

ACTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL – HYBRID MEETING NOTES FROM 20 SEPTEMBER 2023

Councillors Present: W Baldwin, L Balmain, C Bettley, M Davies, S Edwards, R Hardy, H Hewitt, C Jarvis, P Lloyd, B Martin, K Roberts (Chair) and D Wallice

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillor A Evans
- 2. RESIGNATION-** Councillor R Davies with immediate effect on 19 September 2023
DECISION – Clerk to take the necessary steps to advertise and fill this Casual Vacancy for the Rhosnesni Ward
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** None
- 4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS:** None
- 5. WE DON'T BUY CRIME:** Presentation from Susan Carrington North Wales Police and PC Lee Parker reported on latest Crime statistics for the Acton Community
DECISION- to discuss options for supporting the Smart Water initiative for vulnerable Acton Community Residents at the October 2023 Council meeting
- 6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**
 - 1) Council meeting held on 19 July 2023**
DECISION: Minutes were received and confirmed as a correct record.
 - 2) Youth Committee meeting adjourned on 26 July 2023 and reconvened on 6 September 2023**
DECISION:
 - 1.To endorse the extension of the Terms of reference of the Youth Committee to enable it to consider and set parameters to receive and consider applications for funding from Acton Community Youth Organisations/Groups that will enable them to remain viable or provide financial support for special project for a set number of years.
 2. The Council to consider the funding for this work and remit to spend such monies as part of the 2024/25 Budget setting and precepting process.
- 7. INFORMATION FROM 19 JULY 2023 MINUTES:**
 - 1. Minute 33- COMMUNITY AGENT FOR ACTON:**
NOTED Community Agent was now in post and will be attending the October 2023 Council meeting
 - 2. Minute 36.1 DOMESTIC ABUSE –**
NOTED Councillor S Edwards had now specified the information to be requested and the Clerk would submit an FOI request shortly
 - 3. Minute 36.v: CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE COST OF PROVIDING CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ALONG THE ACTON COMMUNITY SECTIONS OF CHESTER ROAD:**
NOTED Detailed Financial information still awaited
 - 4. Minute 37.3 BESPOKE WORKSHOP TRAINING:**
DECISION- to abandon arrangements for a hybrid training session and request One Voice Wales to provide online Training for the full Council as soon as practicable
- 8. PROCEDURAL MATTERS:**
 - 1. AUGUST RECESS DELEGATED DECISIONS:**
 - i) **Maesydre Powerhouse** – Tenders, Contractual Process, Insurance Cover and Commencement of Works
 - ii) **Payment of Accounts** (included with SEPTEMBER 2023 Report for Payment of Accounts)
 - iii) **Planning applications** for development or work to protected trees in the Community Council's area(Included on Agenda for September 2023)

iv) **Fencing at Jeffreys Road:** Report on action taken during the recess to ensure this work goes ahead and to agree amendments to the costed option

2. REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS: (incorporating requirements contained in the Local Government and Election (Wales) Act 2021)

DECISION to adopt the Model Document as submitted to the meeting

3. S116 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE 2011 -: CO-OPTION OF MEMBER to fill CASUAL COUNCILLOR VACANCY IN THE BORRAS PARK WARD:

DECISION – Clerk to re advertise this vacancy with a closing date of noon on Monday 16 October 2023 and any applications received be considered at the next Council meeting

4. SLA MATTERS WREXHAM CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX – ACTON OUTREACH SERVICE: Q1 SLA Report for 2023/24

DECISION – Clerk to give some feedback to the CAB that Members really like the new numeric based report format. Particular reference was made to the income generated statistics which when compared to the costs of this SLA represents good value for money.

9. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2022/23:

DECISION:

- i) to note the External Auditors has issued an Unqualified Opinion;
- ii) to accept the External Auditor's comments regarding the Annual Return
- iii) to respond that in future a member of the Council will check the Annual return prior to its approval and submission to the External Auditor
- iv) to agree that Councillor C Jarvis undertake separate checks to the Council's Annual Return and quarterly accounts reporting as a check and balance
- v) the Clerk to request an explanation from Rialtas regarding the £1 rounding issue identified by the External Auditor

10. APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

DECISION- To make grants/donations as follows:

1. SSAFA Wales - £200
2. Nightingale House Hospice - £500
3. Gate Hangs High Bowling Club - £500
4. Cerebral palsy Wales - £200
5. Wrexham Boxing Club - £500

11. KEY ACTON ISSUES:

i)Illegal Driveways-

DECISION – to request that this issue be placed on the agenda of the next Town and Community Council Forum

ii)Gates on Dean Road Playing Field

Noted - the gates are now secured and kept locked. Only pedestrian access is possible. Several persons are key holders

12. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PROGRESSION OF ANNUAL REPORT PRIORITIES: Chair updated on the following matters:

1. **Events at Acton Park** - Noted

2.**Progress of Annual Report Priorities:**

Financial Assistance/grants – Youth Committee progressing this;

Acton Park Play areas- Task & Finish Group not met yet, Councillors to arrange a date to meet at the Park

Little Acton Community Centre - Task and Finish Group yet to meet, Lease awaited from Wrexham CBC

Christmas lighting/ celebrations; Awaiting response from Rhosddu Community Councillor

Maesydre PowerHouse - Updates included on Agenda

Monitoring and reduction of speeding within the Community- included elsewhere on agenda

13. ITEMS PLACED ON THE AGENDA BY COUNCILLOR MIKE DAVIES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL

1. Defibrillator Initiative by residents and contributing to placements:

Noted – restriction of the Council being unable to give funding to individuals and agreement any future Member requests to purchase a Community defibrillator should include a suitable location with agreement in principle to their positioning

2. Provision of Speed warning signs on Holt Road and Borrass Park Road for traffic approaching from the Link Road. (Similar to the sign located on Chester Road).

DECISION – in view of recent introduction of 20mph liming in the Acton Community and then review the request for Speed Warning Signs and part of the 2024/25 Budget setting process

14. REPORT FROM CLERK: Consultations and Correspondence and other information that received since the last meeting.

i) Consultation : Fire & Rescue Service – North Wales

DECISION – to support Caia park Community Council’s resolution and object to proposals to reduce the number of Fire Engines at the Wrexham Station and submit a response by 30 September 2023

ii) SLCC – National Conference at Hinckley – 11-12 October 2023:

DECISION - to endorse the Chair’s approval for the Clerk to book a place to attend this Conference as part of her continued professional training and the delegate fees of £566.60 (inc vat), and any additional hours incurred by the Clerk attending the Conference be paid.

iii) Joint SLCC/OVW Virtual Conference – 8 November 2023

DECISION - the Clerk be authorised to book two places to attend this virtual joint Conference as part of her continued professional training and the delegates’ fees of £144 inc vat, and any additional hours incurred by the Clerk attending the Conference be paid.

15. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

DECISION – to approve the making of payments for August 2023 and September 2023 as set out in the schedule reported to the meeting; and

To note the payments received; and

To authorise the Clerk to replenish the Council’s Current Account to meet contractual and other known payments

16. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

| Case Number/ Address & Proposed Development | Decision |
|---|--|
| 1 <u>Planning Application P/2023/0484 - Dilys o/Valid From 07/07/2023</u> 93 Norfolk Road, Wrexham, LL12 7SB - dormer extension | Received during August Recess – no observations submitted |
| 2. <u>Planning Application P/2023/0544 - Dilys o/Valid From 04/08/2023</u> 23, Westminster Drive, Wrexham, LL12 7AT - works to trees protected by tree preservation order wmbc 21 | <i>No objections subject to the Council’s Arboricultural Officer being satisfied that the works are necessary and are carried out under his direction</i> |

17. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC:

DECISION - the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the next items 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.

18. MAESYDRE POWER HOUSE:

This matter was determined in private

19. JEFFREYS ROAD FENCING

This matter was determined in private

End of Decision note