

**Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council  
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Castell-nedd**

**Democratic Services  
Gwasanaethau Democrataidd**

## **Decision Notice**

### **CABINET - URGENCY ACTION , THURSDAY, 19TH MARCH, 2020**

Please see below approval of decision as follows:

1. **Members Community Fund Cwmllynfell Benches and Picnic Tables - 2CP (Pages 3 - 8)**

The proposal is to fund 6 benches and 4 picnic tables for Cwmllynfell out of the Members Community Fund.

To equip Cwmllynfell and Rhiwfawr with benches and picnic tables and that Councillor Hugh Jones contributes £4,637.52 under the Members Community Fund, was approved.

**For Immediate Implementation**

Yours sincerely

p.p Chief Executive

This page is intentionally left blank

## **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **Cabinet**

1st April 2020

### **Report - Head of Transformation (ELLL) Andrew Thomas**

#### **Matter for Decision**

#### **Wards Affected:**

Cwmllynfell

### **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 Ward Member for Cwmllynfell.

#### **Executive Summary**

2. The Members Community 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.

Another 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.

## **Background**

3. To provide six new benches to the street scene in Cwmllynfell and four picnic tables, two each to Rhiwfawr Park and the Gwilym Road Skate Park.

This proposal has been developed in partnership with the 'Street Care' Division of NPTCBC, the Cwmllynfell Community Council and the Neuadd Cwmllynfell Management Committee who are the custodians and landowners of the assets to be improved.

This project has been born out of the need to station benches at strategic locations throughout Cwmllynfell replacing those that have badly weathered and have deteriorated over time. The new benches will simply replace the time expired benches with the existing foundation and concrete plinths being used to accept the new installations. The picnic tables are self-weighted and require no fixings on hard standing or on a green field site.

The project will enhance the Ward and similarly augment the investment already made by the Community Council in adding new play equipment to the Gwilym Road Park and the Rhiwfawr Park.

The need for the project has been arrived at through representations made by residents to both the Ward Councillor and to Community Councillors. Although modest this project proposal is seen as the means by which people can sit and enjoy their surroundings. It will help in keeping the area well-presented and adequately furnished.

The community benefits associated with this project will translate into making the Ward and both Parks more welcoming. The Parks offer a safe and risk free environment for toddlers, juniors and exuberant teenagers. Accompanying parents and grandparents will be able to participate in family- centred activity once the Parks are fully equipped with facilities that promote social interaction.

The total cost of the project is £4,637.52. The benches and picnic tables will be sourced via a supplier well known to, and tried and tested by, the County Borough Council. The installation of the street benches will be carried out by NPTCBC 'Street Care'. The request for grant aid from the Members Community Fund is for the whole of the project cost. Councillor Hugh Jones would wish to contribute the £4,637.52 from his Members Fund allocation, leaving £913.48 within his portfolio. This will be surrendered to Reserves.

Going forward there will be very little maintenance required on the benches and picnic tables as they are of a recycled plastic version.

### **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 maintenance of the benches and picnic tables going forward will be the responsibility of 'Street Care' and the Cwmllynfell Community Council.

There will be a modest revenue implication for NPTCBC.

## **Integrated Impact Assessment**

5. A first stage impact assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act 2010), the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well - being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The first stage assessment has indicated that a more in - depth assessment is not required as the summary concludes there are positive outcomes for the sustainable development principle, collaboration and involvement, with no impact on equalities or the Welsh language.

## **Valleys Communities Impacts**

6. No implications

## **Workforce Impacts**

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

## **Legal Impacts**

8. 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**

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

## **Consultation**

10. There is no requirement for external consultation on this item.

## **Recommendations**

11. That this project proposal to equip Cwmllynfell and Rhiwfawr with benches and picnic tables is approved and that Councillor Jones contributes his Members funding to arrive at a project cost totalling £4,637.52.

## **Reasons for Proposed Decision**

12. To approve the Application for funding that has been received under the Members Community Fund. The Members Fund in its inaugural term has now closed and will receive no further bids. Any funds unallocated in this Cabinet will be returned to Reserves.

## **Implementation of Decision**

13. The decision is proposed for immediate implementation.

## **List of Background Papers**

14. This Cwmllynfell initiative has been developed from the Members Community Fund Application Form submitted by Councillor Hugh Jones. The quotations for the supply and installation of the benches and picnic tables have been entered on File for reference. The first stage Impact Assessment documentation associated with this project proposal has also been retained.

## **Officer Contact**

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

Tel: 01639 763390, email: [p.hinder@npt.gov.uk](mailto:p.hinder@npt.gov.uk)

