

OFFWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

It is most important that we ensure that we hold the meetings in as Covid 19 safe manner as possible, in order to protect every person attending the meeting from contracting Covid 19 at a meeting and then also spreading it back to our families and further into the Community. Whilst the majority of people are now double or triple vaccinated, it must be remembered in our considerations for the resumption of meetings that not everyone in the population at large has been able to receive the vaccinations due to health reasons and that there are possibly such persons within our Community. Also, we are advised that whilst a double or triple vaccination offers a level of protection from severe effects and death, it does not prevent one catching Covid 19 (with possible Long Covid) and transmitting it to others.

Following advice, the Council now hold Council meetings in the Village Hall as it is bigger enabling safe social distancing to be maintained with less congestion, has a higher ceiling with a larger volume of air, Windows at high level can be opened to let in fresh air. Also the Hall is larger so this allows for consideration of anyone who is Clinically Extremely Vulnerable, for whom the advice to shield has been lifted. They may feel cautious about attending a Council meeting but the Hall will allow those people extra space so they can sit further away from others and feel safer.

Conditions which will apply to attendance at Council Meetings

All attendees are recommended to bring and wear a mask (particularly in confined spaces such as the foyer and toilets), use hand sanitiser provided (and bring their own hand sanitiser if they prefer).

No person to attend the meeting if they or anyone in their household has had Covid-19 symptoms in the last 7 days.

Attendees must leave contact details prior to the start of the meeting, or use the building QR Code.

If anyone becomes unwell with a new continuous cough or a high temperature in the 7 days following the meeting, they must advise the Clerk or Chair and are advised to follow the stay at home guidance.

Unfortunately, the change of venue to the Village Hall has meant a change of day and week in the month for the regular monthly Council meetings.

Meetings will now be held on the third Wednesday of the month on an ongoing basis for the future.