

Minutes of a Special Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Thursday 10 October 2013 at Acton Community Resource Centre, Overton Way, Acton, Wrexham

Present:

Councillor	E Boylin (Chair)	Councillor	A Whitfield (Vice Chair) *
"	W Baldwin	"	G Lowe
"	R A Davies	"	Mrs A O'Neill
"	Miss J Dudley	"	Mrs C O'Toole
"	Mrs A Evans *	"	T Pierce
"	R Evans	"	J Richards
"	R Hardy *	"	Mrs O Simm
"	J A Kelly *	"	Mrs B Smith *

* Absent

Also Present:

Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

70 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs A Evans, R Hardy, J A Kelly, Mrs B Smith and A Whitfield.

71 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made at this stage of the proceedings.

72 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.

73 COMMUNITY FACILITIES: WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL BUDGET REDUCTIONS AND THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

1. Further to Minute 69 September 2013, the Chair reminded Members that this further special meeting had been arranged to enable the Community Council to review the Community Council's 2014/15 preliminary budget requirements and to consider the precept implications for the various funding and operational proposals from 2014/15 onwards in respect of ongoing provision for the following Community facilities in the Acton Community:-

1. **Community Centres** – Borrass Park and Little Acton
2. **Play Areas** – Ffordd Garmonydd, Acton Park Senior, Acton Park Junior and Aran Road
3. **Public Conveniences** – none
4. **Bowling Greens** – Cunliffe Bowling Club
5. **School Crossing Patrols** - Borrass Park Road, Box Lane and Dean Road
6. **Street Lighting** – will be discussed further by members of Wrexham County Borough Council prior to communicating proposals to Community Council's to resolve anomalies in respect of charges for street lighting.

A copy of the approved 2013/14 Estimates of Income and Expenditure was considered as part of a review and rationalisation of all current budget funding commitments and expenditure together with the 2014/15 precept implications of funding the Community Facilities set out in Mr Istead's letter of 30 August 2013. The Community Council noted it had been requested to submit its response to the Consultation by 18 October, 2013.

Members then considered each of the current Budget items in turn together with the projected draft budget implications for each of the Community Facility items. Consideration was given to formulating the Community Council's response to the Consultation on Wrexham County Borough Council's budget reduction proposals for Community Facilities from 2014/15 onwards by the submission deadline of 18 October 2013.

RESOLVED – that the following response be submitted to Mr Isted in respect of the budget reduction proposals for Community facilities from 2014/15 onwards:-

1. Community Centres:

Acton Community Council's main priority is the recently refurbished Acton Community Resource Centre that serves all five Acton wards. It is prepared to meet the £30,000 pa Revenue Contribution in accordance with the existing Service Level Agreement.

The Community Council recommends that Wrexham County Borough Council's Education department should take over the running of Borrass Park Community Centre, particularly as the main user of this Community Centre is Borrass Park Junior School.

The Community Council recommends that Wrexham County Borough Council's officers commence urgent investigations into the feasibility of the Barkers Lane Playgroup being assisted to take over the running of Little Acton Community Centre.

2. Play Spaces – *Acton Community Council supports in principle the retention of the Ffordd Garmonydd, Acton Park Senior, Acton Park Junior and Aran Road Play Spaces but needs clarification on the discrepancies of the costing provided of between £489 and £1,859 per play space.*

3. Public Conveniences – *There are none in the Acton Community area.*

4. Bowling Greens – *The Community Council suggests that Wrexham County Borough Council approach the Cunliffe Bowling Club and request that it considers running this facility. The Club should be provided with clarification on the costing provided in Mr Istead's letter of 30 August as to whether it is solely for the seasonal maintenance of the Green or includes the pavilion and toilet buildings as well.*

5. School Crossing Patrols - *Acton Community Council considers it essential to have the Patrol at the three sites on Borrass Park Road, Box Lane and Dean Road. The Community Council understands that a Risk assessment is being carried out to confirm the need for the Patrols. We await the outcome of the Assessments.*

6. Street Lighting – *The Community Council is awaiting further information in respect of Street Lighting.*

The Community Council wishes to confirm that if the majority of Community Councils choose not to support their Community Facilities financially, it retains the right to withdraw any funding support.

Signed as a correct record this 15th day of October 2013

.Chair