



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL
MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

SCRUTINY : **NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES,** **PLANNING AND** **COUNTRYSIDE MEETING**

MONDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER, 2019

PRESENT: Councillors D Sammon (Chair)
D Jones (Vice-Chair)

Councillors L Davies and C T Jones

Cooptees:

R Holdaway (Public), J McCarthy (Public) and T Butler (Youth Forum Representative)

Other Councillors in Attendance:

Councillor D Hughes (Portfolio Member)

Officers:

J Jones (Chief Officer Planning and Neighbourhood Services),
R Barnett (Neighbourhood Services), I Goldsworthy (Energy Officer) and S Lyons (Performance and Scrutiny Officer)

M Hemmings (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
325	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Davies and M Colbran.
326	Declarations of Interest (including whipping declarations)	No Declarations of Interest were received.

327	Update on Carbon & Energy Management Activities	<p>Iain Galsworthy provided Committee with a brief summary on the update on carbon and energy management activities report with particular reference to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 1 & 2 of the REFIT Energy Efficiency Programme • Draft Carbon Management Plan • New staff appointment. <p>The following questions were raised by Committee and answered in detail by the Officers:-</p> <p>Page 4 (4.2) - British Gas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it costing the Council more money • Will the Council have to pay monies back to 2014 • How much will it cost the Council <p>Page 5 (5.2) –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity over energy savings due to be made. <p>Page 8 (5.6) –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does this include the schools and the leisure trust. <p>Page 6 (5.3) –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we have an alternative other than to invest • Will a report be put up <p>Appendix –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the savings at Leisure Trust and Redhouse taken into account within the budget. • How much would it cost to install ½ hourly meter readers into buildings. <p>The Chair wished to commend Iain on the work already undertaken and enquired when the new energy officer was starting work.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The report be noted.</p>
328	Corporate Evaluation Self-	<p>Judith Jones provided Committee with a brief summary on the Corporate Self-Evaluation Report.</p> <p>The following questions/areas for discussion were raised by Committee and answered in detail by the Officers:-</p> <p>Page 21 (5.12) – clinical waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where are we with collection of nappies and incontinence pads <p>Page 22 (6.0) – where we want to be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is this relating to age discrimination - Food waste figures/targets - Behavioural change officer - what is this role <p>Page 23 (7.0) – outsourcing school residuals to a private</p>

		<p>contractor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Could you explain why this proposal is in and do we collect all recyclables including food from Local Authority schools and is there a problem with them recycling. - What would this be in cost to the schools <p>Page 32 – monitoring exercise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is it still the case that over one fifth are not recycling at all <p>Page 36 – S. 34 notices on businesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do we have an end date in mind for when this will be completed <p>Page 46 - waste services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - three weekly refuse collections <p>Data collection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how was this done, were staff engaged in this process <p>Page 47 - fly tipping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - is the CCTV fully functioning now/when will it be <p>Page 20 (5.10) – bulky recycling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - do we charge for this <p>Voluntary groups to dispose of litter – wording misleading</p> <p>Page 20 (5.8) -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - clarity over service requests and being told they've gone over budget - blocked drains – contract money ran out after six months <p>Page 21 (5.12) -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have we put staff through training - people turned away when they shouldn't have been - will staff be going out and helping residents to learn to recycle or the disabled offered assistance <p>Page 23 - community groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - could rules could be a little bit more relaxed/applications intimidating <p>Page 23 – internal enforcement working group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - what is this - outside contractors cheaper than the Council/are they subject to same targets as us <p>A committee member referred to Merthyr Tydfil being incorrectly referred to as Merthyr within the report.</p> <p>Resolved that:</p> <p>The report be noted.</p>
329	Forward Work Programme 2019/20	The Chair referred Committee to the Forward Work Programme 2019/20.

		<p>Sian Lyons-Nicholas asked Committee to confirm if there were happy with the report.</p> <p>The following matters/topics were discussed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gully waste collection contract - Is the service proactive or reactive - Street cleaning report needs to be a report and not for information - Should other officers be in attendance if they have contributed to the report - Self-evaluation – adequate - Front line service subject to cuts - Doing the best they can with what they have got - Comments by J Jones - Planning Committee not effective/no of FFSV/democratic process
330	Scrutiny Referrals, Feedback and Follow up Actions	<p>The Chair provided an update to Committee in relation to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renewal of bus passes - Task and Finish Group
331	Reflection and Evaluation of Meeting	The Chair provided an update to Committee.
332	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	No other business was deemed urgent by the Chair.