

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

MINUTES OF THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY COVENANT SIGNATORIES PANEL

**HELD AT CHAMBER MEETING ROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, SWANSEA ON
MONDAY, 4 JULY 2016 AT 2.00 PM**

PRESENT: Councillor June E Burtonshaw (Chair) Presided

Representing Organisations:

Capt Chris Evans – Army
Lt Cdr Ruth Fleming – Navy
Sq Ldr Phil Flower – Royal British Legion
Alyx Baharie – SCVS
Sue Richards-Hoskin – Cruse
Andrew Grove – Mid & West Wales Fire Brigade
Alison Fisher – South Wales Police

Officer(s)

Spencer Martin	Voluntary Sector Relationship Coordinator
Gareth Borsden	Democratic Services

26 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Byron Lewis, Peter Neville, Victoria Williams, Sophie O'Kelly, & Tony Colburn.

27 **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL & PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS.**

None.

28 **MINUTES.**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Panel held on 23 March 2016 be agreed as a correct record.

29 **APPLICATION FOR FUNDING: SEA CADET CORPS, T.S.AJAX, SWANSEA.**

Spencer Martin, the Voluntary Sector Relationship Co-ordinator outlined the revised process for funding applications.

An application had been received from the MOD seeking the Panels view on the funding application from Sea Cadet Corps, T.S Ajax in Swansea.

Members of the Panel discussed the excellent reputation of the Corps and the funding application for improvement works to their building near the River Tawe.

Sue Richards-Hoskin outlined that Cruse Bereavement had also applied for funding for a series of half day training sessions which would take place across Swansea, Neath and Bridgend.

Spencer Martin also detailed the background to an All Wales funding bid from MAON, which would be further discussed at a meeting later in July. The details of the bid to be emailed to all Members of the Panel.

AGREED that the applications for funding from Sea Cadet Corps, T.S Ajax and Cruse be endorsed and supported.

30 UPDATES FROM PANEL MEMBERS.

Officers and Panel Members provided verbal updates relating to the current and proposed activities, events and workloads of their respective groups/organisations, including the following areas.

Armed Forces Day – 25 June

All present commented on the success of the day and thanked all the organisations involved for their help and assistance.

The success of the monetary collections made across the city was noted.

The issue of the single Flagpole was raised again. This was unfortunate as the same issue had arisen previously and a lot of discussion had taken place to address the matter.

The cost and possibility of purchasing two temporary flagpoles was discussed again. Phil Flower indicated that the Royal British Legion may be able to assist with the purchase, should funding be an issue.

Spencer Martin indicated he would check with his colleagues in Special Events to establish the reasons why the issue had arisen again, and to discuss a way forward and solution.

Air Show – 2/3 July

All present again welcomed the success and good publicity arising from the Show. The aerial and ground displays had again proved very popular, but a query was raised regarding the lack of ability for Covenant Panel Members to have display stands at the event.

Spencer Martin indicated he would check with his colleagues in Special Events to establish the reasons for the restriction.

Forthcoming Events

Chris Evans reported on the two following events

- Transition Day with DWP – 14 September
- Veterans Awareness Day at the Grange – October (Date TBC)

Phil Flower outlined and distributed copies of the various events across the Festival of Remembrance for 2016.

He indicated that subject to confirmation there would be attendance by Armed Forces Personnel and a monetary collection at the Swansea City v Man Utd game over the weekend of 5/6 November.

The Chair indicated she would speak to colleagues within the Council to try to organise an event for veterans at that game, similar to the successful one last year.

SCVS

Alyx Baharie reported that the new InfoEngine website was now live and indicated she would discuss with the Spencer Martin how best to get a link from the Covenants page on the Councils website.

South Wales Police

Alison Fisher referred to the main schemes put in place to deal with ex service personnel that come into contact with the Police, namely the IMO (Integrated Offender Management) and STOMP (Supporting Transition of Military Personnel).

She detailed the excellent working relationship the Force has with Change Step, particularly when dealing with custody matters.

She also detailed the "diversionary" policy used by the Force for dealing with minor offences.

Chairs Report

June Burtonshaw thanks all the agencies involved for their assistance on Armed Forces Day and the Air Show.

She outlined the measures put in place by the Authority to assist ex service personnel to get Council Housing in Swansea.

She indicated that a number of veterans would be invited as guests to the upcoming Lord Mayors Ball.

The meeting ended at 2.33 pm

CHAIR