

EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD

CABINET

25 NOVEMBER 2020

Cabinet Members:

Councillors: R.G.Jones, (Chairperson), C.Clement-Williams, D.Jones, E.V.Latham, A.R.Lockyer, P.A.Rees, P.D.Richards, A.Wingrave and L.Jones

Officers in Attendance:

S.Phillips, K.Jones, H.Jenkins, A.Evans, A.Jarrett, N.Pearce, C.Griffiths, S.Brennan, D.Griffiths, M.Roberts, A.Thomas, P.Walker, J.Smith, J.Hillier, C.Plowman and J.Woodman-Ralph

Invitee:

Councillor: M.Harvey (Scrutiny Chairperson)

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON**

Agreed that Councillor R.G.Jones be appointed Chairperson for the meeting.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Members made a declaration of interest at the start of the meeting.

Councillor D. Jones	Re: Penscynor, Cilfrew (Revocation) 20MPH Speed Limits Order 2020 and Traffic Calming Measures at Penscynor, Cilfrew as she has expressed concerns regarding the speed traffic measures. She considered her interest as prejudicial and left the meeting at the start of the item.
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Councillor A. Wingrave Re: Penscynor, Cilfrew (Revocation) 20MPH Speed Limits Order 2020 and Traffic Calming Measures at Penscynor, Cilfrew as the proposal is within her ward. She did not consider her interest as prejudicial.

Re: Miscellaneous Grant Fund Applications as she is a Member of Coedffranc Town Council. She did not consider her interest as prejudicial.

Councillor M. Harvey Re: Miscellaneous Grant Fund Applications as he is Mayor of Coedffranc Town Council. He did not consider his interest as prejudicial.

3. **GNOLL ESTATE COUNTRY PARK MASTERPLAN**

Decisions

1. That prioritised visitor experience action plan projects be agreed with delivery by the 31 March 2021 as detailed in the circulated report (paragraphs 19.1 to 19.2).
2. That an officer working group be formed to liaise with key partners on the delivery of the remaining actions within the visitor experience action plan over a 3 – 5 year period.
3. That officers undertake further research into available funding streams for the proposed development of on-site visitor accommodation in addition to undertaking an expression of interest exercise with the private sector.
4. That the findings of these exercises be brought back to Members to enable a delivery model to be agreed.

Reason for Decisions:

To enable the Council to facilitate the enhancement of facilities and access within Gnoll Estate Country Park, enabling the park to continue to attract a local audience whilst also increasing its contribution to the

visitor economy through the development of onsite visitor accommodation.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

A survey was undertaken as part of the master planning process with the local community, existing visitors. 818 responses were received, the feedback was reflected in the visitor experience action plan as detailed in Appendix 1 to the circulated report.

Workshops were also held with local members, park staff, Friends of Gnoll Country Park and The Woodland Trust to seek their views on how the park should develop.

4. **NEATH BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BALLOT**

Decisions:

1. That the re ballot for Neath BID be supported by the Council to aid the recovery of town centres.
2. That the Council act as ballot holder for the purpose of the re ballot.

Reason for the Decisions:

Neath BID has been supported over the past 5 year term and has improved the town centre, as a result a BID in Port Talbot was supported by NPTCBC in 2019. Neath BID is approaching the end of its term (March 21) and is keen to continue.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decision will be implemented after the 3 day call in period.

Consultation:

Businesses had been consulted over the previous two months by Neath Inspired to inform them of the current situation and to determine what

improvements for the next term would be beneficial. A business perception questionnaire was undertaken to determine what businesses would like to be addressed and what improvements they would wish to see. The information will be utilised to form their next five year proposal that will be made available to all businesses within the BID area prior to the ballot.

The consultation was carried out with over 50% of levy payers, from which 87 of the 125 consulted returned the questionnaire. Those results showed that 72% were in favour of the BID continuing, 10% were not in favour and 13% were undecided. 5% failed to comment on that particular question.

5. **TRAFFIC ORDER 2020 AND TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES AT PENSCYNOR, CILFREW (REVOCATION) (20 MPH SPEED LIMITS)**

(At this point in the meeting, Councillor D.Jones reaffirmed her interest in this item, and left the meeting for the discussion and voting thereon.)

Decisions:

1. That the objections be upheld with alternative permanent speed reduction measures sought in conjunction with Welsh Government and Go Safe.
2. That the Welsh Government be advised accordingly.
3. That the objectors be informed of the decision.

Reason for Decisions:

To permanently reduce traffic speed in the interest of road safety.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

A consultation exercise was undertaken in September 2020 with approximately 30 properties receiving hand delivered letters with a plan as detailed in the circulated report.

6. **MISCELLANEOUS GRANT FUND APPLICATIONS**

Decisions:

1. That a grant of £800 p.a. be provided, subject to review in line with rent reviews from April 2021 to The Trustees of Baglan Boys and Girls Club, Baglan Dragons AFC and Baglan Cricket Club as detailed in Appendix 1 to the circulated report.
2. That a grant of £125 p.a. be provided, subject to review in line with rent reviews from April 2021 to Rhianna's Swing as detailed in Appendix 1 to the circulated report.
3. That a grant of £1,800 p.a. be provided, subject to review in line with rent reviews from April 2021 to Coedffranc Town Council as detailed in Appendix 1 to the circulated report.

Reason for Decisions:

To enable financial support to be agreed in respect of the grant applications.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

7. **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT FOR SCHOOLS**

Decisions:

1. That the ICT Service Manager places orders via the WG platform to purchase devices for schools as detailed in the circulated report.
2. That additional funding of £303,500 be made available from the Authority's Capital Programme to fund the required additional devices.

Reason for Decisions:

To enable the Council to provide I.T. support for learners as detailed in the circulated report.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decision is for immediate implementation.

8. **ADMISSION TO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS:2022/2023**

Decision:

That approval be granted to consult on the proposed 2022/2023 community schools admission policy as detailed in the circulated report.

Reason for Decision:

To enable the Council to meet statutory duties and good practice guidelines in respect of the admission of pupils to community schools.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

Consultation:

The Council, as local authority is required to consult each year on the admission arrangements for those schools which it is the admission authority.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council is the admission authority for community schools. Admission to voluntary aided (i.e.Faith) schools is the responsibility of the respective governing bodies.

The requirements of consultation are set out in the Welsh Government's School Admissions Code.

In the case of this Council, consultation is required with:

- the governing bodies of community schools
- the governing bodies of voluntary aided (i.e. Faith) schools
- all neighbouring local authorities

In addition, the Council should also consult the Admission Forum for the relevant area. The consultation process will cease on 29th January 2021.

9. **URGENT ITEMS**

Because of the need to deal now with the matter contained in Minute No 10 below, the Chairperson agreed this could be raised at today's meeting as an urgent item pursuant to Section 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

Reason:

Due to time element

10. **CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES 2020. LIBRARIES, THEATRES, COMMUNITY CENTRES, MARGAM COUNTRY PARK, LEISURE CENTRES AND SWIMMING POOLS**

Decision:

That the Christmas and New Year opening and closure times be approved as detailed in Appendix 1 and 2 to the circulated report.

Reason for Decision

To ensure that the Council's facilities are available to the public when there is a demand for them to be open and to enable managers to make appropriate arrangements with front line staff over their annual leave.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision will be implemented after the three day call in period.

11. **ACCESS TO MEETINGS**

RESOLVED: That pursuant to Regulation 4 (3) and (5) of Statutory Instrument 2001 No 2290, the public be excluded for the following items of business which involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

12. **LEISURE SERVICES FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS (EXEMPT UNDER PARAGRAPH 14)**

Decisions:

1. That the terms of the Indemnity Agreement entered into between Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and Celtic Leisure be noted.
2. That approval be granted to increase the Management Fee payable to Celtic Leisure up to but not exceeding £1.8m plus VAT with payments released monthly following a review meeting between the Council and Celtic Leisure.

Reason for Decisions:

To ensure suitable arrangements are in place to maintain the provision of leisure services in the Neath Port Talbot locality.

Implementation of Decisions:

The decision will be implemented after the 3 day call in period.

CHAIRPERSON