MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD AT COUNTY HALL / HYBRIDON TUESDAY, 28 JUNE 2022

PRESENT

County Councillor J Gibson-Watt (Chair)

County Councillors J Charlton, R Church, S C Davies, M J Dorrance, S McNicholas, P Roberts, D Selby and D A Thomas

The Leader welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new Cabinet. He thanked the previous Cabinet for their work.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors Jake Berriman and Sian Cox.

2. MINUTES

Referring to the minutes of 8th March and the Housing Revenue Account business plan, the Leader noted that a number of projects to build Council houses had been delayed due to covid and supply issues.

The Leader was authorised to sign the minutes of the meetings held on 8th and 11th March 2022 as correct records.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest reported.

4. DRAFT WELSH LANGUAGE STANDARDS ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

Cabinet considered the Draft Welsh Language Standards Annual Report which outlined the work undertaken during 2021-22 to ensure compliance with the Welsh Language Standards under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, and performance against the requirements of the Standards.

It was noted that there had been a delay in establishing the Welsh Language Governance Group which would have oversight of Welsh language work, consider the Council's strategies and plans from a Welsh language perspective, and recommend ways of protecting, promoting, and increasing the use of the Welsh language. The Chief Executive advised that she would ensure that the group would be established as soon as possible.

In response to a Member's question, the Section 151 Officer advised that services would identify existing budget within their service area to meet the costs. If costs exceeded the available budget then the virement process would be followed to move resources as required.

RESOLVED to approve the Draft Welsh Language Standards Annual Report 2022 (attached as Appendix A) for it to be published on the Council's public website by 30 June 2022.

5. PROPOSAL TO INCREASE HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE TARIFFS

Cabinet was advised that requests had been received from hackney carriage vehicle proprietors in Powys for the current hackney carriage fare tariff to be increased because of rising fuel prices. Powys Licensed Taxi Drivers had been consulted and there had been 33 responses of which 31 were in favour of increased tariffs. Cabinet was therefore asked to approve a tariff of fares for a fourteen-day public consultation. Cabinet asked that social media be used to publicise the consultation in addition to local press. Cabinet also asked that local access groups be consulted on the experience of their members using taxi services.

RESOLVED that Cabinet approve the tariff of fares for hackney carriages as detailed at Appendix E of the report for a fourteen-day public consultation. Following the statutory fourteen-day public consultation period, if no objections are received, the fare tariff shall come into effect immediately. If any objections are received, then Cabinet will receive a further report to consider these and to approve the fare tariff with or without modification and to determine the date upon the revised tariff should come into effect.

6. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN WORKING GROUP

RESOLVED to appoint the Cabinet Member for a Connected Powys, the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for a Fairer Powys and the Cabinet Member for a Greener Powys to the LDP Working Group.

The Cabinet Member for a More Prosperous Powys would be asked to join the group as required.

7. DELEGATED DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING

Cabinet noted the delegated decisions taken by Cabinet members since the last meeting.

8. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Cabinet noted the forward work programme and asked for an additional column to be added to indicate whether Scrutiny would be considering an item and the date on which it would be considered.

9. POWYS: PROUD COUNCIL

Cabinet considered a proposal for the Council to become a member of Proud Councils, a voluntary partnership of Welsh Local Authorities who are proactive in the inclusion of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) people. This would send a very clear signal that Powys County Council is a welcoming and inclusive employer that supports and promotes diversity across its workforce and supports the LGBTQ+ community.

County Councillor Matthew Dorrance, the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for a Fairer Powys said that he was very pleased to see this proposal brought forward during Pride Month. If agreed, Powys would become the first rural Welsh authority and the first outside of south Wales to join. Members spoke in support of the proposal and

RESOLVED that Cabinet approves the recommendation to become a Proud Council.

County Councillor James Gibson-Watt Chair