

9 April 2026

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to attend a **HYBRID** meeting of **ACTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL** to be held in accordance with Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 on **WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL 2026** at **6.30pm**. The Meeting will be held in the **LITTLE ACTON COMMUNITY CENTRE**, The Green, Little Acton, Wrexham LL12 8BH.

For anyone unable to attend the meeting in person you can join the Zoom Meeting online by using this [hyperlink to join the Hybrid Council meeting on Wednesday 15 April 2026](#) or use the Zoom Meeting ID: 892 7242 0774 and Passcode: 481783.

Please note that the Meeting and those participating in person and online will be recorded. The business to be transacted is as set out in the agenda below.

Yours faithfully

*Carole Roberts*

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to the Council

## AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** To receive any apologies and reasons for absence.
2. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** At this stage of the proceedings the Chair will give any Members of the Public in attendance a reasonable opportunity to make representations about any business to be discussed at the meeting, unless doing so is likely to prejudice the effective conduct of the meeting. This does not mean that Members of the Public can take part in debate, but they must be given a reasonable opportunity to make representations about business to be discussed. The period of time designated for Public Participation at a meeting in accordance with Standing Order 3(e) shall not exceed **15** minutes unless directed otherwise by the Chair of the meeting.
3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting. It is for Members' judgment if there is a public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.
4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:** To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 18 March 2026. (Copy attached)
5. **INFORMATION FROM THE 18 MARCH 2026 MINUTES:**
  1. **MINUTE 137.1 NOTICEBOARD IN ACTON:** Clerk to give an update.
  2. **MINUTE 137.2 TRANSFER OF HSBC MONIES TO NEW UNITY BANK ACCOUNTS:** Clerk to provide an update.
  3. **MINUTE 140.2 DOG FOULING:** To receive an update on progress
  4. **MINUTE 141.2.i) DEFIBRILLATORS:** To receive an update on progress
  5. **MINUTE 148 NEW ACTON PARK PLAY AREA:** To receive the outcomes of the Consultation carried out at the Easter Event on 31 March 2026 at Acton Park and to note the next steps for this Project.

---

Please contact Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council on: 07913 071470 or  
E-Mail: [clerk@actoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@actoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk) with any apologies or requests for further information.  
You can also write to the Clerk at Little Acton Community Centre, The Green, Little Acton, Wrexham LL12 8BH

- 6. ACTON COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE:** The Chair and Wrexham CBC Local Members to report on recent closure announcement on 23 March 2026 to enable relocation of the Day Service for the Cunliffe Centre and to consider the action already taken and the Community Council's response and any further actions that may be appropriate.
- 7. PROCEDURAL MATTERS:** To consider the following matters:
- 1. S116 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE 2011 - CASUAL VACANCY – ACTON PARK WARD:**
    - i) Filling of Vacancy:** To consider filling this vacancy (Details Attached)
    - ii) Banking Mandates:** To consider refreshing and updating the Council's Banking Mandates to reflect the resignation of former Councillor Philip Lloyd who was a signatory on all of the Council's Bank Accounts.
  - 2. COMMUNITY AGENT REPORT:** To consider the Acton Community Agent's monthly report and a case study on her activities and interaction with Acton Community residents aged 50 and over. (Copy attached).
  - 3. SLA REPORTING – ACTON PARK:** To consider the final Acton Park Ranger report to 31 March 2026 (copy attached)
  - 4. PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUNDING:** Further to Minute 139.4 March 2026, to consider the draft application form completed by the Task and Finish Group on 2 April 2026 and receive an update from the Clerk on her attendance at a drop-in session for Community Councils on 7 April 2026 (Details circulated separately)
  - 5. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2025/26:** Approval of the Year End Bank Reconciliation and spending progress against the 2025/26 Budget subject to the outcomes of the year-end close down on 24 April 2026. (Due to time constraints this Item to be deferred until May 2026 )
  - 6. ANNUAL RETURN 2025/26 GOVERNANCE STATEMENTS:** To note the Council must approve its Accounts by 30 June 2026 at the latest and submit its Annual Return to the External Auditor by 7 July 2026 and accordingly to **CONSIDER** and **DETERMINE** the Council's responses to the attached **Annual Return Governance statements** as set out within the Annual Return document for 2025/26.
- 8. KEY ACTON ISSUES:** WCBC Members to report verbally on 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)
- 9. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & UPDATE ON PROGRESSING ANNUAL REPORT PRIORITIES:** Chair and members to provide an update on the following matters:
- 1. Events at Acton Park**
  - 2. Progress of Annual Report Priorities:** namely Acton Park Play areas; Little Acton Community Centre; Christmas Celebrations; Maesydre Powerhouse; SLA Commitments; Defibrillators and Other Projects.
  - 3. Preparation of 2026 Annual Report (Minute 141.iii) March 2026 refers):** Councillors Edwards and Hardy to report.
- 10. REPORT FROM CLERK:** To consider details of Consultations and Correspondence / other information that has been received and circulated to Members since the last meeting. Details Attached.
- 11. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:** To note details of any payments received, transfers made between the Council's Bank Accounts and to authorise any outstanding debtor or other payments.
- 12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** To consider any comments and/or representations the Council may wish to make on application(s) and Consultations within the Acton Community or adjoining areas 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/2026/0158: Change of use from Class C3 Dwelling to Class C4 House in Multiple Occupation (5 Occupants) at 18 The Beeches, Wrexham LL12 7BL	
2. P/2026/0112: Works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order WCBC 167 at 21 Kensington Grove, Wrexham LL12 8AJ	
3. . P/2026/0203: Works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order WMBC 77 at 92 Dean Road Wrexham LL13 9EL	

*\*the plans and documents for these applications can be viewed online [by clicking here](#) and selecting Category of Planning Applications then scroll to the Application Status box and select "Under Consultation" then scroll down to the Community box and select the Community of Acton for the search. The Clerk requests an extension of the 21 day consultation period where appropriate.*

**13. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC:**

**It is RECOMMENDED** that the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the next item of business only 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.

**14. LITTLE ACTON COMMUNITY CENTRE:** Further to Minute 141.2 March 2026, to receive an update on progress with obtaining Quotes/Tenders for essential Safety Electrical installation works, Replacement Windows/Doors and Roofing for the Centre.

Minutes of the hybrid Meeting of Acton Community Council held Wednesday 18 March 2026 remotely via Zoom and at Little Acton Community Centre, The Green, Little Acton, Wrexham.

Present:

Councillor	Kevin Roberts (Chair)	Councillor	R Hardy (Vice Chair)
"	Ms S Bailey	"	A Gallanders
"	W Baldwin	"	Ms H Hewitt
"	T Coxon	"	Ms C Jarvis
"	M Davies	"	P Lloyd
"	C Downes	"	Ms B Martin
"	Ms S Edwards	"	M Peters
"	Mrs A Evans	"	Ms D Wallice

\* Absent

Also Present:

PC Mark Hughes, North Wales Police

Mrs Carole Roberts & Mrs Michelle Williams, Clerk & Administrative Assistant to the Council

## 132. ANNOUNCEMENT

Councillor Phil Lloyd indicated he wished to retire and tendered his resignation, confirming that this meeting would be his final meeting.

***RESOLVED – to accept the resignation of Councillor Philip Lloyd and thank him for his long Service and contributions to the Council***

## 133. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence as all Councillors were present.

## 134. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present at the meeting to make any representations as set out in Standing Order No. 3(e).

## 135. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

## 136. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the hybrid Council Meeting held on the 18 February 2026 were received.

***RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the hybrid Council Meeting held on the 18 February 2026 be received and confirmed as a correct record.***

## 137. INFORMATION FROM 18 FEBRUARY 2026 MINUTES

- 1) MINUTE 117.1 NOTICEBOARD IN ACTON:** The Administration Assistant updated Members on her visit with Councillor Wallice to view a Noticeboard in Pentre Maelor and obtain three quotes for similar noticeboards. Penyffordd Community Council had been contacted for information on their noticeboards, however, these were larger and more expensive. Councillor Coxon also

requested that a noticeboard be purchased for The Fairways Estate to be sited next to the defibrillator, having already obtained permission from the directors of the The Fairways Estate Management Team.

**RESOLVED – that the Admin Assistant proceed to order two 6x4 noticeboards from Greenbarnes Ltd at an estimated cost of £934.59 each (inc VAT and delivery) and arrange installation with Wrexham CBC Streetscene.**

**2) MINUTE 117.2 TRANSFER OF HSBC MONIES TO NEW UNITY TRUST BANK ACCOUNTS:** Members noted that the Clerk was still having difficulties arranging the working and Ear marked balance transfers due to the HSBC Daily payment limit of £10,000. The Clerk indicated that she would arrange to make staged payments of up to £10,000 daily via transfers from the HSBC Deposit Account to the HSBC current account then onwards to the relevant Unity Trust Bank accounts until such time as all the earmarked reserves have been transferred across to Unity Trust Bank

**RESOLVED to approve the proposed course of action by the Clerk as outlined above and the transfers to Unity Trust Bank Accounts commence after 1 April 2026.**

### **138. COMMUNITY POLICING MATTERS**

The Chair welcomed PC Mark Hughes to the meeting and introduced him as the replacement for PC Lee Parker. PC Hughes provided an update on crime in Acton. He also confirmed that PCSO Charlie Cooper had left to train as a regular Police Officer and had been replaced by PCSO Amber Butler.

Councillor Jarvis requested that the Police monitor Acton Park Car Park as nearby residents had complained about the noise and nuisance from cars parking there overnight. Members confirmed that there was still an issue with youths riding motorbikes in Acton Park. PC Hughes commented that the Police were waiting for assistance from a specialist unit organized by Cheshire Police.

Councillor Edwards requested information about a potential increase in domestic incidents with the cost of living crisis. PC Hughes responded that the number of incidents was constant, there were no peaks and troughs.

Members thanked PC Hughes for his attendance and he then left the meeting.

### **139. PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

**1. ACTON COMMUNITY AGENT:** The Council received the Community Agent's report highlighting February 2026 outcomes. Members noted Community Agents had concerns about the future of the Community Agent roles once the current Welsh Government funding ceases on 31 March 2027.

**RESOLVED – that the Report be received and noted.**

**2. MEMBERSHIP OF ONE VOICE WALES – 2026 – 2027:** An email from Lyn Cadwallader dated 2 March 2026 detailing the benefits of membership and the work of One Voice Wales in supporting Welsh Town and Community Councils was noted together with the cost to the community Council based on the number of chargeable dwellings (as per the valuation list and not the Electoral Register).

**RESOLVED – that the Council renew its Membership to One Voice Wales for 2026/27 at a cost of £2,560.00 based on 5735 chargeable dwellings at £0.45 per dwelling.**

**3. DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION CYMRU: PUBLICATION OF THE ANNUAL REMUNERATION REPORT 2026/27:** In accordance with the requirements of Section 69G of the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru Act 2013 the Panel have now issued its Annual report. The report is available online here: [Annual Remuneration Report 2026-27 | DBCC](#). It was

noted that Members Remuneration of the £156 payments are subject to PAYE unless each Councillor makes a declaration in accordance with Section 316A ITEPA 2003.

**RESOLVED – to receive and accept the Annual Report – 19 February 2026 of the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru and to note the range and maximum Allowances payable for Community and Town Councils in Group 2 as apply to Acton Community Council for the Financial Year 2025/26 and to confirm the Council has considered and as per Minutes 147.2 March 2025 and 69.2 October 2025, has reaffirmed its previous decisions on the Remuneration Framework by its relevant Group as set out below.**

<b>Group 2</b>	<b>(Electorate 10,000 to 13,999)</b>
Extra Costs Payments	Mandatory for all members
Senior Role Payment	Mandatory for 1 member; optional up to 5
Mayor or Chair	Optional
Deputy Mayor or Vice Chair	Optional
Attendance Allowance	Optional
Financial Loss	Optional
Travel and Subsistence	Optional
Cost of Care or Personal Assistance	Mandatory

**1. EXTRA COSTS PAYMENT: To note this mandatory requirement and to make available a Basic payment to each member of £156 pa as a contribution to costs and expenses and to confirm that a sum of £52 per year to cover the cost of office consumables when carrying out their role shall be paid to each member of the Council unless they advise the appropriate Officer in writing that they do not want to take these mandatory payments.**

**2. SENIOR ROLE PAYMENT(S): To make this Mandatory requirement available to the Chair (1 member only) at an amount of £500; unless the Chair advises the appropriate Officer that they do not want to take it in writing;**

**3. CIVIC PAYMENT OF UP TO £1,500 TO THE MAYOR/CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL to undertake the functions of that office – Not to adopt this provision**

**4. CIVIC PAYMENT OF UP TO £500 TO THE DEPUTY MAYOR/ DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL to undertake the functions of that office – Not to adopt this provision**

**5. ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE Each council can decide to introduce an attendance allowance for members. The amount of each payment must not exceed £30. A member in receipt of financial loss compensation will not be entitled to claim attendance allowance for the same event. Councils that intend to introduce an attendance allowance must set out the details of the scheme and publish them on their website - Not to adopt this provision;**

**6. AUTHORISATION TO PAY FINANCIAL LOSS COMPENSATION to each of the Council's members where it can be demonstrated such loss has actually occurred for attending approved duties as follows: \* Up to £55.50 for each period not exceeding 4 hours \* Up to £110.00 for each period exceeding 4 hours but not exceeding 24 hours**

**7. REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL COSTS when undertaking approved duties: To adopt this provision subject to payments being the actual costs of travel by public transport or the HMRC mileage allowances as below: \* 45p per mile up to 10,000 miles in the year. \* 25p per 3 mile over 10,000 miles. \* 5p per passenger per mile – passenger supplement. \* 24p per mile for private motor cycles. \* 20p per mile for bicycles.**

**8. REIMBURSEMENT OF OVERNIGHT SUBSISTENCE when undertaking approved duties: To adopt**

*this provision and to authorise reimbursement of subsistence expenses to members at the maximum rates set out below on the basis of receipted claims: \* £28 per 24-hour period allowance for meals, including breakfast where not provided. \* £200 – London overnight. \* £95 – elsewhere overnight. \* £30 – staying with friends and/or family overnight.*

**9. COST OF CARE OR PERSONAL ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCE** – *This provision is mandatory for Councils in Group 2. All relevant authorities must provide a payment towards necessary costs for the care of dependent children and adults (provided by informal or formal carers) and for personal assistance needs as follows: ② Formal (registered with Care Inspectorate Wales) care costs to be paid as evidenced. ② Informal (unregistered) care costs to be paid up to a maximum rate equivalent to hourly rates as defined by the Living Wage Foundation at the time the costs are incurred. The Care Allowance must be for the additional costs incurred by members to enable them to carry out official business or approved duties. Each authority must ensure that any payments made are appropriately linked to official business or approved duty. Payment shall only be made on production of receipts from the care provider.*

**10. MEMBERS IN RECEIPT OF A BAND 1 OR BAND 2 SENIOR SALARY FROM A PRINCIPAL COUNCIL** *(that is leader, deputy leader or executive member) states that they cannot receive any payment from any community or town council, other than travel and subsistence expenses and contribution towards costs of care and personal assistance.*

**4. PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUNDING:** The Clerk provided an update and provided a copy of the application form. Members noted that it might be beneficial to set up a working group to complete the application form for submission by the deadline of 30 April 2026.

**RESOLVED** – *that*

- i) a task and finish group be set up consisting of the Clerk, the Chair and Councillors Coxon, Downes, Edwards, Gallanders, Hewitt and Martin, and;*
- ii) the task and finish group meet on Thursday 2 April at 10am in Little Acton Community Centre to discuss potential projects and complete the application form; and*
- iii) the completed application form be submitted to the Council for final approval before its submission to Wrexham CBC.*

#### **140. KEY ACTON ISSUES**

- 1. BUS SHELTER HOLT ROAD:** Councillor Davies informed Members that Wrexham CBC had not contacted the potential witness and had made no progress on replacing the bus shelter. He would now seek to obtain further information .
- 2. DOG FOULING:** Councillor Jarvis reported that residents had contacted her to complain about the dog fouling on Oak Drive. Members agreed that this was an issue across all wards and noted the difficulties Councillor Wallice had encountered in this regard. .

**RESOLVED** – *that the Administration Assistant request information from Rhosddu Community Council on the success of their dog waste solution.*

- 3. WITHDRAWAL OF LDP:** Councillor Gallanders had circulated an email prior to the Meeting notifying Members that the Welsh Government had notified Wrexham CBC that it must withdraw its Local Development Plan. As this removes the plan entirely, the plan's policies, site allocations and evidence base will no longer form part of any planning framework in Wrexham CBC.

The present position was noted.

#### **141. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PROGRESSION OF ANNUAL REPORT PRIORITIES:**

**1. EVENTS AT ACTON PARK:** The Chair notified Members that the Easter Event in Acton Park would take place on Tuesday 31 March 2026 between 1pm and 3pm. He asked for volunteers from the Councillors to assist with the Gazebo and consultation on the new children's Play Area. A Poster for the event had been received today and would be circulated to all Members of the Council to promote using their Social Media platforms,

#### **2. PROGRESS OF ANNUAL PRIORITIES:**

**1) DEFIBRILLATORS:** Members noted the following updates on the installation of four new defibrillators:

- The Clerk had received approval from Wrexham CBC to install a defibrillator on the external wall of the Spider Park Changing Rooms.
- Morrisons Daily were reluctant to provide permission for the install of a defibrillator on their building.
- Councillor Peters had approached Peter Windsor, Manager at Wrexham Memorial Hall who had agreed in principle to the installation of a defibrillator, but required more information.
- Nine Acre Playing Field – Wrexham CBC Officer Paula Hayward who is dealing with this will progress on return from annual leave.

#### **RESOLVED – that**

- i) The Clerk proceed to purchase another defibrillator and cabinet for the proposed location at the Memorial Hall in Wrexham; and*
- ii) The Admin Assistant contact Ms. N Ellis at Wrexham CBC to arrange to meet at the Spider Park Changing rooms to identify a suitable location on the building for the defibrillator.*
- iii) The Admin Assistant write to Peter Windsor, Wrexham Memorial Hall, providing more information.*
- iv) The Admin Assistant contact Paula Hayward on her return to work.*

**2) LITTLE ACTON COMMUNITY CENTRE:** Members were keen to progress with obtaining three quotations for the installation of new windows and doors and a new roof at the centre, noting that any new doors must be wheelchair accessible with no threshold. It was noted there is no business plan for Little Acton Community Centre in place. Members suggested that the Little Acton Task and Finish Group should again meet to set out a project plan and key tasks involved. The Admin Assistant had now been tasked with obtaining these quotes and any quotes received would need to be considered and accepted in accordance with the Council's standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

#### **RESOLVED – that**

- i) Councillor Hardy draw up a tender specification document to be presented to three suppliers;*
- ii) The Admin Assistant, the Chair and Councillors Downes and Lloyd meet the suppliers at Little Acton Community Centre and request written quotes to ensure there is an Audit trail;*
- iii) The quote for the roofing work be refreshed and two other reputable suppliers be identified and requested to submit a quote for the works; and*
- iv) The outcomes be reported to the next Council meeting*

**3) ANNUAL PLAN:** The Clerk informed Members that the Annual Plan needed to be updated before being adopted at the Annual Council meeting. Members referenced the new Play area and refurbishing other existing play areas, Little Acton – repairs/maintenance and renting out for Community spaces with potential for other Grant funding , Christmas Lighting Consultation, Low Carbon Community Decarbonisation Plan

#### **RESOLVED – that**

- i) Councillors Hardy and Edwards volunteered to update the Annual Plan; and*
- ii) The Admin Assistant send a word version of the 2024/25 Annual Plan and a word version of the updated training plan to enable Councillors Edwards and Hardy to commence the Review of the Annual Plan .*

**142. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Members considered the Clerk’s report detailing the Council’s Policy to apportion the annual £12,500 budget equally between each of the quarterly meetings. Members then proceeded to consider the six applications received during the present quarter and whether the Council wished to make a grant to the applicants under the provisions of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. In particular members took account of the number of Acton residents involved with each group as a key consideration.

**RESOLVED – that**

- i) Councillor Edwards would make enquiries with Wrexham Foodbank on the availability of someone to give a short presentation to Members on their services.*
- ii) The Admin Assistant was requested to identify a suitable blank large cheque for presentation purposes.*
- iii) the following Financial Assistance 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. MS Wrexham CIC	Funding to help support people living with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) in the Wrexham area, including the Acton community. Many of the people they work with struggle to attend social events due to mobility and transport challenges, which can lead to extreme isolation. This grant will help cover the cost of accessible transport, such as taxis or Chariots, and go towards venue hire and refreshments.	<b>£500</b>
2. Wrexham City Radio (formerly Wrexham Premier Radio)	Donation to add to the equipment offering in their two Studios and a podcasting suite. They would like to add further additions to their outside broadcast equipment.	<b>£250</b>
3. Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal 2026	Grant to support Marie Curie’s Hospice at Home nursing service in Acton and the surrounding area (the Hospice at Home team and Companion service)	<b>£1000</b>
4. Acton Park Community Angling Club	Due to ongoing cost pressures, financial assistance with operating costs this year, particularly an increase in the licence cost by nearly 30% together with timber and feed costs increasing by 10-15%.	<b>£1000</b>
5. Wrexham Sounds	Financial Assistance to deliver three, one-hour ‘Music and Moments’ workshops for older residents aged 60+ living in the Acton ward. The total cost of delivering these sessions is £180 per workshop (£540 total), and Wrexham Sounds will subsidise the remaining costs. ‘Music and Moments’ is a community programme designed to bring older people together through relaxed, inclusive music activities that support wellbeing and reduce loneliness.	<b>£540</b>
6. 1 <sup>st</sup> Acton Rainbows	Financial Assistance in 2026 to provide new challenges and experiences for the girls to participate in as a group with their peers, rather than with their families. The grant will enable them to provide	<b>£1000</b>

	a really full and fun programme for all the girls without asking their families for more money.	
7. Wrexham Foodbank	Financial Assistance to support the purchase of food and other essentials.	<b>£2810</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£7100</b>

### 143. REPORT FROM CLERK

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

Organisation	Details
<b>CONSULTATIONS: Members to submit any comments they may wish to make on the undermentioned Consultations</b>	
<b>1. Play Wales</b>	<b>Playwork NOS Consultation now open:</b> email dated 9 March 2026 with a link to this consultation on the draft National Occupational Standards for Playwork. The closing date is 1 May 2026. <i>Information noted</i>
<b>2. One Voice Wales</b>	<b>One Voice Wales Manifesto:</b> email dated 5 March 2026 with a link to their manifesto. The need for action in the next term of the Senedd is clear. The manifesto sets out how working with the Community and Town Council sector can help to address these critical issues, and how the new Welsh Government can support the sector by supporting the following ‘5 Asks’ <b>1. Commit to taking forward the recommendations of the Senedd Inquiry Report (March 2025) into the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector.</b> <b>2. Empower Communities</b> <b>3. Diverse Funding</b> <b>4. Strengthening Local Leadership</b> <b>5. Building Capacity and Capability</b> <b>The COUNCIL’S INSTRUCTIONS ARE REQUESTED UPON WHETHER IT WISHES TO SUPPORT THE ONE VOICE WALES MANIFESTO.</b> <i>RESOLVED – the Council agreed to support the One Voice Wales Manifesto</i>
<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
<b>2. Planning Aid Wales</b>	<b>1. Latest Joint One Voice Wales Network Event from Planning Aid Wales:</b> email dated 12 February 2026 with details of this event taking place on 19 March 2026. <i>Information noted</i>
<b>3. One Voice Wales</b>	<b>1. Commissioner’s Newsletter: February 2026:</b> email dated 17 February 2026 containing a link to the Newsletter. <b>2. Update: Lunch and Learn Session Cancelled and re-arranged:</b> email dated 19 February 2026 confirming that the Age Friendly session arranged for the 3 March 2026 has been rearranged for 24 March 2026. <b>3. One Voice Wales E Bulletin Issue 18:</b> email dated 20 February 2026 with a link to their newsletter. <b>4. Cost of Living Crisis Project – Information and Resources:</b> email dated 27 February 2026 containing their latest Newsletter. <b>5. REMINDER – Joint event One Voice Wales and Planning Aid Wales:</b> email dated 9 March 2026 with a reminder for this joint event “Improving our Local Places – Welsh case studies and planning updates” that takes place on 19 March 2026. <b>7. Training Dates – March – June 2026:</b> email dated 10 March 2026 with details of

	the latest training dates. <b>8. Our next Lunch and Learn Session:</b> email dated 11 March 2026 with details of this session on 24 March 2026. <b>9. E-bulletin Issue 19:</b> email dated 11 March 2026 containing their latest e-bulletin. <i>Above information noted</i>
<b>5. Play Wales</b>	<b>1. February 2026 e-bulletin:</b> email dated 20 February 2026 including the latest e-bulletin. <b>2. Play in the first 1000 days:</b> email dated 25 February 2026 with information and a link to this publication. <i>Above information noted</i>
<b>6. Wrexham CBC</b>	<b>1. Involvement News 23 February 2026:</b> email dated 26 February 2026 with the latest Involvement Newsletter. <i>Information noted</i>
<b>7. Jewins Women 2 Women</b>	<b>Invitation to support and publicise Community Fundraising and Cultural Events in Wrexham:</b> email dated 25 February 2026 promoting an African Food Pop-up Cafe and 12 week Cookery and Cultural Programme. <i>Information noted</i>
<b>8. AVOW</b>	<b>Members Mailout February 2026:</b> email dated 26 February 2026 with their latest Newsletter. <i>Information noted</i>
<b>9. Audit Wales</b>	<b>Audit Wales Newsletter:</b> email dated 27 February 2026 containing their latest Newsletter. <i>Information noted</i>

#### 144. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Clerk reported on payments and bank charges made since 18 February 2026. It was noted that several invoices for works, goods and services for 2025/26 were still awaited despite progress chasing by the Clerk, and requested payment authorisation for outstanding debtor or other cheque, BACS bills and debit card payments, including known Contractual and other financial commitments to 31 March 2026 as set out in the schedule below:

#### **RESOLVED –**

- i) to approve the making of payments for March 2026 as set out in the schedule below as reported to the meeting;**
- ii) the Clerk replenish the HSBC Current Bank Account by £10,000 from the HSBC Deposit account to meet payments to 31 March 2026;**
- iii) to authorise the Clerk to transfer make the transfers referred to in Minute 137.2 above to Unity Trust Bank to meet contractual and other known payments from 1 April 2026; and.**
- iv) To approve maintaining a balance of £1,000 in the Council's HSBC current account to enable the continued use of the HSBC debit card, as Unity Trust Bank only provide a prepaid debit card.**

<b>Voucher/Payment Ref &amp; Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>
157. BACS ref 126.3.26 Carole Roberts	Salary and office expenses for March 2026 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)
158. BACS ref 127.3.26 Michelle Williams	Salary for March 2026 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)
159. BACS ref 128.3.26 Ms S Edwards	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
160. BACS ref 129.3.26 Mr R Hardy	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
161. Cheque No 202393 Mr P Lloyd	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)

162. BACS ref 129.3.26 Mr A Gallanders	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
163. BACS ref 130.3.26 Mrs HM Hewitt	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
164. BACS ref 131.3.26 Mr K Roberts	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
165. BACS ref 132.3.26 Mr T Coxon	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
166. BACS ref 133.3.26 Ms C Jarvis	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
167. BACS ref 134.3.26 Ms B Martin	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
168. BACS ref 135.3.26 Miss S Bailey	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
169. BACS ref 136.3.26 Mr C Downes	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
170. BACS ref 137.3.26 Mr M Peters	Members Annual Allowance for 2025/26 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
171. BACS ref 138.3.26 Clwyd Pension Fund	Pension payments for March 2026 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
172. BACS ref 139.3.26 HMRC	Payroll payments for March 2026 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
173. Cheque No 202394 Wrexham County Borough Council	Play SLA Costs for 2025/26 @ Little Acton Green and Holiday Project Redrow Estate S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£12,214.06 (VAT=£0.00)
174. Cheque No 202395 Wrexham County Borough Council	Q1 SLA Costs for 2025/26 School Crossing Patrols x3 Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£4,803.66 (VAT= £0.00)
175. Cheque No 202396 Wrexham County Borough Council	Q2 SLA Costs for 2025/26 School Crossing Patrols x3 Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£4,003.05 (VAT= £0.00)
176. Cheque No 202397 Wrexham County Borough Council	1xLitter Bins for Goulbourne Estate Litter Act 1985	£464.00 (VAT=£0.00)
177. Cheque No 202403 Wrexham County Borough Council	Q3 SLA Costs for 2025/26 School Crossing Patrols x3 Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£3,202.44 (VAT= £0.00)
178. Cheque No 202399 Wrexham County Borough Council	Park Ranger SLA Costs for 2025/26 S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£40,095.00 (VAT=£0.00)
179. Cheque No 202400 Wrexham County Borough Council	Replacement Pedestrian Gate for Acton Park Play Area S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£514.52 (VAT=£85.75)
180. Cheque No 202401 Wrexham County Borough Council	Replacement Equipment- Aran Road Play Area (Roundabout, Springy & Wet Pour) S19 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£9,085.92 (VAT=£1,514.32)
181. Cheque No 202402 Wrexham County Borough Council	Q4 SLA Costs for 2025/26 School Crossing Patrols x2 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£3,202.44 (VAT=£0.00)
182. BACS 140.3.26 One VoiceWales	Annual Membership fee for 2026/27 S112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£2,580.00 (VAT=£0.00)
183. DD.15.3.26	Internet/Phone Provision Little Acton Community Centre	£88.74

BT com	to 31/3/26 S112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(Vat= £14.79)
184. DD.16.3.26 British Gas	LACC Off Peak Electricity supply costs 4/2/26 - 4/3/26 S112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£288.60 (VAT= £48.10)
185. DD.17.3.26 British Gas	LACC Electricity supply costs 7/2/26 – 7/3/26 S112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£236.10 (VAT= £39.35)
186. BACS Ref: 141.3.26 Viking Office UK Limited	Office Stationery & Defib Light Batteries S112 Local Government Act 1972	£216.51 (VAT=£32.66)
187. BACS ref 142.3.26 Carole Roberts	Clerk's Expenses for March 2026 S112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£15.00 (Vat= £0.00)
188. BACS ref 143.3.26 MS Wrexham CIC	Financial Assistance Grant Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£500.00 (VAT= £0.00)
189. BACS ref 144.3.26 Wrexham City Radio	Financial Assistance Grant Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£250.00 (VAT= £0.00)
190. BACS ref 145.3.26 Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal 2026	Financial Assistance Grant Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£1,000.00 (VAT= £0.00)
191. BACS ref 146.3.26 Acton Park Community Angling Club	Financial Assistance Grant Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£1,000.00 (VAT= £0.00)
192. BACS ref 147.3.26 Wrexham Sounds	Financial Assistance Grant Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£540.00 (VAT= £0.00)
193. BACS ref 148.3.26 1 <sup>st</sup> Acton Rainbows	Financial Assistance Grant Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£1,000.00 (VAT= £0.00)
194. BACS ref 152.3.26 Wrexham Foodbank	Financial Assistance Grant Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£2,810.00 (VAT= £0.00)
195. BACS ref 150.3.26 Vision ICT	Biennial Fee for Gov.uk domain S112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£78.00 (VAT= £13.00)
196. BACS ref 151.3.26 Defib Store Ltd	1xZoll AED Plus Semi Automatic Defibrillator+ Yellow Lockable Cabinet for Memorial Hall, Wrexham S137 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£1,575.84 (VAT=£262.64)
197. Bills 153.3.26 Greenbarnes Ltd	2: 6xA4 Notice Boards with Bilingual Headers for Lake View, Borrass & Redrow Estate Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 Sch 4 6A	£1,766.35 (VAT=£294.39)
198. DC13.3.26 Lidl	Easter chocolate giveaways for 31/3/26 Easter Park Consultation on new Play area S19 Local Government( Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976	£61.83 (VAT= £10.31)
199. DC14.3.26 TJ Morris (Home Bargains)	Low Carbon Community Grant Expenditure – Energy Efficient Light Bulbs S112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£397.69 (VAT= £66.28)

#### 145. PLANNING RELATED MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS

The Council considered the following matters and applications within the Acton Community area that had been 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 applications as set out below:**

Case Number/ Address / Proposed Development	Decision
1. P/2026/0107: renewal of planning permission P/2024/1372 – Parking and operation of 3 private	<b>No observations</b>

hire vehicles at 65 Huntsmans Corner, Wrexham LL12 7UE.	
<b>2. P/2026/0117:</b> Single and two storey rear extensions at 52 Borrass Road, Wrexham LL12 7EP.	<b>No observations</b>
<b>3. P/2026/0121:</b> Two storey rear extension at 30 Borrass Road, Wrexham LL12 7EP	<b>No observations</b>
<b>4. P/2026/0140:</b> Works to trees protected by tree preservation order WCBC 300/2019 at 55 Huntsmans Corner, Wrexham LL12 7UE	<b>No objections subject to the Arboricultural Officer being satisfied the works are necessary to ensure the health of the tree and such works are carried out under the direction of the Arboricultural Officer.</b>

#### 146. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

**RESOLVED – that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the next 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.**

#### 147. STAFFING COMMITTEE MINUTES

The confidential Minutes and recommendations from the Staffing Committee meeting held on 11 March 2026 were received and considered. It was noted that the Staffing Committee considers the £7,390 earmarked reserve to be prudent, good accountancy practice and this contingency should be retained. The proposed steps for succession planning were noted.

**RESOLVED – that**

- i) the content and recommendations of the Confidential Minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on 11 March 2026 be received and endorsed;**
- ii) Michelle Williams Administrative Assistant be awarded one increment from 1 April 2026.**
- iii) the following monthly payments with effect from 1 April 2026 be made through the payroll for:-**
  - a. Michelle Williams, Administrative Assistant:**
    - 1. £10 .00 for Telephone/ Broadband Costs and**
    - 2. £55.55 for the use of her home as her work office.**
  - b. Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council - £15 for Telephone/ Broadband Costs**

#### 148. NEW ACTON PARK PLAY AREA

The Chair thanked Carla Hinde, Wrexham CBC Landscape Officer, for all her hard work in progressing and evaluating the tender submissions for a new play area in Acton Park. Five play area contractors have submitted design proposals and tender documentation under the ESPO Framework and all were within the £100,000 budget. .

The Clerk provided an update on the meeting that had taken place earlier on 18 March 2026 between Carla Hinde, the Clerk and four Community Councillors to discuss the five design plans in greater detail, and to determine the necessary steps and approvals to ensure the Project is completed as soon as practicable and before 31 March 2027.

**RESOLVED –**

- i) to endorse the Playground equipment design chosen by young people and after considering the designs submitted via the tendering framework, the two design options chosen at the meeting from Kompan and Hags be progressed;**
- ii) that a further period of consultation with local schools in the Acton area now take place on the Kompan and Hags design bids being taken forward;**

- iii) that further consultation with young people, nearby residents and users of Acton Park be carried out at the Easter event taking place in the Park on Tuesday 31 March 2026 between 1pm and 3pm. and*
- iv) to ensure progress and undue delay as time is of the essence, the Clerk be authorised that whichever of the two preferred proposals receives the most votes after the school and Park consultations should be taken forward and Carla Hinde, Wrexham CBC be asked for the contract awarded to the company with the highest number of votes from the children.*

*Councillor Kevin Roberts Chair*

Signed as a correct record this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026

---

Presiding Chair

**1) S116 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE 2011 - CASUAL VACANCY – ACTON PARK WARD**

**i) Filling of Vacancy**

Following the resignation and retirement of Councillor Philip Lloyd at the last Council meeting on 18 March 2026, to authorise the Clerk to take the necessary steps to advertise and fill this vacancy in accordance with the requirements of S116 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Clerk be requested to proceed to make the necessary arrangements to fill this casual vacancy for the Acton Park Ward by Election or Co-option and be authorised to issue the relevant Public Notice(s).

**ii) Banking Mandates:** To consider refreshing and updating the Council's Banking Mandates to reflect the resignation of former Councillor Philip Lloyd who was a signatory on all of the Council's Bank Accounts.

**THE COUNCIL'S INSTRUCTIONS ARE REQUESTED**

**2) COMMUNITY AGENT REPORT:** To consider the Acton Community Agent's monthly report and a case study on her activities and interaction with Acton Community residents aged 50 and over. (Copy attached).

**3) SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT REPORTING - ACTON PARK RANGER:** To consider the final Acton Park Ranger report to 31 March 2026 (copy attached)

**4) PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUNDING:** Further to Minute 139.4 March 2026, to consider the draft application form completed by the Task and Finish Group on 2 April 2026 and receive an update from the Clerk on her attendance at a drop-in session for Community Councils on 7 April 2026 (Pdf version of worked up document circulated separately)

**5) ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2025/26:** Approval of the Year End Bank Reconciliation and spending progress against the 2025/26 Budget subject to the outcomes of the year-end close down on 24 April 2026. (Due to time constraints this Item to be deferred until May 2026 )

**6) ANNUAL RETURN 2025/26 GOVERNANCE STATEMENTS:** To note the Council must approve its Accounts by 30 June 2026 at the latest and submit its Annual Return to the External Auditor by 7 July 2026 and accordingly **to CONSIDER** and **DETERMINE** the Council's responses **to the attached Annual Return Governance statements** as set out within the Annual Return document for 2025/26.

Community Agent – update to Community Council  
 Community Council Area: Acton, Borrass, Rhosnesni and Maes Y Dre  
 Month: March 2026

Number of new client referrals this month	March 2026– 3 clients
Services signposted to <i>(List)</i>	Telecare Day Opps Rainbow Welfare Rights Social activities in the area OT rails putting in the home Citizens Advice
Number of groups attended <i>(List)</i>	Craft Group Little Acton weekly Coffee Morning 2 per month at Acton Resource Centre Warm Space 03/03/2026 – 13 plus 2 staff Rainbow Warm Space 10/03/2026 – 10 plus 2 staff Rainbow Warm Space 24/03/2026 – 14 plus 2 staff Rainbow  Knitting Group Little Acton Tai Chi Little Acton
Any feedback from citizens re ideas for future activities or support needs	Enjoying Tai Chi with Robin Going to miss Warm Space Chair Dance might be starting Kevin in touch to speak to Elizabeth

**Case Study March – 2026**

Rhian Jones – Community Agent Acton, Borrass, Maes Y Dre and Rhosnesni

**What we did (Activity) why and for who (which priority population)**

I met a lady who walked into my Acton Resource Centre coffee morning around July time 2025, she was emotional and very isolated and lonely. I made a hot drink and made her feel listened too and made her comfortable and introduced who I was. She had been dealing with grief after recently losing her husband. Mrs D lives on her own and is in her 80’s and has no nearby family support. I arranged to meet her at home address and discussed what matters to her, she was lonely after losing her husband recently. She wanted to look at getting out and socialising in the community, but was very emotional during the first few visits I spent time with her. I gave emotional support during the visits and encouraged her to look at bereavement support as well as social opportunities.

**What partners support the delivery of your project / programme?**

Self-referral. I offered the client Day Opps at the Rainbow Foundation at Marchwiel or Penley and transport to be included too as Mrs D doesn’t drive.  
 I offered for client to come to my coffee mornings to build confidence and get to know me and meet others at Acton Resource Centre.  
 Offered Active Futures programme with Rainbow Foundation and transport included for 12 weeks 2 times per week.  
 I offered Social Prescribing as she was needed to talk to someone about her grief.

### How do the priority population groups feel about what is being / has been delivered? How do you ensure your delivery approach is person-centred?

I feel the client was getting to know me and put the trust in me as I had visited the home and met couple of times at the Acton Resource Centre. We had lovely chats and she opened up too. Mrs D chose to go Day Opps at Penley weekly, she also chose to do Active Futures at Acton Resource Centre for the 12 weeks followed by Fit Futures. She also chose to have sessions with Social Prescribing to explore her grief.

Mrs D has engaged with each of these different activities and tells us that she likes all of them, making new friends and filling her time with meaningful activity. She has also improved her physical health and fitness through the Active Futures programme, telling staff 'I couldn't believe what they had me doing at Active Futures, at the beginning I thought I would never be able to do it but by the end I was exercising without my walking stick'

She also tells me that she is feeling useful when she goes to her day opportunities sessions as she likes to help others and spend time talking to them.

### What is being done differently, share how your project works innovatively?

As a Community Agent I am able to build relationships at the home address and at social activities. I can refer to others to get support where needed. Mrs D would have continued to feel isolated at home. Mrs D tells me I have made a big difference being Community Agent.

### What has changed? What difference has occurred?

Mrs D tells me that she is enjoying attending day opportunities once a week at Rainbow. She also attends coffee morning at Acton Resource Centre and Fit Futures and this has made such a difference for her wellbeing. She has changed her day because her neighbour attends on this new day and they wanted to go together. Rainbow were able to support the transport for this.

Mrs D likes to feel useful at Day Opps and enjoys talking and helping out too.

Mrs D is feeling more connected with others and improving her wellbeing.

### Describe the top 3 successes of the scheme

- Getting to know the Community Agent and knowing she can call at anytime and I will do my best to help signpost or support with what matters
- The client enjoying the Day Ops and enjoying making new friends.
- Meeting at Acton Resource Centre for a coffee and to see Rhian – Community Agent after her sessions of Fit Futures. Mrs D has now made friends.

### Describe the top 3 challenges of barriers

- Mobility – as the client uses a walking frame – we need to ensure she is able to access activities safely and in venues with step free access
- Making new friends at the centre and the staff at Day Opps were so helpful in getting the client to feel comfortable in the new surroundings.
- Transport – Mrs D cannot access the community independently due to her mobility issues and needs transport to all activities including those in her immediate local area.

# Acton Park

AGENDA ITEM 7.3

## Seasonal Report

01/01/26 - 30/03/26

### Ranger Team



Park  
Maintenance

Events &  
School  
Groups

Volunteer  
Sessions

Pictured: Cherry Tree in Acton Park  
Taken by Hannah Farnell

# Contents

<b>Report Summary</b> .....	21
<b>Park Maintenance Completed</b> .....	22
Site Checks.....	23
<b>Community Engagement</b> .....	24
<b>Events/School Groups/ Volunteering</b> .....	24
<b>School Groups</b> .....	24
<b>Acton Park Volunteer Group</b> .....	25
<b>Park Flora and Fauna</b> .....	26
<b>Flora</b> .....	26
<b>Fauna</b> .....	26
<b>Projected work</b> .....	288
Park Maintenance .....	28
Park Signage.....	288
Park Biodiversity Improvements .....	288
Acton Park Volunteers .....	28
<b>Park Management Without an Allocated Seasonal Ranger April '26 Onwards</b> .....	29

## **Report Summary**

The ranger team has undertaken work across the park, held volunteer sessions, school sessions and hosted events with the assistance of the wider open spaces team.

The ranger team have undertaken park maintenance including: path clearing, tree and hedge trimming, strimming and bamboo removal.

Three school groups have been held in the park.

The Acton Park volunteer group continues to meet every other Tuesday to assist the rangers with work in the park. They are a key group, who are passionate and highly value the session opportunity to assist in the park to keep it well maintained.

The ranger team will continue to complete site checks and park maintenance. The ranger team will also continue to run the Acton Park volunteer session, where the public can attend to help with jobs in the park.

## Park Maintenance Completed

The park requires year-round attention to ensure paths are clear and shrub beds are tidy. Maintenance involves hedge cutting, strimming, blowing the paths, weeding, pruning, clearing, painting and laying woodchip on muddied paths. Below is a summary of the main works completed in the park between January and March 2026.

### Works Summary

The paths have been cleared regularly to remove leaves, twigs and tree nuts off the tarmac. This keeps the park looking tidy and also prevents leaves rotting near the side and compacting, leading to narrowing of the pathways.

Two memorial trees have been planted in the park, a Blue Atlas Cedar and a Horse Chestnut.



One of two memorial trees being planted by the ranger team.  
Species: Blue Atlas Cedar.

Large amounts of bamboo have been removed from the park. It is not native, so does not support our wildlife and spreads easily, quickly overtaking areas. The cuttings have been donated to Chester Zoo who feed it to their elephants. The elephants apparently do not often get bamboo, so absolutely love it!

Ranger cutting down bamboo



Bamboo being collected by Chester Zoo. Chester Zoo van pictured.

The sweet Chestnut tree that won the Woodland Trust's competition: Tree Of The Year 2023 has had a fence installed around it to help mark the importance of this ancient tree. The fence is there to add grandeur and highlight which tree is "Tree of The Year 2023". It has been left open at the back where park visitors can still walk under the canopy and reach the trunk to experience this tree from close-up. The intent is not to keep people from the tree, but highlight its presence in the park. Waymarkers have also been installed around the park, directing visitors to the winning tree. An information sign is in the

process of being made which will display the tree's history and species information. These works have been funded by the Local Places For Nature Grant from Welsh Government.



Waymarker post for the Tree of the Year 2023 winning Sweet Chestnut tree

### **Site Checks**

Regular site checks have been undertaken and any issues recorded and reported to management.

# Community Engagement

## Events/School Groups/ Volunteering

### Events

#### Easter Event

**Date:** 31/03/26

**Details:** Themed trail, games, Easter Bonnet making craft and colouring competition.

**No. of people attended:** 300



### School Groups

Two school groups have been held in the park, giving children the opportunity to learn in nature and get active outdoors.

#### Teddy Bears Picnic

**Date:** 26/03/26

**Details:** Children explored the park following a trail and then completed two crafts with a packet of sweets and a teddy to take home after the session.

**School attended:** Barkers Lane Primary School

## Acton Park Volunteer Group

The Acton Park Volunteer Group have continued to meet every other Tuesday to assist with park maintenance and surveying. Below is a summary of some of the work they have carried out in the park.

Weeding the young orchard and adding fresh mulch:



Before



After



The volunteers cutting down over-grown bamboo



The volunteers creating a soak away to prevent the path flooding

## Park Flora and Fauna

### Flora



Turkey Tail Fungus



Birds Nest Fungus  
found in old woodchip

### Fauna

The Acton Park Volunteers completed a presence-absence survey on the birds in Acton Park on 10/03/26. The following species were recorded:

- Blackbird
- Blackcap
- Blackheaded Gull
- Blue Tit
- Canada Goose
- Coal Tit
- Coot
- Cormorant
- Carrion Crow
- Dunnock
- Goldcrest
- Goosander
- Great Tit
- Gull – Common
- House Sparrow
- Long Tailed Tit
- Magpie
- Mallard
- Moorhen
- Redwing
- Robin
- Rook
- Siskin
- Tree Creeper

- Wood Pigeon
- Greater Spotted Woodpecker
- Wren



A redwing pictured in Acton Park  
Image taken by Emily Roberts  
(Acton Park Volunteer)

Redwings are usually winter visitors. They are the UK's smallest thrush species, feeding in fields and hedgerows, occasionally visiting gardens. Only a few pairs nest in the UK. They have an amber conservation status. This means they are of moderate concern with their population numbers reducing but not yet critically endangered (red status).

5



Bird feeder made and hung up in Acton park by the Acton Park Volunteer Group.

## **Projected work**

### **Park Maintenance**

General park maintenance will continue, including hedge cutting, path clearing and strimming to keep weeds on path edges back and shrub beds tidy.

### **Park Signage**

The Sweet Chestnut tree that won the Woodland Trusts Tree Of The Year 2023 competition is having an information board developed, which will be installed next to the tree in 2026.

### **Park Biodiversity Improvements**

Improvements for the Japanese Garden area are being discussed, which will be funded by the Local Places For Nature grant from Welsh Government. Plans will be brought to the community council to be discussed in due course.

### **Acton Park Volunteers**

The Acton Park Volunteers group will continue to meet up every other week, as well as assist at events.

## **Park Management Without an Allocated Seasonal Ranger April '26 Onwards**

Detailed below is the work that will continue to be carried out by the Wrexham Country Park Rangers team from April 2026 onwards:

- Monthly site checks to note any maintenance or safety issue that need addressing
- Bi-weekly volunteer sessions on a Tuesday 10am – 12pm
- General park maintenance that is required to keep paths clear, this includes: hedge cutting, strimming and leaf blowing.
- Some events will still be held at the park, run by the ranger team but these will be a smaller number than before focusing on main celebrations: Dog Show, Easter, Halloween and Christmas.
- Where suitable, events will be held and improvement works will be carried out using the Local Places for Nature funding from Welsh Government.

**Members to note the worked up document has been circulated separately**

**Pride in Place Impact Fund  
Application Form  
(2025/2026 and 2026/2027)**

- **Please note a maximum of £44,117.64 is available to each Town / Community Council.**
- **The funding period runs for the financial years 2025/26 and 2026/27.**
- **When completing this form please refer to the Pride in Place Impact Fund guidance document.**
- **Please note that responses to some sections will be requested at a later stage of the process. – you do not need to complete 3.1, 7.1, 8.1, 9.1 or 10.1 at this time but please familiarise yourself with these questions.**
- **All successful projects must be completed by the 12th of March 2027.**

**Annual Governance Statement**

We acknowledge as the members of the Council, our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, that for the year ended 31 March 2026:

	Agreed?		'YES' means that the Council:	Toolkit
	Yes	No*		
1. In consultation with the community, we have developed a vision and purpose for the Council and used this vision to inform the Council's plans, budget and activities.			Has consulted with the community and focussed its activities to meet the community's needs	A, C
2. We have adopted a Code of Conduct for members and officers and implemented an appropriate training plan for members to ensure all councillors understand their role and responsibilities.			Ensures that councillors understand and are equipped to deliver their roles and responsibilities.	B
3. We have ensured that we electronically publish the information the Council is required to publish by law, on its website at [insert name of website].			Is transparent about its activities and provides the public with all information required by law	A, C, D, E
4. We have taken all reasonable steps to ensure that the Council complies with relevant laws and regulations when exercising its functions, including employment of staff and payment of allowances to members.			Has only done things that it has the legal power to do and has conformed to codes of practice and standards in the way it does so	
5. We have adopted standing orders, financial regulations and terms of reference and ensure that these are followed when conducting business including functions delegated to committees.			Has adopted rules and procedures to govern how the Council conducts its business including procurement of goods and services.	B, E
6. We have put in place arrangements for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective financial management including the setting and monitoring of the Council's budget and preparation and approval of the annual accounts</li> <li>Maintenance and security of accurate and up to date accounting and other financial records</li> <li>Identifying potential liabilities, commitments, events and transactions that may have a financial impact on the Council.</li> </ul>			Calculated its budget requirement in accordance with the law and properly monitors its financial position throughout the year and has prepared and approved its accounts in accordance with legislation	D
7. We have maintained an adequate system of internal control and management of risk, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption including clearly documented procedures for authorising and making payments</li> <li>assessment and management of risks facing the Council</li> <li>an adequate and effective system of internal audit and reviewed the effectiveness of these arrangements.</li> </ul>			Made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge including arranging for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether these meet the needs of the body.	D, E
8. We have taken appropriate action on all matters raised in previous reports from internal and external audit.			Considered and taken appropriate action to address weaknesses /issues brought to its attention by internal and external auditors.	D, E
9. We have provided proper opportunity for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.			Has given all persons interested the opportunity to inspect the body's accounts as set out in the notice of audit issued by the Auditor General.	E
<b>10. General power of Competence</b> – The Council has resolved to adopt the General Power of Competence set out in Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021			Meets the eligibility criteria to exercise the general Power of Competence	E

**Additional disclosure notes**

Include here any additional disclosures the Council considers necessary to aid the reader's understanding of the accounting statement and/or the annual governance statement.

**The following information is provided to assist the reader to understand the accounting statement and/or the Annual Governance Statement**

**1. Expenditure under S137 Local Government Act 1972**

Section 137(1) of the 1972 Act permits the Council to spend on activities for which it has no other specific powers if the Council considers that the expenditure is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, the area or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants, providing that the benefit is commensurate with the expenditure. Section 137(3) also permits the Council to incur expenditure for certain charitable and other purposes. The maximum expenditure that can be incurred under both section 137(1) and (3) for the financial year 2025-26 was £11.10 per elector. In 2025-26, the Council made payments totalling £\_\_\_\_\_ under section 137. These payments are included within 'Other payments' in the Accounting Statement.

2.

**Trust Funds**

Trust funds – The Council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing trust fund(s)/assets. We exclude transactions related to these trusts from the Accounting Statement. In our capacity as trustee, we have discharged our responsibility in relation to the accountability for the fund(s) including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>	Has met all of its responsibilities where it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.
---	------------	-----------	------------	---

**Council approval and certification**

The Council is responsible for the preparation of the accounting statements and the annual governance statement in accordance with the requirements of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 (the Act) and the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014.

<b>Certification by the RFO</b> I certify that the accounting statements contained in this Annual Return present fairly the financial position of the Council, and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be, for the year ended 31 March 2026.	<b>Approval by the Council</b> I confirm that these accounting statements and Annual Governance Statement were approved by the Council under minute reference:
	<b>Minute ref:</b>
<b>RFO signature:</b>	<b>Chair signature:</b>
<b>Name:</b>	<b>Name:</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Date:</b>

Organisation	Details	Notes
<b>CONSULTATIONS: Members are requested to submit any comments they may wish to make on the undermentioned Consultation</b>		
<b>Wrexham CBC</b>	<p><b>New Premises Application - Lager Town</b> relating to Unit 4a, Jaeger House, 141 Holt Road, Wrexham, LL13 9DY.: Email dated 10 April 2026 inviting comments on this application by 6 May 2026: Details are as follows: a new premises licence application requesting the following Sale of Alcohol</p> <p>Monday – Sunday 09:00 – 23:00;                      Christmas Day 11:00 – 14:00                      Bank Holidays 09:00 – 23:00</p> <p>Further detail on the planned activities or if you have a proposed objection please contact <a href="mailto:licensing@wrexham.gov.uk">licensing@wrexham.gov.uk</a></p>	
<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>		
<b>1. One Voice Wales</b>	<p><b>1. One Voice Wales E Bulletin issue 20:</b> email dated 20 March 2026 with their latest e-bulletin.</p> <p><b>2. One Voice Wales Funding Newsletter March 2026:</b> email dated 17 March 2026 with details of funding opportunities in North Wales.</p> <p><b>3. Free Training Places for Councillors – 2027-2027:</b> email dated 2 April 2026 with details of the free training places for Councillors.</p> <p><b>4. OVW E-bulletin Issue 21:</b> email dated 2 April 2026 with the latest e-bulletin from One Voice Wales.</p> <p><b>5. Placement opportunities Rural Wales Advisory Board and Placements Call:</b> email dated 7 April 2026 with details of these placement opportunities.</p> <p><b>6. APRIL 2026: The Voice e-magazine:</b> Email dated 9 April introducing the first edition of a magazine-style e-newsletter. The e-newsletters are also available to read here :<a href="#">e-Newsletters - One Voice Wales</a></p> <p><b>7. April 26: One Voice Wales National Awards 2026:</b> email dated 9 April 2026 inviting nominations for this award. OVW members are encouraged to visit <a href="#">on-line Awards Application Form</a> and submit applications. The closing date for nomination is 30 April 2026</p>	
<b>2. Rainbow Foundation</b>	<p><b>New Active Futures Cohort starts this April – Please help us to spread the word:</b> email dated 17 March 2026 with details of the latest Active Futures sessions.</p>	
<b>3. Play Wales</b>	<p><b>1. March 2026 e-bulletin:</b> email dated 17 March 2026 with the latest ebulletin from Play Wales.</p>	
<b>4. Wrecsam2029 City of Culture Bid</b>	<p><b>Wrecsam2029 – Upcoming Community Conversation Events:</b> email dated 24 March 2026 with details of sessions being held during March and April 2026 about the Wrecsam2029 bid and Cultural Strategy.</p>	
<b>5. Planning Aid Wales</b>	<p><b>Latest News from Planning Aid Wales:</b> email dated 25 March 2026 with the latest newsletter from Planning Aid Wales.</p>	

6. Hafren Dyfrdwy	<b>Hafren Dyfrdwy:</b> email dated 31 March 2026 with an attachment outlining work taking place along the A5156 between the Llan-y-pwll Roundabout and the Gresford Interchange roundabout. This will result in lane closures between 13 April 2026 and 27 April 2026	
7. AVOW	<p><b>1. Members Mailout March 2026:</b> email dated 31 March 2026 with their latest newsletter.</p> <p><b>2. Volunteers Week – Nominations Open:</b> email dated 2 April 2026 with a link to nominate the volunteer who has made a difference.</p>	
8. Wrexham CBC	<p><b>1. Wrexham Active Travel Network Map (ATNM) review:</b> email dated 2 April 2026 with a link to a survey which will help to identify priorities for future improvements to walking and cycling routes in Wrexham County Borough. The closing date is 17 May 2026.</p> <p><b>2. Dog Fouling ‘Design a Sign’ Competition:</b> email dated 7 April 2026 with details of a ‘Design a Sign’ competition aimed at Primary School Children to promote anti-dog fouling. The closing date is 17 April 2026.</p> <p><b>3. Wrexham LDP 2013 – 2028: Withdrawal of an LDP:</b> email dated 8 April 2026 with details and FAQ’s on the withdrawal of the Wrexham LDP.</p>	
9. North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agent	<b>Notification of Works A55/A494/A550?A483 (A5) Dual Carriageway:</b> email dated 3 April 2026 with a notification of works to the dual carriageway on these roads.	
10 - Ambition North Wales	<b>Quarterly Newsletter - Ambition North Wales:</b> Email dated 24 March 2026 presenting its newsletter which it hopes is informative. Any feedback or suggestions regarding the newsletter and its content: is welcome: <a href="#"><u>Ambition North Wales Quarterly newsletter</u></a>	