

## ONE VOICE WALES

### Meeting of the Bridgend, Cardiff and The Vale Area Committee held at 7pm on Monday 20 July 2026 in Cowbridge Town Hall.

#### Minutes

##### Present: Members

Councillor Karen Jacobs  
Councillor Danial Sami  
Councillor Gordon Kemp  
Councillor Lynne Edwards  
Councillor Liz Loch  
Councillor Graeme Smith  
Councillor David Pound  
Councillor Ieuan Burridge-Bryant  
Councillor Richard Cox  
Councillor Mike Cuddy  
Councillor John Williams  
Councillor Julian Baker  
Councillor David Moody-Jones  
Councillor Julia Charles  
Councillor Ian Curzon  
Councillor John Hughes (Chairman)  
Councillor Ian Perry  
Councillor Nicky Parry  
Councillor Graham Parry  
Councillor Ceri Lane  
Councillor Caryn Hill  
Councillor Gopa Crockford

Colwinston Community Council  
Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council  
Llancarfan Community Council  
Llandow Community Council  
Llanfair Community Council  
Llanmaes Community Council  
Ogmore Valley Community Council  
Old St Mellons Community Council  
Penarth Town Council  
Penarth Town Council  
Pencoed Town Council  
Penllyn Community Council  
Peterston Super Ely Community Council  
Radyr & Morganstown Community Council  
St Brides Minor Community Council  
St Fagans Community Council  
St Nicholas with Bonvilston CC  
Sully Community Council  
Sully Community Council  
Tongwynlais Community Council  
Tongwynlais Community Council  
Wick Community Council

##### Apologies for Absence: Members

Councillor Brooks  
Councillor Hodges  
Councillor Hennessy  
Councillor Jon Cowpe  
Councillor Robert Banfield

Councillor Hilary Hanmer  
Councillor Parisa Escambolchilar  
Councillor Janet Williams

Barry Town Council  
Barry Town Council  
Barry Town Council  
Dinas Powys Community Council  
Lisvane Community Council  
Merthyr Mawr Community Council  
Pendoylan Community Council  
Penllyn Community Council  
Wenvoe Community Council

##### Present: Clerks

Tony Williams, Clerk  
Maria Stevens, Clerk

Penllyn Community Council  
St Athan Community Council

**Apologies for Absence: Clerks –  
None**

**One Voice Wales: Officer in attendance**

Maria Mulcahy: South Wales Development Officer

**B,C&TV 2026/26 Chairs Address**

Chairman welcomed members to the meeting, gave an overview of presenters that have attended over the last twelve months and thanked members for their support.

**B,C&TV 2026/27 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence as set out above.

**B,C&TV 2026/28 Declarations of Personal Interest**

A member wished it to be noted that their employee is Geldards LLP, the legal firm used by One Voice Wales.

No other interests were declared

**B,C&TV 2026/29 Presentation** from Elle McNeil, Head of Planning and Commissioning, Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board (CTMUHB) on diabetes.

Main points: -

- Diabetes is one of the leading health issues of our time.
- Type 2 diabetes is very common.
- CTMUHB has the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest percentage of registered patients with diabetes in Wales. T2DM stands for Type2 Diabetes Mellitus, a chronic condition characterized by high blood sugar due to insulin resistance and or insufficient insulin production.
- Complication of diabetes is that patients must manage diet and exercise. It has also been found that there is a lower chance of patients attending hospital appointments if they do not live close to the hospital.
- Welsh Government are actively monitoring CTMUHB diabetes strategic 5 yr plan
- Structural Diabetes Education includes :-
  - My Desmond which is a digital health platform
  - SEREN Connect which is a comprehensive education programme to address a longstanding gap in service provisions for young adults.
- Diabetes SAP technology in diabetes management includes various devices and systems that help manage blood sugar levels and insulin delivery.
- DES (Direct enhanced service) type 2 diabetes outlines specialised services provided by general medical services for type 2 diabetes.

- The CTMUHB strategic board and executives want to make a real change. They are looking at how they can do things differently with minimum finance

Q. As a Town Council town council what can we do and are there any examples of promoting this type of information?

A. Number of takeaways in the area can be challenged through planning.  
People can be shown how to cook.  
Making green spaces feel safe.  
Working with the community

Chairman thanked Elle for her presentation and she left the meeting. It was **Resolved** that a copy of the presentation would be passed to members.

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

#### **B,C&TV 2026/30 To elect a Chair for the year 2026/27**

No nominations had been received.

It was **Resolved** that Cllr John Hughes be re-elected as Chair and there were no objections.

#### **B,C&TV 2026/31 To elect a Vice-Chair for the year 2026/27**

No nominations had been received.

It was **Resolved** that Cllr Mike Cuddy be re-elected as Vice-Chair and there were no objections

#### **B,C&TV 2026/32 To elect one representative and a substitute representative to serve on the National Executive.**

It was **Resolved** that Cllr Hughes remains as the representative and Cllr Cox is the substitute representative. There were no objections

#### **B,C&TV 2026/33 Arrangements for meetings in 2026/27 –**

12 October 2026 (Remote)  
25 January 2027 (Remote)  
26 April 2027  
19 July 2027

It was **Resolved** that the dates are agreed and there were no objections

## ORDINARY MEETING

### **B,C&TV 2026/34 Minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2026**

It was **Resolved** that the minutes are approved.

### **B,C&TV 2026/35 Matters arising in respect of the above minutes, not otherwise on the agenda.**

It was **Resolved** that there were no matters arising.

### **B,C&TV 2026/36 Developments in Relation to Charters/Devolution of Services/Asset Transfers**

Cardiff – No updates on Charter. Chairman gave his apologies as he had not had chance to follow up on the charter. If any Cardiff councils have written to Cardiff Council about the charter and their concerns, please copy him in on the emails as he wishes to coordinate the information.

The Vale – No updates on Charter but the Vale of Glamorgan Council are in the process of looking at new ways of working and resetting the relationship between them and the C&TCs. All the C&TCs in the Vale have been asked to send a representative to an important meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> October.

Bridgend – No updates on Charter.

Councils were invited to give a brief description of developments that were being planned or had been implemented.

Chairman advised that St Fagans have just received £11,000 section 106 money.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted

### **B,C&TV 2026/37 Glamorgan Heritage Coast Group – To receive a report from Cllr L Loch**

Due to the Senedd elections, the group did not hold a meeting in the Spring. The next meeting should be in the Autumn.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted

### **B,C&TV 2026/38 To discuss representation on the newly established Cardiff & Vale UHB – Shaping our Future Wellbeing**

OVW had sent a letter to the Health Board voicing members concerns about the suspension of stakeholder meetings.

Cardiff and Vale UHB have since advised us that they have completed a review of their Stakeholder Reference Group. Following this work, their Board has now approved the establishment of a new and more focused model for engagement: the Shaping Our Future Wellbeing Collaborative. Since they requested representation from across the region an email was sent to member councils in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan advising them of the new collaborative and for nominations to be sent directly to the health board as well as advising One Voice Wales of their interest.

At the Area meeting Cllr Cox advised members of his ongoing concerns with the previous Stakeholder Reference Group and his proposal to submit his nomination as the One Voice Wales Representative for this Area Committee.

There were no objections and it was **Resolved** that Cllr Cox should submit his nomination directly to the health board and to copy in MM.

**B,C&TV 2026/39 Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board Stakeholders Group – Report from Cllr Deenik**

Cllr Deenik was not at the meeting.

It was **Resolved** that MM will contact Cllr Deenik to see if any reports are available.

**B,C&TV 2026/40 Councillor Training programme and Consultancy Services**

Details of the training programme are circulated to all councils. One Voice Wales continues to deliver a broad range of training opportunities with bursaries available to eligible councils. There is a new training module on digitalisation.

Concern has been raised about the number of councillors who are enrolling on the free courses paid for by Welsh Government but not turning up and sending apologies. This is not just a waste of public money but also prevents other members attending the free courses.

Consultancy service is also available to members which now includes:

- Asset management

- Community resilience.

It was **Resolved** that this information be noted and members will remind their councils of the importance of attending courses that they have booked.

**B,C&TV 2026/41 Development of Good Practice Guidance**

Since the last meeting, One Voice Wales had produced Practice Development notes on the following topics:

- 23. Martyn's Law
- 24. Standing Orders
- 25. Artificial Intelligence (including some additional advice)
- 26. Agenda format
- 27. Insurance

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted

**B,C&TV 2026/42 The draft minutes of the National Executive Committee (NEC) held on 19 June 2026**

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted.

**B,C&TV 2026/43 The draft minutes of the Larger Councils Committee held on 15 April 2026**

Boundary Reviews in Wales – OVW CEO Lyn Cadwallader and the OVW Chairman met the new Minister and have asked her to place the boundary reviews on hold due to the different approaches used by individual Authorities and is awaiting a response.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted

**B,C&TV 2026/44 Guest speakers for Future Meetings**

Members considered proposals for guest speakers at future meetings.

- Member of the Senedd (Chairman to provide information)
- Transport for Wales
- South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
- Commissioner for AI at Westminster
- Cardiff Capital Region
- The Cardiff and the Vale Safeguarding Board
- The OVW Cost of Living Team

**B,C&TV 2026/45 One Voice Wales – Upcoming Conferences and Events**

- (i) Innovative Practice Conference – 30 September 2026
- (ii) Joint One Voice Wales and SLCC online event - 18 November 2026

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted

**B,C&TV 2026/46 One Voice Wales Cost of Living Crisis Project**

An update about the work that the team are doing had been circulated with papers for this meeting.

The Social Impact Assessment report by Wavehill was launched at the National conference.

The headline findings show £25.97 million of social value generated for communities across Wales, with £4.86 of value created for every £1 councils invested. These figures reflect the activity reported by the 237 councils who took part and the true picture across Wales is likely to be significantly higher.

The Cost-of-Living Crisis Project Small Grants Scheme has been launched offering fixed grants of £500 to Community and Town Councils with an annual income of £25,000 or less that have not previously delivered cost of living support activities

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted

**B,C&TV 2026/47 One Voice Wales – Local Places for Nature**

- Local Places for Nature – Annual Report 2025/26 is available in both languages via this link:  
<https://we.tl/t-9Hr3eRM3203ZzDw2>
- They have completed 2 funding rounds and are processing 71 grant applications with 36 approved so far.
- They are spending a lot of time going back and for with councils regarding the requirement to prove land ownership. Where a CC owns the land, they just require the Title register which can be ordered online for £7 if they do not have the deeds. The information is a standard requirement for any grant provider as is the commitment to maintain for 5 years minimum.

- The Webinar series was a huge success, and they had 174 attendees over the 5 webinars.
- Section 6 reports- they now have an up-to-date list of C&TCs who have sent their reports to them and Welsh Government. Preparing and publishing a report is a statutory duty.
- They have applied to become a partner with Climate Cymru
- They are going to overhaul their section on the website.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted.

**B,C&TV 2026/48 Correspondence and Consultations.**

MM gave a summary of the information that had been circulated by One Voice Wales since April: -

- The Voice magazine exclusive to member councils was launched on the 9.4.26 and is circulated each month to member councils.
- The One Voice Wales E-bulletin – Issue 24- contains information on the Employment Rights Act 2025
- One Voice Wales Civility and Respect Pledge has been launched –  
The civility and respect pledge sets out several important commitments designed to create an environment conducive to effective working avoiding many of the issues that can adversely impact on the general performance of councils. One Voice Wales strongly encourages councils to complete and sign the pledge and to let OVW have a copy of the signed version so that we can retain a central register of those councils who have made this important commitment
- Cardiff Capital Region - Strategic Development Plan consultation - concludes on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2026.
- Invitation from Natural Resources Wales to attend the Community Flood Volunteer Events 2026
  - 10 September 2026 - Carmarthen
  - 24 September 2026 – Treforest

The venues need to know expected numbers in advance, so please let them know by 19 August 2026 if you are wishing to attend.

- Audit Wales sent a letter recently to all Councils about incomplete information being provided for audit. Please, before you send Audit Wales your packs, check that you have provided EVERYTHING they have listed in the audit notice. If the required information is not available, please EXPLAIN this.
- Congratulations to all the One Voice Wales National Award winners. Full information can be found in issue 27 of the ebulletin. Bridgend Town Council and Criccieth Community Council were the overall winners.
- Mileage rates for expenses have gone up from 45p to 55p.
- One Voice Wales has sent an email out to all member councils requesting updates on area committee representatives.
- Boundary Commission has sent a survey directly to councils for completion. The survey closes on 16 August 2026 and it is important that all councils complete it.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted.

**B,C&TV 2026/49 Matters for Referral to NEC**

It was **Resolved** that there were no referrals for the NEC.

**B,C&TV 2026/50 News and Reports from Councils**

- a. Cardiff Council have written to all the Community Councils in their area about the Aging Well Strategy for Adult Services.

The Chairman advised that no one seems to know anything about this matter. He has also telephoned the person who sent the information out on behalf of Cardiff Council but he hasn't got any more information.

Councils were invited to give a brief description of initiatives that were being planned or had been implemented.

Due to time restraints members were asked to provide MM with any updates.

It was **Resolved** that the information is noted,

**B,C&TV 2026/51 Any other business at the discretion of the Chair**

It was **Resolved** that there was no other business, but concern was raised about the lack of air conditioning on some of the new buses that Cardiff Bus have purchased.

**B,C&TV 2026/52 Date of next meeting**

Chair thanked all members for their attendance.

It was **Resolved** that the next meeting will be held remotely on Monday 12 October 2026.

DRAFT