



## **CABINET**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN, ON WEDNESDAY, 2ND JULY 2014 AT 2.00 P.M.**

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**PRESENT:**

Councillor G. Jones - Deputy Leader (Presiding)

**Councillors:**

Mrs C. Forehead (HR and Governance/Business Manager), D.T. Hardacre (Performance and Asset Management), K. James (Regeneration, Planning and Sustainable Development), Mrs B. Jones (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Corporate Services), Mrs R. Passmore (Education and Lifelong Learning), D.V. Poole (Community and Leisure Services)

**Together with:**

S.A. Rosser (Interim Chief Executive), N. Scammell (Acting Director Corporate Services and S.151 Officer), D. Street (Corporate Director Social Services), T. Maher (Assistant Director Planning and Strategy)

**Also in Attendance:**

P.G. Davy (Head of Programmes), M.S. Williams (Head of Community and Leisure Services), D. Jones (Service Manager, Health Safety and Welfare), S.M. Kauczok (Committee Services Officer)

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors K.V. Reynolds (Leader of Council), Councillor R. Woodyatt (Social Services) and T.J. Williams (Highways, Transportation and Engineering); Mrs S. Aspinall (Acting Deputy Chief Executive).

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **3. MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2014 be approved and signed as a correct record.

## **MATTERS ON WHICH EXECUTIVE DECISIONS WERE REQUIRED**

### **4. BULKY HOUSEHOLD COLLECTIONS - PROPOSALS TO CHARGE FOR FAILURE TO NOTIFY OF CANCELLATION**

The Head of Community and Leisure Services presented the report, which sought approval to advise residents that a charge may be incurred for failure to notify the Authority of a cancellation. Since the re-introduction of free bulky collections for 3-piece suites and beds in April 2013, the number of premises visited with no items presented for collection has significantly increased. This is causing unnecessary time delays and has a financial impact on the service going forward as a crew and vehicle are assigned to each call received.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the officer's report the proposal to advise residents booking a bulky household waste collection that a £20 charge may be incurred for failure to notify of cancellation, be approved.

### **5. FORMER NELSON BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB**

The report updated Cabinet on progress with the proposed development of the former Nelson Boys and Girls Club and sought approval to a further recommendation for a lease beyond the decisions made at the Cabinet meeting held on 4th September 2012. Since those decisions were made the Cabinet Member for Performance, Property and Asset Management, together with the Head of Performance and Property, have been engaging with Nelson Development Trust to move the project forward.

The Trust has confirmed its intention to apply for Big Lottery funding and has been advised that a Letter of Intent to lease would not be adequate to secure grant funding and that a long term lease would need to be in place. The Trust has been advised that applications take approximately six months to obtain an "Approval in Principle" and possibly up to twelve months before a final decision is made.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the officer's report: -

1. The proposal to enter into a 25 year lease with the Nelson Development Trust for the former Nelson Boys and Girls Club to allow them to pursue funding opportunities, be approved. The lease should include a time limit (18 months) after which if adequate funding has not been secured, the lease will revert back to the Council. As previously, the lease would also make the Trust responsible for all repairs/maintenance and insurance of the existing building.
2. All other former recommendations be retained but the time limits previously being 24 months from the date of issue of the Letter of Intent being extended to within 18 months of the signing of the lease.

### **6. ASBESTOS REMOVAL PROGRAMME - CCBC SCHOOLS**

The report updated Cabinet on the current position of asbestos in all schools where the Council is the duty holder. It also informed Cabinet of the work undertaken to date and sought approval to utilise capital and revenue held and safety budgets to progress the recommended programme of asbestos removal works across 37 schools.

Appendix 2 to the report provides an overview of asbestos products in each Caerphilly owned school building. Each school is ranked from 1-5 using the definition in Table 1. Table 2 provides an overview of the number of schools, which fall into each category after completion of the programme of works.

It is proposed that all amosite asbestos products are removed from occupied areas of school buildings over the next two years. This policy would commit £800,000 of H&S budgets over two budget years undertaking removal and reinstatement work in the 37 schools.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the officer's report, the use of Education Capital H&S budget, together with Corporate Health and Safety unallocated reserves to fund the £800k required for the removal of amosite containing materials within occupied areas of school buildings, be approved.

## **7. ROWAN PLACE, RHYMNEY**

The Head of Programmes presented the report, which updated Members on the extent of repairs and improvement works required to homes at Rowan Place, Rhymney. The report had been through a fairly extensive process and was presented to the Caerphilly Homes Task Group on 22nd May 2014 and the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 3rd June 2014. Whilst full support was received at those meetings in terms of the investment in the properties, there were mixed feelings expressed in relation to the suggestion to pursue limited selective demolition to reduce the overall number of two bedroom flats at Rowan Place. It was subsequently recommended that this proposal be removed.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the following recommendations be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously approved.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the officer's report: -

1. A revised approach to Rowan Place by bringing forward the external works, be undertaken in parallel with the internal works in view of the extent of the damp problems. The works will be re-programmed to commence during 2014/15.
2. The estimated additional costs of £3.615m be funded within the Business Plan flexibilities.
3. Properties suffering severe damp where damage is extensive to undergo a full internal refurbishment and tenants offered the opportunity to relocate to a newly refurbished property (voids) in Rowan Place. The extent of internal refurbishment to other properties to be determined by their condition at the time of the works.
4. The WHQS Project Board be given delegated authority to determine the most appropriate contractual arrangements between the in house team and contractors to expedite the works to meeting the new timeline.
5. Other previous commitments to establish a multi agency task group to tackle the social problems and to create a show flat and welfare facilities be reaffirmed.
6. Tenants be kept informed about the programming of the repairs and improvement works.

7. The recommendation as to whether selective demolition should be pursued (as listed in 1.6.1 of the report to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee), be removed.

## **8. CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The report sought Members' approval of the updated Cabinet Forward Work Programme for the period July to October 2014.

Following consideration and discussion, the recommendation contained therein was moved and seconded. By a show of hands it was unanimously approved.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the officer's report, the Cabinet Forward Work Programme as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

The meeting closed at 2.35 pm.

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any corrections made at the meeting held on 16th July 2014.

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CHAIR