

COMMUNITY COUNCIL LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT COUNCIL OFFICES, PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON WEDNESDAY 27TH JULY 2016 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT:

Community Councillor Ms J. Rao - Chair Councillor A. Lewis - Vice Chair

Councillors:

Mrs A. Blackman, C.J. Cuss, H. Davies, Ms L. Jones, J.A. Pritchard, J.E. Roberts

Community/Town Council Representatives

Aber Valley -

Argoed -

Bargoed - H. Llewellyn, Mrs. L. Tams (Clerk)

Bedwas. Trethomas and Machen -

Blackwood - J. Criddle

Caerphilly Darran Valley Draethen, Waterloo and Rudry -

Gelligaer - Mrs T. Parry, Ms. C. Mortimer (Clerk)
Llanbradach - Mrs. A. Reed, Mr. W.M. Thompson (Clerk)

Maesycwmmer - Miss. J. Rao Nelson - Mrs. G. Davies

New Tredegar -

Penyrheol, Trecenydd and Energlyn - B. Allen, Mrs. H. Treherne (Clerk)

Rhymney - D.T. Williams

Risca East -

Risca Town - M. Parker, B. Campbell (Clerk)

Van -

Together with

K. Peters (Corporate Policy Manager, P. Cooke (Senior Policy Officer), V. Doyle (Policy Officer - Statistics and Funding), H.C. Morgan (Senior Committee Services Officer)

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor N. George (Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services), Community Councillors Mrs J. Hibbert, Messrs J. Hold, K. Williams, G. Williams and T. White (Clerks of Blackwood, Caerphilly, Darran Valley and Rhymney and Nelson Community/Town Councils respectively).

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Councillor A. Lewis was appointed Chair of the Sub Committee for the ensuing year.

2. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

Community Councillor Ms J. Rao was appointed Vice-Chair of the Sub Committee for the ensuing year.

3. MINUTES - 2ND MARCH 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd March 2016 (a copy had been sent to each member) were received and noted. There were no matters arising.

4. THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT 2015 - IMPLICATIONS AND APPROACH

With the use of a slide presentation, Mrs Kath Peters gave an overview of the Act and statutory guidance that came into force on the 1st April 2016 which places a number of legal duties on public bodies in Wales to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities. The Act requires the 44 public bodies (including the 4 statutory bodies - Local Authorities, Local Health Boards, Fire and Rescue Service and Natural Resources Wales) to improve those areas by taking action in accordance with the sustainable development principle through planning, integration, involvement, collaboration and prevention. These are aimed at the seven wellbeing goals:-

- A sustainable Wales
- A prosperous Wales
- A healthier Wales
- A more equal Wales
- A Wales of cohesive communities
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
- A globally responsible Wales

The Caerphilly Public Services Board will bring together these public bodies to work to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the community and are responsible for overseeing the development of the new Local Wellbeing Plan which is a long term vision for the county borough. The local authority has the responsibility for administering the Public Services Board and this will be carried out by the Corporate Policy Unit.

In detailing the role of the Public Service Board it was noted that there is a duty to prepare a Plan of the well-being objectives for each of the 7 statutory well-being goals (March 2017), set local objectives (Well-being Plan) designed to maximise contribution to the goals (May 2018), take all reasonable steps to meet the objective. The Board will work with others who have an interest in the well-being of the area, invite the Police, the PCC, Probation representatives, Voluntary Sector and Welsh Government and report annually on progress. It may also involve other partners including Community/Town Councils, Public Health Wales, Community Health Councils, National Park Authorities, HEFCW, Education Institutions, Arts Council for Wales, Sports Council for Wales, National Library and the National Museum of Wales.

It was confirmed that work is underway to develop the local assessment by gathering data from other relevant assessments, other bodies and through planned communication and engagement activity.

Mrs Peters then gave an overview of the Well-Being Goals and the five ways of working in order to achieve these goals:-

Involvement - Involve people who also have an interest in achieving the well-being Goals and ensure these people reflect the diversity of the area.

Collaborative - Act in collaboration with any other person, or body, that could help the Public Service Board meet its objectives.

Long - term - Balance short-term needs with the with the need to safeguard the ability of future generations to be able to meet their own needs.

Integrated - Consider how the Public Service Boards objectives may impact upon the well-being goals, on each other, and on the objectives of public bodies. Understand cross-cutting pressures and take an holistic view.

Prevention - Acting to prevent problems occurring getting worse by understanding and addressing the root causes.

It was noted that there is guidance within the Act for Community/Town Councils (Shared Future 4 - Collective Role - Community Councils). The duty to comply is only applicable to larger community/town councils with a gross income or expenditure of at least £200,000 for each of the three financial years preceding the year in which the local well-being plan is published. Whilst those within the borough do not meet that criteria, all are listed as partners with which the local Service Board should work and are invited to engage and participate in the process.

Mrs Peters advised that a series of workshops have been arranged throughout the borough and extended an offer to attend community/town council meetings to provide further details, to attend local meetings and run workshops and provide assistance and a toolkit for community/town councils to run events in their own areas.

Members viewed a DVD provided by Welsh Government and were advised of the following links should they require any further information.

Caerphilly Public Services Board https://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/publicservicesboard/content/welcome

Welsh Government Statutory Guidance http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/future-generations-act/statutory-guidance/?lang=en

During the course of the debate, a query was raised in relation to the reporting and monitoring process. The Members were advised that progress towards the objectives set out in the Plan is subject to annual reporting to Welsh Government and the challenge of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales, whose role is to promote the sustainable development principle. The Commissioner will monitor and assess the extent to which well-being objectives are being met by Public Service Boards and public bodies. The Wales Audit Office also has a role in scrutinising the extent to which the local authority has acted in accordance with the sustainable development principle and has integrated the five ways of working into its planning and decision-making, including how the Well-being Objectives have been set and the steps taken to meet them.

A query was also raised in relation to the future of the plan in the event that reorganisation does take place. It was noted that the plan relates to the population of an area and not its political boundaries.

As part of the consultation process, the meeting then moved into two workshops where those present participated in a questioning session

- 1. What are the best things about the county borough and why?
- 2. What are the worst things about the county borough and why?
- 3. What do you want your Caerphilly to look like in 2040?
- 4. What issues should the Public Service Board solve first and why?

The feedback from these sessions, and a number of others that have been arranged would be used to inform the local assessment process.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm