

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF CABINET DECISIONS FROM THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th DECEMBER 2023 AT 1PM
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PRESENT:

Councillors: S. Morgan, J. Pritchard, N. George, E. Stenner, C. Andrews, P. Leonard, C. Morgan, S. Cook and E. Forehead.

The Cabinet decisions are set out below. For further details please refer to the relevant Cabinet report.

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	VOTE
1.	Apologies for absence.	Apologies for absence were received from C. HARRY (Chief Executive) and R. Tranter (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer).	Not Applicable
2.	Declarations of Interest.	<p>The following Councillors declared a personal interest in relation to <u>Agenda Item No. 7 Housing Revenue Account Charges – 2024/2025</u></p> <p>Councillor C. Andrews in that a relative for whom she has power of attorney is a Council Tenant.</p> <p>Councillor N. George in that he is a Garage Tenant.</p> <p>Councillor E. Stenner in that a relative is a Garage Tenant.</p> <p>Councillor P. Leonard in that she is a Garage Tenant.</p> <p>Councillor J. Pritchard in that a relative is a Council House Tenant.</p> <p>Councillor S. Cook in that a relative is a Council House Tenant.</p> <p>As these were personal interests only there was no requirement for them to leave the Chamber and they could take a full part in the debate and vote.</p> <p>Councillor J. Pritchard declared a personal interest in relation to <u>Agenda Item No. 10 Listed Buildings at Risk Register and Strategy</u> in that he is a supporter of the Ruperra Preservation Trust. As this was a personal interest only there was no requirement for him to leave the Chamber and he could take a</p>	Not Applicable

		<p>full part in the debate and vote.</p> <p>Councillor C. Morgan declared a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to <u>Agenda Item No. 10 Listed Buildings at Risk Register and Strategy</u> in that he is a Trustee of Ruperra Castle Trust as such he would leave the meeting when the item was discussed and take no part in the debate or vote.</p> <p>Councillor C. Andrews declared a personal interest in relation to <u>Agenda Item No. 12 Consultation on Proposals to Implement Council Tax Premiums on Long- Term Empty Properties and Second Homes</u> in that a relative has a house which has been empty for several years. As this was a personal interest only there was no requirement for her to leave the Chamber and she could take a full part in the debate and vote.</p>	
3.	Minutes.	<p>Subject to an amendment to paragraph 2 at Agenda item 5 (Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre) which reads: <i>'Cabinet Welcomed Mr Lloyd, a local resident speaking against the closure of the Leisure Centre.'</i> The amendment to read <i>'Cabinet Welcomed Mr Lloyd, a local resident speaking against the proposal for the Leisure Centre to remain closed.'</i></p> <p>The minutes of Cabinet held on 15th November 2023 were approved as a correct record.</p>	Unanimously
4.	Cabinet Forward Work Programme.	The Cabinet Forward Work Programme was noted.	Unanimously
EXECUTIVE DECISIONS THAT ARE SUBJECT TO CALL-IN			
5.	Sustainable Communities for Learning Band B Programme - Consultation Report: Ysgol Y Lawnt and Upper Rhymney Primary School Proposal.	<p>It was noted that as Councillor P. Leonard had not been present for the whole of the debate, she did not take part in the vote.</p> <p>Considered by Education and Social Services Scrutiny Committee on the 28th November, 2023.</p> <p>RESOLVED for reasons contained within the Officers report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The information contained in the Consultation Report was considered. 	Unanimously

		2. To proceed to Statutory Notice in relation to the proposal for Ysgol Y Lawnt and Upper Rhymney Primary School be approved.	
6.	School Organisation Code 2018 - Consultation Report: Proposal for The Closure of Cwm Glas Infant School.	<p>Considered by Education and Social Services Scrutiny Committee on the 28th November, 2023.</p> <p>RESOLVED that for reasons contained within the Officers report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The information contained in the Consultation Report was considered. 2. To proceed to Statutory Notice in relation to the proposal to close Cwm Glas Infant School by July 2024 be approved. 	Unanimously
7.	Housing Revenue Account Charges – 2024/2025	<p>Considered by Special Housing and Environment Scrutiny Committee on the 21st November 2023.</p> <p>RESOLVED that for reasons contained within the Officers report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cabinet considered and gave their views on the recommendations included within the report. 2. The following increases from April 2024 based on the options explained in the report be approved. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Rent be increased per property to the maximum permitted as per the WG rent policy which is 6.7%. This would increase the current average rent by £6.68 per week from £99.72 to £106.40 per week over 52 weeks. (ii) The level of rent for garages from April 2024 be increased by the same level at 6.7% to £9.44 per week. 	Unanimously
8.	Housing Offices Rationalisation	<p>Considered by Special Housing and Environment Scrutiny Committee on the 21st November 2023.</p> <p>RESOLVED that for reasons contained</p>	Unanimously

		<p>within the Officers report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The permanent closure of the Housing Offices at Lansbury Park, Graig Yr Rhacca and Gilfach, and the Community Housing Office at Ty Sign be approved. 2. The transition of the Landlord Service from a traditional office-based model to a community-based delivery model be approved. 3. The relocation of the Landlord Service to Penallta House where the wider Caerphilly Homes Housing Service has recently relocated be approved. 	
9.	Draft Greater Blackwood Masterplan	<p>RESOLVED for reasons contained within the Officers report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Draft Greater Blackwood Masterplan be endorsed. 2. The publication of Draft Greater Blackwood Masterplan be approved for comment for a six-week period between 3rd January and 14th February 2024. 	Unanimously
10.	Listed Buildings at Risk Register and Strategy	<p>RESOLVED that for reasons contained within the Officers report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The report and the 2023 Buildings at Risk Register be noted. 2. The Buildings at Risk Strategy be endorsed and adopted. 	Unanimously
11.	Council Tax Base 2024/25	<p>It was noted that as Councillor N. George had not been present for the whole of the debate, he did not take part in the vote.</p> <p>RESOLVED that for reasons contained within the Officers report:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council Tax collection rate is maintained at 97.50% for the 2024/25 financial year be agreed. 2. The Council Tax Base for 2024/25 be 61,292.66, with the Council Tax Base for each Community Council area being as outlined in paragraph 5.6. of the report be agreed. 	Unanimously

12.	Consultation On Proposals to Implement Council Tax Premiums on Long-Term Empty Properties and Second Homes	RESOLVED that for reasons contained within the Officers report: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The details of the discretionary powers relating to council tax premiums as outlined in the report be noted. 2. A consultation exercise on the proposed levels of council tax premiums to apply to both long-term empty dwellings and second homes as set out in the report be approved. 3. A further report, including the results of the consultation exercise, be presented to Cabinet to consider and determine the level of council tax premiums that it would recommend to full Council be approved. 	Unanimously
13.	Public Interest Test	Members considered the Public Interest Tests and concluded that on balance the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information and it was: - <p>RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.</p>	Unanimously
EXEMPT ITEMS - EXECUTIVE DECISION SUBJECT TO CALL-IN			
14.	Cwm Ifor Solar Farm Update Report	RESOLVED that for reasons contained within the Officers report the recommendation be approved.	Unanimously

Circulation:

All Members and Appropriate Officers.

Published by 5PM on Thursday, 14th December 2023.

Date executive decisions to come into force and may be implemented (unless called in) –

5.00PM on Monday, 18th December 2023.