



MINUTES OF MEETING

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 16TH JUNE, 2021

PRESENT: Councillors M Colbran (Chair)
D Sammon (Vice-Chair)

Councillors J Amos, H Barrett, A Barry, C J Barry, B Carter, D Chaplin, C Davies, J Davies, L Davies, E Galsworthy, K Gibbs, D Hughes, D Isaac, S Jago, C T Jones, D Jones, H R Jones, M Jones, G Lewis, L Mytton, G Richards, D Roberts, T Rogers, T Skinner, W R Smith, J Thomas, G Thomas, I Thomas, S Thomas and C Tovey

Officers:

C Kennedy (Head of Legal and Governance Services - Monitoring Officer), E Cooper (Interim Chief Executive), S Jones (Head of Finance), L Curtis Jones (Chief Officer (Social Services)), S Walker (Chief Education Officer), J Jones (Chief Officer Neighbourhood Services), A Owen (Interim Deputy Chief Executive), F Donnelly (H R Manager), C Dinham (Communications, Consultation and Engagement Manager), A Stephens (Cabinet Policy Officer), R Barnett (Parks and Open Spaces Manager), P H Davies (Purchasing Manager) and C Long (Economic Development & Strategic Tourism Manager), B Taylor (HR) and A Taylor (Regeneration)

M Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
70	Apologies for Absence	No apologies for absence were received as all Members were present.
71	Declarations of Interest	No Declarations of Interest were made.

72	Ash Dieback	<p>Judith Jones Chief Officer Planning and Neighbourhood Services made the following Presentation to the Council in relation to Ash Dieback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is Ash Dieback • Images of Ash Dieback – Health Classes 1 to 4 • Ash Dieback Action Plan • How will Ash Dieback affect Merthyr Tydfil • Resources • Estimating the Financial Cost of the Disease to the Council • Remediation Cost of Surveyed Trees • Council and Private Land • Education • Total Cost Assumptions • What have we done to date • Key Next Steps <p>Questions were then raised by the Members on the Presentation and were responded to in detail by Judith Jones.</p> <p>The Mayor then thanked Judith Jones for the Presentation to the Council.</p>
73	Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)	The Council approves as accurate (subject to any amendments) the Minutes of the following Meetings:
73a	Annual General Meeting and Mayor's Installation: 19/05/2021	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and Mayor's Installation held 19 May 2021 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
73b	Full Council: 21/04/2021	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 21 April 2021 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
73c	Cabinet: 21/04/2021	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held 21 April 2021 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
73d	Cabinet: 19/05/2021	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held 19 May 2021 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
73e	Cabinet: 26/05 2021	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held 26 May 2021 be accepted as a correct record.</p>
73f	Audit: 19/04/2021	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Minutes of the Audit Committee held 19 April 2021 be</p>

		accepted as a correct record.
73g	Licensing Committee: 29/04/2021	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Licensing Committee held 29 April 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
73h	Planning, Regulatory and Licensing: 10/02/2021	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Planning, Regulatory and Licensing Committee held 10 February 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
73i	Planning, Regulatory and Licensing: 12/05/2021	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Planning, Regulatory and Licensing Committee held 12 May 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
73j	SACRE: 25/03/2021	Resolved that: The Minutes of the SACRE Meeting held 25 March 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
73k	Scrutiny: Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services: 04/05/2021	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Governance, Performance, Business Change and Corporate Services Scrutiny Meeting held 4 May 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
73l	Scrutiny: Regeneration and Public Protection: 13/04/2021	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Regeneration and Public Protection Scrutiny Committee held 13 April 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
73m	Scrutiny: Regeneration, Public Protection and Housing: 25/05/2021	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Regeneration, Public Protection and Housing Scrutiny Committee held 25 May 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
73n	Scrutiny: Learning and LGES: 26/04/2021	Resolved that: The Minutes of the Learning and LGES Scrutiny Committee held 26 April 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
73o	Scrutiny: Social Services: 16/03/2021	Arising on Members present – Other Councillors in attendance Councillor Chris Jones should read Councillor Chris Davies. Resolved subject to the foregoing that: The Minutes of the Social Services Scrutiny Committee held 16 March 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
73p	Scrutiny: Social	Resolved that:

	Services: 27/04/2021	The Minutes of the Social Services Scrutiny Committee held 27 April 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
74	Procurement Rules	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The revised Procurement Rules to come into effect on 1 July 2021 be approved.</p>
75	Grievance Policy And Procedure	<p>Councillor A Barry referred the Council to the 'Grievance Policy and Procedure' report and moved recommendations 2.1 and 2.2 as contained within the report.</p> <p>Arising on the 'Grievance Policy' Paragraph 7 a Member asked how many trained Mediators did the Council have.</p> <p>Members were advised that this information would be circulated to Members.</p> <p><i>(Information received from the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development, Pensions and Payroll confirmed that there are two trained mediators within the Human Resources Team).</i></p> <p>Another Member then sought clarification in relation to the recommendation at Paragraph 2.2 in relation to amendments to the Policy and it was proposed that the recommendation be amended to include the word 'minor'.</p> <p>Resolved subject to the foregoing that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The Grievance Policy be approved (b) Delegated authority be given to the Head of Human Resources for any future minor amendments to the Policy in consultation with the Portfolio Member be approved.
76	Establishment of a Commercial Unit	<p>Councillor G Thomas referred the Council to the 'Establishment of a Commercial Unit' report and moved recommendations 2.1 to 2.4 as contained within the report.</p> <p>A Member then requested Job Descriptions for the posts and the Interim Deputy Chief Executive advised that these would be shared with Members when finalised.</p> <p>A Member then sought clarification in relation to Recommendation 2.3 in relation to specifying the two additional posts.</p> <p>The Interim Deputy Chief Executive advised that he would be happy to amend the recommendation to be specific in relation to the posts and this was agreed by Councillor G Thomas.</p> <p>Further questions were then raised on the report and were responded to by the Officers.</p> <p>Resolved subject to the foregoing that:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The creation of a new Commercial Unit be approved (b) The restructure of the existing Procurement and Payment Service to enable the creation of a Commercial Unit be approved (c) The appointment of a Commercial Manager and recruitment of two additional staff – a Strategic Procurement Officer and a Data and Projects Officer be approved (d) The combination of the Commercial and Economic Development Functions be approved.
77	Tree Policy	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The new Tree Policy be approved.</p>
78	Appointment of Tree Officer	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The Appointment of a Permanent Tree Officer be approved.</p>
79	Wales Probation Service	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The annual contribution of £21,000 (ex VAT) to the Wales Probation Service in return for use of their Community Payback Service be approved.</p>
80	Appointment of Deputy Chief Executive	<p>Resolved that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The shortlisting and interview arrangements to appoint a new Deputy Chief Executive be approved (b) The granting of Delegated authority to the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development, Pensions and Payroll to determine the recruitment timetable and any changes that may be required to be made to the interview panels in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Governance and Corporate Services be approved.
81	To deal with any other urgent business or correspondence	The Mayor advised that there was no business deemed urgent.
82	To receive communications from Her/His Worship the Mayor	No Communications were received from His Worship the Mayor.
83	Exempt	<p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The public be excluded from the Meeting on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 12 and 13 under Part 4 of Schedule 12A Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.</p>
84	Appointment of Chief Executive	Councillor L Mytton referred to the 'Appointment of Chief Executive' report and moved recommendations 2.1 to 2.4

		<p>as contained within the report.</p> <p>Councillor L Mytton also referred the Council to Paragraph 4.9 of the report and advised of an amendment in that it should read ten questions and not five.</p> <p>Resolved subject to the foregoing that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) The recommendation of the Appointments Panel that Ellis Cooper be appointed as Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council's new Chief Executive with an anticipated start date of 17 June 2021 be approved(b) The rigorous selection process to recruit a new Chief Executive conducted by the Appointments Panel be noted(c) The remuneration offered in line with the Hay Evaluation Scheme and any other Local Policy that is in place at the time of recruitment be noted and approved(d) The cessation of the Interim Chief Executive arrangements agreed by Council on 9 September 2020 on the arrival of the new Chief Executive be noted.
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