



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : REGENERATION, PLANNING AND COUNTRYSIDE MEETING

TUESDAY, 21ST MARCH, 2017

PRESENT: Councillor G Jones (In the Chair)

Councillors H Barrett, S P Brown, D Jones and M O'Neill

Officers:

Alyn Owen (Chief Officer (Community Regeneration)), Steve Peters (Head of Public Protection and Housing), Julian Pike (Housing and Community Safety Manager) and Chris Long (Economic Development & Strategic Tourism Manager)

Howard Jones (Scrutiny Officer) and Mair Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
928	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor B Carter, Mr H Jackson Co-opted Member and Councillor K Moran Cabinet Member.
929	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were made.
930	Performance Report - Housing	The Chair welcomed Alyn Owen, Steve Peters, Julian Pike and Chris Long to the Meeting. Steve Peters referred the Committee to the 'Performance Report – Housing' report.

		<p>The following questions were then raised by the Committee and were responded to in detail by the Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2013 and 2015 outcomes were adequate – What is the latest outcome • Outline of the stages of Self Evaluation requested – Explanation requested on what has to be done to move forward • Update requested on Housing Renewal Fund • Paragraph 6.6 – What is the definition of Crisis – What proactive work is being done • What is the impact of the Wellbeing Act and Assessments on the Department • How confident is the Department that the barriers of silo working have been broken down • How does the Department know what Service it needs to provide • How often are meetings held with Partners such as Housing Associations and Social Landlords • Donation of Tents • Homelessness – Are the Police engaged • Paragraph 7.10 – Are more families expected • What can be done to ensure that vacated properties are repaired prior to being released <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The judgements and evaluations be noted.</p> <p>The Chair then thanked the Officers for attending and for their input to the Committee.</p>
931	Economic Report Growth	<p>Chris Long referred the Committee to the ‘Economic Growth Report.</p> <p>The following questions were then raised by the Committee and were responded to in detail by Chris Long:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of Trego Mills on the A465 and other businesses – Community links with the Company • How do businesses know what units are vacant and available to rent • Grading – Unsatisfactory to Adequate • Partners and employability • Involvement of the College in improving skills across the board • Paragraph 9.1 – What are the costs for commissioning Wavehill. Could this have been done in house • Paragraph 4.1 – Has a comparative exercise between business births and deaths been undertaken • Business rates in the County Borough <p>The Committee then agreed that representatives from Merthyr College be invited to attend a future Committee Meeting.</p>

		<p>Councillor P Brown left the Meeting at 3.46 pm.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The judgements and evaluations be noted.</p> <p>The Chair then thanked Chris Long for attending and for his input to the Committee.</p>
932	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow Up Actions	The Chair advised that there was no update on this item.
933	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	<p>The Chair advised that this was his last Meeting as Chair of the Committee and he thanked the Officers for their support.</p> <p>He also extended best wished to Councillors who were standing for Election in May.</p> <p>The Committee then agreed that the Committee Meeting scheduled for 2 May 2017 be cancelled.</p>
934	Scrutiny Committee Work Programme	This item was not considered.
935	Any Other Business as deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.