

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Monday, 21 October 2019

PRESENT: Councillor E. Dole (Chair)

Councillors:

G. Davies, H.A.L. Evans, L.D. Evans, P.M. Hughes, P. Hughes-Griffiths, D.M. Jenkins, L.M. Stephens and J. Tremlett

Also in attendance:

Councillor D.M.Cundy

Mr J. Cooper & Mr H. Watkins (Estyn)

The following Officers were in attendance:

W. Walters, Chief Executive

J. Morgan, Director of Community Services

C. Moore, Director of Corporate Services

G. Morgans, Director of Education & Children's Services

Mrs R. Mullen, Director of Environment

S. Pilliner, Head of Transportation & Highways

L. Quelch, Head of Planning

J. Jones, Head of Regeneration

R. Edgecombe, Legal Services Manager

D. Hockenhull, Marketing and Media Manager

I.R. Llewelyn, Forward Planning Manager

S Burford, Project Manager

M. Evans Thomas, Principal Democratic Services Officer

E. Bryer, Democratic Services Officer

Chamber, County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP. - 10.00 am - 11.00 am

[Note: due to a declaration made by Cllr E. Dole (Chair), Cllr. L.M Stephens chaired the meeting for the duration of Agenda Items 1 to 6. The Leader returned to Chamber and resumed as Chair from Agenda Item 7 until conclusion of the meeting]

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. C.A. Campbell.

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Mr Jon Cooper and Mr Hugh Watkins from the office of Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training (Estyn).

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST.

Councillor	Minute No (s)	Nature of Interest
E. Dole	No. 6 - Targeted Finance Fund And Welsh Church Fund.	Councillor Dole is a part-time Minister of Caersalem Independent Chapel

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON THE 23RD SEPTEMBER, 2019

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on the 23rd September, 2019 be signed as a correct record.

4. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE BY MEMBERS

The Chair advised that no questions on notice had been submitted by members.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The Chair advised that no public questions on notice had been received.

6. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE FOLLOWING GRANT FUNDS: TARGETED FINANCE FUND AND WELSH CHURCH FUND

[NOTE: The Leader, having declared an interest in this item, was not in the meeting during its determination]

The Executive Board considered an application for assistance from the Welsh Church Fund. The application, which would normally have been determined at an Executive Board Member Decisions Meeting for the Leader, had been referred to the Executive Board as Cllr. E. Dole had declared an interest.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the following application for assistance from the Welsh Church Fund be approved subject to the usual terms and conditions and those specified in the report:

Applicant

Caersalem Independent Chapel, Pontyberem

Award

£2,319.00

Following the conclusion of the above item, Councillor E. Dole returned to the meeting and resumed his position as Chair.

7. TYISHA/STATION ROAD AREA: SETTING OUT OUR LONG TERM AMBITION AND SHORT TERM ACTIONS

The Executive Board considered a report detailing the long term ambition for the Tyisha/Station Road area, highlighting the work that had been carried out to date, short term action plan, and the governance arrangements required to take the programme forward.

The Executive Board expressed the importance of this project as it would bring a positive change to the Community who had been proactive in defining the requirements.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to:

7.2 Confirm the long term ambition for the Tyisha/Station Road area.

7.3 Note the progress made to date.

7.4 Confirm immediate actions for officers to begin the programme of change as detailed within the report.

7.5 Ensure robust governance arrangements are in place to deliver the programme of change forward.

8. PETITION IN REGARD TO A REQUEST TO REINSTATE THE TOILETS AT THE EAST HARBOUR, BURRY PORT

The Executive Board considered a petition received in respect of Toilet provision at Burry Port Harbour. Council at its meeting held on the 10th July 2019 (Minute 8 refers) received a petition to reinstate toilets at the East Harbour Side, Burry Port. As the issue raised in the petition is an executive function, Council referred the petition to the Executive Board for consideration. The report provided a draft response for consideration by the Executive Board.

Officers were asked to consider improving the signage so that they would be more dementia friendly.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the response to the petition as detailed within the report be approved.

9. CARMARTHEN BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)

The Executive Board considered a report on the Carmarthen Business Improvement District (BID). In March 2017, 190 Carmarthen businesses were consulted about the town centre and prospects for a BID. There was a second opportunity to comment and make suggestions via a drop-in session in November 2017. The consultations sought to establish whether businesses would support the introduction of a BID and opinion was overwhelmingly positive.

The Carmarthen BID through its levy would generate an income of around £165,000 per year, or £847,000 over the five-year term (inflation at 2% pa) to invest in projects and services to benefit businesses in Carmarthen. The BID would focus on four areas of activity to include improving business profitability, the profile of the town, parking experience and the look of the town.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THAT IT:-

- 9.1 Supports the 'Carmarthen BID Company' to enable it to hold a formal ballot on whether or not the town's rateable businesses wish to operate the Carmarthen Business Improvement District (BID) for an initial term of 5 years.**
- 9.2 Agrees its position in respect of support for the principle of the BID and voting in respect of its 15 affected rateable properties within the BID zone (estimated annual levy charge of £20,061 plus inflation at 2% pa).**
- 9.3 Agrees the principle of undertaking the BID levy collection as detailed in the Operational agreement on behalf of the Carmarthen BID Company, at no charge to the BID for the first 5 year term.**
- 9.4 Approves the Statement of Baseline services to the BID company.**
- 9.5 Nominates a member representative to sit on the BID Company Board.**

9.6 Agrees to manage at no fee the BID ballot process on behalf of the Carmarthen BID Company.

10. OMBUDSMAN'S ANNUAL LETTER 2018/2019 CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

The Board considered the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales' Annual Letter for 2018/19. The letter was accompanied by a factsheet with accompanying data, which assists the Authority in reviewing performance.

It was noted that there had been an increase in complaints received by the PSOW relating to local authorities nationally and the number of complaints received by the Ombudsman concerning Carmarthenshire had increased in the past year from 25 to 49. There had been no reports issued against Carmarthenshire, and generally performance compared favourably with the adjusted outcomes.

Welsh Government had granted the Public Services Ombudsman with new powers which will result in future processes being less onerous.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales' Annual Letter for 2018-19 be received.

11. CARMARTHENSHIRE RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (ROWIP)

The Executive Board considered the Carmarthenshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2019 – 2029.

Under s60 (3) of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act (2000) all Local Authorities in Wales are expected to undergo a statutory review of their present ROWIP not more than ten years after first publishing. Carmarthenshire's ROWIP 2007-2017 was published in 2008 and therefore required review in accordance with the statutory obligation.

Thanks were extended to the small team who contribute so much to the maintenance of the Rights of Way and it was asked that consideration be given to increasing the size of this team.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL to approve adoption and publication of the 10 year public rights of way policy document - Carmarthenshire ROWIP 2019-2029.

12. WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION DRAFT NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Executive Board considered the National Development Framework (NDF). The report set the strategy for addressing key national priorities through the planning system, including sustaining and developing a vibrant economy, decarbonisation, developing resilient ecosystems and improving the health and well-being of our communities.

It was pointed out that the main issue of concern for Carmarthenshire was the lack of emphasis on the rural communities and economy. A letter would be sent to Welsh Government with the submission raising these concerns and will include

recommendations for Carmarthenshire.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL:

- 12.1 To note the content of the consultation.**
- 12.2 Approve the consultation responses set out within the report for submission to the Welsh Government.**

13. REVISED CARMARTHENSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2018-2033 - DRAFT DEPOSIT

The Executive Board considered the Revised Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan 2018 – 2033 Draft Deposit. This Report followed the resolution of County Council on the 10th January 2018 to formally commence the preparation of a Revised (replacement) Local Development Plan (LDP), along with the Welsh Government's approval of the Delivery Agreement on the 28th June 2018, including its timetable for Plan preparation.

The report set out the Draft Deposit Revised LDP by identifying the Council's land use Vision, strategic objectives and strategic growth requirements for the County through to 2033 along with a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and provisions - including site specific allocations (including housing and employment as well as environmental and other spatial considerations).

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO:

- 13.1 Consider and approve the content of the Draft Deposit Revised Local Development Plan 2018 – 2033 (and supporting documents) for formal public consultation.**
- 13.2 Grant officers delegated authority to make non-substantive typographical or factual amendments as necessary to improve the clarity and accuracy of the Draft Preferred Strategy.**
- 13.3 Approve the Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance in relation to the Burry Inlet and the Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation for consultation concurrent with the Deposit LDP.**

14. ANY OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT BY REASONS OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE CHAIR DECIDES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY PURSUANT TO SECTION 100B(4)(B) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972.

The Chair advised that there were no urgent items of business to be considered.

15. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) (Wales) Order 2007, that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items as the reports contained exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

16. LLANELLI WELLNESS AND LIFESCIENCE VILLAGE

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 15 above not to publicise the content of the report as it contained exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act).

The public interest test in this matter related to financial information relating to the RIBA stage 3 design services to be provided. Although the public interest test would normally favour transparency and openness, this is outweighed by the public interest in maintaining confidentiality in this case so as to protect the commercial interests of the provider in the wider market, as well as the Authority's interests for the purposes of further portions of design services to be sought.

The Executive Board considered the Llanelli Wellness and Life Science Village report the purpose of which was to progress the development of the Wellness village including detailed design, commissioning and the process to secure finance with the aim of ensuring the timely delivery of zone one of the Village.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to:

- 16.1 Approve the continued commissioning of ARUP on the second phase of the RIBA Stage 3 design works at detailed within the report through funding from the current City Deal Earmarked Reserve.
- 16.2 Endorse the proposed procurement and build strategy for the Village which sets out a preferred procurement route and programme for the construction of zone 1.
- 16.2 Acknowledge the approach to the financial markets made under the Executive leadership of the Director of Corporate Services.
- 16.4 Approve the current Business Case (as attached in appendix 4) and grant delegated authority to the Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Leader, to finalise any further amendments to this Business Case (including confirmation of partners) and to formally submit it to the Swansea Bay City Region Joint Committee for approval to submit to Welsh Government and UK Government.
- 16.5 Endorse the continued discussions with the Higher Education Partners with a view to agreeing formal partnership status.
- 16.6 Approve the initial output of the brand positioning exercise.

CHAIR

DATE