



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL  
MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# FULL COUNCIL MEETING MEETING

**WEDNESDAY, 2ND NOVEMBER, 2016**

**PRESENT:** Councillor M Davies (In the Chair)

Councillors C J Barry, R Braithwaite, S P Brown, T Chaplin, D Davies, E Galsworthy, 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, M O'Neill, D Roberts, S Slater, W R Smith, B Toomey, C Tovey, P Williams and S Williams

**Officers:**

Gareth Chapman (Chief Executive), Carys Kennedy (Head of Legal and Governance Services - Monitoring Officer), Ellis Cooper (Deputy Chief Executive), Lisa Curtis Jones (Chief Officer (Social Services)), Cheryllee Evans (Chief Officer (Neighbourhood Services)), Steve Jones (Head of Finance), Fran Donnelly (H R Manager), Mark Thomas (Head of Corporate Services), Ann Taylor (Democratic Services Team Leader) and Vicky Robst (Corporate Communications)

**Outside Bodies:**

Victoria Winkler and Nisreen Mansour – Bevan Foundation

Mair Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
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**Minutes Silence**

The Council observed a Minutes Silence for former Councillor Ron Clark who had recently passed away.

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468	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor H Barrett, Councillor B Carter, Councillor B E Mansbridge, Councillor Raymond Thomas and Councillor Richard Thomas.
469	Declarations of Interest	Councillor D Isaac Declared his Interest in Item 9 – National Adoption Services – Proposed National Policy for Adoption Allowances as he is a Member of the Adoption Panel.
470	Fair Pay for the Living Wage in Merthyr Tydfil	<p>The Chair welcomed Victoria Winkler Director and Nisreen Mansour Policy and Research Officer of the Bevan Foundation to the Meeting.</p> <p>Victoria Winkler and Nisreen Mansour then made the following Presentation to the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information about the Bevan Foundation</li> <li>• Bevan Foundation research on the Living Wage</li> <li>• The Living Wage and Merthyr Tydfil – What is the Living Wage, Why does it matter to Merthyr, What can be done to increase uptake</li> <li>• What is the Living Wage – Details given of Selected Statutory and Voluntary Wage Rates in the UK at October 2016</li> <li>• Who earns it in Merthyr and who doesn't</li> <li>• Why should we worry about low pay</li> <li>• Benefits and Risks</li> <li>• Other benefits</li> <li>• An action plan for Merthyr:</li> <li>• Establish the Merthyr Living Wage</li> <li>• Set an achievable target</li> <li>• Target natural sympathisers</li> <li>• Work together</li> <li>• Harness the power of the local supply chain</li> <li>• A fresh approach to funding</li> <li>• What we'd like you to do</li> </ul> <p>The following questions were then raised by the Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council is not accredited at the moment – Where is the Authority in relation to this</li> <li>• What can the Council do to encourage Contractors – What are other Councils doing regarding this</li> </ul> <p>The Leader and the Mayor then thanked Victoria Winkler and Nisreen Mansour for the Presentation to the Council.</p>
471	Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)	The Council approved as accurate (subject to any amendments) the Minutes of the following Meetings.
471a	Minutes of meeting Monday, 26 September 2016 of Scrutiny :	Arising on these Minutes the Council were advised that under Officers the Minutes should read Paul Jones Environmental Cleansing and Enforcement Manager.

	Neighbourhood Services and Public Protection	<p><b>Resolved subject to the foregoing that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Neighbourhood Services and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee held 26 September 2016 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
471b	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 28 September 2016 of Full Council Meeting	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 28 September 2016 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
471c	Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 4 October 2016 of Scrutiny : Regeneration, Planning and Countryside Committee	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Regeneration, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee held 4 October 2016 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
471d	Minutes of meeting Tuesday, 4 October 2016 Scrutiny : Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee held 4 October 2016 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
471e	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 5 October 2016 of Cabinet	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held 5 October 2016 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
471f	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 5 October 2016 of Full Council Meeting	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 5 October 2016 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
471g	Minutes of meeting Monday, 10 October 2016 of Licensing Committee	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Licensing Committee held 10 October 2016 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
471h	Minutes of meeting Monday, 10 October 2016 of Audit Committee	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Audit Committee held 10 October 2016 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
471i	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 12 October 2016 of Licensing Committee	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Licensing Committee held 12 October 2016 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
471j	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 12 October 2016 of Planning , Regulatory and Licensing Committee	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Planning, Regulatory and Licensing Committee held 12 October 2016 be accepted as a correct record.</p>

471k	Minutes of meeting Wednesday, 19 October 2016 of Cabinet	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held 19 October 2016 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
472	Whistleblowing Process within the Council	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The contents of the report in respect of the use of Whistleblowing within the Authority be noted</li> <li>(b) The Action Plan attached to the report be approved and implemented with a report in respect of progress being brought back to Council in six months</li> </ul>
473	2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies – Initial Proposals	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales' Initial Proposals report for the 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales be noted</li> <li>(b) The Leaders of each Political Group and the Independent Members provide comments to the Democratic Services Department for collation and return to the Boundary Commission for Wales</li> </ul>
474	Resolution to Revive The Title 'Honorary Recorder of Merthyr Tydfil' And To Appoint The Resident Judge Of Merthyr Tydfil Crown Court	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The position of Honorary Recorder of Merthyr Tydfil be restored and the resident Judge of Merthyr Tydfil Crown Court or another appropriate Crown Court Judge be invited to accept the role, subject to approval of the Senior Presiding Judge for England and Wales and, if appropriate, expressly limited to the duration of his or her tenure as Resident Judge with his or her successors in that role to serve thereafter</li> <li>(b) A Ceremony to involve Members of the Council and representatives of the judiciary to formally present the nominated Judge with a Scroll of Admission as 'Honorary Recorder of Merthyr Tydfil' be approved</li> </ul>
475	Trecatti Landfill Profit Share Scheme	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The funds be allocated as follows:</p> <p>£1,090.00 per Electoral Division with the residual £40.00 being allocated to the Dowlais Electoral Division.</p>
476	National Adoption Services – Proposed National Policy for Adoption Allowances	<p><b>Declaration of Interest</b></p> <p>Councillor D Isaac having Declared his Interest in this item left the Meeting while the item was being considered.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The content of the report be noted</li> <li>(b) The work in principle in respect of the financial allowances to adopters be supported</li> <li>(c) A report be received following further work on the Policy.</li> </ul>

477	To deal with any other urgent business or correspondence	<p><b>50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Aberfan Disaster</b></p> <p>Councillor B Toomey Leader of the Council addressed the Council and referred to the commemorative events that the Council had organised, the Church Service on the 20<sup>th</sup> October, the morning service at Aberfan Cemetery and the Royal visit by HRH the Prince of Wales on 21 October.</p> <p>Following the commemoration the Council had received many letters including one from Clarence House and the Secretary of State for Wales thanking the Council for organising the events and for paying such fitting tributes to those who lost their lives and to those who survived the unimaginable horror of that day fifty years ago.</p> <p>The First Minister of Wales the Rt Hon Carwyn Jones also asked to pass on his personal thanks to all concerned. Countless messages and telephone calls had also been received from the public expressing thanks for the way the commemoration was undertaken.</p> <p>The Leader on behalf of the Council then thanked all members of staff who had worked tirelessly for many months in the run up to the 21 October and the day itself. Many members of staff came in at 5.30 am and ensured everything went as planned. There were too many people from across Council Departments to name and they are all superb ambassadors for the Council and we should be extremely proud of their continued contribution in providing vital services to the residents of the County Borough.</p>
478	To receive communications from Her / His Worship the Mayor	No communications were received from Her Worship the Mayor.