

**OFFA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OFFA COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON
THURSDAY 2nd January 2020
MEMBERS**

Councillor Alex Jones (Chairman)
 “ Laura Dickenson (Vice-Chairman)*
 “ Caroline Dawson
 “ Christine Griffiths
 “ Kevin Hughes
 “ R Alun Jenkins
 “ David Jones
 “ Barbara Lloyd*
 “ Elane Roberts*
 “ Sarah Roberts*
 “ Graham Rogers
 “ Jim Steele
 “ Linda Subacchi*
 “ Steven Vale*
 “ John Williams
 “ Keith Williams*
 “ Graham Wynn
 “ Phillip Wynn

*Absent

257 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Laura Dickenson, Keith Williams, Linda Subacchi, Barbara Lloyd, Elane Roberts and Sarah Roberts and WCBC Paul Roberts

258 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

259 POLICE MATTERS

The meeting was attended by PC Lucia Pritchard and Dave Smith.

The monthly crime report for December was received:

Anti-Social Behaviour Issues/Trends:

Bellevue Park - no reports of continuing ASB in the park. Patrols still continue through there. Still some homeless sleeping at the rear of Morrisons but no calls about any ASB recently. We are conscious that a male is due out on Monday 6th January which may increase reports in that area. We will be working closely with partner agencies.

Crime Issues / Trends:

Brynyffynon - No crime trends recorded

Erddig - 2 burglaries reported on Coed Y Glyn estate. One being early hours and the other during the day, both whilst occupants were away.

Offa - 2 burglaries reported on Court Road, access gained through back door/front door later on at night between 11pm and 4am. Offenders were disturbed by neighbours/occupants.

Hermitage - One burglary dwelling reported on Beechley Road whilst occupants were away. A few items stolen, neighbour disturbed the offenders.

Other News/PCSO activities:

- Op Blue Torrent is underway. This is in relation to the potential risk of burglary that exists at this time of year with the Victims tending to be elderly/vulnerable.
- Op Santa has been running throughout December with various pop-ups held in different stores to offer security and safety advice to members or the community.
- The 2 new PCSO's Luke and Vic have started now and are being tutored currently for 6 weeks before their independent patrol.

Members asked if there was anyway they could assist the police in their work and a request was made for financial assistance in purchasing safety and security items to be handed out to householders by the police. It was suggested that the proposed community event on sat 21st March at the Parciau Community Centre would be an ideal opportunity to distribute to residents any items purchased. PC Lucia Pritchard will make enquiries with suppliers.

260 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 5th December 2019 were confirmed and signed as a true and accurate record. It was noted that Cllr Christine Griffiths had given apologies for that meeting.

261 MATTERS ARISING

1. The Clerk thanked all volunteers at the Pensioners Xmas Party for helping to make the event such a success.
2. Bodhyfyrd School lights –the Clerk had contacted Mr Paul Rogers at WCBC to ask if any modification could be made to improve the level of lighting but no reply had been received as yet.

262 COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Management, Finance and General Purposes Committee – 17th December 2019

The report of the Management, Finance and General Purposes Committee was received and accepted.

The Planning Committee-5th and 17th December 2019

The reports of the Planning Committee were received and accepted by the Council.

263 WREXHAM YOUTH AND PLAY PARTNERSHIP

The meeting was attended by Ms Alex Drury from the Wrexham Youth and Play Partnership which is a charity which works through community involvement to provide support.

Alex reported to members on the findings to date from the consultation currently being undertaken amongst children and adults in 6 areas of Wrexham.

The consultation centres on 'what its like for children growing up in each particular area'. It asks a number of question on what provision is already in place in terms of play provision and whether it is enough, if they feel safe or would like to see changes or improvements.

Out of the 6 areas consulted so far Offa had scored highly in terms of current play provision and play areas although some concerns had been raised by a few parents over safety at the Brynycabanau playarea. The Clerk was asked to pass these concerns on to the policing team.

Children and parents had commented on the term time play provision sessions asking for them to be increased. It was noted that the Community Council had agreed to renew the contract for these sessions to now cover 48 weeks of the year not just term time.

264 **TRAFFIC WARNING SIGNS**

This agenda item was deferred to the next meeting for the receipt of further information from Cllrs Graham Rogers and Paul Roberts.

265 **A MORE EQUAL WALES – COMMENCING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY**

This item had been deferred from the previous meeting for members to access on-line reports. It was noted that the Community Council is already committed to the Equalities Act 2010 and the Clerk was asked to circulate copies of the policy.

266 **BUDGET 2020/21**

Discussion had taken place at previous meetings on the draft budget for 2020/21. The final draft circulated at the meeting was agreed and it was **RESOLVED** to set the following budget for 2020/21:

Administration	£7,000
Office Equipment	£500
Salaries	£42,620
Youth Work Provision	£33,000
Insurance	£5,000
Chairman's Allowance	£100
Members Expenses	£4,000
Election Expenses	£2,000
Subscriptions	£200
Training	£500
Street Furniture	£2,000
Grants	£10,000
Playschemes	£7,585
Community Centres	£5,000
School Crossing Patrols	£9,500
Bellevue Park Security	£1,750
Environmental Improvements	£3,500
Play Areas	£20,000
Church Lights	£1,350
Newsletter & Communication	£5,000
Luke O Connor House Resource Centre	£15,000
Offa Carnival	£3,500
Advice Service	£6,450
Pensioners Xmas Party	£900
Xmas Lights Switch on event	£1,000
TOTAL	£187,455

Earmarked Reserves:

- Any unexpected costs associated with repairs to the Parciau and Maesgwyn Community Centres –£50,000
- Continued upgrade and replacement of play equipment as required at the 7 play areas in Offa –£25,000.
- Community Safety – to continue the programme of installing fixed CCTV cameras and defibrillators in the community – £5,000 over the next year.

It was RESOLVED for the Barracks Memorial Project to be financed from Reserves.

It was RESOLVED to raise a precept of £186,000 for 2020/21. Due to a rise of 35 points in the tax base it was noted that this would result in a slight decrease in the community charge for Offa residents.

267 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Accounts were then authorized for payment as follows:

		Chq Nos
Church choir (donation)	£50.00	3717
Zurich Insurance (annual renewal premium)	£3046.64	3718
Caia Park Com Council (advice SLA 3 rd qtr)	£1512.00	3719
K Benfield (xmas party expenses)	£231.56	3720
K Benfield (expenses)	£253.70	3720
Helen McCarthy (expenses)	£26.60	3721
A J Domestics (Com centre cleaning)	£450.00	3722
TOTAL	£5570.50	

268 CORRESPONDENCE**WCBC:**

- Funding of mobile library provision – the Clerk was asked to request further information before taking a decision. Where does the mobile library visit in Offa and how many times per week.
- Tack Thai Food, Warehouse 2, Felin Puleston – application for grant of premises licence – no objection
- Cllr Graham Rogers – request for financial support for Cllr Graham Wynne to fund the ongoing maintenance of the Erddig Walkway – correspondence circulated at meeting. **It was AGREED to support the project by giving a grant of £500**

Other Correspondence:

- Welsh Government – The Playing Fields (Community Involvement in Disposal Decisions - Wales) Regulations 2015
- Mrs Ruth Williams – thank you card for Offa Senior Citizen of the Year Award presentation
- Letters of thanks for grants received:

Parciau Ladies Club

Parciau Community Centre Management Committee

Hightown Resource Centre Management Committee

Family Friends

Dynamic

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Nightingale House Hospice
VIC Studios
Beechley Rd Residents
Barracks Field Tenants Association
LOCH Management Committee

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

