

Minutes of the Meeting of Acton Community Council held remotely via Zoom on Tuesday 19 April 2022

Present:

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

* Absent

Also Present:

PC154 Graham Bailey, North Wales Police
Carole Roberts, Clerk to the Council

153. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Pritchard and D Wallice.

RESOLVED – that the apologies be received and accepted.

154. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were made at this stage of the proceedings. The Clerk to the Council reiterated previous advice about the public interest test that should be considered by Members when determining whether or not they wish to declare an interest. The present position was noted.

155. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

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

156. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes from 22 March 2022 remote Council Meeting: were received.

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the remote Council Meeting held on 22 March 2022 be received and confirmed as a correct record.

157. INFORMATION FROM THE MINUTES

- 1. MINUTE 141.2 PROGRESS UPDATE: PEDI PADS FOR BARKERS LANE DEFIBRILLATOR:** It was noted delivery of the Pads was now awaited
- 2. MINUTE 143.1 SLA PARK RANGER FOR ACTON PARK:** The Clerk reported this SLA has now been signed off to include the additional sum to enable the eight Park events to proceed throughout the year
- 3. MINUTE 143.2 OFFA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**
 - i).CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE RWF STATUE** To note the £500 has now been paid

ii).PCSO POWERS: To note with regret the response received from the Chief Constable to this representation

4. MINUTE 143.4 DAMAGE TO SEESAW AT ACTON PARK

RESOLVED: that the Clerk in consultation with the Chair be authorised to approve the repair works and any payments necessary once the Wrexham CBC Tender process has concluded to ensure this play equipment is repaired and poses no adverse risk to Park users

5. MINUTE 143.4 –URGENT MATTERS that may arise during the pre and post-election period

RESOLVED - to re-affirm that the Clerk in Consultation with the Chair, Councillor Kevin Roberts be authorised to approve any urgent matters that cannot be held over until the Annual Meeting of the Council on 17 May 2022, and any matters so determined be reported to that meeting

6. MINUTE 143.4.5- LAYBY AT PENYMAES AVENUE, MAESYDRE: It was noted that the Acton Sector Policing Team have been asked to increase Patrols in this area to re-assure the Public and the Officer in attendance undertook to highlight this request to the Team

7. MINUTE 143.4.6- MANAGEMENT IN ACTION CONFERENCE: It was noted that the Clerk was now booked to attend this Conference

8. MINUTE 145- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: The Chair gave an update on the well-attended Easter Egg Hunt in Acton Park. Referring to comments received from Members of the Public attending the event and awareness of the facilities at the Acton Community Resource Centre, Councillors expressed concerns about the accessibility of publicity, information and the booking priorities for the accommodation that is available at the Resource Centre for Acton based Clubs, Societies and other organisations. It was noted that the 10 year funding Agreement with Wrexham CBC will end on 31 March 2023 and the Council is to review its position and priorities shortly.

RESOLVED –

- i) To note the update given by the Chair on the successful Easter Event organised in the Park by the Ranger; and**
- ii) To request that an item to be placed on the Agenda of the next ACRC Management Committee meeting to discuss the Business model and availability of the Centre for use by local groups such as the 1st Acton Brownies and the Stroke Support Group.**

158. COMMUNITY AND OTHER POLICING MATTERS

The Monthly Policing and Operations report provided by the PCSOs on Crime issues and Trends in each of the five Acton Community Wards was received and considered. The Report contained other news and reiterated PCSO activities and further encouragement to members of the public to complete the Safer Streets Survey: www.police.uk/streetsafe;

RESOLVED that the Monthly Policing and Operations report be received and noted.

159. CLERK'S REPORT

The following procedural matters were reported by the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer:-

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS, UNCONTESTED SEATS AND VACANCIES: The Clerk to report on any notifications received from the Returning Officer including any listing those Candidates that have been returned unopposed, the process for co-option and any other matters related to the full Council Elections on 5 May 2022.

2. URGENT CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING

a) TOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM 7 APRIL 2022: the Clerk gave a brief report on items discussed at this meeting including, the New Charter, Legislative requirements now in force for Annual Reports & Training Plans and proposals by Wrexham CBC to provide short training sessions

on Code of Conduct, Planning and Carbon neutrality for Town and Community Councils. Also discussed were Optic Fibre for Rural Communities and the Forum work programme including Wellbeing Assessments.

RESOLVED - the Clerk's update on her attendance be noted and the Draft Charter be considered at the June 2022 meeting of the Council

b) OFF STREET PARKING PLACES ORDERS - COMMENTS REQUIRED BY 6 May 2022

RESOLVED to note the changes proposed are for the removal of disabled charges from all Council operated car parks where car park charges apply

c) ONE VOICE WALES TRAINING IN APRIL AND MAY 2022 TO INCLUDE CODE OF CONDUCT AND NEW MEMBER TRAINING

RESOLVED – THAT the Clerk invite all new members of the Council to participate on the training now available

d) WREXHAM CBC CARBON TRAINING 26, 27, 28 APRIL 2022

RESOLVED – to note the available training

e) WALES REGIONAL TRAINING SEMINAR -22 JUNE 2022 AT LLANDRINDOD WELLS

RESOLVED – THAT the Clerk be authorised to book a place to attend this Conference as part of her continued professional training and the delegate's fees, travel/subsistence costs and additional hours incurred by the Clerk attending the Conferences be paid.

f) ACTON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL – letters received from pupils regarding Acton Park Play provision for older children. It was noted that Wrexham County Borough Council owns and manages Acton Park but the Community Council is very supportive of initiatives in the Park and has since 2014 funded the retention of the Wrexham CBC formal play areas in the Acton Community at Aran Road, Ffordd Garmonydd and Acton Park. It currently has some earmarked reserves for replacement/improvements. Improvements to the Ffordd Garmonydd Play area were developed by local children supported by the Wrexham Play Development Team.

RESOLVED – THAT

- i) the Pupils be thanked for their letters and ideas and advised of the action proposed in resolution ii) below:**
- ii) the Wrexham County Borough Council's Play Development Team should be requested to contact the Acton Park Primary School to work and develop ideas with the children who have submitted the letters to the Community Council and the Play Development Team should also include Pupils from the other Acton Community Schools as part of an initial Consultation process through Wrexham County Borough Council to develop older children's play ideas and present any firm proposals to the Community Council for consideration; and**
- iii) The Annual Safety inspection of the three existing Acton play areas funded by the Community Council that will take place shortly and their outcomes should inform where priority is given to replacement or new play areas.**

g) BOW TOP FENCING AT FFORDD GARMONYDD – notification had been received from Wrexham CBC of damage to some of the fencing at this play area

RESOLVED – THAT The Clerk in consultation with the Chair be authorised to approve any payments necessary once the Wrexham CBC Tender process has concluded to ensure this play equipment is repaired and poses no adverse risk to Park users

160. KEY ACTON ISSUES

Due to the pre-election period, there were no major issues for the WCBC Members to report on that are being considered by the County Bough Council that may affect the whole or part of the Community of Acton.

161. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2021/22

The Clerk presented the Year End Bank Reconciliation and spending progress against the 2021/22 Budget. Members noted there had been a total overspend in the budget due to Council decisions during the year for relaxation of the S137 Financial Assistance tier levels, the purchase of 5 defibrillators for each of the Acton Wards, and a six month extension of the Acton Park Ranger post from September 2021 to March 2022. The end of year General Fund balances were £28,306 less than the last year. The Earmarked balances had a net in year increase of £12,577. It was expected in 22/23 there would be a call on the earmarked reserves in respect of expected repair/maintenance works to the Maesydre Power House, Election costs for the two Community Elections in May 2022 and proposed spending on play areas. Overall the cumulative balances to 31 March 2022 were £13,090 less than the previous financial year. It was noted the accounts will be submitted to the Council's Internal Auditor on 12 May 2022 and Audit Wales; the External Auditor has given notice that they will undertake the Annual Return and Basic Audit on 12 September 2022.

RESOLVED – that the quarter 4 quarter bank reconciliation and accounts together with the full year expenditure and progress against the Budget to be received and noted.

162. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Clerk reported on payments received since the last meeting as set out below and the bank charges and fees that were now levied each month.

PAYMENTS RECEIVED: 1st Precept payment £56,334.00
Interest Payment 3/3/22 Deposit Account **£3.76**

BANK CHARGES & FEES 28/2/22 to 27/3/22 from Chair's Charity Account =- £5.00
4/3/22 to 3/4/22 from Current Account = -£7.40

Authorisation for the Payments to be made in April 2022 was sought.

RESOLVED –

- i) To note the Interest payment receipts and the bank charges and fees to be levied on the Council's Bank Accounts; and**
- ii) To approve the payments to be made in April 2022 as set out in the schedule below:-**

Current account Payments Made in APRIL 2022		
Voucher 1 /No payment ref Wrexham County Borough Council	Business Rates Demand 2022/23 – Maesydre Power House: Valuer 1475 (Below Min Value)	£0.00
Voucher 2 /BACS ref 1.4.22 Carole Roberts	Clerk's Salary & office expenses for April 2022 - 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)
Voucher 3/BACS ref 3.4.22 Clwyd Pension Fund	Pension payments for April 2022 plus £200 deficit Recovery Amount for 2022/23 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule)
Voucher 4/ BACS ref 4.4.22 HMRC	Payroll payments for March 2022 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	(as per Payroll schedule) £462.27
Voucher 5/ Cheque No 202208 Vision ICT	Website & Email Hosting/support for May 2022 to April 2023 Section 58 Local Government (Democracy)(Wales) Act 2013	£580.80 (VAT= £96.80)
Voucher 6/ Cheque No 202209 Carole Roberts	Clerks Expenses for April 2022 Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£115.42 (Vat= £13.40)

Voucher 7/ Cheque No 202194 Society of Local Council Clerks	1x Delegate fee SLCC Welsh Conference Llandrindod Wells Section 112 Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)	£102.00 (VAT = £17.00)
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iii) Having regard to the risk associated with a potential reduction of cheque signatories, the Clerk in consultation with the Chair and any of the existing cheque signatories be authorised to approve contractual and regulatory expenditure and report such actions to the next meeting of the full Council for endorsement

163. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED – that the Applications received since the last meeting be determined as follows:

Case Number/ Address & Proposed Development	
1.Planning Application P/2022/0264 - Dilys o/Valid From 15/03/2022: 5, Blanter Way, Wrexham, LL13 9QP: single storey rear extension and alteration to roofs	No observations
2.Planning Application P/2022/0266 - Dilys o/Valid From 23/03/2022 : 3, Grange Close, Wrexham, LL12 7YH : lawful development certificate for proposed single storey rear extension:	No observations
3.Planning Application P/2022/0358 - Dilys o/Valid From 08/04/2022 : 19, Turnberry Avenue, Wrexham, LL13 9GG:single storey rear extension and balcony above	No observations

164. BEST WISHES

The Chair and other members of the Council referred to the forthcoming full Council elections and to the seven members who were standing down and thanked them all for their good works and efforts in serving their community and wards. In particular the Chair commended Councillor Geoff Lowe for his long and valuable contributions and service as a member of the Community Council since February 1990.

RESOLVED – that the Clerk in consultation with the Chair arrange to purchase from the Chair’s Charity account a suitable gift in recognition of Councillor Lowe’s long service to the Acton Community.

Councillor Kevin Roberts, Chair

Signed as a correct record this 17TH day of May 2022

Presiding Chair