



CORPORATE JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON WEDNESDAY, 29TH JANUARY 2014 AT 2.00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor H.A. Andrews - Chairman
G. Enright (Unison) - Vice Chairman

Councillors:

D.T. Hardacre, K. James, G. Jones, Mrs. R. Passmore, D.V. Poole, K.V. Reynolds,
T.J. Williams, R. Woodyatt

Together with:

S. Rosser (Interim Chief Executive), S. Aspinall (Acting Deputy Chief Executive), N. Scammell (Acting Director of Corporate Services), D. Street (Director of Social Services), G. Hardacre (Head of HR and Organisational Development), L. Donovan (HR Service Manager- Customer Services), E. Rogers (HR Service Manager - Strategy and Operations), C. Evans (Committee Services Officer)

Trade Union Representatives:

K. Andrews (GMB), D. Bezzina (Unison Regional), J. Roberts- Garcia (Unison), N. Funnell (GMB), T. Hearme (GMB), D.A. Williams (Unite)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Mrs. C. Forehead, N. Blundell (UCATT), S. Brassine (UCATT), Mrs. J. Havard (NUT), L. Horrocks (NASUWT), B. May (TGWU), G. Parr (UCATT), S. Rivers (ASCL) and G. Smith (Unite).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

3. MINUTES - 22ND OCTOBER 2013

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Corporate Joint Consultative Committee meeting held on 22nd October 2013 (minute nos. 1 - 11 on page nos. 1 - 4) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

MINUTES OF DIRECTORATE JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

5. Directorate of Education and Leisure Joint Consultative Committee - 19th September 2013

The minutes of the Directorate of Education and Leisure Joint Consultative Committee meeting held on 19th September 2013 were received and noted. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

6 Directorate of Social Services Joint Consultative Committee - 11th November 2013

The minutes of the Directorate of Social Services Joint Consultative Committee meeting held on 11th November 2013 were received and noted. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

7. CONSULTATION BETWEEN TRADE UNIONS AND MANAGEMENT

The Interim Chief Executive made reference to the report on the draft budget proposals 2014/2015 and the medium term financial strategy 2014/2017, which is to be presented to Cabinet for consideration and seeks approval to consult on the proposals contained therein. Views have been sought on the budget options from a wide range of interested parties (of which residents and Trade Unions were key parties) and having reflected on all those views, firm proposals have been made for final consultation by the Cabinet. The report includes a number of appendices, including those which detail the proposed savings withdrawn following the consultation process, the views of the scrutiny committees and those of the Trade Unions and public.

The Cabinet report and appendices were discussed at length with several issues being raised by Union Representatives in relation to the consultation process and the Trade Union involvement in the decision making process. The representatives queried a number of points within the draft budget proposals (specifically in relation to the proposal to reduce the car mileage rate from 55p to 50p and the proposed increase in council tax). It was accepted that there will be sensitivity around many of the individual proposals and that different views will be expressed, albeit that there is a need to consider the budget in its entirety. It was noted that the purpose of the final consultation period is to draw out any further comments before a final decision is made.

Following the meeting of Cabinet this afternoon, a consultation process will be undertaken with all views and suggestions taken into consideration when the report is presented to Special Cabinet and Special Council on 26th February 2014.

During the course of the meeting and at 2.21 pm, the fire drill was sounded and the building was evacuated. The meeting resumed at 2.45 pm.

8. COLLABORATION UPDATE

Councillor Poole provided an update on the single service collaborative working arrangements proposed for the Trading Standards departments across the 5 Gwent Local Authorities. Members were informed that Welsh Government grant funding has secured a Project Officer

post and a Project Board has been established, which meets on a monthly basis.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items for discussion.

10. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was noted that the future meetings are scheduled for Wednesday 23rd April 2014 and Wednesday 23rd July 2014.

The meeting closed at 3.06 pm.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd April 2014 they were signed by the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN