



CABINET AS TRUSTEES OF BLACKWOOD MINERS' INSTITUTE

MINUTES OF THE REMOTE MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 27TH OCTOBER 2021 AT 11:15AM

PRESENT

Councillor P. Marsden – Chair

Councillors:

S. Cook (Social Care), N. George (Waste, Public Protection and Street Scene), C. Gordon (Corporate Services), L. Phipps (Housing), J. Pritchard (Infrastructure and Property), E. Stenner (Performance, Economy and Enterprise), A. Whitcombe (Sustainability, Planning and Fleet) and R. Whiting (Learning and Leisure).

Together with:

D. Street (Acting Chief Executive), R. Edmunds (Corporate Director Education and Corporate Services), G. Jenkins (Acting Corporate Director Social Services), and M.S. Williams (Corporate Director – Economy and Environment).

Also in Attendance:

R. Tranter (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer), S. Harris (Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer), A. Dallimore (Regeneration Services Manager) A. Boulter (Visitor Economy and Destinations Manager)

RECORDING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Leader reminded those present that the meeting was being filmed but would not be live streamed, however a recording would be available following the meeting via the Council's website – [Click Here To View](#). She advised that decisions would be made by Microsoft Forms.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from C. Harry (Chief Executive).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

3. CABINET AS TRUSTEES OF BLACKWOOD MINERS' INSTITUTE MINUTES – 27TH JANUARY 2021

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th January 2021 be approved and signed as a correct record.

4 BLACKWOOD MINERS' INSTITUTE UPDATE REPORT

Consideration was given to the report which provided Cabinet with a progress report on the operational activity at Blackwood Miners' Institute and outlined proposals to set up an Advisory Group for Blackwood Miners' Institute.

The ongoing impact of Covid on the operational issues at Blackwood Miners' Institute were detailed. Cabinet were asked to note the measures taken to bring audiences safely back to the BMI and were advised that these measures will be reviewed and evaluated throughout the autumn season and Managers will monitor changes in legislation closely and would adapt safety measures and risk assessments accordingly.

Officers confirmed that the BMI had continued to work with various partners during the pandemic to produce artistic output in a variety of mediums including Digital Tours, Drive in Panto, Doorstep Craft Packs and using Social Media such as Facebook and Twitter.

Officers confirmed that the recruitment process for the new Service Manager had been concluded and it was hoped that the successful candidate starting work in the New Year.

Members congratulated the Blackwood Miners' Institute on the adaptive way they had worked during the pandemic and the way in which links with the community and partners had been sustained and strengthened. Reference was made to section 5.9 of the Officer's report and the regular meetings taking place with local members and town councillors which would provide updates on BMI activity and explore opportunities for joint working and a request was made for the Cabinet Member for Performance, Economy and Enterprises to be included in these meetings.

Cabinet discussed staff retention and recruitment issues in the hospitality services and the action being taken to address any venue staff shortages.

Having fully considered the report it was moved and seconded that the Recommendation 3.2 as detailed in the Officer's report be removed and replaced with the recommendation that a further report in relation to the establishment of an Advisory Group be brought forward to a future meeting of Cabinet as Trustees of Blackwood Miners' Institute and by way of electronic voting this was unanimously agreed.

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

1. The content of the report be noted and endorsed.
2. A further report in relation to the establishment of an Advisory Group be brought forward to a future meeting of Cabinet as Trustees of Blackwood Miners Institute.

The meeting closed at 11.45am.

CHAIR