



SPECIAL REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH ON
THURSDAY, 18TH JANUARY 2018 AT 5.00 P.M.**

PRESENT:

Councillor D.T. Davies - Chair
Councillor Mrs C. Forehead - Vice-Chair

Councillors:

J. Bevan, C. Elsbury, R.W. Gough, Mrs P. Leonard, J. Ridgewell, J. Scriven, G. Simmonds,
A. Whitcombe, T.J. Williams and W. Williams

Cabinet Members:

N. George (Neighbourhood Services), S. Morgan (Economy, Infrastructure, Sustainability and Wellbeing of Future Generations Champion), Mrs E. Stenner (Environment and Public Protection)

Together with:

M.S. Williams (Interim Corporate Director of Communities), J. Reynolds (Sports and Leisure Facilities Manager), S. Pugh (Corporate Communications Manager), L. Lane (Corporate Solicitor), D. Marr (Deputy Monitoring Officer - Cardiff Council), C. Forbes-Thompson (Interim Head of Democratic Services) and R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A.G. Higgs, A. Hussey, S. Kent and B. Zaplatynski.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

It was noted that Mark S. Williams (Interim Corporate Director of Communities) had previously declared a personal and prejudicial interest in relation to previous reports concerning the potential closure of Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre, being Vice-Chair of the governing body at Blackwood Comprehensive School. However, it was explained that Welsh Government funding for a new 3G playing surface at the school has since been approved, and hence there was no longer an interest in respect of this matter.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Consideration was given to the following report.

3. CONSIDERATION OF CALL-IN REQUEST – PONTLLANFRAITH LEISURE CENTRE

A report was presented to the Scrutiny Committee to consider under the Council's call-in procedure a decision taken by the Cabinet on 13th December 2017 in relation to the future of Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre. It was explained that the call-in had been made on the grounds that the decision conflicts with the Council's policy framework and that it has been made without regard to a material fact or information or without proper consultation which in the opinion of the members making the request would lead to a different decision being made by the Executive.

Members were asked to consider the merits of the call-in request whilst having regard to a number of questions set out in the report, and to consider whether to refer any remaining concerns to the Cabinet for reconsideration, setting out, in writing, the nature of its concerns and/or refer the matter to full Council.

It was moved and seconded that the Scrutiny Committee support the call-in on the grounds that Cabinet be asked to consider further consultation with the Future Generations Commissioner, the Youth Forum, and Children's Commissioner and that Blackwood Town Council be provided with a formal response to their detailed consultation, and that upon completion of the consultation period, Cabinet review their decision.

An amendment to the motion was then moved and seconded, in that the matter be referred instead to full Council for consideration.

A vote took place on the amended motion and by a show of hands (and in noting there were 7 against), the motion was declared lost. A vote then took place on the original motion and by a show of hands and the majority present (and in noting there were 5 against), the motion was declared carried. As such, and having supported the call-in request, it was:

RECOMMENDED to Cabinet that:-

- (i) further consultation with the Future Generations Commissioner, the Youth Forum, and Children's Commissioner be undertaken;
- (ii) Blackwood Town Council be provided with a formal response to their detailed consultation;
- (iii) upon completion of the consultation period, Cabinet review the decision taken on 13th December 2017 in relation to the future of Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre.

The meeting closed at 5.04 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 13th February 2018, they were signed by the Chair.

CHAIR