



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL  
MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# FULL COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER, 2021

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

Councillors J Amos, 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, K O'Neill, G Richards, D Roberts, T Rogers, T Skinner, W R Smith, J Thomas, G Thomas, I Thomas, S Thomas and C Tovey

### **Officers:**

E Cooper (Interim Chief Executive), C Kennedy (Head of Legal and Governance Services - Monitoring Officer), A Owen (Deputy Chief Executive), S Jones (Head of Finance), L Curtis Jones (Chief Officer (Social Services)), J Jones (Chief Officer Neighbourhood Services), F Donnelly (H R Manager), C Dinham (Communications, Consultation and Engagement Manager), A Taylor (Head of Democratic Services), A Stephens (Cabinet Policy Officer), J Huybs (Corporate Communications Officer), R Barnett (Parks and Open Spaces Manager), L Handley (Tourism Officer), C Hole (Head of Community Wellbeing), H Lewis (Corporate Communications Officer), C Long (Economic Development & Strategic Tourism Manager), C Morris (Highways & Engineering) and V Robst (Corporate Communications Officer)

### **Outside Bodies:**

Dr J Croad

M Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
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NO.		
243	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor H Barrett.
244	Declarations of Interest	Councillor S Thomas Declared his Interest in Item 6 – Universal Credit Uplift.
245	City Status	<p><b><i>Platinum Jubilee – Merthyr Tydfil City Status Application</i></b></p> <p>The Mayor welcomed Dr Jane Croad to the Meeting.</p> <p>Dr Croad then made the following Presentation to Council giving details in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is vital for a Platinum Jubilee City Status application on 8 December 2021 that reflects Merthyr Tydfil's achievements and plans for a successful future</li> <li>• Co-operation of Leadership in Merthyr Tydfil and Beyond</li> <li>• History, Culture, Resources and Potential of Merthyr Tydfil</li> <li>• Merthyr Tydfil people need to have confidence in Merthyr Tydfil's application for City Status</li> <li>• Comparison of Cities of the size of Merthyr Tydfil</li> <li>• City Status recently conferred by Royal Charter</li> <li>• What will Platinum Jubilee City status application on 8 December 2021 do for Merthyr Tydfil</li> <li>• Merthyr Tydfil the City of the Heads of the Valleys</li> <li>• Economic and Social Development</li> <li>• Basis for Merthyr Tydfil's Application for City Status</li> <li>• How will Merthyr Tydfil achieve City Status</li> <li>• How does Merthyr Tydfil achieve City Status</li> <li>• City Status 2022 Competitor Towns</li> <li>• City Status 2022 Merthyr Tydfil Application</li> <li>• City Status 2022 Merthyr Tydfil Application Influential Key Leaders</li> <li>• City Status 2022 Merthyr Tydfil Application – A Ground Swell of Public Support</li> <li>• Merthyr Tydfil Bottom up City Status Process</li> <li>• Conclusion - Applying and achieving City Status for Merthyr Tydfil</li> </ul> <p>The Mayor then thanked Dr Croad for the Presentation and expressed the hope that all residents and businesses saw the potential and got behind the bid</p> <p>Alyn Owen then advised that if there was a consensus from the Council that this was the way to go then a report would be submitted to the next Council Meeting.</p> <p>Questions were then raised by Members and were responded to by Dr Croad and the Officers.</p> <p>Support for the proposal was then voiced by Members and</p>

		the Leader of the Council thanked Dr Croad for the Presentation and advised that Merthyr Tydfil had everything to gain and gave support for the proposal to be taken forward.
246	Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)	The Council approves as accurate (subject to any amendments) the Minutes of the following Meetings:
246a	Full Council: 14/07/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b>  The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 14 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246b	Cabinet: 14/07/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b>  The Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting held 14 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246c	Planning, Regulatory and Licensing: 07/07/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b>  The Minutes of the Planning, Regulatory and Licensing Committee held 7 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246d	Licensing Committee: 21/07/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b>  The Minutes of the Licensing Committee held 21 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246e	Licensing Committee: 21/07/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b>  The Minutes of the Licensing Committee held 21 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246f	Licensing Committee: 28/07/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b>  The Minutes of the Licensing Committee held 28 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246g	SACRE: 01/07/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b>  The Minutes of the SACRE Meeting held 1 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246h	Standards: 16/07 2021	<b>Resolved that:</b>  The Minutes of the Standards Committee held 16 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246i	Scrutiny : Transformation, Commercialisation and Corporate Centre: 20/07/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b>  The Minutes of the Transformation, Commercialisation and Corporate Centre Scrutiny Committee held 20 July 2021 be accepted as correct record.
246j	Scrutiny : Regeneration, Public	<b>Resolved that:</b>

	Protection and Housing: 06/07/2021	The Minutes of the Regeneration, Public Protection and Housing Scrutiny Committee held 6 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246k	Scrutiny : Learning and LGES: 07/06/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b> The Minutes of the Learning and LGES Scrutiny Committee held 7 June 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246l	Scrutiny : Learning and LGES: 12/07/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b> The Minutes of the Learning and LGES Scrutiny Committee held 12 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246m	Scrutiny : Social Services: 08/06/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b> The Minutes of the Social Services Scrutiny Committee held 8 June 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246n	Scrutiny : Social Services: 13/07/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b> The Minutes of the Social Services Scrutiny Committee held 13 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246o	Scrutiny : Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside: 05/07/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b> The Minutes of the Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee held 5 July 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246p	Scrutiny : Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside: 14/06/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b> The Minutes of the Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee held 14 June 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
246q	Scrutiny : Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside: 12/04/2021	<b>Resolved that:</b> The Minutes of the Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee held 12 April 2021 be accepted as a correct record.
247	Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons	<b>Resolved unanimously that:</b> The Council supports the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
248	Universal Credit Uplift	<b>Declaration of Interest</b> Councillor S Thomas having Declared his Interest in this Item left the Meeting for the consideration of this item. <b>Resolved unanimously that:</b> The Council writes to the Prime Minister immediately to ask that the proposed cut to the Universal Credit Uplift this month does not go ahead.

249	Diverse Council Declaration	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council sign up to the Diverse Council Declaration as set out in Appendix 1 be approved</li> <li>(b) An Action Plan be developed to support the Declaration be approved</li> <li>(c) The Action Plan be presented to a Special Democratic Services Committee for consideration and sign off before coming back to Full Council for approval be agreed.</li> </ul>
250	Establishment of an Investigating and Disciplinary Committee	This item was deferred for further information and detail in the report.
251	TUC Dying to Work Voluntary Charter	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Chief Executive signs the Dying to Work Voluntary Charter on behalf of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council to show its on-going commitment to supporting rights and responsibilities towards its staff be approved.</p>
252	Sickness Absence Policy and Sickness Absence Procedure	<p>Councillor A Barry referred the Members to the 'Sickness Absence Policy and Sickness Absence Procedure' report and moved the recommendations as contained within the report.</p> <p>A Member then referred to Paragraph 1.4 of the report and enquired if all the Trade Unions that had been consulted with had agreed.</p> <p>The Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development, Pensions and Payroll advised that all the Trade Unions that had been consulted with had agreed.</p> <p>A Member then recommended that this response be added to Paragraph 1.4 of the report.</p> <p>Another Member then referred to Recommendation 2.2 of the report and proposed that any and all minor amendments be released and made available to all Councillors.</p> <p>Considerable debate then ensued on this proposal with further proposals being made in relation to if any delegated authority was used that these decisions be reported to the next Meeting of Council to confirm what amendments had been made under the delegated authority.</p> <p>Considerable debate then ensued on these amendments and the amendments were withdrawn.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) The updated Policy and Procedure be implemented with immediate effect be approved</li> <li>(b) Delegated authority be given to the Head of Human Resources for any minor future amendments to the</li> </ul>

		Policy and Procedure in consultation with the Portfolio Member be approved.
253	Facilities Time - National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT) and the National Education Union (NEU)	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>(a) The full time Trades Union Representative appointment for the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT) be extended to cover the period September 2021 to August 2022 and will then be reviewed in the next year to establish if the correct amount of facilities time is being allocated be approved</p> <p>(b) The National Education Union (NEU) representative be allocated 28 flexible days to cover the period September 2021 to August 2022 and will then be reviewed in the next year to establish if the correct amount of facilities time is being allocated be approved.</p>
254	Playground Refurbishment 2021-22	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The four sites selected for refurbishment this financial year be approved.</p>
255	Highways Operatives	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>Additional funding to employ two apprentices on a Grade 3 and one Lead Hand on a Grade 4 be approved.</p>

### **Extension of Meeting**

The Mayor proposed the extension of the Meeting and this proposal was not opposed.

256	Regional Priorities and Programmes progressed under the Regional Partnership Board	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The activity and progress and risk to future funding with current Integrated Care Fund (ICF) funding ending on 31 March 2022 be noted.</p>
257	Petition Received by the Authority	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The report for Information be received.</p>
258	Overview of the Standards Committee	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The report for Information be received.</p>
259	Change to Committee Appointment	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The report for Information be received.</p>
260	Boundary Reform Confirmation -Review of the Electoral Arrangements of the	<p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The report for Information be received.</p>

	County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil	
261	Update on Young People's Participation 2020-2021: Merthyr Tydfil Borough Wide Youth Forum (MTBWYF) and Office of Youth Mayor	<b>Resolved that:</b> The report for Information be received.
262	To deal with any other urgent business or correspondence	The Mayor advised that there was no business deemed urgent.
263	To receive communications from Her/His Worship the Mayor	No Communications were received from His Worship the Mayor.
264	Exempt	<b>Resolved that:</b> 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
265	Appointment of Deputy Chief Executive	<b>Resolved that:</b> The appointment of Alyn Owen as Deputy Chief Executive with effect from 9 September 2021 be approved.