

**FFOS-Y-FRAN LIAISON COMMITTEE  
MEETING No. 011  
24<sup>th</sup> JULY 2008**

**MILLER ARGENT'S OFFICE AT  
CWMBARGOED D.P. CWMBARGOED**

**DRAFT NOTES FOR APPROVAL**

**ATTENDEES:**

<b>Appointed Councillor Members</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Present</b>
Cllr Julian Amos	Chair	Dowlais	YES
Cllr Tony Rogers		Dowlais	
Cllr Amy Kitcher	Deputy Chair	Town	YES
Cllr Robert Griffin		Town	YES
Cllr Derek Games		Plymouth	
Cllr Brent Carter		Plymouth	-
Cllr Leighton Smart		Bedlinog	-
<b>Substitute Councillor Members</b>			
Cllr Ray Thomas		Dowlais	-
Cllr Phil Williams		Dowlais	-
Cllr Gareth Lewis		Town	-
Cllr Kurt Morgan		Town	-
Cllr Kevin O'Connor		Plymouth	-
Cllr Gareth Jones		Bedlinog	-
<b>Caerphilly CBC</b>			
Cllr David Hardacre		Caerphilly	YES
<b>MTCBC Officers</b>			
Mr Norman Davies	Head of Planning		YES
Mr Dave Dier	Head of Public Health		YES
Ms Zoe Pieris	Principle Environmental Health Officer		
<b>Environment Agency</b>			
Mr Dave Griffiths			YES
Ms Laura Owen			YES
Mr John Harrison			-

<b>Resident Members</b>			
Mrs Alyson Austin		Bradley Gardens	YES
Mrs Mary Bradley		Fochriw	-
Mrs Jane Flower		Japonica	YES
Mr Lyn Humphries		Dowlais	YES
Mr Phillip Murphy		Caerharris	YES
Mr Alan Rees		Caedraw	YES
Mr Bill White		Dowlais	YES
Mr Ron Yandle		Mount View	YES
<b>Miller Argent</b>			
James T. Poyner	Director		YES
Stephen Tillman	Director		-
Robert Jones	Operations Manager		YES
Bob Edwards	DP Manager		YES
Kylie Jones	Environmental Liaison Officer		-
Susan Allen	Secretary		YES
Elizabeth Verrinder	Archaeologist		YES
<b>Invited Guests</b>			
Jason Davies	Health & Safety Advisor		YES

**Item    Note****Action**

Before the meeting a guided tour had been arranged for those members of the committee who were interested in seeing the site.

The meeting was conducted to the Chair's Agenda issued at the time of the meeting

**1.00    Apologies**

Apologies were received from: Cllr. Brent Carter, Cllr. Dave Hardacre, Mrs Mary Bradley, Mr Phil Murphy, Mr Stephen Tillman,

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Note</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>
	Ms Kylie Jones.	
<b>2.</b>	<b><u>Declaration of Interest</u></b>	
	2.01 None declared	
<b>3.00</b>	<b><u>Minutes of the Last Meeting</u></b>	
	3.01 The following typos were noted: On the list of apologies it was noted that Cllr. Brent Carter name was spelt wrong and Ms Laura Edwards name had been inserted instead of Ms Laura Owen.	
	3.02 With those corrections (2.01 above) the minutes were confirmed as a true and accurate record of what took place. The Notes once amended can be published.	S. Allen
<b>4.00</b>	<b><u>Matters Arising</u></b>	
	4.01 None from the minutes	
<b>5.00</b>	<b><u>Reports</u></b>	
	<b><u>Miller Argent</u></b>	
	5.01 Mr Robert Jones discussed his report which had circulated to all committee members ahead of the meeting.	
	5.02 It was explained that it was expected that the common road going to the Kinsey's farm would be fenced off during the coming week with a gate installed to allow easy access for farmers to remove livestock at the appropriate time.	
	5.03 The question was asked about local labour. Robert Jones explained that the number was down due to the completion of work by Dawnus along the Bogey Road. He also explained that 78% of the labour force lived within 15 kilometres of the site.	

<u>Item</u>	<u>Note</u>	<u>Action</u>
5.04	<p>Robert Jones reported that the new training centre was near completion and it should be operational by the 1st August 2008. The training centre is situated south of the Bogey Road and run by MB Plant the centre would be called "Ffos-y-Fran Training Centre and be CITB accredited. Mr Griffiths said in his experience it was better to say expected completion by end of Summer of 2008</p>	
5.04	<p>It was reported that modifications were being done to the 777F with a new radiator housing; he reported that consultants hoped it would drop the noise level by 3 decibels. He also reported that this was not a straight forward process and would have to do some more tests and trials. This process had been used on different model and would need to be modified to be used on the 777F. David Dier asked about the modifications Robert Jones explained about the modifications to the engines referred to as "Nappies". James Poyner also explained the health and safety implications and reasons for the trials.</p> <p>The question was asked that it sounded like it had been used before and therefore not a new process. Robert Jones explained that it may not be a new concept but new to that particular machine.</p> <p>He reported that the mufflers had not worked.</p> <p>Robert Jones explained that Cat Director is reporting to USA to get Finnings more help and get Cat on board. It was noted by the committee that there would come a point when there is nothing more that MA can do. Once there is no more MA can do it would be good to get a statement from Cat stating this.</p>	
5.05	<p>The old 6" asbestos water main had been changed as MA were concerned it would fail. MA had persuaded Welsh Water to change it and MA would be paying £200,000 for the change.</p>	
5.06	<p>It was reported that the mini buses were now operational and over 12 organisation had already signed up and used this facility and was working very well. The committee said they were very impressed with the service the community had received so far. Robert Jones said thanks should be extended to Sue Allen for the administration of the buses.</p>	

<u>Item</u>	<u>Note</u>	<u>Action</u>
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**Environment Agency**

5.07 It was reported that there had been no complaints by telephone or letter. An inspection had been carried out on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008 and a meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2008 had been within the planning consent.

**MTCBC Environmental Health Department**

5.08 Mr David Dier gave a verbal report and reported that only 1 complaint had been received in June and 2 today. He also reported that MA had resolved this matter quickly by moving the machine. He also stated that he was pleased that MA had decided to finish early in the evenings thus stemming complaints.

**6.00 Residents Reports/Concerns**

6.01 Mrs Alyson Austin asked the question about employment and recruitment. Robert Jones informed the committee that these were internal vacancies due to changes in jobs. He also pointed out that the only advert was for an administration staff.

Mrs Austin also asked if it was true that MA were making employees redundant as she had been informed that MA were making redundancies due to the actions of the residents. Robert Jones informed her that she had the wrong idea and MA were not laying people off as a matter of fact 1 employee had already booked next years summer holiday.

6.02 Mrs A Austin reported that residents were not happy about the noise and how much longer would it be going on before the machine moved. It was explained that the haul road excavation was in an exposed area and it was hoped to remove the machine within the next 2 -3 weeks. The noise was also due to the change in the wind direction. It was noted that winds blowing onto site made the noise less and higher winds blowing from the site intensified the noise.

One committee member acknowledge that the noise was far less compared to off road bikes.

This was not the general consenses of the whole

<u>Item</u>	<u>Note</u>	<u>Action</u>
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committee

Another member of the committee said that last weekend was the first time he had heard noise from site and that's because the A4060 usually drowns out the noise.

Alyson Austin said she always found MA very accommodating.

The Chair recommend that the meeting moved on and that the committee should comeback to this topic at the next meeting

**7.00 Elected Members Report**

**Dowlais Ward**

7.01 The Chair reported he had received no complaints

**Town Ward**

7.02 Cllr Griffin said he had 3 complaints concerning dust at Twyn Hill, but noticed a great reduction in complaints since the last meeting. He said he had not received complaints but more concerns. He said he would put all this in writing but had not had time as he had been very busy.

**Plymouth Ward**

7.03 No reports

**8.00 Correspondence Received**

8.01 No correspondence had been received germane to the liaison committee other than Cllr. Amos's reply to Stephen Tillman.

8.02 Mr Norman Davies reported that he had received a letter from Leek & Western which referred to condition 13 concerning hours and days of operation. There was a request to variation on Sunday and bank holidays to allow the use of the water bowser between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. It was also noted that at a previous meeting the Liaison Committee had unanimously supported this application to enable dust suppression to be carried out.

David Dier expressed his concern that he was not aware of any specific dust being produced on a Sunday and

<u>Item</u>	<u>Note</u>	<u>Action</u>
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8.03	<p>thought it had been created by vehicles moving. He also believed that people's perception of vehicles working on a Sunday may not be a good thing as the public had assumed that Sunday would be movement free. He was also not convinced that there was a need for water bowser's to work on a Sunday.</p>	
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James Poyner said that this application had been made as a response from the community and dust whipping up during high winds. He also said that it was of no benefit for Miller Argents as a matter of fact it would have financial implications.

Cllr Amos asked the question would the planning application require a notice being posted. Norman Davies said normally it would but under the condition of the wording the local planning authority could consider it. Norman Davies also agreed to send a letter to Miller Argent confirming that the water bowser could operate on Sundays and Public Holidays for a trial period which would expire the end of October 2008.

Authority under Deligated powers.

8.04	<p>It was suggested that a trial be carried out on a Sunday without informing the public and see what reaction or response the committee receive.</p>	
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Mr Yandle was very keen for this to go ahead. And said that this was all in response to a written request from residents in Mountain Hare. It was suggested that complaints be monitored over the weekend from Saturday P.M. to Sunday p.m.

It was noted that there were three options

1) to go ahead with the Sunday working (water bowser) and see what response MA had.

2) to do nothing as was suggested by David Dier or

3) to run a trial period.

It was worth noting any calls of complaint about machines working, noise, dust. It was also noted that water bowsers would only operate as when necessary

<u>Item</u>	<u>Note</u>	<u>Action</u>
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depending on weather conditions.

The committee had a show of hands the majority being in favour of water bowsers working on a Sunday with only 2 not in favour.

It was also mentioned that there had been more dust from motor bikes

**9.00 Any Other Business**

9.01 James Poyner was anxious to re-run the Fros-y-Ffan presentation So all new committee members could appreciate the scheme. He pointed out that it was an updated presentation and it was recommended that the presentation be done at the Civic Hall and should be no longer than ½ hour long.

9.02 In the notes from the meeting held 22 May 2008 Stephen Tillman had been asked about local unemployed, and a diversity plan to support the unemployed people in the area. It was noted that there was to be a written response for the next meeting. It was felt that so far this question had not been answered. James Poyner said there would be a written response.

9.03 The question was asked about the Dust Scan monitoring and if it was possible to get the results back sooner. Robert Jones said he could not answer that question as Kylie Jones was on holiday but he would ask Kylie Jones on her return.

9.04 It was asked when was the blasting presentation going to be re-run. James Poyner said he was still waiting to hear from the community.

9.05 It was noted that objections were made about a response Stephen Tillman wrote to Cllr Amos. It was felt that the response should have been made to the committee. Cllr Amos respectfully pointed out that the letter was addressed to him about the way he had chaired the meeting hence the response was for him to deal with and not a committee issue. Cllr Amos also said that he would be happy to meet with anyone who had concerns.

**Item**    **Note**    **Action**

It was asked if the committee could have a copy of the response sent to Cllr Amos. James Poyner said he would forward onto the committee a copy of the response by Friday.

9.06    The question was asked if the boundary fence had been done Robert Jones reported Yes.

**10.00**    **Date of Next Meeting**

10.1    After a show of hands it was decided that due the Summer holidays the next meeting would be held in September.

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2008. The meeting is to be held at the Civic Centre, Merthyr Tydfil to start at 7.00 p.m.

10.2    There being no further business the Cllr. Amos thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.

**Appendices**

1.    Site Progress Report – Robert Jones
2.    Environmental Report – Kylie Jones
3.    Environment Agency's Report

**CONTACT NUMBERS**

Miller Argent – Contact Details

Emergency Contact Number	0800 988 8444
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