



2.00pm, Wednesday 29 September 2021
Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

Present

Name	Organisation
Barry Liles (Chair)	University of Wales Trinity Saint David
Cllr Mair Stephens	Carmarthenshire County Council
Huwel Manley	Natural Resources Wales
Supt Gary Phillips	Dyfed Powys Police
Carys Morgans	Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner
Ruth Mullen	Carmarthenshire County Council
Kevin Jones	Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Cllr Elwyn Williams	Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service Authority
Anna Bird	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Marie Mitchell	Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services
Wyn Morris	Department for Work and Pensions
Andrew Charles	Welsh Government

In attendance

Name	Organisation
Gwyneth Ayers	Carmarthenshire County Council
Kate Harrop	Carmarthenshire County Council
Wendy Phillips	Carmarthenshire County Council
Helen Morgan	Carmarthenshire County Council
Rhian Phillips	Carmarthenshire County Council
Kim Neyland	West Wales Regional Partnership Board
Mark Galbraith	Llanelli Rural Council
Amy Richmond-Jones	Mid and West Wales

1. Welcome and Apologies

Barry Liles, Chair, welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting and guests were introduced.

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Cllr Emlyn Dole	Carmarthenshire County Council
Maria Battle	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Ros Jervis	Hywel Dda University Health Board

Huw Thomas	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Andrew Cornish	Coleg Sir Gâr
Christine Harley	Probation Service
Martyn Palfreman	West Wales Regional Partnership Board

2. 10 Rural Towns

Helen Morgan, Economic Development Manager gave a presentation on the 10 Rural Towns initiative which was identified from the Council's Moving Rural Carmarthenshire Forward report. The initiative has been adopted into the county's economic recovery plan. Funding is from both the EU LEADER Programme via RDP and core funding by the Council.

Since September 2020, two consultants were commissioned to prepare growth plans for each of the ten towns, eight have been completed with the remaining two due by end of October. Each growth plan identifies the local need and will be reviewed and updated as required. A Growth Plan Group is being established for each of the 10 towns and they are now starting to meet and will be progressing ideas.

There are various funding streams to support the delivery of the plans including £1m from the Council's capital programme, business start-up and development grants, property development funds and £100k LEADER funding ringfenced to enable the communities to develop innovative ideas linked to the plans. Two Rural Market Towns Officers have been recruited to support the areas to progress ideas, a third officer will be recruited but is currently being re-advertised.

Key themes covered by the growth plans are: investment in business premises to support new start-ups, business growth and expansion, 'Iaith Gwaith' business grant, which sees links between economic growth and the Welsh language through business growth; digital/smart towns; work hubs and shared workspaces, looking at creating four main hubs, one for each geographical area; skills; tourism initiatives including walking and cycling; community energy; and circular economy. Each Town Growth Forums has been asked to prioritise their ask for projects to be funded from the £1m, applications would then be assessed. A request was made for continued PSB support and input to the whole initiative and it was asked if PSB members could advise the Council of any developments or initiatives they were planning in any of the 10 rural towns.

Anna Bird enquired how the anchor institutions and their links to wider social value and health could be incorporated within the 10 towns. Helen Morgan replied that she would link in with Anna outside of the meeting to follow this up.

Cllr. Mair Stephens commented that the equipment for smart towns could be placed on non-council buildings if appropriate. Huwel Manley added that NRW have a number of buildings in rural areas which may be able to be utilised.

Kevin Jones felt there needs to be better links between the PSB New Ways of Working project and the 10 Towns initiative.

ACTION	
Encourage applications for the Rural Town Officer post	All

Report recruitment challenges to the Regional Learning and Skills Partnership	All
Circulate the 10 Towns Growth Plans when available	PSB Support Team
Update on 10 Rural Towns to be brought back to a future meeting	PSB Support Team
Inform the PSB Support Team of any on-going developments or projects by PSB members in any of the 10 Rural Towns – Amman Valley, Gwendraeth Valley, Kidwelly, Laugharne, Llandeilo, Llandovery, Llanybydder, Newcastle Emlyn, St Clears, Whitland	All

3. Newcastle Emlyn Climate Resilience Plan December 2020

Huwel Manley provided a presentation on the pilot project undertaken in Newcastle Emlyn.

The project came from initial work undertaken in 2019 when the Healthy Environment Delivery Group (HEDG) requested engagement with a number of communities. In 2020 it was decided to do more detailed research to understand the public's perceived risks of climate change and the impact to the community, look at how communities could better prepare for the effects of climate change and what they can do. The project engaged with the public sector, volunteer community and residents. Due to Covid-19, engagement had to be undertaken on-line which impacted the number of participants.

The report included four recommendations:

- Establishing a Citizens' Jury
- Developing a Community Led Emergency Response Plan
- Preparing Newcastle Emlyn 2050 Future Scenario
- Developing Climate Risks and Assets Map

These have been considered by the HEDG who agreed to progress the Community Led Emergency Response Plan in conjunction with the 10 towns project; and the Climate Risk and Assets Map which will be progressed in conjunction with support from a University of Wales Trinity Saint David as a student project.

It was requested that the PSB, through the HEDG support the work.

There was a discussion between Ruth Mullen and Huwel Manley on the Emergency Response Plan and how this linked with existing community developments. It was agreed that this be continued outside of the meeting.

Marie Mitchell commented that the draft reports for the Coronavirus Volunteering Recovery Work have been received and there are links between community and third sector with response plans.

ACTION	
Link with LRF Community Resilience Group regarding commitments to other areas for Community Emergency Response Plans	Huwel Manley & Kate Harrop
Share Coronavirus Volunteering Recovery Work draft report with Huwel Manley and meet to discuss	Marie Mitchell

4. PSB New Ways of Working Proposal for Llandeilo

An overview was provided on the New Ways of Working Proposal for Llandeilo. The mapping of PSB partner assets, focusing on the three main towns of Carmarthen, Llanelli and Ammanford as well as the 10 towns has shown that the majority of assets are located in the three main towns, however there are some rural towns with a number of assets. It was agreed to focus on Llandeilo as a pilot, although there are other towns of interest with a clear link to the 10 towns as they do not have any public sector presence at the moment.

Focus has been around three ways of working – agile working areas; customer facing areas; and touch down areas for outreach workers. Municipal Buildings is a County Council at the bottom of public car park in Llandeilo, and there is potential for development at the site. It has a large room suitable to trial a multi-agency hub. The Municipal Building also houses the public library who have noted that PSB agencies would be welcome to use the area when they are open for any customer facing promotions or events. The third element of the proposal is for the outreach workers, the Fire Station has a community room suitable for access by e.g. domiciliary carers, social workers etc. A six-month trial is proposed for Municipal Buildings and Fire Station at Llandeilo and then consider other available options e.g. meeting rooms, clinical rooms.

It was agreed to proceed with the proposal, however with the current Covid-19 restrictions it will likely be early 2022 before it becomes operational. Communication within PSB partners will be important, with staff advised to use the hub if they are in the locality, monitoring the usage will be an important part of the pilot.

ACTION

Progress the PSB New Ways of Working Proposal for Llandeilo

Gwyneth Ayers

5. Minutes and Matters arising

Barry Liles apologised for the cancellation of the workshop that was to follow this meeting, this is to be revisited.

15 July 2021

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Action Log

Updates were provided on previous actions.

6. Carmarthenshire Well-being Plan Updates

Sustainable Food Places proposal

An outline was provided of the proposal which came from discussions that followed the work with CLES on local food procurement. One of the recommendations from their report for anchor organisations related to the development of a food strategy. Since we agreed the report, a Carmarthenshire Food Network has been established, facilitated through CAVS, and has brought together a vast array of community focused groups working in the food sector e.g. food banks, hot meals groups, community orchards, community growing schemes etc. This gives us an opportunity to take the discussion forward in a much more coordinated way with the range of partners.

It is proposed to work with a range of stakeholders including Carmarthenshire Food Network to develop an application by the March 2022 application window for Carmarthenshire to become a recognised Sustainable Food Place.

The proposal was unanimously approved.

An update was also provided on the Foundational Economy project. Phase 1 ended at the end of March 2021 which focused on the public sector procurement element. Work to implement the recommendations relating to procurement are now being progressed. There are also projects under development which hopefully will gain funding and Gwyneth Ayers is working with an organisation called Social Farms and Gardens who are expecting confirmation of funding from Welsh Government for a project to develop a food hub in Carmarthenshire. They would work on getting the producers and scaling up production through a food hub with opportunities for links into public services being considered. The County Council had also submitted an application to RDP for a supply chain project, an announcement is expected by October on the outcome of the application. The Welsh Government application for Phase 2 of the Foundational Economy project has secured a further £100,000 which will focus on work the Health Board are leading.

Huwel Manley informed of a workshop held in the morning on net carbon neutral for public sector partners and covered carbon issues associated with procurement. Welsh Government have published guidance on how to calculate this and would benefit to looking with the procurement trials.

Workplan

An overview of the updates was provided and are shown are included in bold on the meeting papers.

ACTION	
Establish if there is a proposed Private Members Bill for a Food Strategy for Wales	Andrew Charles
Link with Kendal Davies regarding carbon reduction and procurement	Kate Harrop

7. Well-being Assessment Update

An overview was provided on the progress made in relation to the Well-being Assessment.

The survey is currently live and closes on Friday, 8 October. A number of engagement sessions are taking place across the county, linking in with a wide range of groups.

The Regional Well-being Project Co-ordinator is in post and is assisting with the regional elements e.g. data analysing, engagement etc.

Data analysis is underway and the collation of a wider range of data at a local, regional and national level will inform the writing of the well-being assessment.

The Digital Information System is currently in the testing stage and are looking forward to its launch.

ACTION

Consider the finding of the Future Generations Report 2020 as part of the Well-being assessment and advise PSB of next steps

PSB Support Team

8. Any Other Business

There was no other business