

No.

COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of a remote meeting held on 25th January 2022.

Decision Notice – Meeting, 25th January 2021.

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

The Meeting recording is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor S.M. Hanks (Chair); Councillor R.M. Birch (Vice-Chair); Councillors J. Aviet, G.D.D. Carroll, C.A. Cave, M.J.G. Morgan, R.A. Penrose, S.D. Perkes, A.R. Robertson, and M.R. Wilson.

Representing Town and Community Councils: Councillors G. Thomas (Llantwit Major Town Council), M. Cuddy (Penarth Town Council), B. Morris (Colwinston Community Council), S. Griffiths (Dinas Powys Community Council), H. Baker (Ewenny Community Council), Dr. A. Rees (Llancarfan Community Council), R. Thomas (Llandow Community Council), G. Kellen (Pendoylan Community Council), Dr. S. Howells (Penllyn Community Council), A. Phillips (Peterston Super Ely Community Council), A. Barnaby (St. Athan Community Council), M. Jeffreys (St. Donats Community Council), W. Howells (St. Georges and St. Brides Super Ely Community Council), I. Perry (St. Nicholas and Bonvilston Community Council), C. Tatt (Sully and Lavernock Community Council) and C. Hawkins (Wick Community Council).

778 ANNOUNCEMENT –

Prior to the commencement of the business of the Committee, the Chairman read the following statement: “May I remind everyone present that the meeting will be live streamed as well as recorded via the internet and this recording archived for future viewing.”

779 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –

These were received from Councillors H. Weddell (Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council), D. Reed (Llangan Community Council), G. Smith (Llanmaes Community Council) and G. Marks (Michaelston le Pitt with Leckwith Community Council).

780 MINUTES –

RECOMMENDED – T H A T the minutes of the meetings held on 4th October 2021 and 4th November 2021 be approved as a correct record.

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781 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations of interest were received.

782 POLICE MATTERS -

Chief Inspector Rees provided a verbal update to the Committee on the following policing matters for the Vale of Glamorgan area:

- Crimes for the period 1st October – 31 December 2021, for the Vale/Penarth and Barry areas, in comparison to the same period in 2020.
- Queries and complaints with regards to the use of e-scooters.
- Operation Ovenbake to tackle an upward trend in hare coursing/lamping across farmland in the rural Vale, and
- Forward planning in anticipation of the re-opening of the night-time economy, the rugby six nations taking place and the return of good weather/summer.

Chief Inspector Rees also advised the Committee of her recent promotion to Head of Operations, essentially the delivery of operational policing for all of Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, that would commence in April 2023 following her maternity leave. Therefore, Inspector Stuart McDean, the current Local Police Inspector for Penarth and Cardiff South, would be temporarily promoted into the Chief Inspector role and would support the Committee going forward.

Following the Chief Inspector's update and subsequent questions from the Committee, the following advice was also provided:

- Feedback received from the Committee in relation to missing or out-dated PCSO contact information, as well as alternative police contact methods, available on the South Wales Police Website would be fed back to the police digital desk/ICT team. It was acknowledged that regular updates to the website would help to support the passing on of local knowledge between elected members and police officers during periods of police staffing changes.
- Further legal advice regarding the use of e-scooters and hoverboards, as well as appropriate infographics, would be shared with the Committee following the meeting for members to circulate amongst their communities.
- 'County Lines,' used as a broad heading to describe pockets of organised crime and drug trafficking was still an ongoing matter for investigation by the police force however, no specific county line networks were currently under investigation within the Vale of Glamorgan. Instances of drug use or trafficking were actioned upon immediately to ensure that the area remained a hostile deterrent for any crime networks wishing to enter the area.

With no further comments or questions, the Committee subsequently

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AGREED - T H A T Chief Inspector Rees be thanked for her time and verbal update.

783 FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE MATTERS –

The General Manager for Operations for the South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Mr Hadfield, provided a verbal update to the Committee on the four key strategic indicators; road traffic collisions, accidental dwelling fires, deliberate fire setting and special service calls for the Vale of Glamorgan area and was pleased to advise that the statistics for all four indicators had decreased and were stable.

Mr Hadfield also apprised the Committee on the following matters:

- A decrease in accidental housing fires as a result of Covid-19 social restrictions and persons working from home however, the service was on stand-by to assess the situation following social restrictions being lifted.
- The Cadet Academy had re-opened and Key Stage 1 & 2 school visits had resumed.
- Large scale exercises were planned during the course of 2022 at both Barry Docks and Aberthaw power station.
- Staffing issues as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic had been stable and managed effectively, and the 2022 service recruitment campaign had recently closed.

Following the Manager's update and subsequent questions raised by Cllr Perkes, Mr Hadfield added that, unfortunately, there had been instances of crew attacks within the South Wales area and the fire service received excellent support from the police service in response. The instances had not stopped the service from completing the task in hand. A further presentation on the matter could be provided to the Committee at a future meeting.

With no further comments or questions, the Committee subsequently

AGREED -

- (1) T H A T Mr Hadfield be thanked for his time and verbal update.
- (2) T H A T a presentation on Public Service Crew Attacks for the South Wales Area as a whole, setting out the scale and response for such instances, be provided at the next Committee Meeting on 27th April 2022.

784 THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN (ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS) ORDER 2021 (REF) –

The Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer for the Vale of Glamorgan Council presented the reference from Cabinet on 22nd November 2021 for the Committee's information.

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The report commenced by advising that, following completion of a programme of electoral arrangement reviews of each County / County Borough Council in Wales, the Local Democracy Boundary Commission for Wales (“the Commission”) submitted all 22 of its Final Recommendations Reports to the Welsh Minister for Finance and Local Government for consideration. A number of associated Orders had also been made by Welsh Government including The County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan (Electoral Arrangements) Order 2021 (“the Order”) made on 11 October 2021 which was attached at Appendix A to the report.

The Officer drew Member’s attention to paragraph 2.1 of the appended Cabinet report which summarised the changes relevant to the Vale of Glamorgan area as a result of the Order; in relation to the English and Welsh language names of the electoral wards (increased in number from 23 to 24), the area of the electoral wards and the corresponding number of members for each electoral ward.

It was noted that the revised electoral arrangements would come into force on 5th May 2022, in readiness for the 2022 Local Elections (when the number of Elected Members for the Vale of Glamorgan would increase from 47 to 54), at which point the current electoral wards would be abolished.

As a consequence of the Order a number of Polling Districts would be within different electoral wards and a number of Polling District reference changes had been necessary and these were detailed at Appendix B and C to the Cabinet report.

It was also noted that the Polling District references would also apply to Community Wards and that Town and Community Council boundaries would remain unchanged by the Order with the Community Review for the Vale of Glamorgan to be held in 2023.

In response to the TCC Representative for Llantwit Major Town Council highlighting the fact that the UD0 (Boverton) ward did not currently have a permanent polling station in place, the Electoral Registration and Returning Officer confirmed that polling station planning was currently under way for the May 2022 Local Government Election, and it was not unusual for the Council to install a temporary station. However, decisions were being made taking into account lessons learnt from previous elections and social distancing restrictions as a result of the national pandemic, albeit that the guidance around social distancing may well change before the May elections.

The Chair then highlighted that schedule article 2, page 7 of the Order, did not make reference to the communities of Marcross, Monknash and Ogmore-by-sea despite them being defined within the subsequent boundary map illustration. In response, the Officer acknowledged that the area description for the St. Brides Major ward was not as long as it potentially could be, and this was most likely to avoid a lengthy ward name or area description. However, both these factors were now set in stone following the adoption of the order on the 11th of October 2021.

With no further comments or questions, the Committee subsequently

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AGREED –

(1) T H A T the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan (Electoral Arrangements) Order 2021 (“the Order”) attached at Appendix A to the referred Cabinet report be noted.

(2) T H A T the consequential electoral ward boundary and the revisions to the Polling Districts as detailed at Appendix B to the referred Cabinet report be noted.

(3) T H A T the reference to the Polling Districts as detailed at Appendix C to the referred Cabinet report be noted.

Reasons for decisions

(1-3) Having regard to the contents of the reference and appended Cabinet report.

785 POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS: MINI REVIEW (REF) –

The Electoral Registration Officer for the Vale of Glamorgan Council presented the reference from Cabinet on 22nd November 2021 for the Committee’s information.

The report advised that a mini review of Polling Places and Stations had been undertaken with consideration given to feedback from Presiding Officers and representations made by stakeholders following the Senedd and Police and Crime Commissioner Elections in May 2021. Regard had also been given to the Covid safety measures in place at the time and anticipated for the May 2022 Local Government Elections.

The Electoral Registration Officer added that as part of the mini-review, visits had been made to each of the current and proposed Polling Places and Stations identified as requiring attention and Local Ward Members had been consulted.

The outcome of the mini-review and its proposed changes to Polling Places and / or Stations in a number of electoral wards (as set out in paragraphs 2.2 – 2.18 of the appended Cabinet report) reflected electoral ward changes made by The County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan (Electoral Arrangements) 2021 Order (“the Order”).

In conclusion, the Electoral Registration Officer advised of two further changes to polling station locations since the report was considered by Cabinet due to the present closure of a building that had previously been used as a polling station (Ewenny Community Village hall) and the completion of refurbishment works (Llandow Village Hall). To ensure that Cabinet were notified of the subsequent changes, the Committee agreed that the updates be referred back to Cabinet for its consideration.

For completeness, Cllr Cave then stated that as a result of the review the Ewenny (WD0) polling district no longer fell under the polling districts within her local ward; Llandow.

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With no further comments or questions, the Committee subsequently

AGREED – T H A T the proposed changes to the Polling Places and / or Polling Stations as set out in paragraphs 2.2 – 2.18 of the referred Cabinet report be noted subject to the following updates also being referred to Cabinet for information:

St. Brides Major – WE0

Change of polling station venue:

From: Ewenny Community Village Hall Corntown Road, Ewenny, CF35 5BG.

To: Vale Cricket Club, Corntown Road, Corntown, CF35 5BA.

Reason: Village Hall closed pending refurbishment works.

Llandow – TD0

Change of polling station venue:

From: Holy Trinity Church Llandow – opposite Great House, Llandow, Cowbridge Vale Of Glamorgan, CF71 7NT.

To: Llandow Village Hall, Llandow, CF71 7NT.

Reason: Refurbishment works now completed within the Village Hall with improved amenities.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the reference, appended Cabinet report and verbal update from the Vale of Glamorgan Electoral Registration Officer.

786 VALE OF GLAMORGAN PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD – DRAFT WELL-BEING ASSESSMENT (CX) –

The Head of Policy & Business Transformation with support from the Senior Data and Policy Officer presented the report, the purpose of which was to seek the views of the Committee on the draft Well-being Assessment (“the Assessment”).

The Assessment was a statutory duty placed on Public Services Boards (PSB) by the Well-being of Future Generations Act and the version provided to Committee via hyperlinks within paragraph 2.9 of the covering report was the second assessment undertaken by the Vale of Glamorgan Public Services Board to date

The Assessment must consider the state of economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being in an area and provide an analysis of the state of well-being for both the area as a whole and for distinct community areas. The Head of Policy & Business Transformation added that the Assessment had drawn on a range of national and local data, research, and evidence. An analysis of the information was set out in a suite of reports (paragraph 2.9) which together formed the Assessment and told the story of the experiences of well-being in the Vale of Glamorgan. In addition to the covering report, Officers also provided a PowerPoint presentation to Committee on the key findings to date.

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In conclusion, Officers advised that the Assessment had to be published prior to the local government elections in May '22 and that consultation must be undertaken with a number of statutory consultees, including the designated Scrutiny Committee for the PSB. The Committee was also being consulted to provide members with the opportunity to feed into the consultation process.

Following the Officer's presentation, the Committee raised questions and comments on the following topics:

- Consultation engagement methods,
- Data to evidence an increase in farming industry growth,
- Data to evidence an active fishing industry in the area,
- No mention of the location and availability of doctor surgeries in certain areas of the Vale within the Assessment findings,
- Not all areas of the Vale considered as a flood risk being mentioned within the Assessment findings,
- No mention of the lack of allotments available within the area,
- Planning development being approved and built on green spaces within the Vale of Glamorgan despite the Assessment suggesting there was a shortage of green open spaces within the area,
- The findings of the Assessment being utilised in all Council departments to demonstrate a joined-up approach to Council decisions and policies,
- Future decision-making implications of the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (SEWCJC),

In response, the Chief Executive for the Council, the Head of Policy & Business Transformation as well as Vale of Glamorgan Elected Members advised that:

- All PSB partners were responsible for contributing to and promoting the Assessment consultation. With regards to the Council's approach, this was predominantly online with other methods available on request. The consultation survey had been made available on the Council's website and all Town & Community Councils were invited to attend a stakeholder workshop arranged in February '22.
- Further information/data would be provided to the Committee following the meeting in relation to Flood Risks and Growth Industries for the Vale of Glamorgan.
- General Practice Surgeries were a matter managed by the Health Board as set out in the Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan Population Needs Assessment (PNA) 2022. A copy of the PNA would also be forwarded to Committee Members following the meeting.
- The areas of flooding within the Assessment related to future risks rather than current.
- A reference to the promotion and need for more allotments would be added to the draft Assessment under the 'move more, eat well' agenda.
- Any planning applications would be dealt with by the Council's Planning Committee. The Assessment set out a growth in the Vale of Glamorgan population with a subsequent increasing housing need and therefore a balance was required to meet population needs and protect open spaces in

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the area. The Council was currently consulting on its Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) that both members of the Committee and Members of the Public could engage with.

- The RLDP consultation process was hugely important to set future spaces available for development within the area. The Council had built very little of his own stock in recent years and therefore developments were predominantly applied for and built by external property developers.
- Corporate Joint Committees were a new tier of government introduced by Welsh Government. The functions of the Council's Planning Committee would not change with the introduction of the SEWCJC. The roll of the new SEWCJC would be to look at strategic matters across the South East Wales region as a whole.
- The Council was starting to build more, and increase the amount of, its own housing building stock to meet identified needs which was a positive step forward.

With no further comments or questions, the Committee subsequently

AGREED –

(1) T H A T the draft Well-being Assessment, as hyperlinked at paragraph 2.9 of the covering report, be noted.

(2) T H A T the views of the Committee, as set out in the minute above, regarding the content, structure and conclusions detailed within the assessment be referred to the PSB to inform the formal consultation process.

Reason for decisions

(1&2) To enable the Committee to participate in the formal consultation process on the Well-being Assessment in light of the requirement for the Public Services Board to publish the Assessment by the 4th May 2022.