

CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

NOTICE OF THE DECISIONS FROM THE HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12th DECEMBER 2023 AT 5.30 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillors: C. Bishop, M. Chacon-Dawson, R. Chapman, D. Cushing, C. Cuss, D. T. Davies, T. Heron, A. Hussey, D. Ingram-Jones, M. James, A. McConnell, B. Owen, L. Phipps, H. Pritchard, J. A. Pritchard, J. Rao, A. Whitcombe (Chair), and S. Williams (Vice Chair).

Cabinet Members: C. Morgan (Waste, Leisure and Green Spaces), and J. Pritchard (Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Prosperity, Regeneration and Climate Change).

Officers: M. S. Williams (Director for Economy and Environment), R. Hartshorn (Head of Public Protection, Community and Leisure Services), J. Reynolds (Sports and Leisure Facilities Manager), J. Davies (Parks and Countryside Operations Manager), P. Cooke (Transformation Manager (Lead) – Decarbonisation), H. Richardson (Project Officer - Decarbonisation), C. Forbes-Thompson (Scrutiny Manager) and A. Jones (Committee Services Officer).

Also in attendance:

To present on Agenda Item No. 9: M. Singh, P. Curtis, R. Yousif, D. Parker, C. Johnson, J. Goddard, D. Patterson and D. Leigh.

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

ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	VOTE
1.	To receive apologies for absence.	There were no apologies for absence	N/A
2.	Declarations of interest.	There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.	N/A
3.	Housing and Environment Scrutiny Committee held on 31 st October 2023.	Subject to the inclusion of Councillors C. Cuss and J. Rao to the list of those in attendance it was moved and seconded that the minutes be approved as a correct record. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation this was agreed by the majority present. RESOLVED that the minutes of the Housing and Environment Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 31 st October 2023 be approved as a correct record.	15 For 0 Against 2 Abstention
4.	Consideration of any matter referred to this Committee in accordance with the call-in procedure.	There had been no matters referred to the Scrutiny Committee in accordance with the call-in procedure.	N/A

5.	Housing and Environment Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme.	<p>Following consideration of the Forward Work programme it was moved and seconded that the recommendations be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms this was unanimously agreed,</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Housing and Environment Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme be published on the Council's website.</p>	17 For 0 Against 0 Abstention
6.	To receive and consider the Cabinet reports listed on the Agenda.	There had been no requests for any of the Cabinet reports to be brought forward for discussion at the meeting.	N/A
10.	Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre.	<p>With the approval of the Chair this item was brought forward on the agenda following a request that a motion to defer discussion on the report be tabled.</p> <p>The motion was moved and seconded that consideration of the report be deferred until the outcome of the Public Consultation. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation this was agreed by the majority present.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the report be deferred until the outcome of the Public Consultation.</p>	16 For 1 Against 1 Abstention
9.	Caerphilly Leisure and Wellbeing hub Update (Presentation)	<p>With the approval of the Chair this item was brought forward on the agenda.</p> <p>Following consideration of the presentation the Housing and Environment Scrutiny Committee noted its content.</p>	N/A
7.	Grass Cutting Regime	<p>Following consideration of the report it was moved and seconded that the recommendations be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms this was agreed by the majority present.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED to Cabinet that:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The approach adopted since the 2021/22 cutting season continue to be the adopted grass cutting standard in relation to our highway verges and by-pass routes where mowing is kept to a minimum, in accordance with Traffic Wales guidance. 2. The Council continues its commitment to the Nature isn't Neat 	15 For 1 Against 1 Abstention

		<p>project, which is part of the Gwent Green Grid Partnership, establishing joined-up green space management to create wildflower-rich pollinator habitats across the Gwent local authority areas, which includes Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport, and Torfaen.</p> <p>3. Visibility splays and sight lines on highways; margins and access on footways/cycle routes; sports grounds; urban areas such as housing estates, municipal parks, older person accommodation, cemeteries; play/recreational public open spaces, be maintained at the current cutting frequencies.</p> <p>4. The list of areas as set out in Appendix 1, which are to be allowed to flourish during the summer period be endorsed.</p> <p>5. The Authority continues to develop and enhance areas using bought in wildflower seed as set out in Paragraph 5.11 of the Officers report.</p>	
8.	Decarbonisation Annual Report November 2023.	Following consideration of the report the Housing and Environment Scrutiny Committee noted the progress made to date on the actions set out in the Decarbonisation Annual Report and commented on the approach taken in relation to, and the content of this first annual progress report.	N/A

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