

OFFA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Report of the Annual Management, Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 24th May 2022

MEMBERS

Councillor Sarah Roberts (Chairman)
" John Williams (Vice-Chairman)

“ Christine Griffiths
“ R Alun Jenkins
“ Alex Jones
“ Angela Jones
“ David Jones
“ Barbara Lloyd
“ Kenneth Palmer
“ Andrew Ranger*
“ Graham Rogers
“ Jim Steele
“ Linda Subacchi
“ Keith Williams
“ Graham Wynn*
“ Phillip Wynn

* Absent

31 ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN

Councillor Sarah Roberts was elected as Chair of the Management, Finance and General Purposes Committee for the Municipal Year 2022/23.

32 ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor John Williams was elected as Vice-Chair of the Management, Finance and General Purposes Committee for the Municipal Year 2022/23.

33 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andrew Ranger and Graham Wynn.

34 DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS

It was agreed for the meetings of the Management, Finance and General Purposes Committee to continue to be held remotely on the second Tuesday following the Council meeting at 6.30pm.

35 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were made.

36 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Management, Finance and General Purposes Committee held on the 19th April 2022 were confirmed and signed as a true and accurate record.

37 MATTERS ARISING

1. Empress Rd – it was reported that the problems at the two HMO properties persist despite a temporary 3 month closure notice on both properties. The Clerk was asked to write again to the police to request that stronger action is taken with the permanent closure of one of the HMOs.
2. Lease on Parciau Community Centre – amendments to the draft Heads of Terms are required from WCBC before matters progress.
3. PA System – **it was AGREED to proceed with the purchase of a PA System at a cost of approx. £1000.**

38 CAIA PARK PARTNERSHIP

The meeting was attended by Darren Richardson from the Senior Youth Management team and Andy Watson Senior Youth worker. The SLA report for the fourth quarter and verbal annual report was received:

Maesgwyn YC currently has around 10-15 young people attending regularly. Hightown has seen lower numbers with only 4 or 5 attending. The team have carried out a promotional drive with some flyers delivered around the Hightown and Luke O'Connor areas, to let people know services have now resumed at Hightown in the hope it will increase footfall. Numbers at LOCH which has only recently restarted have since increased to around 12 per session with 10 at Hightown. LOCH youth club takes place every Tuesday, Hightown youth club every Thursday and Maesgwyn youth club every Friday.

The Chairman asked about the success of social media for advertising the youth provision in Offa. The Offa facebook page does not have many followers so most of the youth posts for Offa are now put on the main Caia Park facebook page. It was noted that Instagram and Tik Tok are very popular with young people and these will be investigated.

Both Darren and Andy were thanked for attending and their good work with the service delivery. Darren thanked the Community Council for their continued support particularly during the lockdowns over the past 2 years.

39 OFFA COMMUNITY AGENT

The quarterly report of the Offa Community Agent had been previously circulated.

The two well being clubs continue to be well attended with positive feedback. I was invited up to Cefn Mawr community agent hub to see if we could liaise and take our residents for combined trips as an event to Llangollen canal trip. Costings will be obtained and reported back to the next meeting.

The past couple of months have been very busy supporting residents with benefits and doctors appointments.

Number of referrals from social services 5

Number of calls from all department and other community agents 10

Number of ongoing supports with residents from last august 3

Number of wellbeing groups attending 2 with now 30+ Offa residents

Food bank vouchers issued this month only 4 - The Community Agent was asked to make enquiries with the 'Well fed-Can cook' scheme run through Clwyd Alyn.

Number of liaising with community champions for donations for the clubs asda, coop, Morrisons 3 also I have a meeting with Tesco next week.

The Community Agent was asked by Cllr Graham Rogers to contact the Evergreen Club in Hightown to offer assistance in restarting the club.

40 COMMUNITY CENTRE AND ADMIN OFFICER

BOOKINGS FOR THE CENTRES

The Parciau Indoor bowling team have now cancelled again due to low numbers. They will look again in October 2022 to see if they will start back. The playgroup are using their booking slot. Bookings for parties are back and getting busier all the time. Average 2 a month at the moment but have had a couple of parties cancel due to covid.

Maesgwyn have a new weekly block booking on a Sunday night for a spiritual group so there are only a few spaces left there now. Have just had an enquiry for a yoga group during the day so will see if this can be arranged. This will be every week. A small incident has happened when the council were cutting the grass recently, a stone flew up and smashed a pane of glass. This has been sorted by Phil Wynn and Arthur Millington, along with a recent sump clean as the toilets were blocked.

Karen has moved into the Luke O Connor House in Hightown now. Her office was painted before the move, and a removal company helped to move all the equipment from upstairs. The remaining items needed will be stored downstairs in the Parciau Centre. The banners, an office table and the Xmas trees for example. The blue furniture from upstairs was going to be sold but the Brass band have now kept it and will make a donation to the RWF Fund.

To bring in some extra revenue, the upstairs has now been rented out for storage purposes only, to the Denbighshire Music Cooperative, to keep all their musical instruments in one place. They have taken over the alarm system, changed the locks, (a key to be given to myself in case of emergencies shortly), and will install their own wifi for use downstairs. Scott from the Ifton Brass Band who hire the hall, is the person responsible for the security now upstairs.

The Well Being Groups are doing well in both centres, with on average 10 in LOCH, and 20 in the Parciau Centre. Most of the attendees return every week. They have the chance of doing crafts, knitting, playing Bingo, or just having a cup of tea or coffee. Donations from Asda, The COOP, and Morrisons have helped with the provision of cakes, biscuits, tea, coffee and milk. Both groups pay a weekly hire to Offa Council.

Invoices for all 3 centres now have the address of the LOCH. Bookings for May for Maesgwyn were a little lower than would have been due to the election and the cancellation of several groups for the day.

The newsletters have nearly been all delivered just Hightown area and the Ithens to complete. Helen was thanked for her work helping to establish the 'Well-being Clubs' with the Community Agent and for her work in getting the Community Centres up and running again after Covid shutdowns.

41 RWF PROJECT

The Clerk and Cllr Graham Rogers updated members on the progress made with the project over the past month. As reported at the previous Council meeting the groundworks contract had now been awarded to Dave Cottle Groundworks following several meetings with the firm and officers of WCBC. A zoom meeting was now being arranged to be attended by all relevant parties. Cllr Rogers confirmed that the wall had now been reduced in height thanks to help from the Probation Team. The slabs for finishing the top off were being provided for from Huws Gray who were also supplying for the ducting and sand.

Cllr Jim Steele reported that a further meeting had been held with the owner of the House Nameplate Company in Ruabon also attended by Colonel Nick Lock and Cllr Graham Rogers. They would still honour their original quotation of £500 per arch fitted for the slate plaques. Colonel Lock is supplying the required designs.

For the unveiling ceremony it was agreed that this be undertaken by Colonel Nick Lock in recognition of his involvement and help with the project and to extend an invitation to both Chairmen of Wrexham FC to also attend to assist with the unveiling.

42 LITTLE VAWNOG NOTICEBOARD AND BOLLARD

It was AGREED to proceed with the purchase of a noticeboard at a cost of £407 plus vat and a removal bollard at a cost in the region of £600 plus vat both to be installed at Little Vawnog.

43 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

In view of the confidential nature of this agenda item it was AGREED to exclude all members of the press and public.

44 EXPENSE CLAIMS

Expense claims were then authorised as follows:

The Clerk	£79.44
The Offa Community Agent	£44.59

45 SALARY DETAILS

Salary details totalling £5,424.71 were reported to the Committee for May to include the monthly payment to the Clwyd Pension Fund.

The Clerk was asked to obtain an alternative quotation from Derwen Computers for installation of a system at LOCH to enable hybrid meetings to take place.

Cllr Jim Steele was thanked for donating CCTV equipment for installation at Maesgwyn Community Centre.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

