



**MINUTES OF THE ST ATHAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
PARTIAL REMOTE GENERAL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 6th JULY 2021
IN THE PAUL LEWIS COMMUNITY CENTRE**

PRESENT	Councillor R Eustace Councillor A Barnaby Councillor J Angove Councillor D Crompton Councillor S Haines Councillor J Lougher Councillor J Lynch-Wilson Councillor D White Councillor S Williams Councillor D Willmot County Councillor J Thomas	Chairman Vice-Chairman Attended via MS Teams Attended via MS Teams
APOLOGIES	Councillor B Acott	Unable to establish contact via MS Teams

MINUTE	ITEM	ACTION
2041	<u>WELCOME</u>	
2042	<u>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</u> None.	
2043	<u>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</u> PROPOSED By: Cllr J Lynch-Wilson SECONDED By: Cllr D Crompton That the minutes of the General Meeting held on 1 st June 2021 be accepted as a true record of proceedings.	CARRIED
2044	<u>MATTERS ARISING</u> The following matters remain on going. a. Allotment. b. Website Accessibility. c. Boys Village. d. Waste Bin. e. Telephone Box Flemington. f. Vehicles Using Rectory Road. g. Disaster Plan – On going. h. War Memorial. i. St Athan Pollinator Project. j. Open Reach Building. k. Newsletter.	ON GOING

MINUTE	ITEM	ACTION
	1. Lamp Post Poppies.	
2045	<p><u>STANDING ORDERS</u></p> <p>PROPOSED By: Cllr S Haines SECONDED By: Cllr D Crompton</p> <p>That Standing Orders be suspended to permit Emma Reed, from the Vale Council, Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport to give a presentation (via MS Teams) regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic Speed and 20mph limit in St Athan village and Surrounds. • Swan Neck Turn Monument Junction • Pedestrian Refuge Crossing Monument Junction • Roundabout Request • Active Travel Update – St Athan proposal <p>A copy of the presentation notes is at Annex A.</p> <p>Following the presentation, a discussion took place highlighting the Councils concerns and suggestions for improvement:</p> <p>Road Junction Gileston Road/B4265</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr S Haines commented that the junction has been made ‘less safe’ with the recent works, especially with the increased traffic movements and suggested a diagram of the road layout at the monument be installed to assist drivers navigate the junction. • Cllr A Barnaby raised the concern that has been previously raised by this Council that the safe refuge island does not provide adequate protection for pedestrians crossing the B4265. In addition why was it deemed necessary to add the no entry signs to the junction. • Cllr S Williams explained, the new additional lane is causing confusion and it felt unsafe too be stopped in the box in the middle of the road, particularly so when crossing from Gileston. • Cllr J Lougher suggested a Pelican type crossing is installed and that consideration should be given to utilising the ‘safe routes to schools fund’ to pay for this improvement. • Cllr J Angove asked what more resources were available to make it safe. In addition how the Council record near misses and what other measures can be put in place to make the monument junction safe. 	CARRIED

MINUTE	ITEM	ACTION
2045 Cont...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr D Crompton commented that the junction had become more confusing and an issue for those crossing from Gileston. • Cllr D. White mentioned that she had received lots of complaints from residents following the recent works too this junction, with instances of people turning into the village facing oncoming traffic as had used the wrong lane due to the dog leg nature of the layout. In addition, those joining the B4265 from St Athan have much more restricted visibility with another vehicle turning right and/or some signage poles obscuring traffic coming from Llantwit Major. • Cty Cllr J Thomas suggested more permanent 'No Entry' signs should be installed to replace the current makeshift signs. • Cllr R Eustace commented that we have a lot of potential future development with a 50% increase in housing in the LDP. In addition, the new homes built on the Gileston side of the junction did create more people movements across it, to access the Village. <p>Emma Reed acknowledged the points raised and confirmed the monument junction has been the subject of a road safety audit. She commented that the works were part of the new development, but no more funding available, new junctions do take time to settle in. In addition that the 'safe refuge' was standard design for a B road, but acknowledged it was a busy junction for a B road, There is no available funding to address the points raised, however, should any funding become available it could be used to improve the safety of the junction.</p> <p>Traffic Speed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr A Barnaby referred to detailed work carried out by this Council regarding the traffic concerns of residents back in 2017 and the report it presented to Highways at the time. We had then raised the point that we perhaps do not have a speeding issue as such but that 30mph is too fast, especially for the section in the village hub where there is people crossing for the shops, school, doctors etc., She also questioned the criteria used to justify the introduction of 20mph speed limit at St Brides. <p>Emma Reed explained the necessary data was available to support the speed reduction at St Brides.</p>	CARRIED

MINUTE	ITEM	ACTION
2045 Cont...	<p>Active Travel update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr A Barnaby asked if there is any update with improvements to Eglwys Brewis Road. <p>Emma Reed said she was familiar with the hazard appertaining to this road, especially as people are being encouraged to walk and cycle more.</p> <p>The Chairman invited members of the public attending the meeting to speak.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs M Levett asked if a full environment impact assessment has been made, relating to the dismantling of the Aberthaw Power Station. Cty Cllr J Thomas agreed to investigate this issue and report back. • Mrs M Levett acknowledge and supported the concerns raised by councillors over the monument road junction layout and speeding in the village. <p>PROPOSED by: Cllr S Haines SECONDED by: Cllr D Crompton</p> <p>That following the above presentation, Standing Orders be reinstated.</p>	
2046	<p><u>TRAFFIC JUNCTION GILESTON ROAD/B4265 & SPEEDING</u></p> <p>The Council agreed improvements are necessary and that representation is to be made to the Vale Council via Cty Cllr J Thomas and St Athan Community Council.</p> <p>The Council clerk is to maintain a register of vehicle/pedestrian 'near misses'.</p>	
2047	<p><u>FINANCIAL STATEMENT</u></p> <p>The Chairman presented a Financial Statement of Accounts as at the 30th June 2021. Summary of accounts is at Annex B</p> <p>PROPOSED by: Cllr S Haines SECONDED by: Cllr D Crompton</p> <p>That the presented statement be accepted as a true record of council financial accounts.</p>	CARRIED

MINUTE	ITEM	ACTION
2048	<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE</u></p> <p>a. Thank you letter from WMT in respect of Council donation of £150.</p> <p>b. Complaint regarding use of the Old Post Office, St Athan. This matter is being dealt with by the Vale Planning Department.</p> <p>c. Complained about HGV travelling along Eglwys Brewis road.</p> <p>d. Petition started regarding improvements to Junction Gileston Road/B4265.</p> <p>e. Update in respect of Hinkley Point public enquiry. This council sent 'No observations' response to the Environment Agency - Wessex Area.</p> <p>f. Letter from Jan Hutt, confirming a meeting is to be held at the monument on Friday 9th July at 2pm regarding 20mph speed limit and junction layout. Both the Chairman and Council Clerk will be attending.</p>	
2049	<p><u>CHAIRMAN'S ACTIONS</u></p> <p>a. Responded to a letter from local resident regarding road traffic junction Gileston Road/B4265.</p>	
2050	<p>Invoices</p> <p>Income</p> <p>Hall hire (Ladies What Dance) £72.00</p> <p>Expenditure</p> <p>RBL (Lamppost Poppies) £300.00</p> <p>Filco (Stationery) £1.59</p> <p>E.ON (Building heating) £44.29</p> <p>St Athan School £50.00</p> <p>St Athan Church £400.00</p> <p>Post Office (Audit - recorded delivery) £2.93</p> <p>BT (Telephone & Broadband) £74.04</p> <p>Clerk Salary £648.24</p> <p>Caretaker Salary £356.80</p> <p>Council Tax £211.00</p> <p>HMRC (Income Tax & NI) £210.46</p> <p>Edenvale (Grass Cut) £150.00</p>	

MINUTE	ITEM	ACTION
2050 Cont...	PROPOSED by: Cllr D Crompton SECONDED by: Cllr S Haines	CARRIED
2051	<p data-bbox="368 327 788 360"><u>PLANNING APPLICATIONS</u></p> <p data-bbox="368 394 1197 539">The undermentioned planning applications have been sent to all Councillors for comment with subsequent responses sent to the Vale Planning Department in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="419 573 1182 719">a. Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended) Planning Application No. 2021/00721/FUL (IR) Location: Greystones, Higher End, St. Athan Proposal : Rear and side extension to existing dwelling <li data-bbox="419 752 1155 931">b. Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended) Planning Application No. 2021/00723/FUL (IR) Location: Seaview Cottage, St. Athan Proposal : Insertion of Velux windows in roof of existing garage/outbuilding <li data-bbox="419 965 1182 1223">c. Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended) Planning Application No. 2021/00724/FUL (CR) Location: Harvella, Gileston Proposal : Proposed remodel of the dwelling including a first-floor side extension above the existing double garage, ground floor rear extension, first floor terrace to front and side and Juliette balcony to front elevation <li data-bbox="419 1256 1187 1659">d. Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended) Planning Application No. 2021/00781/FUL (ANH) Location: Land adjacent to shelter, 21m From 3 Picketston Close 5m From Unnamed Road, Eglwys Brewis Road, Eglwys Brewis Proposal: Plot 1 Construction of detached two and half storey five bedroom house and detached double garage, forming of new vehicle and pedestrian access, construction of 2.0m wide footway to frontage of site. Associated works including driveway, landscaping, boundary walls and fencing. <li data-bbox="419 1693 1193 2018">e. Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended) Planning Application No. 2021/00782/FUL (ANH) Location: Land adjacent to shelter, 21m From 3 Picketston Close 5m From Unnamed Road. Eglwys Brewis Road, Eglwys Brewis Proposal: Plot 2 Construction of detached five bedroom two and half storey house with attached double garage, forming of new vehicle and pedestrian access, construction of 2.0m wide footway to frontage of site. 	

MINUTE	ITEM	ACTION
2051 Cont...	<p>Associated works including driveway, landscaping, boundary walls and fencing</p> <p>The undermentioned Planning Applications have been approved by the Vale Planning Department.</p> <p>a. Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended) Application No. 2021/00367/FUL Location: Seren Wyb, Cowbridge Road, St. Athan Proposal: Proposed new lean to store shed to side of property and new front porch.</p> <p>b. Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended) Application No. 2021/00340/FUL Location : 9, Glebeland Place, St Athan Proposal : Two storey side and rear extension</p> <p>c. Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended) Application No. 2021/00493/FUL Location: 35, Glebeland Place, St. Athan Proposal : Proposed ground floor disabled annex to side of dwelling.</p> <p>d. Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended) Application No. 2020/00938/FUL Location; Flemingston Court, Flemingston Road, Flemingston. Proposal: New stock shed and feed storage space off existing stock/feed shed.</p>	<p>Approved, 15th June 2021</p> <p>Approved, 15th June 2021</p> <p>Approved 7th June 2021</p> <p>Approved, 25th June 2021</p>
2052	<p><u>REPORTS</u></p> <p>Cllr A Barnaby attended the Community Liaison Meeting held on 5th July 2021. Detailed report at Annex C.</p> <p>Cllr D White reported on progress made in respect of Pollinator Project and BT exchange building. Detailed report at Annex D.</p>	
2053	<p><u>VILLAGE SUMMER FETE</u></p> <p>PROPOSED by; Cllr S Haines SECONDED by: Cllr D Crompton</p> <p>That the village summer fete is to go ahead as planned on Saturday 4th September 2021.</p>	<p>CARRIED</p>

MINUTE	ITEM	ACTION
2054	<p><u>COUNCIL VACANCY</u></p> <p>Interviews for the role of adopted Councillor will be held on Tuesday 27th July 2021, 7.30pm in the St Athan Community Council Hall. If required additional interviews will be held.</p>	
2055	<p><u>UTILITIES</u></p> <p>PROPOSED by: Cllr D White SECONDED by: Cllr S Haines</p> <p>That the current suppliers for electric (E.ON), telephone and broadband (BT) be switched to a cheaper supplier.</p>	CARRIED
2056	<p><u>FINANCIAL APPEAL</u></p> <p>None</p>	
2057	<p><u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></p> <p>Cllr J Lynch-Wilson reported local resident, Mr Callum Carr has volunteered to remove overgrown vegetation from pathways in St Athan during the summer period.</p> <p>Cty Cllr J Thomas asked that the Newsletter is carefully reviewed by councillors prior to its publication.</p> <p>Cllr S Haines reiterated his concerns over the number of vehicles travelling the wrong way along Rectory Drive. Cty Cllr J Thomas agreed to investigate the matter.</p> <p>Cllr A Barnaby raised concerns regarding overgrown hedge rows at Church Lane path, Cty Cllr J Thomas agreed to investigate the matter.</p> <p>Cllr A Barnaby raised a concern over HGVs leaving Bro Tathan site without properly securing their load, allowing rubbish to fly out of the vehicle onto the roadside. The Council will write to Bro Tathan site manager over this matter.</p> <p>Cllr S Williams stated Gileston has a number of potholes in need of repair. Cty Cllr J Thomas agreed to take up the issues with the Vale Council.</p> <p>Cllr J Lougher complained that black bags and garden rubbish has not been collect from properties at Sea View Road. Cty Cllr J Thomas agreed to investigate this matter.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked the Council Clerk for all his efforts in arranging this meeting.</p>	

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9.25pm. There were two members of the public present.

Next General Meeting Tuesday 7th September 2021 at 7:30pm

St Athan Community Council Update Tuesday 6 th July 2021 – 7.30pm Emma Reed Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport

Background

In advance of the meeting I provide the following updates related to matters for me on the agenda.

Monument Junction St Athan

An assessment has been made of the personal injury casualty data within a 50- metre radius of the 'Monument' junction, which encompasses the pedestrian path and central refuge enabling a split crossing movement between St Athan and Gileston over the B4265. The assessment examined the five-year period up to 25th June 2020 (the latest official data supplied to us by Welsh Government). During that time three slight-severity personal injury collisions (PICs) are recorded to have occurred:

1. The first PIC occurred just before midnight in September 2015 involving a car turning right from B4265 into St Athan into the path of a car on B4265 approaching from Llantwit Major. There is no suggestion in the police report of excessive speed.
2. The second PIC occurred just after lunch time in February 2017 involving a car turning left from St Athan across the give way lines which was immediately struck by a car on B4265 approaching from Llantwit Major. There is no suggestion in the police report of excessive speed.
3. The third PIC occurred just after lunch time in October 2017 involving a car turning right from Gileston across the give way lines which was immediately struck by a car on B4265 approaching from Rhoose. There is no suggestion in the police report of excessive speed.

More recent data has been obtained in light of recent concerns of two accidents at the Monument as follows:

1. There was a recent incident involving a child at this junction. The incident occurred at 17:22 hrs on 6th May 2021. A police officer was on patrol in the area and attended the incident. He spoke to the driver of the car involved and to the child aged 9 years who was in the presence of his/her mother. It appears the child ran into the road near the junction at the monument. The driver stated that he/she was driving at a very low speed at the time of the collision as he/she had already observed that the child appeared apprehensive about crossing at the location. The child struck the bumper of the car causing him/her to fall to the floor, however there was no recorded injury as a result. The mother of the child and the driver were known to each other and details were exchanged. The collision was reported by the police officer as minor in nature, though an ambulance was in attendance but not required.
2. One other collision at the junction has also been recorded up to and including 22nd June 2021. The PIC occurred in April 2021 involving two vehicles. The first vehicle was waiting to turn right onto Gileston Road and the second vehicle was travelling eastbound towards Rhoose. The two vehicles collided while one was turning causing minor injuries to one person. The Police Traffic Management Officer commented that visibility on approach to the junction is good from both directions and added that there are advanced direction signs on both approaches indicating the presence of the junction to drivers. On the issue of whether a

lowering of the current speed limit would be appropriate, the officer expressed doubt regarding the likelihood of achieving driver compliance on the basis that both approaches are in a primarily rural setting.

The Council will continue to liaise with the Wales Casualty Reduction Partnership, GoSafe to ask for an assessment of the current situation, with a request that speed camera enforcement should follow if practical and appropriate.

Swan Neck Turn Monument Junction

With regards to the “swan neck turn” when driving from Gileston to St Athan, as you can see from the earlier data above, there is no record of any such collision occurring involving that manoeuvre in the 6 year study period. When negotiating any crossroads junction, care and moderate speed is required while drivers do so.

Pedestrian Refuge Crossing Monument Junction

In terms of crossing the road to access the facilities in St Athan, except for the recent incident, there is no record of any injuries occurring to pedestrians. The pathway route across B4265 already has a kerbed central island which is as wide as can be accommodated given the available carriageway width. The refuge is further protected from vehicle incursion by a hatched area, with additional red surfacing to emphasise its presence to approaching drivers.

Roundabout Request

In respect of a request for a roundabout to be provided, such a change would incur significant expenditure if included as part of the Council’s Capital Programme. In deciding about how best to allocate the limited capital funds we have available we are particularly mindful of locations where serious and fatal collisions have already occurred.

To set that statement into context, **in the ten years to 2019 the Vale area suffered from a total of 1,865 PICs, regrettably including 21 fatalities and 238 serious injuries.** The same period included a lengthy period of recession and less funding available including that available to introduce road safety improvements. However, using the targeted approach we have adopted, which includes prioritising changes in areas where serious and fatal injury collisions have already occurred, **we have contributed to a fall in overall injury collisions occurring within our area from 214 in 2010 to 132 in 2019.** In such circumstances using the history of injury collision severity represents an important part of our approach in dealing with the numerous complaints that we continue to receive daily. As such, I am unable to justify at this time adding proposals to change the junction to a roundabout to our Capital Programme at the present time.

Traffic Speed and 20 mph limit in St Athan Village and Surrounds

I would advise that whilst the Council has a statutory responsibility under Road traffic Act to make the highway safe as far as reasonably practicable, the specific enforcement of traffic speed is the responsibility of the South Wales Police (SWP) and GoSafe. As such, I am aware that following previous representations from the Council, **GoSafe have designated Cowbridge Road** as one of their top priority sites for safety camera enforcement, agreeing to attend there with the camera van for a minimum of 7.5 hours each month before the lockdowns began.

An investigation into the personal injury collision record for the 3 year period up to 25th June 2020 (the latest police data supplied to us by Welsh Government), covering the main road through St Athan from Gileston Cross to New Barn, some 500m north of the junction to Eglwys Brewis, **has revealed that no injury collisions have been reported to have occurred during**

that extended period of time. The collision data does not therefore suggest a basis for a business case to attract appropriate funds to carry out intervention measures along the route. The locations for pilot 20mph sites as part of the Welsh Governments proposals to implement a future default 20mph speed limit in Wales has already been fully allocated and agreed with Transport for Wales who coordinating the arrangements with various Councils.

Generally, the Council's current position to wait for the implementation the above-mentioned default 20mph limit for Wales anticipated in April 2023 and which will have the support of the South Wales Police other than progressing separate ad hoc roll out of such arrangements.

Recently the Council has agreed to introduce a further two 20 MPH experimental speed limit schemes in this financial year and have chosen these due to either considerable s106 planning gain funding being available or the location being put forward previously to WG for the pilot scheme but being unsuccessful. Full details of these orders can be found here: TRO 20 MPH Speed Limits (valeofglamorgan.gov.uk). [TRO-20-MPH-Speed-Limits \(valeofglamorgan.gov.uk\)](http://valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

The Council currently does not have sufficient funding to consider any further roll outs this financial year. Whilst offences continue GoSafe will hopefully continue to visit and monitor the location regularly in future. This should have an impact of excessive speeds all along Cowbridge Road and into St Athan village and should help to address the hope that this clarifies the Council's position.

Active Travel Update – St Athan Proposals Link to consultation for St Athan active travel routes which closes on 8th July:

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/transportation/Active-Travel.aspx>

In summary the project will consist of the following elements:

- 3m wide tarmacadam shared used pathway along a large proportion of the route
- Pathways marked as shared use
- Replacement bus shelter to include digital display board
- Vehicle activated speed warning signage
- Dropped kerbs and tactile paving

The measures will deliver a safer pedestrian and cyclist environment, particularly for vulnerable road users and school pupils, and will improve accessibility to the community area.

Subject to the outcome of the consultation, construction is due to start early August 2021 and will be completed February 2022

ST. ATHAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATEMENT – 30th JUNE 2021

RESERVE ACCOUNT

Income	
Balance Brought Forward	6,051.54
Bank Interest	0.05
Total	6,051.59
Expenditure 0.00	
Balance	6051.59

CURRENT ACCOUNT

Income	
Balance Brought Forward	3,662.62
Precept	12,824.00
Centre Hire	252.00
Total	16,738.62
Expenditure	
Administration	5,613.04
Chairman's Allowance	20.00
Council Property	2,544.69
Grants & Donations	1,200.00
St Athan Ward	863.49
Total	10,241.22
Balance	6,497.40

VALE OF GLAMORGAN LIASION COMMITTEE MEETING 5TH JULY 2021
REPORT BY COUNCILLOR A BARNABY

The Agenda covered the following items:

- 1) **Police Matters** - Chief Inspector Arabella Rees was welcomed and gave a brief overview of recent crime figures, as with last report, public order offences relating to Covid rules were still an issue, while theft was down, domestic theft had started to increase, no doubt as residents start going back to work, going on holiday etc., Following the last Liaison meeting she had asked for contact with Town and Community Councils to resume. However, several members present stressed this had not happened, including Cllr A Barnaby for St Athan. A question was raised regarding the re-starting of PACT meetings, it appears these had continued 'on-line' but would need to report back who receives the invite.
- 2) **South Wales Fire and Rescue Service** - gave a presentation on the activities of the fire service, included was highlighting where a 'controlled' burn is allowed in the garden it should be garden waste only, a reduction in capacity due to Covid illness has reduced. The fire cadet programme that has been suspended due to Covid is now re-opening in September, they have organised 3 keeping in touch events.
- 3) **Public Service Board (PSB) Annual Report** - was presented by Tom Bowring and Cllr Cuddy. This covered the current elements of effects of climate change and well-being. Cllr A Barnaby commented that these were both of interest to residents, but there is a risk of it becoming a 'tick box' exercise unless all department endorse the principles, especially in planning – such as our communities concerns regarding the number of houses being built, without being linked to 'actual' job creation at the St Athan Enterprise Zone, which will result in massive increase in commuting, plus the WG not investing in 'clean' industries, at the site.
- 4) The Scrutiny Committee report was presented to the meeting. Highlighted was agenda size leading to long meetings and use of standing orders. Clerk training had taken place, endorsing the networking to share good practice started in 2019.

POLLINATOR PROJECT & BT EXCHANGE BUILDING
REPORT BY COUNCILLOR D WHITE

Pollinator Project

Aim: To assist St Athan to become a pollinator friendly village in the Vale. Support national B Lines network (see [bug life.org.uk](http://buglife.org.uk))

Raise importance of pollinators and wildflowers whilst improving the appearance of the village.

Seeds can be sown by hand and treaded in so they have good contact with soil. Plug plants can be planted into existing grassy areas. Great engagement activities for both children and adults.

We have identified community council land that could be used from Gileston, side of road, cenotaph (purely poppies) assistance from school, through to Flemingstone green. The Vale Council representative happy to assist us with regard to Vale land which would be incorporated into their mowing schedules.

Activity best undertaken in the Autumn.

Smaller private areas such as Spar, the hairdressers, local pub all happy to come on board.

BT Exchange building

Confirmation has been received from BT, that the necessary works to the exchange building will be carried out by BT Property services and will include repainting of doors and entrance gate. Grass cutting and treatment of weeds to commence Friday 9th July 2021.