

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL CABINET COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet meeting held on Thursday 8th September, 2016 at 12:30pm at the Council Headquarters, Clydach Vale.

County Borough Councillors – Cabinet Members in attendance:-

M.Webber (Chair),

R.Bevan M.Forey A.Crimmings G. Hopkins

J.Rosser M.Norris E.Hanagan

Other County Borough Councillors in attendance

C Davies

E Webster

Officers in attendance

Mr C Bradshaw – Chief Executive

Mr P Lucas – Director, Legal & Democratic Services

Mr C Lee – Group Director, Corporate & Frontline Services

Mr G Isingrini – Group Director, Community & Children's Services

Mr N Wheeler – Director, Highways & Streetcare Services

Mrs J Cook – Director, Regeneration & Planning

Mr C Atyeo – Director, Corporate Estates

Mr D Batten – Head of Leisure Services

Mr P Howells – Head of Community Housing Services

Mr P Griffiths – Service Director, Performance & Improvement

Mr C Hanagan – Service Director, Cabinet & Public Relations (Secretary to the Cabinet)

52 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillor A Morgan.

53 WELCOME

The Chair took the opportunity to welcome County Borough Councillors C Davies and E Webster to the meeting.

54 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct the following declarations of Interest were made:-

- County Borough Councillor G Hopkins declared the following personal and prejudicial interest in respect of Agenda Item 7, Community Infrastructure Levy:- *"I am a member of Llanharan Community Council I will leave the meeting when the item is discussed and voted upon."*

55 MINUTES

The Cabinet **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the 19th July, 2016 as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

56 IMPROVEMENTS TO STAG SQUARE, TREORCHY – UPDATE

The Service Director, Highways & Streetcare provided Members with an update on the outcomes of the consultation and the current status of shared space projects. The Service Director referred Members to sections 4 and 5 of the report, which detailed the concerns raised and the proposed way forward in recognition of these.

The officer proceeded to explain that after considering feedback, the proposal to introduce a shared space concept at Stag Square was no longer included in the current initiative but the measures identified in 5.3 of the report do not prejudice such a solution in the future if new guidance proves to be suitable.

The Members recognised the issue of congestion at Stag Square, Treorchy, highlighting that the development would maximise opportunities for the Upper Rhondda in respect of the economy and the social lives of residents.

The Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure & Culture spoke positively on the proposals, commenting that addressing the different factors with these improvements would contribute to improving the traffic flow.

The Chair agreed requests from two local members who wished to comment on the item, Cllr Cennard Davies and Cllr Emyr Webster.

The Chair reassured both Councillors that their comments would be taken on board by officers.

Following consideration of the item, the Cabinet **RESOLVED:**

- a. To note the outcomes of the consultation process and the evolving situation regarding the use of shared spaces
- b. To agree to revise the scope of the scheme in accordance with the report to allow further development, consultation and subject to agreement, implementation.

57 M4 RELIEF ROAD: SUBMISSION OF RESPONSE TO PUBLIC INQUIRY

The Service Director, Highways & Streetcare provided Members with the proposals drawn-up by the Welsh Government in respect of the proposed relief road for the M4 motorway and the outcome of its appraisal of the various route options. The officer explained the long standing problems of the current route and emphasised the strategic importance of the proposed investment.

The Service Director referred Members to section 5 of the report, outlining the four options considered. The 'black route' was identified as the preferred option with significant benefits from an RCT perspective.

The Members spoke positively of the 'black route', commenting that the development would maximise opportunities for RCT from an economic perspective. The Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Tourism and Planning stressed the need for a good access link between the valleys and the other end of the M4, particularly with the impending City Deal opportunities.

It was **RESOLVED:**

- a. To note the proposals drawn-up by the Welsh Government to construct a relief road for the M4 motorway and the outcome of its appraisal of the various route options
- b. To support the selection of the 'black route' as the preferred route option for the relief road
- c. To agree to formally submit a response to the Public Inquiry in support of the 'black route' option

58 LANDSLIP AT A4233 MAERDY MOUNTAIN ROAD, ABERDARE

The Service Director, Highways & Streetcare provided Cabinet Members with an update on the progress to date in respect of the landslip on the A4233 Maerdy Mountain Road. The Members were referred to Appendix A of the report where a diagram of the proposed technical solution was displayed.

The officer proceeded to explain that spending more money on this comprehensive scheme of improvement would be the most efficient and effective use of the Council's resources.

The Members recognised the current problem with water in the area and commented that it would be an appropriate long term solution in maintaining the strategic link between the Cynon Valley and Rhondda Fach.

The Cabinet Member for Environment, Leisure & Culture praised the proposal and commented that it's important to take advantage of the timing.

Members **RESOLVED:**

- a. To note the proposal to stabilise the affected carriageway by constructing an anchored reinforced concrete edge beam and safety barrier along the outer edge of the carriageway
- b. To note the ongoing investigatory work to identify an appropriate drainage solution
- c. To consider the potential to utilise any necessary road closures to implement a comprehensive scheme of improvements along the A4233 Maerdy Mountain Road between the Rhondda Fach and Cynon Valley
- d. To note the requirement for a further grant application to support the cost of the work and that the 2017/18 Capital Programme will include for Members consideration, further funding requirements for the scheme

59 RHONDDA HERITAGE PARK – IMPROVING THE VISITORS EXPERIENCE

The Chief Executive provided Cabinet Members with the background of the Rhondda Heritage Park giving an explanation as to how the quality of the visitor experience has changed since 1990. The Members were referred to section 4 of the report where it was recognised that in assessing the future of the Rhondda Heritage Park, the most viable option would be to invest in the Visitor Attraction over a number of years.

Members spoke positively on the recommendations contained within the report and agreed that investment is essential to celebrate the history of Rhondda Cynon Taf whilst also generating income and tourism for the local businesses of the area.

The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services made reference to 4.7 of the report, praising the proposal to relocate the cafe to the ground floor. He explained that this would greatly benefit the elderly and people with disabilities.

The Cabinet Member for Prosperity, Wellbeing & Communities expressed her gratitude to the Principal Parks Manager on his commendable work on the report. She agreed that the Rhondda Heritage Park needs modernising for its visitors and that there is a need to capitalise on the National Lido of Wales and the Royal Mint Experience.

Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED**:

- a. To note the current operating position of the Rhondda Heritage Park, in respect of visitor numbers, the quality of the visitor experience and the condition of the facility
- b. That the Rhondda Heritage Park is a key element of the Council's Tourism offer, recognising the potential economic, social and community benefits that the Rhondda Heritage Park offers the County Borough, and confirms that the Rhondda Heritage Park has a long term future, under the management of the Council
- c. To invest £500,000 in improving the visitor offer, which will include a new visitor ride simulator, with the improvements being introduced on a phased basis over the next nine months, funded through available Council resources
- d. To explore opportunities with private and not for profit organisations to make an investment in and to operate the cafe and children's play areas, similar to the arrangements that operate at the National Lido of Wales
- e. To authorise the Chief Executive to change the management and staffing arrangements of the Rhondda Heritage Park to reflect the proposed changes to the delivery of the visitor offer
- f. To initiate an application for Lottery Heritage Funding to undertake improvement restoration and development of the Rhondda Heritage Park, seeking investment in the region of £2.5m.

46 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)

The Director, Regeneration & Planning provided Cabinet Members with an update to the CIL Annual Monitoring Report, the Regulation 123 List, the Payment in Kind policy and a request from Llanharan Community Council, stating that approval of the actions contained within the report will enable the Council to continue operating a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) in accordance with statutory regulations. The Director referred Members to section 5 of the report which further detailed the recommendations for Cabinet approval and drew Member's attention to 5.9, clarifying that the planning application is currently with Welsh Government for consideration.

The Members were pleased with the contents of the recommendations and spoke positively of the request from Llanharan Community Council and the educational benefits it would have. It was added that school improvements are critical to the Council.

The Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Planning & Tourism spoke positively in respect of the addition of the South Coed Ely Link Dualling scheme (Stinkpot Hill) to the Regulation 123 List, commenting that it continues to be a problem for local commuters and would benefit the community with investment opportunities.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- a. To approve the CIL Annual Monitoring Report
- b. Approve the amended Regulation 123 List for publication on the Council website for a period of 28 days and consultation as set out in paragraph 5.11
- c. To approve the subsequent adoption of the amended Regulation 123 List
- d. To approve the Payment In Kind – Land and Infrastructure Policy
- e. That CIL payments to Llanharan Community Council be made in accordance with the current CIL Regulations

47 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was **RESOLVED**:

- a. That the press and public be excluded from the meeting under Section 100A94) of the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended) for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act, namely information which relates to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority that holds that information)

48 AT HOME INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE SERVICE

It was **RESOLVED**:

- a. To accept the business case in principle and authorise officers to proceed with planning for development of the service according to the recommended optimum option
- b. To receive a further report detailing the formal Governance and Financial arrangements for the service

This meeting closed at 13.40pm

Cllr M Webber

Chair.