

**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR - COMMUNITIES**

**CABINET**

**28 FEBRUARY 2017**

**NANTYMOEL COMMUNITY BUILDING INVESTMENT**

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide an update to Cabinet on the progress made by relevant community groups to develop alternative community facilities within Nantymoel, using the £200,000 allocation within the Capital Programme set aside following the closure and subsequent demolition of the Berwyn Centre in 2012/13.

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

- 2.1 The report links to the Corporate Priorities of:  
Supporting the local economy  
Making smarter use of resources  
Helping people to be more self-reliant

**3. Background**

- 3.1 On 8<sup>th</sup> October 2012, Cabinet resolved to allocate a sum of £200,000 in the Capital Programme linked to the identification and development of new or alternative facilities in Nantymoel to replace the Berwyn Centre.
- 3.2 Originally Cabinet in the report of 18<sup>th</sup> September 2102 had recommended that a two year timescale until the end of September 2014 be allowed to spend the money. This was subsequently extended to March 2015 following a recommendation from the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012, and approved in the Cabinet meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> October 2012.
- 3.3 Ogmore Valley Community Council were approved as the organisation who would be tasked with liaising with community groups to come up with appropriate proposals and a business case for the Council to consider before the financial allocation would be released.
- 3.4 Subsequently a report to Cabinet in December 2014, as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy Capital Programme proposals, approved that due to the time taken to develop alternative options and seek agreement with the community representatives, delaying the physical works, that the deadline to draw down the capital allocation be extended to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 as part of a revised Capital Programme. This was then extended again to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 in the Capital Programme report to Cabinet of 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016, subsequently approved in full by Council on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

#### **4. Current Situation / Proposal**

- 4.1 Unfortunately despite ongoing efforts to move this issue along, including engaging the Wales Cooperative Centre to work with local community groups to develop appropriate designs and a business plan, and additional support from the Council's Regeneration team, it has become apparent that it will not be possible to meet the 31<sup>st</sup> March deadline to submit a business plan acceptable to the Council and therefore allow us to release the funding.
- 4.2 While undoubtedly there has been significant progress and the Council has received an initial business plan focussing on developing and enhancing the existing Nantymoel Boys and Girls Club, it is clear that a significant number of outstanding issues remain. These include final design work, local governance, and some financial elements.
- 4.3 In view of this it is proposed to extend the deadline for a further year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.
- 4.4 While this seems a sensible way forward it does bring with it the risk that the work in the community will lose momentum. It is also recommended therefore that in view of the extensions to the deadline that have already been given previously, the Council make it clear to the Ogmores Valley Community Council and the local community groups leading on this work, that they do not envisage any further extensions beyond 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 in view of other pressures on the Capital Programme and that therefore they should seek to make progress on matters quickly.

#### **5. Effect upon Policy Framework & Procedure Rules**

- 5.1 There is no effect on the Council's policy framework and procedure rules.

#### **6. Equalities Impact Assessment**

- 6.1 The Council as part of its assessment of any business plan submitted will seek to ensure that any new or enhanced facilities are accessible to all local individuals and groups as far as is possible.

#### **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1 The allocation of £200,000 currently in the Capital Programme to support the development of community facilities in Nantymoel has a deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

#### **8. Recommendations**

- 8.1 That Cabinet is asked to approve an extension to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 for Ogmores Community Council and relevant community groups to submit an acceptable business plan to the Council to develop community facilities in Nantymoel and draw down and spend the allocated capital funding in the Capital Programme.

**Mark Shephard**  
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**Background documents:**

Cabinet Report 8<sup>th</sup> October 2012  
Cabinet Report 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014  
Cabinet Report 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016