

stdonatscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

MINUTES OF THE HYBRID MEETING
Held at The Meeting Room, Atlantic College, St Donats
on 7th May 2025 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Councillors: Byron Cole, Jasper Copeland Roberts, Gareth Halliwell, Tom Partridge and Jayne Thomas.

Councillor Halliwell chaired the meeting after being proposed, seconded and resolved to do so at the Annual Meeting held immediately before this meeting.

In Attendance: Jackie Griffin, Clerk.
PC Jamie Williamson.

Item 1: Apologies for Absence.

Councillors Tony Evans, Mary Jeffreys and Dave Johnston.
Vale Councillors Jo Protheroe and Carys Stallard.

Item 2: To receive declarations of interest and the nature of such interests under the Council's Code of Conduct.

Councillor Copeland Roberts declared an interest in item 10 (planning application No. **2025/00126/FUL** – known to applicant and item 11 (St Donats Church and College – connection with the Church).

Item 3: Police Report.

PC Williamson gave details on recent incidents recorded since the last meeting of the Community Council:

St Donats: 2 reports of assaults.

Marcross: a neighbourly dispute – public order incident

Incidents of an 'out of control dog' – Owner visited and to be monitored.

Operation Elmstree will be running through the Summer months resulting in more police patrols around the coast and coastal villages.

Item 4: To approve the minutes of the Meeting held 2nd April 2025.

Proposed by Councillor Cole, seconded by Councillor Halliwell and **resolved** that the minutes of the Meeting held 2nd April 2025 be approved.

- Item 5: Matters arising from the Minutes, which are not included in the agenda.**
- 5.1 Members discussed the recent work at 'Gluepot' and their dissatisfaction with the resulting 'mess', plus the concern that the fibre cables are still not covered over. E-mail to be sent to Vale Councillors asking if they could take up the matter with the relevant Officers and suggest that the area is 'tidied up' whilst the weather is fine.
- 5.2 Members requested that a report is sent on the state of 'potholes' along Splott Road.
- 5.3 Members discussed the Horseshoes Inn, Marcross and their concern at the derelict building.
- Item 6: Chairperson's Report.**
No report.
- Item 7: Report from the Vale of Glamorgan Councillor/s.**
No report.
- Item 8: Clerk's Report to include the Financial Report.**
- 8.1 **Finance Report.**
Bank Account Balance - £4,019.49.
Payments made since the last meeting:
 Clerk's Salary (April) - £224.24;
 HMRC (Tax for April) - £56.00.
 Lloyds Bank (new monthly fee for Community accounts) - £4.75;

Payments due to be made:
 Clerk's Salary (May) - £224.24;
 HMRC (Tax for May) - £56.00;
 H Embling (Internal Audit for the year 2024/2025) - £100.00;
 Zurich Municipal (Insurance cover for the year 2025/2026) - £241.00;
 Vision ICT (website hosting and support for July 2025 to June 2026) - £161.26.

Proposed by Councillor Halliwell, seconded by Councillor Thomas and **resolved** that all payments due be made.

Receipts:
 First precept payment from the Vale of Glamorgan Council for the year 2025/2026 - £1,728.00.
- 8.2 **Administrative Items.**
 Started work on the Annual Report for year ended 31st March 2025. The Clerk requested that if Members have any items for inclusion please could they be forwarded to the Clerk.
- 8.3 **Audit.**
 The Clerk reported that Mrs Embling had completed the Internal Audit, all was fine. Accounts and Annual Return to be presented at June meeting.
- 8.4 **Insurance.**
 It was reported that the Council's Insurance cover is due for renewal with Zurich Municipal by 12th June, cost £241.00 (same as previous year).

Councillor Copeland Roberts asked for clarification of whether there is insurance cover for liability of advice or decisions on Councillors. The Clerk confirmed that there is insurance cover for Members on various items and advised that she would forward the policy documents to all Members for their information.

- 8.5 The Clerk advised that she had received an invitation for the Chair and Partner to attend St Athan's Civic Sunday on 22nd June. With no Chairperson elected at present, Councillor Thomas agreed to attend with Mr Thomas.

Item 9: To report any update on Channel View, Marcross – Sewer.
No update.

Councillor Copeland Roberts declared interests in both the following items.

Item 10: Planning Matters.

10.1 Planning Application No. **2025/00126/FUL**

Location: The Marlpits, St Donats

Proposal: Demolition of existing garage and boiler room, to be replaced by single storey elderly person annex to an existing house.

No objection.

Item 11: To discuss a concern raised with regard to access to St Donats Church within the grounds of Atlantic College.

A resident had stated an objection to having to sign in at the Security Lodge at Atlantic College to be able to access church grounds situated within the site of the College.

Members agreed that this was a matter for both Atlantic College and the Church to solve and both parties to be contacted to advise of the concern raised.

Since the meeting, the Council has discovered that both parties are aware of the issue and are currently in discussions.

Item 12: To discuss a resident's concern regarding Nash Point being indicated as a 'Dog Walking Area' on the Vale of Glamorgan Council website when the area is not permitted as such.

This concern was reported to a Community Councillor by a landowner close to Nash Point who stated that the Vale of Glamorgan Council's website indicates that the site is designated for dog walking although, apparently, this is not in fact correct. The landowner had complained to the Vale of Glamorgan Council but no amendment or action has been made yet.

The Clerk to report the concern to the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

Item 13: To receive an update from Atlantic College.

Councillor Partridge gave the following report:

Students have only three weeks left on site. Second year students finish on 24th May and first year students the following week. Graduation to take place on the May Bank Holiday weekend.

Summer Fayre taking place on site on 9th June.

Atlantic College to be very busy over the Summer with young people attending residential summer camps and outdoor activities.

Item 14: Section 6 – Biodiversity Plan and Report.

The Clerk reported that the Council has to have a plan and produce a report on biodiversity activity carried out in the area. It was suggested that an approach be made to Councillor Johnston to assist with that.

Item 15: Reports of Representatives.

15.1 Councillor Halliwell gave a report on the recent Community Liaison meeting:

- 33 attendees.
- A Police Report was delivered which included a report on recent drone activity.
- There was a discussion on motor crime.
- Concern was expressed with regard to confusion over both speed limits and traffic lights on some roads.
- The South Wales Fire and Rescue Officer was unable to attend.
- A presentation on bus services was delivered by Karl Phillips and included information on the £1 bus fares for young travellers and E-timetables.
- There was a talk on 'Play Sufficiency'.
- Next meeting 6th July.

15.2 Councillor Halliwell then delivered a report on the recent 'face-to-face' One Voice Wales meeting which was held in Cowbridge Town Hall:

- There were only 9 attendees present.
- The proposed presentation did not take place as the speaker had been given the incorrect date.
- Items discussed included Charters; Devolution of Services and Asset Transfers.
- The Committee is yet to appoint a representative for the Friends of the Glamorgan Heritage Group.
- No report had been received from the representative of the Cardiff and Vale University Stakeholder.
- Items then discussed included: a Senedd Report; the Boundary Commission's Review of Town and Community Councils; Conferences and it was reported that One Voice Wales and the Society of Local Council Clerks are holding their's on 14th May.
- One Voice Wales has a new website.
- The 'Cost of Living Crisis'.
- Next meeting 21st July.
- Draft minutes of this meeting will be circulated to Members when received.

15.3 Councillor Evans had forwarded a report of the Footpath Forum meeting held on 14th April .

"Most of the content of the meeting was discussing footpaths in the Llantwit Major area, but I did report on the coastal footpath at The Atlantic College going to Park Farm, it was agreed that something needed to be done. The Heritage Coast officer and Vale Council Footpath Officer agreed to look into the matter. I informed them that Councillor Partridge had offered the assistance of some students for the manual work and I gave them contact details.

Item 16: To consider a 'litter pick' during the Summer.

It was decided to try to hold a 'litter pick' towards the end of July and Councillor Thomas suggested that those taking part meet at Splott Farm.
A risk assessment will be required.
Clerk to e-mail Councillor Protheroe to try to arrange a convenient date.

Item 17: To update on approach to the Plough and Harrow, Monknash, regarding the siting of a defibrillator.

Councillor Halliwell reported that he had visited the public house to make an approach to obtain agreement for the siting of a defibrillator on the boundary wall but unfortunately the licensee was not in support of the proposal.
It was agreed to leave the item on the agenda for the time being as Councillor Jeffreys may have suggestions of a possible alternative site.

Item 18: Correspondence and Publications which do not necessarily require discussion i.e. for noting only.

- 18.1 VGC (Vale of Glamorgan Council) – Business Support Newsletter 4th and 17th April 2025.
 - 18.2 OVW (One Voice Wales) – Training Dates for July, August and September 2025.
 - 18.3 Valeways – Millennium Heritage Trail.
 - 18.4 OVW – Compassionate Communities in Wales event – Thursday 8th May 2025.
 - 18.5 Boston Seeds – Sale of Wildflower Seeds.
 - 18.6 Via VGC – From the First Minister – VE/VJ Day 80.
 - 18.7 OVW – 'Cost of Living Crisis Project' – Information and Resources.
 - 18.8 Transport for Wales – Notice to check before travel due to repairs to a Cardiff bridge.
 - 18.9 Royal British Legion Industries – 'Fly the Flag for VE Day 80'.
 - 18.10 Via VGC – Wales Together – VE Day 80.
 - 18.11 OVW – Bulletin Issue 1 2025.
 - 18.12 Planning Aid Wales – WG Consultation on various planning items.
 - 18.13 OVW – Ogi Cefnogi Community Fund - Funding Opportunity for Activities.
 - 18.14 VGC – Notification of Diversion of Public Footpaths Nos 5 and 6 St Donats.
- All items noted.***

Item 19: Date of the next Meeting – Wednesday 4th June 2025 at 7.00pm.

..... Chairman.

Date : 4th June 2025.