

Meeting of:	Standards Committee
Date of Meeting:	Thursday, 28 September 2023
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	No Relevant Scrutiny Committee
Report Title:	Applications for Dispensation
Purpose of Report:	To consider applications for dispensation
Report Owner:	Debbie Marles, Monitoring Officer/Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Responsible Officer:	Karen Bowen, Principal Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	This report does not involve any consultation with other parties
Policy Framework:	This report is a matter for consideration by the Standards Committee
Executive Summary:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider applications for dispensation as attached at Appendix 1 to this report. 	

Recommendation

1. That the Standards Committee consider the dispensation applications on matters as set out in the completed proformas attached at Appendix 1 to this report.

Reason for Recommendation

1. To comply with the regulations and obligations for the grant of dispensations to speak and vote.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Standards Committee Grant of Dispensations (Wales) Regulations 2001 permits Members to apply to Standards Committee to speak and, if appropriate, to vote on issues which due to prejudicial interests, they may not otherwise be able to speak or vote or remain in the room.
- 1.2 In order to deal with the applications as quickly as possible, it is necessary for the Standards Committee to receive full information of the interests involved and why in the Member's opinion dispensation should be given.
- 1.3 Applicants are advised that they are also able to attend the Standards Committee meeting to present their application if they wish to do so.
- 1.4 All Vale of Glamorgan Councillors and Town and Community Councils have been advised that previous applications that had been agreed during the last term of office ceased at the time of the Local Government elections held on 5th May 2022.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 Committee is requested to consider and determine applications for dispensation from the following Councillors as attached at Appendix 1 to this report:
 - Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Councillor D. Breen to speak only when matters relating to the Cowbridge Museum (which is located within Cowbridge Town Hall) are discussed in view of being a Trustee of the museum and Chair of Cowbridge with Llanblethian's Town Hall Committee.
 - Colwinston Community Councillor B. Morris to speak and vote when matters related to planning consent for extension to Heol Cae Pwll Estate are discussed at meetings of Colwinston Community Council due to living on the estate where permission to build extension is being sought.
 - Vale of Glamorgan Councillor M. Hooper to speak and vote on broad matters relating to the Welsh Government's Climate Change portfolio (save for matters regarding Ynni Cymru or Unnos) when they are to be discussed at Vale of Glamorgan Council meetings for the period of his employment as a Special Advisor in Welsh Government.

- 2.2** The Standards Committee agreed that when applications for dispensation are required to be considered as a matter of urgency, the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Chair of the Standards Committee be provided with the authority to consider such applications and to report to a future meeting such applications that have been agreed under this delegated authority.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1** One of the roles and functions of the Standards Committee (as detailed in the Council's Constitution) is to consider the granting of dispensations to Councillors, Co-opted Members and Church and Parent Governor Representatives from requirements relating to interests set out in the Members' Code of Conduct.

4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 4.1** There are no direct implications as result of this report.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 5.1** None as a direct result of this report.

Employment

- 5.2** None as a direct result of this report.

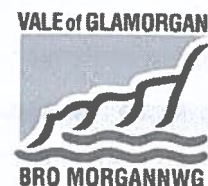
Legal (Including Equalities)

- 5.3** The Council is required to comply with the Standards Committee Grant of Dispensations (Wales) Regulations 2001.

6. Background Papers

Standards Committee Grant of Dispensations (Wales) Regulations 2001.

**THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
STANDARDS COMMITTEE**



**Application for a Dispensation to the Standards Committee under Section 2 of
the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001**

Name of Councillor	David Breen
Address	[REDACTED]
Name of Member's relevant Authority and Ward	Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council Llanblethian East
Nature of Dispensation sought	Trustee of and volunteer at Cowbridge Museum which is housed in Cowbridge Town Hall. I am Chair of the Town Hall Committee. I would like to represent the museum and report on it's progress at Council meetings and discuss and report on items relevant to the council relating to the Museum at meetings.
Date of meeting / issue to be discussed (if known)	
Do you seek a dispensation just for the one meeting or for a longer period? If longer, please state a period. <i>(N.B. All dispensations granted expire at the next Council elections.)</i>	Dispensation sought for the period I am on the council and as a trustee of the museum. For the period of 1 year to be renewed annually
Level of dispensation sought <i>(i.e. to speak only or to speak and vote)</i>	To speak only.
Relevant paragraph(s) under which dispensation can be granted <i>(See (a) to (j) overleaf)</i>	D, E, F

<p>Details of the Prejudicial Interest</p>	<p>As the Museum is housed in the Town Hall issues may arise which are related to the Cowbridge Museum. This has not yet arisen but may do.</p>
<p>Details of any Position of responsibility / control held on your Council (e.g. Chairman / Vice-Chairman / Cabinet Member)</p>	<p>Chair of Town Hall Committee of Cowbridge Town Council.</p>
<p>Reason(s) to support the application and why you consider the Standards Committee should grant a dispensation (Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)</p>	<p>Cowbridge with Llanblethian Town Council has always supported the Museum in it's work and I believe it will continue to do so. The museum provides a free service to all who wish to visit the museum when open. The additional activities it provides support events organised by the council. I believe my role at the museum and on the council are supportive of each other.</p>

SIGNED:David Breen.....

DATED:8th July 2023.....

Each section of the form MUST be fully completed.

(N.B. If you are submitting your application form electronically, without a signature, please give written permission for the receiving officer to sign the application form on your behalf. Failure to do this will result in the application being deemed incomplete and returned to the applicant.)

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER (IF APPROPRIATE): K. BOWEN

*Please return completed form to:
Democratic and Scrutiny Services, Directorate of Resources, Room 26, 1st Floor,
Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU*

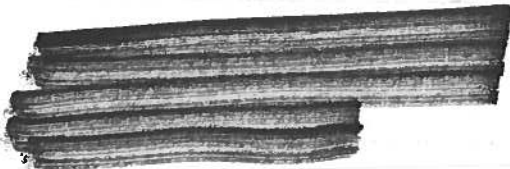
**THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**Application for a Dispensation to the Standards Committee under Section 2 of
the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001**

Name of Councillor	BRIAN MORRIS
Address	[REDACTED]
Name of Member's relevant Authority and Ward	COLWINSTON COLWINSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Nature of Dispensation sought	TO VOTE ON PLANNING CONSENT FOR EXTENSION TO HEOL CAE PULL, ESTATE.
Date of meeting / issue to be discussed (if known)	NOT KNOWN.
Do you seek a dispensation just for the one meeting or for a longer period? If longer, please state a period. (N.B. All dispensations granted expire at the next Council elections.)	TWO YEARS.
Level of dispensation sought (i.e. to speak only or to speak and vote)	SPEAK & VOTE ON COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
Relevant paragraph(s) under which dispensation can be granted (See (a) to (j) overleaf)	A D E IN COLWINSTON — — —

<p>Details of the Prejudicial Interest</p>	<p>LIVE ON ESTATE WHERE PERMISSION TO BUILD EXTENSION IS SOUGHT,</p>
<p>Details of any Position of responsibility / control held on your Council (e.g. Chairman / Vice-Chairman / Cabinet Member)</p>	<p>COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBER.</p>
<p>Reason(s) to support the application and why you consider the Standards Committee should grant a dispensation</p> <p><i>(Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)</i></p>	<p>ABLE TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF PEOPLE WHO LIVE ON HEOL CAE PWLL & THOSE WHO LIVE IN VILLAGE.</p>

SIGNED:



B. MORRIS

DATED: 26 JUNE 2023,

Each section of the form MUST be fully completed.

(N.B. If you are submitting your application form electronically, without a signature, please give written permission for the receiving officer to sign the application form on your behalf. Failure to do this will result in the application being deemed incomplete and returned to the applicant.)

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**THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
 STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**Application for a Dispensation to the Standards Committee under Section 2 of
 the Standards Committees (Grant of Dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001**

Name of Councillor	Mark Hooper
Address	[REDACTED]
Name of Member's relevant Authority and Ward	Vale of Glamorgan Council, Baruc Ward
Nature of Dispensation sought	To speak, and vote on broad matters relating to the Welsh Government's Climate Change portfolio. I will not speak and will recuse myself from any discussions regarding Ynni Cymru or Unnos should they occur.
Date of meeting / issue to be discussed (if known)	On-going, across Council meetings.
Do you seek a dispensation just for the one meeting or for a longer period? If longer, please state a period. <i>(N.B. All dispensations granted expire at the next Council elections.)</i>	For the period of my employment as a Special Advisor in Welsh Government. My contract is for six months, but is extendable. It will end when the First Minister steps down, so the 'back-stop' is well before the next Council elections.
Level of dispensation sought <i>(i.e. to speak only or to speak and vote)</i>	I would like to speak and vote on any Welsh Government policy matters, except Ynni Cymru and Unnos.
Relevant paragraph(s) under which dispensation can be granted <i>(See (a) to (j) overleaf)</i>	c, d, f and i

<p>Details of the Prejudicial Interest</p>	<p>I will be employed by Welsh Government as a Special Advisor from 25/9/23.</p> <p>I will be working on two projects Ynni Cymru (National Energy Co) and Unnos (National Housebuilding Co).</p> <p>I will be working for Julie James, MS, Minister for Climate Change</p>
<p>Details of any Position of responsibility / control held on your Council (e.g. Chairman / Vice-Chairman / Cabinet Member)</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Reason(s) to support the application and why you consider the Standards Committee should grant a dispensation</p>	<p>I have been asked to support WG in delivering two projects agreed as part of the Co-operation Agreement between Plaid Cymru and the Welsh Government.</p> <p>I will recuse myself from any discussions that relate to my specific focus of work (Ynni Cymru and Unnos), but would like to continue to engage fully in any other debates that could more broadly come under the leadership of the Minister for Climate Change, who I will be supporting.</p>
<p>(Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)</p>	<p>WG have indicated that they are comfortable with this course of action. I have shared a copy of my contract and the notes of mitigation from WG with the Monitoring Officer.</p>

SIGNED: by email . M. HOOPER

DATED: 21/9/23

Each section of the form MUST be fully completed.

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