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COUNTY COUNCIL Thursday, 5th October, 2023

SUPPLEMENTARY PACK

1. NOTICE OF MOTION - PROPOSAL TO REINSTATE THE UP TO 1 HOUR CAR PARKING CHARGE IN DESIGNATED LONG STAY CAR PARKS.

We are surprised that the motion for car parking charges has come through as at last council this motion was withdrawn to go to a review.

In light of the motion coming forward, we propose the council hold off on any change in parking charges and refer the original motion to the cross-party car parking review group established by the Portfolio Holder to be considered with other options, including options to consult with communities and the council to seek their views as to whether they would like Powys County Council to reintroduce the 1-hour parking in their community long-stay car park or to forgo the 1 hour and stay with a 2-hour minimum with 50p from every 2-hour ticket issued going back into the community to help them run tourist facilities such as public toilets and community activities. Any recommendations from the review board are to be brought back to scrutiny prior to being considered by the cabinet.

Proposed by Councillor Gareth Ratcliffe

Seconded by Councillor Angela Davies

Financial Assessment

The amendment has no financial implications as it simply refers to continuing with the original proposal regarding the work and expectations of the review group. The cost of the review has previously been set out and agreed.

Once the review is completed there may be financial implications but they will form part of agreeing and implementing any changes.

2. QUESTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION

2.1. Question to the Cabinet Member for a Learning Powys from Councillor Elwyn Vaughan

During the discussions on the Marches Partnership in the Cabinet meeting on 19/09 it was noted that the education portfolio holder stated - Powys is intending to offer Welsh medium education to children from England as part of a new partnership with the counties over the border. Powys will be co-operating with Monmouthshire, Herefordshire and Shropshire on matters including transport, housing, the environment and energy.

The council's education portfolio holder, Pete Roberts said "there are many families in Oswestry coming from Welsh-speaking backgrounds". "So I hope one of these opportunities will be working with colleagues in Oswestry and along the border to extend the ability for families to take part in Welsh medium education."

In noting this, what consideration has been given to the European minority or Regional languages Charter and those powers in this context?

Given that a review is being held of the schools in the Llanfyllin area, including the future of Ysgol Bro Cynllaith, how is it anticipated that the task of providing access to Welsh medium education to those from Oswestry would be undertaken better, and what is the timetable? (Pages 5 - 6)

2.2. Question to the Leader from Councillor Gwynfor Thomas

What communications have Powys County Council had with Bute Energy/Green Gen Cymru? (Pages 7 - 8)

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council 5 October 2023

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Pete Roberts

Cabinet Member for a Learning Powys

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Elwyn Vaughan

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Powys is intending to offer Welsh medium education to children from England as part of a new partnership with the counties over the border. Powys will be co-operating with Monmouthshire, Herefordshire and Shropshire on matters including transport, housing, the environment and energy.

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Response

Your previous correspondence with me in regards to the European minority or Region Languages Charter was one of the factors in identifying this potential opportunity as it offers a way forward in confirming responsibilities for the provision of school transport.

In terms of the impact on the wider catchment review. The way forward approved by Cabinet identifies Ysgol Gynradd Llanrhaeadr Ym Mochnant as a site for extending Welsh medium in the NW of the catchment and there are further opportunities in Welsh Stream or Welsh medium education within reach of Oswestry and Shrewsbury.

In the medium term the review also identifies the possibility of developing further Welsh Medium provision in one of the settlements along the A483 between Welshpool and the county border. As a first stage the plans call for the enhancement of Cylch Meithrin and Ti a Fi provision in the area. Given the good road links to Oswestry support from across the border may strengthen the business case for moving forward with this proposition.

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council 5 October 2023

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor James Gibson-Watt

Leader

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Gwynfor Thomas

What communications have Powys County Council had with Bute Energy/Green Gen Cymru?

Many thanks for your interesting question, it begs the further question of the extent to which we, Powys County Council, should engage with potential major investors seeking to develop in Powys, in this instance in energy and infrastructure. Bute Energy is just one of a number of companies proposing multi-million-pound investments, the sum total of which far outweighs the Mid-Wales Growth deal.

Powys Council has declared nature and climate emergencies and is making progress with plans to adapt to the changes which will need to be made by us all. And so, in this context, I strongly suspect that we need to be engaging much more with any and everyone who has a potential contribution to make.

That said, and to directly answer your question, I shared the same table at the President's lunch on the first day of the Royal Welsh Show 2022, with two employees of Bute, but to my best recollection no discussions took place about any proposals they had for Powys. A few months ago, I attended an online information meeting with PCC and Bute officers and I believe Bute officers attended one of PCC's events at this year's Royal Welsh Show and were also present at this year's WLGA Conference, but I had no contact with them.

I am also aware that the Cabinet Member for a Connected Powys met Bute Energy and other major developers in a round table event he had organised on community benefit. He had one follow up meeting with the community benefit team and also attended a public pre-application meeting for the Radnor Forest proposals, hosted by Cllr Geoff Morgan. I also understand that he visited the Bute stand at the Royal Welsh Show, as you and other members may have done, but for which I can't account. Like myself, he has not knowingly spoken with anyone at Green Gen Cymru.

Planning services have been approached on a number of projects by Bute Energy/Green Gen Cymru in relation to seeking pre application advice.