

**OFFA COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF A REMOTE MEETING OF THE OFFA COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020  
MEMBERS**

Councillor Alex Jones (Chairman)  
“ Kevin Hughes (Vice Chair )

“ Caroline Dawson\*  
“ Christine Griffiths  
“ R Alun Jenkins  
“ David Jones\*  
“ Susan Jones\*  
“ Barbara Lloyd\*  
“ Elane Roberts  
“ Sarah Roberts\*  
“ Graham Rogers  
“ Jim Steele  
“ Linda Subacchi\*  
“ Steven Vale  
“ John Williams  
“ Keith Williams  
“ Graham Wynn\*  
“ Phillip Wynn\*

\*Absent

The meeting was also attended by WCBC Paul Roberts and Helen McCarthy the Community Centre and Admin Officer and Kelly Hewitt the Offa Community Agent.

### **30 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Linda Subacchi, David Jones, Graham Wynn, Phil Wynn, Sarah Roberts, Barbara Lloyd, Susan Jones and Caroline Dawson.

It was noted that Cllr Graham Wynn had requested a dispensation from attendance due to caring responsibilities at home and this was granted.

It was noted that Cllr Graham Rogers had given his apologies for the previous Council meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept but these had not been recorded.

### **31 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

### **32 POLICE MATTERS**

The monthly crime report for Sept was received:

#### ***Crime Issues / Trends:***

- 06/09/2020 – Criminal Damage - Window smashed- All Saints Church, Poyser Street – Investigation filed – No suspect identified
- 06/09/2020 – Theft Pedal Cycle – Edward Street - Investigation ongoing
- 07/09/2020 – Burglary – Llys Groes – Suspects arrested
- 09/09/2020 – Criminal Damage – Window smashed - Ruabon Road
- 12/09/2020 – Burglary – Bryn Offa - Investigation filed – No suspect identified
- 14/09/2020 - Theft Pedal Cycle – Edward Street - Investigation ongoing

- 14/09/2020 – Burglary – Attempt theft from garage – Ffordd Mailyn
- 15/09/2020 – Theft from motor vehicle – Morrisons
- 22/09/2020 – Robbery – Theft Money - Victoria Road – Investigation ongoing
- 24/09/2020 – Theft number plate – Collins Court
- X3 Shoplifting – Co-op Poplar Road
- X1 Shoplifting – Morrisons

**Other News/PCSO activities:**

- We have been made aware of the growing concern from residents in the area of Ruabon Road/Poyser St regarding reports of drug dealing. PC Pritchard recently held a pop up police surgery which was well attended. Patrols will be increased in the area and we request that the public continue to engage with us and provide information to gather evidence to apply for warrants from the courts.
- PC Smith recently held a Neighbourhood Watch awareness event in Luke O'Connor house. Police surgeries have been held at the Squire Yorke and crime prevention events at Aldi. We continue to be both visible and accessible to the public.

*The team have launched Operation Blue Instinct to help prevent burglaries in the Offa and Esclusham wards during the twilight months where historically there has been an increase in incidents of acquisitive crime when the darker nights draw in. The aim of the Operation is to deter and disrupt those that cause our community most harm, reduce crime and build a safer neighbourhood. The team are working with partnership agencies and stakeholders to identify those most vulnerable in the community to implement necessary and proportionate safeguarding measures to prevent them becoming victims of burglary.*

*High visibility patrols are being conducted in areas that have been identified as repeat victims of burglary.*

*We are utilising force social media platforms to help raise awareness and vigilance by providing crime prevention advice, and we will be holding crime prevention awareness events and pop up police surgeries across the area.*

*In recent weeks we have helped launch 2 Neighbourhood Watch schemes in the area of Croesnewydd Road and continue to promote/encourage members of the community to help make their area a safer place to live.*

*We thank you for your continued support, any further assistance with the promotion of the operation and Neighbourhood Watch schemes would be very much appreciated. Operation Blue Instinct will run until the end of December.*

It was noted that 2 new Neighbourhood Watch schemes have now been set up in Pentre Bach and at the new housing estate on Croesnewydd Rd.

### **33 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Remote Annual Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 were confirmed as a true and accurate record. **It was RESOLVED for the minutes to be signed at the next Council meeting that meets in person.**

## 34 MATTERS ARISING

1. Community Payback Scheme – the Clerk confirmed that the signed SLA agreement had now been received.
2. Overgrown hedges on Ruthin Rd adjacent to Pentre Bach estate – the Chairman Cllr Alex Jones had volunteered to cut back the shrubs along with some of the residents.

## 35 COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 35.1 The Annual Planning Committee – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2020

The report of the Annual Planning Committee was received and accepted by the Council.

It was noted that all Management and Finance Committee Meetings remain suspended until further notice.

## 36 OFFA COMMUNITY AGENT

The report of the Offa Community Agent Kelly Hewitt was received and accepted. The Community Agent is still maintaining contact with current clients by telephone and is able to meet with them outdoors although no longer indoors due to current lockdown restrictions. Meetings of community agents are still being held remotely and these are being attended. All agents are currently experiencing the same problems being constrained by what they are allowed to arrange for clients.

The Community Agent was asked to maintain contact with the local policing team in order to obtain information on vulnerable elderly people in the community that may need assistance.

## 37 COMMUNITY CENTRES

The Community Centre and Admin Officer Helen McCarthy attended the meeting to update members on the current use of the 2 community centres.

At the Parciau CC the playgroup is now meeting Monday to Friday for 2 sessions a day. Both the Ladies and Pensioners Group are planning to re-start their meetings next April. Both the Indoor bowling club and morris dancing troupes have had to cancel due to lockdown restrictions.

At the Maesgwyn CC weight watchers are now meeting 3 times a week and the Friday night youth club are hoping to re-start their meetings soon.

The Clerk informed members that the proposed refurbishment of the kitchen could now progress with the building firm currently using the changing rooms in the centre undertaking the installation of the new kitchen for free and the gateway Church group contributing £2,000 towards the overall cost. The Community Council had also previously guaranteed up to £3,000 towards the project.

## 38 YOUTH SLA 2020/21 FIRST QUARTER REPORT

The first quarterly Youth SLA report had been circulated to all members and this was received and accepted. The Clerk was asked to request an update on the current position regarding the opening of the youth clubs and also whether links had been established with the PCSO team.

### 39 SPEED SIGNS FOR BERSHAM RD

A request had been received from Esclusham Community Council for members to consider contributing towards the cost of flashing speed signs to be erected on Bersham Rd between the junction of Homestead Lane and Bersham Village. **It was RESOLVED for a small group of members for Brynyffynnon Ward, Cllrs Phil Wynn, Elane Roberts, Sarah Roberts and Barbara Lloyd to meet to discuss this in more detail and report back to the Community Council. It was also RESOLVED to request a police speed monitoring operation for that stretch of road.**

### 40 LITTLE VAWNOG TREE SURVEY

The Clerk confirmed that 3 independent firms as recommended by WCBC had been approached to quote on the work. Two quotations had been received and both were considered by the Community Council. **It was AGREED to proceed with the quote from Shields consultancy for £600.**

### 41 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Accounts were then authorized for payment as follows: Chq Nos

Griffiths Hire Shops (eqpt Probation Service)	£2,607.73	3795
AJ Domestics (centre cleaning)	£120.00	3796
K Benfield (expenses)	£81.95	3797
Corona Energy (gas Maesgwyn Sept)	£61.94	DD
Brit Tel (business 1 plan account Sept)	£356.00	DD
EDF Energy (electric Maesgwyn Sept)	£87.90	DD
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£3315.52</b>	

#### Salary Reports:

September salaries totalling £4,677.03 to include monthly pension contributions for all 4 staff members to the Clwyd Pension Fund

### 42 Correspondence

Wrexham Town and Community Council Forum – notice of a quarterly zoom meeting Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Oct – agenda to follow  
Wrexham Area Civic Society – newsletter Sept 2020

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.20 pm.

