

# Carmarthenshire Volunteer Organisers Network – CVON

## Minutes

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021 via Zoom

Present –

1. Nevil Williams	Radio BGM Llanelli	
2. Jane Hemmings	CAVS	<a href="mailto:jane.hemmings@cavs.org.uk">jane.hemmings@cavs.org.uk</a>
3. Alud Owen Jones	CAVS	<a href="mailto:alud.jones@cavs.org.uk">alud.jones@cavs.org.uk</a>
4. Andrea Edwards	WWAMH	
5. Jamie Horton	CAVS	<a href="mailto:jamie.horton@cavs.org.uk">jamie.horton@cavs.org.uk</a>
6. Meinir Evans	Menter Gorllewin Sir Gar	
7. Sarah Risk	MIND Llanelli	
8. Sue Smith	Carmarthen Therapy Dogs	
9. Helen Morris	CBSA	
10. Ian Williams	Radio Glangwili	
11. Steffan Warren	D-DAS	
12. Sarah Jones	Helo Blod	
13. Carwen Davies	TEMPO	
14. Pat Holt	The Hangout Wales	

### 1) Welcome & Introductions

Alud welcomed everybody to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves and their role / organisation .

### 2) Apologies

Sally Richards Llanelli Mind, Suzanne Samuels Fusion, Amber Daniels CCC and Judith Collins Carmarthenshire Counselling

### 3) Minutes of Previous Meeting

These were proposed correct and accepted as such.

### 4) Matters Arising

Discussion about experiences of volunteering in a pandemic. Sarah from Mind spoke of how telephone contact worked well but people are missing the in-person activities. Older volunteers are more resistant to meeting up. A blended approach seems to be the favoured way of moving forward. Sue shared concerns about volunteers missing networking (including the 4-legged volunteers). Robo-pets have been used in some settings to good effect. Guidance is needed on how to re-engage volunteers.

### 5) CAVS and Volunteer Centre News

Volunteers' week Jamie reported on Volunteers' week activities and events, Many of which were posted on CAVS website and Social Media. They included a launch event thank you session for volunteer managers, Volunteer Awards, Staff volunteering and the launch of the Food Network. All can be seen here: <https://cavs.org.uk/volunteering/celebrating-volunteering/volunteers-week/volunteers-week-2021/>

Jamie also flagged up that part of her role was to provide funding for projects that directly engage the community in voluntary activity. There is a grant of up to £500 available. <https://cavs.org.uk/2021/06/covid-19-community-action-fund/> deadline 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

Upcoming network meetings: Health and Wellbeing <https://cavs.org.uk/engagement/health-and-well-being-network/> Next meeting June 10th 10.30am

Children and Young People <https://cavs.org.uk/engagement/children-and-young-people-network/> June 22nd 10.30am next meeting

Carmarthenshire Youth led grant will be launched soon. Up to £1,000. We will keep you posted.

Carmarthenshire County Council and CAVS review of services. Please see links below to have your say; CCC Review of CAVS and Volunteering: (Welsh) <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/D8MVPFC> (English) <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/D8JJPS9>

Research on the effect of COVID of volunteering to take part and shape future developments,; Wales Survey Link (English Language) : [Mobilising Voluntary Action: Learning from today prepared for tomorrow \(qualtrics.com\)](#) (Welsh)[Mobilising Voluntary Action: Dysgu o heddi, Paratoi ar gyfer yfory \(qualtrics.com\)](#)

Also coming up WCVA online Volunteering conference gofod 3 taking place 28<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July. See the programme and book here [Home - gofod3](#)

#### 6) Presentation – Carwen Davies Tempo Time-banking

Carwen’s lively presentation about the scheme and recent updates is attached. A question and answer session followed. Carwen is happy to support organisations and volunteers who wish to get involved. Carwyn’s contact e.mail : [CarwenDavies@wearetempo.org](mailto:CarwenDavies@wearetempo.org)

#### 7) CAVS new Website and Learning portal

The new CAVS website was funded through the Welsh Government Coronavirus Recovery Grant for Volunteering 2020/21.to provide digital Support for Volunteering

- bringing *information* and *training* opportunities together in one place
- for both formal and informal volunteers and volunteer involving organisations.
- The website will eventually have an interactive forum area for users to be able to share information and discuss relevant issues. There will be further information on this when completed.

- **online training** based on CAVS existing courses for organisations and volunteers and also for individuals who need support to become volunteer ready. (This new digitised training is hosted on the new website in a section called the Learning Portal).  
The training section is still being added to and will be fully bi-lingual once it is finished.

#### 8) Discussion slot for next meeting

Issues mentioned in the meeting and in the Volunteers’ week launch are:

Guidance needed on how to re-engage volunteers

Discussion about developing volunteer-friendly and not unnecessarily complex policies.

Please let us know if anything else springs to mind.

#### 9) AOB

Meinir mentioned her success in recruiting volunteers for her virtual drama club through the volunteering-wales website.: [carmarthenshire.volunteering-wales.net](http://carmarthenshire.volunteering-wales.net) This is the main platform to promote volunteering opportunities.

Sarah Jones introduced her project Helo Blod which offers bilingual support to organisations to introduce more Welsh into their services. They can also offer a free 500 word translation service for organisations who are not funded by Welsh Government.

Sarah Risk asked for ideas to help her contact young volunteers, especially boys, for a youth project. Suggestions were to work through schools, Dr Mz and local sports groups. Alud is able to do a targeted bulk e.mail through the volunteering-wales website.

#### 10) Date and time of next meetings

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021 10.30 – 12.30**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 10.30 – 12.30**