

COUNCIL

(Civic Centre, Port Talbot)

Members Present:

28 February 2018

The Mayor:

Councillor D.Keogh

Councillors:

A.R.Aubrey, S.Bamsey, H.C.Clarke, C.Clement-Williams, S. ap Dafydd, A.P.H.Davies, R.Davies, C.Edwards, S.E.Freeguard, C.Galsworthy, W.F.Griffiths, J.Hale, S.Harris, M.Harvey, N.T.Hunt, C.James, H.N.James, C.J.Jones, D.Jones, L.Jones, E.V.Latham, A.Llewelyn, A.R.Lockyer, A.McGrath, J.Miller, S.Miller, R.Mizen, J.D.Morgan, S.Paddison, S.M.Penry, D.M.Peters, M.Protheroe, S.Purse, S.Rahaman, P.A.Rees, S.Renkes, S.H.Reynolds, A.J.Richards, P.D.Richards, A.J.Taylor, R.L.Taylor, J.Warman, D.Whitelock, C.Williams, A.Wingrave, R.W.Wood and A.N.Woolcock

**Officers in
Attendance:**

A.Evans, R.George, H.Jenkins, K.Jones, A.Manchip, D.Michael, G.Nutt, S.Phillips and Mrs.S.Rees

**Representatives of
the Translation
Service:**

Present

1. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Members made declarations of interest at the commencement of the meeting in relation to the report of the Head of Transformation in relation to the WESP :-

Councillor S.Bamsey	As he is a Governor of St Joseph's Comprehensive School and 6th Form.
Councillor H.C.Clarke	As she is Chair of Governors of YGG Tyle'r Ynn and Vice Chair of Governors of Ystalyfera Bro Dur and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor C.Clement-Williams	As she is Governor of Baglan Primary School and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor S ap Dafydd	As he is Governor of St Joseph's School and 6 th Form and Ysgol Bae Baglan and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor A.P.H.Davies	As he is a Governor of Coedffranc Primary School and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor R.Davies	As she is Governor of Ystalyfera Bro Dur and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor C.Edwards	As she is Governor of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor C.Galsworthy	As she is Governor of Cwmavon Primary School and confirmed her

	dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor W.F.Griffiths	As he is Governor of Blaenhonddan Primary and Waunceirch Primary Schools.
Councillor S.Harris	As she is Governor of Creunant Junior and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor M.Harvey	As he is Governor of Abbey Primary School and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor N.T.Hunt	As he is Governor of Rhos Afan Primary School.
Councillor C.James	As he is Governor of Ysgol Bae Baglan, Ysgol Newydd and Ynysmaerdy Primary Schools and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor H.N.James	As he is Governor of Ysgol Gufan Ystalyfera (South Campus), Ysgol Carreg Hir and Llansawel Primary Schools and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor C.J.Jones	As he is a Governor of Alltwn Primary School.
Councillor D.Jones	As she is a Governor of Cilfrew Primary and Llangatwg Community Schools and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor L.Jones	As she is Governor of Melin Primary and Tonnau Primary Schools and confirmed her

	dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor E.V.Latham	As he is a Governor of Tywyn Primary School and Ysgol Bae Baglan and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor A.R.Lockyer	As he is a Governor of YGG Castell Nedd and Gnoll Primary School.
Councillor A.Llewelyn	As he is a Governor of Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera Bro Dur and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor A.McGrath	As he is a Governor of Crynallt Primary School and Cefn Saeson.
Councillor J.Miller	As he is a Governor of YGG Castell Nedd and Melin Primary Schools and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor S.Miller	As she is a Governor of Melin Primary School and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor R.Mizen	As he is a Governor of Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera Bro Dur.
Councillor J.D.Morgan	As he is Chair of Governors of Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm-Nedd and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor S.M.Penry	As she is Governor of Melin Primary School and Cefn Saeson.

Councillor M.Peters	As he is a Governor at Neath Abbey.
Councillor M Protheroe	As he is Governor of Melin Primary School and Cefn Saeson.
Councillor P.A.Rees	As he is Governor of Cefn Saeson and Crynallt Primary School and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor S.Renkes	As she is a Governor of Baglan Primary and Blaenbaglan Primary Schools and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor S.Reynolds	As she is a Governor of YGG Gwaun Cae Gurwen and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon. She is also a Director/Trustee of Canolfan Maerdy that runs and incorporates Lots of Tots Nursery.
Councillor P.D.Richards	As he is Governor of Blaen Baglan Primary and Baglan Primary Schools and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor A.J.Taylor	As he is Governor of Eastern Primary and Ysgol Cwm Brombil and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor R.Taylor	As she is Governor of Groes Primary and Eastern Primary Schools and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.
Councillor J.Warman	As he is Governor of Cefn Saeson and Crynallt Primary School and

confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.

Councillor D.Whitelock

As he is a Governor of Ysgol Cwm Brombil and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.

Councillor A.Wingrave

As she is a Governor of Coedffranc Primary and Blaenhonddan Primary Schools and has grandchildren attending Coedffanc Primary School and Dwr-y-Felin and confirmed her dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.

Councillor A.N.Woolcock

As he is Chair of Governors of Tairgwaith Primary School and confirmed his dispensation to both speak and vote thereon.

2. **WESP**

Council received the Report of the Head of Transformation in relation to the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2017-20 (WESP). It was noted that the report had been commended to Council by the Education, Skills and Culture Cabinet Board with one addition in relation to “further explore the benefits of starter classes” in the longer term.

Following the presentation of the Report, Members raised the following:-

- Members referred to the fact that the report had initially been referred back to the Authority by Welsh Government for not being robust enough to achieve the 1million Welsh speakers in Wales by 2050. This had been the case for the majority of Plans prepared by Local Authorities across Wales. Some Members continued to feel that the report was not robust enough, particularly in primary school provision, however it was acknowledged that the report had improved. The County Borough had a wide-range of Welsh speakers, with parts of the area having the highest proportion of Welsh speakers in Wales and other parts the lowest. Although the development of the

Bro Dur site was welcomed there continued to be a lack of primary school provision across the County Borough area.

- Members asked that there be wider provision for nursery age pupils and that the current home to school transport be revised as it only provided transport one way and was chargeable. The Director agreed that this was not adequate and that it would need to be looked at going forward. In relation to an increase in the number of Welsh primary schools, the Director advised that this would be driven by the demand for the provision and that there was a need for a strong statistical foundation for the additional provision.
- Members asked that the Plan include targets by which to measure the Authority's success.
- Members noted that the Plan was a 3 years Plan and that this would be the second year of that term. In addition it was noted that moving to increase Welsh provision was a long term plan.

RESOLVED: That, having given due regard to the responses to the consultation and the impact assessments in relation to equality, risk, Welsh Language, legal and workforce, the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (2017 – 2020) be approved and submitted to the Welsh Government with a formal implementation date of the 1 April 2018.

3. **COUNCIL TAX 2018/19**

- RESOLVED:**
1. That any expenses incurred by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council in performing in part of its area, a function performed by a Community Council, elsewhere in its area, are treated as the Authority's general expenses.
 2. That the levy of the Swansea Bay Port Health Authority be treated as a general expense.
 3. That the following amounts be calculated in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-

	Amount
Aggregate of the items estimated under Section 32(2) - expenditure	£426,508,528

Aggregate of the items estimated under Section 32(3) - income	£141,656,851
Amount calculated in accordance with Section 32(4) – budget requirement	£284,851,677
Aggregate payable in respect of redistributed NNDR and RSG, reduced in accordance with Section 33(3B) of the Act	£212,124,377
Basic amount of Council Tax in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act	£1,538.96
Aggregate of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act	£1,996,677
Basic amount of Council Tax for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act	£1496.71
Basic amount of Council Tax for Dwellings in those parts of its area to which special items bands relates, calculated in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act	As per Appendix 1
Amounts to be taken into account in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation, calculated in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act	As per Appendix 2

4. That the Police and Crime Commissioner for South Wales has stated the following amounts in a precept issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act

Band A	£155.68
Band B	£181.63
Band C	£207.57
Band D	£233.52
Band E	£285.41
Band F	£337.31
Band G	£389.20
Band H	£467.04
Band I	£544.88

The total precept payable is £11,035,609

5. That having calculated the aggregate in each case above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Act hereby sets the amounts shown in Appendix 3, attached hereto, as the Council Tax for 2018/19 for each of the categories of dwelling shown.

Basic amount of Council Tax - NPT plus Community Council plus Police 2018/19

Community	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	Band I
BLAENGWRACH	£1,219.35	£1,422.58	£1,625.79	£1,829.02	£2,235.46	£2,641.92	£3,048.37	£3,658.04	£4,267.71
BLAENHONDDAN	£1,185.60	£1,383.20	£1,580.79	£1,778.39	£2,173.58	£2,568.78	£2,963.99	£3,556.78	£4,149.57
BRITON FERRY	£1,207.17	£1,408.37	£1,609.55	£1,810.75	£2,213.13	£2,615.53	£3,017.92	£3,621.50	£4,225.08
CILYBEBYLL	£1,185.85	£1,383.49	£1,581.13	£1,778.77	£2,174.05	£2,569.33	£2,964.62	£3,557.54	£4,150.46
CLYNE AND MELINCOURT	£1,207.12	£1,408.31	£1,609.49	£1,810.68	£2,213.05	£2,615.43	£3,017.80	£3,621.36	£4,224.92
COEDFFRANC	£1,223.38	£1,427.28	£1,631.17	£1,835.07	£2,242.86	£2,650.66	£3,058.45	£3,670.14	£4,281.83
CRYNANT	£1,199.12	£1,398.98	£1,598.82	£1,798.68	£2,198.38	£2,598.09	£2,997.80	£3,597.36	£4,196.92
CWMLLYNFELL	£1,214.07	£1,416.42	£1,618.75	£1,821.10	£2,225.78	£2,630.48	£3,035.17	£3,642.20	£4,249.23
DYFFRYN CLYDACH	£1,181.88	£1,378.86	£1,575.83	£1,772.81	£2,166.76	£2,560.72	£2,954.69	£3,545.62	£4,136.55
GLYNNEATH	£1,224.24	£1,428.29	£1,632.32	£1,836.36	£2,244.43	£2,652.52	£3,060.60	£3,672.72	£4,284.84
GWAUN CAE GURWEN	£1,194.67	£1,393.78	£1,592.89	£1,792.00	£2,190.22	£2,588.44	£2,986.67	£3,584.00	£4,181.33
NEATH	£1,187.64	£1,385.59	£1,583.52	£1,781.46	£2,177.33	£2,573.22	£2,969.10	£3,562.92	£4,156.74
ONLLWYN	£1,193.94	£1,392.93	£1,591.91	£1,790.90	£2,188.87	£2,586.85	£2,984.84	£3,581.80	£4,178.76
PELENNNA	£1,218.22	£1,421.25	£1,624.28	£1,827.32	£2,233.39	£2,639.46	£3,045.54	£3,654.64	£4,263.74
PONTARDAWE	£1,201.08	£1,401.27	£1,601.44	£1,801.62	£2,201.97	£2,602.34	£3,002.70	£3,603.24	£4,203.78
RESOLVEN	£1,200.12	£1,400.15	£1,600.16	£1,800.18	£2,200.21	£2,600.26	£3,000.30	£3,600.36	£4,200.42
SEVEN SISTERS	£1,204.50	£1,405.25	£1,605.99	£1,806.74	£2,208.23	£2,609.73	£3,011.24	£3,613.48	£4,215.72
TONNA	£1,176.70	£1,372.82	£1,568.93	£1,765.05	£2,157.28	£2,549.52	£2,941.75	£3,530.10	£4,118.45
YSTALYFERA	£1,180.58	£1,377.35	£1,574.10	£1,770.87	£2,164.39	£2,557.92	£2,951.45	£3,541.74	£4,132.03
All OTHER	£1,153.49	£1,345.74	£1,537.98	£1,730.23	£2,114.72	£2,499.22	£2,883.72	£3,460.46	£4,037.20

4. **COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY**

Members received the report of the Head of Corporate Strategy and Democratic Services in relation to the proposed Corporate Communications and Community Relations Strategy for the Authority. The report had been commended to Council for adoption by the Policy and Resources Cabinet Board with one amendment, namely to add the MEP's to the list of main audiences.

Following the presentation of the report, Members supported the Strategy and the importance of disseminating information to the public. In particular Members felt that members of the public were not fully aware of the services the Council provided and the financial support provided to the Fire Authority, etc., although some of this information is now being built into relevant reports.

Members acknowledged the need to move to faster digital communication, such as Facebook and twitter, however in order to be inclusive the Authority would need to retain its current forms of communication, such as radio, for those not IT literate. Members noted however that there was no longer a reporter for the area and that it was mainly up to the Local Authority and Councillors to circulate information.

In relation to the use of sponsorship and advertising it would be necessary to research their viability, including any income generation opportunities.

Members raised the possibility of involving young people in the community through perhaps schools and the Youth Council.

Members supported the addition of the MEP's to the list of main audiences and asked if Community and Town Councils be also added.

RESOLVED: That the Communications Strategy, as set out in Appendix 1 to the circulated report be adopted, subject to the addition of the MEP's and Community and Town Councils within the circulation list.

5. **PAY POLICY**

RESOLVED: that the Pay Policy Statement for 2018/2019, as contained as an Appendix to the circulated report, be approved for publication on the Council's website.

6. **URGENT ITEMS**

With the permission of the Mayor the following were raised as urgent items for discussion at today's meeting pursuant to Section 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

7. **CHANGES TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

RESOLVED: That in line with the Membership of the parent Committee, the membership of the Community Safety Sub Committee be amended and Councillor A.J.Richards be replaced by Councillor H.Jones.

8. **ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS**

The Director of Environment gave Council a verbal update on the severe adverse weather conditions expected over the next 48 hours. As a result the Authority's emergency plans had been implemented, continuous gritting would under taken with 3,000 tonnes of salt being available in stock. As a result of this, a decision had been taken to close all schools in the area on Thursday 1 March and Friday 2 March. In addition the main Civic buildings would be closed from noon on 1 March and all day on 2 March 2018. Measures would be put in place to ensure the safety of the most vulnerable.

9. **MR. DAVID MICHAEL, HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES AND MONITORING OFFICER**

The Mayor advised Members that this was the last meeting of Council that Mr. David Michael would attend prior to his retirement. Mr. Michael has worked in Local Government since 1981, both with the former Neath Borough Council and with Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council. The Mayor thanked him for his service to the

Authority and to the professional way in which he had under taken the role.

The Mayor then presented Mr. Michael with a token of Council's appreciation.

Mr. Michael then responded and thanked Members.

CHAIRPERSON