



## CABINET

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN, ON WEDNESDAY, 30TH OCTOBER 2013 AT 2.00 P.M.

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#### PRESENT:

Councillor H.A. Andrews - Chairman.

#### Councillors:

Mrs C. Forehead (HR & Governance/Business Manager), Councillor D.T. Hardacre (Cabinet Member for Performance & Asset Management), G. Jones (Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Housing), K. James (Regeneration, Planning & Sustainable Development), Mrs R. Passmore (Education & Lifelong Learning), D.V. Poole (Community & Leisure Services), K.V. Reynolds (Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Corporate Services), T.J. Williams (Highways, Transportation & Engineering).

#### Together with:

S. A. Rosser (Interim Chief Executive).

#### Also present:

C. Jones (Head of Performance and Property), M.S. Williams (Head of Community & Leisure Services), S. Harris (Acting Head of Corporate Finance), N. Akhtar (Group Accountant, Financial Advice and Support), C. Forbes-Thompson (Scrutiny Research Officer), S.M. Kauczok (Committee Services Officer).

S.J. Byrne (Senior Manager, PwC).

#### **230. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor R. Woodyatt (Cabinet Member for Social Services), Mrs S. Aspinall (Acting Deputy Chief Executive), Mrs N. Scammell (Acting Director of Corporate Services & Section 151 Officer) and Mr D. Street (Corporate Director Social Services).

#### **231. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**232. MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 16th October 2013 (minute nos. 217-229; page nos. 110-116) be approved and signed as a correct record.

**MATTERS ON WHICH EXECUTIVE DECISIONS WERE REQUIRED****233. PROGRESS WITH RUGBY/FOOTBALL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE AT YSTRAD MYNACH**

Members were updated on progress with the facility at Ystrad Mynach in terms of construction and timeline and user agreements.

Rugby usage agreements have been signed by the Gwent Dragons senior team and WRU Dragons Region Age Grade and Coach Development Structure. This will result in the Dragons coaching team and players and the WRU Dragons Region Age Grade Management being based at Ystrad Mynach. In terms of the football usage agreements, Cardiff City Football Clubs Community Foundation will be signing an agreement in October to deliver their Advanced Development Centres for the more able and talented players within Caerphilly County Borough from Ystrad Mynach. Evening and weekend use of the pitches will be available to community clubs for training and/or playing and will be allocated based on criteria agreed with the relevant sport governing bodies (WRU and Football Association of Wales).

Details of the aspirations for the future use of the facility, together with the capital and estimated running costs are set out in the report.

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. Progress with the development of the facility and the associated user agreements be noted.
2. Officers be authorised to approach the owners of local hotel(s) that meet the criteria outlined in paragraph 4.3.3 of the report to present a proposal to the Welsh Rugby Union in relation to future Autumn international touring teams.
3. Officers be authorised to approach the Welsh Rugby Union and Football Association of Wales in relation to the future hosting of junior/under 20/under 21 international matches at Ystrad Mynach.
4. In accordance with paragraph 6.6 of the report, the Authority designate a replacement fund for the playing surface and the requisite amount identified in the business plan be set aside on an annual basis from the income received.

**234. PROTOCOL BETWEEN CAERPHILLY CBC CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND SAFER CAERPHILLY COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS**

The report, which had been considered by the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee on 12th September 2013, outlined changes to the protocol agreed by Council on 27th July 2010, which has been updated to reflect changes in the status of the statutory partners and the way in which the Safer Caerphilly Community Safety Partnership delivers partnership priorities. The main changes to the protocol are set out in paragraph 4.6 of the report.

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, the revised protocol for Caerphilly County Borough Council Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee and the Safer Caerphilly Community Safety Partnership, be approved.

## **235. CORPORATE PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK**

The Interim Chief Executive highlighted the key issues within the report, which set out proposals to establish a revised annual cycle for Corporate Planning, Service Planning and to align key strategic plans to this process in the first instance. Ultimately the planning process should incorporate the Medium Term Financial Plan, Asset Management, Capital Programme and Workforce Planning. In addition, it recommended that a 2014-17 Corporate Plan be established in addition to Annual Improvement Objectives and a consistent approach to service reviews be established across the Council together with a framework for self evaluation that is robust and delivers appropriate reflection on performance and service improvement where appropriate.

The Corporate planning cycle has evolved over a number of years and it was considered timely to undertake a review to ensure it is in line with current requirements. The Improving Governance Programme and increasing focus on regulation in this area of activity presents an opportunity to review and revise the process. In particular, the planning cycle needs to be re-aligned to start earlier in the year and needs to bring key elements together in a cohesive way so that the service delivery expectations and the resources to deliver them are clear.

As part of the Improving Governance Programme, self-evaluation and improved performance measurement were identified as areas where there was an opportunity to review the current arrangements and introduce a more robust process. This has also been raised as a key issue in the 2012 Annual Improvement Report (AIR) received from the Wales Audit Office. Whilst some directorates already undertake self-evaluation there is currently no consistency of approach and the intention is to develop a corporate review template in this respect.

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, the following recommendations be approved: -

1. To approve a revised annual cycle for Corporate Planning, Service Planning and Service Improvement to feed into Strategic Plans,
2. To agree to establish a 2014-17 Corporate Plan in addition to annual Improvement Objectives.
3. To agree a more formal performance reporting framework, as described in the report.
4. To agree a consistent approach to service reviews across the Council and a framework for self-evaluation that is robust and delivers appropriate reflection on performance and service improvement where appropriate, as described in the report.
5. Officers develop a new framework for the implementation of the new corporate planning cycle and report back to Cabinet in due course.

**236. EXEMPT MATTERS**

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: -

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.

**237. ISLWYN ALLOTMENT FEDERATION**

The report outlined progress made in relation to the implementation of a new devolved management arrangement for allotments within the former Islwyn area.

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, the recommendations set out at paragraph 9 of the report be approved.

**238. SALE OF OUTSTANDING LANDSBANKI CLAIM**

The Interim Chief Executive clarified the exceptional circumstances, which had led to the lateness in publishing this report

The report sought Members' views on the potential sale of the Authority's outstanding claim in the failed Icelandic Bank, Landsbanki Island hf and set out the financial implications and the processes involved.

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, the recommendations set out at paragraph 9 of the report, be approved.

The meeting closed at 3.12 pm.

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any corrections made at the meeting held on 13th November 2013.

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CHAIRMAN