

CABINET

***Immediately Following Scrutiny Committee on
WEDNESDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2018***

COUNCIL CHAMBER - PORT TALBOT CIVIC CENTRE

Part 1

1. Appointment of Chairperson
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Forward Work Programme 2018 (*Pages 3 - 6*)
Report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Digital Officer
4. Reduction in the number of elected member representatives to the board of Tai Tarian Limited following changes introduced by the Regulation of Registered Social Landlords (Wales) Act 2018 (*Pages 7 - 10*)
Report of the Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Digital Officer and the Head of Legal Services
5. Project Proposal made to the Members Community Fund - Margam (*Pages 11 - 16*)
Report of the Head of Transformation
6. Project Proposal made to the Members Community Fund - Cadoxton and Aberdulais (*Pages 17 - 22*)
Report of the Head of Transformation
7. Urgent Items
Any urgent items (whether public or exempt) at the discretion of the Chairperson pursuant to Section 100b (4)(B) of the Local Government Act 1972

S.Phillips
Chief Executive

**Civic Centre
Port Talbot**

Wednesday, 26 September 2018

Cabinet Board Members:

Councillors: R.G.Jones, A.J.Taylor, C.Clement-Williams,
D.W.Davies, D.Jones, E.V.Latham, A.R.Lockyer,
P.A.Rees, P.D.Richards and A.Wingrave

Notes:

- (1) *If any Cabinet Board Member is unable to attend, any other Cabinet Member may substitute as a voting Member on the Committee. Members are asked to make these arrangements direct and then to advise Democratic Services staff.*
- (2) *The views of the earlier Scrutiny Committee are to be taken into account in arriving at decisions (pre decision scrutiny process).*

2018 FORWARD WORK PLAN

CABINET

Meeting Date	Agenda Items	Type (Decision/ Monitoring Or Information)	Rotation (Topical, Annual, Bi-Annual, Quarterly, Monthly)	Contact Officer/ Head of Service
24 October 2018	Members Community Fund Application	Decision	Monthly	P.Hinder
	Second Homes & Empty Houses	TBC	Topical	H.Jenkins

Cabinet – Forward Work Programme

Meeting Date	Agenda Items	Type (Decision/ Monitoring Or Information)	Rotation (Topical, Annual, Bi-Annual, Quarterly, Monthly)	Contact Officer/ Head of Service
31 October 2018	Quarterly Budget Monitoring	Information	Quarterly	H. Jenkins
	Quarterly Capital Programme	Information	Quarterly	H. Jenkins
	Budget – approval to Consult	Information	Quarterly	H. Jenkins
	Members Community Fund Application	Decision	Monthly	P.Hinder
	Treasury Management Monitoring Report	Decision	Monthly	H.Jenkins/ H.Jones
	Valleys Task & Finish	Decision	Topical	K.Jones
	Electoral Review	Decision	Topical	K.Jones

Cabinet – Forward Work Programme

Meeting Date	Agenda Items	Type (Decision/ Monitoring Or Information)	Rotation (Topical, Annual, Bi-Annual, Quarterly, Monthly)	Contact Officer/ Head of Service
21 November 2018	Council Tax Base	Information	Topical	H.Jenkins
	Corporate Governance Improvement Action Plan 2018/2019	Monitoring	Bi-Annual	K.Jones/ C. Furlow
	Quarter 2 2018/19 Quarterly Performance reporting Data	Monitoring	Quarterly	K.Jones/ S.Davies
	Members Community Fund	Decision	Monthly	P.Hinder
	Ethical Employment (TBC)	Decision	Topical	C. Griffiths
	Delegated Powers (TBC)	Decision	Topical	C. Griffiths
	Strategic Equality Plan	Decision	Topical	K.Jones

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NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

3rd October 2018

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND CHIEF DIGITAL OFFICER – MRS K JONES AND THE HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES – MR C GRIFFITHS

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All

Reduction in the number of elected member representatives to the board of Tai Tarian Limited following changes introduced by the Regulation of Registered Social Landlords (Wales) Act 2018

Purpose of the Report

1. To confirm the number of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (“the Council”) nominees to the board of Tai Tarian Limited in light of amendments which are required by the Regulation of Registered Social Landlords (Wales) Act 2018 which places a cap on the number of local authority appointed nominees who can sit on boards of Registered Social Landlords.

Background

2. In 2011 the Council entered a transfer agreement with Tai Tarian Limited (then known as NPT Homes Limited) (“the Transfer Agreement”). The Transfer Agreement saw the Council and Tai Tarian Limited agree that four nominees would be put forward by the Council to sit on their voluntary board.
3. The voluntary board has overall responsibility for ensuring that the organisation is accountable to tenants and other stakeholders, approving and monitoring policies to support the Tai Tarian Limited corporate plan and to monitor the performance of Tai Tarian Limited ensuring that the organisation is meeting the responsibilities that are set out in their corporate plan.
4. There are presently four nominees from the Council, namely:

Cllr Steffan ap Dafydd
Cllr Rosalyn Davies
Cllr Alan Lockyer
Cllr Sonia Reynolds

These nominees currently represent 33% of the members of the voluntary board, the remainder being independent members and tenant members.

5. On the 14th August 2018, the Regulation of Registered Social Landlords (Wales) Act 2018 came into force. The overarching purpose of the 2018 Act was to amend or remove those powers which were deemed by the Office for National Statistics to demonstrate central and local government control over Registered Social Landlords. These changes enable the Office for National Statistics to consider reclassifying Registered Social Landlords as private sector organisations for the purpose of national accounts and other economic statistics.
6. The 2018 Act provides that no appointment may be made to a board of a Registered Social Landlord which would result in local authority appointees amounting to more than 24% of the board members of the Registered Social Landlord.
7. As a result, the Council is now required to reduce the number of nominees that it makes to the voluntary board of Tai Tarian Limited and it has been determined that the following members shall remain the Council's representatives:

Cllr Steffan ap Dafydd
Cllr Sonia Reynolds

8. By way of background information, there are two other provisions which have an impact on this Council. If Tai Tarian Limited's constitution or rules state that there must be at least one or more local authority nominee present in order for a meeting to be quorate that provision is of no effect. It is anticipated therefore that Tai Tarian Limited will have to amend their constitution to reflect this. Also, if there is provision in Tai Tarian Limited's constitution or rules which requires the consent of the Council or the Council nominees appointed to the board before Tai Tarian Limited's rules or constitution can be changed, or provision which gives the Council the power of veto, that provision is of no effect.
9. The Transfer Agreement between the Council and Tai Tarian Limited will require some amendment to reflect this change and where references are made to 4 elected members this will be substituted to 2 elected members.

Financial Impact

10. There are no financial impacts associated with this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

11. There are no equality impacts associated with this Report

Workforce Impacts

12. There are no workforce impacts associated with this Report

Legal Impacts

13. Schedule 1 of the Regulation of Registered Social Landlords (Wales) Act 2018 amends the provisions of the Housing Act 1996 and provides that registered social landlords must ensure that members of their board who sit as local authority appointees cannot represent more than 24 per cent of the board members of the registered social landlord and must ensure that by the 14th October 2018, steps are taken to ensure compliance with this provision.

Consultation

14. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

15. It is recommended that delegated authority be granted to the Head of Legal Services to agree a variation to the Transfer Agreement with Tai Tarian Limited that reduced the number of Members from 4 to 2 and the Members identified in paragraph 7 of this report remain the Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council nominees to the voluntary board of Tai Tarian Limited..

Reason for Proposed Decision

16. To ensure that the Council continues to have nominated appointees to the Tai Tarian Limited voluntary board and to ensure that Tai Tarian Limited and the Council comply with the obligations now implemented in the Regulation of Registered Social Landlords (Wales) Act 2018

Appendices

17. None

List of Background Papers

18. None

Officer Contact

Mrs Karen Jones

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Head of Legal Services

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NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

3rd October 2018

Report - Head of Transformation (ELLL) Andrew Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Margam

Project Proposal made to the Members Community Fund

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Cabinet approval to fund a project proposal that requests financial support under the Members Community Fund. The project has been tabled by the respective Ward Member.

Executive Summary

2. The Members Community Fund was approved in its present form at Cabinet Board on the 16.05.18 and was launched at an All Members Seminar on the 14.06.18. The Fund is to be used to address

local needs and to support projects and initiatives that will contribute towards creating vibrant and sustainable communities.

The Project Development & Funding Unit (PDFU) within ELLL is charged with the governance of the Fund and will act as the Grant Management Organisation.

Bids can be made for projects that enhance existing Council services, assist voluntary sector provision or form part of a larger initiative that is in need of additional financial support.

Eligible projects will include those that enrich the environment, promote non - statutory education and learning, assist Health & Well Being, and promote culture and / or recreation in all its forms.

Cabinet has considered and approved four proposals to date. A further project proposal now seeks funding and has been formally submitted to the PDFU. The bid has been checked for completeness, accuracy and deliverability and is 'fit for purpose' and ready for determination by Cabinet.

Project Proposal

3. Supply and installation of two benches in Abbots Close, Margam.

A bid to supply and install two benches for community use on an area of grass verge in Abbots Close.

This bid has been developed to 'enhance existing Council Services' and has the full support of NPTCBC's Streetcare Services.

The benches will be of robust construction comprising 100% recycled plastic so they will not rot, splinter or crack. They are very durable and can stand up to any attempts made to vandalise or destroy them. Minimal maintenance is required to keep them in good condition. The benches will be installed onto concrete platforms thus negating the need to mow or strim underneath them.

The need for this initiative has come to the attention of the local Councillor. Representations have been made by constituents that benches are needed to allow people a place to rest when walking in the community. Cllr Jones has shared the proposal with residents of

Abbots Close and they are keen to see it become a reality. There have been no objections to the scheme.

The verge forms part of the new 'Safe Routes to School' initiative associated with Ysgol Cwm Brombil.

The long term sustainable benefits associated with the project include the beautifying of the area, increased social interaction between members of the public using the benches as a meeting point or a place to just 'sit and chat' and improved health and wellbeing.

The request for Grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £1,159.94 which will be 12% of the allocation attributed to Councillor Rob Jones, Elected Member for the Ward of Margam. This is the first proposal received to the Members Community Fund from Cllr Jones and if it prevails he will have £8,840.06 remaining in his Members Fund allocation to develop further priority projects.

Financial Impact

4. In order to win favour in Cabinet all projects must be sustainable. Projects must have a robust exit strategy that places no additional revenue or financial burden on the Council.

The area of verge is currently maintained by NPTCBC's Streetcare Services and that arrangement will continue following installation of the benches. The Streetcare Team have agreed to absorb the small amount of additional maintenance associated with mowing the grass around the concrete bases at no additional cost. There is no need for further investment to sustain this development.

The verge has previously benefited from a CAT Scanning exercise to identify underground services and none have been found which could suspend, hinder or add cost to the installation of the benches.

Equality Impact Assessment

5. There is no requirement under the Constitution for an Equality Impact Assessment on this item.

Workforce Impacts

6. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impacts

7. The delivery of the Members Community Fund will come within the purview of the Local Government Act 2000 which introduced well-being powers which enable every Local Authority to have capacity to do anything which it considers likely to promote an improvement to economic, social or environmental well-being in the area. Under section 56 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 sanction is given for both Executive and Non - Executive Members to invest within their own Ward.

The Council's Constitution should be referred to for explicit guidance on governance.

Risk Management

8. There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

Consultation

9. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

10. (In line with the earlier agreed Council policies and priorities, the proposal has been thoroughly scrutinised and is deemed to be credible, well thought through and sustainable). That Cabinet approve to fund this project proposal given that there is a request for financial support under the Members Community Fund.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

11. To approve the Application for funding that has been received under the Members Community Fund. The Members Community Fund will continue to receive bids until the due deadline date of 31.03.2020.

Implementation of Decision

12. The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

List of Background Papers

13. This Margam initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Rob Jones and additional research conducted by the PDFU, this information has been retained for reference.

14. Officer Contact

Paul Hinder, Project Development & Funding Manager, (ELLL).

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NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cabinet

3rd October 2018

Report - Head of Transformation (ELLL) Andrew Thomas

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected:

Cadoxton & Aberdulais

Project Proposal made to the Members Community Fund

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Cabinet approval to fund a project proposal that requests financial support under the Members Community Fund. The project has been tabled by the respective Ward Member.

Executive Summary

2. The Members Community Fund was approved in its present form at Cabinet Board on the 16.05.18 and was launched at an All Members Seminar on the 14.06.18. The Fund is to be used to address

local needs and to support projects and initiatives that will contribute towards creating vibrant and sustainable communities.

The Project Development & Funding Unit (PDFU) within ELLL is charged with the governance of the Fund and will act as the Grant Management Organisation.

Bids can be made for projects that enhance existing Council services, assist voluntary sector provision or form part of a larger initiative that is in need of additional financial support.

Eligible projects will include those that enrich the environment, promote non - statutory education and learning, assist Health & Well Being, and promote culture and / or recreation in all its forms.

Cabinet has considered and approved four proposals to date. A further project proposal now seeks funding and has been formally submitted to the PDFU. The bid has been checked for completeness, accuracy and deliverability and is 'fit for purpose' and ready for determination by Cabinet.

Project Proposal

3. Development of woodland trails, School Resource Pack, Surveys and Management Plan for Craig Gwladus Country Park, Cilfrew.

The bid is to 'enhance existing Council Services' by securing the future of the Country Park in the absence of Council funding.

The project involves engaging volunteers in practical site management and surveying techniques that will feed into a funding and improvement management strategy for the site.

The project also involves developing access, a review of all interpretation and promotional activity, and on- site improvement works which includes a schools nature trail and teacher targeted information packs.

The bid revolves around community engagement and working with partners such as Coed Lleol (Small Woods), 'Actif Woods' the National Trust and Catwg, Cilfrew and Llangatwg Community Schools.

The need for this initiative has come to the attention of the local Councillors and there is recognition that without early intervention at the site the unique industrial and geological heritage of the site will further deteriorate, woodland activities would be lost through want of access and the opportunity to develop robust records on wildlife, habitat and interpretation would be denied.

The project has already secured a £25,000 grant from Natural Resources Wales to assist with the salary costs of a Project Manager (2.5 days/week for 15 months). The project has been accurately costed at £35,000. The Member for Cadoxton and the Member for Aberdulais would each wish to invest £2,000 of their Members Community Fund allocation. The request for Grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for £4,000 which will be 11% of the total project cost. The NPT Countryside & Wildlife team are contributing £6,000 from their core establishment budget to make up the shortfall.

Financial Impact

4. From the outset it was intended that the Members Community Fund would endeavour to maximise other funding streams and draw in additional funding which will add value to inward investment within each of the Wards under determination. 71% of the costs attributed to this proposal have been secured from external agencies. In addition to the match funding the project will attract 106 days of 'in kind' volunteer and specialist assistance from partner organisations (this is valued at £13,000 over the duration of the project).

In order to win favour in Cabinet all projects must be sustainable. Projects must have a robust exit strategy that places no additional revenue or financial burden on the Council. The development of a long term management/improvement/ funding strategy will feed into a bid to be made to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). Success with the HLF bid will extend the scope of this project and will bring about further practical improvements and maintenance to the Country Park.

Equality Impact Assessment

5. There is no requirement under the Constitution for an Equality Impact Assessment on this item.

Workforce Impacts

6. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impacts

7. The delivery of the Members Community Fund will come within the purview of the Local Government Act 2000 which introduced well-being powers which enable every Local Authority to have capacity to do anything which it considers likely to promote an improvement to economic, social or environmental well-being in the area. Under section 56 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 sanction is given for both Executive and Non - Executive Members to invest within their own Ward.

The Council's Constitution should be referred to for explicit guidance on governance.

Risk Management

8. There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

Consultation

9. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

10. (In line with the earlier agreed Council policies and priorities, the proposal has been thoroughly scrutinised and is deemed to be credible, well thought through and sustainable). That Cabinet approve to fund this project proposal given that there is a request for financial support under the Members Community Fund.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

11. To approve the Application for funding that has been received under the Members Community Fund. The Members Community Fund will continue to receive bids until the due deadline date of 31.03.2020.

Implementation of Decision

12. The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

List of Background Papers

13. This joint Cadoxton/Aberdulais initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Annette Wingrave and Councillor Doreen Jones. The initiative has the full backing of the local Primary Schools, 'The Friends of Craig Gwladus' and the National Trust and letters of support have been developed which have been retained for future reference. The PDFU have worked closely with the Council's own Countryside and Wildlife Team and the Coed Cymru Officer to arrive at this bid and that exchange of correspondence has been retained for reference.

14. Officer Contact

Paul Hinder, Project Development & Funding Manager, (ELLL).

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