

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Monday, 16 December 2019

PRESENT: Councillor E. Dole (Chair);

Councillors:

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

Also in attendance:

Councillor D.M. Cundy;

The following Officers were in attendance:

W. Walters, Chief Executive;
C. Moore, Director of Corporate Services;
G. Morgans, Director of Education & Children's Services;
Mrs R. Mullen, Director of Environment;
I. Jones, Head of Leisure;
J. Jones, Head of Regeneration;
L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law;
D. Hockenhull, Marketing and Media Manager;
M.S. Davies, Democratic Services Officer.

Chamber, County Hall, Carmarthen:10.00 am - 10.30 am

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor L.M. Stephens.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

3. MINUTES

3.1. 18TH NOVEMBER 2019;

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on the 18th November, 2019 be signed as a correct record.

3.2. 2ND DECEMBER 2019

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on the 2nd December, 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 had been received.

6. COUNCIL TAX BASE 2020-21

The Executive Board considered the report on the Council Tax Base 2020-21. It was reminded that the Council was required to determine, on an annual basis, its Council Tax Base and the Council Tax Base of each community within its area, for the purpose of calculating the level of Council Tax for the forthcoming financial year and, under the provisions of Section 84 of the Local Government Act 2003 and the Local Authorities Executive Arrangements (Functions and Responsibilities) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2004, the annual calculation had been delegated to the Executive Board.

The calculation of the Tax Base for the County Council for 2020-21 was detailed in Table 1a and summarised in Table 1b, which were appended to the report. The calculation for individual Town and Community Council areas for 2020-21 was summarised in Table 2 and detailed in Appendix A, which were also appended to the report. With regard to Appendix 'A' the Board was advised that the figures in line 'Ref. F/G Ratio to Band D' for each town/community council table should actually be the same as those included in the table for Ammanford Town. The overall figures listed were not affected.

The Board noted that the Tax Base report provided calculations that were Authority-wide as well as broken down into all community and town council areas for their precept purposes and that the Council Tax Base for the financial year 2020-2021 had been calculated at £74,006.63.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that:

- 6.1 the Council Tax Base calculations for the financial year 2020-21, as detailed within Appendix A of the report, be approved;**
- 6.2 a Council Tax Base of £74,006.63, as detailed within tables 1a and 1b of the report, be confirmed in respect of the County Council area;**
- 6.3. the relevant tax bases for the individual community and town council areas, as detailed in table 2 of the report, be confirmed.**

7. VALLEYS REGIONAL PARK - PARTICIPATION AND LEGAL AGREEMENT

The Executive Board considered a report on the implications of the Deputy Minister for Economy and Transport's decision to include the Amman and Gwendraeth Valleys in the Welsh Government's Valleys Taskforce area covering the South Wales Valleys which had been established in 2017. A Taskforce update report recently published by Welsh Government indicated that the taskforce would continue to work to deliver all the actions included in the 'Our Valleys, Our Future: Delivery Plan'. Its efforts would focus in particular on 6 main priorities, one of which was the development of the Valleys Regional Park (VRP) by 2021 aimed at maximising the social, economic and environmental potential of the valleys' natural and cultural heritage. In this regard a legal agreement for the VRP Project, appended to the report, had been drafted for all participating Local Authorities to sign. The document was a collaboration agreement between the parties, including obligations, and therefore required Executive Board approval to authorise the Head of Legal and Administration to sign and seal the document.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- 7.1 to endorse the County Council's participation within the Valleys Regional Park;
- 7.2 to endorse the legal agreement appended to the report and authorise the Head of Administration and Law to sign and seal the document;
- 7.3 to endorse representation by the Council Leader on the Valleys Regional Park Board.

8. ANY OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Chair advised that there were no items of urgent items.

9. 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.

10. PLOT 1 TROSTRE RETAIL PARK , LLANELLI

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 9 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 the fact that the report contained information which, if disclosed, would put the authority at a material disadvantage in any subsequent negotiations and potentially harm the public purse.

Further to minute 12 of the meeting held on the 13th May 2019 the Executive Board considered a report relating to the offer received for Plot 1 adjacent to Trostre Retail Park. Following a subsequent due diligence process and investigations the prospective developer had identified unforeseen abnormal costs in the light of which it had approached the Authority asking if it would be prepared to agree to a minimum price in the legal documentation to reflect these abnormal costs.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, for the reasons specified in the report, that a minimum price of £1.5m is included in the sale documentation.

11. MARKET STREET NORTH, LLANELLI

Following the application of the public interest test it was **RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in minute no. 9 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 the fact that the report contained information which, if disclosed, would put the authority at a material disadvantage in any subsequent negotiations with third parties and potentially harm the public purse.

The Executive Board considered a report detailing options which had been discussed with the tenant of Altalia, 2/2a Stepney Street, Llanelli to facilitate the redevelopment of buildings at Market Street North as a Strategic Project under the Targeted Regeneration Investment (TRI) Programme.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to accept the surrender of an existing lease at Altalia 2,2a Stepney Street, Llanelli, on the terms agreed.

CHAIR

DATE