

CAIA PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A Voice for the Community

Clerk of the Council:
~~Michael Morris MCIPS~~
Andrea Evans



Community Council Offices
Prince Charles Road
Wrexham, LL13 8TH
Tel: 01978 354825
Email: clerk@caiapark.gov.uk

16th February 2025

TO: ALL COUNCILLORS

Dear Councillor,

An Ordinary meeting of the Council will be held at 7.00pm on **Thursday 20th February 2025**.

The meeting will be held remotely via ZOOM for the transaction of the following business.

Yours sincerely

A Evans
Andrea Evans
Clerk of the Council

AGENDA

- ✓1. Apologies for absence.
- ✓2. Confirmation of minutes of the Ordinary meeting held remotely on 16th January 2025 and update.
- ✓3. Declarations of Members' interests.
- ✓4. Police Matters, Police UK stats (Latest update December 2024).
- ✓5. Members' reports.
- ✓6. Correspondence
 - (i) Email from WCBC – Additional Community Governor, St Anne's School, Wrexham
 - (ii) Email from WCBC – Shared Prosperity Fund 2025-26
- ✓7. To discuss and decide on the use of the Zoom 'Chat' facility.
- ✓8. Planning Applications (All documents can be accessed via [www.wrexham.gov.uk/ service/search-planning-applications](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/service/search-planning-applications))

**(i) P/2025/0010 - Land at Border Retail Park, Wrexham, LL13 8NG -
Advertisement consent for 20 free standing signs (building signage, freestanding
signage and addition to existing site totems – illuminated and non-illuminated)**

**(ii) P/2025/0038 – 1A Kingsmills Road, Wrexham, LL13 8NH – Conversion of 3
bedroom apartment to 3 no. 1 bedroom apartments over first and second floors**

- 9. Request for financial assistance:
(i) The Venture**
- 10. Conclusion of External Audit for the financial year 2023-2024**
- 11. Financial statements for the period ending 31st January 2025.**
- 12. Accounts for payment (attached).
To approve accounts for payment in February 2025**
- 13. To exclude members of the press and public due to consideration of confidential
information contained in the next item of business.**

PART 2

- 14. To discuss staffing matters.**

PRESS & PUBLIC

If any interested party wishes to attend the remote meeting, please email clerk@caiapark.gov.uk and an invitation to the Zoom meeting will be sent to you in advance of the meeting. (Please note this does not infer any right to speak or take part in the meeting without prior permission)

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Caia Park Community Council held remotely via Zoom on
16th January 2025

Cllr M. King (Chair) (A/V)

Cllr B. Cameron (A/V)	Cllr L. Mort (A/V)
Cllr S. Edwards (A)	Cllr D. Murray (A/V)
* Cllr L. Fellows	* Cllr P. Owen
Cllr L. Haggarty (A/V)	Cllr L. Platt (A)
Cllr M. Harrison (A/V)	* Cllr D. Richardson
Cllr J. Jolley (A/V)	Cllr P. Williams (A)
Cllr C. Lloyd (A/V)	

* Absent

Key (A/V) = Audio and visual presence
(A) = Audio presence

108. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Cllr L. Fellows, Cllr P. Owen and Cllr D. Richardson.

109. MINUTES

Cllr S Edwards proposed changes to minute 99 and this was discussed. He said that he was thoroughly disappointed that meetings were not recorded and asked how his suggested amendments to the minutes could be recorded. Cllr. Edwards stated that he wanted it recorded that he had repeatedly requested for the chat facility to be available as a reasonable adjustment under the Equality Act.

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes were accepted as a true record. This was voted on by Members.

RESOLVED: *That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th November 2024 be accepted as a true and accurate record*

Update: None

110. DECLARATION OF MEMBER'S INTERESTS

All Personal and Prejudicial relating to **Item 6** - To consider budget detail for 2025/26 and agree precept levy:

Cllr. S Edwards - (Children's services element of budget) as employee at The Venture (SLA provider)

Cllr. M King - (Children's services element of budget) as employee at The Venture, Trustee of Caia Park Partnership (SLA provider)

Cllr. L Platt - (Children's services element of budget) as employee at The Venture (SLA provider)

Cllr. P Williams - (Children's services element of budget) as Trustee of Caia Park Partnership (SLA provider)

Cllr. C Lloyd - (Children's services element of budget) as Trustee of Caia Park Partnership (SLA provider)

Agenda item 8 (iii) - Cllr M. King, Cllr S. Edwards and Cllr L Platt - Personal and prejudicial as employees of The Venture.

111. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk had provided the latest crime statistics held on the Police UK website which were for October 2024.

A Member enquired why the police helicopter had recently been flying over Caia Park at night on 3 or 4 occasions a week. Members also discussed the ongoing problem of vandalism at play areas. Some dog owners were still allowing their dogs to bite and damage swing seats which then had to be replaced.

RESOLVED:

(i) That the Clerk would ask the police for the reason behind the presence of the police helicopter in the area.

(ii) That the Clerk would ask the PCSO's if they could patrol the play areas more frequently.

112. MEMBERS REPORTS

None

113. BUDGET DETAILS FOR 2025/26 AND PRECEPT LEVY

A budget workshop had been held on 9th January 2025 for Members to consider the budget for 2025/26. The Clerk presented the budget report including the latest proposed figures.

During the workshop Members were advised that:

- The pay award for 2025/26 was estimated at 5%.
- The cost of Advice Service provision to Offa CC had been increased by 5%.
- Children's Services SLA were estimated to increase by 4%.
- The employer's pension contributions for 2025/26 would be funded from the pension fund surplus.
- The Clerk was working to resolve the issues with the contract for IT/telephone services as costs are high and the service is not satisfactory. Computer equipment needs to be updated.
- There was no provision for additional expenditure to satisfy the face-to-face and remote attendance at meetings (hybrid meetings), although this could be funded from capital reserves depending on the type of equipment purchased.
- Necessary repair and maintenance work on the building had been identified. Where applicable, expenditure would be made from the capital reserve. Any expenditure classed as revenue would have to be met from the £1000 budget or reserves.
- The tax base used in the budget proposal was 4049.

The proposals were discussed.

RESOLVED:

(i) That the Clerk would inform Wrexham CBC that the precept requirement for 2025/26 was £72 per Band D equivalent property yielding £291,528 based on a 4049 property tax base.

(ii) That the budget for 2025/26 would be £314,956 and the precept levy £291,528.

(iii) That existing service level agreements would continue for the financial year 2025/26.

(iv) To resolve the issues with the current contract for IT Support/Telephone provision to ensure that the Council receive the best service and value for money and achieve savings.

114. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(i) P/2024/1545 (Amended) - Land to the rear of Whitegate Industrial Complex, Whitegate Industrial Estate, Wrexham, LL13 8UG - Prior notification for installation of 20m high telecommunications mast, fenced compound, equipment cabinets, overhead cable management and associated ancillary works.

RESOLVED: That the Council objects to the proposal on amenity and health grounds due to its proximity to dwellings, the school and Gwenfro Valley

(ii) P/2024/1669 - Eagles Meadow Shopping Centre, Eagles Meadow, Wrexham, LL13 8DJ - Advertisement consent for 7 signs.

RESOLVED: There were no objections to the application.

(iii) P/2024/1678 - Garages to south of 93 to 95, Tan Y Coed, Wrexham, LL13 8YL - Prior notification for demolition of garages.

RESOLVED: There were no objections to the application.

(iv) P/2024/1604 - 8 Epsom Way, Wrexham, LL13 0LZ – Two storey rear extension

RESOLVED: There were no objections to the application.

115. REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

RESOLVED: That the Council, in accordance with its powers under S137 and S139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:

(i) Repair Café Wrexham/Repair Café Wales - £265

(ii) Wales Air Ambulance - £500

(iii) The Venture – deferred to the next meeting

116. FINANCIAL MONITORING

The Financial Statements for the periods ending 30th November and 31st December 2024 were submitted.

RESOLVED: That the financial statements for the period be received and adopted

117. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment in December 2024 and January 2025 be paid:

Accounts for payment December 2024

D.D	Enreach	Advice Service	*	525.16	
		General Admin	*	175.05	700.21
D.D.	O2	Advice Service	*	40.51	
		Comm Agent	*	20.26	60.77
D.D.	Natwest Card (Zoom)	General Admin	*		15.59
D.D.	Natwest Card (Indeed)	Advice Service			53.88
D.D	Avensure	General Admin	*		329.30
D.D	Siemens Fin Services	General Admin	*	61.76	
		Advice Service	*	61.76	123.52
D.D	SSE (Gas)	Prince Charles Rd	*		698.83

D.D	SSE (Elect)	Prince Charles Rd	*	517.24
8094	J Carter	Sal adj (Nov)		
8095	A Davies	Sal adj (Nov)		
8096	J Clays	Sal adj (Nov)		
8097	K Davies	Sal adj (Nov)		
8098	A Evans	Sal adj (Nov)		
8099	B Tudor	Sal adj (Nov)		
8100	K Lucas	Sal adj (Nov)		
8101	Hallam Heating	Prince Charles Rd	*	113.58
8102	J Evans (reimburse chair)	Advice Service	*	117.84
8103	BestHost	General Admin		10.50
8104	WCBC (Trade refuse)	Prince Charles Rd		346.00
8105	Benefit & Works Publishing	Advice Service	*	58.10
8106	WCBC (Sch Crossing)	Children's Services		2970.00
8107	J Carter (travel exps)	Advice Service		10.50
8108	Caia Park Environment Gp	S137 grant		500.00
8109	Wrexham Sounds	S137 grant		360.00
8110	Nat. Eisteddfod Wxm	S137 grant		300.00
8111	J Carter (retirement)	Chairman's Purse		100.00
8112	J E Construction	Prince Charles Rd	*	633.60

D.D	WCBC (Rates)	Prince Charles Rd		664.00
D.D	Hafren Dyfrdwy	Prince Charles Rd		38.29

H.M. Revenue & Customs Tax NI (Nov)
Clwyd Pension Services Pension (Nov)

Accounts above the line have already been paid either by direct debit or in the case of cheques, because they were deemed to be urgent or have been previously agreed. (Any accounts received after the publication of agenda will be reported at the meeting)

*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable

Accounts for payment January 2025

D.D	Enreach	Advice Service	*	522.99	
		General Admin	*	174.33	697.32
D.D.	O2	Advice Service	*	40.51	
		Comm Agent	*	20.26	60.77
D.D.	Natwest Card (Zoom)	General Admin	*		15.59
D.D.	Natwest Card (Indeed)	Advice Service			114.12
D.D	Avensure	General Admin	*		329.30
8115	B Tudor	Sal adj (Dec)			
8116	K Lucas	Sal adj (Dec)			

8117	A Davies	Sal adj (Dec)	
8118	J Clays	Sal adj (Dec)	
8121	Information Commission	General Admin	40.00
8122	K Lucas (travel exps)	Advice Service	27.00
8123	WCBC (Sch Crossing Qtr 2)	Children's Services	2970.00
8124	CPP (Qtr 4)	Children's Services	2289.50
8125	J Evans (reimburse chairs/flowers)	General Admin	111.84
		Advice Service	124.80
		Chairman's Purse	18.49

D.D	WCBC (Rates)	Prince Charles Rd	664.00
D.D	Hafren Dyfrdwy	Prince Charles Rd	40.52

H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Dec)
Clwyd Pension Services	Pension (Dec)

118. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: *To exclude members of the press and public due to consideration of confidential information contained with the next item of business.*

PART 2

119. STAFFING MATTERS

The Clerk updated Members on employment and staffing matters, and these were discussed.

RESOLVED:

(i) *That the contract for provision of a Community Agent would be handed back to WCBC when the current contract ended on 31st March 2025.*

(ii) *That a Staffing Panel is set up comprising Cllr M. King, Cllr P. Williams, Cllr J. Jolley, the Advice Service Manager and the Clerk in order to shortlist the applicants for interview, conduct the interviews and decide on the appointment of an Advice Worker.*

The Chairman informed Members of concerns raised by some staff.

RESOLVED: *That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman would deal with this*

POLICE CRIME STATISTICS 2024/25

Category	Cardreffe												Smithfield												Queensway											
	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec									
Violence & Sexual Offences	10	12	6	10	12	10	11	11	8	25	34	37	30	28	26	28	15	22	17	20	20	16	17	20	20	15	13									
Anti-social behaviour	7	7	5	2	6	10	4	7	5	18	20	14	12	10	8	13	15	18	7	9	11	10	8	4	13	17	5									
Drugs	2					2	1			3	2	1	4		1	2	1	1				1	3	3	1											
Criminal damage and arson	10		3	4	4	7	9	4	3	6	13	7	6	6	3	4	6	15	1	10	6	6	6	3	5	6	3									
Public Order	2	1	1	2	3	1	2		3	7	10	3	9	7	8	8	6	5	2	2	4	1	1	3	2	2										
Shoplifting	3		2	3		1	1	1	1	29	14	22	9	18	14	17	24	13	4	1	6	4		4	10	5										
Other theft		1	2	1		1	5		3	3	5	3	3	6	7	6	4	10			2	1	1	2	2	1	1									
Bicycle theft												4			2	2					2			2	2	1										
Possession of Weapon							1	1			3				1	1	1									1										
Burglary	3	1			1	1	5			2	2	3	2	2	4	2	3	1	2	1	1	3	1	2	1	2										
Vehicle crime	1			4	1	2	2	2		2				2		1	2	2			1	2	1	1		3										
Robbery		1									1	1	2	2	2	2	1				1	1				1										
Theft from a person													1		1						1					1										
Other crime	1			1	2				1	4	4	2	3	1			1			3			1	1	1	1	1									
Total for month	39	23	19	27	29	36	41	25	24	99	107	97	80	82	77	86	78	87	31	46	55	44	40	43	48	59	31									

Category	Whitegate												Wynnstay											
	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec						
Violence & Sexual Offences	20	22	15	15	11	18	17	14	18															
Anti-social behaviour	7	11	15	10	9	4	7	26	17	13	5	11	14	10	17	14	12	13						
Drugs				2		3	1	4		3	5	5	6	2	3	7		3						
Criminal damage and arson	8	5	3	3	4	5	3	6	3		2				1			1						
Public Order		4	4	2	3	1	3		2	4	3	2	1	2	1	5	3	8						
Shoplifting		1	1	1	1		5	2		3	2	2	2	2	2	2		2						
Other theft	1	2	2	2	3	1	2		3	2	2		1	1	2									
Bicycle theft	1												1	1		3	2							
Possession of Weapon				1			2																	
Burglary	3	3	1	1		2	2	2		6	1	1			2	2	1	1						
Vehicle crime		3	1					1			2		1		2	1	1	2						
Robbery			1		1																			
Theft from a person																								
Other crime	4	1			4		4	1	1	1		1		2	2		1							
Total for month	44	52	42	38	36	34	46	56	44	32	22	22	26	20	32	34	20	30						

Hazel Norbury – Application for Additional Community Governor at St. Annes

I should like to be considered to serve as a governor at St Anne's Catholic School.

Whilst I do not live on Caia Park, I have enjoyed being involved in community life there, serving as secretary to the Caia Park Environmental Group, taking a full and active part in the majority of their events, including Christmas at the Hub, Apple Day activities at the Hub, Environmental Day and Garden Competition judging and Awards ceremony amongst a few. I have enjoyed events at St Anne's, like the Group's birthday party and particularly enjoyed being shown round the Forestschools exhibits and wonderful school "green" additions by their pupils. Whilst teaching in Scotland, one of my remits had been Ecoschools and I led us through to achieve a Green Flag.

As a retired primary school teacher I was extremely impressed by the whole ethos of the school, particularly how pupils were encouraged to take responsibility and to confidently and politely interact with other pupils. As a Christian it was wonderful to see them living out their faith in action by caring for each other, their community and the environment.

I have also supported refuge/asylum seekers families here and was delighted when I was able to help one family to have their children admitted to St Anne's School, where I know they are very happy.

I hope I have given you sufficient information in support of my application but please contact me if you need anything else.

Many thanks

Shared Prosperity Fund 2025-2026

From sharedprosperityfund <sharedprosperityfund@wrexham.gov.uk>

Date Wed 12/02/2025 16:42

Dear all

We are launching the 2025-2026 Shared Prosperity fund in Wrexham on Monday 17th February at midday. More details will be available on our council webpage as to how to apply from Monday onwards- [Shared Prosperity Fund: North Wales | Wrexham County Borough Council](#).

I've included the links for the webinar that we are holding on Tuesday 18th February. If you, or any of the local community organisations / businesses in your wards are interested, please feel free to forward on the details, or ask them to contact us for further information.

Grants are available from between £50k - £700k and we have over £7 million to distribute across all SPF priority areas, including...

Communities and Place

Supporting Local Business

People and Skills

We are holding a webinar on **Tuesday 18th February 2025 at 12:30** to give further information about the fund and examples of how the funding can be used. If you would like to learn more, please join us! The details are:

[Join the meeting now](#) | Meeting ID: 378 549 945 155 | Passcode: ZS7f2Ug3

This presentation is also available in Welsh, please let us know as soon as possible if you would like a copy and we will also have a Welsh translator available on the day.

If you need any further information, please contact us on sharedprosperityfund@wrexham.gov.uk.

Thanks

Kirsty


Kirsty Morris

Rheolwr y Gronfa Ffyniant Gyffredin / Shared Prosperity Fund Manager

Tel: 01978 667123


Mobile: 07393 783542




 Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrecsam, Stryt yr Lambpit, Wrecsam, LL11 1AR

 Wrexham County Borough Council, Lambpit Street, Wrexham LL11 1AR

 wrecsam.gov.uk | wrexham.gov.uk

 twitter.com/cbswrecsam | twitter.com/wrexhamcbc

 facebook.com/cyngorwrecsam | facebook.com/wrexhamcouncil

Advice from One Voice Wales

As discussed, it is for the Council to decide on whether the CHAT facility should be available at meetings and in making such a decision the following guidance from the Welsh Government should be taken into account:

'Online platforms used by relevant authorities to convene multi-location meetings will usually have a chat function. The chat function will provide a useful way for advice to be shared and the business of the meeting to be managed, but its use can be open to misunderstanding.'

Meeting policies should explain how this function will be used if at all and the status in terms of meeting records. Some relevant authorities may think it sensible to ban use of the chat function outright, either in all meetings or in some, specified, meetings. It is usually possible for the Clerk to switch off the facility if it is decided that it should not be used.

Pros of chat functions

- *Allows advice to be given by the Clerk without disrupting the meeting;*
- *Allows the Chair to "cue up" and acknowledge requests by committee members to contribute without disrupting the flow of questioning;*
- *Allows members to generally express assent or agreement with another participant, or with a proposal to resolve a given issue, in a manner which gives the Chair confidence to proceed (although the fact that consent has been given in this way would need to be verbally acknowledged by the Chair in the interests of transparency);*
- *Allows the Chair or clerk to check whether a particular member is still "present."*

Cons of chat functions

- *Can be seen as undermining the transparency of the meeting;*
- *Can risk participants becoming distracted;*
- *Risk that participants use the chat for personal communication, and that this communication becomes inadvertently visible to other participants and to the public;*
- *Risk that chat will involve conversation about the matters under discussion without that discussion being visible to others or recorded properly. (Multi location meetings policies may need to decide on the status of material recorded in the chat, and whether it can be used by the clerk to assist in the preparation of minutes);*
- *Risk that the chat becomes a place for general chit-chat.*

If used, the chat function will usually need to be limited to participants and the Clerk – but participants should treat conversations in chat as if they are happening in public.

Regards,

Paul

Paul Egan BA, Chartered MCIPD, CILCA, F.Inst LM, FIPSM

From Cllr S Edwards

2. Proposal that the 'Chat' facility is disabled in Council meetings held by Zoom

Why Caia Park Community Council should retain the chat facility:

- **Enhanced communication:** Participants can share real-time comments, thoughts and questions without disrupting the speaker or having to speak. This can make meetings more efficient and organised.
- **Resource sharing:** Links, images, documents and other information can be shared quickly with all participants without disrupting the speaker.
- **Inclusive participation:** Some people may feel uncomfortable speaking to a large group of people or in a formal setting. Others may not know the procedure for indicating they wish to speak. For disabled and neurodivergent people, it can also be the preferred or only way they can participate.
- **Record keeping:** The chat can be easily be saved and reviewed later - this can aid accurate record keeping.
- **Side conversations:** The chat enables participants to have side conversations or address specific issues without derailing the main discussion, making meetings more efficient.
- **Engagement:** Having the chat facility available provides the opportunity for interactive elements (e.g. polls, reactions, chat) that keep participants engaged.

Responding to "Issues to consider"

Minimum legal requirement is that Members can hear and be heard

The chat feature enhances communication beyond the minimum. Caia Park Community Council can and should be ambitious enough to do more than the legal minimum, particularly considering the benefits.

Could 'Chat' be seen as a meeting within a meeting?

The chat should be seen as supplementary tool, rather than a separate meeting. It can facilitate quick clarifications and side discussions that support the main conversation - the virtual equivalent of passing a note in a physical meeting.

Are some members excluded from what is discussed in the 'Chat'?

A counter question could be: ***Are some members excluded if there is no chat?***

To ensure inclusivity, the chair or other person could periodically summarise key points from the chat. Additionally, members could be invited to share important chat discussions verbally. This practice ensures everyone is aware of the ongoing discussions.

Members should be able to concentrate and be fully engaged in the business being debated. Could part of a debate be missed whilst using the 'Chat' or the opportunity to participate/speak in a discussion?

The chat can arguably help maintain engagement by allowing members to express thoughts and questions in real-time, or share information and resources.

Full engagement in the order of business is needed to make an informed decision.

The chat feature can enhance engagement for members who might be less comfortable speaking. This inclusivity can lead to more comprehensive discussions and better-informed decisions.

Conclusion

Some of the issues raised potentially come from a traditional view of meeting dynamics that doesn't account for disability and/or neurodiversity. The chat feature enables:

- **Different communication styles:** Written communication can be easier and less stressful than verbal communication.
- **Processing information:** Some people process information better when they can read and write rather than listen and speak.
- **Inclusivity:** By accommodating a wider range of communication preferences and needs, meetings - and, therefore the Community Council - become more inclusive.

Disabling the chat would be a step backward rather than forward.

Chaired 21/1/25

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrexham / Wrexham County Borough Council
Neuadd y Dref, Wrexham. LL11 1AY
Guildhall, Wrexham. LL11 1AY
www.wrexham.gov.uk www.wrexham.gov.uk
Cyfnwidi Testun/Text Relay: 18001



Caia Park Community Council

Eich Cyf/Your Ref	P/2025/0010
Ein Cyf/Our ref	17/01/2025
Dyddiad/Date	Tyler Fox
Gofynner am/Ask for	01978 298741
Rhif Cyswilt/Contact No	
E-bost/E-mail	tyler.fox@wrexham.gov.uk

Dear Clerk,

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1990 - CONTROL OF ADVERTISEMENT REGULATIONS 1992

PROPOSAL: ADVERTISEMENT CONSENT FOR 20 FREE STANDING SIGNS (ARWYDDION ADEILADU, ARWYDDION RHYDD AC YCHWANEGU AT DOTEMAU PRESENNOL Y SAFLE - WEDI'I OLEUO A HEB EI OLEUO) / ADVERTISEMENT CONSENT FOR 20 SIGNS (BUILDING SIGNAGE, FREESTANDING SIGNAGE AND ADDITION TO EXISTING SITE TOTEMS - ILLUMINATED AND NON-ILLUMINATED) LOCATION: LAND AT, BORDER RETAIL PARK, WREXHAM, LL13 8NG

I have received an application for advertisement consent for the proposal described above. The relevant documents as submitted by the applicant/agent can be viewed on our website www.wrexham.gov.uk/service/search-planning-applications

I would be pleased to receive any comments which you may wish to make. The case officer Tyler Fox (telephone number 01978 298741, email tyler.fox@wrexham.gov.uk) would be pleased to try and provide further information if you require it. Please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Any comments can be made online or by email to planning_comments@wrexham.gov.uk. Comments must be received within 21 days of the date of this letter unless you have agreed an extension of time; initial comments are also helpful if an extension of time is required.

Yours sincerely,

David Fitzsimon
Prif Swyddog Yr Economi a Chynllunio
Chief Officer Economy and Planning

Enwled 4/2/25

Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Wrexham / Wrexham County Borough Council
Neuadd y Dref, Wrexham. LL11 1AY
Guildhall, Wrexham. LL11 1AY
www.wrexham.gov.uk www.wrexham.gov.uk
Cyffnewid Testun/Text Relay: 18001



Caia Park Community Council

Eich Cyf/Your Ref	P/2025/0038
Ein Cyf/Our ref	03/02/2025
Dyddiad/Date	Sarah Hill
Gofynner am/Ask for	01978 298743
Rhif Cyswllt/Contact No	
E-bost/E-mail	sarah.hill@wrexham.gov.uk

Dear Clerk,

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

**PROPOSAL: ADDASU FFLAT 3 YSTAFELL WELY I 3 FFLAT 1 YSTAFELL WELY DROS Y
LLAWR CYNTAF A'R AIL LAWYR
/ CONVERSION OF 3 BEDROOM APARTMENT TO 3 NO. 1 BEDROOM APARTMENTS
OVER FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS
LOCATION: 1A KINGSMILLS ROAD, WREXHAM, LL13 8NH**

I have received an application for the proposal described above. The relevant documents as submitted by the applicant/agent can be viewed on our website
www.wrexham.gov.uk/service/search-planning-applications

I would be pleased to receive any comments which you may wish to make. The case officer Sarah Hill (telephone number 01978 298743, email sarah.hill@wrexham.gov.uk) would be pleased to try and provide further information if you require it. Please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Any comments can be made online or by email to planning_comments@wrexham.gov.uk. Comments must be received within 21 days of the date of this letter unless you have agreed an extension of time; initial comments are also helpful if an extension of time is required.

Yours sincerely,

David Fitzsimon
Prif Swyddog Yr Economi a Chynllunio
Chief Officer Economy and Planning

CAIA PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

APPLICATION FORM FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
(Local Government Act 1972 Sections 137 & 145)

Name of group/organisation

THE VENTURE (WREXHAM) LIMITED

Details of main contact

Title

Mrs

First Name

Julie

Surname

Humphreys

Post Held

Administrator

Tel No

01978 355761

Address for correspondence

The Venture (Wrexham) Limited
Garner Road
Wrexham
LL1 3 8SF

What does your organisation do?

This application is for funding to support two organisations - Gwenfro Valley Adventure Playground and The Venture. Both are based in Caia Park and are very familiar to most Caia Park Community Council Members. Both organisations have received generous and vital funding from the Community Council for many years, which we hope will continue because it represents our most reliable and essential source of funding.

Sadly, most Adventure Playgrounds in Wales have closed over the last 20 years. Whereas there are still 72 in London, there are only 3 left in Wales, all of which are in Wrexham - one in Plas Madoc and two in Caia Park.

Adventure Playgrounds are often seen as the most effective, low cost, non stigmatising form of family support, and played a vital role during Covid and now during a continuing cost of living crisis. Whilst they provide a place where children can play freely and safely and can take part in a wide range of activities, such as sport, art and craft and den building, most importantly they provide a place of sanctuary and renewal for hundreds of local children, young people and parents/carers, creating a sense of belonging, self worth and purpose, often not found elsewhere.

Although the Venture has developed a wide range of additional services over its 46 year history, such as an Early Years Centre, youth club and various health and education projects, most of Gwenfro Valley's existence since it began in 2006 has been during 14 long years of Austerity, the longest in British history, and as a consequence has often struggled just to survive.

In recent years both organisations have been feeding all the children who attend their open access play sessions during school holidays through the Holiday Hunger Project, begun 8 years ago by St Mark's Church. For the last 3 years it has been run through a team of volunteers at the Venture and funding from a variety of sources including St Marks, the Foodbank and the Venture. Recognising that very many children were also going hungry during term time as well, prompted the Venture to seek substantial capital funding for a new, commercial standard kitchen, as well as food and wages for a cafe coordinator so that children could also be fed during term time. This has been extremely successful, with over 7,000 hot meals being served to hundreds of mal-nourished children over the last 12 months.

How many people are involved with your group?

Committee members

6 + 6

Volunteers

10 + 15

Staff

6 + 16

Is the group affiliated to another organisation? (if so please state)

AVOW, WCVA and Play Wales

Is the group a charitable body or registered charity?

Registered Charities

What does the organisation want to do with the Grant from the Community Council?

Not surprisingly there are many similarities between the two organisations. This application focuses on two of them.

1) Maintenance.

The first is the fact that each adventure playground needs constant maintenance in order to keep them safe as well as interesting and challenging to the children and young people who use them. We are seeking a financial contribution towards the continued employment of the current maintenance worker, who works at both Gwenfro Valley and the Venture. Whilst the 6 hours at each site is some distance from covering the whole cost, it would be an incredibly valuable contribution, especially in the current context whereby obtaining funding for this essential but unglamorous work is extraordinarily difficult to obtain.

2) Feeding hungry children

The Venture has been benefiting from/ running a holiday hunger project for about 8 years. Supported almost entirely by St Mark's Church for the first few years, it is now run from the Venture with its own team of volunteers, with funding from several sources, including St. Mark's and the Foodbank. The project has always included Gwenfro Valley.

We would like to expand the new(ish) term-time project at the Venture to include Gwenfro Valley and would like to seek support for additional hours for the Cafe Coordinator to cook fresh nutritious meals throughout the week to supply to Gwenfro Valley for their children, many of whom are from families who are struggling.

We will need to attract additional funding for food and some additional equipment for Gwenfro Valley, but our experience has shown this is relatively easy to obtain, compared to paying wages which is extremely difficult.

We anticipate that, unlike the other funding from the Community Council, this would be for a pilot period of one year only, during which time we hope and expect that our Patrons and national supporters will succeed in attracting longer term sources of funding, building on the growing national recognition that community based preventative services are infinitely cheaper than the ruinous costs now facing both local and national governments.

Please give a breakdown of costs

	£
Maintenance Post 2 x 6 hpw for 52 weeks	7,824.96
Café Coordinator 8 hpw for 52 weeks	6,976.32
TOTAL COST	14,801.28
Total amount requested from Community Council	14,801.28

How many people will benefit from this project?

200 + 500

As well as completing this application form a copy of the group's accounts for the previous year must be submitted. In the case of new organisations a projected income and expenditure statement will be accepted.

Name of person making the application

Julie Humphreys

Signature

J Humphreys

Date

09/01/2025



Auditor General's report and audit opinion

I certify that I have completed the audit of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2024 of **Caia Park Community Council**. My audit has been conducted on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales and in accordance with the requirements of the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and guidance issued by the Auditor General for Wales.

Audit opinion: Unqualified

On the basis of my audit, in my opinion no matters have come to my attention to give cause for concern that, in any material respect, the information reported in this Annual Return:

- has not been prepared in accordance with proper practices;
- that relevant legislative and regulatory requirements have not been met;
- is not consistent with the Council's governance arrangements; and
- that the Council does not have proper arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

Other matters and recommendations

There are no further matters I wish to draw to the Council's attention.

Deryck Evans, Audit Manager, Audit Wales
For and on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales

Date 12/11/2024

CAIA PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Financial Statement for the Period Ended 31st January 2025

Budget to 31-Mar-24	Actual to 31-Mar-24	BUDGET HEADING	Budget 2024-2025	Actual to 31-Jan-25
		INCOME		
250,866	250,866	Precept	271,932	271,932
450	3,455	Interest on Investments	2,500	3,134
1,000	1,000	Rent/letting fees: Prince Charles Rd	1,000	0
25	350	Sundry Income	0	300
6,943	6,943	Community Advice Service	7,360	7,360
12,000	11,129	Community Agent	12,000	11,462
0	0	Play grant via WCBC	0	0
0	10,000	Grant - Low Carbon Pilot	0	0
0	0	Grant - Access to Work	0	2,413
796	0	Reserves	0	0
272,080	283,743	TOTAL INCOME	294,792	296,601
		EXPENDITURE		
5,000	2,545	S.137 Donations	5,000	1,760
1,364	1,000	S.137 Donations older People	1,364	1,000
37,435	38,298	General Administration	44,973	35,372
117,499	96,302	Community Advice service	122,634	96,659
19,263	19,945	Prince Charles Road	21,558	14,695
3,000	0	Amenities & Environment	1,000	2,000
		Children's Services:		
8,806	8,806	CPP outreach SLA	9,158	9,158
14,320	14,170	Play areas	14,737	15,089
3,640	1,976	Repairs play areas	3,000	269
17,635	16,623	School crossing	18,869	5,940
16,986	16,474	Gwenfro Valley SLA	17,666	8,833
17,289	17,122	Venture SLA	17,981	8,991
0	0	Footway Lighting	0	0
0	0	Traffic Calming	0	0
9,843	8,692	External Grants Comm Agent	9,681	7,939
0	4,890	Misc.	0	300
0	149	Elections	0	0
0	116	Chairs Purse	0	118
0	0	Mental Health Project	0	0
0	52	Councillor Allowances	0	0
272,080	247,160	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	287,621	208,123

36,582

7,171

2023/24			2024/25	
Estimate to 31-Mar-24	Actual to 31-Mar-24		Estimate to 31-Mar-25	Actual to 31-Jan-25
300,372	300,372	Balance at 1 April 2024	336,955	336,955
<u>271,284</u>	<u>283,743</u>	Total Income	<u>294,792</u>	<u>296,601</u>
571,656	584,115		631,747	633,556
272,080	247,160	Total Expenditure	287,621	208,123
<u>299,576</u>	<u>336,955</u>	Balance at 31 March 2025	<u>344,126</u>	<u>425,433</u>

Accounts for payment February 2025

D.D	Enreach	Advice Service	*	518.98	
		General Admin	*	<u>172.99</u>	691.97
D.D.	O2	Advice Service	*	40.51	
		Comm Agent	*	<u>20.26</u>	60.77
D.D.	Natwest Card (Zoom)	General Admin	*		15.59
D.D	Avensure	General Admin	*		329.30
8126	A Davies	Sal adj (Jan)			
8127	WCBC (Ins/Main PG Oct24-Mar25)	Children's Services	*		9053.40
8128	Audit Wales	General Admin			200.00

Accounts above the line have already been paid either by direct debit or in the case of cheques, because they were deemed to be urgent or have been previously agreed

D.D	Hafren Dyfrdwy	Prince Charles Rd		40.52
	H.M. Revenue & Customs	Tax NI (Jan)		
	Clwyd Pension Services	Pension contributions (Jan)		

(Any accounts received after the publication of agenda will be reported at the meeting)

*Figs include VAT which is reclaimable