

REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR HEULWEN D HULME FOR RHIWCYNON WARD AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ENVIRONMENT, HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT, RECYCLING & COUNTRYSIDE SERVICES

MARCH 2021

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM 2.3.21

A briefing on valuing Residential Care in Powys. 16 out of the 18 privately owned care homes took part in the consultation. We currently have 771 beds within our care homes. The current average age to go into a care home is now 89 years. The Adult Social Services are keen to pursue early intervention via Tele care or Canary Care. We also want our homes to be a good place to work for carers and a good place to live. Also the need to move towards independent living as against Nursing and Residential homes.

Global Centre of Rail Excellence.

23.3.21

A briefing on Rural Broadband fibre of which Rhiwcynon Ward is a 'pilot' project to support improved connectivity in Cefn Coch, Llanllugan, Adfa, Llanwyddelan, New Mills, Manafon, Pantyffridd and rural parts of Tregynon.

A briefing on the ECOFLEX 3 scheme designed to Improve energy efficiencies in many of the fuel poverty households in Powys. More details to follow in April.

ACTIVE TRAVEL SCHEMES 3.3.21 & 4.3.21 – LEE WATERS AM.

The budget for 21/22 will be £70m across Wales. All Councils have declared a Climate Emergency and we need to get out of the cars and make more everyday journeys by foot/cycle/public transport. The minister wants to encourage rural communities to look at schemes linking villages together. This is in addition to the current town projects that are in the pipeline.

CABINET 12.3.21

The cabinet resolved to approve the new fee rates for care homes in Powys as set out in the report represented to cabinet. The cabinet accepted the report from the Welsh Public Library Standards from WG on PCC which was very favourable and identified a well used, creative and resourceful service within the authority.

CABINET 18.3.21

The cabinet resolved to go out for public consultation as part of the school transformation programme of Llangedwyn, Llanfechain and Llansantfraidd Primary Schools.

PERFORMANCE PANEL – WORKFORCE & ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. 16.3.21

A briefing provided by the Head of Service on departmental self assessment. PCC's response to Covid 19 and staff recruitment. Staff upskilling to provide greater skills set and flexibility. Training academies, more apprentices, health & wellbeing during Covid 19 and post Covid.

PERFORMANCE PANEL - TRANSFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS 16.3.21

A briefing by the Head of Service on services relating to business analytics and research, business intelligence, change and improvement, communications and welsh language, strategic planning, policy and performance and delivery of the Council wide transformation programme.

PERFORMANCE PANEL – DIGITAL 23.3.21

A briefing by the Head of Service on digital inclusion within the School Transformation during Covid-19 pandemic. On line Customer Services Digital Solutions for residents to report localised issues. Mid Wales Growth Deal and the importance of connectivity, digital services and appropriate skills set towards a vibrant economy. The importance of tele med/ tele health within our rural communities. All of this has to be aligned to the Vision 2025 of the authority.

PERFORMAMANCE PANEL – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT, RECYCLING & COUNTRYSIDE SERVICES 24.3.21

A briefing by the Head of Service to provide an efficient and quality highway service to the authority and the trunk road agency. To provide an efficient Waste & Recycling collection service to residents and businesses and supported by the Household Waste Recycling Centres and with aim of meeting Welsh Gov recycling targets. To provide a safe and efficient transport for home to school pupils and a public transport service. To provide access to open Countryside alongside facilitating outdoor recreation facilities and retain attractive landscapes and enhance biodiversity.

PERFORMANCE PANEL – LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES 25.3.21

A briefing by the Head of Service on legal services undertaken by the department on employment and children services support. The registration service has continued to provide an online booking service and the timescales adhered to for death registrations. Elections service have ensured electoral registers are up to date and have been preparing for 6th May elections. Democratic Services have arranged meetings via Teams or Zoom and overall more meetings have taken place.

HEALTH AND SAFETY FORUM – 25.3.21

Heads of services all provided an update on H & S issues within their service. The importance of risk assessments when re-opening schools and council buildings and lone working. Health surveillance for staff protection and wellbeing including mental and physical health has been vitally importance during this last 12 months.

MEETINGS ATTENDED IN MARCH – 47 AND ALL 4 COMMUNITY COUNCILS MET DURING THE MONTH VIA ZOOM

PLANNING IN THE RHIWCYNON WARD

- ABERHAFESP PLANNING
- 20/1122/FUL – Building for pig rearing & associated works at Bank Farm, Aberhafesp, SY16 3LS
- 20/2109/FUL – 2 Holiday lodges, land adj to Bethel Chapel SY16 3JE
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DWYRIW PLANNING

- 20/1535/FUL – Agriculture buildings & Associated works Nant Y Wylt, Cefn Coch SY21 0AY
- 20/1891/RES – Reserved matters for Plot 2, Fronoleu, Adfa SY16 3DB
- 21/0129/RES – 1 dwelling, Plas Coch, Cefn Coch, SY21 0AE
- 21/0322/OUT- 1 dwelling, garage and assoc. works at Argae Fields, New Mills SY16 3NG
- 21/0247/HH – Timber frame double garage & Store, Glanedyr Barn, New Mills SY16 3NR
- 21/0477/RES – Reserved matters at Cefn Bryn, Cefn Coch, SY21 0AE
- 21/0453/RES – Single dwelling & access at land adjoining the garage, Adfa SY16 3DD

MANAFON PLANNING

- 20/1448/RES – Reserved matters for 5 dwellings, Tremhirnant SY21 8BX
- 20/1798/FUL – 6 Lodges & associated works, Belan Deg, New Mills, SY16 3NJ
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TREGYNON PLANNING

- 19/1633/REM – Section 73/ Conditions at Dolgycoed, Tregynon SY16 3PY
- 20/0556/FUL – Re-use of abandoned dwelling & Associated works, Brynheulog, Tregynon SY16 3PP
- 20/2126/FUL – Erection of a dwelling, Sunnybank, Tregynon, SY16 3EH

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