



stdonatscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

MINUTES OF THE HYBRID MEETING
Held at The Meeting Room, Atlantic College, St Donats
on 1st October 2025 at 7.00pm.

Present: Chairperson: Councillor Jayne Thomas.
Councillors: Jasper Copeland Roberts and Tony Evans.

In Attendance: Jackie Griffin, Clerk.
Vale Councillor Jo Protheroe.

*In the absence of both the Chair and Vice Chair, it was **proposed** by Councillor Evans, seconded by Councillor Copeland Roberts and **resolved** that Councillor Thomas takes the Chair.*

Item 1: Apologies for Absence.

Councillors Byron Cole, Gareth Halliwell, Mary Jeffreys and Dave Johnston.
Vale Councillor Carys Stallard.
PC Jamie Williamson.

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

None declared.

Item 3: Police Report.

No Police presence.

Item 4: To approve the minutes of the Meeting held 3rd September 2025.

Proposed by Councillor Copeland Roberts, seconded by Councillor Evans and **resolved** that the minutes of the Meeting held 3rd September 2025 be approved.
Councillor Thomas signed the minutes.

Item 5: Matters arising from the minutes, which are not included in this agenda.

- 5.1 Item 15.1 – Councillor Thomas advised that the 'Friends of the Glamorgan Heritage Coast' will not be proceeding with a 50th Anniversary Event.
- 5.2 Item 17 – Councillor Thomas asked if there was an update on the 'dog poo' bin at the Playing Field in St Donats. Clerk to query item with Councillor Stallard.
- 5.3 Item 13 – Councillor Evans reported that the hedgerow has now been cut back.

Item 6: Report from the Vale of Glamorgan Councillor/s.

6.1 Councillor Protheroe reported that she and Councillor Stallard had attended a positive meeting with the Vale of Glamorgan MP, Jane Hutt MS and others to discuss the mobile connectivity project currently taking place in the Community Council's area. Data is being collected from the measuring of connectivity for mobile phones. All agreed it is important to have better connectivity in the rural Vale and the MP will lobby big companies for any assistance they can offer. Various way to improve connectivity are to be considered.

6.2 Councillor Protheroe advised that a number of grants have been obtained to assist with the ongoing Food Bank facility. Councillor Protheroe reminded Members to advise of any residents who need support from the Food Bank.

Item 7: Clerk's Report to include the Financial Report.

7.1 Finance Report.

Bank Account Balance - £3,748.09

Payments made since the last meeting:

Clerk's Salary (September) - £224.24;

HMRC (Tax for September) - £56.00.

Lloyds Bank (monthly fee service charge for Community account) - £4.25;

J Griffin (Reimbursement for purchase of Electrode Pads for defibrillator) - £72.19.

Payments due to be made:

Clerk's Salary (October) - £224.24;

HMRC (Tax for October) - £56.00.

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

Receipts: None.

7.2 Administrative Items.

(i) Application for financial assistance from Valeways Walking Festival 2026.

Members discussed the request from Valeways asking for financial assistance with their costs which include insurance, first aid training, walk leader training, maps and walk leaflets. Valeways also organise an annual walking festival.

Members agreed that the item should be adjourned until the November meeting as so many of the Councillors are missing from this meeting. Members also requested sight of the latest accounts for their consideration prior to making an award.

(ii) Membership of the Society of Local Council Clerks.

The annual membership is due for renewal. The payment is shared with Llanfair Community Council who the Clerk also works for. The premium due is £110 and is split between the two councils i.e. £55 for each Council.

Proposed by Councillor Thomas, seconded by Councillor Evans and **resolved** the Membership should be renewed for a further 12 months.

(iii) Councillor Allowances Paid for 2024/2025.

The Clerk confirmed that the form detailing the allowances and which must be completed by the 30th September, has been forwarded to the Democracy Boundary Commission Cymru.

(iv) **Councillor Partridge's Resignation.**

The Clerk confirmed that the Electoral Registration Department at the Vale of Glamorgan Council has been advised of Councillor Partridge's resignation. Notices are now awaited for the procedure to fill the vacancy to begin.

Item 8: To report on Completion of Audit for 2024/2025.

The Clerk had e-mailed out, to Members, the completed Annual Return which had been received from Audit Wales. The result of the audit is 'unqualified' (a pass). There was a comment on the Annual Return:

"Budget setting

The Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires the Council to set its precept as its calculated budget requirement. This means that the precept should be stated as a gross sum of money to be received by the Council.

The Council's minutes only record a Band D equivalent. Consequently, because this does not take into account changes to the council tax base (number of band D properties in the area), the actual amount of money received by the Council varies from that it expects to receive.

In order to ensure transparency, the Council should state the total amount of the precept that is to be raised".

Item 9: To report any update on Channel View, Marcross – Sewer.

No update at this time.

Item 10: Planning Matters.

10.1 Planning Application No. **2025/00916/FUL**

Location: United World College of the Atlantic, St Donats

Proposal: Proposed reception extension.

No objection.

10.2 To report any results of planning applications submitted.

(i) Planning Application No. **2024/00531/FUL** – Variation of Condition 1 of Planning Permission 2019/00546/FUL: Conversion of existing barns to 4 no. holiday let units and associated works at Barns at Siop Newydd, Heol Las, Monknash – **Grants permission with 17 conditions.**

(ii) Planning Application No. **2025/00562/OUT** – Conversion of derelict barn and farmhouse to create a dwelling and office as part of a live work arrangement at Derelict buildings at Siop Newydd, Heol Las, Monknash – **Grants outline permission with 21 conditions.**

(iii) Planning Application No. **2025/00584/LBC** – Refurbishment of the Upper Gibbet Tower room at St Donats Castle – **Consents with 8 conditions.**
Noted.

Item 11: To receive feedback on areas of 'Japanese Knotweed' for reporting to Vale Council.

It was reported that Japanese Knotweed is present at Tresilian Wood in St Donats. The Clerk will report to the Vale Council.

Item 12: To receive an update from Atlantic College.

No update received.

Item 13: Reports of Representatives.

Councillor Evans advised that Footpaths Committee meeting is scheduled for next week.

Item 14: To further discuss the siting of a defibrillator in Monkash.

Councillors Halliwell and Jeffreys are pursuing a location for a defibrillator. The Clerk to make enquiries with Calon Hearts as to any assistance available to the Community Council in obtaining a defibrillator.

Item 15: To further discuss concerns regarding the Horseshoes, Marcross.

Members were pleased to note that there is progress with the re-opening of the Horseshoes. Legal procedures with regard to the sale of the property are underway and building work has restarted. Members are delighted at the update with the inn being so central to Marcross.

Item 16: To discuss the bus service.

Councillor Evans asked for this item to be placed on the agenda. Members discussed the issues which include the buses sometimes not following the designated route through Marcross but instead travelling along Splott Road completely bypassing Marcross and Monkash. Furthermore, some drivers are refusing to reverse in narrow parts of the road and recently there was a 'stand-off' between one of the drivers and a driver of a school bus resulting in children being late for the start of the school day. It was also reported that information on the website needs to be updated. All these issues result in a totally unreliable bus service for the community. Councillor Protheroe was aware of some of the issues with the bus service and proposes a public meeting where the complaints can be fully discussed with all relevant parties.

Item 17: Correspondence and Publications which do not necessarily require discussion i.e. for noting only.

- 17.1 VGC (Vale of Glamorgan Council) – Business Support Newsletter 12th and 26th September 2025.
- 17.2 OVW (One Voice Wales) – E Bulletins 8 and 9.
- 17.3 Planning Aid Wales – Course information.
- 17.4 OVW – Orchard Applications and Keep Wales Tidy Packages.
- 17.5 VGC – 'Let's talk about life in the Vale 2025' – Survey Exercise.
- 17.6 OVW – 'Keep Wales Tidy' notice of webinars x 2.
- 17.7 Adrian Berendt – 'Wales 20mph 2nd Anniversary'.
- 17.8 OVW – Training Courses September to December 2025.
- 17.9 VGC – Full Council Agenda and Reports for 29th September 2025.
- 17.10 Democracy and Boundary Commission – Submission of the Draft Annual Remuneration Report 2026/27.

17.11 Clerks and Councils Direct September 2025.
All items noted.

Item 18: Date of the next Meeting – Wednesday 5th November 2025 at 7.00pm.

..... Chairperson.
Date : 5th November 2025.

DRAFT