



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL  
MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# **SCRUTINY :** **TRANSFORMATION,** **COMMERCIALISATION AND** **CORPORATE CENTRE** **MEETING**

**TUESDAY, 15TH JUNE, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: T Skinner (Chair)  
J Amos (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: D Sammon, L Davies and C T Jones

Councillor D Jones (Substitute Member)

**Cooptees:**

C Payne (Public) and S Fureed (MTBWYF)

**Other Councillors in Attendance:**

A Barry (Cabinet Member)

**Officers:**

M Purnell (Performance and Scrutiny Officer) and G Edwards  
(Central Services Manager)

M Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
57	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor W R Smith, Councillor H R Jones and Councillor G Thomas Cabinet Member.
58	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
59	Draft Work Programme 2021-22	<p>The Chair referred the Committee to the Draft Forward Work Programme 2021/2022 report and also stated that she would like to look at amending the start time of the Committee.</p> <p>A Member then suggested that the item in relation to Commercialisation for the Committee scheduled for the 14 September 2021 Meeting be swapped with the item in relation to Welsh Public Library Standards scheduled for the 19 October 2021 Meeting and this was agreed by the Committee.</p> <p>A Member then referred to the item on Tackling Poverty scheduled for the 20 July 2021 Meeting and requested that detailed information be provided in relation to Council Tax arrears and the effect of the Pandemic.</p> <p>Another Member then suggested that the Cabinet Member(s) and appropriate Officers also be invited to attend this Meeting and this was agreed by the Committee.</p> <p><b>Committee Start Time</b></p> <p>The Chair then proposed that the start time of the Committee be amended to 4.30 pm.</p> <p>A Member then referred to another Meeting that could be held at 6.15 pm on the same day.</p> <p>After consideration by the Committee it was</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>The Committee start time be amended to 4.30 pm.</p>
60	Agile Working: Re-Opening the One Stop Shop	<p>The Chair referred to the plans for the safe reopening of the One Stop Shop and proposed a Task and Finish Group to consider two objectives in relation to contributing to Policy alongside the Agile Work Policy and that the Cabinet Member(s) be part of this Task and Finish Group and the possible changes required in the role of the Committee arising from the Implementation of the Local Government and Elections Act 2021 such as the need to ensure effective and proactive policy review using the Scrutiny function and how to take Scrutiny referrals from the public.</p> <p>A Member then stated that he would have liked to have</p>

		<p>seen an Officer report giving details on the current situation in relation to the opening of buildings to members of the public and what the proposals are going forward in relation to agile working and that he felt a full detailed report was required on this.</p> <p>Councillor A Barry then referred to the work that had to be undertaken regarding this and suggested a report be prepared by Andrew Mogford on trends in relation building closures.</p> <p>The Chair then referred to agile working and the impact on the reopening of the Civic Centre and also the public who were not on line.</p> <p>Another Member then referred to the blurring of functions of Scrutiny and Cabinet if a joint Task and Finish Group was established.</p> <p>Questions were then raised by the Committee in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Delta Variant</li> <li>• The safety of the public</li> <li>• Members of the public who were unable to access / use on line facilities</li> <li>• The number of people allowed into public buildings</li> <li>• Sanitation of public buildings</li> <li>• Are any meetings being held by the One Stop Shop on line</li> <li>• Could a facility for TEAMS Meeting be available in a public building for the public to speak to an Officer</li> <li>• Issues of confidentiality and privacy for users</li> </ul> <p>Councillor A Barry and Gregg Edwards then responded to the issues raised by the Committee.</p> <p>After further consideration by the Committee it was</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <p>A detailed written report be presented to the Committee at the earliest opportunity containing all the relevant facts and figures.</p>
61	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	<p>The Chair referred to the follow up in relation to Replacement Bins and proposed that as the Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee were considering this that the outcome be awaited before any further investigation if necessary be undertaken by the Committee.</p> <p>The Chair of the Neighbourhood Services, Planning and Countryside Scrutiny Committee advised that he would update the Committee on this at the next Meeting.</p>
62	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	<p>The Chair and the Committee reflected on the issues that had been discussed at the Meeting and a suggestion was made by a Member that the Chair consult with Carys</p>

		Kennedy regarding the remit of the Scrutiny Committee.
63	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.