

COUNCIL

(Civic Centre, Port Talbot)

Members Present:

23rd July, 2014

The Mayor: Councillor H.N.James

Councillors: H.M.Bebell, A.Carter, Mrs.A.Chaves,
Mrs.C.Clement-Williams, D.W.Davies,
Mrs.R.Davies, J.S.Evans, M.Harvey,
S.K.Hunt, Mrs.L.H.James, A.Jenkins,
Mrs.D.Jones, E.E.Jones, M.Jones, R.G.Jones,
S.Jones, E.V.Latham, D.Lewis,
Mrs.M.A.Lewis, C.Morgan, J.D.Morgan,
Ms.C.Morgans, Mrs.S.Paddison,
Mrs.K.Pearson, Mrs.S.M.Penry, D.M.Peters,
L.M.Purcell, S.Rahaman, P.A.Rees,
P.D.Richards, A.Taylor, A.J.Taylor,
A.H.Thomas, R.Thomas, J.Warman,
D.Whitelock, Mrs.L.G.Williams and
A.N.Woolcock

Officers in Attendance: S.Phillips, J.Flower, H.Jenkins, A.Evans,
D.Michael (for Agenda Item 1 only),
Mrs.N.Pearce, C.Morris and Mrs.A.Manchipp

1. **COUNCILLOR A.H.THOMAS**

The Mayor welcomed back Councillor A.H.Thomas, the Leader of Council, following his recent illness.

Report of the Director of Environment

2. **LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP)**

Members were reminded that the report and the Proposed Focussed Changes had been discussed on 11th July, 2014 by the Economic and Community Regeneration Cabinet Board, the Economic and

Community Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, the Planning and Development Control Committee and commended to Council for adoption by the Economic and Community Regeneration Cabinet Board. No amendments had been made to the report as a result of the above meetings.

Members were reminded that Council had agreed, in July 2013, to place the draft Plan on deposit. Following consideration of the responses received to the consultation and as a result of new information becoming available (including Welsh Government household projections and 2011 Census data), and also changes to national and regional policy, a number of Focussed Changes to the Deposit Plan had been recommended and were highlighted at the meeting. Should the Focussed Changes be approved today they would be consulted on in September and the LDP along with all supporting documentation would be submitted to the Welsh Government for Examination with the view to the Plan being adopted in the Autumn of 2015.

Members complimented Officers on the work carried out to date and asked several questions regarding the process by which members of the public had been able to make representations on the Plan.

Disappointment was expressed that the process had been overly complicated which had been acknowledged by Welsh Government.

- RESOLVED:**
- (a) That the responses and recommendations to the representations received as set out in Appendices 1 to 5 be agreed;
 - (b) That the Schedule of Proposed Focussed Changes attached in Appendix 6 be agreed;
 - (c) That the Focussed Change consultation and document preparation arrangements as set out in the report be implemented;
 - (d) That the Schedule of Proposed Minor Editing Changes attached in Appendix 7 be noted;

- (e) That the findings of the Sustainability Appraisal as set out in Appendix 8 be agreed;
- (f) That the findings of the Habitats Regulations Appraisal as set out in Appendix 9 be agreed;
- (g) That the submission of the Deposit LDP, along with all supporting documentation, to the Welsh Government for Examination be agreed;
- (h) That the Head of Planning and Planning Policy Manager be granted delegated authority, in accordance with that which is set out in the report, subject to consultation with Ward Members as appropriate, and
- (i) That the draft SPG as attached in Appendices 10-14 to the circulated report, be agreed.

3. **MR. JOHN FLOWER, DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT**

The Mayor reminded Members that this was the last meeting of Council to be attended by Mr. John Flower the Director of Environment.

Several Members including the Leaders of all the political Groups expressed their appreciation and gratitude to Mr Flower for the high level of professionalism and integrity he displayed in carrying out his duties as Corporate Director during these very challenging times of austerity.

Members wished him a long, happy and healthy retirement.

CHAIRMAN