

## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE**

**Minutes** of the meeting of the Community Liaison Committee held at the County Borough Council Offices, The Pavilions, Clydach Vale on Tuesday , 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 at 10:30a.m

#### **PRESENT**

County Borough Councillor M. Webber – in the Chair

County Borough Councillor D.R.Bevan – Cabinet Member for Planning & Economic Development

#### **Town/Community Council Representatives**

Councillor S. Powell (Chair Mrs.A.Jenkins (Clerk)	Llantrisant Community Council
Councillor M. Diamond (Chair)	Llantwit Fardre Community Council
Councillor C. Parker Mr.P.Davies (Clerk)	Llanharan Community Council
Councillor M Griffiths Councillor P. Griffiths	Pontyclun Community Council
Councillor A. Davies –Jones (Chair) Ms P. Williams (Clerk)	Tonyrefail Community Council
Councillor J. Hutchison	Taffs Well & Nantgarw Community Council

#### **Officers in Attendance**

Mr. C. Hanagan – Director of Communications & Interim Head of Democratic Services

Ms. Z. Lancelott – Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience

Ms. C. Hutcheon – Youth Engagement and Participation Service Manager

## **1. WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed members of the Community and Town Councils to the meeting of Community Liaison Committee and requested that introductions be made for the benefit of all present.

## **2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Members had no interests to declare in matters pertaining to the agenda.

## **3. YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION**

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience and the Youth Engagement and Participation Service Manager presented the Report to the Community Liaison Committee. Members were informed of the revised changes taken forward with the Youth Service and the need to review and strengthen the new ways of working with Community / Town Councils.

It was also explained that on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018, Cabinet received a report outlining the revised priorities of the Service in line with the transfer from Education and Lifelong Learning to Public Health and Protection and Community Services, and as a result of a discussion where it was highlighted the need for further work to undertaken with Community / Town Council's and the Youth Engagement Services.

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience presented an overview of the Service with aid of a PowerPoint presentation. The Youth Engagement and Participation Service Manager explained to the Committee the work that is currently being carried out within the Community and explained future plans.

The Chair thanked Officer for their in depth report and opened up the meeting for any questions.

A Member commented that it was an impressive and encouraging report and asked what more could be done to improve the service and how could Community/ Town Councils support and compliment what the service is providing. Officers explained that Members could attend the Youth Forums as the service works with the young people to consider what they want not what we can provide. The Member went on to ask if the Service would deliver a presentation to the Community/Town Council to give a background on the service.

A Member stated that Community/ Town Council are at the heart of the community and more involvement with the YEPS would be a positive step for the future. The Youth Engagement and Participation Service Manager welcomed involvement with the Community/ Town Council.

After further discussions Members of the Community Liaison Committee  
**RESOLVED:**

- To acknowledge the report that went before Cabinet on the 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2018

- To acknowledge the content of the presentation provided to Members by the Head of Community Wellbeing and Resilience and the Youth Engagement and Participation Service Manager.
- That the Youth Engagement and Participation Service Manager present to Community/ Town Council an overview of the service.
- That the Youth Engagement and Participation Service together with Community /Town Council look to strength the communication and youth engagement in local communities.

#### **4. A SHARED COMMUNITY – MODEL CHARTER REVISIONS**

The Director of Communications and Interim Head of Democratic Services presented the report in respect of Shared Community – Model Charter Revised Versions.

Member were informed that the Shared Community – Model Charter had been circulated to all Community and Town Councils earlier in the year as a platform for discussion. The Director of Communications and Interim Head of Democratic Services explained that it is proposed that further amendments are made to the Charter to further strengthen the document, illustrating the work already taken forward in line with the Future Generations goals and five ways of working and to reflect the working relationship between each of its members.

Members we asked that if the Committee were in agreement the Chair and the Director of Communications and Interim Head of Democratic Services would meet with Town and Community Council Representatives to discuss the Charter in further detail.

Members put forward their view in respect of the way forward with the revised Charter. A Member stated that engagement is a priority and Town and Community Councils need consulting at an early stage. The Chair explained that there have been changes within Rhondda Cynon Taf and Town and Community Councils need to be a part of the discussion.

In respect of the findings of Independent Review Panel a Member asked will this fundamentally affect the Charter. The Chair explained that she is mindful of the review and the Charter is an important document and it is a way to strengthen links and arrangements between the Council and the Town / Community Councils.

After further discussion Members **RESOLVED** to:

- Acknowledge the initial revisions to the Model Charter
- Agree that further revisions be made to the Charter to reflect the principles and Goals of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act and to further strengthen the working relationship between all members
- Agree for Officers to progress further engagement and discussion with Community Council Colleagues in respect of the content and scope of the revised charter and to agree the suggested way forward as outlined within paragraphs 5.3 and 5.4 of the report.

- To provide an update on the revised Charter at the Next Meeting of the Community Liaison Committee
- To circulate revised version of the Charter with Town and Community Councils for approval before coming back to the Community Liaison Committee.

## **5. LOCAL RESOLUTION PROCEDURE FOR COMMUNITY AND TOWN COUNCILS**

The Director of Communications and Interim Head of Democratic Services presented the report to Member of the Community Liaison Committee.

It was explained that at the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Standards Committee on the 18<sup>th</sup> September, Members considered the report (attached as appendix A), in respect of One Voice Wales Local Resolution Procedure for Community and Town Councils.

The Director of Communications and Interim Head of Democratic Services explained that following the discussion Members resolved to endorse , in principle, the Procedure subject to the comments and feedback from this meeting. It was also explained that Members of the Standards Committee acknowledged that some Community and Town Councils will not be members of One Voice Wales. In this regard they considered it advisable that those Councils should seek to adopt a similar set of local resolutions procedures, if they had not done so already.

After in depth discussion Members **RESLOVED** to:

- Note the Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's Standards Committee endorsement, in principle, of the One Voice Wales Local Resolution Procedure.
- Members of the Community Liaison Committee consult with their relevant Committee and will inform the Democratic Service Officer if any help or advice is needed when considering items.

## **6. REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS BY THE LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES**

The Community Liaison Committee were presented with the report in respect of the Review of Electoral Arrangements by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

The Director of Communications and Interim Head of Democratic Services explained that the purpose of the report was to provide Members with details of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Working Group's discussions and recommendation to Council that the Officer proposal in respect of the review of the Council's electoral arrangements being conducted by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (the Boundary Commission) be subject to a period of stakeholder engagement prior to further consideration by Council at its meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

Members were taken through the report in great detail and put their questions forward to the Officer.

Members were informed of the three community engagement events which were being held at :

- 1) Hawthorn Leisure Centre -5pm – 7 pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> October
- 2) Ferndale Library – 10am – 12pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> October
- 3) Sobell Leisure Centre Aberdare – 2pm – 4pm on the 11<sup>th</sup> October

Members were also informed that any individual responses submitted to the Boundary Commission as part of its initial consultation should be submitted by the closure date of the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2018.

A Member made a statement that when looking at the boundaries on the maps provided it is very hard to judge the boundary wall as it cuts across stream, fields etc. It was felt that taking the boundary to a street, road would be more helpful.

A Member commented that the proposed points are radical and explained that this will be considered at the meeting of the Community Council in October and will get back to Officers with any comments.

The Community Liaison Committee felt there needed to be a stronger working relation between Community and Town Councils and the Local Authority for future discussion. The Chair and the Director of Communications and Interim Head of Democratic Service agreed to meet with Members of the Community and Town Council on a one to one basis as a step forward

Members put their views forward in respect of Multi Member wards, Members felt this could be scrutinised by Community and Town Councils and come back with views.

After further discussion Member **RESOLVED** to:

- Note the Officer proposal relating to the review of the Council's electoral arrangements by the Boundary Commission as outlined in Appendix A of the Report
- Acknowledge the comments and input of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Working Group made at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting attached at Appendix B of the Report
- Acknowledge in accordance with the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Working Group agrees that the Officer proposal outlined in Appendix A be subject to a period of stakeholder engagement as detailed in section 5 of the report.
  
- Agree that feedback from stakeholder engagement be presented to the October Council meeting for consideration, prior to submission of any final Council proposal to the Boundary Commission.
  
- Agreed that the Chair and the Director of Communications and Interim Director of Democratic Service would meet with the chairs of the individual Community and Town Council on a one to one basis at a future date.

## **7. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION – TRAINING.**

Members of the Community Liaison Committee were given a verbal update in respect of the GDPR and the training provided.

The Chair of the Community Liaison Committee gave a brief overview of the process and training that is offered, this offer was extended to the Community and Town Councils if required.

The Chair thanked Members of the Committee for attending and closed the meeting at 11.25 am .