

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM A - COUNTY HALL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS ON TUESDAY, 10 MAY 2016

PRESENT

County Councillor W B Thomas (Chair)

County Councillors R G Brown, J H Brunt, M R Harris, S M Hayes, W T Jones, W J T Powell and E A York

In attendance

County Councillors KW Curry, AW Davies, DC Jones, JG Morris, JG Shearer, K Roberts-Jones, GP Vaughan and JM Williams.

The Leader welcomed County Councillor Rosemarie Harris to the Cabinet and placed on record his thanks to County Councillor Phil Pritchard for his work on the Cabinet. He also extended a welcome to County Councillor Kelvyn Curry who was attending his first Cabinet meeting since his appointment as Chair of the Place Scrutiny Committee.

1.	APOLOGIES	C75- 2016
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Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor EA Jones and from County Councillor SC Davies, Leader of the Labour Group.

2.	MINUTES	C76- 2016
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The Leader was authorised to sign the minutes of the last meeting held on 12th April 2016 as a correct record.

3.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	C77- 2016
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There were no declarations of interest reported.

4.	BUDGET SETTING FOR 2017/18 AND UPDATING THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY	C78- 2016
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Cabinet considered the proposed approach to budget setting for 2017/18 as well as the steps to be taken to agree the next update of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) covering 2017 to 2020. Members were advised that the budget process was being brought forward with the first of three Council seminars taking place in July. The Portfolio Holder for Finance acknowledged the comments made about the need to ensure that impact assessments were completed consistently and advised that a sub group of the Cabinet would be examining them. He also confirmed that he was happy to discuss with the Joint Chairs Scrutiny's input in the budget process.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
That the approach to budget setting for 2017/18 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the timetable outlined in the report is agreed.	To aid business planning and development of the budget over a 3 year period.

County Councillor York abstained having missed the start of the debate.

5.	PCC STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN 2016/20	C79- 2016
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Cabinet considered the Strategic Equality Plan for 2016/20. The plan set out seven Equality Objectives for the Council and the actions the Council would take to fulfil those objectives. The detail on how these actions would be achieved, would be contained within various Services Team plans, Service Improvement Plans, Powys One Plan, the Hearts and Minds Delivery Plan or the Community Cohesion National Delivery Plan. A report on the outcomes from the existing equality plan would be brought to Cabinet in June.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That the Strategic Equality Plan 2016-20 be approved.	To comply with statutory requirements and good business practice.

6.	JOINT CHAIRS REPORT ON THE COMMISSIONING AND PROCUREMENT BOARD	C80- 2016
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Cabinet received the report from Joint Chairs on the Commissioning and Procurement Board. The Portfolio Holder for Commissioning and Procurement advised that a response was being drafted and would be available for consideration firstly by the Commissioning and Procurement Board and then by the Cabinet within 6 weeks. The Portfolio Holder also confirmed that he would be happy to meet the Joint Chairs after Cabinet had considered its response.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision
That a response to the Joint Chairs report be prepared within 6 weeks.	Response to report

7.	REVIEW OF SATURDAY BULKY SERVICE IN MACHYNLLETH	C81- 2016
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Cabinet considered a proposal to cease the Saturday collection of residual waste in Machynlleth. The collection had been introduced as a pilot mitigation measure following the closure of the Household Waste and Recycling Centre in Machynlleth, for 6 months and had now been operating for over 12 months. Due to the amount of waste being collected, the low recycling rates and the savings the service was required to make, the collection was no longer viable. The Portfolio Holder for Environment and Sustainability noted letters had been received from Llanbrynmair Community Council, Machynlleth Town Council, Glantwymyn Community Council and Cadfarch Community Council, Ecodyfi Partnership and two individuals opposing the withdrawal of the collection.

County Councillors DC Jones, GP Vaughan and JM Williams spoke as local members to oppose the withdrawal of the Saturday collection. They questioned why west Montgomeryshire was being treated in this way and referred to the long

distances that people would have to travel to an alternative site. They also expressed concerns that there would be an increase in fly-tipping.

The Portfolio Holder advised that provision at the community recycling site would be improved by introducing facilities to receive small electrical goods. He also advised that the service was not aware of any increase in fly-tipping. The Portfolio Holder reminded Members that the HTR service had to make further savings and he advised that each of the Household Waste Recycling Centres would be reviewed with two of the five sites liable to close. There would be a report to Cabinet in 3 months once the review had been completed.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
1) To approve Option 3 – Reduce service to fortnightly and restrict residual ‘black bag’ waste. To be implemented from June 1st 2016 for a period of three months followed by Option 5 – Remove the service – from September 1st 2016.	To reduce overspend and help to bring the service back in line with the existing budget and contribute to achieving the Welsh Government’s Statutory Recycling Target.
2) To undertake a communications and awareness campaign in the Machynlleth area.	To ensure residents are fully aware of the alternative provisions and their options for recycling from the kerbside
3) To further improve provision at the Community Recycling Site.	To maximise opportunities for residents to recycle through the kerbside and Community Recycling Site.

8.	TREASURY MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR QUARTER 4	C82- 2016
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Cabinet received and considered the Treasury Management for Quarter 4.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
That the Treasury Management Quarterly Report be received	To ensure Cabinet remains informed about current Treasury Management performance

9.	CORRESPONDENCE	C83- 2016
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There were no items of correspondence reported.

10.	DELEGATED DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING	C84- 2016
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Cabinet received details of delegated decisions taken by Portfolio Holders since the last meeting.

11.	FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME	C85- 2016
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Cabinet received the forward work programme.

12.	EXEMPT ITEMS	C86- 2016
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RESOLVED to exclude the public for the following items of business on the grounds that there would be disclosure to them of exempt information under category 1 of The Local Authorities (Access to Information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007).

County Councillor WT Jones left the meeting.

13.	DEPOT REVIEW	C87- 2016
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The Highways, Transport and Recycling Service had begun a review of depots starting with Llanfyllin, Llanbrynmair, Presteigne and Crickhowell depots as they are the smaller depots in terms of facilities, staff numbers and services provided. An informal consultation had been conducted with all staff at Llanfyllin, Llanbrynmair, Presteigne and Crickhowell Depots.

It was proposed that a formal consultation process be commenced with the intention of relocating Crickhowell depot staff to Brecon and Presteigne depot staff to Penybont depot at the earliest opportunity with the depots being retained in the interim as a non-operational salt storage facility until such time as a salt storage strategy has been formulated with the aid of route optimisation results.

It was further proposed that Llanbrynmair and Llanfyllin depots continue in their current format until the route optimisation results for winter maintenance are obtained. Route optimisation software would be used to help determine the best locations for depots.

RESOLVED	Reason for Decision:
1. To progress the proposed review of operational activities at the Crickhowell and Presteigne depots to formal consultation.	To enable a full understanding of the potential changes to be considered.
2. To bring back to Cabinet the outcome of any formal consultation exercise in due course.	To ensure that cabinet approve the service recommendations prior to implementation.

County Councillor W B Thomas (Chair)