



COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON TUESDAY, 1ST JUNE 2021 AT 5.00PM

PRESENT:

Councillor C. Andrews - Mayor
Councillor J. Gale - Deputy Mayor

Councillors:

M. Adams, E.M. Aldworth, A. Angel, J. Bevan, C. Bezzina, C. Bishop, A. Collis, S. Cook, D. Cushing, C. Cuss, D.T. Davies, , C. Elsbury, K. Etheridge, M. Evans, C. Forehead, E. Forehead, A. Gair, N. George, C. Gordon, R. Gough, L. Harding, D. Havard, A. Higgs, A. Hussey, M. James, V. James, G. Johnston, S. Kent, G. Kirby, P. Leonard, C. Mann, P. Marsden, B. Miles, S. Morgan, B. Owen, T. Parry, L. Phipps, D. Poole, D.W.R. Preece, J. Pritchard, J. Ridgewell, J. Roberts, R. Saralis, G. Simmonds, J. Simmonds, E. Stenner, J. Taylor, C. Thomas, A. Whitcombe, R. Whiting, L. Whittle, T.J. Williams, W. Williams, B. Zaplatynski

Together with:-

R. Tranter (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer), D. Street (Corporate Director Social Services and Housing), M.S. Williams (Corporate Director Economy and Environment), R. Kyte (Head of Planning and Regeneration), R. Thomas (Planning Development Manager), D. Lucas (Team Leader, Strategic Planning) L. Lane (Head of Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer), S. Ford (Senior Communications Officer), R. Barrett (Committee Services Officer), C. Evans (Committee Services Officer)

WELCOME - COUNCILLOR CHARLOTTE BISHOP

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Charlotte Bishop to her first meeting of Council as the newly elected Member for the Aber Valley Ward. It was noted that Councillor Bishop was the first female county councillor elected to Aber Valley Ward since CCBC's inception in 1996 and had been elected to the position unopposed. Members congratulated Councillor Bishop on her appointment and wished her every success in her new role.

WEB-CASTING FILMING AND VOTING ARRANGEMENTS

It was noted that Mrs Christina Harry (Chief Executive) was on leave and Mr Dave Street (Corporate Director for Social Services and Housing) would be deputising for this meeting.

Mr Street reminded those present that the meeting was being filmed but would not be live streamed, however a recording would be available following the meeting via the Council's website – [Click Here to View](#). He advised that decisions would be made by Microsoft Forms.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from P. Bevan, W. David, M. Davies, K. Dawson, N. Dix, A. Farina-Childs, J.E. Fussell, D. Hardacre, D. Harse, L. Jeremiah, B. Jones, A. Leonard, G. Oliver, D. Price, M.E. Sargent, J. Scriven and S. Skivens, together with C. Harrhy (Chief Executive) and R. Edmunds (Corporate Director Education and Corporate Services).

2. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor referred to recent events she had attended, including the Young Enterprise Welsh Final which was held virtually on 26th May 2021. The overall winner were a group of pupils from St Martin's School in Caerphilly with "New Leaf Sustainability" who now proceed on to the UK final. The Mayor congratulated St Martin's School on their achievement and wished them all the very best in the final.

Members were advised of the successful events organised in Bargoed as part of Dementia Action Week to launch the accreditation of Greater Bargoed becoming a Dementia Friendly Community. The Mayor, in her role as Dementia Champion, is looking forward to working with the community to continue its journey and to expanding this initiative to other areas within the Council as part of the Dementia Friendly Community

The Mayor referred to recent letters she had received from pupils in Years 4 and 5 at Ysgol Gymraeg Caerfill (Miss Eleri Jones' class), who had written to the Mayor with their concerns around climate change and global warming, and wanted to know if the Council supported the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill 2021. The Mayor was pleased to affirm this position and inform them that in 2019 CCBC were the second Council to declare a climate emergency. The Mayor offered to share the letters with other Members so that they could send individual replies to the pupils if they so wished.

The Mayor also announced the start of her fundraising efforts for her chosen charities: The Alzheimer's Society, the Valley Daffodils and the Friends of Bargoed Ward at Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr. Members were advised that on 12th June 2021, the Mayor and her consort Megan will be undertaking a Zip Line Challenge at Zip World Tower in Hirwaun. The Mayor will also be taking along for the ride a scarf bearing the Caerphilly Council logo, which belonged to her late father-in-law and former Leader of the Council, Harry Andrews.

The Mayor acknowledged that it has been a challenging year for all charities and welcomed any sponsors for her Zip Line Challenge. A GoFundMe page has been set up and further details are available through the Mayor's Office.

3. TO RECEIVE PETITIONS UNDER RULE OF PROCEDURE 28(3)

Councillor Martyn James presented a petition on behalf of Ystrad Mynach residents to Save Ystrad Mynach's Green Spaces.

Councillor Kevin Etheridge presented a petition on behalf of Blackwood residents requesting the implementation of double yellow lines at St Tudor's View, Blackwood

The Mayor accepted the petitions which would be actioned in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

4. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

There were no awards to be presented on this occasion.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A Member sought advice from the Monitoring Officer in relation to Agenda Items 11 and 12 due to the range of matters under consideration and was advised that should a Member become aware of a need to declare an interest during the course of discussion, they should raise this at the time and appropriate advice would be given if needed.

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

6 MINUTES – COUNCIL 13TH APRIL 2021

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2021 be approved as a correct record and by way of Microsoft Forms, and in noting there were 50 for, 0 against and 3 abstentions, this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 13th April 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

7. TO RECEIVE AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS RECEIVED UNDER RULE OF PROCEDURE 10 (2)

Question to the Leader of Council from Councillor Adrian Hussey.

The vaccination programme has been a great success how had Caerphilly County Borough Council contributed to this effort?

Response from the Leader of Council, Councillor P. Marsden.

The Council is proud to have played a key role in supporting the Aneurin Bevan University Health Board with the delivery of the mass vaccination programme.

Perhaps our greatest contribution has been the provision of venues for vaccination centres. Sue Noake Leisure Centre has been used by a local GP surgery for vaccinations, and Ty Penallta was set up for mass vaccinations towards the end of last year. As operations scaled up, Ty Penallta was replaced by a mass vaccination centre opening at Newbridge Leisure Centre at the end of January.

The vaccination centre at Newbridge Leisure Centre currently operates 6 days a week, and can comfortably provide 1,000 vaccinations a day, on occasions this has been considerably more. The Council currently has 30 staff from our Sport and Leisure Service supporting the operation of the vaccination centre. Our staff have become fully integrated with the Health Board Team and act as traffic marshals, help take patients' details, usher patients around the building, and generally help to troubleshoot any issues that arise on site. We have received endless feedback from Health Board colleagues and those attending the vaccination centre alike regarding the positive and flexible attitude of our staff.

When the Newbridge mass vaccination centre opened, the Council's Integrated Transport Unit issued additional information to promote public transport routes, and also worked with Stagecoach to secure additional services. Our Highways team put additional signage in place and also made arrangements to facilitate additional car parking at Newbridge Station park and ride.

The Caerphilly Cares Team are assisting people who have been unable to make their own travel arrangements to vaccination centres. The Council provides advice and signposts members of the public if they have contacted us, and our Communications Team have undertaken a significant amount of work since the introduction of the vaccination programme to raise awareness and encourage take-up within the community. Key messages about the vaccination roll out have been promoted via a range of channels including the Council's website, intranet, social media channels, internal communication and updates to councillors. They have also shared key updates from partners including Welsh Government, Public Health Wales, and the Health Board on a regular basis as part of a Wales-wide co-ordinated communication campaign to promote the vaccination programme across the county.

We are also extremely grateful to Newbridge Comprehensive School for their commitment and patience in supporting the operation of the vaccination centre.

Following the response from the Leader, Councillor Hussey was given the opportunity to ask a supplementary question and he expressed his gratitude to the NHS Staff and CCBC staff at Newbridge Vaccination Centre for their efforts and professionalism in carrying out their duties during the Covid-19 pandemic. These sentiments were echoed by the Mayor.

8. TO RECEIVED AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS RECEIVED UNDER RULE OF PROCEDURE 10(4)

Question to the Cabinet Member for Customer, Performance and Property Services from Councillor Kevin Etheridge.

As no funding has been earmarked direct to the Council by Central Government in regard to the Community Renewal Fund can it clearly be defined what implications it will have on the Transformation Agenda and additional resources for the Council and Ratepayers of the County Borough?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Customer, Performance and Property Services, Councillor E. Stenner.

It is with great disappointment that the decision by central government was not to earmark any money from the Community Renewal Fund for this Authority and I find it shocking that Caerphilly has not been included in the 100 priority places able to access this money. However it does not impact the Place Shaping investment and Transformation Programmes as this is only one source of funding available to us and there are many other UK, Welsh Government and local funds that we can access for the programme.

The programmes are not wholly reliant upon one source of funding and the question of how it will impact additional resources and ratepayers of the borough will bear out once the significant political lobbying taking place around this whole funding stream has been concluded. We will continue to challenge the UK government's prioritisation methodology used to determine the Community Renewal Fund Priority 100 places, to enable us to influence the forthcoming UK Shared Prosperity Fund indicators.

9. NOTICE OF MOTION - QUESTIONS TO THE LEADER OF COUNCIL

Consideration was given to the Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Kevin Etheridge and supported by Councillors R. Gough, G. Simmonds, A. Farina-Childs, R. Owen and N. Dix, and which had been presented to the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 25th May 2021.

Councillor Etheridge outlined his Notice of Motion, which referred to Rule 10 of the Council's Procedural Rules, and called on the Council to ensure in the future elected members are allowed to table questions to the Leader and ask a supplementary question without recourse to the Cabinet Member.

Councillor Etheridge referred to ambiguity around the interpretation of Rule 10 of the Council's Constitution and explained that he was seeking a definition of the appropriate rule where a question to the Leader at Full Council with a supplementary question on policy is refused by Officers and the Leader, and is then told it must be tabled to the Cabinet Member only without a supplementary question

Council were advised that at the meeting of the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 25th May 2021, Members supported the Notice of Motion by a majority vote, and also agreed an additional recommendation to Council for the Constitution to be amended in relation to Rule 10(4) to allow a supplementary question to be asked of the Cabinet Member. However, this supplementary question must be directly related to the main question asked.

Clarification was sought on the maximum number of questions that would be permitted at Council if the Notice of Motion with the additional recommendation from the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee was supported. The Monitoring Officer explained that each political group would have the ability to ask a main question and supplementary question of the Leader, and a main question and supplementary question for the relevant Cabinet Member, which would create a maximum of 12 questions per Council meeting.

Following discussion, it was moved and seconded that the Notice of Motion as set out in the Officer's report be supported.

An amendment was then moved and seconded for the Notice of Motion to be supported with the inclusion of the additional recommendation from the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee on 25th May 2021. Voting took place on the amendment and by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation, and in noting there were 17 for, 37 against and 0 abstentions, the amendment was declared lost.

Voting then took place on the substantive Notice of Motion as set out in the Officer's report and by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation, and in noting there were 54 for, 0 against and 0 abstentions, was unanimously supported by Council.

RESOLVED that the Notice of Motion as set out in the Officer's report be supported.

10. NOTICE OF MOTION - POTENTIAL BOOKING SYSTEM FOR RECYCLING SITES

Consideration was given to the Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Kevin Etheridge and supported by Councillors R. Gough, G. Simmonds, N. Dix, A. Farina-Childs, R. Owen and C. Mann, and which had been presented to the Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee on 18th May 2021.

Councillor Etheridge outlined his Notice of Motion, which requested that following the consultation and engagement exercise concerning a potential booking system for the re-cycling sites, the matter is brought before full Council for a discussion, debate and vote on the merits of such a scheme with the relevant evidence from other authorities in a detailed report.

Members discussed the Notice of Motion and it was emphasised that the decision on whether to adopt a booking system at the council's civic amenity sites would be a Cabinet function and would normally be reported through the normal Scrutiny process. Hence it was suggested that the Notice of Motion was premature in this regard.

Council were also advised that at the meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee on 18th May 2021 and prior to considering the Notice of Motion, Members unanimously agreed that any forthcoming report on the proposed Booking System for Recycling Sites be added to the forward work programme for the Scrutiny Committee to ensure that its Members have an opportunity to scrutinise the outcome of the consultation process and the proposed booking system. The Environment and Sustainability Scrutiny Committee subsequently supported the Notice of Motion by a majority vote.

Following debate on the merits of the Notice of Motion, and with it having been moved and seconded that the Notice of Motion be supported, voting took place by way of Microsoft Forms. In noting there were 15 for, 36 against and 2 abstentions, the motion was declared lost.

RESOLVED that the Notice of Motion not be supported.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Consideration was given to the following reports.

11. ADOPTED CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UP TO 2021: REVIEW REPORT

Consideration was given to the report which detailed the outcome of the consultation on the Draft Review Report and sought Council endorsement of the amended Review Report and agreement to submit it to Welsh Government as the Council's formal Review Report.

Council were reminded that at its meeting on 23rd October 2019, Members resolved to commence a full revision of the Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2021 (Adopted LDP). The LDP Regulations require that a Review Report be prepared by the Council that needs to consider: How the plan strategy, aims and objectives are being delivered; any significant changes in circumstances brought about by changes to the evidence base or contextual framework; how the policy framework and allocations in the plan are being delivered; the 6 Annual Monitoring Reports [AMR]; and whether a revision of the plan is necessary and what options for the revision should be taken.

The Draft Review Report was the subject of a 3-week consultation process starting on 24th February 2020 and concluded on 16th March 2020. A total of 16 submissions were received that raised 50 substantive comments, 9 of which were in support, and were summarised in the Report of Consultation on the Draft Review Report attached as Appendix 1.

Amendments have been made to the Draft Review Report as a result of the issues raised during consultation and to reflect changing circumstances since the Draft Review Report was

prepared, and the amended Review Report seeking Council endorsement was included at Appendix 2 to the report.

Members were asked to note that the information at bullet point 5 of Section 5.4 of the Officer's report had been included in error and should be disregarded.

Following consideration of the report it was moved and seconded that the recommendations contained within the Officer's report be approved and by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation and in noting there were 48 For, 0 Against and 4 Abstentions this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the amended Review Report be endorsed and submitted to Welsh Government.

12. 2ND REPLACEMENT CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UP TO 2035 – DELIVERY AGREEMENT

Consideration was given to the report which reported to Council the outcome of the 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2035 Draft Delivery Agreement public consultation exercise, sought Council approval of the final Delivery Agreement, and sought Council agreement to submit the Delivery Agreement to Welsh Government by the end of June 2021 for its approval.

The first stage in the preparation of the 2nd Replacement Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan up to 2035 (2RLDP) is to prepare a Delivery Agreement (DA) which includes the timetable for the delivery of the 2nd Replacement Delivery Plan and the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS), which sets out who will be consulted and when.

The first draft Delivery Agreement was prepared and ready to be the subject of consultation in March 2020, but was cancelled due to restrictions around Covid-10. The draft Delivery Agreement was updated and commenced a nine-week public consultation which commenced on Monday 25th January 2021 and concluded Monday 29th March 2021.

In total, 23 responses were received during the public consultation period. A Report of Consultation has been prepared that addresses the responses to the Draft DA. The Report considers the issues that have been raised, provides officer responses to those issues and makes recommendations on the proposed course of action. The Report of Consultation was included as Appendix 1 to the report, and a final Delivery Agreement has been prepared to reflect the responses received and included as Appendix 2 to the report.

During the course of discussion on this item, a Member referred to the Risk Assessment at Appendix 2 of the Delivery Agreement which stated that there was a high likelihood that there of programme slippage due to a lack of support from officers / other departments in production of the evidence base. Officers explained that this comment reflects the position as it would stand because all other service areas have their own area of work that they need to deliver and the LDP poses a considerable onus on certain service areas in acquiring the information needed. However, as part of its preparations around the 2nd Replacement LDP, an element of budget funding has been identified to assist service areas in producing this information. Therefore, although lack of support had been acknowledged as an issue, the Council is confident that service areas are now in a better position to provide this required information.

Following consideration of the report it was moved and seconded that the recommendations contained within the Officer's report be approved and by way of Microsoft Forms and in noting there were 47 For, 0 Against and 3 Abstentions this was agreed by the majority present.

RESOLVED that the final Delivery Agreement be approved and submitted to Welsh Government.

The meeting closed at 6:14 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 July 2021 they were signed by the Mayor.

MAYOR