



## **CABINET**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, TREDOMEN ON WEDNESDAY, 13TH JUNE 2018 AT 2.00 P.M.**

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#### **PRESENT**

Councillor S. Morgan – Chair

#### **Councillors:**

C. Cuss (Social Care and Wellbeing), N. George (Neighbourhood Services), C. Gordon (Cabinet Member for Corporate Services), P. Marsden (Education and Achievement), L. Phipps (Homes and Places) and E. Stenner (Environment and Public Protection).

#### **Together with:**

C. HARRY (Interim Chief Executive), M. S. Williams (Interim Corporate Director - Communities), D. Street (Corporate Director – Social Services and Housing), R. Kyte (Head of Regeneration and Planning), E. Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer), K. Peters (Corporate Policy Manager), A. Cullinane (Senior Policy Officer -Equalities and Welsh Language), J. Morgan (Trading Standards, Licensing and Registrars Manager) and A. Dredge (Committee Services Officer).

#### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B.A. Jones (Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Governance) and D.V. Poole (Leader of the Council).

#### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor N. George (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services) declared a personal and prejudicial interest at the commencement of the meeting in relation to agenda item 7 - (Risca - Tesco Development Section 106 Agreement: Commitment of Funding). Details of which are recorded with the respective item.

#### **3. CABINET MINUTES - 30TH MAY 2018**

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 30th May 2018 were approved and signed as a correct record.

## **MATTERS ON WHICH EXECUTIVE DECISIONS WERE REQUIRED**

### **4. CABINET FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

Cabinet were advised that, since the publication of the report, there were several changes made to the Forward Work Programme. Members were asked to defer the Report until the next meeting of Cabinet for the Programme to be updated.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the Report be deferred. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that the Report be deferred to the next meeting of Cabinet as several changes have been made to the Forward Work Programme since the publication of the Report.

### **5. WELSH LANGUAGE STANDARDS ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018 AND THE ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE STRATEGY 2017-2022**

The report sought Cabinet's endorsement of the progress made during the financial year 2017-2018 against four specific areas of Welsh language work, as required under the regulatory framework for implementing the Welsh Language Standards. The report would then be published online by the deadline date of 30th June 2018, as required by Welsh Language Standard 158. The five Year Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022, was set out in the Officer's Report.

Cabinet were advised that the Council has a statutory duty to produce an annual monitoring report on implementing Welsh Language issues under current legislation. The information required for 2017-2018 covers four required key areas that include Complaints from the Public, Staff Language Skills, Welsh Medium Training Provision and Recruiting to Empty Posts.

It was explained that the Council has received four formal complaints and four formal Welsh Language Commissioner Investigations. Of the four formal complaints received, two of these became Welsh Language Commissioner Investigations. All the complaints were responded to within corporate deadlines and were upheld. Members were advised that in relation to the two complaints that became Welsh Language Commissioner Investigations, processes have been improved and the Team have ensured that text on the Council's website is bilingual.

Cabinet noted there was a slight increase in the number of staff learning Welsh with a figure of 74, due in part to the introduction of the in-house 10 week taster courses which were delivered by the Equalities Training and Promotion Officer. Significant course delivery has been focused on frontline services, in particular the reception areas listed under Standards 65 and 65A, which will be implemented from 30th September 2018. An overview was provided in terms of the job vacancies advertised that included the Welsh Language Skills Assessment. It was confirmed that the Head of People Services has agreed that new and vacant posts will no longer be advertised without the required Welsh Language Skills Assessment. The Recruitment and Selection Guidance for Managers will also be updated giving greater clarity around undertaking Welsh Language Skills Assessments to determine if new and vacant posts should be defined as Welsh Essential or otherwise.

Reference was made to the Annual Progress Report on the Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022 (appended to the Report). Cabinet were reminded that the Strategy was approved by Full Council in January 2017 with a Cabinet request for an annual progress report on its 6 Strategic Areas.

Cabinet were pleased to note that the Welsh Language Forum has secured funding to develop a booklet on how to be bilingual, giving a journey from birth on what options are available to access Welsh medium childcare and school provision to raise bilingual children. Clarification was sought as to the timeframe for completion of the booklet and it is anticipated this will be developed in time for September 2018, for the next academic year.

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained in the Officer's Report, the Annual Report be noted and the publication of this information as a record of progress towards, and compliance with, the relevant Welsh Language Standards, be endorsed.

## **6. APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC AND AGRICULTURAL ANALYSTS**

The report sought Cabinet approval for amendments to the appointment of Public and Agricultural Analysts set out in paragraph 4.3. of the Officer's report.

Cabinet were advised that Caerphilly County Borough Council has a statutory duty to enforce the Food Safety Act 1990, which requires the Authority to appoint a Public Analyst to analyse food for foreign bodies and compositional and labelling purposes. There are similar provisions in the Agriculture Act 1970 relating to the need to appoint an Agricultural Analyst. The purpose of the Report was that a number of amendments to the list of approved Public Analysts and Agricultural Analysts require approval due to personnel and location changes within the Analyst Services.

Clarification was sought in relation to the term 'Public Analysts' and whether there was a specific number of samples required to be carried out each year. In terms of food standards, it was explained that the Local Authority had to appoint and only use a Public Analyst for formal sampling of food products who would provide certification for use in any prosecution or formal action.

Cabinet were informed that there is no specific set number of samples required but that Trading Standards have an annual Food Plan and Work Program which includes local and national sampling. The service is currently concentrating on food allergens, diet supplements, nutritional supplements and meat species etc .

Following consideration and discussion, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that for the reasons contained therein, the Public and Agricultural Analysts as detailed in paragraph 4.3 of the Officer's Report, be approved.

## **7. RISCA – TESCO DEVELOPMENT SECTION 106 AGREEMENT: COMMITMENT OF FUNDING**

Councillor N. George declared a personal and prejudicial in relation to this item as he is a local Ward Member. He left the room when the Report was presented and did not take part in the debate.

The Report sought Cabinet approval of the priority projects to be implemented in Risca, utilising the Section 106 (S106) funding resulting from the large Tesco store development. The Report also sought agreement to a delegated approval process for potential additional Town Centre projects that would utilise the residual S106 funding that exists following completion of the priority projects.

Cabinet were reminded of the legal position with the Section 106 monies and identifies priority projects within Risca Town Centre following the agreement of Cabinet on 25th November 2015:

- (i) to utilise the Tesco store development Section 106 monies for improvements to Risca Town Centre;
- (ii) that consultation be undertaken with Ward Members and a further report be presented to Cabinet on the proposals.

It was explained that Officers have identified priority schemes at the former Longbridge Baths and at the Council's Brookland Road site that offer the best opportunity for the use of S106 monies. Details of the proposed priority projects and the potential associated costs were set out in the Report. In addition, the Cabinet decision in January 2008 to demolish stock at Brooklands and outlines how this objective can best be achieved.

The background of the construction of the Tesco Superstore in Risca was summarised and Cabinet was advised that the S106 agreement allocated an Index Linked sum of £425,000 in respect of the "Town Centre Contribution". The sum was paid to the Council and is subject to a need to spend or commit the monies within an eight year period (until March 2018) or to return the monies to the developer, Tesco.

Cabinet were referred to paragraph 4.3 in the Report that sets out the wording of the S106 Agreement in relation to the 'Town Centre Contribution'. The value of the S106 monies at 22nd May 2018 plus accrued interest is £478,164. The necessity to commit this money to works or demolition contracts by March 2018 (8 years from the date of the original S106 agreement) has now been removed with agreement of Tesco.

Cabinet discussed the proposed sites and it was explained that Property Services undertook a Consultation with Service areas in relation to the proposals to demolish the small garage, former Library, gym block and the Basic Skills Unit that ended on the 20th April 2018. Following circulation of the email correspondence, no service area interest has been registered against any of the buildings proposed for demolition.

The Risca East Members are supportive of the proposals whilst the Risca Town Council and Risca West Ward Members have expressed concerns over the proposed works. The concerns and responses received from the Council were summarised in the Report. In terms of any residual monies remaining it was explained that this will be utilised on working through Town Centre Projects. Cabinet requested that consideration be given to works being undertaken on the perimeter wall at the War Memorial site at Cromwell Road, at the northern end of Risca.

Clarification was sought as to the future of the Youth and Community Services Building. It was explained that currently this does not form part of this report and will remain in situ whilst the service provision there is reviewed. A further report will be brought to Cabinet that will form part of the Youth Service Review. It was also confirmed that there are 2 local Youth Clubs in the area one at Crosskeys and one in Risca that are well used. Cabinet requested that an amendment be made to paragraph 10.2, in the Officer's Report to include relevant Cabinet Member(s).

Following consideration and discussion and subject to the foregoing, it was moved and seconded that the recommendations in the report be approved. By a show of hands this was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED that subject to an amendment to paragraph 10.2. in the Officer's Report to include relevant Cabinet Members(s), the use of the Tesco Development S106 monies be utilised to: -

- (i) undertake the partial demolition of Longbridge Baths and reconfiguration and refurbishment of the remaining two changing rooms, be approved;
- (ii) demolish the former Library, the small Garage, the former Gym and the Basic Skills Building (when it becomes vacant) at Brookland Road, be approved;
- (iii) any residual monies remaining from the completion of the above schemes is utilised on additional environmental projects within the Town Centre; with the additional projects to be approved by the relevant Head of Service or Director in Consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member(s), be approved.

The meeting closed at 2.25 pm.

Approved and signed as a correct record subject to any corrections made at the meeting held on 27th June 2018.

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CHAIR