

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Tuesday, 2 May 2017

PRESENT: Councillor E. Dole (Chair)

Councillors:

L.D. Evans, M. Gravell, D.M. Jenkins, G.O. Jones, L.M. Stephens, J. Tremlett,
H.A.L. Evans and T.J. Jones

The following Officers were in attendance:

M. James, Chief Executive
J. Morgan, Director of Community Services
C. Moore, Director of Corporate Services
R. Mullen, Director of Environment
G. Morgans, Interim Director of Education & Children's Services
P.R. Thomas, Assistant Chief Executive (People Management & Performance)
W. Walters, Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)
L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law
J. Fearn, Head of Property
D. Hockenhull, Marketing and Media Manager
N. Daniel, Head of I.C.T.
K. Thomas, Democratic Services Officer

Chamber, County Hall, Carmarthen - 10.00 - 10.35 am

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor P.A.Palmer.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST.

There were no declarations of personal interest.

3. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON THE

3.1. 27TH MARCH 2017

The Executive Board's attention was drawn to minute 13 of the above minutes on the adoption of a revised Corporate Health and Safety Policy. It noted that as the proposed amendments to the policy were only minor in nature, and did not affect the fundamental policy, they had been approved by the Executive Board Member for Human Resources, Efficiencies and Collaboration at a meeting held on the 13th April, 2017.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that, subject to the above, the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on the 27th March 2017 be signed as a correct record.

3.2. 10TH APRIL 2017

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board held on the 10th April, 2017 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. COUNCIL'S REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The Executive Board considered the revenue budget monitoring report which provided an update on the latest budgetary position as at the 28th February, 2017 in respect of the 2016/17 financial year.

Overall, the report forecast an end of year overspend of £126k on the Authority's net revenue budget, with an over spend at departmental level of £1,716k. The Housing Revenue Account was forecasting an under spend of £436k.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

6.1 that the budget monitoring report be received;

6.2 that Chief Officers and Heads of Service critically review their budgetary positions and implement appropriate actions to deliver their services within their allocated budgets.

7. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016-17 UPDATE

The Executive Board considered a report providing an update on the capital programme spend against budget for 2016/17 as at the 28th February, 2017. It was noted that based on the projected £67.178m budget, there was a variance of £23.807m attributable to slippage of projects between financial years, as opposed to any changes in cost.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the capital programme update report be received.

8. REVISED AGILE WORKING POLICY

The Executive Board considered a report on proposed revisions to the Council's Agile Working Policy with the aim of maximising the agile working opportunities to support its strategic objectives by:-

- Modernising Service Delivery:- using new technology to deliver services, provide possibilities for streamlining processes and being closer to customers;
- Recruitment and Retention:- Different working practices to help recruit and retain valued employees;
- Accommodation Strategy:- agile working would help reduce accommodation needs and make more effective use of buildings;

- Flexible Working Agenda:- agile working would support the wider work-life balance agenda supporting a more inclusive workforce;
- Environmental:- agile working could lead to fewer car journeys, reduced congestion at peak times and reduce pollution.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the revised Agile Working Policy be endorsed.

9. DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY 2017-2020

The Executive Board considered a report on the adoption of a Digital Transformation Strategy for the period 2017-20 detailing the Council's strategic digital priorities and aspirations, and also outlining the plan to achieve its vision for a digital Carmarthenshire, in light of the potential digital technology had to transform the County and the lives of residents whilst generating long term savings for the Council.

The Board was advised that the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee at its meeting held on the 28th April, 2017 had endorsed the Strategy subject to amendments to include references to elected members and the way in which the strategy would significantly benefit their work and the way they engaged with the community.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Digital Transformation Strategy 2017-2020 be endorsed subject to the inclusion of reference to elected members.

10. NOTICES OF MOTION REFERRED FROM COUNCIL ON THE 22ND FEBRUARY 2017:-

10.1. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR PETER HUGHES GRIFFITHS

The Executive Board received the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor P. Hughes-Griffiths, which had been referred for its consideration by Council at its meeting held on the 22nd February, 2017:-

"The rural areas within Carmarthenshire need special and direct attention and that this Council establishes a RURAL WORKING GROUP consisting of members from the three Groups on the Council. The Working Group (following the pattern set by the Language Working Group) would collect information, research and invite and receive evidence in relation to rural areas in Carmarthenshire, before presenting, in due course, strategies, policies and an action plan before full Council."

The Executive Board, having regard to the forthcoming local government elections felt it would be prudent for consideration of the establishment of the suggested Rural Working Group to be undertaken by the new administration.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the establishment of a Rural Working Group be deferred for consideration by the new administration, following the forthcoming local government elections.

10.2. NOTICE OF MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR ALUN LENNY

The Executive Board received the following Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor A. Lenny, which had been referred for its consideration by Council at its meeting held on the 22nd February, 2017:-

“This Council acknowledges the hymn writer William Williams, Pantycelyn, Carmarthenshire, as one of the greatest Welshmen who ever lived and commit to holding a special event to celebrate his tricentenary, in recognition of his huge contribution to hymnology on an international scale and its impact on the life of our nation, as well as promoting knowledge about his life and work in all suitable and possible publicity by the council during the rest of this year.”

The Executive Board noted that numerous events had already been held throughout the County to celebrate the tricentenary of the birth of William Williams, on the 11th February 1717, with the Council having received a request for grant support for an event being held in Llandovery in the near future commemorating his life, work and influence on Welsh history. It was also noted that whilst the Council was not directly involved with the celebrations, it was intended that each local community would mark the tricentenary in ways best suited to their individual requirements, with the Council giving consideration to any additional requests that may be received for financial support for events being held in the Llandovery area.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the matter be noted.

11. BURRY PORT HARBOUR - RNLI LEASE

The Executive Board considered a report on proposed terms to be entered into with the RNLI for the grant of a 125 year lease, at a peppercorn rental of £1.00 p.a., of an area of council owned land at Burry Port Harbour for the construction of a new lifeboat station. It was noted that under the terms of the transaction, the existing lifeboat station would be surrendered to the Authority for use as a harbour office.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the proposed lease of land at Burry Port Harbour to the RNLI on the terms outlined within the report be approved.

13. 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.

14. BURRY PORT HARBOUR DEVELOPMENTS

Following the application of the public interest test it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**, pursuant to the Act referred to in Minute 13 above, to consider this matter in private, with the public excluded from the meeting as it would involve the disclosure of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).

The Executive Board considered a detailed report on proposals for the future operation of Burry Port Harbour.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED the report be approved and the council enter into an exclusivity deal, not exceeding a period of six months, to discuss a potential management partnering option for Burry Port Harbour.

15. CROSS HANDS JOINT VENTURE - PROPOSED SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT

Following the application of the public interest test it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**, pursuant to the Act referred to in Minute 13 above, to consider this matter in private, with the public excluded from the meeting as it would involve the disclosure of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).

The Executive Board considered a detailed report on proposals for the authority to enter into a supplemental agreement with the Welsh Government in relation to the existing Cross Hands Joint Venture.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Authority enter into a supplemental agreement to the Cross Hands Joint Venture Agreement dated 13th September 2005 between the Council and the Welsh Government, as detailed in Annex 1 to the report.

16. CARMARTHEN WEST

Following the application of the public interest test it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**, pursuant to the Act referred to in Minute 13 above, to consider this matter in private, with the public excluded from the meeting as it would involve the disclosure of exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information).

The Executive Board considered a detailed report on property negotiations in connection with the Carmarthen West Development.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the proposed negotiations, as detailed in the report, be approved.

CHAIR

DATE