

DECISION RECORD OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD HYBRID IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER CIVIC OFFICES, ANGEL STREET, BRIDGEND, CF31 4WB /REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2023 AT 16:00

Present

Councillor W J Kendall – Chairperson

S Aspey	H T Bennett	A R Berrow	F D Bletsoe
S J Bletsoe	JPD Blundell	E L P Caparros	HJ David
C Davies	C L C Davies	P Davies	M J Evans
N Farr	P Ford	J Gebbie	W R Goode
RM Granville	H Griffiths	S J Griffiths	D T Harrison
M L Hughes	D M Hughes	RM James	P W Jenkins
M R John	M Jones	M Lewis	J Llewellyn-Hopkins
RL Penhale-Thomas	J E Pratt	R J Smith	JC Spanswick
I M Spiller	T Thomas	G Walter	A Wathan
A Williams	AJ Williams	HM Williams	I Williams
MJ Williams	R Williams	E D Winstanley	T Wood

Apologies for Absence

N Clarke, RJ Collins, S Easterbrook, MJ Kearn and JH Tildesley MBE

Officers:

Mark Galvin	Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Lindsay Harvey	Corporate Director Education and Family Support
Rachel Keepins	Democratic Services Manager
Carys Lord	Chief Officer - Finance, Performance & Change

Claire Marchant	Corporate Director Social Services and Wellbeing
Janine Nightingale	Corporate Director - Communities
Michael Pitman	Technical Support Officer – Democratic Services
Alex Rawlin	Corporate Policy & Public Affairs Manager
Mark Shephard	Chief Executive
Kelly Watson	Chief Officer Legal, HR and Regulatory Services

Declarations of Interest
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Title of Report	Apologies for absence
Decision Made	Were received from Councillors S Easterbrook, M Kearn, R Collins and N Clarke.
Date Decision Made	18 October 2023

Title of Report	Declarations of Interest
Decision Made	<p>The following personal declarations of interest were made:-</p> <p>Councillor W Kendall – Agenda item 8, as his grandson attended Brynteg School</p> <p>Councillor P Davies – Agenda item 8, As a member of Maesteg Town Council</p> <p>Councillor J Gebbie – Agenda item 8, as a member of Newcastle Higher Community Council that was in receipt of Community Asset Transfer Funding</p> <p>Councillor P Jenkins – Agenda item 8, due to the land drainage issues at his property arising from the Washery Scheme works.</p> <p>Councillor M Williams – Agenda item 8, as he was a parent of a pupil attending Brynteg School</p> <p>Councillor R Goode – Agenda item 8, as he was a Governor at Nantymoel Primary School</p> <p>Councillor E Winstanley – Agenda item 6, as she was an employee at Awen Cultural Trust</p>

	<p>Councillor JC Spanswick – Agenda item 8, as a grandparent of a child at Brynteg School in receipt of an iPad</p> <p>Councillor Amanda Williams – Agenda item 8, as her daughter attended Brynteg School and was in receipt of an iPad</p> <p>Councillor M Evans – Agenda item 8, in that she was a member of Pencoed Town Council</p> <p>Councillor JP Blundell – Agenda item 8, as a Governor of Bryntirion Comprehensive School</p> <p>Councillor J Pratt – Agenda item 10, as a member of Her Majesty’s Coastguard Search and Rescue Association</p> <p>Councillor I Williams – Agenda item 8, as a Governor at Brynteg School</p> <p>Councillor H Bennett – Agenda item 8, as a member of Newcastle Higher Community Council that was in receipt of Community Asset Transfer Funding</p> <p>Councillor R Williams – Agenda item 8, as a member of Pencoed Town Council</p> <p>Councillor R Smith – Agenda item 8, as his son attends the ASD base at Llangewydd Junior School.</p>
Date Decision Made	18 October 2023

Title of Report	Approval of Minutes
Decision Made	<p><u>RESOLVED:</u> That the Minutes of a meeting of Council dated 20 September 2023 be approved as a true and accurate record, subject to Councillor Della Hughes being added to the list of attendees at this meeting.</p>
Date Decision Made	18 October 2023

Title of Report	To receive announcements from:
Decision Made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mayor • Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member Social Services and Health • Cabinet Member – Communities • Cabinet Member – Climate Change and the Environment • Cabinet Member – Community Safety and Wellbeing • Cabinet Member – Housing, Planning and Regeneration

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet Member – Finance, Resources and Legal <p>(No decisions were made in relation to the above.)</p>
Date Decision Made	18 October 2023

Title of Report	To receive announcements by the Leader
Decision Made	Announcements were received from the Leader (no decisions required).
Date Decision Made	18 October 2023

Title of Report	Presentation to Council by the Chief Executive of Awen Cultural Trust
Decision Made	<p>The Chief Executive introduced a report, in order to advise Members of a presentation proposed to be delivered by representatives of Awen Cultural Trust.</p> <p>Representatives of Awen Cultural Trust including the Chief Executive Mr Richard Hughes (assisted by Ceri Evans), then gave a power point presentation on the work of the Trust for members information. This covered some key points and milestones, that included the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awen Cultural Trust's aim is to 'Make People's Lives Better' through the cultural facilities and activities within those facilities that they provide; • The partnership with BCBC commenced in 2015 and was for a term of 20 years – and 8 years have past since an agreement to work jointly commenced; • The Shared Contract for continuation of service provision between Awen Cultural Trust and BCBC was for the duration of 20 years (commencing in 2015), with savings of over £800,000 having been made from the operation of the service during this period; • Registered Charity Profits are not distributed externally but are re-invested in the business; • The service contributes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social inclusion and tackles social isolation;

2. Early years;
3. Literacy and transferable skills;
4. Digital competency and inclusion;
5. Independent lives;
6. Volunteering and Local Engagement;
7. Enjoyment and activity in the natural environment;
8. Economic impacts.

The Chief Executive of the Trust assured Council that income made from the partnership arrangement supported the re-development/refurbishment of Health, Leisure and Wellbeing establishments as well as Country Parks.

The partnership had also assisted in the support of library services throughout the County Borough, including through mobile facilities.

Following the conclusion of the presentation, the Officers responded to questions from Members.

Some examples of these were as follows:-

- Bryngarw Country Park is an excellent facility. Could we look to expand the likes of B-Leaf and Wood B through Employability work (or through an Invest to Save process), with the view of giving more people the opportunity of being involved in the services they provide. It was extremely important to ensure that people with disabilities and disadvantaged families were able to access cultural facilities within the County Borough, in order that they may lead more fulfilled lives;
- The library in Blaengarw is not entirely fit for purpose, with little in the way of ICT equipment and a poorly lit environment. Improvements are required there. Also, could we look to advertise this facility other than just on-line where some of the older generation do not access;
- Congratulations were extended to Awen for achieving funding from the Arts Council of Wales. This was a significant achievement;
- If there is a situation whereby two major cultural facilities are both closed for improvements to be made to them at the same time, ie Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl and the Maesteg Town Hall, what sort of financial impact would this have on Awen, through for example, loss of income at two major venues

For further details of discussion on this item, please click [here](#).

	<u>RESOLVED:</u> That Council noted the presentation and accompanying report.
Date Decision Made	18 October 2023

Title of Report	Corporate Plan Delivery Plan Targets
Decision Made	<p>The Chief Executive submitted a report, the purpose of which, was to present for approval the proposed annual performance targets for 2023-24 for the performance indicators in the Corporate Plan Delivery Plan (CPDP) that supports the Council's new Corporate Plan.</p> <p>Examples of some of the Performance Indicator and Target data was shown in paragraph 4.1 of the report, with more detailed information contained in Appendix 1.</p> <p>Some of the questions asked on the report and comments made, which were responded to be Officers were:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with Overview and Scrutiny on the Corporate Plan and its targets were commended as was the contribution of Officers in producing the document. The Chairperson of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee acknowledged that Scrutiny would monitor the performance of the Delivery Plan against the proposed indicators, as well as aligning the Forward Work Programmes of each of the Authorities 4 Overview and Scrutiny Committees with these, in order to ensure that progress against the Council's seven Wellbeing Objectives and five Ways of Working as contained in the Corporate Plan are adequately assessed. • Achievement of the Performance Indicators are in part likely dependent upon these being financially supported through the Council's Budget. • Targets for Performance Indicators should be made as clear as possible, with the date for the achievement of each of these being challenging but at the same time realistic also. <p>Further questions and responses in relation to the report ensued during the course of this item.</p> <p>Following the conclusion of the question and answer debate, it was</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> That Council:-</p>

	Considered and approved the targets for the Corporate Plan Performance Indicators shown in Appendix 1 to the report.
Date Decision Made	18 October 2023

Title of Report	Capital Programme Update Quarter 2 2023-24
Decision Made	<p>The Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change presented a report outlining an update on the Capital Programme for the above period.</p> <p>She explained that the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities requires Local Authorities to have in place a Capital Strategy which demonstrates that the Authority takes capital expenditure and investment decisions in line with service objectives and properly takes account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability, and affordability. To demonstrate that the Council has fulfilled these objectives, the Prudential Code sets out a number of Indicators that must be set and monitored each year. The Council’s Capital Strategy 2023-24, incorporating the Prudential Indicators for 2023-24, was approved by Council on 1 March 2023.</p> <p>Members raised a considerable number of questions on the report, examples of which are as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of the Waterton upgrade scheme, this has now slipped to 2024/25, with the budget allocation for this being predicated upon land sales that are now deemed to be unviable. What will be the scope of the project when it is revisited and given the financial pressures facing the Authority, where will the £3.5m originally set aside for the project originate from. • I note that £1.9m has been allocated towards play park areas, but to date, only £32k has been spent on these so far this year. Are we confident the remaining allocation will be spent this financial year and did we have a projected spend on the level of funding that would have been committed at this current stage of the financial year. • What proportion of the Capital Programme will generate additional revenue or savings such as, for example, using monies to purchase housing with the view of lowering our spend on homelessness. • In terms of the Public Rights of Way Improvement Grant, will this be put in place next year, so that we can maximise that investment in footpaths improvement/provision etc, throughout the

	<p>County Borough.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When will Council receive an update on the cost of the works required to update and repair the Bridgend Indoor market and also, when will these works take place. • Llynfi Development Programme - £2.177m, it's disappointing to see that we have not been able to convert that loan to a non-repayable grant. As the Feasibility Study carried out has revealed that such land cannot be used for housing development, could the land be re-purposed for environmental or recreational use. • Are there any future plans to roll-out to other County Borough schools the iPads recently provided to pupils at Brynteg Comprehensive School. <p>These questions were responded to by the Chief Executive and Corporate Directors.</p> <p>Further questions and responses to these were shared at the meeting.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> That Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the Council's Capital Programme 2023-24 Quarter 2 update to 30 September 2023 (Appendix A to the report). • noted the slippage of £15.809 million to 2024-25 as detailed in Appendix B. • approved the virements between schemes as detailed in Appendix B. • further approved the new schemes/additions to the capital programme totalling £0.737 million as outlined in Appendix B. • further noted the projected Prudential and Other Indicators for 2023-24 (Appendix C).
Date Decision Made	18 October 2023

Title of Report	Treasury Management Half Year Report 2023-24
Decision Made	<p>The Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change submitted a report, confirming that paragraph 22.5 of the Financial Procedure Rules required her in a statutory role, to report quarterly to Council summarising borrowing and investment activity and indicating compliance with any statutory or Council approved guidelines, together with a half yearly and an annual report to Council.</p> <p>The report provided an update of Treasury Management activity for the half year 1 April – 30 September</p>

	<p>2023. As at 30 September 2023 the Council had £99.79 million of long term debt, £13.36 million of other long term liabilities and £85.50 million of short term investments, an overall net debt position of £27.65 million.</p> <p>The average interest rate for debt was 4.69% (excluding Salix borrowing which is interest free) and for investments it was 4.42%.</p> <p>The Council has a manageable maturity structure of borrowing, with its current debt repayable at various points over the next 30 years.</p> <p>The Council had complied with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management Code and Welsh Government Investment Guidance in terms of the provisions of the report and its recommendations.</p> <p>The report was submitted in order to update Members on the present financial situation in relation to BCBC borrowing and lending monies, the Officer advised.</p> <p><u>RESOLVED:</u> That Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the treasury management activities for 2023-24 for the half year period 1 April 2023 to 30 September 2023 • Further noted the Treasury Management Indicators for the half year ending 30 September 2023 against those approved in the Treasury Management Strategy 2023-24.
Date Decision Made	18 October 2023

Title of Report	Making of Porthcawl Harbour Byelaws
Decision Made	<p>The Corporate Director – Communities presented a report seeking Council approval to make new Byelaws for Porthcawl Harbour as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report.</p> <p>She explained that the revised Byelaws would replace those presently existing, which were no longer deemed fit for purpose and that the new Byelaws would assist in increasing health and safety measures within the harbour sea location.</p>

Title of Report	Information Report for Noting
Decision Made	The Chief Officer, Legal and Regulatory Services, HR and Corporate Policy informed Council of an information report for noting, that had been published since the last scheduled meeting. <u>RESOLVED:</u> That Council acknowledged the publication of the report referred to in paragraph 3.1 of the report.
Date Decision Made	18 October 2023

Title of Report	Urgent Items
Decision Made	None.
Date Decision Made	18 October 2023