

Minutes of a Meeting of Acton Community Council held on Tuesday 16 July 2013 at Little Acton Community Centre, The Green, Little 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:

PCSOs Louise Hughes and Erin Shawcross, North Wales Police

Mr Mike Davies and Mrs Julia Francis, Wrexham Youth Service, Wrexham CBC

Mrs Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

35 PRESIDING CHAIR

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair Councillor A Whitfield presided over the meeting.

(Councillor A Whitfield in the Chair)

36 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Baldwin, E Boylin, J Kelly, Mrs A O'Neill, Mrs C O'Toole, J Richards and Mrs O Simm.

37 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

38 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting of the Community Council held on 18 June 2013 be received and confirmed as correct record.

39 INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

- Minute 23.7 – Annual Accounts 2012/13:** The response from the External Auditor, UHY Hacker Young would be reported to the Council when it is received.
- Minute 23.8 - Relocation of Borrass Park Surgery:** A response received from Mr G Lang, Acting Chief Executive, Betsi Cadwaladr UHB was circulated at the meeting. Members were disappointed to note the lack of progress in drawing up detailed plans to ensure the Surgery provision meets the needs of its local Community. The existing surgery within the Borrass Park Junior School site was too small and the temporary building on the car park was not ideal. However residents wished for the existing surgery to be retained. Mr Laing indicated in his letter that the Health Board, Practice Manager and Patient Participation Forum were reconsidering the possibility of extending the current premises and this was being followed up with the Local Authority. The present position was noted.
- Minute 26 – Dog Fouling:** It was noted that Councillor Carole O'Toole who had originally raised this issue, had requested the matter be deferred until the September 2013 meeting when she will be able to attend the meeting.

4. **Minute 27.1 – Acton Community Resource Centre – Service Level Agreement (SLA)** for the operational Management of the Centre: It was noted that the final version of the ten year SLA circulated at the June 2013 meeting was acceptable.

RESOLVED – that the Clerk in consultation with the Chair proceed to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Community Council.

5. **Minute 27.2 - Borrass Park & Little Acton Community Centres:** It was noted that a detailed breakdown of the costings and usage for the three Acton Community Centres has been received. However, Mr Dylan Hughes will prepare a detailed report for the September 2013 meeting of the Community Council, summarising the funding request for 2013/14 and in particular options for contribution at a set percentage (as previously) or the full operational costs of the two centres
6. **Minute 28.1 – Local Government Wales Measure – Consultation on the powers and requirements affecting Communities and Community Councils:** It was noted that Councillor Carole O’Toole had looked through this document and had no comments to make.
7. **Minute 29.1 - Financial Assistance - Laptop for Acton Policing Team –** It was noted that PC Gary Edwards had submitted a further application under the Acton 2 Small grant scheme to fund the remaining costs of this laptop. Once PC Gary Edwards confirms the Police wish to proceed with the purchase of a laptop that can be linked securely at Acton Community Resource Centre to the North Wales Police Computer records, the Clerk will arrange for the £450.00 grant cheque to be drawn.
8. **Minute 30.6 Oak Tree Memorial Plaque –** It was noted that the Clerk has requested quotes from Stephen Price memorials and Paul Davies stonemason in Rhos, for the provision of either a slate or Polished Granite plaque with a suitable surround capable of mounting the plaque into the ground near to the Oak Tree provided.

RESOLVED – that the Clerk in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council be authorised to consider the quotes provided and place an order for the provision of a Memorial Plaque and make arrangements for a small dedication ceremony for Members of the Council and the families of Councillor Kyffin and Mr Reeves (deceased).

9. **Minute 30.7 - Welsh Regional Conference of SLCC:** It was noted that the Clerk is now booked to attend this Conference at Llandudno on 18 September, 2013.

40 KEY ISSUES - ACTON

WCBC Members reported on the following Issues being considered by the County Borough Council that may affect the whole or part of the Community of Acton. (Minute 107 January 2011 refers).

- **Future funding cuts for Wrexham County Borough Council:** The impact of known budget deficits would impact on all residents in the Acton Community. The key objective would be to protect vulnerable services wherever possible. The present position was noted.
- **Wales in Bloom:** the inspection for the area had taken place today the comments made were encouraging. The final decision was not yet known. The present position was noted.
- **Rhosnesni Post Office, Dean Road, Wrexham:** Reference was made to the long established Post Office at this site and reported plans by the Co-operative Food shop to close this smaller shop and relocate the Post office to within its nearby larger store at the Borrass Park shopping Parade. Members referred to the requirements of the Code of Practice on Public Consultation and Communication with respect to a change in the Post Office network. No Consultation notification had yet been received. Members debated various options including retention of the Post Office at Dean Road, re-opening the Post Office that was closed recently in the Acton Park shopping Parade or siting a Post Office within a local Public House such as the Gate Hangs High. Members also noted the parking congestion outside Borrass Park shops but conceded that there was more parking provision there than at the existing Dean Road site and they would wish for a Post Office to be retained in the area. Whilst the Borrass Park shopping parade is on a bus route, there is no direct bus service from the Cefn Road, Dean Road, Coopers Close area to the Borrass Park Shops. A large number of the residents in this area are elderly,

have poor mobility and do not have their own transport. Moving the Post Office from Dean Road to Borrás Park Road would create access difficulties for them.

RESOLVED – that in the event of being Consulted on the proposed closure/relocation of the Dean Road Post Office during the August recess, the comments as made above be submitted in response to comply with the relevant deadline.

41 COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS

The Chair welcomed PCSOs Erin Shawcross and Louise Hughes who were attending the meeting on behalf of North Wales Police. They tabled the monthly report setting out a more detailed breakdown of the Crime incidents for the five Acton wards to 16 July 2013. Operation Byzantium had involved the Policing team in being highly visible late at night and stopping or searching people on occasion building intelligence on the criminally active in the area. Running concurrently, the team have been noting local properties where windows etc. have been left open or unsecured overnight during the hot weather and then contacting residents to offer advice. The public were also being encouraged to sign up to the OWL warning scheme. At the Acton Community Resource Centre, the presence of the team had enabled engagement with young people in the area who have shown an interest in the building.

The PCSOs then gave an update on the issues raised at the last meeting as follows:

- As reported in Minute 39.7 above, PC Edwards was awaiting the outcome of a further grant application towards the cost of obtaining a laptop for use at the Acton Community Resource Centre. He would respond to the Clerk once the outcome was known.
- Speed Checks had been carried out along Jeffreys Road and a number of other roads in the area with warnings being issued. The GO Safe rubber road bands were being used and further speed checks will be made and tickets issued to those motorists found exceeding the limit
- The Motorbike issues at the Fairways estate and along Bryn Estyn Lane appeared to have gone quiet, with the only complaint received being found to be the noise from a hedge cutter in use along the lane.

Members referred to the intelligence provided in respect of the unloading of trail bikes at Acton Park and were pleased to note the successful prohibitive action taken by the PCSOs and Park Ranger in response. Reference was also made to some residents' complaints about the playing of football on the open space at Ffordd Llewellyn by young people from the estate. It was noted however that parents were supervising the young people. Members were pleased to note that overall the crime figures were lower and there were good results coming in from the various Policing Operations. Members noted in particular that the crime reduction coincided noticeably with the return of the full complement of Acton Community PCSOs.

The Chair thanked the Officers for their report and attendance at the meeting.

42 YOUTH SERVICE PROVISION QUARTERLY MONITORING REPORT ON DETACHED YOUTH WORK PROVISION DURING THE PERIOD APRIL 2013 TO JUNE 2013:

The Chair welcomed Mr Mike Davies and Mrs Julia Francis, Wrexham Youth Service. They presented the first quarter report to Members. It was noted the Annual Report for 2012/13 would now be presented at the next quarterly meeting with the Council.

The heavy snowfalls in March had postponed the Easter Egg Hunt until Thursday 4 April. The Hunt had been a huge success with 96 young people attending. During the first quarter, the Team has been in discussion with local groups to encourage the formation of a local youth forum and to help more young people to take an active part in the Senedd Yr Ifanc. Engagement with Young People was improving with the warmer weather. The Team was looking to facilitating structured youth work sessions at the Acton Community Resource Centre once it was open. Updates were also given on:

- On-going contact work with the various groups in the community including the Community garden at the Rhosnesni Methodist Church and the Eco Group from Rhosnesni High School;

- Quarterly outputs relating to contacts made, monthly attendance, total number of sessions delivered, attendance and number of individual young people registered with the project; and
- Case studies and Good news stories.
- Future project plans for a visit to Nantyr Outdoor Education Centre, the Annual Play Day on Queen's Square and participation in the Wrexham Football Club's Community Foundation project called Game on Wrexham.

Following presentation of the report, Members sought information on the number of children from the Acton Community that had taken part in the various activities and whether there was a record of the ratio of Young People attending from outside the area. They stressed this 52 week project was being funded by the Community Council for the benefit of Acton Young people and they did not wish the harder to reach young people in the area to miss out. It was recognised that school friendship groups did create a mix of young people from different areas. Acton Park and its facilities also attracted many visitors from across the County. In response it was noted that the proposed trips during the summer would be biased to Acton Young People.

RESOLVED –

1. **To receive the 2012/13 Annual Report at the October 2013 meeting of the Community Council;**
2. **To note the present position and welcome the progress made against the Service Level agreement during 2013/14; and**
3. **To receive a breakdown in subsequent quarterly reports of the ratio of young people from Acton Community and other Communities that the Detached Team were working with.**

43 AUGUST RECESS ARRANGEMENTS:

Resolved - that the Clerk to the Council in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Community Council be authorised to deal with any urgent issues that arise during the August recess.

44 REPORT FROM CLERK

The Clerk reported on correspondence and other information received since the last meeting. The Information and general correspondence that had been received by the Clerk was available at the meeting and was reported and dealt with as follows:

	Organisation	Details and action taken
1.	Izzy Rodrigues Sing with Us Area Coordinator (North East Wales)	Sing With Us Choir Wrexham: Letter dated 19 June 2013 informing of a new Community choir funded by the Big Lottery and run by the Tenovus Cancer Charity for people affected by cancer which started at the Gresford Memorial Hall on 1 July 2013. Information Noted
2.	John Lecce jones, Company secretary , AVOW	Notice of the Annual General Meeting of AVOW: Letter dated 26 June 2013 advising of this meeting on Friday 19 July 2013 at 10:30am at the Catrin Finch Centre, Glyndwr University Wrexham. It was noted that Councillor T Pierce who would be attending the AGM in another capacity would also represent the Community Council.
3.	Nick Roe, Secretary , Wrexham Area Civic Society	Wrexham Area Civic Society Awards 2013: Letter dated 27 June seeking nominations by 30 September 2013 for the best recent contributions to Wrexham's environment within five categories or for the Ruth Howarth Award for significant contribution to Wrexham's environment of quality of life. RESOLVED – that a nomination for the Acton Community Resource Centre be submitted under the Refurbishment of an existing building category.
4.	Trevor Coxon , Head of Corporate and Customer Services, Wrexham CBC	Change of Date – Wrexham Town and Community Council Forum: Letter dated 27 June notifying that the Wrexham Town and Community Council Forum meeting originally scheduled for Tuesday 9 July will now be held on Wednesday 31 July at 6.00pm owing to the volume of business for the Executive Board meeting. Councillor Whitfield who had previously been

	Organisation	Details and action taken
		nominated to attend on the first date will not be available on 31 July. RESOLVED - that the Community Council be represented at the Forum on 31 July 2013 by Councillor R Evans and R Hardy.
5.	Friends of Acton Park	Meeting – 17 July at 7pm in Borrass Park Community Centre: Agenda dated 28 June received for this meeting. Information Noted
6.	John Watkin Chief Executive Officer Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council	Clwyd Community Chest: Email dated 1 July enclosing Notice of the Annual General meeting of the Clwyd Community Chest to be held in Bethesda Chapel New Street Mold on Thursday 25 July 2013. The Community Council has also been invited to become a Member of the Community Chest. The cost of membership for Community Councils is on a scale based on population. Information Noted
7.	Chief Executive One Voice Wales	Training Programme September to December 2013: Email dated 8 July attaching a training leaflet containing the programme of courses on offer across the whole of Wales - September to December 2013. One Voice Wales offers bespoke training for Councils and has recently received funding to develop new modules such as Chairing skills, information management, community planning, community engagement, website, use of social media and equality and diversity. Information Noted
8.	Peter Tyndall Public Service Ombudsman for Wales	Annual report 2012/13: Letter enclosing a copy of this report covering activities for the year that was laid before the National Assembly for Wales on 19 June 2013. In respect of Town and Community Councils, the report details 24 complaints received during 2012/13. Information Noted
9.	Civic Support Officer Mayors Parlour Wrexham County Borough	Mayor's Charity Dinner Dance – Friday 18 October 2013: Notification dated 10 July 2013 advising that the Worshipful the Mayor of Wrexham will be holding a Charity Dinner Dance at the Ramada Plaza Wrexham on Friday 18 October 2013 to raise money towards his charity Fund. A formal invitation will be sent out shortly. Information Noted
10.	Chief Executive One Voice Wales	Training Course – Module 4 Understanding the Law : Email dated 15 July inviting further attendees for this course to be held in Mold Town Hall on Thursday 18 July 2013 from 6:30pm to 9:00pm Information Noted

45 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members received and noted details of interest payments, the 1st Quarter End Bank Reconciliation, progress against this year's budget and considered any payments that required authorisation as follows:

INTEREST PAYMENTS TO 30 JUNE 2013:

HSBC Deposit account - Interest: £ 21.48
HSBC Money Market Account Interest: £ 69.00

1ST QUARTER END BANK RECONCILIATION:

HSBC Current Account	£ 13,722.11
HSBC Deposit Account	£111,035.01
HSBC Moneymarket Account	£ 37,171.83
[Chairman's Charity Account]	<u>£ 581.21</u>
Balance as at 30 June 2013	£161,928.95
Less un-presented Cheques	<u>-£ 988.24</u>
Net Balance as at 30 June 2013:	<u>£160,940.71</u>

Members discussed the potential for future County level funding cuts and the importance of being mindful of the extra workload that the Community Council may decide to take on. The level of marked and unmarked year balances after paying current commitments was considered as well as the importance of levelling out known expenditure peaks for elections, revaluations and maintenance of the Council owned

buildings whilst having flexibility within the budget to meet any new service provision or emergency unplanned in year expenditure.

Resolved – that the following payments be approved:-

Voucher no & Payee	Details and Community Council Powers	Amount
13 Society of Local Council Clerks	Renewal of Clerk’s Membership to SLCC on 1 July 2013 S111 & 112 Local Government Act 1972	£145.00
14 Carole Roberts Clerk to the Council	Clerks Expenses to 16 July 2013 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972	£ 77.00
15 Wrexham County Borough Council	Clerks Salary and office expenses for July 2013 paid by the Council’s Agent: Wrexham County Borough Council in accordance with Minute 99.1 December 2009 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972	NJC Rates

46 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council considered whether it wished to make any comments on the following Planning Applications for development in the Community Council’s area that had been received since the last meeting and had been made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (to be determined by Wrexham County Borough Council). It was also noted that copies of recent planning decisions within the Acton area were available for perusal at the meeting.

RESOLVED: that the following observations be made on the applications below:-

Application No & Address	Details	Observations
P/2013/0417 10 Glyn Avenue, Wrexham	Single Storey Dining Room Extension	No objections
P/2013/0491 Barkers Lane CP School Barkers Lane Wrexham	Installation Of Shipping Container To Provide Additional Storage For Outdoor Equipment	The Community Council objects to this application as the placement of a large cargo container in close proximity to the School’s boundary and within a predominantly residential area will have a detrimental impact on the amenity of the residents of Lisburne Grove.

Signed as a correct record this 17th day of September 2013

Chair