

## EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD

### CABINET

1 SEPTEMBER 2021

#### **Cabinet Members:**

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

**Invitees:** Councillors S.Rahaman and S.Freeguard (Scrutiny Chair and  
Vice Chair)

#### **Officers in Attendance:**

K.Jones, H.Jenkins, N.Pearce, A.Jarrett, A.Thomas, C.Griffiths, C.Jones,  
P.Hinder, C.Plowman, J.Woodman-Ralph and T.Davies

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#### 1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON**

Agreed that Councillor E.V.Latham be appointed Chairperson for the meeting.

#### 2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following Members made a declaration of interest at the commencement of the meeting, in regards to Project Proposals Made to the Members Community Fund:

Councillor M.Harvey - as one of the proposals related to his own Members Community Fund. He left the meeting before the start of this item, and took no part in the discussion and voting thereon.

- Councillor D.Jones - as one of the proposals related to her own Members Community Fund. She left the meeting before the start of this item, and took no part in the discussion and voting thereon.
- Councillor P.A.Rees - as one of the proposals related to his own Members Community Fund. He left the meeting before the start of this item, and took no part in the discussion and voting thereon.
- Councillor P.D.Richards - as one of the proposals related to his own Members Community Fund. He left the meeting before the start of this item, and took no part in the discussion and voting thereon.
- Councillor C.Clement-Williams as one of the proposals related to her own Members Community Fund. She left the meeting before the start of this item, and took no part in the discussion and voting thereon.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE 30TH JUNE 2021**

That the minutes of the 30 June 2021, be approved.

4. **PROJECT PROPOSALS MADE TO THE MEMBERS COMMUNITY FUND**

**Decisions:**

That approval be granted under the Members Community Fund, as follows:

1. To implement a Greening initiative in the Ward of Dyffryn comprising the placement and planting of 16 raised planters (1 x 1 x 0.45m) positioned strategically and safely throughout Longford and the Highlands using £9,828.47 of Councillor Martyn Peters Members Community Fund.

2. To extend existing double yellow line road markings at the junction of Pen-y-Cae Road and Gwar-y-Caeau Road, Port Talbot, using the whole (£4,500) of Councillor Dennis Keogh's Members Community Fund.
3. To supply and install an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at Skewen RFC, Tennant Park, Skewen, using £1,824 of Councillor Mike Harvey's Members Community Fund.
4. To supply and install new playground apparatus to the Cefn Yr Allt play area in Aberdulais, using the whole (£10,000) of Councillor Doreen Jones' Members Community Fund.
5. To supply and install new playground apparatus to Baglan Park, Lodge Drive, Baglan, using the whole (3 x £10,000) of Councillors Carol Clement Williams, Peter Richards and Suzanne Renkes Members Community Funds.
6. To supply and install new playground apparatus at the Mount Pleasant Play Area, Neath South, using the whole (£10,000) of Councillor Peter Rees' and £2,994.15 of Councillor Jamie Evans Members Community Funds.

#### **Reason for Decisions:**

To approve the applications for funding that have been received under the Members Community Fund.

#### **Implementation of Decisions:**

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

#### **5. MANAGEMENT OF RISK AND LIABILITIES OF DISUSED MINE AND QUARRY TIPS WITHIN THE AUTHORITY AND THE FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF COAL TIP SAFETY**

At this point, Councillors M.Harvey; D.Jones; P.A.Rees, P.D.Richards and C.Clement-Williams re-joined the meeting.

Members of the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee requested that decision number 5 below be added – Cabinet was supportive of this proposal.

### **Decisions:**

That having due regard to the Integrated Impact Screening Assessment it be agreed that:

1. Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council inspect privately owned category C and D high risk tips (as detailed in the circulated report) in conjunction with the Coal Authority, until the new legislation comes into force.
2. The bridges section of the Council continue to use their current Asset Management database to store records of the tips and monitoring regime, until a unified system is agreed and implemented.
3. Due to the timescales involved in preparing NPT's response to the Law Commissions consultation, delegated power be granted to the Director of Environment and Regeneration to prepare and submit a response to the Law Commissions consultation exercise in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Engineering.
4. The coal tips and flood recovery projects be added to the Council's Capital Programme and the works be progressed in advance of the grant.
5. Due to the timescales involved in preparing NPT's response to the Law Commissions consultation, delegated power be granted to the Director of Environment and Regeneration to prepare and submit a response to the Law Commissions consultation exercise, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Engineering, with such a response addressing concerns on the financial responsibility of the maintenance now being passed to landowners, and that a copy of the consultation be forwarded to the local Members of Parliament for their consideration, and for them to pursue with UK Government.

### **Reason for Decisions:**

To manage the risks and liabilities associated with historic coal and quarry waste tips within NPTCBC. The response to the Welsh Government Coal Tip Safety Task Force and the Law Commissions consultation response will assist and inform the future management of Coal Tip Safety in Wales. The planned programmes of work for the coal

tips and flood recovery projects undertaken in advance of the grant award will help mitigate the associated risks early.

**Implementation of Decisions:**

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

6. **URGENT ITEM**

Because of the need to deal now with the matter contained in Minute No 8 below, the Chairperson agreed these could be raised at today's meeting as urgent items pursuant to Section 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

**Reason:**

Due to the time element.

7. **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 urgent item 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.

8. **NPTCBC SUPPORT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM'S AFGHAN RELOCATION AND ASSISTANCE POLICY (ARAP)**

The Chair placed on record his heartfelt thanks to all who had been involved in this project, as well as the previous Syrian resettlement project.

**Decisions:**

That having due regard to the Integrated Impact Screening Assessment, the following be agreed:

1. Support for the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP) and participation in the scheme providing support to settle up to 5 families.
2. Delegated authority be granted to the Director of Social Services, Health and Housing to make application to the Home Office to secure grant funding to meet the cost of people relocating into the county borough under the ARAP scheme.
3. Rule 7 of the Council's Contracts Procedure Rules relating to the invitation of tenders be suspended in respect of the provision of case worker support for the ARAP Scheme as detailed in the Home Office Funding Instruction, and that the British Red Cross be appointed to provide the case worker support key deliverables under the agreement (other than accommodation) at an amount to be agreed between the Council and the British Red Cross, and on terms and conditions to be approved by the Director of Social Services, Health and Housing.
4. The Director of Social Services, Health and Housing be authorised to enter into any other agreements deemed necessary in respect of the ARAP scheme.

#### **Reason for Decisions:**

To ensure that the additional costs to the council and its partners of supporting people relocated under the ARAP Scheme are met from the Home Office funds established for that purpose, and that services are in place prior to people being relocated into the county borough under the Scheme.

#### **Implementation of Decisions:**

The decisions are for immediate implementation. The Chairperson of the scrutiny committee had agreed to this course of action. There would therefore be no call in of this decision.

**CHAIRPERSON**