

Minutes of a Meeting of the Environment, Sustainability & Planning Committee of Cwmbran Community Council held on Wednesday 28 February 2018

Present Councillor KK Manneh (in the Chair), Councillors Rh Bennett, SJ Brooks, PJ Cathcart, LG Johnston, M Johnston, F Jones, M Villars and WJ Walker

Also David Collins (Clerk to the Council) and Clare Facey (Administrative Officer)

ESP17/045 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were accepted from Councillors SWJ Ashley (personal), M Day (work commitments) and R Jones (personal)

Apologies for absence were also submitted by Adrian Wilcock (Torfaen County Borough Council)

ESP17/046 Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests that they may have and sign the Interests Sheet to give details of the nature of the interest.

ESP17/047 Consultation on the Torfaen Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Draft Charging Schedule and Draft Regulation 123 Infrastructure List

Consideration had been deferred at the last meeting due to the unavailability of Adrian Wilcock (Torfaen County Borough Council) (Minute ESP 17/038 refers)

Members considered a detailed report which outlined progress. Adrian Wilcock was unable to attend.

The Draft CIL Charging Schedule was the subject of a consultation exercise which ended on 29 January 2018.

It was **recommended** that the report is noted:

ESP17/048 Torfaen Local Development Plan Consultation on Draft Review Report

Members considered a detailed report on the above and viewed a presentation provided by Adrian Wilcock (Torfaen County Borough Council.) Adrian Wilcock was unable to attend.

The presentation provided an overview of the Local Development Plan (LDP) Review process. The Clerk explained that there were four options for an LDP review as follows:-

- Await Cardiff City Region Strategic Development Plan (SDP) and Torfaen LDP 'Lite' (LDPL);
- Short Form Torfaen LDP Revision;
- Full Torfaen LDP Revision; or
- Full Joint LDP Review with neighbouring LPAs.

If a Full Torfaen LDP review was commenced it might prove possible to adopt a new LDP in 2022. The actual timescale was difficult to predict: however, the presentation described other factors which needed to be taken into account. Torfaen County Borough Council were currently consulting on a Draft LDP Review Report, which ended on 14 March 2018.

Members discussed issues raised in the report and presentation, including the impact on demand for housing.

The presentation also provided an update on the Community Infrastructure Levy (Minute ESP17/048 refers).

The Leader of the Majority Group took the opportunity to refer to recent discussions with the Leader of Torfaen County Borough Council about potential partnership arrangements between the two councils and consultation opportunities.

It was **recommended** that:

- (1) the report is noted.
- (2) the Clerk is instructed to provide Members with a copy of the presentation referred to.
- (3) all Members are encouraged to forward any observations on issues arising from the above report and presentation to the Clerk, for forwarding to Torfaen County Borough Council (by 14 March 2018.)

ESP17/049 Planning, Highways, Footpaths and Licensing Matters

(a) Planning Lists

Members considered outstanding planning list 1216 and 1217

It was **recommended** that no objection is offered in respect of list 1216 and 1217.

(b) Planning Decision of Torfaen County Borough Council.

It was **recommended** that the decisions are noted.

(c) Pre Application Consultation

- (i) Hybrid Application comprising: Full Application for a Proposed Sixth Form College and associated works/Outline Application for A3 units, B1 (Office block) and C1 (Hotel) Uses Former Meritor Site, Grange Road, Llantarnam, Cwmbran, NP44 1QP

It was **recommended** that the proposals are noted.

ESP17/050 Neighborhood Services

At the meeting held on 29 November 2017, Members discussed opportunities to raise matters with Torfaen County Borough Council in relation to Neighbourhood Services matters. (Minute ESP17/030 (a) refers). It was recommended that any Members wishing to submit questions to the Executive Member for Environment report them to this committee in the first instance to ensure a co-ordinated approach. This was confirmed by the Council on 3 January 2018. Any matters raised would be referred to the Executive Member.

No matters were raised.

It was **recommended** that the position is noted.

ESP17/051 Environmental Improvements

The Chairman drew attention to finance in place within the current year to fund environmental improvements (Code N05). There was the potential for some improvements to be carried out locally, which could help deliver Well-being locally and achieve wider goals. Members discussed the potential to undertake some works at Blaen Bran Community Woodland.

It was **recommended** that

- (1) the Council allocate up to £1,500 to fund environmental improvements at Blaen Bran Community Woodlands, as described above.
- (2) the allocation is identified within Earmarked Reserves if unspent.

ESP17/052 Schools Eco Quiz: 8 February 2018

Members reviewed the success of the above event, held at the Congress Theatre.

Members noted the number of participating schools and approximate attendance figures. Members were pleased to acknowledge the continued sponsorship of the event by Knauf Insulation and the positive interest which the event had generated.

It was **recommended** that the success of the event is noted.

ESP17/053 Seminars & Outside Bodies

Members were unable to receive an oral report from Councillor SWJ Ashley on the work of the South Sebastopol Steering Group as Councillor Ashley was not present.

It was **recommended** that consideration of the report of Councillor Ashley is deferred.

ESP17/054 Exclusion of the Press & Public

In view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it was agreed that the following matter be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960 be exercised.

ESP17/055 Task Force

At a meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee held on 24 October 2016, Members recommended that responsibility for receiving regular performance management information about the work of the Task Force was assigned to this committee. (Minute PF16/053 refers).

Members therefore considered performance information about the recent work of the Task Force.

It was **recommended** that: the information is noted.

Signed
(Chairman, Cwmbran Community Council)