

Public Document Pack
Bridgend County Borough Council
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr



Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB / Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Stryd yr Angel, Pen-y-bont, CF31 4WB

Legal and Regulatory Services /
Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Rheoleiddiol
Direct line / Deialu uniongyrchol: 01656 643148
Ask for / Gofynnwch am: Mr Mark Anthony Galvin

Our ref / Ein cyf:
Your ref / Eich cyf:

Date / Dyddiad: Thursday, 5 June 2014

Dear Councillor,

COUNCIL

A meeting of the Council will be held in Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend on **Wednesday, 11 June 2014 at 3.00 pm.**

AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes 3 - 22
To receive and confirm the minutes of the meetings of Council:-

Ordinary Meeting - 30 April 2014
Annual Meeting - 14 May 2014
2. Apologies for Absence
To receive apologies for absence (to include reasons, where appropriate) from Members/Officers.
3. Declarations of Interest
To receive declarations of personal and prejudicial interest (if any) from Members/Officers in accordance with the provisions of the Members' Code of Conduct adopted by Council from 1st September 2008.
4. To receive announcements from:
 - (i) Mayor (or person presiding)
 - (ii) Members of the Cabinet
 - (iii) Chief Executive
5. To receive the report of the Leader

6. Officers` Reports

23 - 40

(a) Chief Executive

Interim Appointment - Head of Finance and ICT.

(b) Monitoring Officer

(i) Review of Political Balance - Changes to Committees.

(ii) Re-allocation of the Council's Scheme of Delegation of Functions

(iii) Authority to undertake Functions relating to the Local Authorities (Standing Orders)(Wales) Regulations 2006

(c) Corporate Director - Communities

Departure Planning Application Reference - P/11/781/FUL.

7. Urgent Items

To consider any item(s) of business in respect of which notice has been given in accordance with Part 4 (paragraph 4) of the Council Procedure rules and which the person presiding at the meeting if of the opinion should by reason of special circumstances be transacted at the meeting as a matter of urgency.

Yours faithfully

P A Jolley

Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Regulatory Services

Distribution:

Councillors:

D Sage
H J David
M Gregory
M E J Nott OBE
J H Tildesley MBE
P J White
E M Dodd
M Winter
E Venables
S Aspey
M W Butcher
N Clarke
G Davies
G W Davies MBE
P A Davies
D K Edwards
L Ellis
E P Foley

Councillors

D M Hughes
E M Hughes
C J James
P James
R M James
R D Jenkins
P N John
B Jones
C L Jones
M Jones
R C Jones
D R W Lewis
J E Lewis
J R McCarthy
H E Morgan
A D Owen
D G Owen
G Phillips

Councillors

D R Pugh
C E Rees
C L Reeves
M Reeves
C E Smith
J C Spanswick
G Thomas
M Thomas
R L Thomas
H J Townsend
K J Watts
C Westwood
D B F White
H M Williams
R Williams
L C Morgan
R E Young
C A Green

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND ON WEDNESDAY, 30 APRIL 2014 AT 3.00PM

Present:

Councillor C J James - Mayor and Chairperson

<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Councillors</u>
S Aspey	E M Hughes	A D Owen	M Thomas
M W Butcher	P James	D G Owen	R Thomas
N Clarke	R M James	G Phillips	J H Tildesley MBE
H J David	R D Jenkins	D R Pugh	H J Townsend
G Davies	P John	C E Rees	E Venables
G W Davies MBE	B Jones	C Reeves	K J Watts
E Dodd	C L Jones	M Reeves	C Westwood
D K Edwards	R C Jones	D Sage	D B F White
E P Foley	D R W Lewis	C E Smith	H M Williams
C A Green	J E Lewis	J C Spanswick	R Williams
M Gregory	H E Morgan	G Thomas	R E Young
D M Hughes	M E J Nott OBE		

Officers:

D Mepham	-	Chief Executive
M Shephard	-	Corporate Director - Communities
S Cooper	-	Corporate Director - Wellbeing
D McMillan	-	Corporate Director - Children
P A Jolley	-	Assistant Chief Executive - Legal and Regulatory Services
D Llewellyn	-	Group Manager Development
J Lane	-	Senior Planning Officer
M A Galvin	-	Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees
G P Jones	-	Head of Democratic Services (Electronic Support)

330 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of an ordinary meeting of Council held on the 2 April 2014, be approved as a true and accurate record.

331 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the following Members for the reasons so stated:

Councillor J McCarthy	-	Other Council Business
Councillor M Jones	-	Holiday
Councillor P White	-	Hospital Appointment
Councillor L C Morgan	-	Unwell
N Young	-	Corporate Director - Resources - Family Commitments

332 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor R M James declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 6(b)(ii) and left the Council Chamber whilst this report was being considered.

333 MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor thanked everyone who helped make the recent Easter Egg appeal for looked-after children a big success. Provided in partnership with Bridge FM, a total of 125 eggs were donated

by local food retailers which helped to put a smile on the faces of the children and young people who are currently being cared for by the Local Authority. The event will soon be followed by Foster Care Fortnight which runs between 12 and 25 May and a host of activities are being arranged to mark the occasion and encourage more people to consider fostering and adoption.

The Mayor was sure that colleagues would join him in wishing Ysgol Bro Ogwr year three pupil Tommy Horne every success as he waits to hear if his inspirational anti-racism T-shirt design has won a national award. Organised by the Charity 'Show Racism the Red Card', the competition encourages people to tackle racism, so Tommy's design is based around the slogan 'Different Skin - Same Within'. He will find out tomorrow if he has won, so good luck and well done to him, the Mayor added.

The Mayor announced that colleagues may also want to let their constituents know about a forthcoming event called 'The Big Lunch' organised to encourage people to get to know one another by holding or taking part in a meal for the community. Set to take place on 1 June, more than 3.65 million people took part in the event last year, including residents in Coity who also organised a street party and pub quiz as part of the fun.

He thought this was an excellent idea to help bring people together in our local communities. More information is available along with free packs featuring invitations, posters, seeds, bunting templates and an inspirational booklet by visiting www.thebiglunch.com

Finally, the Mayor reminded those present that the Mayor's Charity Gala Dinner was due to take place on Saturday 10 May. Some tickets were still available, so he asked Members to please come and show their support.

334 CABINET MEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) Deputy Leader

The Deputy Leader confirmed that work had been completed relating to installing pay and display parking at Bryngarw Park. Early indications are that the improvements have been well received and a number of regular users have bought season tickets.

In addition, the front car park at Bridgend Recreation Centre has now been fully resurfaced and re-lined and has added significantly to the customer experience.

The Deputy Leader announced that the Council has recently received confirmation of a number of Welsh Government grants in relation to Highways and Transportation.

A sum of £140,000 capital, and revenue funding of £81,000, have been received in 'Road Safety' grants to carry out works to the A4229 South Cornelly to Nottage Road, and the B4265 Ewenny Road.

In addition the revenue grant will support important cycle training for children and our Kerbcraft Road Safety scheme.

The Council had also received grant funding of £14,000 to support the Bridgend Town Centre Active Travel Network, including a direct link to the bus station and links to the existing cycle routes from Bridgend Town Centre to the residential areas of Broadlands, Cefn Glas and Laleston.

(2) Cabinet Member - Resources

The Cabinet Member - Resources confirmed that there would be no Pre-Council Presentations in May. The following Pre-Council Presentation had been scheduled for June:

11 June - Community Transport

This was to brief Members on the use of community transport by the Authority and will include a contribution from OTED our community transport provider and an overview of the volunteer driver service.

Member Development Sessions

The Cabinet Member - Resources advised that there will be a round robin event on Thursday 8 May where Members would be given overviews of four topics: data protection; ward profiles; corporate risk management and the Members' Zone. The event will start at 10.00am and each section will be approximately 30 minutes.

Training for Members has been provisionally arranged for 2 July on the webcasting of meetings, this is subject to Council approving the report on webcasting today.

Further School Performance training has also been scheduled for June and will concentrate specifically on outcomes for learners in Bridgend. The times and dates had been added to Members calendars.

(3) Cabinet Member - Children and Young People

The Cabinet Member - Children and Young People advised that the latest phase of the school modernisation programme to begin on site is a brand new school for Coety Primary at Parc Derwen. The ground breaking ceremony was due to be held in the summer.

He then extended congratulations to the Governors who included Councillor Edith Hughes and Councillor David White at Heronsbridge Special School for earning the Quality Mark Bronze Award for Governing Bodies.

It was now official that Heronsbridge has in place excellent processes and practices that are making a real difference to the leadership and management of the school. The Bronze Award is the new benchmark that many school governing bodies across Wales are aspiring to reach. The dedication and hard work of all staff at the school has also been recognised with the Silver Investors in People Award and to complete their trio of awards the school won a very prestigious Silver Award at the Royal Horticultural Show in Cardiff.

The Cabinet Member - Children and Young People confirmed that paying the school meals was getting a lot easier as several of our schools are piloting a new system that allows parents and carers to pay online for as little as one day at a time, or several weeks in one go. Porthcawl Primary, Ferch o'r Sger, Y Dderwen and Brynteg were the first schools to get on board earlier this year, whilst Cwm Garw, West Park, St Mary's, and Croesty have all now joined them whilst other schools will be going 'live' with the system soon.

It will keep a record of the meals that each child eats building up useful nutritional information. The new system also reduces the amount of administration work in schools as they won't need to handle as much cash and cheques.

Finally, the Cabinet Member - Children and Young People extended his congratulations to Councillor Hailey Townsend on the fantastic success of her team of young people who represented Wales in the European line dancing competition and were crowned European champions on the week-end.

335 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Firstly, the Chief Executive advised Members of a recent Western Bay development as the Council recently learned that the Welsh Government is providing more than £6m towards the Community Services Project.

This is something that is being provided in partnership between Bridgend, Swansea and Neath Port Talbot Councils and Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board, and seeks to ensure that people can be cared for within their own homes rather than have to stay at hospital.

The new funding will mean the creation of 130 new jobs out in the community among the Western Bay intermediate care teams.

Half of the new jobs will be for health service staff and the rest will be employed by the three local authority partners.

There will be an element of common training and staff will be based alongside each other to maximise the opportunities for joined-up working.

It has also been agreed that any savings achieved through fewer hospital admissions and residential placements will be pooled and reinvested in the overall service.

This represents a huge investment in community-based care, and the Chief Executive was sure Members would agree that it is excellent news.

Secondly, Members will already be aware that the European Parliamentary election is set to take place on Thursday, 22 May.

You may want to remind your constituents that the deadline for making sure they are registered and can cast their votes in the election is Tuesday 6 May.

The deadline for applying to vote by post is Wednesday 7 May, and the deadline for applying for a proxy vote is Wednesday 14 May.

It is especially important for first-time householders, teenagers who have turned 18 or people who may have changed address recently to check that their details are up to date.

As well as not able to vote, anyone who is not on the electoral register may also experience problems with things like obtaining credit or making a passport application.

Registration is easy - people can either visit www.aboutmyvote.co.uk to download the necessary forms or call the Council's website www.bridgend.gov.uk.

Finally, the Chief Executive reiterated a point made earlier in the meeting by the Cabinet Member – Resources regarding the importance of Member training.

Following a recent Estyn inspection of the quality of educational services for children and young people provided by BCBC, it was recommended by them that training be provided for Members in order that they may increase their understanding and ability to interrogate data.

36% of Members of the Children and Young People's O&SC had undertaken this training to date and 22% of Members overall had received this training. Further sessions would be arranged in the future and the Chief Executive urged all Members to attend these, as Estyn would be carrying out a further inspection of these services in 6 months time.

336 LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader extended his thanks to the Council's Adoption Service for the glowing report they received recently from the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales. Since their last inspection, the service has seen an 83% increase in successful placements and was praised for its child-centred approach, timeliness and quality of the assessment process and high standards of staffing, support, leadership and adopters. He added his sincere congratulations to everyone who has made this success possible.

The Leader announced that the latest food safety hygiene ratings from the food Standards Agency have revealed that Bridgend County Borough Council is continuing to be extremely vigilant. Premises with a zero or one rating have decreased from 8% to 7.2%, whilst those with a rating of three or above have increased from around 81% to more than 85%. Across Wales, the Food Standards Agency has reported improvement in hygiene standards at food premises since the scheme was introduced in October 2010 and the Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Act came into force last November. They have also recorded a rise in the number of premises who have requested re-inspections after making improvement, so it would appear that the scheme is having a very positive effect in terms of driving up food hygiene standards.

The Leader reported that nominations were being sought for the Bridgend Business Forum Awards 2014. This annual event shines a spotlight on local individuals and businesses who have demonstrated drive, determination, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation. BBC TV presenter Sian Lloyd will announce the categories on 1 May 2014 with a breakfast launch at the Coed-y-Mwstwr Hotel and Members will be able to find out more by visiting www.bridgendbusinessforum.co.uk

Finally, he confirmed that this year marks the centenary of World War One, and as part of this a Reach heritage event will take place which will give visitors to Bryngarw House and Country Park a glimpse of life during the First World War. With part of the lawn transformed into a typical wartime trench, the event will feature battle re-enactments, soldier survival demonstrations, a pop-up cinema and a 'War Horse' puppet workshop for children. Guest speakers will discuss topics such as the role of women during the First World War, and there will be displays from local historical and heritage groups. This free event is likely to be of huge interest to local people, so Members are encouraged to help spread the word and let their constituents know about it. More information is available at www.bridgendsheritage.co.uk

337 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Monitoring Officer presented a report that sought to appoint Ms Mary Powell as Chair of the Standards Committee.

The report by way of background information confirmed that the term of appointment for the current Chair of this Committee, Mr John Irvine had now expired, resulting in a vacancy of the post of Chair.

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that Ms Powell was a longstanding and experienced Standards Committee Member serving continuously on the Committee since early in 2008, most of that time as Vice-Chair.

In view of the above information it was therefore proposed that Ms Powell be appointed Chair of this Committee until her term of office as an Independent Member comes to an end on 20 February 2016.

The Standards Committee as its next meeting would then in turn elect a Vice-Chair for this Committee.

RESOLVED: That Council:

- (1) Appointed Ms Mary Powell as Chair of the Standards Committee with immediate effect until 20 February 2016.
- (2) Delegated to the Monitoring Officer authority to make arrangements for the recruitment and selection of a Town and Community Councillor Member and an Independent Member of the Committee.

- (3) Receives a further information report advising of the appointment of the Vice-Chair.
- (4) Authorises the Monitoring Officer to thank Mr John Irvine on behalf of the Authority for the support that he has provided to the Authority, as a Member and Chairperson of the Committee.

338 WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report the purpose of which was, to inform Council of progress that had been made and to approve the decision of the initial plans to take forward the introduction of webcasting for specific meeting of Council and its committees.

He confirmed that Welsh Government (WG) had expressed its support for public broadcasting of Council and other committee meetings by the provision of a grant of £40,000 to assist all Local Authorities in Wales develop the delivery of webcasting and remote attendance facilities.

Council was advised of initial proposals to develop webcasting on 11 December 2013, and at that meeting Members were informed of the intention to progress the provision of an in-house web broadcasting solution, whilst considering other options.

The Monitoring Officer proceeded by advising that the provision of an effective webcasting solution is considered to be based on the requirements detailed in paragraph 4.1 of the report.

Following on from the above, the undermentioned options for the webcasting of formal meetings of Council had been considered:-

- Option 1 - Recording Meetings to DVD and uploading the video file to a video sharing website which will be hyperlinked from the BCBC website.
- Option 2 - The provision of a webcasting service from a bespoke provider.
- Option 3 - Optimising the existing Council Chamber systems to provide an internally managed and "as required" webcasting service.

The WLGA were assisting councils interested in webcasting training for Members up and until they intended making live broadcasts.

The Monitoring Officer further added that the initial webcasting plan proposed that the Annual Meeting of Council be recorded and placed on the BCBC website using the in-house recording option. However, it was now intended to trial the enhanced Council Chamber systems and use the recording as a training aid which will only be available on the Member Zone.

Following a successful broadcast in July it is proposed that other meetings be considered for broadcast in 2014-15 financial year. It was hoped that these will include Council, Cabinet, Scrutiny Committees and the Development Control Committee. The training session will assist in identifying those meetings which would provide the greatest benefit from being webcast

The Monitoring Officer stated that it was unlikely to webcast meetings held in the committee rooms due to increased costs for providing an adequate system to achieve this.

He finalised his submission by stating that other Local Authorities that already have webcasting facilities are looking at alternative options and possible income generation from the use of these systems. These included:

- using the webcasts for training activities or briefings.
- enabling local companies and organisations to hire the facilities
- linking local authorities system sites to provide real time translation facilities

RESOLVED: That Council noted the contents of this report and approved the revision of the initial plans for the introduction for the webcasting for specific meetings of Council and its committees.

339 SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING GUIDANCE

The Corporate Director - Communities submitted a report, in order to confirm to Council the outcome of the consultation exercise on the draft Sustainable Energy Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) document, and to seek Council's endorsement of the proposed amendments to the draft document and adopt the amended version as SPG to the Bridgend Local Development Plan.

The Group Manager - Development stated that on the 3 April 2014 the Development Control Committee resolved to consider the representations received during public consultation, endorse the suggested reasoned responses, decisions, and changes to the draft Sustainable Energy Supplementary Planning Guidance contained in Appendix 1 to the report, and to recommend that Council adopts SPG12 - Sustainable Energy (as amended) as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the adopted Bridgend Local Development Plan.

A six week period of public consultation was held between 19th December 2013 and 6th February 2014. The consultation was advertised in the manner identified in paragraph 3.2 of the report.

The Group Manager Development advised that four individuals and external organisations submitted comments on the draft SPG within the consultation period. The SPG (as amended to take account of comments received) was included as Appendix A to the report. Copies of the full representations could be viewed Members at the Planning Department.

The main areas of change in the document arising from the public consultation responses were then outlined in paragraph 4.2 of the report.

The Group Manager Development concluded this item by stating that the SPG will represent a material consideration in the determination of future planning applications.

RESOLVED: That Council:-

- (1) Considered the representations received and endorsed the suggested reasoned responses, decisions, and changes to the draft Sustainable Energy Supplementary Planning Guidance contained in Appendix A to the report.
- (2) Adopted SPG12 - Sustainable Energy (as amended) as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the adopted Bridgend Local Development Plan.

340 DEPARTURE PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE - P/14/98/FUL

The Corporate Director - Communities submitted a report on the above matter.

The Group Manager Development advised that on 3 April 2014 the Development Control Committee considered planning application P/14/98/FUL as a departure from the Development Plan. The Development Control Committee resolved not to refuse permission so the application had been referred to Council, which is being requested to grant planning permission subject to conditions.

Planning application P/14/98/FUL had been submitted to the Local Planning Authority to demolish an existing detached two-storey dwelling in the countryside and construct a replacement dwelling. The proposal would also involve the inclusion of land in the residential curtilage, primarily to accommodate a single-bay domestic garage. This is because the application includes a small portion of land beyond the original domestic curtilage, (therefore resulting in this application

departing from the LDP). The site was located approximately 500m from Llangynwyd village, as indicated on the plan attached to the report.

The Group Manager Development referred to paragraph 4.5 and the consultation process followed in relation to the application. The local Member supported the proposal and no adverse representations had been received to the application as part of the consultation process.

The Site Visit Panel of the Development Control Committee had also undertaken a site inspection of the application site.

The Group Manager Development stated that a previous application (P/13/283/FUL refers) for a replacement dwelling was recently refused on the grounds highlighted in paragraph 4.8 of the report.

The Group Manager Development stated that the applicant's agent subsequently sought pre-application advice (PE/01094/2013 refers) and particular emphasis was given on reducing the size of the replacement dwelling and improving its design and appearance so that it would be compatible with the character and appearance of its rural surroundings and the historic landscape.

He proceeded to advise, that the application was initially accompanied by a Structural Report. In terms of its findings, the general conclusion was that there were no significant structural issues within the building which could not be overcome through refurbishment rather than whole-scale demolition.

The applicant's agent submitted a supporting statement which included a schedule of comparative costs (per square metre) for (1) a new-build house, (2) a 'basic' refurbishment of the existing house based on RICS data, and (3) refurbishment cost based on a specification to match the thermal efficiency of a new-build dwelling.

The costs indicated that a new-build would cost marginally less than a 'basic' refurbishment of the existing dwelling. However, it would cost approximately £200 per square metre more to undertake a refurbishment of the existing building that would match the thermal efficiency of a new dwelling. The Team Leader Building Control had reviewed the figures and considers them to be relatively accurate and appropriate to a typical modern dwelling. Given the thrust of National Policy (in particular Planning Policy Wales, Technical Advice Notes 12 and 22) with regards to the positive benefits of energy efficiency and conservation, it is considered reasonable that a refurbished dwelling should be considered against a higher thermal rating. On this basis and given the relative poor physical condition of the existing dwelling, there was a reasonable case to be made, in principle, for a replacement dwelling.

Despite the relative poor physical condition of the existing dwelling and that it has been vacant for a number of years, there was no strong evidence to suggest that the dwelling has been abandoned, especially when planning history indicates that there was an intention in 2005 to extend the property. On this basis, the proposal is considered to satisfy Policy ENV1 of the BLDP. This is consistent with the Council's position in considering the previously refused application P/13/283/FUL.

In terms of the remainder of the report the Group Manager Development stated that these related to the following areas:-

1. Scale of the site;
2. Architectural features
3. Visibility matters
4. Boundary treatments
5. Character of visual surroundings
6. Residential amenity
7. Conservation issues

8. Ecology

The Group Manager Development added that none of the above planning issues raised concerns that would warrant refusal of the application.

To conclude therefore, the Group Manager Development advised that whilst the application was technically out of accord with Policy ENV1 of the adopted Bridgend Local Development Plan, it is considered that allowing the proposal would not undermine the fundamental principles of the Local Planning Authority's countryside protection policies and does not adversely affect ecology/biodiversity, drainage, highway/pedestrian safety, visual amenities nor so significantly harms neighbours' amenities as to warrant refusal.

A Member noted the application was out of accord with the Local Development Plan. With this in mind she further noted the replacement dwelling was 35% larger than the original one and asked what would prevent the occupant extending this further in size, which may set a precedent for others to follow.

The Group Manager Development advised that if it was the intention of the owner to do this, then a further planning application would be required. He added that Condition 5 of the Recommendation of the report did allow some control regarding the extra size of the dwelling.

A Member then expressed some dissatisfaction in that the application did not satisfy Policy EMB 1, in that a replacement dwelling should be like for like to the previous dwelling in terms of size. She felt that granting the application would deviate from the Council's countryside policies.

The Group Manager Development reiterated that this was technically a departure from the LDP, but only in that it was a minor extension that extended just metres into the countryside.

The Leader advised that the Development Control Committee had previously granted this application, recommending that it be referred to Council. If Members of that Committee had been unhappy with the application, then they would have resolved to refuse the application. He asked if a vote had taken place on the application previously when it was considered by the Development Control Committee and if so, what was the outcome of this.

The Group Manager Development replied that whilst he was not totally sure, he thought that a decision had been made at the Development Control Committee previously to unanimously approve the application.

Members then agreed to have an electronic vote as to whether the application should be granted or refused, in view of the representations made above by certain Members.

Following this vote being conducted, it was

RESOLVED: That Council approved Departure Planning Application P/14/98/FUL, subject to the Conditions contained in the report of the Corporate Director - Communities.

The meeting closed at 3.50pm

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ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL - 14 MAY 2014

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND ON
WEDNESDAY, 14 MAY 2014 AT 2.00PM

Present:

Councillor C J James - Mayor and Chairperson

Councillors

S Aspey
M W Butcher
N Clarke
H J David
G Davies
G W Davies MBE
P A Davies
E Dodd
D K Edwards
L Ellis
E P Foley
C A Green
M Gregory

Councillors

D M Hughes
E M Hughes
P James
R M James
R D Jenkins
P N John
B Jones
C L Jones
R C Jones
D R W Lewis
J E Lewis
J R McCarthy
H E Morgan

Councillors

L C Morgan
M E J Nott OBE
A D Owen
D G Owen
G Phillips
D R Pugh
C L Reeves
M Reeves
D Sage
C E Smith
J C Spanswick
G Thomas

Councillors

M Thomas
R Thomas
J H Tildesley MBE
H J Townsend
K J Watts
C Westwood
D B F White
P J White
H M Williams
R Williams
M Winter
R E Young

Officers:

D Mepham - Chief Executive
M Shephard - Corporate Director - Communities
D McMillan - Corporate Director - Children
P A Jolley - Assistant Chief Executive - Legal and Regulatory Services and Monitoring Officer
G P Jones - Democratic Services Manager (electronic back-up)
M A Galvin - Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees

341 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the following Members and Officers, for the reasons given:-

Councillor M Jones - Hospital appointment
Councillor C E Rees - Work commitments
Councillor E Venables - Unwell
N Young - Family commitments
S Cooper - Other Council Business

342 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

343 MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor stated that these were his final announcements as Mayor. He had thoroughly enjoyed his year.

ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL - 14 MAY 2014

In this year he had been privileged to have attended so many wonderful events, even though it was hard to choose from any of them the one which will stay with him forever was meeting HRH the Prince of Wales at the Prince of Wales pub in Maudlam, which was a special day.

The Mayor confirmed that these were his final announcements.

He stated that these last couple of weeks had been very busy indeed as was this coming week. Tomorrow he would be attending his last 60th Wedding Anniversary celebrations followed by the 'Best of the Borough Welsh Concert' at Archbishop McGrath School.

The Mayor stated that Friday starts with a visit to Mynydd Cynffig Infants School in Kenfig Hill then on to the opening of the refurbished Wyndham Arms in Bridgend, followed by a Rugby Presentation in Kenfig Hill.

On Sunday he was attending Salon Cymru 2014 Hair and Beauty Event in Cardiff. He will then be supporting and cheering one of his charities 'Stroke Association' at the start line of their 'Step Out for Stroke Event Sponsored Walk' at Newbridge Fields.

Monday would include a visit from the Kenfig Hill Male Voice Choir in the Mayor's Parlour and then onto the Library and Services Kick Out at Halo in Bridgend.

On Tuesday, the Mayor announced he was attending Pil Primary School in recognition of their recent achievement in obtaining the 'Investors in Family Award' a wonderful achievement for them all.

Finally, on Wednesday morning a visit to Litchard Primary School would be his last official engagement.

344 ELECTION OF MAYOR

A motion was received, which was duly seconded and carried unanimously, that Councillor G Thomas be appointed Mayor for 2014/15.

RESOLVED: That Councillor G Thomas be elected as Mayor for the year 2014/15 and that he be invested at the Civic Inauguration Ceremony on 21 May 2014.

Councillor Thomas announced that his Consort/Escort for the ensuing year would be his partner Kay Jenkins.

345 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

A motion was received which was duly seconded, and carried unanimously that Councillor R E Young be appointed as Deputy Mayor for 2014/15.

RESOLVED: That Councillor R E Young be appointed Deputy Mayor for the year 2014/15, and that he be invested at the Civic Inauguration Ceremony on 21 May 2014.

ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL - 14 MAY 2014

Councillor Young announced that his Consort/Escort for the ensuing year would be his wife Annette Young.

346 **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR**

None.

347 **ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE YOUTH MAYOR OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

The Mayor announced that Sophie Durston would be the Youth Mayor for 2014/15.

348 **ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DEPUTY YOUTH MAYOR OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

The Mayor announced that Josie Williams would be the Deputy Youth Mayor for 2014/15.

349 **ELECTION OF LEADER OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

A motion was received, which was duly seconded and carried unanimously that Councillor M E J Nott be elected as Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council for 2014/15.

RESOLVED: That Councillor M E J Nott be elected Leader of the Bridgend County Borough Council for the ensuing year.

350 **APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CABINET**

The Leader announced that the Cabinet for the year 2014/15, would comprise of himself and the following five Members:-

Councillor D Sage
Councillor H J David
Councillor L C Morgan
Councillor M Gregory
Councillor P J White

351 **ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL AND CABINET MEMBERS TO PORTFOLIOS**

The Leader announced that the Deputy Leader and the appointment of Cabinet Members to the under-mentioned portfolios, would be as follows:-

Councillor D Sage	- Deputy Leader
Councillor H J David	- Cabinet Member - Children and Young People
Councillor M Gregory	- Cabinet Member - Resources
Councillor L C Morgan	- Cabinet Member - Wellbeing
Councillor P J White	- Cabinet Member - Communities

352 REPORT OF THE LEADER

The Leader commenced by extending his congratulations to the new Mayor elect, Councillor Thomas and the Deputy Mayor for 2014/15 Councillor Young on their appointments (and that of their Consorts). He added that he would speak more on their roles at the Mayoral Inauguration next week.

The Leader thanked Members for returning him as Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council. He had often said that he believed the role to be an honour and a privilege, and assured Members that his opinion had not changed in this respect.

The past year had certainly seen some interesting developments for local government. Like many fellow Councillors, he did not remember a time when the scale and scope of the challenges that stood before the Authority had have been quite so imposing or numerous.

The pressing need to deliver savings of £36million over the next few years has brought with it a number of issues, but the Council squaring was its shoulders and tackling them through the likes of the Medium Term Financial Strategy, the Corporate Plan and the Bridgend Change Programme, all of which are united by their shared overall aim of ensuring that the council can continue to deliver high quality services for local people despite increasingly limited resources.

Bridgend County Borough Council did have a proven track record of prudent, pragmatic decision making and often being ahead of the curve.

For example, take the decision to go into partnership several years ago with Halo Leisure over the running of Council's leisure centres. At the time, this was heavily criticised in some quarters, and wrongly described as 'privatisation'.

However, now the results spoke for themselves, a multi-million pound refurbishment and hugely popular new facilities for Bridgend Recreation Centre, the relocation of Bridgend Library to an all-new purpose-built modern premises at the Rec where it attracted more than 10,000 visitors in its first month of opening, and a transformation for the old library building that is keeping it within community use as a cultural hub and base of operations for Bridgend Town Council.

Similarly, a decision to enter into a partnership with Kier for waste and recycling services was continuing to deliver major benefits, and has again provided the county borough with a 57 per cent recycling rate, one of the very best in Wales. Councils who don't meet the statutory requirement of 52 per cent will soon face financial penalties, but this has been a major success story for Bridgend County Borough for some time now.

So has added the Leader the school modernisation programme, which is continuing to deliver first class results and has seen a number of significant successes in recent months. These range from a brand new £4.3million replacement school for Penyfai Church In Wales Primary, the £1.3million new Early Years Unit at Bryncethin Primary, and of course, the valley gateway area's all-new £39million 'super school', Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen.

This in itself had been a massive achievement, especially when considering that it involved first finding and providing a new location and £20million building in Brackla for

Archbishop McGrath Comprehensive, and demolishing that school's former premises as well as the old Ynysawdre Comprehensive.

There was no sign of slowing down on this front, and the Leader was currently looking forward to the imminent start of work on the all-new primary school building destined to benefit children in Coity.

The last twelve months had been marked by a number of noteworthy events, but one which he felt particularly honoured to witness and participate with was the launch of the county borough's first ever Armed Forces Community Covenant.

As well as being designed to make it easier for veterans, service personnel and their families to receive the help, support and recognition they so richly deserve, the covenant is a mark of respect. The Council were already immensely proud of its strong relationship with serving troops and their families, veterans and cadets from the area, and this was a significant event in the history of Bridgend County Borough which further strengthened that bond.

Over the last year, the Council had also signposted its ongoing commitment towards regeneration throughout the county borough.

Whether it has been the all-new £2.5million refurbishment and creation of a new public space at Maesteg's outdoor market area, the fresh new look given to Nolton Street and other parts of Bridgend town centre as part of a £9million makeover, or almost £6million that was recently announced as part of the Vibrant and Viable Places programme, this council has been extremely active in securing fresh investment as it sought to provide the kind of environment which supports trade and attracts visitors.

This remains especially true in Porthcawl where the Authority were reworking regeneration plans following the disappointment of the food store developer backing out at the eleventh hour. Despite this setback, the new £3.2million Porthcawl Marina is proving to be hugely popular, and were about to launch a new townscape heritage initiative that will make almost £1.1million available to help restore a number of historic old buildings in the seafront area, incidentally, a move which makes the Bridgend County Borough one of just two places in the whole of the United Kingdom to have successfully established five phased THI schemes.

As an authority, BCBC were continuing to deliver improved services. Recent performance statistics from the Welsh Government highlighted that was scoring highly across indicators for education and child social care, rising from being the lowest ranking authority for our dealings with formally looked after young people to being among the top six in Wales.

The Authority had moved from 17th place to join the top five authorities in Wales for bringing vacant private properties back into use, and were among the top three councils in Wales for securing decisions on planning applications that have gone to appeal, and have also seen big improvements in the percentage of 15 year old pupils achieving a Level Two educational threshold.

The Leader acknowledged that there was still work to do in some areas, of course, but these statistics confirm that the Council has achieved some significant performance improvements within a relatively short period of time, and he was confident that successful delivery of services would continue.

Collaborative working would also continue to play an important role in all of this. A number of close working relationships with partner organisations were ongoing, especially through involvement with the Local Service Board.

This was delivering some very beneficial results, such as the ongoing partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Council to deliver civil parking enforcement, or the community hub established with Health Partners which is providing adult social care, health and children's services in a more joined-up, co-ordinated manner.

The Council also had a growing involvement in a number of collaborative projects under the 'Western Bay' banner, including new safeguarding arrangements for adults and children, all of which was enabling us to stand and face up to future challenges in a strong, unified manner.

As Leader, he acknowledged that he was ably backed by his Cabinet colleagues, and was grateful for their unwavering support and dedication. This year, the Cabinet portfolio posts would remain unchanged as stated previously.

The Leader then in turn, gave a résumé of the strengths and qualities of each Member of the Cabinet.

The Leader wanted to add his appreciation for elected member colleagues not only within the wider Labour Party group, but all councillors representing communities throughout the area, irrespective of their political allegiance. He believed that Bridgend County Borough Council was well-served by a well-established culture of democracy, scrutiny and debate. Despite political differences amongst Members he was certain they were committed towards working together for the benefit of the residents they served.

He extended his thanks also to the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Clive James, Youth Mayor, Catherine Jones, and Deputy Youth Mayor, Kieran Sawdon, for their fine work acting as ambassadors for the county borough and in representing the views of young citizens.

The next year was not going to be easy and he had no doubt that some tough decisions would be required, never the less he was confident that with Members ongoing participation, the Authority would be more than able to meet any challenges head-on and forge a new way forward.

353 **PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF ORDINARY MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL AND COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report, which proposed a programme of ordinary meetings of the Council and Council Committees for the municipal year May 2014 - May 2015, for Council approval.

The report reminded Members that the approval of the programme of ordinary meetings of Council and its Committees was required in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that the proposed dates for meetings of Council, were shown in paragraph 4.1 of the report, whilst the suggested Programme of Meetings was attached at Appendix 1 to the report.

ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL - 14 MAY 2014

RESOLVED: That Council:-

- (1) Approved the proposed Programme of Council Meetings set out in Paragraph 4.1 of the report.
- (2) Approved the proposed Programme of Meetings of Council Committees set out in Appendix 1 of the report.
- (3) Noted the proposed dates of Cabinet, Cabinet Committees and Joint Committees for information purposes, also contained in Appendix 1 of the report.

354 **APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND OTHER COUNCIL BODIES**

The Monitoring Officer presented a report which sought approval for the terms of reference and size of committees, to approve the allocation of groups to committees and the political balance of the Authority, the appointment to committees, the removal of senior salary from the position of Chair of the Democratic Services Committee and the appointment of Chairs and where appropriate Vice-Chairs to committees.

The Council was required by legislation and the provisions of Part 4 of the Rules of Procedure (Council Procedure Rules) of the Constitution, to undertake arrangements which will continue to facilitate and carry out the decision making processes of the Authority. The recommendations of this report, if adopted, would seek to ensure that this will be successfully achieved.

The Monitoring Officer advised that Part 3 of the Council's Constitution entitled Responsibility for Council Functions, set out the Council's Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels and other bodies currently in place.

The Monitoring Officer firstly advised Council to note that changes in existing arrangements for how the Authority discharges its licensing functions have been reviewed. These changes were outlined for the benefit of Members in paragraph 2 of the report.

The next section of the report advised of certain changes to the roles and responsibilities of Overview and Scrutiny Committees. This had been due to a number of service areas within the Authority being re-organised, and therefore the terms of reference of the Scrutiny Committees (where applicable) had been revised to reflect those changes.

The next part of the report dealt with changes to the terms of reference of the Audit Committee, in order to align its functions with guidance provided by CIPFA and in order to comply with Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

The updated functions of committees were shown in Appendix 1 to the report, whilst the current committee structure was shown in Appendix 2 to the report.

The Monitoring Officer referred to Appendix 3 of the report that outlined the political balance of Committees, that had been modified to reflect changes mentioned above affecting the Council's licensing functions.

ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL - 14 MAY 2014

The report then outlined information in respect of the allocation of Chairpersons of Overview and Scrutiny Committees to political groups that comprised the Authority, under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011. The formula used to calculate how Chairpersons should be allocated to these committees reflected that in Bridgend County Borough Council, Labour would be entitled to the allocation of 3 Chairperson posts, with Independent/Alliance and Independent/Annibynnwr having 1 each.

Paragraph 4.8 of the report then confirmed that Council notes that a co-opted Member was required to fill a vacancy on the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee had recommended that H Daniel fill this vacancy as a representative of NAS/NUT.

The existing Committee Memberships were shown at Appendix 4 to the report.

In relation to the remuneration of chairpersons the report then proposed that after considering a report from the Independent Remuneration Panel, the senior salary paid to the Chairperson of the Democratic Services Committee be withdrawn, and the Monitoring Officer asked Members to consider such a request.

With regard to the terms of reference recommended for the Community Renewal and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee, a Member requested that provision 1 of these i.e. the consideration of the service provision, planning and management and performance of the service area for, Culture (libraries, Arts and Adult Community Learning) be reviewed after a six monthly period. This was agreed by Members.

RESOLVED: That Council:-

- (1) Approved the terms and reference and size of Committees, Sub-Committees and other bodies as set out in Appendix 1 and 2 of the report, subject to revisiting a provision of the terms of reference of the Community Renewal and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee in six months' time.
- (2) Approved the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the political balance rules as set out in Appendix 3 of the report.
- (3) Approved the nominations to serve on each of the Committees, Panels and other bodies as shown at Appendix 4 to the report, and appoint those Councillors and other members to the relevant Committees. It was noted that the membership of Committees would be as is currently, subject to the following changes:-

Community Safety and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committee	Councillor C James (replaces Councillor G Thomas)
Democratic Services Committee	Councillor P James (replaces Councillor J Spanswick)
Licensing Committee	Councillor C James (replaces Councillor G Thomas)

ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL - 14 MAY 2014

Development Control Committee Councillor H Morgan
(replaces Councillor G Thomas)

- (4) Approved the withdrawal of the senior salary payment for the Chairperson of the Democratic Services Committee.
- (5) Received nominations and appointed the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the following Committees, Panels and other bodies (as indicated) with it being noted that the Audit Committee at its first scheduled meeting will appoint a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson:

Appeals Panel Chairperson - Councillor R D Jenkins
Vice-Chairperson - Councillor C Westwood

Licensing and Licensing Act 2003 Committee Chairperson - Councillor R Williams
Vice-Chairperson - Councillor D R W Lewis

Development Control Committee Chairperson - Councillor H M Williams
Vice-Chairperson - Councillor M Thomas

Town and Community Council Forum Chairperson - Councillor M E J Nott
Vice-Chairperson - Councillor D Sage

Democratic Services Committee Chairperson - Councillor J H Tildesley

- (6) Received the following nominations and appointed the undermentioned Chairpersons to the Overview and Scrutiny Committees:

Community Safety & Governance Councillor N E Clarke

Corporate Resources & Improvement Councillor M Reeves

Children and Young People's Councillor E P Foley

Community Renewal & Environment Councillor J C Spanswick

Health and Wellbeing Councillor P Davies

- (7) Appointed H W Daniel as a Co-opted Member to the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- (8) Make any necessary changes to the Constitution arising from the above decisions.

355 **REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND OTHER COMMITTEES**

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report which sought Council's approval for the appointment of Members to the South Wales Police and Crime Panel and the South East Wales Strategic Planning Group, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL - 14 MAY 2014

RESOLVED: That Council approved the following nominations to the bodies listed below:-

Organisation

Member Appointed

South Wales Police and Crime Panel - Councillor M Jones

Outside Body

Member Appointed

South East Wales Strategic Planning Group - Councillor H M Williams (Chairperson, Development Control Committee)

The meeting closed at 3.00pm.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

11 JUNE 2014

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

INTERIM APPOINTMENT – HEAD OF FINANCE AND ICT

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report seeks member approval to make an interim appointment to the role of Head of Finance and ICT and the Deputy Section 151 Officer.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 The appointment of the Head of Finance and ICT is required to contribute to the achievement of the Corporate Priorities.
- 2.2 The Council is required to designate a suitably qualified officer as the Statutory Section 151 Officer and the appointment of a Deputy Section 151 Officer ensures that key financial decisions and timely advice is available during the absence of the Section 151 Officer.

3. Background

- 3.1 At its meeting of 5 February 2014 Council agreed the proposal to reduce the number of Heads of Service in the Resources Directorate by one, deleting the positions of Head of Finance and Performance and the Head of ICT, Property and Customer Services and creating a new hybrid Finance and ICT Head of Service.
- 3.2 The Heads of Service for Finance and Performance and ICT, Property and Customer Services submitted applications for Early Retirement. The Officer ERVR panel has approved the early retirement of these officers, which was subject to a Council decision on the proposed revised structure and a clear implementation plan and timetable being in place.
- 3.3 The revised structure involves the creation of a Head of Finance and ICT with the property and performance functions reporting directly to the Corporate Director Resources and Customer Services function transferring to the Head of Service for Human Resources and Organisational Development.
- 3.4 The Head of Finance and ICT position has recently been re-advertised, as there were no suitably qualified and experienced candidates from the initial advertisement. An appointment process has commenced in accordance with the procedure agreed for JNC officers.

4. Current situation / proposal

- 4.1 The Head of Finance and Performance, who is also designated as the Deputy Section 151 Officer, will retire on 31 July 2014.
- 4.2 It is proposed that whilst the appointment process for the Head of Finance and ICT is ongoing, an interim appointment is made to ensure that there is sufficient leadership and management capacity within these key areas of service. This will also ensure that financial decisions and timely advice is available during the absence of the Section 151 Officer.
- 4.3 The process for the appointment of an interim Head of Finance and ICT will involve sourcing suitably qualified and experienced interims available to undertake the role. An officer interview panel, comprising the Chief Executive, Head of Finance and Performance and the Workforce Development Manager will interview such candidates to assess the technical, managerial and leadership abilities and availability to take up role prior to the Head of Finance and Performance retiring on 31 July 2014.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules

- 5.1 None.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1 There are no costs associated with this process. The costs of the interim will be funded from within existing budgets.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 To delegate to the Chief Executive authority to undertake the appointment / contracting of an interim Head of Finance and ICT and the Deputy Section 151 Officer, as outlined in paragraph 4.3.

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Background documents: None other than those identified within the report.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

11 JUNE 2014

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

REVIEW OF POLITICAL BALANCE – CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

1. Purpose of Report.

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- advise Council of the outcome of a review of the political balance of the Authority resulting from the cessation of the Independent Rhyddid Group and its members joining the Independent Alliance Group.
- seek approval of the revised political balance.
- receive nominations and appoint the necessary members to Committees to reflect the changes in the political balance.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority.

2.1 The establishment of Committees and other bodies will fulfil the requirements of the Constitution and enable the Council to work towards the successful achievement of its Corporate Priorities.

3. Background.

3.1 The Council is required by legislation and the provisions of Part 4 of the Rules of Procedure (Council Procedure Rules) of the Constitution, to undertake arrangements which will continue to facilitate and carry out the decision making processes of the Authority. On 14 May 2014 Council approved the political balance and made appointments to committees to reflect the political make-up of the Authority.

3.2 On 21 May 2014 the transfer of elected members from the Independent Rhyddid group to the Independent Alliance group was completed and as part of that move a review of political balance was requested.

4. Current situation / proposal.

4.1 The political composition of Council is now as follows:

Group	No of Councillors	Percentage
Labour	39	72.22
Independent Alliance	10	18.52
Independent Annibynwr	4	7.39
Plaid Cymru*	1	1.85
Totals	54	100

*This is not a group but the details have been included for completeness

4.2 Following the review of political balance the membership of committees has been updated to reflect the composition of Council accordingly. The updated political balance figures are shown at **Appendix 1** of the report. The variation of the political balance is between -0.26 seats and + 0.41 seats.

4.3 The changes required to committee membership to reflect the revised political balance are as follows:

4.3.1 Independent Rhyddid

The following 7 seats previously allocated to the Independent Rhyddid group have been withdrawn:

- Audit Committee
- Licensing Committee
- Licensing Act 2003 Committee
- Development Control Committee
- Community Safety & Governance
- Corporate Resources & Improvement
- Health & Wellbeing

4.3.2 Labour

One Labour Group member is to be added to the Audit committee and one Labour group member is to be removed from the Democratic Services Committee.

4.3.3 Independent Alliance

The Independent Alliance Group is entitled to 7 additional seats on the following committees to reflect its increase in numbers.

- Licensing Committee and Licensing Act 2003 Committee
- Community Safety & Governance
- Corporate Resources & Improvement
- Children & Young People
- Health & Wellbeing
- Democratic Services Committee

4.3.4 Independent Annibynwr

No change

4.3.5 Plaid Cymru

Although Plaid Cymru is not a political group of Council, Councillor RM James will stay on the Community Renewal and Environment and the Community Safety and Governance Overview and Scrutiny Committees. He will no longer be a member of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee but he will become a member of the Development Control Committee.

4.4 It should be noted that:

- The Labour Group nomination to the Audit committee cannot be the Leader.

- The additional nominations from the Independent Alliance Group for the Licensing Committee and the Licensing Act 2003 Committee is to be the same member for both committees.

4.5 Group Leaders have been informed of these proposals and have not raised any objections or concerns.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.

5.1 The provisions and recommendations of the report accord with the Council's Constitution.

6. Equality Impact Assessment.

6.1 There are no equality implications attached to this report.

7. Financial Implications.

7.1 There are no financial implications

8. Recommendations.

8.1 Council is recommended to:-

- (1) to note the change to the political composition of the Council.
- (2) approve the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the political balance rules as set out in **Appendix 1** of the report;
- (3) seek nominations as shown in paragraph 4.3 to be removed from or to be appointed to serve on each of the Committees, Panels and other bodies.
- (4) appoint the nominations identified in Paragraph 8.1 (3) to their respective committees

P A Jolley

Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Regulatory Services & Monitoring Officer

28 May 2014

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Background documents

None.

REVISED POLITICAL COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

Committee	Total Membership	Labour			Independent Alliance			Independent Annibynwr			Plaid Cymru		
		No	%	Change	No	%	Change	No	%	Change	No	%	Change
Appeals	12	9	75.00	0	2	16.67	0	1	8.33	0	0	0.00	0
Audit Committee	12	9	75.00	+1	2	16.67	0	1	8.33	0	0	0.00	0
Licensing Committee	14	10	71.43	0	3	21.43	+1	1	7.14	0	0	0.00	0
Licensing Act 2003 Committee	14	10	71.43	0	3	21.43	+1	1	7.14	0	0	0.00	0
Development Control Committee	18	13	72.22	0	3	16.67	0	1	5.56	0	1	5.56	+1
Town & Community Council Forum	19	14	73.68	0	3	15.79	0	2	10.53	0	0	0.00	0
Community Safety & Governance	14	10	71.43	0	3	21.43	+1	0	0.00	0	1	7.14	0
Corporate Resources & Improvement	14	10	71.43	0	3	21.43	+1	1	7.14	0	0	0.00	0
Children & Young People	14	10	71.43	0	3	21.43	+1	1	7.14	0	0	0.00	-1
Community Renewal & Environment	14	10	71.43	0	2	14.29	0	1	7.14	0	1	7.14	0
Health & Wellbeing	14	10	71.43	0	3	21.43	+1	1	7.14	0	0	0.00	0
Democratic Services Committee	11	8	72.73	-1	2	18.18	+1	1	9.09	0	0	0.00	0
Appointments Committee	6	4	66.67	0	1	16.67	0	1	16.67	0	0	0.00	0
Totals	176	127	72.16		33	18.75		13	7.39		3	1.70	
Councillors	54	39	72.22		10	18.52		4	7.41		1	1.85	
Variation as %			-0.06			0.23			-0.02			-0.15	
Variation as Seats(1% = 1.76 seats)	1.76		-0.11			0.41			-0.04			-0.26	

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

11 JUNE 2014

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

RE-ALLOCATION OF THE COUNCIL'S SCHEME OF DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS RELATING TO THE RESOURCES DIRECTORATE

1. Purpose of Report.

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the transfer of Council functions with the Council's Scheme of Delegation of Functions from the Corporate Director of Resources to the Chief Executive.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Plan / Other Corporate Priority.

- 2.1 Cabinet and Council have authorised the Chief Executive and all Chief Officers to undertake general powers and to carry out the specific functions of the Council and of the Executive delegated to them as listed in Schemes B1 and B2 of the Council's Schemes of Delegation. The effective operation of the Council's Schemes of Delegation supports the achievement of all Corporate Priorities.

3. Background.

- 3.1 The Corporate Director for Resources is currently unavailable to undertake her role in respect of the Council's Schemes of Delegation. The planned changes to the structure and personnel within the Resources Directorate require changes to be made to the decision making processes which can currently only be authorised by the Corporate Director for Resources.

4. Current situation / proposal.

- 4.1 In order to maintain the effective decision making processes within the Resources Directorate it is proposed that all Council Functions in Schemes B1 and B2 of the Council Scheme of Delegation allocated to the Corporate Director for Resources be temporarily re-allocated to the Chief Executive.
- 4.2 If approved, the Chief Executive will have overall responsibility for the Resources Directorate functions which will enable him manage and amend the decision making processes within the Directorate. It will allow him to sub-delegate to appropriate officers and facilitate effective decision making as the revised structure of the Directorate is implemented.
- 4.3 It is anticipated that with the transfer of these functions the Assistant Chief Executive – Legal and Regulatory Services would be authorised in the absence of the Chief Executive to undertake those functions.

4.4 From an operational perspective the Resources Directorate would maintain their existing procedures for the use of delegated powers i.e. continue to use the RES designation for the decision referencing system.

4.5 A further report will be presented to Cabinet on 24 June 2014 proposing a similar change the Scheme of Delegations for the Executive decisions within Scheme B1 and B2 for the Resources Directorate.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.

5.1 The provisions and recommendations of the report accord with the Council's Constitution.

6. Equality Impact Assessment.

6.1 There are no equality implications attached to this report.

7. Financial Implications.

7.1 There are no financial implications

8. Recommendations.

8.1 Council is requested to:

8.1.1 Approve the transfer of Council functions with the Council's Scheme of Delegation of Functions from the Corporate Director of Resources to the Chief Executive.

8.1.2 Approve that the Assistant Chief Executive – Legal and Regulatory Services would be authorised in the absence of the Chief Executive to undertake those functions.

8.1.3 Note that a further report will be presented to Cabinet on 24 June 2014 proposing a similar change to the Scheme of Delegations for Executive decisions within Scheme B1 and B2 for the Resources Directorate.

P A Jolley

Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Regulatory Services & Monitoring Officer

28 May 2014

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Background documents: None.

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

11 JUNE 2014

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

**AUTHORITY TO UNDERTAKE FUNCTIONS RELATING TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES
(STANDING ORDERS) (WALES) REGULATIONS 2006**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To ensure that the Authority is duly prepared to undertake its functions in relation to the above Regulations and to ensure that actions are taken under the Regulations should the need arise.

2. CONNECTION TO CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITY.

- 2.1 This report supports the achievements of all Corporate Priorities.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Council approved changes to the 'Officer Employment Rules' within the Constitution in 2006 to facilitate the operation of the above Regulations. The Regulations provide that in respect of a limited number of exceptions, the appointment and dismissal (including redundancy and the need to effect new terms and conditions) of officers is in the hands of the Chief Executive or their nominee. The Chief Executive's nomination or delegation is made to all chief officers within the general powers of the Scheme of Delegation.

- 3.2 The Regulations provide a different set of rules which include the following members of staff:-

- The officer designated as the head of the authority's paid service (Chief Executive)
- A statutory chief officer within the meaning of section 2(6) of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 (politically restricted posts)
- A non statutory chief officer within the meaning of S 2(7) of the above Act
- A deputy chief officer within the meaning of section 2 (8) of the above Act

- 3.3 This led to the establishment of the JNC Determination and Appeals Panels in December 2009. Subsequently this role was included as a function of the Appointments Committee as stated in the constitution.

- 3.4 Following the recent review of the responsibilities of Council committees it was

identified that whilst the role of the committee in disciplinary matters should be maintained as an appeal body it was appropriate for the Chief Executive to have the delegated authority to appoint an Investigating Officer and Responsible Officer to determine the initial hearing and as with NJC officers, for determinations short of dismissal to be appealed to management.

4. CURRENT SITUATION / PROPOSAL

- 4.1 To ensure that Authority has the ability to undertake these functions in respect of those officers listed in paragraph 3.2 with the exception of the Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer (in respect of which there are additional statutory processes) it is proposed that the Chief Executive be provided delegated authority to appoint an Investigating Officer and Responsible Officer to determine disciplinary matters under the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (Wales) Regulations 2006 prior to an appeal to Members on dismissal and to Management on determinations short of dismissal.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.

- 5.1 The provisions and recommendations of the report accord with the Council's Constitution.

6. Equality Impact Assessment.

- 6.1 There are no equality implications attached to this report.

7. Financial Implications.

- 7.1 There are no financial implications

8. Recommendations.

- 8.1 Council is recommended to delegate to the Chief Executive the authority to appoint an Investigating Officer and Responsible Officer to determine the initial hearing and as with NJC officers, for determinations short of dismissal to be appealed to management.

P A Jolley

Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Regulatory Services & Monitoring Officer

28 May 2014

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Background documents: None.

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BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL

11 JUNE 2014

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, COMMUNITIES

DEPARTURE APPLICATION P/11/781/FUL

1. Purpose of Report.

1.1 On the 3rd July 2013 Council considered planning application P/11/781/FUL as a departure from the Development Plan. Council resolved to grant planning permission subject to conditions and the applicant entering into a Section 106 Planning Obligation. The Minutes of the meeting incorrectly recorded the amount of the financial contribution to be provided by the Developer towards affordable housing and highways contributions. This figure needs to be accurately recorded in order for the Section 106 Agreement to be completed and the Decision Notice to be issued.

2. Connection to Corporate Improvement Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

2.1 The delivery of the County Borough Council's planning functions has links to most of the Council's corporate priorities as outlined in the Corporate Improvement Plan. The objective of *A Diverse and Sustainable Economy* are the most pertinent.

3. Background.

3.1 Planning application P/11/781/FUL for a new convalescent home; change of use of existing home to 34 units; 34 new residential units and demolition of rear wing has been submitted to the Local Planning Authority for determination. Council resolved to grant this application subject to the applicant entering into a Section 106 Agreement to:

- (i) Provide the sum of £370,000 as an off-site contribution towards the provision of affordable housing.
- (ii) Provide the sum of £63,136.32 to improve active travel access between Rest Bay and Porthcawl town centre in a staggered/phased payment plan which would see £30,000 being paid upon the occupation of the first unit of residential accommodation within the site, and the remaining £33,136.32 (or the remainder of the index linked sum) paid upon occupation of 50% of the apartments or exactly 3 years after receipt of the first instalment, unless otherwise approved in writing.
- (iii) The developer shall ensure that the new convalescent home is complete and open for use prior to the occupation of any of the residential apartments approved.

4. Current situation / proposal.

- 4.1** The report to Council dated 3rd July 2013 states that the sum to be provided by the Developer as an off-site contribution towards the provision of affordable housing to be £370,000. This figure was negotiated with the applicant and considered to be appropriate by Council Officers. This was agreed by Council members at the 3rd July meeting.
- 4.2** The minutes of the Council meeting recorded the figure to be £379,000. Council Officers have confirmed that this was a result of a typing error and needs to be corrected in order for the Section 106 Agreement to be completed and the Decision Notice to be issued.
- 4.3** The amendment sheet to Development Control dated 30th May 2013 states that the sum to be provided by the Developer as a highways contribution to be £63,136.32. The payment plan would see £30,000 being paid upon the occupation of the first unit of residential accommodation within the site, and the remaining £33,136.32 (or the remainder of the index linked sum) paid upon occupation of 50% of the apartments or exactly 3 years after receipt of the first instalment, unless otherwise approved in writing.
- 4.4** The minutes of the Council meeting recorded figures of £63,136.62, split into a phased payment plan of £30,000 and £33,236.62. Officers have confirmed that this is a result of a typing error and needs to be corrected in order for the Section 106 Agreement to be completed and the Decision Notice issued.
- 4.3** The Council Report dated 3rd July 2013 and the Minutes of the Meeting are appended.

5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules.

- 5.1** Whilst the application does not fully accord with the policies of the Bridgend Local Development Plan, the development will result in the refurbishment and maintenance of a significant listed building, which provides an important feature within the Rest Bay area of Porthcawl. The development will provide an important community facility and maintain an existing community use. The financial contribution to affordable housing will enable the Council to fulfil its role as an affordable housing enabler.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1** A screening for Equality Impact has been undertaken and no negative issues have been identified.

7. Financial Implications.

- 7.1** Failure to correct the error will prevent the Section 106 Agreement from being completed and the financial contributions will not be received by the Council.

8. Recommendation.

- 8.1** That Council notes the drafting error made in recording the minutes of the Council meeting on 3rd July 2013 and agrees that the correct contribution to Affordable Housing should be £370,000 and the Highways contribution should be £63,136.32 to improve active travel access between Rest Bay and Porthcawl town centre in a staggered/phased payment plan which would see £30,000 being paid upon the occupation of the first unit of residential accommodation within the site, and the remaining £33,136.32 (or the remainder of the index linked sum) paid upon occupation of 50% of the apartments or exactly three years receipt of the first instalment, unless otherwise approved in writing.

MARK SHEPHARD
CORPORATE DIRECTOR COMMUNITIES

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Background documents

Council Report 3rd July 2013

Council Minutes 3rd July 2013

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