

MAGOR WITH UNDY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting of Magor with Undy Community Council held remotely on Monday 18th January 2021 at 7pm

- COUNCILLORS:** Cllr N Baicher, Cllr S Bailey (Chair), Cllr G Cook, Cllr J Crook, Cllr C Hopkins, Cllr D James, Cllr P Kirkham, Cllr K Plow, Cllr S Raggett, Cllr F Taylor, Cllr J Wilson
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Alison Sandiford, Admin Assistant
- APOLOGIES:** Cllr M Bisi, Beverly Cawley – Clerk,
- ABSENT:** Cllr A Zagozda

Min
2020/21

84 Chair's Announcements

84.1 Announcement from Chair

None

84.2 To receive apologies for absence from Councillors – See above

85 Declarations of interest in items on the agenda – Forms to be completed

85.1 To receive any declarations of interest in items on the agenda

Cllr N Baicher declared an interest in Min 87.1 as a front-line worker with family members working in the medical field.

86 COVID-19 Vaccination Programme

86.1 To discuss an issue and question raised by Cllr Carole Hopkins (carried over from Ordinary Meeting 11th January 2021) about the performance of Welsh Government in relation to the distribution of the vaccine, and that very little specific information had been received. Cllr Hopkins asked that Council consider writing to Welsh Government expressing their concern.

Cllr Hopkins outlined her item of business expressing disappointment that the issue had been deferred.

All Members contributed to the debate about the roll-out of the vaccine in Wales. Whilst Council generally appreciated the complexity of the administration and logistics of delivering such mass immunisation it also recognised that circumstances are changing on a daily basis. Members raised concerns over communication to residents and the length of time the rollout is taking to reach South East Monmouthshire. Certain Members stated eligible family members had not received any communication about the vaccine roll-out.

Members also expressed concerns that local residents, who had been offered an appointment for the vaccine, were currently being expected to travel to Newport Centre or Cwmbran Stadium. Council considered it totally unacceptable that these were the nearest vaccination centres to Magor and Undy and requested more detailed information from Welsh Government on where the local vaccination centres will be in South East Monmouthshire.

RESOLVED: *To write a positive letter to Welsh Government’s Minister for Health and Social Services (cc: Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Caldicot Medical Group and Communities Connections Manager) expressing Council’s concerns over the rollout of the Covid-19 vaccine and requesting more detailed information on the location of more local vaccination centres.*

Cllr F Taylor requested an explanation for why Council could not have discussed this item at the Ordinary Meeting held on 11th January citing Council’s Standing Orders had been suspended and stating that in County Council the Chair permitted urgent items to be discussed.

In the absence of the Clerk the Admin Assistant clarified the suspension of Standing Order 3(w) to allow the meeting to continue past 9pm *“A meeting shall not exceed a period of 2 hours, unless at the discretion of the Chair”* and Standing Order 26 (a) as the item was raised under ‘Future Meeting Content’ *“All or part of a standing order, except one that incorporates mandatory statutory requirements, may be suspended by resolution in relation to the consideration of an item on the agenda for a meeting”*.

Councillor Taylor disputed the clarification and requested a written explanation from the Clerk.

The Admin Assistant referred Members to the Policy Review Workshop immediately following this meeting at which Council would be reviewing its Standing Orders. Cllrs C Hopkins and F Taylor offered apologies for the Workshop.

RESOLVED: *that the Clerk provide a written explanation.*

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

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Chair/Vice Chair