



CABINET

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN ON WEDNESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 2.00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillor K. V. Reynolds – Chair

Councillors:

C. Forehead (Human Resources and Governance/Business Manager), N. George (Community and Leisure Services), D. Havard (Education and Lifelong Learning), D. Hardacre (Performance and Asset Management), K. James (Regeneration, Planning and Sustainable Development), Mrs B. Jones (Corporate Services), D.V. Poole (Housing), T. Williams (Highways, Transportation and Engineering) and R. Woodyatt (Social Services).

Together with:

C. Burns (Interim Chief Executive), N. Scammell (Acting Director of Corporate Services & S151), C. HARRY (Corporate Director Communities) and D. Street (Corporate Director – Social Services).

Also in Attendance:

R. Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection), T. Broadhurst (Section Head - Estates) and C. Evans (Committee Services Officer).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor D. Hardacre declared an interest in the item relating to Land at Upper Cefn Road, Deri. Details are minuted with the respective item.

3. CABINET – 27TH JULY 2016

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th July 2016 (minute nos. 1 - 11) be approved and signed as a correct record.

4. FUTURE GENERATIONS ADVISORY PANEL HELD ON 9TH JUNE 2016.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Future Generations Advisory Panel held on 9th June 2016 (minute nos. 1 - 9) be noted.

5. LAND AT UPPER CEFN ROAD, DERI.

Councillor D. Hardacre declared an interest (due to his personal association with the potential buyer of the land) and left the meeting during consideration of this item.

The report sought the approval of Cabinet to dispose of land at Upper Cefn Road, Deri.

Members noted that the land was acquired by the former Rhymney Valley District Council in January 1980. A playground was established on the land under a General Improvement Area Scheme, funded by the Welsh Office. However, the play equipment was later removed but the Council has continued to maintain the area under the grounds maintenance contract as an area of informal open space.

Following consideration to sell of the land as a residential building plot, the Darren Valley Community Council has raised objections against this proposal on the grounds of "historical problems with access, both for vehicles and material, and issues relating to water and an adjacent brook/stream". In line with the agreed procedure, Cabinet were asked to consider the proposal.

A Member queried the objection raised and sought further information on the access to the land. Officers highlighted that there is a steep incline to access the land, however further consultation will be undertaken with the Highways Department, prior to the sale.

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 Officers report, the land be sold on the open market for residential development.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

6. AUTHORISATION OF OFFICERS – COMMUNITY/PARTNERSHIP GRANT SCHEMES

The report sought the approval of Cabinet to authorise Officers in relation to the operation of community/partnership grant schemes within the Public Protection Division and the endorsement of a subsequent change to the Council's Constitution prior to presentation to Council for approval for the Council's Interim Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer to incorporate the changes.

The report outlined the proposed changes to the Council's Constitution following organisational changes, whereby the Head of Public Protection is now responsible for the Corporate Policy function including the administration of the Technical Assistance Fund, which is chaired by the Cabinet Member for Regeneration. The fund was established to help voluntary organisations and community groups in the borough meet the costs of pre-application professional fees, technical or legal, for capital projects. The Greener Caerphilly Small Grants Fund provides up to £10,000 in match funding for partnership projects to deliver tangible environmental improvement and benefits to the community, applications are considered by the Greener Caerphilly Partnership.

Members noted that, as a result of organisational changes, the Corporate Policy function now sits with the Head of Public Protection and therefore it is requested that the Council's Constitution be amended to reflect these changes and add the delegation for the approval or refusal of applications for funding under the Technical Assistance Fund and Greener Caerphilly Small Grants Fund to the Corporate Policy function.

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 Officers report:

- (i) the authorisation of any Director or the Head of Public Protection to approve or refuse applications under the grant schemes detailed in paragraph 4.2 of the report be approved;
- (ii) it be recommend to Council that the proposed changes to the Council's Constitution as set out in paragraph 4.4 of the report be approved and the that Council's Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority to make the necessary amendments to the Council's Constitution.

The meeting closed at 2.18pm

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any corrections made at the meeting held on 21st September 2016.

CHAIR