

## CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### NOTICE OF THE DECISIONS FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 AT 5.00 P.M.

#### PRESENT:

Councillors: M. Adams, E. M. Aldworth, C. Andrews, A. Angel, C. Bishop, A. Broughton-Pettit, M. Chacon-Dawson, R. Chapman, P. Cook, S. Cook, C. Cuss, E. Davies, T. D. Davies MBE, N. Dix, G. Ead, G. Enright, K. Etheridge, M. Evans, A. Farina-Childs, C. Forehead, E. Forehead, A. Gair, N. George, C. Gordon, D. Harse, A. Hussey, D. Ingram-Jones, M. James, L. Jeremiah, G. Johnston, J. Jones, S. Kent, A. Leonard, P. Leonard, C. Mann, A. McConnell, B. Miles, C. Morgan, S. Morgan, B. Owen, T. Parry, L. Phipps, M. Powell, H. Pritchard, J. Pritchard, J.A. Pritchard, J. Rao, J. Reed, J. Roberts, J. Scriven, J. Simmonds, S. Skivens, E. Stenner, J. Taylor, C. Thomas, A. Whitcombe, L. Whittle, S. Williams, W. Williams, J. Winslade and C. Wright.

Officers: D. Street (Deputy Chief Executive), R. Edmunds (Corporate Director Education and Corporate Services), M. S. Williams (Corporate Director Economy and Environment), G. Jenkins (Interim Corporate Director Social Services), S. Harris (Head of Financial Services and Section 151 Officer), R. Tranter (Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer), L. Lane (Head of Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer), L. Donovan (Head of People Services), R. Kyte (Head of Regeneration and Planning), L. Sykes (Deputy Head of Financial Services and S151 Officer), J. Williams (Assistant Director Adult Services), R. Williams (Group Accountant Treasury and Capital), E. Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer) and S. Hughes (Committee Services Officer).

#### APOLOGIES:

Councillors D. Cushing, C. Elsbury, J.E. Fussell, T. Heron, D.W.R. Preece, D. Price, R. Saralis and K. Woodland, together with C. Harry (Chief Executive).

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

The full individual voting result on all items can be found with the Council Agenda on the Caerphilly County Borough [Website](#):

| ITEM | SUBJECT                             | DECISION   | VOTE                                 |
|------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 2.   | Declarations of Interest.           | There were no declarations of interest received.   | No Vote Required                     |
| 3.   | Presentation of Awards.             | There was no presentation of awards.   | No Vote Required                     |
| 4.   | Council held on 29th November 2023. | RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 be approved as a correct record. | 51 For<br>0 Against<br>3 Abstentions |

| ITEM | SUBJECT  | DECISION   | VOTE                                  |
|------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| 5.   | Notice of Motion – Wales Local Government Settlement.  | <p>It was moved and seconded that the recommendation contained in the Officer's report be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation the Notice of Motion was unanimously supported.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Notice of Motion be supported.</p>  | 57 For<br>0 Against<br>0 Abstentions  |
| 6.   | Publication of the Pay Policy Statement 2024/25  | <p>It was moved and seconded that the recommendation contained in the Officer's report be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation this was agreed by the majority present.</p> <p>RESOLVED that: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Pay Policy Statement 2024/25 (Version 13) be agreed for publication on the Council's website.</li> </ol>                            | 56 For<br>0 Against<br>1 Abstention   |
| 7.   | Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2024/25   | <p>It was moved and seconded that the recommendation contained in the Officer's report be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation this was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>RESOLVED that: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The current Council Tax Reduction Scheme be continued for the 2024/25 financial year along with the previously agreed local discretions.</li> </ol> | 56 For<br>0 Against<br>0 Abstentions  |
| 8.   | Capital Strategy Report 2024/25  | <p>It was moved and seconded that the recommendation contained in the Officer's report be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation this was agreed by the majority present.</p> <p>RESOLVED that: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The annual Capital Strategy Report be approved.</li> </ol>  | 51 For<br>1 Against<br>7 Abstentions  |
| 9.   | Treasury Management Annual Strategy, Capital Finance Prudential Indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy for 2024/25. | <p>It was moved and seconded that the recommendations contained in the Officer's report be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation this was agreed by the majority present.</p> <p>RESOLVED that: -</p>  | 48 For<br>0 Against<br>10 Abstentions |

| ITEM | SUBJECT                      | DECISION   | VOTE   |
|------|------------------------------|--|--|
|      |                              | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Annual Strategy for Treasury Management 2024/25 be approved.</li> <li>2. The strategy be reviewed quarterly within the Treasury Management monitoring reports presented to the Corporate and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee and any changes recommended be referred to Cabinet, in the first instance, and to Council for a decision. The Authority will also prepare quarterly reports on Treasury Management activities.</li> <li>3. The Prudential Indicators for Treasury Management be approved as per Appendix 5.</li> <li>4. The Prudential Indicators for Capital Financing be approved as per Appendices 6 and 7.</li> <li>5. The MRP policy as set out in Appendix 8 be adopted.</li> <li>6. The continuation of the 2023/24 investment strategy and the lending to financial institutions and Corporates in accordance with the minimum credit rating criteria disclosed within this report be approved.</li> <li>7. The Authority continues to adopt the investment grade scale as a minimum credit rating criterion to assess the credit worthiness of suitable counterparties when placing investments.</li> <li>8. The monetary and investment duration limits as set out in Appendix 3 of the report be adopted.</li> </ol> |  |
| 10.  | Budget Proposals for 2024/25 | <p>An amendment was moved and seconded that £78,000 be used to fund Coffi Vista and the public conveniences for a further 12 months.</p> <p>By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation the amendment was declared lost by the majority present.</p> <hr/>   | <p>22 For<br/>31 Against<br/>4 Abstentions</p> <hr/> |

| ITEM | SUBJECT                  | DECISION   | VOTE                                  |
|------|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
|      | Rule of Procedure 9(1)   | Council having sat for a total period of 3 hours, and in accordance with rule of procedure 9(1), by way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation it was approved by the majority present that standing orders be suspended and the meeting be extended for a period of no longer than one hour in order to conclude business, the meeting in any event would not continue beyond 9.00pm.   | 49 For<br>10 Against<br>0 Abstentions |
|      | Budget Proposals 2024/25 | <p>It was moved and seconded that the recommendations contained in the Officer's report be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation this was agreed by the majority present.</p> <p>RESOLVED that: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The revenue budget proposals for 2024/25 of £449.190m as detailed throughout the report and summarised in Appendix 1 be approved.</li> <li>2. The proposed increases in charges for school meals in secondary schools, Meals Direct, and the Hive Restaurant along with the proposed increase in the fee for MOT testing as detailed in paragraph 5.5.5 be approved.</li> <li>3. 100% of the net projected underspend on the Council's 2023/24 revenue budget will be transferred into General Fund balances as outlined in paragraph 5.7.3 be agreed.</li> <li>4. The movements on the General Fund in Appendix 4 and the projected balance as at 31 March 2024 of £14.126m be noted.</li> <li>5. The proposed Capital Programme for the period 2024/25 to 2026/27 as set out in Appendix 5 be approved.</li> <li>6. The proposal to increase Council Tax by 6.9% for the 2024/25 financial year to ensure that a balanced budget is achieved (Council Tax Band D being set at £1,446.37) be approved.</li> </ol> | 38 For<br>19 Against<br>2 Abstentions |

| ITEM | SUBJECT  | DECISION  | VOTE                                 |
|------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
|      |  | 7. The indicative potential savings requirement of £45.213m for the two-year period 2025/26 to 2026/27 be noted.  |                                      |
| 11.  | Council Tax Setting Resolution 2024/25                                     | It was moved and seconded that the recommendation contained in the Officer's report be approved. By way of Microsoft Forms and verbal confirmation this was agreed by the majority present.<br><br>RESOLVED that: -<br><br>1. The Council Tax Resolutions for the 2024/25 financial year be approved. | 44 For<br>5 Against<br>4 Abstentions |
| 12.  | To receive announcements from the Mayor.                                   | The Mayor's announcements were noted.   | No Vote Required                     |
| 13.  | To receive petitions under Rule of Procedure 28(3).                        | No petitions were received.   | No vote required                     |
| 14.  | To receive and to answer questions received under Rule of Procedure 10(2). | Question received and answer noted.   | No Vote Required                     |
| 15.  | To receive and to answer questions received under Rule of Procedure 10(3). | Question received and answer noted.   | No Vote Required                     |
| 16.  | To receive questions under Rule of Procedure 10 to be answered in writing. | No questions received under Rule of Procedure 10 to be answered in writing.   | No Vote Required                     |

**Circulation:**

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