



MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL

MINUTES OF MEETING

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY, 2015

PRESENT: Councillor B E Mansbridge (In the Chair)

Councillors H Barrett, C J Barry, S P Brown, B Carter, T Chaplin, D Davies, M Davies, D Isaac, A Jones, C T Jones, D Jones, G Jones, H R Jones, G Lewis, T Lewis, L A Matthews, J McCarthy, K Moran, L Mytton, D Roberts, L E Smart, W R Smith, Raymond Thomas, Richard Thomas, B Toomey, C Tovey and P Williams

Officers:

Gareth Chapman (Chief Executive), Ellis Cooper (Corporate Director of Customer Services), Carys Kennedy (Head of Legal and Democratic Services), Steve Jones (Chief Finance Officer), Mark Thomas (Assistant Director - Chief Executive's), Lisa Jones (Interim HR Manager), Alyn Owen (Head of Economic Development and European Funding), Dorothy Haines (Head of School Improvement), Mark Anderton (Head of Adult Social Services), Beverley Owen (Housing Strategy and Community Safety Manager), Craig Watkins (Planning Officer (Policy)), Geraint Morgan (Solicitor), Ceri Dinham (Senior Communications Officer) and Beth Melhuish (Corporate Communications)

Mair Morgan (Scrutiny / Democratic Services Officer), Karen Vokes (Democratic Services Officer) and Jayne Overbury (PA to the Mayor)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
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1071	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Braithwaite, Councillor G Davies, Councillor E Galsworthy and Councillor S Williams.
1072	Declarations of Interest	<p>Councillor P Williams Declared his interest in the extra item – Football Ground, Penydarren Park, Merthyr Tydfil as he has a friendship with the Contractor.</p> <p>Councillor B Toomey Declared his interest in the extra item – Football Ground, Penydarren Park, Merthyr Tydfil as his son is an employee of Merthyr Town Football Club.</p> <p>Councillor B Carter Declared his interest in the extra item – Football Ground, Penydarren Park, Merthyr Tydfil as he is an employee of Merthyr Town Football Club.</p> <p>Councillor C J Barry Declared his interest in the extra item – Football Ground, Penydarren Park, Merthyr Tydfil as he is a supporter of Merthyr Town Football Club.</p> <p>Councillor C T Jones Declared his interest in the extra item – Football Ground, Penydarren Park, Merthyr Tydfil as he is a Member of the of Merthyr Town Football Society.</p> <p>Councillor A Jones Declared his interest in the extra item – Football Ground, Penydarren Park, Merthyr Tydfil and advised that he has Dispensation to speak but not vote.</p> <p>Councillor C J Barry Declared his Interest in Item 21 – Gellideg Housing Co-operative Project as he is a Board Member Merthyr Valleys Homes.</p> <p>Councillor T C Lewis Declared his Interest in Item 21 – Gellideg Housing Co-operative Project as he is a Board Member Merthyr Valleys Homes.</p> <p>Councillor H Barrett Declared his Interest in Item 21 – Gellideg Housing Co-operative Project as he is a Board Member Merthyr Valleys Homes.</p> <p>Councillor W R Smith Declared his Interest in Item 21 – Gellideg Housing Co-operative Project as he is a Board Member Merthyr Valleys Homes.</p> <p>Councillor W R Smith Declared his Interest in Item 23 – Leisure and Culture Trust – Public Open Space Notice as he is the Council’s Representative on the Board for the Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Trust Limited.</p>
1073	Minutes of meeting Monday, 12 January 2015 of Scrutiny : Customer Services	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Minutes of the Customer Services Scrutiny Committee held 12 January 2015 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
1074	Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 13 January 2015 of Scrutiny : Chief Executive (inc.	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Minutes of the Chief Executive’s Scrutiny Committee held 13 January 2015 be accepted as a correct record.</p>

	Crime and Disorder)	
1075	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 14 January 2015 of Joint Negotiating and Consultative Group	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Joint Negotiating and Consultative Group Meeting held 14 January 2015 be accepted as a correct record.
1076	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 14 January 2015 of Scrutiny : Social Services & Social Regeneration	Councillor L Mytton advised that her apologies for absence needed to be recorded in the Minutes. Resolved subject to the foregoing that: The Minutes of the Social Services and Social Regeneration Scrutiny Committee held 14 January 2015 be accepted as a correct record.
1077	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 14 January 2015 of Cabinet	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held 14 January 2015 be accepted as a correct record.
1078	Minutes of meeting Monday, 19 January 2015 of Audit Committee	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Audit Committee held 19 January 2015 be accepted as a correct record.
1079	Minutes of meeting Monday, 19 January 2015 of Scrutiny : Schools	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Schools Scrutiny Committee held 19 January 2015 be accepted as a correct record.
1080	Minutes of meeting Monday, 26 January 2015 of Scrutiny : Schools	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Schools Scrutiny Committee held 26 January 2015 be accepted as a correct record.
1081	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 28 January 2015 of Cabinet	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held 28 January 2015 be accepted as a correct record.
1082	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 28 January 2015 of Full Council	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 28 January 2015 be accepted as a correct record.
1083	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 4 February 2015 of Licensing Committee	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Licensing Committee held 4 February 2015 be accepted as a correct record.
1084	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 4 February 2015 of Planning , Regulatory and Licensing Committee	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Planning, Regulatory and Licensing Committee held 4 February 2015 be accepted as a correct record.

1085	Budget and Council Tax 2015/16 - State of the Council Debate	<p>Councillor B Toomey Leader of the Council addressed the Council in relation to the State of the Council.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The Council Tax increase of 4.5% (Band D of £1,352.72) for 2015/16 for the County Borough Council be approved (b) The Net Revenue Budget (Budget Requirement) for 2015/16 of £113.265 million outlined in Appendix 1 of the report be approved (c) The Minimum Revenue Provision Statement be approved on the following basis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Option 1 as the basis for calculation for the historic debt liability at 31 March 2007 and (ii) Option 3 for all capital expenditure financed by borrowing from 1 April 2007 (d) The Chief Finance Officer's comments relating to the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of reserves be noted (e) The proposed reporting of the following financial documents to Council on 26 March 2014 be noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium Term Financial Plan 2015/16 to 2017/18 • Capital Programme 2015/16 to 2019/20 • Prudential Indicators in compliance with the Prudential Code framework for capital investment in Local Authorities
1086	Council Tax Resolution 2015/16	<p>Resolved that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The formal statutory Council Tax resolutions 2015/16 as outlined in Appendix 1 of the report and summarised in paragraphs 3.1 be noted and approved (b) The South Wales Police Authority approved precept for 2015/16 of £3,542,493 for the Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council area be noted (c) The Bedlinog Community Council approved precept for 2015/16 of £19,500 for the Community Council area be noted (d) The Welsh Government 2015/16 Non Domestic Rate for Wales of 48.2 pence in the £ be noted
1087	Workforce Equalities Policy	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Workforce Equalities Policy be adopted and approved.</p>
1088	Council Tax Discretionary Relief Policy	<p>Resolved that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The Council Tax Discretionary Relief Policy be approved (b) The Policy be implemented with immediate effect (c) Applications under the Policy be determined in accordance with delegated powers as per 2.4 of the report
1089	Biffa Profit Sharing	<p>Resolved that:</p>

	Scheme	The request from the Town Electoral Division to allocate their Biffa Monies as follows be approved: Resurfacing of Bryony Close, Twynirodyn - £2,500.00
1090	Merthyr Tydfil Local Housing Market Assessment 2015	Resolved that: The publication of the Merthyr Tydfil Local Housing Market Assessment 2015 to form part of the Local Development Plan / Local Housing Strategy evidence base and to assist in negotiating affordable housing on new housing developments be approved.
1091	Gellideg Housing Cooperative Project	Declaration of Interest Councillor C J Barry, Councillor T C Lewis and Councillor W R Smith Declared their Interest in this item. Councillor T C Lewis and Councillor W R Smith then left the Meeting for the consideration of this item. The Council were circulated with a copy of the model referred to in paragraph 4.4 of the report. Resolved that: (a) The development of the Gellideg Cooperative Project in partnership with Merthyr Valleys Homes be approved and (b) The use of the Public Works Loans Board to finance the project as set out at paragraph 7.1 of the report be approved
1092	Changes to 'Housing Choice' - Housing Allocations Policy	Councillor B Carter left the Meeting at 6.30 pm. Resolved that: The amended 'Housing Choice' Common Allocations Policy be approved.

Exempt

Resolved that:

The public be excluded from the Meeting on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 14 and 16 under Part 4 of Schedule 12A of Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972

1093	Leisure and Culture Trust – Public Open Space Notice	Declaration of Interest Councillor W R Smith having Declared his Interest in this item left the Meeting for the consideration of this item.
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		<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The recommendation as contained within the report be accepted.</p>
1094	Football Ground, Penydarren Park	<p>Declaration of Interest</p> <p>Councillor C J Barry, Councillor C T Jones, Councillor B Toomey and Councillor P Williams having Declared their Interest left the Meeting for the consideration of this item.</p> <p>Councillor A Jones did not vote on this item.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>Recommendation 6.1 of the report be accepted.</p> <p>Recommendation 6.2 of the report be accepted subject to amendment.</p>

Re -Opened Session

1095	To deal with any other urgent business or correspondence	The Mayor advised that there was no urgent business or correspondence.
1096	To receive communications from His Worship the Mayor	No Communications were received.