

**Minutes of the Remote Annual Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Tuesday 16 March 2021 at Acton Community Resource Centre, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham**

Present:

Councillor	Kevin Roberts (Chair)	Councillor	R Hardy (Vice Chair)
"	W Baldwin	"	P Lloyd
"	Mrs C Bettley	"	G Lowe
"	M Davies	"	Ms E Owens
"	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

### **53. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Ms D Wallice – illness.

***RESOLVED – that the apology and reason for absence be received and accepted.***

### **54. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest on any items on the agenda were made at this stage of the proceedings

### **55. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

It was noted that the Clerk had not received Notice of any public questions as set out in Standing Order No. 3e.

### **56. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Remote Council meeting held 16 February 2021 were received. It was noted that Councillor M Pritchard should be marked as absent from the meeting

***RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Remote Meeting of the Council held on 16 February 2021 be received and subject to Councillor M Pritchard being marked as absent the Minutes be confirmed as a correct record.***

### **57. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES:**

- Minute 44 Service Level Agreement – Acton Youth Work Projects:** The Clerk reported following liaison with officers of the Caia Park Partnership an updated Service level Agreement incorporating the options and blended approach agreed at the last meeting will be incorporated into the Agreement which will be signed off by the Clerk to the Council and Chair on behalf of the Council. The present position was noted.
- Minute 46.2 Service Level Agreement Reporting Q3 Acton Outreach Advice:** The Clerk reported that clarification had been obtained regarding the graphic maps used in the report and in future reports the Acton Community will be properly represented . The present position was noted.

**3. Minute 50.2 – Offa Community Council – RWF Memorial Garden:** The Clerk read out an update received in response to the Council’s February 2021 decision. Members recognized that Offa Community Council was seeking pledges at the moment and Wrexham had been a Garrison town which had played an important part for the whole of Wales.

**RESOLVED – to note the update provided by Offa Community Council and to revisit this request next year when the level of pledges and support will be clearer.**

## **58. COMMUNITY AND OTHER POLICING MATTERS**

The Council received a Monthly Policing and Operations Report from the Acton Community Police Officers and noted there were no Police Officers in attendance as the meeting was being held remotely via the Zoom platform. The report provided incident updates and information on other news and PCSO activities. A copy of a leaflet being provided to persons not adhering to parking restrictions was included in the report

Members again voiced concerns regarding speeding vehicles on Chester Road. The Chair gave an update on the progress of arrangements to install an interactive speed sign on the Chester Road in conjunction with Rhosddu Council and Wrexham County Borough Council.

**RESOLVED – that the monthly Acton Community Policing report be received and noted.**

## **59. KEY ACTON ISSUES**

WCBC Members reported verbally on the following new or Key Issues being considered by the County Bough Council that may affect the whole or part of the Community of Acton:-

- The Appeal for the Dean Road Playing Field will be held shortly in an online open session by the Planning Appeal Inspectorate. Councillor M Davies had submitted an indication that he would be attending the hearing to continue to fight against the proposed development of this open space.
- Reference was made to a recent increase in Acton and Maesydre of Covid cases following a downward trend. The reason for the increase was unclear.
- A local issue in Acton was being monitored and the Police were aware of the situation.

The present position was noted

## **60. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Further to Minute 43.2, February 2021 consideration was given to a report from Councillor E Doherty giving an overview of the responses received from residents to an online questionnaire and proposed next steps. Members welcomed the excellent work and outcomes reported to the meeting and thanked Councillor Doherty for her work. An analysis of the responses that had been provided by residents, had concluded the following:

1. There is a lack of understanding of the remit and powers of the Community Council.
2. There is a lack of knowledge of what the Community Council has done and is doing in this community. Youth provision is something which was mentioned several times for example.
3. Residents want to be better informed of what is going on in their community and to further develop the sense of community through events and initiatives.
4. People like to be asked! They have great ideas and connections which we could and should be utilising. If we show we are listening, they will be more likely to engage in the future.

**RESOLVED - that**

- i. The Council formulate a response to post on the social media groups where the questionnaire was posted so that residents understand that this questionnaire was discussed and the Community Council will be acting on some of the responses;***
- ii. To publicise the work of the Community Council better and embrace social media, with assistance from Councillors (ie those without commitment to committees) willing to take responsibility;***

- iii. *To organise a community event in the summer (restrictions permitting) potentially in conjunction with the Seasonal Ranger at Acton Park;*
- iv. *To publicise the Acton Community Resource Centre further; and*
- v. *To consider and develop the Acton Community Council's community engagement strategy once the restrictions have eased.*

**61. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Members considered the Clerk's report concerning applications received for financial assistance. In accordance with the revised Council Policy, the annual £3,750 budget is apportioned equally between each of the quarterly meetings. However Members noted that due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, a specific Covid earmarked reserve totaling £2,025.00 was used to make the grant payments in May 2020 and the £3,500.00 budget provision for 2020/21 has been used. The Council at its reconvened meeting on 10 November 2020 (Minute 231.ii) refers) had agreed to relax the S137 grant funding levels within the existing criteria for the remainder of this financial year having regard to the financial impact of the current pandemic on local clubs and organisations and other bodies that work with residents in the Acton Community.

Members proceeded to determine the nine applications received during the final quarter of the financial year and whether to make any grants to the applicants. Members were reminded that within the powers permitted by Section 137(4) (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Community Council cannot give financial assistance to an individual

**RESOLVED –**

***i) That the following grants be made under the Council's Powers contained in Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) :-***

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Decision</b>
1. Welsh Air Ambulance Trust	Financial support towards running costs of four helicopters	£100.00
2. Urdd Gobaith Cymru	Financial support towards the cost of organising the Eisteddfod	£250.00
3. 1 <sup>st</sup> Acton Rainbows	Financial assistance towards costs of membership fees and badge activities	£1,000.00
4. Advance Brighter Futures	Financial support towards the cost of operating as a Mental Health Charity	£400.00
5. St Margaret's Church & Community Hall	Financial assistance to support a shortfall in funding for operational costs and bills	£200.00
6. Gordon Davies *	Financial Assistance towards purchasing equipment and safety items for Acton Community based Litter Pickers	See resolution ii) below
7. Kelly Evans *	Financial assistance towards purchasing equipment and safety items for Wrexham Litter Pickers	See resolution ii) below
8. Vic Studios Wrexham	Financial assistance towards the cost of purchasing equipment for new premises and to continue to deliver online services during the current lockdown	£100.00
9. Macmillan Cancer Support	Financial assistance towards the cost of local services and support to people who are affected by cancer	£400.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£2,450.00</b>

ii) **The Council purchase litter collection receptacles for use by Wrexham Litter Pickers up to the value of £500 from DSL Mobility Ltd; the funding for such expenditure to be taken from the Council's Community Streetscene Budget.**

## 62. CONSULTATIONS

The Council gave consideration to the following Consultations and determined what response if any, the Community Council wishes to submit by the relevant deadlines as follows:

- 1. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES (IRPW) ANNUAL REPORT - FEBRUARY 2021:** In accordance with the requirements of Section 147 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 it was noted the final IRPW's Annual Report dated February 2021 has been sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government and other interested parties. In particular Section 13 of the report relates specifically to Community and Town Councils and the report will have effect for the financial year 2021 - 2022. The report can be found by using the following link: [Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: annual report 2021 to 2022](#)

**RESOLVED – to receive and accept the Annual Report – February 2021 of the Independent Remuneration Panel and reaffirm the decisions of the Community Council Meeting on 20 October 2020 in respect of the range and maximum Allowances payable for the Financial Year 2021/22. (Minute 219.3 refers).**

- 2. LITTER AND FLY TIPPING PREVENTION PLAN FOR WALES :** Email received 19 February 2021 from One Voice Wales advising that the Welsh Government is currently consulting on its new Litter & Fly-tipping Prevention Plan for Wales that can be accessed via this weblink:<https://gov.wales/litter-and-fly-tipping-prevention-plan-wales> . The consultation closes on 22 April 2021 and One Voice Wales will be submitting a response. It is seeking the views of Community and Town Councils to the Plan and the actions proposed in order to inform its response. The form on the consultation page can be used to submit the Community Council's views. A response has been requested by the end of March 2021.

**RESOLVED – that Councillor E Doherty submit her comments to the Clerk for submission as the Council's response to One Voice Wales before 31 March 2021.**

## 63. REPORT FROM CLERK

The Council received and noted a report from the Clerk detailing correspondence and other information that has been received since the last meeting as follows:

	Organisation	Details
1.	One Voice Wales	1. <b>Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act</b> – commencement, implementation and guidance – Email circulated 10 March 2021 for information to all One Voice Wales Members 2. <b>Good Councillors Guide to CYBER SECURITY</b> – Email circulated for information to all One Voice Wales Members

## 64. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

**RESOLVED - to approve the payments to be made in March 2021 as set out in the schedule below:-**

Payments Made in March 2021 – Current Account				
VOUCHER NO	CHEQUE/BACS NO	PAYEE	DETAILS	AMOUNT
116	BACS ref 37.3.21	Carole Roberts	Clerks Salary and office expenses for March 2021 calculated by the	(as per payroll schedule)

			Council's Agent: Shropshire County Council in accordance with Minute 47 July 2017 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	
117	BACS ref 38.3.21	Mr MJ Davies	Members Annual Allowance for 2020/21 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
118	BACS ref 39.3.21	Mr R Hardy	Members Annual Allowance for 2020/21 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
119	BACS ref 40.3.21	Ms S Hope	Members Annual Allowance for 2020/21 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
120	Cheque No 202096	Mr P Lloyd	Members Annual Allowance for 2020/21 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
121	BACS ref 41.3.21	Mr M H Pritchard	Members Annual Allowance for 2020/21 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
122	BACS ref 42.3.21	Ms L Williams	Members Annual Allowance for 2020/21 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
123	BACS ref 43.3.21	Clwyd Pension Fund	Pension payments for March 2021 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
124	BACS ref 44.3.21	HMRC	Payroll payments for March 2021 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
109	Cheque no 202097	Shropshire Council	Cancellation of mislaid Cheque no 202089 for Q4 SLA Payroll Payment Charge & reissue with replacement cheque (Voucher 109 refers) S112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£104.99
125	Cheque No 202098	Carole Roberts	Clerks Expenses for March 2021 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£168.23 (vat £18.07)
126	Cheque No 202099	One Voice Wales	Members remote Training Costs for February 2021 Cllr E Owens S112 Local Government Act 1072 (as amended)	£30.00 (vat=£0)
127	Cheque No 202100	One Voice Wales	Membership fee for 2021/22 S111 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£1,977.00 (vat =£0)
128	Cheque No	Vision ICT	Website & Email Hosting/support for May 2021 to April 2022	£643.80 (VAT=£107.30)

	202101		Section 58 Local Government (Democracy)(Wales) Act 2013	
129	Cheque No 202102	Welsh Air Ambulance charitable Trust	Grant/Donation S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£100.00
130	Cheque No 202103	Urdd Gobaith Cymru	Grant/Donation S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£250.00
131	Cheque No 202104	1 <sup>st</sup> Acton Rainbows	Grant/Donation S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£1,000.00
132	Cheque No 202105	Advance brighter Futures	Grant/Donation S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£400.00
133	Cheque No 202106	St Margaret's Church Hall	Grant/Donation S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£200.00
134	Cheque No 202107	Vic Studios Ltd	Grant/Donation S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£100.00
135	Cheque No 202108	Macmillan Cancer Support	Grant/Donation S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£400.00
136	Cheque No 202109	Wrexham County Borough Council	CCTV Costs April 2020 to March 2021 S31 Local Government & Rating Act 1997	£2,388.00 (VAT=£398.00)
137	BACS ref 45.3.21	DSL Mobility Limited	Purchase of litter collection receptacles for use by Wrexham Litter Pickers Ss 5&6 Litter Act 1983	£500.00 (VAT=£83.34)

## 65. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**RESOLVED – that the following observations be made on the applications as set out below:**

<b>Case Number/ Address</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<p>1. P/2020/00788 and P/2020/0783 Asda Holt Road, Wrexham</p> <p><b>Variation of Condition No.3 Planning permission P/2012/Deliveries.</b></p> <p>Further to Minute 24.December 2020, the applicant has confirmed this is only required for a temporary 12 month period to manage demand for food provision during the pandemic where a higher level of servicing is required. The Community Council has been asked to reconsider its position in light of this new information</p>	<p>The Community Council is mindful of the number of residents in the immediate vicinity at Aran Road, Park Avenue and Holt Road and wishes to ensure that no nuisance is caused to their amenity on Sundays and Bank Holidays due to extending delivery times from the Asda Superstore. Holt Road, Bodhyfyd, Wrexham.</p> <p>The Council notes the applicant has now indicated this permission is only required for a temporary 12 month period in order to manage the demand for food provision during the pandemic. However the Council has concerns that this temporary request is being made 12 months after the first lockdown when demand for home deliveries increased initially. The Pandemic situation is changing and more positive with a planned timetable for the relaxation of lockdown restrictions, the reduction in the number of cases and rollout of the Covid 19 vaccine. There is not in the Council's view a strong case to permit this temporary permission for a twelve month period given it is so long after the first and subsequent lock downs. The Council wishes to restate its objection to the application</p>

2. P/2021/0015 1 Dean Road, Wrexham Instillation Of Cctv Camera Mounted On An 8 Metre High Street Column	<b>No objections. The Community Council welcomes the additional security that will assist in the reduction of Crime</b>
3. P/ 2021/0104 134 Park Avenue Wrexham Rear Extension and Front porch	<b>No observations</b>
4. P/2021/0115 83 Park Avenue Wrexham Single Storey Front Porch Extension to create new porch and new detached double garage	<b>No observations</b>

#### 66. 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.**

#### 67. STAFFING COMMITTEE MINUTES – 24 FEBRUARY 2021

The Minutes and recommendations of the Staffing Committee meeting of the Council held on 24 February 2021 were submitted. There was a short debate concerning the process for job evaluation and various procedural matters. The Clerk gave a position statement to the full Council. It was noted that it is important to ensure all Members and the Clerk as Proper Officer to the Council, should have the full details of the 9 recommendations contained in the Chair’s Report as submitted to the Council on 19 January 2021 so that they can be taken forward.

In view of the discussion it was **RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Staffing Committee and the recommendations contained within them be referred back to the Staffing Committee.**

Councillor Kevin Roberts  
Presiding Chair

Signed as a correct record this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 2021

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Chair