

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Language Committee held
Via video conferencing on Monday, 07 December 2020**

Present: Councillor Ellen ap Gwynn (Chairman), Councillors Keith Evans, Alun Lloyd Jones, Gareth Lloyd, Dai Mason and John Roberts

Officers in attendance: Mrs Carys Morgan, The Language Policy Officer, Ms Nia Jones, Corporate Manager, Democratic Services, , Mrs Dana Jones, Democratic Services and Standards Officer

(2.00pm-3:15pm)

1 Apologies

Councillor Maldwyn Lewis together with Mrs Elen James apologised for their inability to attend the meeting.

Congratulations were extended to Councillor Gareth Lloyd and his wife Cerys on their birth of their baby boy that morning.

2 Disclosure of Personal / Prejudicial Interests

There were no disclosures of personal or prejudicial interests.

3 To confirm as a true record the minutes of the meeting of the Language Committee held on 17 March 2020

It was RESOLVED to confirm as a true record the minutes of the meeting held on the 17 March 2020 subject to noting that minute 10 should read that it was the Welsh Language Commissioner that had published the Code of Practice for the Welsh Language Standards and not the Language Officer.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

None

5 Welsh Language Standards Guide & Poster 'What I need to do'

Consideration was given to the Welsh Language Standards Guide & Poster 'What I need to do'. Members viewed a video that had been circulated to all staff on HR news to promote the new guide. Members were of the opinion that the video was to the point and clear to the viewer. It was reported that this guidance document was now used frequently by staff across all Services within the Council

It was AGREED to note the current position.

6 Bilingual Futures Forum Report 'Opportunities to use Welsh during lockdown'

Consideration was given to the Report upon the Bilingual Futures Forum Report 'Opportunities to use Welsh during lockdown' The report had been approved by the Bilingual Forum members on 29 October 2020. The Welsh Language Policy Officer continued with a power point presentation with the following information:-

- Method – Questionnaire
- Changing habits
- Guidance on Holding Bilingual Video Meetings
- Clic Ceredigion Customer Services
- Learning Welsh in the Workplace
- Arfor Grants
- Innovative & Creative Virtual Events
- Challenges
- What can we do better to increase the opportunities to use the Welsh Language?
- The impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Welsh language – Report published by: Culture, Welsh Language & Communications Committee / Senedd

Following questions from the floor, it was AGREED to note the current position. Members enquired whether funding could be sought from One Voice Wales, Cered or Welsh Language Commissioner to purchase the higher level of 'zoom' licence – this to ensure that the translation facility was readily available for Town and Community Councils to facilitate the use of the Welsh Language in their meetings. However, it was noted that Town and Community Councils would continue to pay for the actual translator.

7 Covid Terminology Document Ceredigion County Council

It was reported that a collection of useful words relating to the coronavirus pandemic has been compiled and was available at your fingertips.

To facilitate the use of the Welsh language, Ceredigion County Council had compiled some of the new terms that have been coined during the Coronavirus period.

The pandemic has been a time of changing habits, and inevitably when key messages and instructions have been communicated, new words had been created and standardised as part of everyday language. These new words were equally important in the English and the Welsh language.

In order to make it easier for people to use the new Welsh terms, the Council has set about collecting some of these terms, and bringing them together into a document 'COVID-19 Terminology'. Specific words can be searched for in the Welsh-English document, or alternatively in the English-Welsh document as presented.

It was AGREED to note the report for information and that the document would be circulated to the Clerks of Town and Community Councils.

8 Welsh Language Commissioner items

It was AGREED to note the following for information

- Welsh Language Commissioner's Assurance Report – Closing the Gap
- The Welsh Language Commissioner has published a set of guidelines to facilitate the implementation of the Welsh Language Standards.

9 Update on Ceredigion County Council's Street Naming and Numbering Policy

Consideration was given to the report updating Members on Ceredigion County Council's Street Naming and Numbering Policy. The report outlined how the Street Naming and Numbering function has progressed over the last year (January – December 2020).

It was agreed to note the report and to consider that a letter be sent out to the owners of any developments/properties prior to building in order inform them on the Council's policy in relation to the naming of properties.

10 Place-names Survey: Cylch yr Iaith - draft response

A letter had been received by the Chief Executive from Cylch yr Iaith to review place names. A draft response had been prepared for consideration.

It was agreed to accept the draft response presented and that it would be sent from the Leader; and also as her position as chair of the Language committee.

11 Promoting Welsh Language Rights Day, 7th December

The Language Policy Officer informed Members of the provisions made for promoting Welsh Language Rights Day which was held today. On the 7th of December this year, public organisations in Wales would be holding a one day campaign to raise awareness of the public's rights to use the Welsh language. As well as the messages on social media promoting a list of rights available to our citizens, the Council also took the opportunity to remind staff internally of the rights the public in relation to the Welsh language.

It was agreed to note the current position.

12 Any Other Business

- Well wishes were extended to members of the Language Policy Officer family who were currently unwell.
- It was reported that there was a need for Welsh language provision in digital gaming. It was reported that there was some provision in pre-school and primary age group, however, there was a gap in the provision for children and young people in the secondary school age

groups. It was suggested that a report on the Welsh Government Digital Strategy at a future meeting would be useful. It would also be useful to understand what resources, as regards to digital gaming that was currently available in Welsh.

Confirmed at the Meeting of the Committee held on

Chairman:- _____