



COMMUNITY COUNCIL LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON 21ST JULY 2021 AT 6.00PM

PRESENT:

Councillor D. Havard – Chair
Community Councillor J. Rao – Vice Chair

Councillors:

M. Adams, A. Angel, C. Andrews, A. Farina-Childs, A. Gair, V. James, C. Mann, R. Whiting, A. Whitcombe and B. Zaplatynski

Town and Community Councils:

T. White (Clerk), B. Campbell (Clerk), H. Williams (Clerk) R. Scantlebury (Clerk) L. John (Clerk) and Community Councillors: H. Llewellyn, G. Davies, T. Davies, J.A. Pritchard, P. Roberts, C. Erasmus, G. Pratt, and T. Davies.

Also Present:

Councillor P. Marsden (Leader of Caerphilly County Borough Council)

Together with:-

K. Peters (Policy Manager), V. Doyle (Policy Officer) and E. Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer)

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Community Councillors P. Rosser, and Councillors M.P. James, L. Jeremiah, P. Leonard, T. Parry, M.E. Sargent and C. Thomas.

2. **TO APPOINT A CHAIR OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL LIAISON SUB COMMITTEE**

It was moved and seconded that Councillor D. Havard be appointed as Chair of the Community Council Liaison Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

RESOLVED that Councillor Derek Havard be appointed as Chair.

3. **TO APPOINT A VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL LIAISON SUB COMMITTEE**

It was moved and seconded that Community Councillor J. Rao be appointed as Vice Chair of the Community Council Liaison Sub-Committee for the ensuing year.

RESOLVED that Community Councillor J. Rao be appointed as Vice Chair.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the start or during the meeting.

STATEMENT FROM THE LEADER OF COUNCIL

Members of the Community Council Liaison Committee had requested an update in relation to Part Night Lighting as part of their Briefing Note with the agreement of the Chair and Vice Chair the response from the Leader was taken at this point in the proceedings.

Councillor P. Marsden advised the Sub-Committee that part-night lighting would form part of an overall review of street safety which would incorporate a range of factors. Concerns raised will inform that review once the full roll out of the lighting programme had been completed, however there will be a continual audit on issues raised during this period. On completion there will be a comprehensive review of street safety which will include street lighting. The Leader emphasised that public safety was of paramount importance and the Council would be listening to concerns and would be working with colleagues in Gwent Police as and when issues arise.

Members thanked the Leader for attending and clarification was sought on the timeline for the review. The Leader confirmed that the part night lighting would need to go through the season in order to see it in the round. However, should an issue arise in a specific area and in conjunction with Gwent Police colleagues, there was the facility to review the lighting in that area.

Members expressed their disappointment that this review would not be taking place sooner but thanked the Leader for attending and for her statement.

The Leader advised the Sub-Committee that she would be more than happy to attend any future meetings on topics raised by the Community Council

5. MINUTES – 31ST MARCH 2021

The minutes were received and noted.

6. MATTERS ARISING

Community Councillor Davies confirmed that enquiries had been made with the Health Board in relation to The Grange Hospital leaflet drop, it had been confirmed that the Nelson area had been omitted but this had now been rectified. She expressed her thanks to all those that had assisted in getting this done.

7. FORMATION OF A GWENT PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD – PRESENTATION

The presentation updated the Community Council Liaison Sub Committee on the formation of a Gwent Public Services Board. The composition of the Public Services Board was outlined including its Statutory Members and Invited Participants.

The strategic drivers towards a regional approach were detailed and it was noted that it would provide the catalyst for a regional wellbeing assessment and wellbeing plan that maintains local accountability. It would provide opportunities to align PSB duties with other partnership legislation like the Crime and Disorder Act, Violence Against Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Act and Children's Act. It would align the focus of the PSB with the RPB reducing duplication, closer collaboration over assessment planning and delivery functions. The regional approach also supports Welsh Government review of strategic partnership and Audit Wales review of PSBs.

Examples of regional projects already achieved were outlined along with examples of local projects that would continue including the Coalition for Change (Lansbury Park), Caerphilly Cares, Tir-y-berth Active Travel Route and Anti-Social Behaviour Problem Solving.

The new structure was outlined, and the key tasks of the Gwent PSB were listed. The future role of overview and scrutiny was detailed. It was noted that the Caerphilly PSB website will remain until 2023, the Gwent Public Services Board website was currently in development and this would host all the papers for the Gwent PSB, the New Local Assessment of Wellbeing and the Gwent Wellbeing Plan from 2023.

In concluding the presentation the Officer explained how communities would be involved and assurances were given that there was a duty to involve local communities, business, trade unions and local/regional scrutiny committee and anyone with an interest in achieving the wellbeing goals.

In relation to the Local Assessment of Wellbeing, the Sub-Committee were updated on a number of Community Engagement Events that would be held and Members were asked to share these dates as widely as possible and encourage as many people as possible to take part. Officers emphasised that they were keen to get as many views as possible, unfortunately it would not be possible to have any face-to-face engagement events, but surveys would be available online and hard copies could also be provided on request.

Members requested that a copy of the presentation be circulated to all the Community Councils following the meeting.

Members expressed their disappointment with the decision to operate the Public Services Board on a regional footprint and that this would prohibit local accountability and transparency. Officers confirmed that it was not in the gift of Caerphilly County Borough Council to prevent the move to a Gwent Public Services Board, the Council being only one of the statutory partners.

Members were also disappointed that the engagement events had been scheduled during August when Community Councils were in recess and would also conflict with holiday commitments which would limit attendees. Officer confirmed that the consultation timeline was confined by legislation, but they would do their best to reach as many people as possible.

8. FINAL UPDATE FROM THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CAERPHILLY PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD

Community Councillor Judith Pritchard provided her final update as the Community Council representative to the Caerphilly Public Services Board.

Community Councillor Pritchard confirmed that the letter of objection to the move to a regional footprint had been presented to the Caerphilly Public Services Board meeting in March. There had also been a motion moved during the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee in relation to the dissolution of the Caerphilly Public Services Board, but this had not been seconded and so the motion had fallen. She expressed her disappointment in the decision to move Gwent wide particularly as there was only the bare bones of how it would work being presented, but as the decision had already been made, there was little to be done now.

Reference was then made to the Participation Budget which would shortly be available to draw down from and C. Councillor Pritchard encouraged all present to get projects ready to come forward and confirmed that a commitment had been made to provide workshops to those interested, as to how they could progress bids. She referred Members to the Caerphilly Public Services Board website which contained a large amount of very useful information including the minutes and reports presented at each meeting. C. Councillor Pritchard asked the Liaison Officer to make enquiries on the fund and provide feedback if possible.

An update was then provided on the GAVO reorganisation which was she felt was very good to know and which she hoped would be good news for more local staff.

Looking back over her time as Board Representative, C. Councillor Pritchard thanked Members for their confidence in her to represent them and confirmed that she had learned a lot, listened to a lot of very interesting projects and proposals and tried to keep the views of Community Councils at the forefront of the discussions and give their perspective on the issues of discussion. She tried to bring her influence where she could and had not been shy when giving her views. She referenced the many positives achieved including the response to COVID, food security and tackling poverty.

Members thanked C. Councillor Pritchard for all her efforts and hard work over the years and for the way in which she had taken forward their objections to the move to a regional board. Members also placed on record thanks to Mr Bob Campbell for all his efforts in securing their place on the Caerphilly Public Services Board.

C. Councillor Pritchard then place on record her thanks to C. Councillor Gill Davies who had been her substitute member, for her support and counsel.

9. MULTI LOCATION MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS

It was moved and seconded that due to the lateness of the day this item be differed as an agenda item and the matter instead be the subject of a Clerk's Workshop and by a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

10. BRIEFING NOTE ON ISSUES RAISED BY TOWN AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS

The content of the briefing note was considered and accepted.

Meeting closed 7.30pm