

VALE OF GLAMORGAN LOCAL ACCESS FORUM: 29th NOVEMBER 2022

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

INTRODUCTION BY MEMBERS

Members of the Forum will recall that I have previously written requesting they forwarded a brief synopsis of their background and involvement with / potential contribution to issues connected with the work of the Forum. All details received are set out in Appendix A.

RECOMMENDED - T H A T each Member be invited to address the Forum in respect of their potential contribution to issues connected with the work of the Forum.

Agenda Item 3 – Pen-pictures

1) Councillor Ian Buckley:

I have lived in Penarth all my life and grew up walking the paths and fields of Penarth, Pen y Turnpike, Leckwith, Dinas Powis and The Beauville. Although I have no formal qualifications that apply to the LAF, I do bring a certain amount of local knowledge, an awareness of the importance of keeping these country walks not just for our children to enjoy, but for the mental well being they bring to all that enjoy them, and a basic understanding of our impacts on the environments we interact with through my time as a firefighter and my knowledge of the ecological damage we can inadvertently do.

2) Stuart Bain

My professional background is in banking, specialising in risk, compliance and governance. Based in Pencoed, I have a passion for the outdoors, walking and conservation.

In addition to being a member of the Local Access Forum, I volunteer for several outdoor, conservation and wildlife charities/not for profit organisations:

- Hon treasurer and a trustee for the Open Spaces Society.
- Hon treasurer and a trustee for South and West Wales Wildlife Trust.
- Director for the Long Distance Walkers' Association overseeing it's environment portfolio.
- Hon Treasurer and director of South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre.
- Executive committee member of Walkers Are Welcome.
- Trustee for Brecon Beacons Park Society.

These portfolios have given me the opportunity to enhance my knowledge and understanding of the CROW Act 2000, environmental considerations, and other factors unique to Wales in protecting open spaces for the public. I hope to put my skills and experience to good use as a serving member of the LAF.

3) Stuart McMillan

Stuart McMillan was brought up in a farming community in Somerset. Spent 14 years in the Merchant Navy as an Engineer, coming ashore in 1970 to work in the chemical industry, until retirement in 1998.

I have retained my interests in both the countryside and the coast, being a regular walker in the Vale, founder member of a retired employee's walking group, a volunteer member of The Flat Holm Society, undertake regular voluntary conservation work in Cosmeston Lakes Country Park, Dow Silicones Cadoxton Ponds and the Chairman of Barry Dock Lifeboat. I have good working relationships with most coastal rescue services and local Port Authorities. I walk well over a thousand miles each year in the UK.

My contribution to the Forum would be to encourage the general public to take advantage of countryside and coastal activities in the Vale, in a safe and environmentally acceptable manner.

I have been a member of the Forum for the past fifteen years, have enjoyed the exposure and experience gained from being a member and trust that I have been able to amply repay the Forum in terms of regular attendance, level of interest and involvement, offering a practical attitude to improvement programmes and to resolving issues.

I would wish to continue to offer a valued contribution and be part of a team improving the infra-structure and promoting utilisation of the Vale PROW's for wide-ranging recreational activities