



CABINET

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN, ON WEDNESDAY, 21ST MAY 2014 AT 2.00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor K.V. Reynolds - Chair

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), G. Jones (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Housing), T.J. Williams (Highways, Transportation and Engineering), R. Woodyatt (Social Services).

Together with:

S.A. Rosser (Interim Chief Executive), S. Aspinall (Acting Deputy Chief Executive), N. Scammell (Acting Director of Corporate Services and Section 151 Officer), D. Street (Corporate Director Social Services).

Also in Attendance:

A. Dallimore (Team Leader - Urban Renewal and Conservation), P. Elliott (Head of Regeneration and Planning), B. Hopkins (Assistant Director), S. Mutch (Flying Start Co-ordinator), C. Evans (Committee Services Officer).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs R. Passmore, Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning and Councillor D.V. Poole, Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. MINUTES - 30TH APRIL 2014

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 30th April 2014 be approved and signed as a correct record.

4. MINUTES - 7TH MAY 2014

The Interim Chief Executive advised of proposed amendments to the draft minutes and detailed the changes to be considered. It was agreed that the proposed amendments presented verbally at the meeting would be incorporated in the draft minutes and deferred to the next meeting for formal consideration.

RESOLVED that subject to amendments to paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 on page 2 of the minutes, as identified in bold below, and an amendment to resolution 3 to read "The facility be offered to Nelson Community Council at a peppercorn rent", rather than Having regard to the importance of the public convenience to the residents of Nelson, as demonstrated by the local ward member at the meeting, the facility be offered to Nelson Community Council at a peppercorn rent, the minutes of the Special Cabinet Meeting held on 7th May 2014, be amended accordingly and deferred to the next meeting for consideration.

Following the Officer's presentation of the report Councillor Mrs A. Blackman addressed the Cabinet and referred to the impact that the closure of the public convenience in Nelson has had on the local community and **drew attention to the lack of a suitable facility** in the area for people with a disability. **Councillor Mrs Blackman requested that the public convenience in Nelson be reinstated by the Council.**

Following consideration and discussion, **the Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services** proposed that given the importance of the public convenience to the residents of Nelson, the facility be offered to Nelson Community Council at a peppercorn rent and a public facilities grant of £500 be offered to the Community Council towards the running costs of the public convenience in 2014/15.

The recommendations in the report and those put forward **by the Cabinet Member** at the meeting were moved and seconded. By a show of hands they were unanimously approved.

MATTER ON WHICH AN EXECUTIVE DECISION WAS REQUIRED

5. WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN

S. Aspinall (Acting Deputy Chief Executive), B. Hopkins (Assistant Director) and S. Mutch (Flying Start Coordinator) presented an overview of the report, which provided Cabinet with information on the Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2014-17 and sought approval to publish by 1 June 2014.

The WESP provided a detailed analysis of the current provision and proposals to improve standards. It highlighted best practice and included targets for continuing improvement and provision. The local authority remains committed to supporting parental choice through equitable support in both Welsh and English medium schools.

The WESP was developed regionally with lead support from the Education Achievement Service, to enable a collaborative strategic approach, whilst allowing for local authority development and accountability. There is a strong local emphasis on outcomes 1, 2 and 6 with outcomes 3, 4, 5 and 7 being more regionally directed. It fulfils the local authority's duty to monitor and improve standards of Welsh language, educational attainment, and it directs the appropriate use of the Welsh Education Grant funding, which is regionally administered.

Members thanked the Officers for the report and welcomed Bleddyn Hopkins back to post. A Member queried the areas covered within the WESP and in particular, requested more details around Antenatal information to families. The Officer outlined that all Antenatal information is

now being published bilingually and work is underway to employ more Welsh speaking antenatal staff. Members noted that Antenatal services fall under the Flying Start Programme and the areas are ensuring that a wide remit is being targeted with the appropriate services and meeting needs.

Following consideration of the report, the recommendation therein was moved and seconded. By a show of hands it was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the officer's report, the Caerphilly Welsh in Education Strategic Plan be approved for publication on the Caerphilly CBC website by 1st June 2014.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

6. RISCA AND PONTYMISTER TOWN CENTRE ACTION PLAN

P. Elliott (Head of Regeneration and Planning) and A. Dallimore (Team Leader - Urban Renewal & Conservation) presented a report that sought to adopt the Risca and Pontymister Town Centre Action Plan 2014 as Supplementary Planning Guidance and as a framework for regeneration of the town centre.

A draft Risca and Pontymister Town Centre Action Plan was developed and consulted on. A consultation exercise was carried out between February and April 2014 and the draft action plan was amended in light of the consultation responses. The Action Plan now requires adoption by Council. If adopted it will supersede the previous 2002 Risca and Pontymister Town Centre Action Plan and will form Supplementary Planning Guidance to complement the Local Development Plan.

Members were advised that there was an error in the fifth line of the 3rd paragraph of the appendix as it relates to proposal A4 (Land at 106 Commercial Street), which should read "ability" rather than "intent".

Members thanked the Officers for the report and debate ensued. They acknowledged that the Action Plan demonstrates a vision for the future and echoes widely the consultation responses.

Following consideration of the report, it was moved and seconded that, subject to the amendment to appendix 1, the recommendation therein be approved and presented to Council. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RECOMMENDED to Council that subject to the fifth line of the third paragraph of the appendix, as it relates to Proposal A4 (land at 106 Commercial Street), being amended to read "ability" rather than "intent", for the reasons contained in the officers report, the Risca and Pontymister Town Centre Action Plan 2014 as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the Local Development Plan be adopted.

The meeting closed at 2.19 pm.

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any corrections made at the meeting held on 4th June 2014.

CHAIR