

LLANFAIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of Council Meeting held at
Virtually over 'Zoom',
On Thursday, 3rd February 2022 at 7.00pm.

Present: Chairman : Councillor Steph Bonnar
Councillors : David Hawkins, Julian Hitchcock, Mary Llewellyn,
Heather Shaw, Geoff Simpson and Jim Teague.

In Attendance: Jackie Griffin, Clerk.
PCSO Stephen Davies, South Wales Police.
Joel James MS.

Item 1: Apologies for Absence
Councillor Ray Simkiss.

Item 2: Declarations of Interest.
None.

Item 3: Community Police Matters.

PCSO Davies advised that he started work with South Wales Police in October 2021 and is based in Llantwit Major Police Station.

- PCSO Davies stated that there has been one incident of Anti Vaxers trespassing at Bridge FM's Offices at St Hilary Mast. The Trespassers have been identified and no further action is being taken.
- With regard to the recent incidents of 'lamping', a vehicle used has been seized.
- The Bush Public House in St Hilary is joining in Cowbridge 'Pub Watch', later in February.
- Any issues can be reported to PCSO Davies on 07584 771040 or by e-mail at: stephen.davies1@south-wales.police.uk

Item 4: To consider and approve the minutes of the Meeting held 6th January 2022.

Proposed by Councillor Simpson, seconded by Councillor Hitchcock and **resolved** that the Minutes of the meeting be approved as a true record. The Minutes to be signed by the Chairman in due course.

Item 5: Matters arising from the Minutes, which are not included in this Agenda.
No matters arising.

Item 6: Chairman's Report.
No items to report.

Item 7: Clerk's Report
Finances.

Bank balance was noted at **£5,751.54** (Current Account £4,695.75 and Business Reserve Account £896.23).

Item 7: Clerk's Report (Continued)
Payments made since 6th January 2022 are:
Clerk's Salary (January) - £154.26;
HMRC Tax (January) - £38.57;
HCI (Renewal of domain name 'llanfaircommunitycouncil.gov.uk for next two years) - £102.00;
J Griffin (Reimbursement of Zoom fees from September to December 2021) - £57.56.

Payments due to be made are:
Clerk's Salary (February) - £154.26;
HMRC Tax (February) - £38.57;
The Poppy Appeal – (Remembrance Wreath) - £20.00;
J Griffin (Reimbursement for Councillor Hitchcock for Planning Aid Wales training course on Second Homes and Buy to let) - £36.

No Monies received:

Item 8: To report a complaint from a resident of St Mary Church.
The complaint reported relates to inconsiderate parking at a communal parking area at the back of the resident's property. Councillor Teague advised that the communal parking area is owned by the Vale of Glamorgan Council who maintain the grassed borders there. There is no designated parking spaces or right to park there. However there is currently a horse box and trailer parked which is blocking views from the properties in front of the parking area.
Resolved that the resident should contact the Vale of Glamorgan Council to raise the issue.

Item 9: To discuss the engagement of an Internal Auditor.
The Clerk advised that with the end of the financial year approaching on 31st March 2022, the Council needs to decide on the engagement of an Internal Auditor.
Resolved that Mr Mees be approached to ask if he can carry out the Internal Audit. If Mr Mees is unavailable, then the Council **resolved** that Mrs Embling should be asked.

Item 10: To note and discuss the Local Election on 5th May 2022.
The Clerk advised that links to information on becoming a Councillor has been uploaded onto the website. Nominations packs will be available from the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Civic Offices in Barry probably during March. Information relating to the Election will be posted over Social Media.

Item 11: To consider the issue of 'empty properties'.
The on-going issue of the empty ex-council property in St Mary Church was discussed. The Clerk had forwarded an e-mail from the 'Empty Homes and Loans Officer' who had stated that:

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Item 11: To consider the issue of 'empty properties' (Continued)

"At present, a property being empty for a length of time alone is not sufficient reason to take enforcement action and that the condition must warrant enforcement action by an Enforcement Department i.e. Shared Regulatory Service, Planning Building Control is required and Notices issued before further action is taken. The 'Empty Homes and Loans Officer' does work with the Enforcement Officers and we try to co-ordinate actions. I try to reach out to owners of empty properties and support many. I refer properties to enforcement departments as required, which is what I have done previously and currently with 8 Church Terrace".

Members expressed concern that the connected semi-detached property must be suffering as a result of No 8 falling into disrepair.

Item 12: To discuss the issue of 'HGV's in St Hilary Village.

This item was discussed at the start of the meeting to allow Joel James MS to leave as soon as possible. Mr James acknowledged that with regard to the Mapping Companies and Local Authority being unable to resolve the matter, the Welsh Government might be able to help. Members advised Mr James that they are meeting with Andrew R T Davies in St Hilary on 14th February and Mr James expressed interest in joining the meeting – ***Clerk to forward details of the meeting to Mr James MS.***

Members agreed that moving the seven and half tonne limit sign from the centre of St Hilary to north of the village could prevent HGV's having to negotiate doing a U-turn in the centre of the village and all the problems, and at times damage, this creates. The Community Council believe that the Highways Department do not appreciate the problems having to be endured by the Community.

Mr James MS kindly offered to attend future meetings of the Council.

The Clerk to check that Mr Andrew RT Davies MS is agreeable to a number of residents and Mr James MS also attending the meeting of 14th February.

Item 13: Reports of Representatives.

13.1 Councillor Simpson gave a report on Local Committee Meeting of One Voice Wales of 24th January at which the following items were discussed:

- A presentation was given by Rachel Carter on 'Local Places for Nature'. The presentation included advise on grant funding. **Resolved** that the Clerk contact Rachel asking if she could meet with some members of the Council to advise on a wildlife area in the Spinney in St Mary Church.
- A Council's Toolkit is currently being tested by a number of Town and Community Councils. The Toolkit is a programme for a Council to work through and ensure the governance procedures are being adhered to.

Councillor Simpson then gave a report on the recent meeting of the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board and advised of the following:

- Currently the current time is the worse period for the NHS since the pandemic began.

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Item 13: Reports of Representatives (Continued)

- Problems with the length of stays in hospital for patients aged 65+ and the lack of social care for those patients.
- It is hoped that things will be more normal by the end of the month.
- There are very low levels of seasonal flu in the UK at the moment.

13.2 Councillor Bonnar report on Community Liaison Committee Meeting of 25th January at which the following items were discussed:

Police Report:

Police

- Overall crime between 1st October & 31st December 6% down (120 crimes)
- Reduction in stalking, but violence with injury and residential burglary both up.
- Prior to Christmas, 2 people charged and on remand for 18 burglaries across Penarth & rural Vale. Pending trial later this year.
- E Scooters major issue with dozens confiscated by Police. Cannot be ridden on public roads, in parks or on cycle paths. Can only be ridden on private roads with landowner consent. Safety concerns for pedestrians are primary issue as well as lack of insurance for the equipment.
- Lamping caused increase to criminal damage and animal welfare issues across rural Vale. Police now working in local partnership and there is a specific operation to target the issue. Over 20 reported incidents in October and November now being handled by dedicated rural crime team. All encouraged to report any incidents immediately.
- County Lines – links with organised crime and drug supply. There are pockets in the Rural Vale which the Police monitor and several warrants were issued in Barry recently relating to these groups.

Robust plan in place for COVID easing specifically focussed on 6 Nations and night time economy opening back up. Also now planning for Summer policing and combined services response.

Change of leadership – Chief Inspector Arabella Rees secured promotion to Superintendent and Inspector McDean will be stepping up to cover until the role is formally filled.

Fire Service

- All areas of work seen reductions recently (road traffic collisions / dwellings fires / rescue at height and below ground).
- Call rates for the Vale are down
- Cadet programme opened back up in October
- Officers back in Key Stage 1 & 2 work with schools. Where schools have COVID challenges these training sessions take place over Zoom.
- Deliberate refuse fires have now ceased

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Item 13: Reports of Representatives (Continued)

- Large scale exercises are scheduled for Barry Docks (water based and shipping evacuation) and Aberthaw Power Station (now decommissioned)
- Officers have also been helping with the vaccination programme
- Recruitment campaign for 2022 now complete and Service has planned recruitment annually to backfill retirement.
- Officers came under attack with stones thrown at them as they returned to the vehicle whilst attending a fire in Caerphilly recently. Police support wherever this issue happens.

Elections

- Some wards have increased positions for the forthcoming elections as well as some changes to Polling Station locations.
- No changes to Llanfair Community Council positions or Polling Station.

Item 14: Correspondence and Publications which do not require discussion. i.e for noting only – *previously sent out by e-mail.*

- 14.1 Via VGC (Vale of Glamorgan Council) – Senedd Update – 31.1.22 – relating to Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 : Community and Town Councils Statutory Guidance – Consultation ending 17.3.22.
- 14.2 VGC – Vale Public Services Board (PSB) Consultation on its second Well-being Assessment to be published in April 2022.
- 14.3 One Voice Wales (OVW) – Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – National Lottery Awards.
Clerk to ascertain on whether a Council or a Village representative needs to apply.
- 14.4 OVW Bulletin – January 2022.
- 14.5 OVW Training Courses – January, February and March 2022.
- 14.6 VGC – Business News from the Regeneration Team – 21.1.22.

Item 15: Any Other Business at the Discretion of the Chairman.

- 15.1 Members discussed awarding grants to the community to assist with the costs of organising and holding events to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. It was agreed that the website should guide the community to applying for grants by completing the Council’s own grant application form which can be highlighted through the Council’s website.
- 15.2 It was reported that Llandough has obtained a free defibrillator via the Welsh Government’s scheme to encourage communities to obtain the equipment.

- Item 15:** **Any Other Business at the Discretion of the Chairman (Continued)**
15.3 Councillor Hitchcock advised that a resident had approached him about the requirement to cut the hedge and verge from the Mill in Llandough to the St Athan Road. It was confirmed that the verge is the responsibility of the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the hedge is the responsibility of the landowner.
Councillor Hitchcock to forward the correspondence received from the resident.
- Item 16:** **Planning Applications.**
16.1 Planning Application No. **2022/00006/FUL**
Location: Whips Bungalow, Llandough.
Proposal: Proposed remodel of Whips Bungalow, to include a new first floor rear extension and roof terrace, changes to fenestration, a detached garage, and a new access drive to facilitate on-site turning.
No objection.
- 16.2 Planning Application No. **2021/01809/FUL**
Location: Barn (to the north of Howe Mill Farm), St Athan Road, St Mary Church.
Proposal: Change of use of a barn to dwelling to be used for holiday purposes.
Concerns relating to the Highway whereby traffic would be emerging onto a busy, fast road, on a bend and near a junction.
- 16.3 Determinations on Planning Applications by the Vale of Glamorgan Council.
(i) Planning Application No. **2021/01640/FUL** – Demolition of a dated ground floor extension and replacement with modern contemporary ground floor extension with terrace over at Morawelon, St Hilary – **Approved with two conditions**
- (ii) Planning Application No. **2021/01652/FUL** – External alterations to the front elevation including removal of up and over garage door and window insertion and construction of porch enclosure at Hillside, St Mary Church – **Approved with two conditions.**
- Item 17:** **Place, Date and Time of Next Meeting**
The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 3rd March 2022 at 7pm, virtually over 'Zoom'.

..... Chairman.
Date : 3rd March 2022.