal levels of emissions from idling cars.</p>
2.P/2020/0215 18 Westminster Drive, Wrexham Single Storey Rear Extension	No observation to make
3. P/2020/0219 21 Burton Drive Wrexham Rear, Side And Porch Extensions And Re- Surfacing Of Driveway)	No observations to make
4. P/2020/0272 11 Goulbourne Avenue, Wrexham Rear Extension	No observations to make

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

Presiding Chair