

**VERTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING
8th January 2024 (at 18.50hrs)
held in person**

PRESENT: Cllr Walker (Chair), Cllr Alstead, Cllr Ashton, Cllr Copeman, Cllr Hellingman, Cllr Herbert, Cllr Lynch, Cllr Pugh, Cllr Whittaker, Clerk

1. 5276. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received: County Cllr McCusker, PCSO Sawyer

2. 5277. TO DISCLOSE PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING

- Cllr Whittaker disclosed his personal interest in agenda item 10a (WCBC contract with Rainbow Centre)

3. 5278. TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ATTENDING THE MEETING

- None received

4. 5279. TO CONSIDER ANY POLICE MATTERS

- Nothing to report

5. 5280. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS AND HIGHWAYS MATTERS

County Cllr McCusker updated members on:

- Nothing to report

Highway Matters

- Flooding in Red Hall Lane, Penley – field pipe was unblocked on 2nd January with a further assessment planned when drier weather arrives
- Poor state of the roads was discussed near Queensbridge and in the small lanes near Gwalia fields where there is so much mud and water the roads are becoming impassable with access needed by healthcare workers.

6. 5281. TO AGREE AND SIGN MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING 11TH DECEMBER 2023

- **Resolved** – that the Minutes of Full Council Meeting were approved by members.
Proposed by Cllr Hellingman and seconded by Cllr Pugh

7. 5282. TO AGREE AND SIGN MINUTES FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Extraordinary Budget Meeting 30th November 2023
 - Planning Meeting 19th December 2023
- Resolved** – that the Minutes of Committee Meetings held were approved by members

8. 5283. TO NOTE ACTIONS FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING.

For information only

- Decision notes and Actions updated

9. 5284. TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK FROM COUNCILLORS RE: CONSULTATIONS AND MEETINGS ATTENDED SINCE THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

- Clerk attended the Clwyd SLCC branch meeting on 21st December
Items discussed included the appointment of more Internal Audit mentors, the variable fees for Wales Audit and The new Model Clerks Contract compiled by NALC and SLCC.

Action: Clerk to review the new model contract in line with the existing OCC Clerk's contract

10. 5285. TO RECEIVE REPORTS / ISSUES FROM

a) Finance

- Proposal to accept the agreed Precept final figure of £73281 (as discussed at the meeting on 30th November 2023).

Resolution: Approved by Council.

Precept letter sent to WCBC on 9th January 2024

- Clerk reviewed the reserve funds and the predicted end of year forecast and reserves balance
- Review of the WCBC contract with Southern Cluster Consortia (Rainbow Centre) for the provision of a Community Agents Scheme.

Proposal: Current Funding Agreement for the Provision of the Community Agents Scheme between Overton Community Council and the Rainbow Foundation will come to an end on 31st March 2024.

Resolution: Approved by Council

- Clerk's request for £30 to fund a new cordless digital answer phone

Resolution: Approved by Council

- Loneliness and Isolation Grant – see 10.5285f

b) Cemetery

- Planning for the Cemetery Extension as additional spaces will be needed when the current capacity of the existing Cemetery and Garden of Remembrance is exceeded

Action: Cllr Lynch/Clerk

c) Playingfields

- The potential funding for a Football Association of Wales grant was discussed. The general funding idea is accepted as a positive step for the Community, however the practicalities need further clarification

Action: Clerk to arrange a meeting on 18th January with the Football club to clarify the practical details and detailed proposals

d) Main Car Park toilets

- General Amenities report – Cllr Lynch to look into an annual deep clean of the toilets to improve the cleanliness of the toilets and associated costs

Proposal: A maximum cost of £750

Resolution: Approved by Council

Action: Cllr Lynch/Clerk

e) Training for Councillors

- Nothing further to report

f) Community Hub

- Council agreed to apply for a Loneliness and Isolation Grant from AVOW. The request will be for £1700, the yearly cost of facilitating the Community Hub for 2023

Action: Cllr Copeman/Clerk

g) Overton-on-Dee Jubilee Community Fund (OJCF)

- Cllr Copeman will look into the possible transfer of the existing fund to the account of an existing local Community Charitable Fund from which the OJCF trustees have been drawn. The trustees (of the fund) would still manage the account and payments, subject to OCC oversight (OCC would not be the account holders).

N.B. for reference advice received by OVW (21.08.23 Mel ab Owain).

Conclusion: Although set up for the very best of reasons the current setup is almost certainly unlawful under local government legislation.

IF this fund was set up as an independent body with its own constitution and bank account then the Council would be in a position to lawfully support it.

Action: Cllr Copeman to contact local charitable fund holders to ask for their support

- Applications will be monitored for a further year to assess whether to continue with the OJCF

- h) Oracle report for February 2024 to be completed by the Clerk
- To include items on dog fouling in the cemetery, D-day Anniversary and the Overton Jubilee Community Fund
Action: Clerk
- i) D-day 80th Anniversary June 2024
- OCC to work with the local Royal British Legion on any planned event

10.5286. TO RECEIVE ANY CORRESPONDENCE

- None received

11. 5287. TO RECEIVE ANY PLANNING APPLICATIONS/DECISIONS

- P/2023/0613 Bryn Y Pys Home Farm, Wrexham Road, Overton, Wrexham, LL13 0HG
Change of use from class a3 (food and drink) to b1 (business) – Application granted

12. 5288. TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF INCOME AND PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

PAYMENTS LIST 219-230 (December 2023)

Voucher	Status	Code	Description	Supplier	Total
219	Paid	WCBC refuse collection charge for bin	Litter collection	WCBC	£32.70
220	Paid	Water at car park Public Toilets	Public Toilets car park - water	Hafren Dyfrdwy	£32.21
210	Paid	Litter collection and Litter bins Cemetery	Litter collecting	J D Bell	£75.00
211	Paid	Grass Cutting Cenotaph	Grass cutting	J D Bell	£45.00
212	Paid	Hedges and trees Cenotaph	Hedge cutting	J D Bell	£60.00
213	Paid	Raking existing bark	Rake existing bark	J D Bell	£50.00
214	Paid	Litter Collections / Dustbins	Litter collecting	J D Bell	£240.00
215	Paid	Weeding barked area o/s Pavillion & Scout Hut	Weeding barked area	J D Bell	£35.00
217	Paid	Miscellaneous work	Clearing leafs from Playground carpark	J D Bell	£140.00
218	Paid	Miscellaneous work	Commercial bin collection	J D Bell	£30.00
216	Paid	Emptying dog bin in Millennium Ave	Emptying Dog wast bin MM	J D Bell	£60.00
221	Paid	Rates Non dom for garage store	Non Dom Rates - Pavillion Garage	WCBC	£62.00
223	Paid	Public Toilet Caretakers wages	Caretaker's wages - Dec	AVOW	£1,143.83
224	Paid	Public Toilet Caretakers holiday cover	Caretaker holiday cover - Dec	AVOW	£182.07
222	Paid	AVOW Payroll charges	AVOW Payroll charges - monthly	AVOW	£30.50
225	Paid	Clerk's wages	Clerk's wages - Dec	AVOW	£2,297.83
226	Paid	Christmas lights & Christmas tree outside VH	Christmas tree lights and High Street lights	Wilson Facilities Management Services Ltd	£1,440.00
228	Paid	Electricity at Car Park Public Toilets	Electricity charge for Public Toilets	British Gas	£111.75
227	Paid	Water bill at cemetery	Water bill - Cemetery	Hafren Dyfrdwy	£5.00
229	Paid	Community Agents Allocation	Community Agent Funding	Penley Rainbow Centre	£40,456.50
230	Paid	Telephone and Broadband	Telephone and broadband service	Vodafone Limited	£33.20
Total					£46,562.59

RECEIPTS LIST 51-53 (December 2023)

Voucher	Code	Date	Description	Supplier	Total
51	Precept	05/12/2023	3rd Precept installment	WCBC	£20,472.67
52	Bank interest	10/12/2023	Bank interest	TSB	£55.97
53	Community Agents Allocation	18/12/2023	Community Agent Funding	WCBC	£40,456.50
			Total		£60,985.14

Resolution: Approval of income and expenditure proposed by Cllr Copeman and Cllr Herbert – all in favour

13.5289. TO RECEIVE ANY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR TO DATE

Forecast 2023/2024	£	Comments - Clerk
As at 31st December 2023		
Opening Balance 1st April 2023	£ 44,951.50	NB: Community Agents Contract 2023/24 TBC
Precept 2023/24 to date	£ 61,418.00	
Cemetery	£ 1,250.00	
Bank Interest	£ 395.45	
Overton Community Fund Proceeds	£ 898.90	
Community Chest (Solar farm)	£ 3,615.22	
Others (EVC rebate, playcentre error)	£ 549.03	
Income Total	£ 193,991.10	See bank reconciliation 27th December 2023
Expenditure to date	£ 134,096.84	See bank reconciliation 27th December 2023
Balance to date	£ 59,894.26	See bank reconciliation 27th December 2023
Earmarked/Reserves		
Reserve Figure	£ 15,776.72	
Strategic Planning Projects	£ 6,732.39	
Overton Events Fund	£ 3,891.98	
Community Chest Fund (solar farm)	£ 4,857.50	
Overton Community Fund	£ 3,531.20	
Ringfenced Total	£ 34,789.79	See reserves balance
General Fund	£ 25,104.47	
Balance to date	£ 59,894.26	

Resolution: Approval of the Financial Statement proposed by Cllr Hellingman and seconded by Cllr Copeman – all in favour

14.5290. TO SET ANY DATES FOR MEETINGS

- Finance meeting
- Meeting to discuss provisions for the Cemetery extension

15.5291. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT AGENDA AND CONFIRMATION OF DATE (12TH FEBRUARY 2024) - TO BE HELD IN PERSON (REMOTE ACCESS AVAILABLE)

- None

The Chair closed the meeting at 20:40 hrs.