

No.

COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held on 26th March, 2019.

Present: Councillor Mrs. C.A. Cave (Vice-Chairman in the Chair); Councillors Ms. J. Aviet, G.D.D. Carroll, S.T. Edwards, Mrs. S.M. Hanks, N.P. Hodges, P.G. King, Mrs. S.D. Perkes and A.R. Robertson.

Representing Town and Community Councils:

S. Hodges (Barry Town Council), S. Griffiths (Dinas Powys Community Council), P.A. Carreyett (Llandough Community Council), A. Rees (Llancarfan Community Council), R. Thomas (Llandow Community Council), D. Reed (Llangan Community Council), G. Smith (Llanmaes Community Council), D. Moody-Jones (Peterston-Super-Ely Community Council), H. Morris (St. Brides Major Community Council), G. Rawson (St. Nicholas and Bonvilston Community Council) and A. Foyle (Welsh St. Donats Community Council).

876 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from Councillor Mrs. J.E. Charles (Chairman); Councillors K.F. McCaffer, M.J.G. Morgan and M.R. Wilson (Vale of Glamorgan Council); Councillors J. Teague (Llanfair Community Council), G. Marks (Michaelston-le-Pit and Leckwith Community Council) and C. Howells (Penllyn Community Council),

877 MINUTES –

AGREED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 29th January, 2019 be approved as a correct record.

878 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

879 POLICE MATTERS –

Police Officer Andrew Rice provided the Committee with an update on Police matters in the Vale of Glamorgan as outlined below.

Acquisitive Crime Updates

On Tuesday, 19th March 2019, an armed robbery was reported at Coldbrook Stores, Barry whereby masked youths entered the premises armed with metal asps and tyre irons and assaulted the 65 year old proprietor after demanding he open the till and offer up its contents. Offences of this nature were extremely rare in the Vale of

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Glamorgan and the level of violence used was a significant concern. This was only the second robbery of this nature reported in Barry in the last 12 months.

Following a thorough investigation by CID and uniformed colleagues, three youths aged 16 – 17 years had since been charged and remanded into custody. They had appeared at Cardiff Youth Court on 25th March, 2019.

Fraud Arrest

On 7th February, 2019 two elderly residents in Penarth were victims of the fake Police Officer scam. Both were contacted via telephone by a male purporting to be a Police Officer from the Fraud Squad and that there had been fraudulent activity on their bank account. Both were requested to attend at their respective banks and withdraw significant amounts of money in order to pay off the debt that the fraud had caused. The victims were 96 and 83 respectively and withdrew a total of £19,000. They were then provided with a code word and advised that a “Police Officer” would attend and collect the money once the code word was spoken. That evening an 18 year old male from London was identified as being responsible for these offences and a number of similar crimes in Cardiff. The following day he was charged with these crimes and was currently remanded in prison awaiting trial. An investigation continues into similar offences across Cardiff and the Police were working closely with banks and financial institutions across Barry and the Vale of Glamorgan in order to ensure their banking protocols protect the vulnerable from becoming victims of this callous crime.

Theft of Lead

Romilly Road Primary School on Romilly Road, Barry had been the victim of theft of lead from the roof 8th – 12th March, 2019. The thieves had taken a significant amount of lead from the roof causing damage to the slates and considerable damage inside the school. This type of crime had not been prevalent in recent years so the Police were monitoring reports of this nature in order to undertake early intervention to avoid a pattern of offences.

Drugs Enforcement

In the early hours of 7th March, 2019 a male was stopped in his vehicle at Main Street, Barry and subsequently as a result of information received Officers undertook a search of the driver and his van and found Class A drugs, namely heroin and crack cocaine. A further search of his home address resulted in more drugs being found culminating in a total seizure of Class A drugs worth over £20,000 that were destined for the streets of the Vale of Glamorgan. The male was arrested and charged with numerous offences and was currently on remand awaiting trial, having only recently been released from prison.

On Thursday, 28th February Barry Officers undertook a proactive day of action, executing three warrants under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 at addresses in the area. Two females were arrested and an amount of Class A drugs was seized in the

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exercise which was well received within the community. They are currently released under investigation while the items seized are tested and identified.

On 31st January, 2019 two Romanian males were found in possession of over £20,000 of vacuum packed cannabis at an address on Barry Road along with forged documentation. Both were arrested and had been charged with possession with intent to supply along with other offences. Both were currently remanded in prison awaiting trial.

“Stand-off” in Penarth

There were a number of reports on social media regarding a male on a roof at Salop Place, Penarth on Friday, 1st March. The male was wanted in connection with a number of offences and had climbed through the attic of his partner’s address and onto the roof where he proceeded to throw roof tiles towards Officers below. In what was almost a 12 hour incident, involving a number of Police resources, the male caused damage to a number of vehicles in the street. After a significant period of negotiation, he eventually surrendered to Officers and was arrested. The following day he was charged with 8 offences and again was currently residing in prison awaiting trial.

Miscellaneous

Between 11th and 18th March, 2019 Officers in the Vale of Glamorgan participated in a Knife Crime Intensification Week. Officers visited schools, undertook test purchasing exercises with Trading Standards at retail outlets and carried out enforcement work. All retailers passed the tests required and the week was an invaluable opportunity to educate young people regarding the dangers of carrying a knife.

Mini Police Initiative

All primary schools in the Vale of Glamorgan would soon be participating in the “Mini Police” programme. It was an initiative that encouraged Year 6 primary school children to be ambassadors for the Police service. This included educating fellow pupils and parents regarding a number of issues including ASB, parking, bullying, internet safety and grass fires. The initiative had proven very successful in other Force areas and the Police were looking forward to building on the excellent relationships they had with schools across the Vale.

New Chief

Chief Superintendent Alun Morgan had been appointed as the Divisional Commander for Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan.

Recorded Crime

Despite the seriousness of some the incidents documented above, Penarth and Rural Vale accounted for less than 3.3% of all recorded crime in the South Wales

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Police Force for the year. Barry recorded just 4.2% of all crime, which again was one of the lowest.

A Member queried the cost for a helicopter to be deployed in an area, although not aware of the exact cost the officer considered it to be in the region of £150 per hour. It was also noted that the service was provided by the National Police Helicopter Service.

Following a query regarding telephone numbers to contact the Police, reference was made to the 101 non-emergency number and 999 emergency number. Police Officer Rice also advised that alternatively they could contact the Force by e-mail or by social media or through their local PCSO.

A Community Councillor queried whether there were any plans to use drones in the Vale of Glamorgan, with the Police Officer advising that he was aware that there had been some events that the use of drones had been piloted, but that he was not aware of any plans for the future.

AGREED – T H A T Police Officer Rice be thanked for his informative presentation.

880 REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION – WELSH ST. DONATS COMMUNITY COUNCIL – RECYCLING IN THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN –

The Community Council representative from Welsh St. Donats commenced by advising that the request had been made for an explanation of recycling policy in relation to the only two black bags service and for further information on recycling procedures to assist the communities in meeting higher levels of recycling set out in the Towards Zero Waste consultation paper from Welsh Assembly Government. The request also referred to the Recycling Centre at Llandow which was in an unkempt state and in the Community Council's view was a reflection of the organisation of refuse collection in the Vale of Glamorgan.

The Operational Manager for Neighbourhood Services provided the Committee with a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Waste Management Update". Copies of the presentation were circulated at the meeting for the Committee's information. The presentation covered waste disposal, which was treated at Viridor's Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) as part of the Prosiect Gwyrdd Initiative. This was a 25 year contract (as of 1st April, 2016) with Cardiff, Newport Caerphilly, Monmouthshire and the Vale of Glamorgan Councils. The site treated black bag waste from collections, street cleaning, HWRCs and bulky waste (excluding metals). 350,000 tonnes were processed per annum at the facility which was the largest ERF in Wales. It was a facility that could generate enough energy to power over 50,000 homes.

For organic waste (food and green) two new facilities had been procured jointly with Cardiff City Council for a 15 year contract as part of Welsh Government's Food Waste Treatment Programme. The facilities had both been built by Kelda Organic Energy (Cardiff) and were owned by Welsh Water. Cardiff was the host Authority and the Vale had an IAA with Cardiff Council.

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The food waste was treated at a new Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility was located in Cardiff and the green waste Open Windrowed Compost (OWC) facility at Cardiff City Council's Lamby Way Depot. The food waste AD facility was a 35,000 tonne facility with zero waste going to landfill. The OWC facility collected, shredded and stored in rows with the rows being turned to improve oxygen content, mix in or remove moisture and to redistribute cooler and hotter portions of the pile, the output being compost.

The Operational Manager advised that in April the Council would be taking the compost to the Court Road Depot, which would be available to residents free of charge. The Council had been unable to provide this service in the previous year as it had needed to leave the composting for at least six months and had not had the ability to capture it during that period.

With regards to dry recycling, this recycling was collected by Casepak Ltd and transported to Leicester. The contract with Casepak Ltd to process and sort materials would expire in April 2019 and an alternative site for interim arrangements was currently being procured.

During the PowerPoint presentation, a graph identifying where the recycling ended up was presented to Members. The Operational Manager also referred to the recycling rates, advising that a couple of the current recycling target set by Welsh Government was 58% (2015/16) which was still valid. The targets were now statutory within the Wales Waste Measure 2010. The next statutory target was 64% (2019/20) and 70% for 2024/25. In referring to the current recycling rate, the Operational Manager advised that for 2018/19 the Vale would be approximately 64%. The black bag restrictions introduced in September 2018 would increase performance during the target year and he pointed out that the Council would never have made this target if it had not brought in co-mingling. The failure to achieve statutory recycling targets would cost the Council £200 per tonne in fines.

Future service changes were listed as below:

- Next service change was to implement a source separated recycling collection service (2019/20);
- Necessary as a result of implementing Article 11 of the EU Revised Waste Framework Directive (January 15) through Waste Regulations (England and Wales) 2011 (amended 2012);
- Placed a duty to collect separately at least paper, metal, glass and plastics;
- If comingled a necessity test and TEEP assessment must be undertaken. Must achieve high quality recycling and no worse off than collecting separately;
- Time was right for the Vale of Glamorgan Council to change to capture financial support;
- Only compliant Councils would be considered for Welsh Government's Collaborative Change Funding (CCF);
- Source separated recycling benefits – Lower revenue costs, reduced carbon footprint, higher quality material, minimal contamination, captured local / UK

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markets, added to the circular economy agenda, resource orientated (created jobs), compliant with current guidance / legislation;

- Vale of Glamorgan Council secured capital funding of £3.5m for 2018/19 to introduce service change;
- Vale of Glamorgan Council prioritised for further funding 2019/20.

For future waste changes, these were reported as follows:

- Implementation of the 'Collections blueprint';
- Collections from late summer 2019 in the Vale (TBC);
- Spring 2020 for Barry and late summer 2020 for Penarth (TBC);
- Waste Transfer Station being developed, containers and vehicles selected.

The Council did not currently have a Waste Transfer Station, an interim site for service roll out had been secured in Cowbridge, there were design and remedial works required to accommodate sorting. A draft design for a permanent site had been completed with securing site, ground investigations and detailed designs currently in progress.

Following the recent service changes it was noted that there was a 30% decrease of residual waste from kerbside collections, a 59% decrease of residual waste at HWRCs, a 26% increase in food waste recycling and a 20% increase in dry recycling. The Operational Manager also informed the Committee that most residents had embraced the new changes well.

In referring specifically to the request from Welsh St. Donats regarding the site at Llandow, the Operational Manager advised that the lease was due to expire in December 2019, the current site was not suitable for another long term arrangement and efforts to improve the current site had been made with the owners but these had been unsuccessful. Many attempts had been made to engage with the current owners, but all to no avail.

The Department was currently considering future options, relocation on existing sites and an alternative location was possible. The intention would be to invite expressions of interest from landowners in the Vale of Glamorgan to see if anyone would want to work in partnership with the Council.

Following a query regarding issues for waste disposal for flats in the Vale of Glamorgan, it was noted there were difficulties in this area, but that trial collections would be undertaken.

A Member of a Community Council took the opportunity to ask the officer to relay their congratulations to the refuse collectors who were always polite and friendly and they wished their comments to be passed on.

A Member referred to the fact that once a fortnight some recycling was not picked up until the following day, with the officer expressing his apologies to the Member advising that there had been some issues for the service but he hoped these would be addressed asap.

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Following a query as to the best way to dispose of light bulbs, the officer advised that these should be taken to the waste recycling centre.

In referring to the carbon footprint, it was noted that in the future with the new changes proposed service this should be reduced.

A number of Members at the Committee took the opportunity to thank the officer for his extremely informative and frank response to their concerns and wished the officer and his team well in their endeavours having regard to the challenging times for the service.

AGREED – T H A T the Operational Manager be thanked for his informative presentation and that the team be thanked for the hard work being undertaken in the service area.

881 RESHAPING SERVICES – UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION (MD) –

The report had been presented to the Cabinet at its meeting on 18th March, 2019 and provided an update on the progress being made to implement the Council's Reshaping Services programme.

The report was a summary of activity with individual projects reporting to Cabinet as required for specific endorsement of actions to progress Reshaping Services activity.

A copy of the report had also been agreed by Cabinet to be forwarded to all Elected Members, Clerks of Town and Community Councils, members of the Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee, Community Liaison Committee and the Public Services Board for information.

The Head of Performance and Development, in presenting the report, referred to the Reshaping Services programme which comprised of three inter-related work streams of projects as follows:

- Service Specific Work Stream Projects
- Corporate Work Stream Projects
- Programme Activity

The Head of Service in referring to a number of previous requests by Town and Community Councils for detail in relation to services that the Vale Council intended not to provide in the future. He advised that the report in his view was a good news story in as much as although it was inevitable that there may be significant decisions to be made in 2020/21, services were still currently being undertaken. He had however, recently spoken to the Director of Environment and Housing about attending a future meeting of the Committee when such matters became clearer.

The Charter between Town and Community Councils and the Vale of Glamorgan Council was currently in its final stages and a further meeting of the Working Group

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would be held to consider comments received from Town and Community Councils with a final report to be presented to Cabinet to include an action plan.

The Community Asset Transfer Guidance was also being reviewed in order to be more relevant for future use.

Following the presentation, Councillor Cuddy, the Community Councillor representative on the Reshaping Services Board, stated that there had not been a Project Board meeting for some time, but he could advise that as the report outlined, the Vale was currently doing well in many areas and that he too would welcome the Director of Environment and Housing attending a future meeting.

Following a query regarding the provision of public toilets in the Vale the Principal Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer advised that a report on the subject was being scheduled to be considered by the Cabinet as outlined in its Forward Work Programme which was available on the Council's website.

Having considered the report, it was subsequently

AGREED – T H A T the officer be thanked for the Reshaping Services update and that the Director of Environment and Housing be invited to a future meeting of the Committee to discuss matters as outlined above.