



**OVERTON-ON-DEE COMMUNITY  
COUNCIL  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2023-2024**



The High Street

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One of Overton’s famous Yew trees

## CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2023-2024 annual report of Overton Community Council which I hope will provide you with information on your local Community Council and what it does for the community.

I am honoured to have the role of Chairman and to be able to put something back into the community and I welcome any feedback or comment on what the Council is doing or what you would like it to do.

Please read this annual report and if you have any questions or suggestions do get in touch with myself, our Clerk or one of the Councillors.

*Best wishes*

*Tony Walker*

*Chair and Community Councillor*

## ANNUAL REPORT - Finance

This report aims gives information about the Community Council, the money it spends and the activities it carries out on your behalf. The report does not detail the budget in line by line terms but will give an overview of of how the money has been spent. For a more detailed breakdown, the Community Council's accounts are available to anyone at any time on request – contact details for the Community Council appear above.

### **Precept**

The Precept for 2023/24 was set at £61,418 (same as previous year)

The Precept is set after the budget has been agreed and approved by the members of Overton Community Council and it is used wholly for funding the following;

- Streetlight electricity and maintenance of the lights
- Payments of rates and utilities
- Rental of the Playingfield, maintenance and installation of all the equipment
- Rental and maintenance of the Millennium Meadow - including trees in the meadow which have Tree Preservation Orders and our famous yew trees
- Cemetery administration and maintenance
- Insurance
- Management, cleaning and maintenance of the toilets
- Grants and donations given to local organisations
- Supporting events and activities, such as the Annual Village Fete and Twinning events
- Christmas lights
- General administration including staff salaries

## **Grants to local associations**

Each year the Community Council makes annual grants to organisations within the village. The total amount awarded in 2023/24 was £1300 and was divided between the Overton Oracle, Overton Play Centre, Twinning Association and the Royal British Legion.

## **Community Chest Grants**

Each year the Community Chest Grant Scheme is funded from an annual community payment received from the Operator of a solar farm (Snellius Energy). The Community Council makes financial contributions to local organisations which provide valuable services that bring benefit to the local community. Funded solely out of dividends, the amounts available vary. In 2023, £4858 in total, was awarded to St. Mary's School, Overton Football Club and Overton Playcentre.

Note: In order to be considered for inclusion for a Community Chest grant in 2024-25 you will need to apply before 31st October 2024.

Details can be found on the Community Council website

<https://overton-on-dee.co.uk/community-council/>

## **Overton Jubilee Community Fund**

A Fund, established by Overton Community Council through local donations and fundraising, commenced during the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations, to provide assistance, support and relief to those in need residing in the Community of Overton on Dee.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

It has been an exciting year in Overton-on-Dee.

Well done to our increasingly successful Overton Bowling Club and Overton Recreational Football Club.

Congratulations to the Rainbow Foundation for achieving an outright national award for the services they provide to Overton and the South Clwyd area.

Well done to the Two Doves Café and Gift Shop on their nomination for the MP HEROes programme in recognition of their hard work in creating a venue that serves the rural community in Overton. The Award recognises the exceptional effort they put in to keeping their business going and making all welcome.

The Community Hub initiative has continued throughout 2023 and into 2024. It has proven to be popular and a valuable meeting space for those wishing to chat, and enjoy the refreshments supplied. A big thank you for the support of community councillors, local volunteers and cake makers!

The Community Council relies on the help, input and active participation of our local community, clubs, committees and organisations.

We are your local Community Council so please do come to us with issues, concerns, initiatives or activities you'd like us to help you with.

At present the Community Council is short of one member, so if you are interested please let us know

## **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Community Council makes most of its decisions at its monthly Full Council meeting. An agenda is set and circulated one week before. The meeting is attended by County Councillor John McCusker and Police Community Support Officer, Dean Sawyer

The first ten minutes of the meeting are allocated to members of the public to raise issues, concerns or ideas with the Community Council.

There are three other committees which meet regularly: General Amenities, Planning and Finance.

Planning is part of the Council's remit and as a statutory consultee the Community Council is asked to comment on all planning applications which affect the community. A small group of Councillors (the Planning Committee) meet and review applications as they arise in order to forward any comments to WCBC Planning Department.

The annual village fete was held at the end of June. There was great support for the two main events, the Street Market and the Big Picnic. There was a great selection of stalls and local shops in the market and even the sun made an appearance.

The dog show proved to be a fun filled part of the Big Picnic on the Playingfield on a Saturday afternoon.

Thank you to all who helped with the organisation and all you who attended this regular feature of the village calendar.

It has been a very busy year and I would personally like to thank all the Councillors who give their time freely for all their support and hard work during their term of office.

*David Williams, Clerk and Responsible Financial officer*

## **ABOUT THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

The Role of the Council Community Councils are known as the first tier of local government, the tier closest to the residents it represents and consisting of local people working to benefit the local area.

It is consulted on –

- Planning Applications
- Consultations and Comments on County Council formal policy changes e.g. street lighting, affordable housing and changes to play areas, grass cutting, street cleaning etc.

It works to provide, support, maintain and improve facilities to benefit the local area –



Currently -

- Regular inspection and maintenance of the play and exercise areas in the park
- Regular inspection and review of all trees in the millennium meadow and recreational areas
- Inspection and maintenance of Overton Cemetery and the allocation and purchase of burial plots in the Cemetery and Garden of Remembrance
- The maintenance (and recent refurbishment) of the War Memorial in the High Street.
- Provision of two community defibrillators and their ongoing maintenance. One situated near the football pavilion and a second near the entrance to the village hall (pictured)
- Provision of Dog Waste Bag Dispensers at key locations around the village (pictured)



- Maintenance and cleaning of public toilets in the main village car park and Playingfields
- Local hub providing large bags for litter collection and litter grabbers, working closely with Keep Wales Tidy and WCBC
- Community Hub – every Monday between 2pm and 4pm (poster pictured)



## COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Tony Walker – Chair of Overton Community Council

Paul Ashton – Community Councillor

Phillip Alstead – Community Councillor

Penelope Coles – Community Councillor

Charlotte Copeman – Community Councillor

Clive Hellingman – Community Councillor

John Herbert – Community Councillor

Peter Lynch – Community Councillor

Lesley Pugh – Community Councillor

Paul Whittaker – Community Councillor

Please visit our website, or contact the Clerk, for further details on how to apply for grants for your club or association



19<sup>th</sup> Century Cottages on Wrexham Road