



CORPORATE JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON WEDNESDAY, 22ND JULY 2015 AT 2.00 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor K.V. Reynolds – Chair
G. Enright (UNISON) – Vice Chair

Councillors:

Mrs C. Forehead, N. George, D.T. Hardacre, K. James, Mrs. B. Jones, Mrs. R. Passmore,
D.V. Poole, T.J. Williams, R. Woodyatt.

Together with:

C. Burns (Interim Chief Executive), C. HARRY (Corporate Director - Education & Community Services), D. Street (Corporate Director Social Services), S. Phillips (HR Manager), C. Evans (Committee Services Officer).

Trade Union Representatives:

K. Andrews (GMB), D. Bezzina (Unison Regional), N. Funnell (GMB).

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.

It was moved and seconded that Councillor K. Reynolds be appointed as Chair of the Joint Consultative Committee for the ensuing year and by a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that Councillor K. Reynolds be appointed Chair of the Joint Consultative Committee for the ensuing year.

It was moved and seconded that G. Enright (Unison) be appointed as Vice Chair of the Joint Consultative Committee for the ensuing year and by a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that G. Enright (Unison) be appointed as Vice Chair of the Joint Consultative Committee for the ensuing year.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from N. Scammell (Acting Director of Corporate Services & S151), L. Donovan (Personnel Manager) and S. Brassine (UCATT).

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

4. CORPORATE JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Corporate Joint Consultative Committee meeting held on 22nd April 2015 (minute nos. 1-12) be approved and signed as a correct record.

5. MATTERS ARISING

Minute No. 6 – Consultation between Trade Unions and Management: Trades Dispute.

Mr G. Enright sought an update on the on-going disagreement relating to the award of lieu hours for unworked bank holidays. The officer present highlighted that an update could not be provided at this time, as the officer is away, but an update would be provided on their return.

6. SOCIAL SERVICES JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – 3RD FEBRUARY AND 12TH MAY 2015

The minutes of the Social Services Joint Consultative Committee meetings held on 3rd February and 12th May 2015 were received and noted.

Arising from the minutes and with regards to the Ethical Care Charter, Mr Enright requested an update on the progress made within the Charter. D. Street, Corporate Director – Social Services highlighted that the Charter consists of 12 parts, which are aspirational in setting a direction of travel. The Service area has met a number of the requirements within the Charter and, although there is no set timeline to meet the requirements, the main element which is proving problematic is the payment of living wage. The Committee noted that the introduction could have a significant financial impact of up to £1.5m in additional costs and, although the Local Authority would like to aspire to its implementation, it was noted that this would not be possible at this point.

7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – 9TH FEBRUARY, 9TH MARCH, 9TH APRIL AND 1ST JUNE 2015

The draft minutes of the Chief Executive's Joint Consultative Committee meetings held on 9th February, 9th March, 9th April and 1st June 2015 were received and noted.

Arising from the minutes of 9th March 2015, with regards to Gwent Transport Collaboration Report, an update was sought on the developments within Fleet Management. At the Chief Executive's Joint Consultative Committee it was noted that a review would be conducted of the service and may be considered by CMT. The Committee noted that upon consideration by CMT, further financial information was required and the matter would be reconsidered at a later date.

8. HOUSING/WHQS JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE HELD ON 18TH JUNE 2015

The draft minutes of the Chief Executive's Joint Consultative Committee meetings held on 18th June 2015 were noted.

9. CONSULTATION BETWEEN TRADE UNIONS AND MANAGEMENT

The Committee discussed the TUPE Transfer of cleaning staff and concerns were raised around awareness of the Code of Practice and the number of delays as a result of a lack of awareness and understanding of the officers dealing with the TUPE process. The Committee noted the concerns and that Officers require further information and a clear understanding of the Code of Practice in order to effectively deal with the TUPE process.

10. COLLABORATION

The Chief Executive provided Members with an update on the revised plans of Welsh Government (WG), which include a proposal to create a Super-Gwent Authority, serving over 600,000 residents and would be largest in Wales. Members were advised that consultation on the revised map would end in November 2015, therefore it is anticipated that further detail on reorganisation will not be resolved until post 2016 Assembly elections.

The Corporate Director - Social Services highlighted that, as per Welsh Government mandate, a formal meeting of the regional Greater Gwent Partnership was organised in which future projects and budget were discussed. Members noted that there have been a significant number of changes, which links to the Health Social Care and Well-Being bill. The direction of travel is clear and substantial progress has been made towards further collaborative working.

The Corporate Director - Education & Community Services provided an update on the work conducted with Cardiff Waste Recycling plant. It was noted that, since the WG recommendation to separate recyclable waste, options are being considered with Cardiff to find a solution and meet WG requirements. Further updates would be provided in due course.

The Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning and chair of the Joint Executive Group provided the Committee with an update on the future of the Youth Services, which is currently under consideration. It was noted that a consultation process is underway with key parties, which is due to end at the end of July, and aims to determine the future of Youth Services and where they would sit within Local Authority structure. Further updates would be provided in due course. Members thanked the Cabinet Member for the update and a copy of the Terms of Reference of the group were agreed to be circulated to the Committee.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. C. Burns, Interim Chief Executive discussed the Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan and Members noted that CMT had met with Trade Unions last week to discuss and share thoughts prior to the Local Government Budget announcement. It was noted that early engagement has begun with Members and Trade Unions, which has proved pertinent in previous years.

Communication and Engagement were discussed and it was noted that regular communications will be provided to Council staff through the email and monthly updates and staff suggestions are welcome on ideas for efficiencies and further saving options. In addition, it was noted that formal consultations will be taking place in October.

12. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was noted that future meetings of the Corporate Joint Consultative Committee are scheduled as follows: Wednesday, 21st October 2015 at 2pm; Wednesday 27th January 2016 at 2pm; Wednesday 20th April 2016 at 2pm.

The meeting closed at 2:26 p.m.

Approved as a correct record and subject to any amendments or corrections agreed and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2015, they were signed by the Chair.

CHAIR