

Welsh Language Policy Polisi Iaith Gymraeg

Grovesend and Waungron Community Council wishes to promote bilingualism where possible, practicable and affordable in all its activities. Wales is a bilingual nation. It is a country where people can live their lives through the medium of Welsh or English. Both languages are seen, heard and used in local communities. Welsh is all around us from street and place names to the media. It is part of our own curriculum for Wales. It is part of our history and heritage.

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021: Statutory Guidance for Community and Town Councils (Section 2.14) sets out guidance regarding the Welsh language. Community councils are not subject to the Welsh language standards deriving from the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, but 'they are expected to uphold the main principle of the Measure and treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English'.

<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2022-08/statutory-guidance-forcommunity-and-town-councils.pdf>

During our meetings: -

- Should a bilingual community councillor wish to speak in Welsh that they are welcome to do so, however we request that they follow this up with the comment translated into English for those who do not understand Welsh.
- Should a member of the public attend a community council meeting, we request that they do the same should they be able to speak English as well as Welsh, or alternatively one of the bilingual members of the community council (if available on the evening) shall translate using best endeavours on their behalf.

Grovesend and Waungron Community Council will:

1. Consider what we can reasonably do to promote the use of the Welsh language in its activities.
2. Consider measures that can easily be taken using our present Welsh Language competence such as publishing bilingual posters, advertisements and headings on our website and use of informal Welsh greetings at Community Council meetings.
3. Where possible, encourage the learning of Welsh by providing and promoting information on our website and social media pages about local Welsh classes and Welsh learning Apps.
4. Evaluate the success of the policy annually and consider whether the adopted Welsh policy needs updating.