



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : GOVERNANCE, PERFORMANCE, BUSINESS CHANGE AND CORPORATE SERVICES MEETING

TUESDAY, 29TH MAY, 2018

PRESENT: Councillors: T Skinner (Chair)
T Rogers (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: J Amos, H R Jones, D Sammon and D Roberts

D Jones (Substitute Member for Labour Group)

Cooptees:
J Beard (Public)

Other Councillors in Attendance:
A Barry (Cabinet Member)

Officers:
M Thomas (Head of Corporate Services), A Mogford (Business Change Manager), M Purnell (Performance), S Jones (Senior Solicitor), G Morgan (Solicitor) and J Sellwood (Leisure, Culture and Sports Development Manager)

M Morgan (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
10	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor W R Smith, Alison Harris and Kaitlin Sutton Co-opted Members.

11	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	Councillor D Sammon Declared his Interest in Item 4 – Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Trust Update as he is a Leisure Trust Board Member.
12	Referral from Full Council - Objections & Appeals Sub Committee Amendment Report	<p>The Chair welcomed Simon Jones and Geraint Morgan to the Meeting and referred to the 'Referral from Council – Delegated Powers and the Objections and Appeals Sub Committee' report.</p> <p>The following questions were then raised on the report by the Committee and were responded to in detail by the Officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paragraph 1.2 – What evidence is there in relation to an increase in volume – What is the rationale behind this • As an example if playing fields were to be sold was there an option to flag this up with the Community • Clarity sought that if for example playing fields were to be sold that Councillors should be made aware first • Examples requested on the type of things that are submitted to the Objections and Appeals Committee • Example sought on for example why land is being transferred between departments • Welsh Government Guidance on the sale of land • Does the Committee have the authority to overturn the original decision – What is the procedure • Are there mechanisms in place based on public opinion to be able to refer back to Council and for a Councillor to be able to put back to Council the views of the Community • A vital issue was a safety net that if there were too many objections then the issue could come to Council • Upholding of an objection • Involvement of local Members who knew their area • To ensure that Councillors can represent the Community • Referral to Council to be the exception rather than the rule <p>Simon Jones advised that if possible the report could be amended to include a 'Safety Net'</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>To refer the report detailed in Paragraph 1.1 of the report back to Full Council with the recommendations contained within that report to incorporate the Comments made by the Committee in relation to a 'Safety Net'</p> <p>The Chair then thanked the Officers for attending and the update to the Committee.</p>
13	Merthyr Tydfil Leisure	The Chair welcomed Mark Thomas and John Sellwood to

	Trust Update	<p>the Meeting.</p> <p>Mark Thomas referred to the previous Meeting where this matter had been discussed and updated the Committee in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract Management • Performance • Finance • Cyfarthfa Park and Castle • External Review of Operations • Internal Audit Report • Service Level Agreements <p>Questions were then raised by the Committee in relation to Service Level Agreements and were responded to by the Officers.</p> <p>The Chair then referred to the verbal update and recommended that a further update be received at the next Scrutiny Committee in relation to the Outcome Review and the Audit Action Plan.</p> <p>The Chair then thanked the Officers for attending and the update to the Committee.</p>
14	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	The Chair advised that any referrals would be added to the Work Programme.
15	Draft Committee Work Programme 2018/19	<p>The Chair referred the Committee to the 'Scrutiny Committee Work Programme' report and advised that the Task and Finish Group had met with the appropriate Officers in relation to the Work Programme.</p> <p>The Chair then updated the Committee in relation to amendments to the Work Programme and the Committee agreed the Programme.</p>
16	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair and the Committee reflected in detail on the issues that had been considered at the Meeting.
17	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	<p>Retirement of Scrutiny Manager</p> <p>The Committee noted that this was the last Governance Committee Meeting for Howard Jones and the Committee paid tribute to Howard Jones for his service to the Authority and extended best wishes for his Retirement.</p>