



COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON TUESDAY 21ST JULY 2015 AT 5.00PM

PRESENT:

Councillor L. Gardiner- Mayor
Councillor D. Price - Deputy Mayor

Councillors:

M. Adams, Mrs E.M. Aldworth, H.A. Andrews, Mrs K.R. Baker, J. Bevan, L. Binding, Mrs A. Blackman, D. Bolter, Mrs P. Cook, H.W. David, W. David, H.R. Davies, D.T. Davies, C. Durham, C. Elsbury, Mrs C. Forehead, Miss E. E. Forehead, Mrs J. Gale, N. George, C.J. Gordon, R.W. Gough, Mrs P. Griffiths, D.T. Hardacre, D. Havard, C. Hawker, G.J. Hughes, G. Johnston, Mrs B.A. Jones, Ms J.G. Jones, S. Kent, G. Kirby, A. Lewis, K. Lloyd, C.P. Mann, S. Morgan, Mrs G. Oliver, R. Passmore, D.V. Poole, M.J. Prew, J. Pritchard, J.A. Pritchard, D. Rees, K.V. Reynolds, J.E. Roberts, R. Saralis, Mrs M.E. Sargent, S. Skivens, Mrs E. Stenner, Mrs J. Summers, J. Taylor, L.G. Whittle, T.J. Williams, R. Woodyatt

Together with:-

C. Burns (Interim Chief Executive), D. Street (Director of Social Services), N. Scammell (Acting Director of Corporate Services), C. Harray (Corporate Director - Education and Community Services), L. Dallimore (Medium Term Financial Plan Program Co-ordinator), G. Williams (Interim Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer), A. Price (Interim Deputy Monitoring Officer), E. Sullivan (Committee Services Officer)

1. **WEB-CASTING FILMING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Interim Chief Executive reminded those present that the meeting was being filmed and would be made publically available in live and archive form via the Council's website. He advised that decisions would be made by show of hands.

2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ms. L. Ackerman, A. Angel, Mrs G. Bevan, P.J. Bevan, D.G. Carter, C. Cuss, N. Dix, J.E. Fussell, A.G. Higgs, K. James, M.P. James, Ms P. Leonard, D.W.R. Preece and A. Rees.

3. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor referred to the many events and visits that he and the Deputy Mayor have undertaken since the last meeting and expressed his thanks to those who attended the Charity Launch and Civic Service. He confirmed that to date, £6,370.00 had been raised for his chosen charities, Ty Hafan and McMillan Nurses.

4. PETITION - POTENTIAL LOSS OF SWIMMING FACILITIES AT CEFN FFOREST LEISURE CENTRE

The Mayor received a petition from Councillor C. Hawker presented on behalf of local residents regarding the potential loss of swimming facilities at Cefn Fforest Leisure Centre and indicated they would be referred to the appropriate directorate for attention.

5. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Sports Leadership Academy Award

Members were informed that Caerphilly County Borough Council had been awarded Sports Leaders UK, Leadership Academy status.

UK Leadership Academy status has only been awarded to a small number of organisations throughout the United Kingdom and recognises the excellent standards of delivery of the Sports Leaders UK awards and qualifications. The status award acknowledges Sport Caerphilly as a beacon of good practice and reflects their commitment to the philosophy of Sports Leaders UK and the benefits of leadership to young people and the community.

Mr T. Wallis and Mr D Thomas representing Sport Caerphilly came forward to receive the award from the Mayor and Mr R. Guy from Sports Leaders UK.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Interim Chief Executive provided advice to Members on declarations of interest as they related to the Annual Directors Report on the Effectiveness of Social Care Services 2014-15. He advised that given the general nature of the report, there was no requirement for them to declare in this instance.

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

7. COUNCIL - 9TH JUNE 2015

RESOLVED that the following minutes be approved as correct records and signed by the Mayor.

Council held on 9th June 2015 (minute nos. 1 - 13).

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Consideration was given to the following report.

8. ANNUAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SOCIAL CARE SERVICES 2014-15

The report, which detailed the key messages that had been identified in the preparation of the sixth Annual Director's Report on the Effectiveness of Social Care Services, was presented to the meeting of the Health Social Care and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on 23rd June 2015. After due consideration, it was recommended that the Report be noted and the submitted to Council for adoption.

Members were advised that the process of compiling the report has been undertaken in accordance with the Annual Council Reporting Framework. It will be the sixth Annual Director's Report and its aim is to provide a summary outlining the effectiveness of how CCBC delivers Social Services to its citizens. The report provides details on the Directorate's performance for 2014-2015 and the priority areas for development in 2015-16. In 2014-15 the Directorate set itself a number of specific divisional priorities. The progress achieved in relation to these priorities is shown throughout the document.

The Directorate has also identified a number of priority areas for development in 2015-16. These are also shown throughout the document and have informed the Directorate's Annual Service Plan for 2015-16. Following presentation to Council on 21st July 2015, the Annual Director's Report will be made available to members of the public, partner agencies and stakeholders by the statutory deadline of 1st September 2015.

Reference was made to the national introduction of the 'Living Wage' and the impact that this could have on costs and smaller care providers. The Director of Social Services acknowledged this as an issue for all local authorities and confirmed that the potential budgetary impact had been recognised.

Clarification was sought in relation to the LAC Reviews which were noted to have fallen back from the Welsh average. Members were advised that this was primarily due to the complex nature of the reviews and the need to ensure that a comprehensive, thorough and effective assessment was undertaken. The Directorate was aware of challenges in this area which would be monitored going forward.

Members acknowledged the importance of engaging with children and young people with regard to service provision and concern was expressed at the loss of the Children's Rights Officer post. It was felt that without a dedicated Officer acting as conduit between the individual, Council and Government the voices of children and young people could be missed. The Director of Social Services outlined the various channels available to the children and young people of the borough as well as the role and responsibilities that each individual Social Worker played in this regard. In recognising the concerns raised Mr Street confirmed that he would approach the Assistant Director of Children Services and request that a report on the matters raised be presented to a future meeting of the Health Social Care and Well Being Scrutiny Committee.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendation in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the report, the contents of the Annual Director's Report on the Effectiveness of Social Care Services 2014-15 be noted and adopted.

9. QUESTIONS UNDER RULE OF PROCEDURE 10(2)

There were no questions submitted under Rule of Procedure 10(2).

The meeting closed at 17:40pm

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 6th October 2015 they were signed by the Mayor.

MAYOR