

These minutes are subject to approval as an accurate record at the next meeting of the Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee

## GLAMORGAN ARCHIVES JOINT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee held at Remote Meeting on 30 September 2022 at 2.00 pm.

Present:

Members Representing: Councillor Cowan  
Councillor Lewis  
Councillor Mackie  
Councillor Robson  
Councillor John, Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Councillor Birch, Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Councillor Andrews, Caerphilly County Borough Council  
Councillor Colbran, Merthyr Council  
Councillor Harris, RCT  
Councillor W Lewis, RCT

### 11 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr G Jones.

### 12 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

### 13 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

### 14 : REPORT OF THE GLAMORGAN ARCHIVIST FOR THE PERIOD 1ST MAY-31ST AUGUST

Members were provided with a comprehensive update on the work of the service for the period 31 May 2022 – 31 August 2022 all categorised against the outcomes of the Annual Plan.

In summary, the Archivist explained that the Archives continues to be busy with several different projects underway, both within the service and in partnership with others. Work is continuing on developing further funding applications where appropriate to enable the service to continue to develop and grow. The Archives is still a partner of choice for a number of groups and organisations, and that is very encouraging.

Work on building issues continues to be a cause of concern, especially with the increased costs that are being seen across the board on utilities and materials. This will continue to be monitored.

The Archivist offered to pay a visit to each of the joint Authorities to see how the service can work more with them.

The Archivist asked members to suggest suitable community venues in their respective Authorities that may be able to host some pop-up displays of the Glamorgan Blood exhibition.

The Chairperson invited questions and comments on the report.

Members sought clarity on whether the use of community facilities for the Glamorgan Blood exhibition would need to be free. The archivist explained it would be as there was no budget for it, it was just to display some pop-up displays. Members offered some suggestions and offered to meet with the Archivist on this topic.

Cllr Cowan offered to speak to the Monitoring Officer at Cardiff to see if the Archivist can be invited to Democratic Services Cttee to see what work can be done with the service.

Members noted the enthusiasm of the Adamsdown Investigators and were pleased see this from such young school children.

Members were pleased to see the information on the Social Media figures and to understand the reasons behind the spikes.

RESOLVED: to note the contents of the report.

## 15 : VERBAL BRIEFING - NNDR

The Archivist provided a verbal update on NNDR, including some background information for new Members to the Joint Committee and also on the more recent situation with Tyne and Wear Archives and Museum Service having been successful in reversing the decision of the Valuation Office on the valuation of some of their buildings.

Members were advised that it has taken Tyne and Wear 12 years for this to happen and it has been achieved by a legal challenge. The decision has meant that some of their buildings now have a rateable value of £10 as they are seen as buildings of societal value. The challenge has cost them significant investment over the 12 years but their costs have been granted back to them.

The Archivist advised that there seems to be an appetite amongst Archive Services in England and Wales to make a joint challenge. The Archivist wished to advise Members that she had no figures to provide at the moment but that going forward, if this was pursued then there would need to be a financial investment made going forward, however making a joint challenge would mean that a percentage of legal costs being paid rather than all.

Members asked if Tyne and Wear had had their NNDR payments backdated. The Archivist advised that some had been back to 2010 when they had launched the challenge, but some were being held as the valuation office were challenging the decision.

## 16 : 2022/23 MONTH 4 MONITORING REPORT

Members were provided with a comprehensive outline of the report and all its key headings, after which the Chairperson invited questions and comments on the report.

Members noted that it was still early on in the budget year and they were optimistic that the position would be more positive as the year goes on and that maybe there will be some grant funding that can be won.

Members also noted that it was unclear at this point what the utilities cost would be over the winter months.

RESOLVED: to note the projected full year outturn position for 2022/23 as detailed in the report.

## 17 : DATE OF NEXT MEETING

16 December 2022, 2.00pm via Microsoft Teams

The meeting terminated at 3.00 pm

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