

# ISYCOED COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Isycoed Village Hall, Wrexham, LL13 9RN

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## **Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**Present:** Councillors Peter Jones (Chairman), Sharon Worsnop (Vice-chair), Jack Brereton-Thomas, Mike Morris, Angela Rhodes, Stephen Ellis and Sandra Hinds.

**Min 1 – Election of Chair:** It was **RESOLVED** to re-appoint Councillor Peter Jones as Chairman of the Community Council for the Municipal Year 2026-27. The Declaration of Office was signed at the meeting.

**Min 2 – Election of Vice-chair:** It was **RESOLVED** to re-appoint Councillor Sharon Worsnop as Vice-chair of the Community Council for 2026-27.

**Min 3 – Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllr Paul Williams.

**Min 4 – Declarations of Interest:** *The Chair will remind all Members of the need to declare any personal or prejudicial interest in items on the agenda, either at the beginning of the meeting or when the relevant item arises*

**Min 5 – Public Participation:** *The Council should adjourn for 5 minutes to allow members of the public to ask questions or make statements (NB Councillors should not enter discussion with the public at this time as to do so would be contrary to the advice of the Welsh Government.)* No members of the public were present

**Min 6 – The following Council documents were reviewed and approved:**

- i. Standing Orders
- ii. Financial Regulations
- iii. Code of Conduct
- iv. Annual Report

**Min 7 – Schedule of meeting of the Council 2026-27**

It was **RESOLVED** that normal meetings of the Community Council would continue to be held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm except during August when the Council is in recess.

## **Min 8 – General Power of Competence GPOC**

The GPOC enables eligible Community Councils to act in their communities' best interests, generate efficiencies and secure value for money outcomes. The general power of competence gives eligible community councils the same powers to act that an individual generally has, thus enabling them to do similar sorts of things. It is a power of first resort for Community Councils.

The freedom of GPOC is available to Community Councils that meet three criteria for eligibility set out in the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (Part 2, Section 30). The criteria being:

- 1) At least two-thirds of the total number of members of the Council have been declared to be elected (including unopposed), whether at an ordinary election or at a by-election (section 30(2)).
- 2) The Clerk to the council holds such named qualification or certification as may be specified by the Welsh Ministers by regulations (section 30(3)).
- 3) The two most recent Auditor General for Wales (AGW) opinions on the Council's accounts are unqualified. The most recent must have been received in the previous 12 months (section 30(4)).

Providing a Community Council meets the three eligibility criteria, the Council can pass a formal resolution declaring that it has the General Power of Competence at its Annual Council meeting. It must also publish the decision on the Council's website within 7 working days of the resolution being passed.

Once a Community Council has resolved itself to be an eligible Community Council, it will need to reaffirm on an annual basis that it continues to meet the eligibility criteria. A Council can do this by passing a resolution to this effect at its Annual Meeting.

The Clerk confirmed to members that Isycoed Community Council meets all 3 criteria. It was therefore **RESOLVED** for the following declaration to be made:

**“The Community Council hereby confirms we meet the eligibility criteria for adoption of a General Power of Competence as defined in the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (Part 2, Chapters 1 & 2) We further resolve to adopt the General Power of Competence.**

**Min 9 – Minutes:** The draft minutes of the meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026 were considered and approved as a true and accurate record.

## **Min 10 – Matters Arising:**

The Clerk confirmed that the large Ash tree in the car park had now been removed.

**Min 11 – Crime Report:** The crime report circulated by PCSO Emma Maddocks was received with no matters raised.

## **Min 12 – Annual Return**

The Annual Return for 2025-26 had previously been circulated to all Members. **It was RESOLVED to approve the Annual Return and for the Chairman to sign as required.**

### Min 13 – Internal Audit Report

The Clerk confirmed that the Internal Audit had taken place. The report of the Internal Auditor contained just 2 items on the action plan:

- 1) Staff costs on the annual return includes £301 of payroll agent charges which should be included instead in ‘Total other payments’. **The Clerk confirmed that the Annual Return had been amended accordingly.**
- 2) An invoice for a £200 payment to JP Harris metal sculptures could not be traced. **The Chairman will contact JP Harris and request a replacement invoice.**

### Min 14 – Finance report.

The financial report for the April/May period was received and accepted. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following accounts for payment:

Accounts for Payment	Chq No	Amount
AVOW (May staff payroll)	Bacs	£664.58
British Telecom (May broadband)	DD	£43.14
JDH Business Services (int audit fee)	Bacs	£366.00
WCBC (street lighting SLA qtr 1)	Bacs	£73.90
Phil Benfield (tree-work at Village Hall)	Bacs	£1100.00
Zurich Ins (annual ins premium)	Bacs	£1915.65
K Benfield (expenses April/May)	Bacs	£102.38
R Furmstone (Window Cleaner VH)	Bacs	£16.00
HSBC (bank charge)	Bacs	£0.40
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>£4,282.05</b>

### Income (April/May)

HSBC interest	£2.51
HMRC (vat refund)	£662.85
Ladies NFU (hall bookings)	£360.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1,025.36</b>

**Insurance Renewal:** The Clerk was asked to enquire with Zurich Ins if a reduction in premium was available for a 3 year commitment. The Clerk was given the authority to renew at the best possible price.

## **Min 15 – Village Hall**

- a) Bookings: The Clerk updated members on bookings and enquiries received. An enquiry had been received to start holding dog classes on a Saturday morning at the hall. This had previously been discussed and approved. The Clerk will confirm the bookings on a month's trial. The cost to be £50 a session. The hall floor must be swept and left clean after every booking with no dogs allowed in the kitchen at any time.
- b) Other items: The Chairman reported that an inspection of the septic tank at the hall had been carried out. The septic tank itself was in good condition but the outlet pipe and manhole needed to be replaced as a priority. This work had been authorised.

## **Min 16 – Planning Applications**

The following Planning Applications were considered:

P/2026/0263 – Norish Ltd, Ash Road South, erection of 2 no blast freezer chamber buildings, ancillary plant building and associated works.

RESOLVED – To raise no objection in principal. However concerns were raised over the additional noise impact this will have in the area. The general level of noise on the industrial estate seems to have been gradually increasing over the last few years and has been commented on by residents. Monitoring of any additional noise impact is requested.

P/2023/0598 – Ridleywood Farm, change of use of buildings from agriculture to a mixed B1 business, B2 General Industrial and B8 storage and distribution use and all associated works. Amended plans have been received.

RESOLVED – to defer again for the receipt of requested additional information.

P/2025/0919 – Former Ridley Wood Industrial complex, Bryn Lane, change of use of land to form open and containerised self storage and associated works (amended plans)

RESOLVED – to defer for receipt of requested further information

P/2026/0285 – Lower Oak Farm, Oak Rd, erection of replacement outbuilding

**(Cllr Steve Ellis declared an interest in this application and left the meeting during discussion)**

RESOLVED – To object on the grounds the proposed plans are not in keeping for a log store required for a single dwelling. The building does not meet the criteria for the stated proposed use. A noise assessment report would be required.

P/2026/0288 – Spring Lodge, Bowling Bank, single storey rear extension with balcony to roof area

RESOLVED – No objection

The Clerk informed members that a reply had been received from the applicant regarding the pre-application consultation for Networld sports that had been discussed at the previous meeting and this was noted. Members agreed to wait for the planning application to be submitted in order to consider the application fully.

## **Min 17 – Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received and noted:

1. **AVOW** - *Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC) has confirmed that funding for the Community Agent Project will end, with de commissioning taking place in two phases, supported by WCBC Commissioning. The first phase includes AVOW delivered and other commissioned provider arrangements, with the project closing as a WCBC commissioned service on 31 July 2026. This will be followed by a second phase involving Community Councils. This reflects the agreed withdrawal of WCBC funding for the project. While this is not a decision made by AVOW, our priority is to support communities as effectively as possible throughout this transition.*

*While the Community Agent Project is ending, based on Welsh Government guidance Wrexham Council and BCUHB have been working on a new Social Prescribing and Community Wellness service, to be delivered through a single county borough wide model and a broader, more integrated approach to health and wellbeing. It is intended to go live from August 2026. Where appropriate, individuals who meet eligibility criteria will be supported to transition into the new service to help maintain continuity of support.*

*Over the coming months, AVOW will work with Community Councils, local groups and partners to support the sustainability of valued activities where possible. This will include supporting volunteer led and other locally sustainable approaches. This will not involve continuation of the Community Agent role as part of WCBC commissioned provision once funding ends.*

*We recognise how much the Community Agent Project has meant to local communities. Our focus is on supporting the sustainability of valued groups, activities and local networks beyond the life of the project, helping communities to remain strong and connected going forward.*

*We would like to thank stakeholders for their support of the project and to recognise the significant contribution made by Community Agents in supporting people within their communities. We wish them every success in their future endeavours.*

2. **WCBC – Wrexham Bid for UK City of Culture 2029**

*I'm getting in touch to follow up on Wreccsam2029's mailing list for updates, communications and promotional information relating to Wrexham's Bid for UK City of Culture.*

*You can sign up to our mailing list by clicking this link: [Wreccsam UK City of Culture Bid 2029 Mailing List](#)*

**Min 18 – Pride in Place Application**

The Clerk confirmed that the application had been submitted to WCBC for the full grant amount. It was expected to hear the outcome of the application early June.

**Min 19 – Summer Country Fayre**

Cllr Sandra Hinds gave a report on proposals for the summer country fayre. Due to a clash with the Oswestry Show to be held on sat 1<sup>st</sup> August it had been decided to move the event to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2026.

Hotel Wrexham and Networld Sports had offered their assistance and plans are well underway. It is hoped that the event will be well attended. Anyone wanting to help or assist on the day please contact Cllr Hinds through the Clerk’s email address.

**Min 20 – Members reports**

- It was reported that inconsiderate motorists are parking in the passing places on Fishers Lane. These passing places are not for parking vehicles. They are to aid the flow of traffic on a narrow lane. The Clerk was asked to contact WCBC to request signage for the 5 passing places.
- A further report of speeding vehicles in the community was received. A request was made for an article in the next edition of the Issue asking motorists to drive considerately.

**Min 21 – Date of Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 7pm at the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8pm.

Signed.....Cllr Peter Jones (Chair)

Dated.....

