

**WELSH ST DONATS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANDDWUDD**  
[www.welshstdonats.co.uk](http://www.welshstdonats.co.uk)  
**April 2019**

**POLICE:** Inspector Andrew Rice was present at our meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>. He informed those present that approximately one third of the work done by the Police involves recorded crimes, these are defined as offences punishable by law (imprisonment). The remainder he referred to as occurrences or demands and these include such things as speeding, mental health related issues and local incidents. He reported that crime is on the rise at about 10% per year.

In response to the Community Council's comments that even though burned out vehicles, usually found in the Forest, were not recorded as crimes in our area (the crime having taken place elsewhere and recorded there), they, or their parts, had an impact on people living locally and this was not recognised. Inspector Rice said he could understand the concern but burned out vehicles were classed as occurrences and were recorded as such. Regarding fly tipping, he had noted that it was a problem in our area and stated that fly tipping was not classed as a crime, but was illegal and was something that would involved the local authority and not the police.

He understood sheep worrying was also a serious concern for farmers and the Police would take action when any was reported.

Inspector Rice confirmed that the abandoned vehicle at the bus stop in Welsh St Donats had been investigated by the Police and had now been referred to the Vale Council for further action.

Finally he praised the team of Police Officers based in Llantwit Major who covered the Welsh St Donats area as a good neighbourhood team.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

A resident asked if potholes between the fork to the Hall and the A48 could be repaired. The Clerk has reported these to the Vale Council.

A landowner from Heol y March expressed the view, forcefully and at length, that he considered both he and his family had been unfairly treated and harassed by the Community Council over the last few years and as a result he alleged that they had lost their home of 60 years and also their business, thus making people redundant and depriving the locality of employment. He felt this harassment was continuing. When his family farm was sold they retained a portion of the land. He believes the public right of way across his land is being used to take photos of his property. He had been advised to install cctv so he could monitor these activities and was considering pursuing this and his accusations against the Community Council further.

The Chair closed the Public Forum by noting these comments and expressing the view that in his opinion the Community Council had responded correctly to complaints raised by residents concerning the landowner's business activities and that the Community Councillors had at all times acted in a fair and proper way. This was confirmed by the result of an investigation into a complaint made to the Ombudsman by the landowner.

In the main meeting under Matters Arising, after a short discussion about the comments made in the Public Forum, it was agreed that Community Councillors fully supported the comments made by the Chair.

**FINANCE:** Payments were made to each Councillor, who wished to claim, to cover costs (£150 each), rental of the Hall for meetings (£250), membership of One Voice Wales (£64), Wales Audit for external audit of accounts 17/18 (£182.75), Bryan Hicks for a replacement bench in Prisk (£440), Graham Duffield for website domain fees (£13.18), Victoria Pearce, Clerk's salary (£2102.25) and expenses (£295.21) and a proforma was approved to pay the internal auditor after completion of the audit.

**HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS:** Litter in Watery Lane was reported to the Vale Council and it was noted that several residents in Heol y March had been notified of the Vale Council's intention to seek to rationalise the network of footpaths in the area. It is understood that the Community Council would be informed about, and consulted regarding, proposed changes in due course.

**REPORT FROM MICHAEL MORGAN:** regarding the M4 Link, Michael Morgan had nothing further to report, however the Council Tax charges for the next year would be published shortly and the future of Llancarfan School is yet to be decided. Regarding the closure of the Pendoylan/Sycamore Cross road which begins on 1<sup>st</sup> April for six weeks, Michael Morgan has requested that the Vale Council cuts back hedgerows and improves road surfaces to lanes to be used in diversions.

**CONSULTATIONS:** The Welsh Government's survey for allotment provision in Wales and the Vale Council's Draft Charter between the Council and Town and Community Councils were discussed and the Independent Remuneration Panel Report for 19/20 was discussed and changes to determinations 40 and 45 were approved.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** Applications 2019/00206/FUL Ton y Pwll, Maendy and 2019/00226/FUL Vale View were discussed. It was noted that both 18/01407/FUL Plas Hen, Bonvilston and 18/01333/FUL Ty Cerrig, Bonvilston had been approved by the Vale Council.

Our next meetings are on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>. Agenda will be displayed on the notice boards and website at least three clear days before the meeting. Residents are welcome and have the opportunity to speak to Councillors regarding any items on the agenda at the start of the meeting. If you have something you would like to raise with the Council, please email or write to the Clerk at least seven days before the meeting so it can be included in the agenda. The website has further information about the Community Council. Please be a frequent visitor.

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