

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF THE DECISIONS FROM THE JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING (ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY AND HOUSING & REGENERATION) HELD ON TUESDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2020 AT 5.00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillors: M.A. Adams, A. Collis, D. Cushing, D.T. Davies (Chair – Environment & Sustainability), M. Evans, A. Gair, Ms J. Gale, R. Gough, L. Harding, A. Hussey (Vice Chair – Environment & Sustainability), G. Kirby, B. Owen, D. Price, A. Whitcombe (Chair – Housing & Regeneration), T.J. Williams, W. Williams

Cabinet Members: Councillors N. George (Cabinet Member for Waste & Public Protection), S. Morgan (Cabinet Member for Economy & Enterprise), J. Ridgewell (Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure)

Officers: Mark S. Williams (Interim Corporate Director – Communities), M. Lloyd (Head of Infrastructure), C. Campbell (Transportation Engineering Manager), A. Dallimore (Regeneration Services Manager), C. Davies (Private Sector Housing Manager), M. Woodland (Senior Solicitor), C. Forbes-Thompson (Scrutiny Manager), E. Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer), R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer)

APOLOGIES:

Councillors J. Bevan, C. Forehead, C. Elsbury, A. Higgs, S. Kent, A. Leonard, P. Leonard, G. Oliver, D.W.R Preece, J. Roberts, J. Scriven, M. Sargent, B. Zaplatynski

The decisions and declarations of interest are set out below. For further details please refer to the relevant report.

| ITEM | SUBJECT | DECISION | VOTE |
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| 2. | Declarations of Interest. | <p>Councillor D. Cushing sought advice in relation to Agenda Item 3 (as a Member of Gelligaer Community Council which had provided evidence to the Task and Finish Group) and was advised there was no requirement to declare an interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.</p> | N/A |
| 3. | Caerphilly County Borough Council Car Parks Task and Finish Group | <p>Having considered the findings and recommendations of the Task and Finish Group, and having agreed the inclusion of an additional recommendation (3.17), the Scrutiny Committee supported the following recommendations and RECOMMENDED to Cabinet that:-</p> <p>(i) Current hourly tariffs at publicly available pay and display highway owned car parks be standardised across county borough for long term and short-term parking respectively. It is suggested that</p> | 13 For 0 Against 0 Abstention |

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| | | <p>charges are set at a current lower level (Task & Finish recommendation 3.2);</p> <p>(ii) Parking charges at the 5 country parks be removed to recognise the significant health benefits to residents (Task & Finish recommendation 3.3);</p> <p>(iii) Where car parks in close proximity to school are having parking issues during school drop off and pick up times, Officers be given discretion to allow a free parking concession to parents/carers for a limited time and in consultation with local ward members (Task & Finish recommendation 3.5);</p> <p>(iv) The current approach to the use of car parks for trading and events be allowed to continue and Officers be permitted to continue to use discretion in respect of applications that have community benefit (Task & Finish recommendation 3.13);</p> <p>(v) Opportunities to improve existing CCTV be explored where grant funding or match funding is available ((Task & Finish recommendation 3.16);</p> <p>(vi) A programme to upgrade pay and display machines across the county borough be implemented (additional Scrutiny recommendation 3.17).</p> <hr/> <p>The Scrutiny Committee RESOLVED that the following Task & Finish recommendations not be supported:</p> <p>(i) offering local businesses reduced charge parking permits for their staff to park in car parks (Task & Finish recommendation 3.4);</p> <p>(ii) for the charging of Park and Ride facilities to be reviewed by Cabinet (Task & Finish recommendation 3.8);</p> <p>(iii) the ring-fencing of all surplus car parking income for maintenance and improvement of car parks (Task & Finish recommendation 3.15).</p> <hr/> <p>The Scrutiny Committee RESOLVED that the following Task & Finish recommendations be DEFERRED pending the outcome of the Covid-19 pandemic:-</p> | <hr/> <p>12 For 0 Against 2 Abstention</p> <hr/> <p>14 For 0 Against 0 Abstention</p> |
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| | | <p>(i) Remove Sunday parking charges at Twyn Car park on Sundays (Task & Finish recommendation 3.6);</p> <p>(ii) That car park charges not be enforced on St David's Day (Task & Finish recommendation 3.7);</p> <p>(iii) consideration of charging at free car parks (Task & Finish recommendation 3.9).</p> <hr/> <p>The Scrutiny Committee RESOLVED that the following Task & Finish recommendations be DEFERRED for a further report to Scrutiny Committee:-</p> <p>(i) That priority be given in the county wide review for consideration of zoning of residential parking areas of main towns (Task & Finish recommendation 3.10);</p> <p>(ii) That the criteria for residential parking permit areas be reviewed to offer a more flexible approach that takes into account areas outside of principal towns where customer parking to access local businesses impacts on residential areas (Task & Finish recommendation 3.11).</p> <hr/> <p>The Scrutiny Committee RESOLVED that the following Task & Finish recommendation be REMOVED as this matter has already been approved by Cabinet:</p> <p>(i) That the current non-enforcement of parking charges at council owned car parks be extended after 31.12.20 three months and then reviewed to consider if the impact of Covid-19 on town centres is ongoing at that time (Task & Finish recommendation 3.12).</p> <hr/> <p>The Scrutiny Committee RESOLVED that the following Task & Finish recommendation be DEFERRED for further discussion with local ward members upon retirement of the current postholder:</p> <p>(i) Consideration be given to cease locking the car parks at Thorncombe 3 and Wesley Road Blackwood at night upon the retirement of the member of staff. To be done in consultation with</p> | <hr/> <p>12 For 0 Against 0 Abstention</p> <hr/> <p>13 For 0 Against 1 Abstention</p> <hr/> <p>13 For 0 Against 0 Abstention</p> |
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| | | local ward members. If night-time locking ends the impact should be monitored and options to install additional CCTV and/or upgrade the quality are explored if required. (Task & Finish recommendation 3.14). | |
| 4. | Enforced Sale Policy | <p>Having provided their views on the proposals, the Scrutiny Committee RECOMMENDED to Cabinet that:-</p> <p>(i) the Enforced Sale Policy as an enforcement tool for Caerphilly County Borough Council be adopted;</p> <p>(ii) a figure of £500 be adopted as the level of debt at which this policy can be implemented.</p> | <p>13 For 0 Against 0 Abstention</p> |

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