

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 29 MARCH 2017

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES ANGEL STREET BRIDGEND CF31 4WB ON WEDNESDAY, 29 MARCH 2017 AT 3.00 PM

Present

Councillor RD Jenkins – Chairperson

S Aspey	N Clarke	HJ David	G Davies
GW Davies MBE	PA Davies	E Dodd	DK Edwards
N Farr	EP Foley	CA Green	M Gregory
EM Hughes	PN John	B Jones	CL Jones
M Jones	RC Jones	DRW Lewis	JE Lewis
JR McCarthy	HE Morgan	MEJ Nott OBE	AD Owen
DG Owen	D Patel	RL Penhale-Thomas	G Phillips
DR Pugh	CL Reeves	M Reeves	CE Smith
JC Spanswick	G Thomas	M Thomas	HJ Townsend
E Venables	KJ Watts	C Westwood	DBF White
PJ White	HM Williams	R Williams	RE Young

Apologies for Absence

CJ James, P James, RM James, LC Morgan, JH Tildesley MBE and M Winter

Officers:

Susan Cooper	Corporate Director - Social Services & Wellbeing
Mark Galvin	Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Lindsay Harvey	Corporate Director Education and Family Support
Sara Harvey	Regional Programme Director, Western Bay
Andrew Jolley	Corporate Director Operational & Partnership Services
Darren Mepham	Chief Executive
Andrew Rees	Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Mark Shephard	Corporate Director - Communities

721. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

722. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of a meeting of Council dated 1 March 2017, be approved as a true and accurate record.

723. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM:

Mayor

The Mayor announced that Members will have all heard the sad news that Councillor David Sage passed away at the weekend following a recent illness.

David was one of BCBC's longest serving Councillors, and was here to witness the very beginning of Bridgend County Borough Council back in 1996.

As an elected representative for Brackla, David worked tirelessly throughout the last two decades confirmed the Mayor.

He quickly developed a reputation as the kind of local Councillor who would do his very best, not only for his Ward, but for the wider interests of the County Borough, too.

The Mayor added, that he also served the Authority as Deputy Leader between 2008 and 2015, and went on to be the Chairperson of the Equality Forum and the Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

David was a man of great integrity, and was passionate about standing up for his community and the people that he represented stated the Mayor.

He was a member of Unison's National Executive, and acted as the electoral agent for Carwyn Jones AM on a number of occasions.

At various times in David's life, the Mayor believed that he was also a tool maker, a machine fitter and a mental health nurse.

Perhaps most importantly the Mayor reinforced, he was a devoted husband to his wife, Anne, a loving father to his children, Sarah and Johnny, and a grandfather of seven.

The Mayor was aware that the Leader and fellow Members would want to say a few words of their own about David, so he finished his submission by expressing sincere condolences to his family and friends on behalf of everyone here at Bridgend County Borough Council.

Finally, confirmed the Mayor, he also wished to demonstrate our deep respect by holding a one minute silence in David's memory.

All Members and Officers then stood in silent tribute as a mark of respect.

724. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE LEADER

The Leader announced that he would remember his friend and colleague David Sage as someone who fought with passion, and who held an unshakeable belief in doing what was right for people.

The serious injuries that he received during his accident in Saundersfoot and the effects of his subsequent stroke may had a profound impact upon David's life, but he never gave up.

After his fall, David astonished doctors by walking out of hospital. He became the deputy chair of the Bridgend Coalition of Disabled People, and took part in last year's Step Out For Stroke event at Newbridge Fields.

But this was of course very typical of David, and aptly demonstrated his strength of character. It should have come as no surprise to see him adapt to his new circumstances by immediately setting out to fight for the rights of people with disabilities. During his long time in hospital he was regularly checking with doctors and nurses to make sure that other patients on his ward were receiving the care and support they both

needed and wanted. At one stage every patient on his ward was having cooked breakfast every morning. He never stopped representing other people.

His values of public service, social justice and helping others weren't just about speeches or meetings for Dave, they were about practical action. This was epitomised in his critical role in the charity that raised tens of thousands for the orphanage near Chernobyl. Both Dave and Ann welcomed the children into their home for holidays, and Dave and his twin brother Don spent many of their own holidays travelling with the charity to Belorussia to ensure that the aid actually got to the children and the orphanage.

Dave achieved a great deal for his community of Brackla and further afield.

While it goes without saying that he will be sadly missed, the Leader stated that he knew that he was not the only person present in the Council Chamber today, who will say what a privilege and an honour it was to know and work alongside him.

The Leader concluded by adding, that not only all those present here today, but many, many more besides, will all miss David, and he hoped that Johnny, Sarah and all of Dave's family can see the high regard in which he was held here at Bridgend County Borough Council.

Further messages of tribute followed in turn for David, from Councillors CA Green, JC Spanswick, PJ White, CL Jones, KJ Watts, HM Williams, CE Smith, MEJ Nott OBE, E Dodd and M Thomas.

Monitoring Officer

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that for varying reasons, that included the close proximity of the local elections as well as difficulty in concluding consultation on reports scheduled for certain up and coming Committees, it has been considered necessary to postpone the following meetings due to be held on the stated dates:-

Community, Environment & Leisure O&SC – 6 April 2017

Partnerships & Governance O&SC – 10 April 2017

Council – 26 April 2017

Democratic Services Committee – 3 May 2017

725. WESTERN BAY POPULATION ASSESSMENT

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing submitted a report, the purpose of which, was to approve the Western Bay Population Assessment in accordance with the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014, and appoint the City and County of Swansea as the Lead Co-ordinating Body to submit the Assessment to Welsh Ministers on behalf of Western Bay.

In support of the report, a joint power point Presentation was given by Sara Harvey, Regional Programme Director, Western Bay, and the Corporate Director, Social Services and Wellbeing, entitled 'The Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014 – Western Bay Population Assessment'.

The report and Presentation, covered the following themes:-

Legislation

Section 14 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 requires that local authorities and Local Health Boards must jointly carry out an assessment of:

- the needs for care and support, and
- the support needs of carers

The assessment must also identify:

- the extent to which those needs are not being met
- the range and level of services required to meet those needs
- the range and level of services required to deliver preventative services; and
- how these services will be delivered through the medium of Welsh

The purpose of the Population Assessment is to create an evidence base that will support the delivery of the statutory functions on organisations and also inform planning and operational decisions. The Assessment must be published by 31st March 2017

The report for the Western Bay area consists of three layers of detail:

- A suite of web-pages - high level summary and key issues;
- A suite of downloadable chapters - more detailed description of arrangements;
- A suite of technical reports-contains the evidence and analysis

The 10 Core Themes

- Learning Disability and Autism
- Mental Health
- Health/Physical Disability
- Sensory Impairment
- Carers
- Violence Against Women, Sexual Abuse and Domestic Violence
- Secure Estate
- Older People
- Children and Young People
- Safeguarding and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards

What we Did (ie Western Bay)

- Established a regional Steering Group
- Set up regional sub-groups, to undertake:
 - Data and analysis
 - Engagement
 - Provide an Editorial
- We used:

Quantitative information – Data from various sources

Qualitative information – What people told us

Data

- The data used was published data – this meant that due to timing, the main data was from year 2014/15
- Data came from the Data Unit Wales' data catalogue, as well as other sources
- Published local data (eg.PI's) was also used

Engagement

- The Population Assessment was carried out at the same time as the Wellbeing Assessment (part of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015).
- Engagement took place across the region for both assessments at the same time
- Miller Research Ltd. was commissioned to carry out the engagement activities
- The Western Bay Regional Citizen's Panel received updates and the final report has been shared with the Panel
- The ABMU HB Stakeholder Reference Group has also been part of the engagement exercise.

Editorial Work

- The Editorial Group oversaw the production of both the webpages and the downloadable chapters
- The work involved drawing out the main themes from the technical documents produced by the Data Sub-Group and the findings of the Engagement Sub-Group
- An external provider was engaged to create the web resources
- Draft outputs were reviewed and signed off by the Editorial Group members.

The Final Report – In 3 Layers

1. Website with summaries of key messages
2. Chapters for each of the ten topics in PDF format giving more details
3. Technical reports / Topic Papers which are available on request and include considerable finer detail

Emerging Themes

- Paragraph 4.19 of the report lists the emerging themes broken down into:
 - Needs relating to demographics
 - Demand which is increasing
 - New population demand
- Paragraph 4.20 of the report detailed the key messages

Next Steps

- The Population Assessment has demonstrated that there is a commonality across the four statutory organisations in delivering health and social care services
- It is going to provide the opportunity to focus on high level regional working priorities going forward which add value
- The webpages will be hosted by the City and County of Swansea on behalf of the Western Bay partnership (with links to/from partner websites as required in the Act).
- The Steering Group and its sub-group members intend to carry out a "lessons learned" exercise to inform the process going forward
- An Area Plan will be developed by the Western Bay Regional Partnership Board – to be produced by April 2018
- The Population Assessment is a 'live' tool and will be reviewed as part of the development of the Area Plan

The Cabinet Member Social Services and Early Help commended the report which was expanded upon in an excellent Presentation, and in particular, the level of information and other data that had been shared with Members at today's meeting.

He further added, that he was the grateful that a budget had been established by the Regional Partnership Board to complete the Population Assessment, and was funded from the Welsh Government's Delivering Transformation Grant, together with in-house staff resource and in-kind contributions from partners. The Cabinet Member Social Services and Early Help stated that more investment was required to support older people however, as service demand was increasing due to people staying healthier and living for longer.

A Member echoed the point made above, that the Presentation and report was very comprehensive in terms of its detail whilst at the same time being user friendly, and that they both covered the mapping of all areas and different themes that comprised the Population Assessment. He felt it would be advantageous if this could be correlated with other statutory assessments undertaken in areas such as illicit drugs and areas of social deprivation etc, to establish the causes of these, and to be more preventative than reactive. This would also assist in closer working with other bodies such as the Police, Home Office and Welsh Government on resolving problems that are often common to all in some degree or another.

The Regional Programme Director for Western Bay advised that this could be investigated further as part of a wider area of joint working.

The Cabinet Member Wellbeing and Future Generations felt that the part of the assessment that reflected domestic violence by men against women should also stress that this could also be an issue albeit on a lower scale, the other way around.

The Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing advised that the Assessment could be slightly amended to reflect this point.

A Member asked if any reference was made to child exploitation in the Population Assessment.

The Regional Programme Director for Western Bay confirmed that this was referred to in the section of the document that related to children and Young people.

RESOLVED: That Council:-

- (1) Approved the Western Bay Population Assessment.
- (2) Authorised the Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing to publish a link to the Population Assessment on the Council's website.

Appointed the City and County of Swansea as the Lead Co-ordinating Body to submit the Population Assessment to Welsh Ministers on behalf of the three local authorities and the Health Board in the Western Bay region.

726. DELEGATION TO CHIEF OFFICERS - ELECTION PERIOD

The Monitoring Officer presented a report, that sought Council's approval of proposed arrangements to enable the Authority to continue to function effectively during the period

between the forthcoming election and the appointment of Council Committees at the Annual meeting of Council on 17 May 2017.

RESOLVED: That Council approved the above proposal as set out in paragraph 4.1 of the report.

727. SHARED REGULATORY SERVICES - REVIEW OF JOINT WORKING AGREEMENT

The Corporate Director – Operational and Partnership Services submitted a report, that recommended changes to the Joint Working Agreement between the partner Councils for the provision of Regulatory Services, and to seek approval to amend the regionalised service as outlined in the report.

The report gave some background information, by advising that in April 2015, the Councils of Bridgend, Cardiff City and Vale of Glamorgan signed a joint working agreement for the provision of regulatory services across the three Council areas.

He confirmed that over the last 18 months, it was becoming evident that some aspects of the agreement required amending, to allow the more effective operation and management of the service. Details of these changes were explained in the report and clarified in further detail in the Deed of Variation, a copy of which was attached to the report at Appendix A. The Corporate Director – Operational and Partnership Services elaborated upon these for the benefit of Members.

RESOLVED: (1) That Council approved the proposed changes to the Joint Working Agreement between the partner Councils for the provision of Regulatory Services, because amendments to the Agreement will improve the functioning and governance of the Shared Regulatory service, with these changes requiring the ratification of each of the three participating Councils.

(2) That the Senior Responsible Officer with responsibility for the Shared Regulatory Service, be authorised to approve administrative changes to the Joint Working Agreement, as long as there is no extension of delegations to the Shared Service or additional financial Implications

728. TO RECEIVE A NOTICE OF MOTION (PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR MEJ NOTT)

Councillor MEJ Nott OBE, as Armed Forces Champion for the Authority, put forward a Notice of Motion requesting that BCBC support's the Royal British Legion's '**Count them In**' Campaign, calling for changes to the UK Census in order to capture data at a local authority level regarding the size and needs of the Armed Forces Community, with this campaign already having received excellent support across Wales and the UK from other bodies, local authorities and organisations.

Further details regarding the above were shown in the paper that comprised Agenda item 9. at today's meeting.

RESOLVED: Members of Council unanimously agreed to support this campaign as proposed by Councillor Nott.

At this point in proceedings, the Mayor invited Councillor DBF White to the Lectern, in his capacity as Vice-President of the Bridgend Branch of the Royal British Legion.

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Councillor White advised Members that he wished (together with the Mayor) to present a Certificate of Apperception to a Councillor who in his previous role as Leader of BCBC oversaw the implementation of the Armed Forces Covenant, and who was currently Armed Forces Champion for the local authority. This was a role which he had asked to remain in after he stepped down as Leader. This demonstrated what the role means to him in his support of the armed forces.

Councillor Nott then came forward to receive the Certificate of Apperception from the Mayor and Councillor White, and confirmed that he was very appreciative of receiving this as Armed Forces Champion.

729. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Leader announced that this was the last meeting of Council before the local elections, and the last meeting for those Members who had decided that they would not stand once more for election on 4 May 2017.

Whilst there obviously had been individual and political differences of opinion at meetings of the Council during the last five years, he felt that regardless of these differing views it was his opinion that all Members still had a common goal, which was to work together in order to make the Bridgend County Borough a better place for all the communities that comprised this.

He confirmed that he sincerely hoped that this would continue in the new term of office.

The meeting closed at 4.23 pm