

Mae'r cofnodion hyn yn amodol ar gymeradwyaeth yng nghyfarfod priodol nesaf y
Pwyllgor

These Minutes are subject to approval at the next appropriate meeting of the
Overview & Scrutiny Committee

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held at the
County Borough Council Offices, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale on
Monday, 30th April, 2018 at 10 a.m.

PRESENT:

County Borough Councillor G.Thomas - in the Chair

County Borough Councillors

H.Boggis J.Harries
J.Bonetto E.Stephens
J.Brencher

**Members Making the Call-In
County Borough Councillors**

P.Jarman and L.Walker (also Members of the Committee), J.Williams

**Cabinet Members
County Borough Councillors**

R.Lewis – Deputy Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Well-Being
M.Webber – Deputy Leader/Cabinet Member for Council Business

County Borough Councillors in Attendance

S.Bradwick, D.Grehan and R.Yeo

Officers in Attendance

Mr.C.B.Jones - Director, Legal & Democratic Services
Mr.C.Hanagan – Director, Cabinet & Public Relations
Mr.P.Mee – Director, Public Health, Protection & Community Services
Ms.W.Edwards – Head of Community Services
Ms.K.May – Head of Democratic Services

In the absence of the Chair, County Borough Councillor L.M.Adams, the Vice-Chair, County Borough Councillor G.Thomas took the Chair.

56 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Borough Councillors L.M.Adams and E.George.

57 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED – to note that there were no declarations of interest made at the meeting pertaining to the agenda.

58 CALL-IN – DEVELOPING COMMUNITY HUBS IN RHONDDA CYNON TAF

The Chair welcomed everyone to the special meeting of the Committee and called on the Director, Legal & Democratic Services to outline the procedure for the call-in process as adopted at the Council's Annual Meeting in May, 2017 and subsequently incorporated in the Council's Constitution (Part 4, paragraph 17.1B).

The Chair informed the Committee, that the Deputy Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Well-Being had requested to address the Committee, which he had granted. He then invited the three Members who had made the call-in to make their submissions to the Committee as summarised below:-

County Borough Councillor P.Jarman

County Borough Councillor referred Members to the Decision Notice of the Cabinet dated 19th April, 2018 as attached to the report at Appendix B and where she raised concerns that no reference had been made to the request of Members of the Health & Well-Being Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on the 16th April, 2018 when during consideration of the report of the Director of Public Health, Protection & Community Services in respect of the "Development of Community Hubs in Rhondda Cynon Taf" the following was agreed (Minute No.45 (2)& (3) refers)):

- To request that Cabinet at its meeting on the 19th April, 2018 defer consideration of the consultation responses and other recommendations in respect of the report relating to the proposed Community Hub in Mountain Ash in view of the concerns raised by the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee; and
- That the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee undertakes further scrutiny of the proposed Mountain Ash Community Hub model to ensure it reflects the needs of the community and report its findings back to Cabinet.

Councillor Jarman raised further concerns that the report that was presented to the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on the 16th April, 2018 was an abridged version to that which was presented to the Cabinet on the 19th April, 2018.

County Borough Councillor L.Walker

County Borough Councillor L.Walker informed Members that on the previous Call-Ins that he has put his name to, he has always visited the subject area prior to the meeting, Unfortunately, he was unable to visit the site on this occasion. However, he had read the documents that had been presented to today's meeting together with the report and minutes of the meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee and he was of the view that there were alternatives that could be considered, for example the use of another building for the Community Hub such as the Town Hall in Mountain Ash. These considerations should not be dismissed and Members of the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee should be given the opportunity to look at the alternatives and report back to the Cabinet with their findings; as in his view the public of Mountain Ash and the people of RCT deserve the matter to be scrutinised.

County Borough Councillor J.Williams

County Borough Councillor J.Williams stated that she is a Member of the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee and was present at the meeting held on the 16th April, 2018 and voted in favour of what was agreed at that meeting and as referred to earlier in the meeting by Councillor Jarman. Councillor further reported that she is not opposed to the development of Community Hubs but the views of the prospective users should be sought and therefore she hoped that Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee would support the resolution of the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee and refer the matter back to the Cabinet.

Following the addresses made by the three Members, the Chair called upon the Director, Public Health, Protection & Community Services to comment on the issues raised.

The Director, Public Health, Protection & Community Services reported that the proposal had been developed over a period of time and brought to the attention of Members on a number of occasions. He reported that in the Autumn of 2017, Members scrutinised the Corporate Plan and supported the approach. On the 29th November, 2017 at the meeting of full Council, Members considered the Corporate Investment Priorities and the matter was also included on the Cabinet's Work Programme. The matter was reported to the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on the 16th April following the request of the Chair who had asked for an update and therefore, Members of that Committee had the opportunity to consider the report in advance of the Cabinet meeting. No alternative proposals were put forward by Members of that Committee other than to request Cabinet to defer consideration of the matter.

The Director, Public Health, Protection & Community Services referred to the Cabinet meeting that was held on the 19th April, 2018, where consideration was given to the responses. In terms of looking at alternatives, he reported that a mapping exercise of assets was undertaken and various site visits were held, which included the Town Hall when it was found that the Day Centre was the most suitable building.

In concluding his comments, the Director, Public Health, Protection & Community Services reported on the consultation process that was undertaken, which included the availability of detailed plans and information to help the public in formulating their responses.

The Director, Cabinet & Public Relations reassured Members that whilst the request of the Members of the Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee were not included in the decision notice of the Cabinet, it will be reflected in the minutes of the Cabinet that are soon to be published.

Following the comments made by the Director, Public Health, Protection & Community Services and the Director, Cabinet & Public Relations, the Chair invited the Deputy Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Well-Being to address the Committee.

The Deputy Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Well-Being stated that it was pleasing to hear that the Members who were present in the Chamber at today's meeting were in support of the wider Community Hub programme and that a large element will be around core location and making the Hubs accessible, which will be shaped by local circumstances.

He reported that there were a number of occasions where the Community Hub programme had been reported to previous Cabinet meetings thus giving the opportunity for scrutinisation and Call-in. He was also content with the consultation process and that the responses had been considered by both the Cabinet and himself as the portfolio holder.

Having heard the arguments from those Members who had made the Call-in and the responses from the Director, Public Health, Protection & Community Services and the Deputy Cabinet Member for Prosperity & Well-Being, the Chair then invited the Committee to ask any questions they may have.

The Committee having debated the issue, the Chair invited County Borough Councillor P.Jarman to sum up the argument in favour of referring the Cabinet decision back to the Cabinet for reconsideration.

Following consideration of the issues, it was **RESOLVED** – that the matter not be referred back to the Cabinet for reconsideration and that the decision taken on the 19th April, 2018 take effect as from the close of this meeting.

**G.THOMAS
CHAIR**

The meeting closed at 11.05 a.m.