

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES ANGEL STREET BRIDGEND CF31 4WB ON WEDNESDAY, 18 MAY 2016 AT 2.00 PM

Present

Councillor RE Young – Chairperson

RD Jenkins	S Aspey	M Butcher	N Clarke
HJ David	G Davies	GW Davies MBE	PA Davies
E Dodd	DK Edwards	L Ellis	N Farr
EP Foley	CA Green	M Gregory	EM Hughes
CJ James	P James	RM James	PN John
CL Jones	M Jones	RC Jones	DRW Lewis
JE Lewis	JR McCarthy	HE Morgan	LC Morgan
MEJ Nott OBE	AD Owen	DG Owen	D Patel
G Phillips	DR Pugh	CL Reeves	M Reeves
CE Smith	JC Spanswick	G Thomas	M Thomas
RL Thomas	JH Tildesley MBE	HJ Townsend	E Venables
KJ Watts	C Westwood	DBF White	PJ White
HM Williams	R Williams		

Officers:

Jackie Davies	Head of Adult Social Care
Randal Hemingway	Head of Finance & Section 151 Officer
Andrew Jolley	Corporate Director Operational & Partnership Services
Gary Jones	Head of Democratic Services
Deborah McMillan	Corporate Director Education & Family Support
Darren Mepham	Chief Executive
Andrew Rees	Senior Democratic Services Officer - Committees
Mark Shephard	Corporate Director - Communities

610. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D Sage.

611. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor D Patel declared a prejudicial interest in agenda 14 – Capital Programme 2016-17 to 2025-26 as a Trustee of YDCE which runs the community facilities at Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen. Councillor Patel withdrew from the meeting during consideration of this item.

The Chief Executive, Corporate Director Communities, Corporate Education and Family Support, Head of Adult Social Care and Section 151 Officer declared an interest in agenda item no. 19 – Notice of Motion from the Cabinet Member Regeneration and Economic Development and withdrew from the meeting.

612. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of Council of 13 April 2016 be approved as a true and accurate record.

613. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR RE YOUNG

The Mayor announced that these would be his last announcements of his year in office.

He firstly announced with sadness the recent deaths of former Councillors Don Buttle and Bill Evans, both of whom will be sadly missed. All present stood in silence as a mark of respect.

The Mayor announced that he and his Consort Mrs Annette Young had been privileged to attend many interesting and informative events, nearly 400 during the year and are very grateful to have been given this wonderful opportunity to represent the County Borough.

He stated that the last few weeks had been extremely busy and he had the pleasure of hosting the two biggest events on behalf of his charity committee. The golf day was a great success and he thanked all the teams who played on the day and made a contribution. He stated that the Gala dinner was held in the Heronstone Hotel this year and he and the Consort had a wonderful evening with family, friends and colleagues. He thanked everyone who came and made the evening so enjoyable and to his charities for being such a support during fundraising.

The Mayor informed Council that he had recently spent a most interesting day with the South Wales Police as a voluntary guest. He was escorted by Superintendent Ough and was given a tour of some of the operational units that are based in South Wales; these included the police horses and dogs in Waterton, the armed response and the covert operations team. The Mayor stated that this had been one of the highlights of his year and he thanked Superintendent Ough for making it so interesting and varied and for being such a good host.

The Mayor announced that he had been trying to visit as many of the organisations that were awarded a Mayor's citizenship award as time permitted. He stated that it was lovely to witness at first hand the good works that carried out by willing volunteers of all ages within communities. He had also recently had the pleasure of meeting a young 9 year boy called Bailey who carried out 100 random acts of kindness and as a result was awarded a young citizen award. He donated the money that he won to the Bridgend Cats Protection League. He stated that it was heartening to see that even at such a young age someone was taking an interest in their community and helping others.

The Mayor thanked all Members for the support given during his year in office, not just to himself but also to his Consort which had been very much appreciated.

614. TO ELECT THE MAYOR, TO BE INVESTED AT THE CIVIC INAUGURATION CEREMONY ON 25 MAY 2016 AND THE MAYOR (ELECT) TO ANNOUNCE THEIR CONSORT/ESCORT

A motion was received, which was duly seconded and carried unanimously, that Councillor R D Jenkins be appointed Mayor for 2016/17.

RESOLVED: That Councillor R D Jenkins be elected as Mayor for the year 2016/17 and that he be invested at the Civic Inauguration Ceremony on 25 May 2016.

Councillor Jenkins announced that his Consort/Escort for the ensuing year would be his wife Mrs Teresa Jenkins.

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 18 MAY 2016

615. TO APPOINT THE DEPUTY MAYOR TO BE INVESTED AT THE CIVIC INAUGURATION CEREMONY ON 25 MAY 2016, AND THE DEPUTY MAYOR (ELECT) TO ANNOUNCE THEIR CONSORT/ESCORT

A motion was received which was duly seconded, and carried unanimously that Councillor R C Jones be appointed as Deputy Mayor for 2016/17.

RESOLVED: That Councillor R C Jones be appointed Deputy Mayor for the year 2016/17, and that she be invested at the Civic Inauguration Ceremony on 25 May 2016.

Councillor Jones announced that her Consort/Escort for the ensuing year would be her sister Mrs Marjorie Griffiths.

616. TO RECEIVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR

There were no announcements.

617. THE MAYOR TO ANNOUNCE THE YOUTH MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR:

The Mayor announced that Matthew Van Rooyen would be the Youth Mayor for 2016/17.

The Mayor announced that Iestyn Harries would be the Deputy Youth Mayor for 2016/17.

618. TO ELECT THE 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 2016/17.

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

619. TO AGREE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED TO THE CABINET

RESOLVED: That Council agreed that Cabinet comprise the Leader and six Members for the year 2016/17.

620. THE LEADER TO APPOINT MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

The Leader announced that the Cabinet for the year 2016/17 would comprise himself and the following six Members:-

Councillor H J David
Councillor C L Reeves
Councillor C E Smith
Councillor H J Townsend
Councillor P J White
Councillor H M Williams.

621. THE LEADER MAY ANNOUNCE THE DEPUTY LEADER OF BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL FROM THOSE MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE CABINET AND MAY ANNOUNCE THE APPOINTMENT OF CABINET MEMBERS TO PORTFOLIOS

The Leader announced that the Deputy Leader for the year 2016/17 would be Councillor H J David and the following Members appointed to the following portfolios:-

Councillor H J David – Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member Education
Councillor C L Reeves – Cabinet Member Communities
Councillor C E Smith – Cabinet Member Regeneration & Economic Development
Councillor H J Townsend – Cabinet Member Children’s Social Services and Equalities
Councillor P J White – Adult Social Care & Health & Wellbeing
Councillor H M Williams - Resources.

622. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE LEADER

The Leader thanked all colleagues for returning him as Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council, which would be the ninth time that he will have served as Leader. He stated that he had never taken the position for granted, and as always, considered it to be an honour and a privilege, especially so when he considered that he had now spent the best part of a full decade serving in this capacity. He informed Members that he would use the experience gained during this time to continue to perform the role to the very best of his abilities.

The Leader commented that local government continues to face highly significant challenges and that the last few years have been extremely difficult, not least because the biggest cuts in local government funding have been witnessed. The Leader stated that he was proud of the way in which the Council has met these challenges head-on and that a number of tough decisions had been necessary, many of which have been unpopular. He informed Members that the Council had not shied away from making them, and the Council is now well versed in finding new ways of delivering essential services against a backdrop of diminishing resources.

The Leader informed Members that the Council has made great strides in its efforts to transform Bridgend County Borough Council into a smaller, more efficient organisation, and the actions that have been taken are yielding strong results. This was best evidenced by the most recent national performance indicators for the authority, which has confirmed that Bridgend County Borough Council is the fifth most improved council in Wales as well as the ninth best performing authority.

The Leader stated that Members will already be aware of the ongoing commitment towards providing children with modern learning environments, and how the school modernisation programme is continuing to provide facilities such as the new Coety Primary or the Bryncethin Campus. He informed Members that the latest statistics suggest that educational standards in Bridgend County Borough are also improving at a faster rate than anywhere else in Wales. Impressive increases had been seen in the Foundation Phase and across Key Stages Two to Four that have all been well above the Wales average. Similarly, school attendance has dramatically improved with a 95.1% primary school rate and a 94.3% secondary school rate. Residents have returned the fourth highest satisfaction rate in Wales for how education is provided in the county borough. In addition, the Council is third in Wales for delivering positive learner outcomes for children who receive free school meals. This success has been acknowledged by the Education Minister Huw Lewis acknowledged who had stated that the Council is ‘galloping away with the free school meals agenda’ and also said that ‘this has been a fantastic year for Bridgend.’

The Leader was also pleased to see that the Council has performed faster and more efficiently when it comes to safeguarding and family support assessments. There had been a 30% reduction in the number of children placed on the Child Protection Register along with significant reductions in the numbers of looked-after children, referrals to social services and more.

The Leader announced that at the other end of the spectrum, despite increasing demand for adult social care services, there was a 40.8% increase in the number of people who have been able to continue to live at home thanks to support from the community resources team. There had also been recorded a reduction in the number of people requiring support within the community as well as within residential care homes.

The Leader announced that just 13% of all waste was sent to landfill last year against a Welsh average of 29%, making the Council the fourth best area in Wales. However, he reminded Members that the way in which waste is collected, processed and recycled needs to change in order to meet strict new targets. He stated that the public consultation on this drew the largest response for any the Council has carried out to date. The plans that have come out of that process are currently under development, and will be presented in greater detail in due course.

The Leader announced that across the County Borough, there is a multi- million pound regeneration programme in place, which is continuing to deliver major projects such as a replacement car park and affordable accommodation at the Rhiw in Bridgend, or the refurbishment and relaunch of the Pilot Lookout Tower, Customs House, former Knight's Arms Public House and Grade II listed Jennings Building at Porthcawl.

The Leader announced that in terms of planning and property, the Council is the best in Wales for the speed with which all planning applications are determined as well as how quickly enforcement action is undertaken. He stated that more than £10million in capital receipts for the sale of surplus assets had been delivered. The Wales Audit Office had commented that the Council has an effective approach to corporate asset management, and is on course to achieve its long term goals. The Wales Audit Office had also found that the Council has an effective corporate framework in place for financial planning, effective financial controls, strong financial management and a good track record of spending to budget. The Wales Audit Office had recognised that 28 areas of good practice had been identified within Legal and Regulatory Services.

The Wales Audit Office had concluded from its corporate assessment that the authority has effective governance arrangements. It also stated that Cabinet Members are fully engaged in developing vision and options for change and the Council's performance management arrangements are helping to drive improvement in key service areas. The corporate assessment also stated that while the Council faced significant financial challenges, it has sound financial and asset management arrangements in place which will help resilience being maintained. The Leader stated that despite the financial constraints placed upon the Council, it has achieved a lot that it can be rightly proud of.

The Leader informed Members that looking towards the future, the Council has identified supporting a successful economy, helping people to be more self-reliant and a smarter use of resources as being the key activities that will enable the Council to operate effectively, support improvement and deliver change. He announced that the Medium Term Financial Strategy, Corporate Plan and Change Programme are all in place to drive this forward as the Council seeks to deliver further multi-million pound savings through internal efficiencies, collaborative projects, contract renegotiations and the transfer of specific services to partner organisations.

The Leader informed Council that preparations are underway to transfer staff based at Ravens Court over to the Civic Offices, and it was hoped that some excellent news could be delivered on how the Ravens Court premises will be used in future.

The Leader also announced that the Council remains ambitious for the County Borough, and over the coming year will be investing in a number of significant initiatives. These include new sea defences at Porthcawl, developing Maesteg Town Hall into a cultural hub and library, creating two new Extra Care facilities for the County Borough at Maesteg and Ynysawdre, establishing a new household recycling centre at Pyle, and improving traffic and transport safety outside eleven local schools. The Council will also be carrying out key works such as strengthening the A4061 bridge in the Ogmores Valley, refurbishing buildings at Heronsbridge to enable the provision of 52-week residential services for children with disabilities, modernising the Homecare service with new technology, and developing a new state of the art system that has the potential to cheaply heat local homes and businesses.

The Leader informed Council that the budget for highways repairs has been maintained, as have Disabled Facility Grants and Housing Renewal Schemes. The budget for match-funding initiatives proposed by town and community councils has been increased in order to support the transfer of community assets. He stated the Council will continue to find new ways of meeting the needs of local communities, and where possible will draw on the strengths and abilities that they already possess.

The Leader informed Council that the Regulatory Services partnership with Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan was now well established, and Awen's management of the cultural hubs and libraries is making great progress. He continued to have high hopes for Awen, and wanted it to be able to deliver the same kind of success and benefits that are being seen via the innovative partnership with Halo Leisure, which has been a huge success.

The Leader informed Council that he is ably backed by his Cabinet colleagues and as always was grateful for their unwavering support, and he acknowledged their dedication and commitment. He stated there would be some changes to the Cabinet structure for the year ahead, in that Councillor Mike Gregory would no longer serve as a Cabinet portfolio holder. He publicly thanked him for his valuable contribution and selfless public service. He and fellow Cabinet Members are extremely grateful to Councillor Gregory for the support and advice he has provided. Councillor Gregory had contributed hugely towards the Council, and the Leader was sure that Members would join him in recognising and applauding this.

The Leader announced that taking over the Resources Portfolio will be Councillor Hywel Williams, who has done sterling work over the last year with the Communities portfolio. He stated that Councillor Ceri Reeves will be joining Cabinet for the first time to handle the Communities portfolio, and he had every confidence in her ability to look after this important area of the Council's work. With no further changes, Councillor Phil White will continue to be responsible for adult social services, Councillor Charles Smith will look after regeneration and economic development, and Councillor Hailey Townsend will be responsible for children's social services and equalities issues. Finally, Councillor Huw David will continue to serve as Deputy Leader, and will have a special responsibility for schools and educational issues. The Leader was confident that this team will be able to continue the good work that has already taken place, and will help steer the authority through the challenges that lay before the Council with a steady hand.

The Leader thanked the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Richard Young, his consort Mrs Annette Young, Youth Mayor Daniel Butlin and Deputy Youth Mayor Cari Burns for carrying out their duties in such a professional manner. The Leader also added his

appreciation for the work that all elected Members perform in representing the communities that make up Bridgend County Borough and who are united in their commitment towards working for the benefit of the residents whom they serve.

The Leader added that he would like nothing better than to be able to stand before Members and say that the year ahead is going to be easy, but unfortunately, did not think that was going to be the case. He believed that Bridgend County Borough Council is in a state of positive evolution, with it visibly becoming a fitter, more efficient organisation, seeking out and discovering new ways of providing the kinds of services that people rely on. He stated that the Council already possesses the drive, determination, ambition, skills and experience that this process requires and that by working together, the Council can continue to transform even while moving forward, and ensure that the authority reaches its destination prepared, equipped and ready to tackle what lay ahead.

623. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016-17 TO 2015-26

The Section 151 Officer sought approval for a revised capital programme for 2016-17 to 2025-26.

He reported that Council at its meeting in March 2016 had approved a capital programme for 2016-17 to 2025-26 of £163.774M as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). However since that approval, a small number of schemes had been identified that require approval for inclusion in the capital programme.

He reported that an opportunity had arisen as part of the works to external envelope of the Civic Offices to install a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) system on the roof of the Civic Offices at an estimated cost of £40k, including fees and contingency. He stated that the solar panels will generate a small amount of electricity for the Civic Offices which will reduce the amount of electricity purchased from the grid, in addition to a 50% return on electricity generated through the Feed In Tariff. He informed Council that funding for the scheme would be ring fenced from the underspend on the Resources Directorate revenue budget in 2015-16 and will be transferred to an earmarked reserve and used to provide a revenue contribution to capital in 2016-17.

The Section 151 Officer reported that the Digital Transformation programme supports the new corporate priority of making smarter use of resources and is integral to achieving a number of budget reductions in the Medium Term Financial Strategy. He stated that digital technology presented an opportunity to improve citizens' access to services and engagement, thereby reducing operating costs. The Section 151 Officer informed Council that moving to a digital operating model would enable more cost effective, integrated and modern ways of working. He stated that the Council would be required to go out to tender to secure the digital platform. He also stated that it would be prudent to budget for up to £2.5M in order to cover all potential costs, although this may be revised once the tender process has been completed. The cost of the capital element of the digital transformation project would be funded from earmarked reserves at year end from corporate underspends.

The Section 151 Officer reported that the Vibrant and Viable Places (VVP) regeneration scheme covers the provision of a multi-storey car park and commercial and residential properties totalling £9.6M, £6.7M of which would be incurred by the Council, funded from Welsh Government grant, Section 106 and other funding sources. He stated that the capital programme currently includes the full scheme cost, including match funding and external funding. As Coastal Housing would be incurring expenditure from both Social Housing Grant and their own resources of almost £3M, the capital programme had been updated to remove this element as the spend would not pass through the authority.

The Section 151 Officer also reported that minor works are planned to the North locality hub based at Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen as the current configuration was not fit for purpose and did not allow for effective locality based working. It was proposed that work be undertaken to create an open plan environment to allow for more integration and greater numbers of staff to work from this location. He stated that the estimated costs of the works are £40k with funding ring-fenced from the underspend in the Education Directorate revenue budget 2015-16, which would be transferred to an earmarked reserve and used to provide a revenue contribution to capital 2016-17.

The Section 151 Officer also reported on the additional highway requirements in respect of the Brynmenyn Primary and Garw Valley Primary Schools which was estimated to be £725k and funded through receipt of additional Section 106 funding and available capital receipts. He stated that as the works are outside of the school boundaries, they are not eligible for Welsh Government funding and must be accounted for and funded by the Council and would now be treated as separate schemes within the capital programme, with the budgets for the school schemes being reduced accordingly.

The Section 151 Officer reported that when the 21st Century Schools programme was developed it was intended to meet an element of the overall match funding through prudential borrowing, from revenue savings generated as a result of school amalgamations. He stated that as the number of schools in scope within the programme had changed, the opportunity for generating revenue savings had diminished, especially with the higher cost of business rates in new builds, with an estimated shortfall on overall funding of £119k. It was proposed to meet the shortfall by transferring funding from the School Modernisations Retention budget within the capital programme.

The Section 151 Officer that the Welsh Government had currently committed to fund £22.475M of the total costs for the current 21st Century Schools Programme, with the Council meeting the remaining £23.035M. He stated that as schemes were progressed through feasibility and the design stage, it had become apparent that the costs of some schemes would be higher than originally anticipated, due to site abnormalities and rising construction costs. Additional funding would be sought from the Welsh Government through a revised Strategic Outline Programme towards increased costs of the schemes as they are known, however there would be a requirement for additional match funding contributions from the Council if it wished to progress the schemes. He stated it would be unlikely that the Council would have sufficient uncommitted capital receipts to meet the full costs and therefore Council was requested in principle to ring-fence the next capital receipts of up to £1.5M to ensure the programme is not delayed.

RESOLVED: That Council approved the revised Capital Programme and agree in principle to ring-fence the next capital receipts received of £1.5M to ensure the programme can be progressed.

624. 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 2016 - May 2017, for Council approval.

He informed Council 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 the proposed dates for meetings of Council and the suggested Programme of Council Committee Meetings. He requested that Council note the meeting dates for Cabinet, Cabinet Committees and Cabinet's Joint Committee.

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 Cabinet's Joint Committee for information purposes, also contained in Appendix 1 of the report.

625. REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES - MEMBERS REMUNERATION

The Monitoring Officer reported on the determinations and recommendations contained within the February 2016 Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales in respect of the level and range of remuneration the Authority must make available to its Members for the 2016/17 municipal year.

The Monitoring Officer informed Council that the Panel had during 2015 met with the Chairpersons and/or Heads of Democratic Services of all local authorities in Wales to discuss the impact of their draft recommendations and to explain their rationale for their proposals.

The Monitoring officer reported that the maximum number of Council Members eligible for the payment of senior salaries in Bridgend is 18 not including the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. He outlined the roles of Members within the Authority in receipt of remuneration. He stated that any senior or civic salary is inclusive of the basic salary allocated to all elected Members.

The Monitoring Officer reported that the Panel had determined from spring 2016 there would be no increase in the level of basic salary – Determination 1 and for the holders of Senior Salaries payments would be in line with Determination 2. The Monitoring Officer stated that the Panel had concluded that Executive Members should be considered as working the equivalent of up to 40 hours per week. The Panel had determined that the Leader and Deputy Leader's remuneration would remain unchanged; however it would be for individual authorities to decide the level at which cabinet Members be paid from either of the two senior salary levels, Level 1 - £29,000 or Level 2 - £26,100. The Monitoring Officer requested Council to approve that this level of remuneration remains at Level 1 for 2016-17.

The Monitoring Officer also reported that the Panel had continued to take the view that the responsibility and function of chairing a committee was not generally influenced by the population of the authority, but recognised that the specific responsibility and workload of some chairs was greater than others. This had been reflected by the introduction of two levels of remuneration for chairs of committees; Level 1 - £22,000 or Level 2 - £20,000. The Monitoring Officer requested Council to approve that this level of remuneration remains at Level 1 for 2016-17.

The Monitoring Officer reported that the Panel had previously determined that Council must make a senior salary available to the leader of the largest group representing at

least 10% of the Council before qualifying for a senior salary. The Panel had determined that there would be one level of salary applicable to this role at £22,000 and requested that this level of remuneration continue for 2016-17.

The Monitoring Officer also reported that the Panel had determined (Determination 3) that civic salaries are paid and that the level of remuneration is decided by Councils after taking into account the anticipated workloads of the roles, with 3 Levels being applicable to the roles of Mayor and Deputy Mayor. He stated that the current Mayor and Deputy Mayor receive Level 2 Civic Salaries of £21,500 and £16,000 respectively and requested Council to approve the continuation of this level of remuneration for 2016-17.

The Monitoring Officer also reported that the Panel had considered that determining the level of appropriate support for elected Members fell within the function of the Democratic Services Committee and that it was for this Committee to review the support provided to Councillors and recommendations could be made to Council accordingly (Determinations 6 & 7). The Monitoring Officer informed Council that the Panel had determined that there be no change to the mileage rates for which Members are entitled to claim and he outlined the rates applicable. He stated that the Panel had determined that the reimbursement of subsistence costs be aligned to those of the Welsh Government. He informed Council that the determination for the reimbursement of for the care of dependent children and adults remain unchanged (Determination 8). The determination in respect of family absence and substitution remain unchanged (Determinations 16 – 23).

The Monitoring Officer reported that the panel had determined that the entitlement to join the Local Government Pension Scheme shall apply to all Elected Members of principal Councils (Determination 24).

The Monitoring Officer reported on the Panel's determinations for payments to be made to co-optees to in accordance with Determinations 40 – 44) applicable to the following roles:

- 5 Registered representatives on the Children and Young People overview and Scrutiny Community,
- 1 Lay-person appointed to the Audit Committee
- 4 Independent Members appointed to the Standards Committee
- 2 Town and Community Council representatives appointed to the Standards Committee.

The Monitoring officer reported that the Panel had provided guidance to local authorities for which senior salaries can be paid (Determination 45). He stated that although the Council was unable to change the prescribed level of remuneration determined by the Panel, individual members are permitted to independently forego all or any element of remuneration to which they are entitled to.

The Monitoring Officer that the authority has a very good relationship with the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales and its practices and documentation have been used as an exemplar of good practice and shared with all local authorities in Wales.

RESOLVED: (1) That Council noted the determinations and recommendations contained within the February 2016 Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales in respect of the level and range of remuneration the Authority must pay its Members for the 2016/17 municipal year as shown at Appendix 1 of the report.

(2) That Council approved:

- the adoption of the relevant determinations of the Independent Remuneration Panel contained within its February 2016 report
- those posts (as shown in the revised Members' Schedule of Remuneration at Appendix 2), who will receive a senior/civic salary.
- the level of remuneration for the Senior and Civic Salaries (where appropriate).
- the revised Members' Schedule of Remuneration at Appendix 2, and for it to become effective from 18 May 2016 (Annual Meeting of Council).
- that the Members' Schedule of Remuneration be automatically updated with any changes to Senior/Civic Salary positions subsequently made by Council during the 2016/17 municipal year.

626. APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND OTHER COUNCIL BODIES

The Monitoring Officer presented a report which sought approval for the appointment of Overview and Scrutiny Committees and such other Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels and bodies as the Council considered appropriate, to deal with matters which are neither reserved to Council nor are executive functions

He reported that 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.

The Monitoring Officer advised that Part 3 of the Council's Constitution entitled Responsibility for Council Functions, sets out the Council's Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels and other bodies currently in place. He set out the current remit and functions of Committees and other bodies of the Council. He stated that political balance was essential to determine the allocation of seats on Committees and other bodies and he set out the current political balance calculations. He also set out the current committee structure and the composition of the existing membership of Committees which would form the basis of any changes to the membership of Committees put forward by political group Leaders. Changes in Committee memberships were tabled for Members information.

RESOLVED: That Council:-

- (1) Appointed the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and such other Committees as the Council considered appropriate to deal with matters which are neither reserved to the Council nor are executive functions;

- (2) Approved the terms and reference and size of Committees, Sub-Committees and other bodies as set out in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (3) Approved the allocation of seats to political groups in accordance with the political balance rules as set out in Appendix 2 of the report;
- (4) Approved the nominations to serve on each of the Committees, Panels and other bodies;
- (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 J R McCarthy
Vice-Chairperson Councillor J E Lewis

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

Development Control Committee
Chairperson - Councillor M Thomas
Vice-Chairperson - Councillor G Thomas

Town and Community Council Forum
Chairperson - Councillor M E J Nott
Vice-Chairperson - Councillor C E Smith

Democratic Services Committee
Chairperson - Councillor J H Tildesley

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

Adult Social Care – Councillor D Sage

Children and Young People – Councillor E P Foley

Community Environment & Leisure – Councillor J C Spanswick

Corporate Resources & Improvement – Councillor M Reeves

Partnerships & Governance – Councillor N Clarke

627. 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.

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

South Wales Police and Crime Panel – Councillor R Young

South East Wales Strategic Planning Group – Chairperson of the Development Control Committee

628. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING NOTICE OF MOTION FROM THE CABINET MEMBER REGENERATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:-

The Mayor asked the Cabinet Member Regeneration and Economic Development, Councillor C E Smith to propose a Notice of Motion.

The Cabinet Member Regeneration and Economic Development informed Council that its Constitution permits resolutions to be presented to Council which have to be of concern to the County Borough of Bridgend.

He proposed that Bridgend County Borough Council formally records its support for remaining in the European Union. He stated that the EU has had a massive beneficial impact on the area, and there would be significant consequences if this was to cease. He informed Council that Wales receives £490 million from the EU under the Rural Development Plan. Together with co-financing from the Welsh Government, this formed a major programme of investment totalling around £900 million for rural communities across Wales.

The Cabinet Member Regeneration and Economic Development informed Council that the Local Investment Fund supported 248 business-led initiatives and paid out £1.4 million which coupled with private sector investment to total £2.2 million. This translated as support for 159 enterprises in Bridgend, financial assistance to 47 individuals starting up new enterprises, support for one social enterprise, the creation of nearly 400 new jobs and the safeguarding of a further 1,600 jobs.

He informed Members that the last Rural Development Programme saw an investment of approximately £6 million into rural Bridgend over six years, which meant that for every £1 invested, a further £9 was attracted. He stated that the Green Shoots scheme had created 45 jobs, supported 74 existing micro enterprises, assisted 46 new start-ups, brought forward three centres for rural excellence, and provided financial support for 185 community led projects.

The Cabinet Member Regeneration and Economic Development informed Council that over half of the County Borough's wards are classed as rural, with the Rural Development Programme being administered locally which has a wide expertise and who decide on local priorities. This partnership approach with local input is the actual way in which Brussels operates. He stated that regional policy takes approximately half the EU budget.

The Cabinet Member Regeneration and Economic Development informed Council that in respect of trade, living in a market of 500 million people was not a threat, but an opportunity. He stated that the alternatives to the single market involve less trade and would make the UK worse off. He informed Council that the County Borough has a long-standing relationship with large, globally recognised companies that depend on international trade such as Sony, Ford, Biomet, Spectrum Technologies, Airbornes Systems, CGI and Rockwool. He stated that in addition to the names the majority of citizens will be familiar with, there are also a number of smaller, lesser known companies who have expanded into the area and which are just as important. He

highlighted the example of Grupo Interpack, a company based in Madrid since 1971, which has expanded all across Europe and in 2005 set up Espack Eurologistica in Bridgend with the help of the Council's Economic Development Team. This company has since become a key part of the supply chain for major companies such as Ford, provides employment for 60 local people, and also took on a number of people when Remploy folded in 2013. He stated that they play a significant role in supporting the local economy of Bridgend County Borough, and are just one of many such companies who have set up home in the area.

He informed Council that remaining a member of the EU was the right thing to do, and as such, he proposed the following resolution: That 'this Council believes that the County Borough of Bridgend is safer, stronger and better off with a referendum result to remain in the European Union'.

The Cabinet Member Regeneration and Economic Development invited all elected members to make the Notice of Motion unanimous.

The motion was seconded by Councillor D B F White who commented on the benefits of remaining in the EU, which had given freedom to citizens to live and work wherever they chose. He stated that being part of the EU had made travelling easier and given citizens access to emergency health care when needed.

He stated that the County Borough had benefitted in terms of the grant funding received for projects in Bridgend Town Centre, the coastal path in Porthcawl and the Kenfig Nature Reserve. Additionally, the South Wales valleys had benefitted from EU funding to alleviate poverty.

Councillors Butcher and Clarke announced that they would be abstaining from voting as they had yet to decide on whether to remain in the EU or not.

The Leader informed Council that all information from local authorities would be collated by the WLGA who will make a case for remaining in the EU on behalf of local government.

An electronic Vote was requested to determine whether a recorded vote should be held on the Notice of Motion, there were 38 votes for taking a recorded vote and 8 votes against a recorded vote.

The Cabinet Member Regeneration and Economic Development in summing up stated that there were no significant arguments against the Notice of Motion.

A vote was taken on the Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor C E Smith and seconded by Councillor D B F White.

The vote was as follows:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Did Not Vote</u>
<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Councillor</u>
HJ David G Davies PA Davies GW Davies MBE E Dodd DK Edwards		S Aspey MW Butcher N Clarke C Westwood	

COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY, 18 MAY 2016

N Farr
EP Foley
CA Green
M Gregory
EM Hughes
RM James
RD Jenkins
P John
CL Jones
M Jones
RC Jones
DRW Lewis
JE Lewis
JR McCarthy
HE Morgan
MEJ Nott OBE
AD Owen
DG Owen
D Patel
G Phillips
DR Pugh
C Reeves
M Reeves
CE Smith
JC Spanswick
G Thomas
M Thomas
R Thomas
JH Tildesley MBE
HJ Townsend
E Venables
KJ Watts
DBF White
PJ White
PJ White
HM Williams
R Williams
R Young

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As a result of the vote the Notice of Motion was carried.

RESOLVED: That Council believes that the County of Bridgend will be stronger, safer and better off by a referendum in favour of remaining in the European Union.

The meeting closed at 3.25 pm