

**LLANFAIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Council Meeting held at**  
**St Hilary Village Hall,**  
**On Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** Vice Chairperson: Councillor Jim Teague  
Councillors : Steph Bonnar, Heather Shaw, Ray Simkiss and Geoff Simpson.

**In Attendance:** Jackie Griffin, Clerk.  
PCSO Stephen Davies.

**Item 1: Apologies for Absence.**  
Councillors Julian Hitchcock, Mary Llewellyn and Liz Loch.  
Vale Councillor R Fisher.

**Item 2: Declarations of Interest.**  
None.

**Item 3: Community Police Matters.**  
The Members welcomed PCSO Davies to the meeting.  
PCSO Davies gave the following report:  
St Hilary - 30<sup>th</sup> September – Lampers/Hare coursing on private farming land. The incident was not reported to 101 or 999. A resulting stray dog was picked up by the Police and a member of the Farming Community did alert local officers. Costly damage is occurring in terms of damage to crops and property.  
PCSO Davies appealed to the Farming Community to report each and every incident in order for collection of data. Some vehicles used in this crime have been retrieved by the Police.  
A message will be put out to the Farming Community to ask all incidents to be reported at earliest opportunity.

St Mary Church – a welfare report received by Police. Action put in place to assist.

Reference made to the recent change in the law default speed reduced from 30mph to 20mph with some exceptions. PCSO Davies advised that 'Go Safe' vans will be back out in areas of the Vale from 16<sup>th</sup> October.

*Members advised PCSO Davies of the draft proposal to merge Llanfair Community Council with Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council. PCSO Davies agreed with Members that as far as police matters are concerned, the types of incidents in the Llanfair area are very different to those of Cowbridge Town Council.*

**Item 4: To consider and approve the minutes of the Meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**  
**Proposed** by Councillor Bonnar, seconded by Councillor Shaw and **resolved** that the Minutes the Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 be approved.  
Councillor Teague signed the Minutes.

**Item 5: Matters arising from the Minutes, which are not included in this Agenda.**  
5.1 Item 10 – Councillor Bonnar advised that tree work at ‘The Rocky’ in St Mary Church has now been completed and was pleased to note that a good, neat job had been carried out by the contractors.

5.2 Item 12 – concern was expressed that the road between Thaw Close and Howe Mill had not been improved. **Resolved** to report the issues with the road surface again to the Highways Department.

**Item 6: Chairperson’s Report.**  
The Members recognised and gave thanks to Councillor Loch for preparing and delivering an excellent presentation on the current Boundary Commission’s Review of Town and Community Councils in the Vale of Glamorgan and for chairing the Extraordinary meeting on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023.

**Item 7: Vale of Glamorgan Councillor’s Report.**  
No Vale Councillor present. Councillor Fisher had e-mailed and given apologies for non-attendance due to illness.  
  
Members were disappointed that they have had no attendance by a Vale Councillor since May’s meeting especially bearing in mind the lack of support with the proposed Boundary Review.

**Item 8: Clerk’s Report**  
8.1 **Finances.**  
Bank balance was noted at **£4,661.63** (Current Account £3,759.01 and Business Reserve Account £902.62).  
  
**Payments made since 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 are:**  
Clerk’s Salary (September) - £178.56;  
HMRC Tax (September) - £44.64;  
St Hilary Village Hall (Hire for September meeting) - £30.00;  
J Griffin (Reimbursement for payment of fees for ‘Zoom’ – April to August – £15.59 x 5) - £77.95.  
  
**Payments due to be made are:**  
Clerk’s Salary (October) - £178.56;  
HMRC Tax (October) - £44.64;  
St Hilary Village Hall (Hire of the hall for this meeting and Tuesday’s meeting) - £60.00.  
  
No monies received.

**Item 9: To discuss the Community Council’s Response to the draft proposal in the Town and Community Council Boundary Review.**  
Councillor Bonnar gave details of the discussion at the Community Liaison meeting which had proceeded at 6pm that evening:

- The discussion had started with Rob Thomas, Chief Executive of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, giving an history of the Town and

Community Councils in the Vale and explaining that they had a duty to review the sector every 10 years.

- There are 20 Community areas within the Vale and the intention is to reduce the number of Councillors from 269 to 209.
- Slots were then open for each representative to speak to the committee.
- Vale Councillor Stephen Haines gave support to the concerns of the Rural communities stating that the proposals will lead to a loss of rural support and the work of the rural town and community councils who are made up of very local people and have low precepts.
- Councillor Bonnar advised that Llanfair Community Council had held an Extraordinary Meeting with attendance of some members of the community and where the 'pros and cons' of merging with Cowbridge Town Council had been discussed. She explained that Llanfair Community Council was exploring the possibility of an alternative merger with other 'similar', neighbouring councils. She stated, that the issues of the Community Council are very different to those of Cowbridge Town Council and gave the example of rural crimes different to those of the Town Council.
- Councillor from Ewenny Community Council advised of the proposed merger with St Brides Community Council and advised that he would investigate the difference in 'demographics' between the wards with the communities being so different.
- Councillor from Llandow Community Council stated categorically that they would not accept a merger with Llanmaes or Llanfair as it is so different with the numerous planning issues it has at Llandow Business Park such as the recycling centre for example. The Council would be submitting a very strong objection to the draft proposal.
- On the other hand, Barry Town Council Councillor was supportive of the mergers due to the lack of elections in many of the Community Councils, but many did not support this comment.
- Llangan Community Council and Colwinston Community Council were not happy stating they are quite separate due to the A48 splitting their communities and their issues with being adjacent to the neighbouring BCBC (Bridgend County Borough Council).
- Llanmaes Community Council concerned at the proposed 'land grab' of a parcel of land bordering Boverton Ward which has two sites 'earmarked' for housing estates with no facilities.
- Wenvoe Community Council unhappy at losing St Lythans which it is proposed to merger with St Nicholas with Bonvilston Community Council.

A meeting is to be arranged with Llandow Community Council and Llanmaes Community Council to discuss any possibility of a merger with either of both of them in the next few days.

**Item 10: To update on incidents of HGV issues in St Hilary Village.**

No reports.

**Item 11: Reports of Representatives.**

Councillor Bonnar reported on other matters which were discussed at the Community Liaison meeting earlier that evening including:

- Inspector Gareth Childs was introduced as the new Inspector covering the Vale section of South Wales Police.  
They have been focussing on ‘suicide prevention’ recently and finding the use of ‘What 3 Words’ very helpful in finding missing, vulnerable people. This work has been supported by other emergency services.
- The First Minister had visited St Brides Major and had stated that the newly introduced default speed of 20mph was in need of some ‘tweaks’.
- Representative from South Wales Fire and Rescue gave recent statistics for the area and reported on the two tragic deaths on the A48. The Fire Service is concentrating on its prevention work with promoting detectors at events.

**Item 12: To consider an alternative date for the postponed meeting with the Housing Strategy Coordinator at Vale of Glamorgan Council.**

Members **resolved** that the meeting should take place at the usual meeting date in January 2024.

**Item 13: To consider a request for ‘drop kerbs’ at Church Crescent, St Hilary.**

A resident had requested that ‘drop kerbs’ be installed at Church Crescent as they have at most pavements already in the Vale. The Members **resolved** to support this request.

Clerk to submit a request to the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

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

- 14.1 Vale of Glamorgan Council (VGC) – Wales Resident Survey.
- 14.2 Boundary Commission for Wales – Questionnaire 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales.
- 14.3 Planning Aid Wales Newsletter September 2023.
- 14.4 Welsh Government (WG) – Welsh Revenue Authority – Newsletter September 2023.
- 14.5 VGC – Consultation: Draft Vale of Glamorgan Annual Self-Assessment 2022-23 Report.
- 14.6 Vale Public Services Board/Town and Community Council Exchange Meeting - 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
- 14.7 Llais Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan – 1<sup>st</sup> Newsletter – September 2023.
- 14.8 ‘Slow Ways’ – Connect your Community to the Slow Ways National Walking Network.
- 14.9 Via One Voice Wales (OVW) – Financial Awareness Training Courses provided by ‘Dangos’.
- 14.10 OVW – E-Newsletter No. 1 – September 2023.
- 14.11 OVW – Training Courses for September and October 2023.
- 14.12 WG – Consultation: Scrutiny of the Welsh Government Draft Budget 2024-25.

Chairperson’s Initials.....

14.13 VGC – Heritage Fund Grant up to £40,000 / Tiny Forests in Wales.

14.14 OVW – ‘Local Places for Nature’ Funding Update.

***All items were forwarded to Councillors prior to the meeting and were noted.***

**Item 15: Planning Applications.**

**15.1 Decisions made by Local Planning Authority.**

(i) Planning Application No. **2023/00542/FUL** – Erection of single storey rear extension, demolition of existing porch and the erection of a new porch addition at Morton, St Mary Church – **Grants permission with 3 conditions.**

(ii) Planning Application No. **2023/00724/FUL** – Variation of Condition 1 and removal of Condition 2 of 382(Z)1453 (3) Cord 175/70 – Dwelling in connection with pig unit adjoining Church Farm, St Mary Church – **Grants permission with 2 conditions.**

**Item 16: Place, Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023, 7.00pm at St Hilary Village Hall.**

..... Chairman.

**Date : 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023.**