

**MEETING OF THE CLEANER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE
OF TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
Held on Wednesday, 20 June 2018 at 10.00am
In the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hanbury Road, Pontypool, NP4 6YB**

MINUTES

Attendance: Members of the Committee

Councillors:

Peter Jones (Chair)
Giles Davies
Gaynor James
Norma Parrish
Dave Thomas

Co-opted Members:

Alun Williams

Officers:

Rachel Beale – Senior Business Support Officer (Democratic Services)
Cynon Edwards – Waste & Streetscene Group Leader
Paul Evans – Property Management Group Leader
Tim James – Chief Legal Officer
Steve Jarrett - Assistant Chief Officer Technical Services
Alan Jones – Energy Manager
Catherine Turner – Senior Improvement & Scrutiny Officer

Other:

Joanna Wall - Expert Advisor on Solar Renewable Technology for Local Partnerships

Action

1 Welcome & Apologies

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed Councillor Gaynor James to her first Cleaner Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.2 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Stuart Ashley, Huw Bevan, Stuart Evans, Jason O’Connell and Louise Sheppard.

2 Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 The Chief Legal Officer reminded Members that if they felt that they had an interest to declare in any items, they should do so and record it on the Declarations of Interest pro forma provided.
- 2.2 There were no interests declared.

3 Minutes 02/05/2018

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd May 2018 were confirmed as an accurate record.

4 Action Sheet

- 4.1 Members noted the action sheet.

5 Update Report - Progress Against Adopted Action Plans

- 5.1 The Chair welcomed the Assistant Chief Officer Technical Services and the Waste & Streetscene to the meeting.
- 5.2 Members reviewed the progress update for each proposal for Improvement made by the Wales Audit Office and asked Officers a number of questions.
- 5.3 In response to Members questions, the Officers gave the following replies:
- The Department had not yet appointed an external consultant to develop a single integrate strategy for the Waste Management Service. The brief was currently in a final draft stage, the award criteria had to be agreed, when it was agreed the Department would be going out to tender. Officers would bring the draft strategy back to Committee this year.
 - Officers promoted key messages from the service standards to residents. One of the main issues currently was residents not using nets on the recycling boxes which resulted in items falling out or being blown around the streets. The crew staff were informed that if they dropped any items they were to pick them up, however when Officers carried out mystery shopping they often found there were items being blown around before the crews had arrived. There was only 20% of residents using nets. Officers were looking to do a campaign this year to try and encourage residents to use nets. When any new recycling boxes were delivered, nets were already attached by cable ties ready for residents to use.
 - The Department was progressing with becoming less reliant on agency staff. Officers had undertaken a number of scenarios to test whether it would work both financially and operationally and were satisfied that it would.
 - The Chief Officer had spent time with all staff in Neighbourhood Services to encourage them to feedback ideas on how to do things differently and more efficiently. The crews had raised the issue regarding agency workers, which was being addressed. The service area had full time staff to cover all positions, agency staff were only used to cover holidays, sickness or in the interim period between someone leaving the authority and the recruitment process being carried out. Officers were in the process of looking at introducing a pool of permanent staff which

would be additional positions and would cover holiday and sickness periods. Following feedback from the crews, a number of the loaders were trained to become HGV drivers which would enable them to cover and kept the skills within the workforce.

- The HGV drivers from the Waste Team were taken from the Waste Section during bad weather to help with the snow clearance to keep to streets in Torfaen open and safe. Officers were looking at how to make the Department more resilient and reduce the reliance on the Waste Section during winter service operations.
- The training of the loaders to become HGV drivers had made a huge operational difference to the Service Area. Before the loaders were trained Officers had to contact an agency who often did not have HGV drivers available which resulted in either not being able to do an individual round or having to stop a service such as bulky waste collection. However as the crews were multi-skilled the loaders could become drivers and either loaders were recruited from an agency or the collection commenced with one loader, which has helped minimise the number of resident complaints regarding missed collections which was something the Service Area could measure.
- The absence rates were monitored, the staff sickness rates had been benchmarked with other Local Authorities and Torfaen levels were at the same level as Councils. Sickness levels of operational staff tended to be higher than office staff. The sickness levels within the waste section showed a downward trend and was stable.
- The Department did not have a system in place which replicated 'Ask Alison' and some of the crew members had expressed their discomfort with using technology and asked Office Managers to submit their annual leave etc which was done online on their behalf as they were not comfortable using technology. The Department did however carry out 'Toolbox Talks' with the crews where they were able to discuss issues with managers in small groups which worked effectively.
- When the teams were together a lot of issues could be addressed quickly, all staff were encouraged to report back with any issues. When the collection rounds were first created, they were done using computer software, when the drivers were shown the draft rounds they took ownership and suggested modifications in order for them to work more efficiently. The crews worked well together and had a forum to report back any issues.
- There was not a time limit for rounds to be completed, the crews worked a seven and a half hour day and none of the rounds were beyond that period of time, therefore there was no reason for the crews to be rushing around as they had sufficient time on each round. The crews worked together to finish the collection rounds and when complete they had to carry out checks, clean and wash the vehicles.
- All individual operatives know that they could go to any of the Senior Management Team with issues which had been made clear at the engagement sessions and had been taken up on occasions.
- Officers were aware from chats with the crews that some of them had utilised the 'Ask Alison' facility.

- 5.4 The Chair thanked the Officers for their time and they left the meeting.
- 5.5 On completion of their scrutiny activity, the committee concluded by offering the following recommendations for consideration:

Recommendation 1:- Proposal for Improvement 4

Going forward Members would like to be able to see tangible outputs or evidence of improvement from the training and communication exercises carried out with staff.

Recommendation 2:- Proposal for Improvement 4

Consider doing more analysis work on the sickness figures for waste operatives to assess if there were trends that could be identified.

Recommendation 3:- Proposal for Improvement 7

Consider introducing a facility (similar to Ask Alison) for operational staff to enable them to feedback confidential issues if they were uncomfortable doing so in open forums. If trends were then identified that Members needed to be aware of or could help with, that information should be shared via a confidential process.

Members were content with the progress made in the other updates provided.

6 Green Energy in Particular the use of the Solar Technologies

- 6.1 The Chair welcomed the Assistant Chief Officer Technical Services, the Property Management Group Leader, the Energy Manager and Expert Advisor on Solar Renewable Technology for Local Partnerships to the meeting.
- 6.2 The Assistant Chief Officer Technical Services introduced the report highlighting in particular the following:
- The Council had been working with Local Partnerships to undertake an asset review of land within the Council's ownership. The review identified 20 potential locations, following site analysis and inspections 5 sites were shortlisted and Ty Coch was identified as the preferred option.
 - Ty Coch had the potential to provide long term income to the Council and deliver on a number of the Council's strategies for carbon reduction.
 - Alongside the Local Partnership the Council had produced an Outline Business Case which followed the 5 case business plan.
 - The Outline Business case identified the preferred option of a 3.85MW solar farm on the Ty Coch site.
 - The report included a table of the sites assessed against the critical success factors from the high level screening.
 - The report also included a table which listed the opportunities and constraints of the Ty Coch site.
 - A grid connection for the site had been secured with Western Power.
 - The financial case for Ty Coch solar farm in principal demonstrated a

fundable and affordable deal for the Council, however financial work was still ongoing, and the impacts on the Council's income and expenditure would need to be considered.

- Consultation had been undertaken with the relevant Senior Officers and the Council Leader.
- There was a National need for renewables and the Council already had a number of smaller renewable projects.

6.3 Members asked a series of questions and the following responses were given by Officers and the Expert Advisor:

- A lot of the information provided in the report was based on forecasts, however Officers were using National recognised forecasts. Officers felt that it was an exciting scheme and the figures showed that it would be fundable.
- Officers were currently looking at a potential arrangement with Welsh Government which would provide a guaranteed level of income and also the forward price forecasting.
- Officers were confident with the level of income that could be generated from the output of the panels.
- It was difficult to forecast the capital cost up front, however it would become clearer the further into the process and the nearer towards a full business case.
- High Level assessments were still being undertaken on the site and until the outcome of the assessments had been received the total capital costs were not known.
- A Grid Connection with Western Power had been secured and the Council had received the cost for that, however Officers were investigating another option of a lower grid connection with Western Power which would be better value.
- Officers would be asking Western Power to make a request for a Statement of Works to the National Grid, which would need to be costed.
- Ground investigations and Ecology Studies were currently being undertaken on site, until both were complete Officers were unable to give a full specification to go out to tender on. As the site was an old former tip the investigations were necessary, however a solar farm suited the type of ground as there was no need to dig huge foundations.
- Officers would have liked to have been able to provide Members with more information on the financial aspects, however the programme required scrutiny to look at the proposal early on in the process. If further information was not available by the time it was presented to the Cabinet, they would be able to make an in principal decision and if the position in 6 months' time proved that it was not financially beneficial the proposal would not be progressed.
- The previous forecast mentioned was based on a 5mw solar farm, having looked at all the various issues Officers had decided to go for a 3.85mw solar farm. A 3.85mw solar farm would generate less income and the capital cost would be reduced as the scale of the farm was

smaller.

- The forecast energy price for the current year was 2.5% however in April the electricity prices were increased by 3.6%, there was always an increase above what the forecasts were. It was difficult to forecast energy prices going forward, however from looking at the Council's energy bills for the last 20 years, Officers had been very conservative in what the benefit income stream would be, it would likely be more but they had worked with the recognised forecast.
- Within the Outline Business Case there was a table which included the sites assessed. Ty Coch was the most viable site which was mainly due to closeness of the site to the grid connection. The land was not currently being used and it was a difficult site to utilise or sell due to its current planning status. The proposal for the solar farm would not progress if the figures did not prove that it was beneficial.
- There were a number of Local Authorities which had solar farms and generated an income from them, with the nearest being Monmouthshire Council who would be happy to share information.
- The Final Business Case would be presented back to committee when it had been through procurement and the figures were more certain.
- To deliver the solar farm the Council would need to enter into a fixed price contract which would give a certainty to cost. In terms of returns the Council would need to choose whether to take the certainty offered by the Welsh Government which would reduce the risk and potentially reduce the benefit or take the market hedge approach against the Council's own energy costs.
- Officers had a detailed financial module which was broken down into elements which would need to be accounted for which included; the cost of operation, the maintenance, business rates, insurance, construction costs, development costs and the project management. A lot of work had been undertaken already, soft market testing had been carried out and some elements had gone out to tender. Officers would be happy to share the module with the committee.
- In terms of the life span of the panels there would be a manufacture guarantee of 20-25 years depending on the manufacture and it would be expected to have a working life beyond that. There was quite a lot of valuable equipment in solar farms and a lot of the material from the cables and structures was recyclable. There was no certainty on how much it would cost to decommission however market expectation was that the decommission costs would be covered by the cost of recycling the materials.
- Officers were confident that the project was viable and would provide an income for the Council.
- The Leadership Team had been consulted.
- The British site had potential for renewables however it was being dealt with separately as there was a number of aspects which needed to be considered as a package on the British site. The British site was not being ruled out however it had a long history and Ty Coch was being pursued as an easy option.
- The process undertaken was to identify a number of sites in the

ownership of the Council and criteria was applied including how close it was to a grid connection, location, land use, access and irradiance levels.

- If the Ty Coch site failed due to issues such as refusal of planning permission or problems with the habitat study, Officers would consider re-looking at one of the other locations.
- Ground mounted solar generally needed 5 acres per megawatt. The Ty Coch site had 40 acres, however there were a number of constraints on the site which trimmed back the area for the panels which included shading, overhead powers lines, landscaping issues and the aspirations of the Canal Trust. The project would be a design and build venture and the Contractor would do a final system size taking in consideration the onsite constraints.
- It was rare to find affordable grid connection however Ty Coch site connection was good value for money.
- Officers had tried to strike a balance between the cash flow in the early years and making sure the Council got as much benefit out of the scheme as possible.
- The internal rate of return figures have come from the Councils Capital Accountant which were submitted in the module from Expert Advisor. Discussions were still ongoing with colleagues in the Councils' Finance Department relating to the rate of the scheme and the cash flow, if Members felt the figures were beneficial they would be shared with the committee.
- The Council had received a grid connection offer from Western Power with an initial stage payment of £2500, Western Power had milestones which they expected the Council to meet which included getting planning permission within a certain time and making payments. If the Council did not meet the milestones Western Power could take the grid connection offer back.
- If energy prices increased and the solar farm generated a level more than expected it would be more value to the Council to offset it against what they brought from the grid. If the Council decided to go with the Welsh Government guarantee there would be a fixed price and the Welsh Government would then distribute the energy through their procurement contracts which was shared across Wales.
- Only 40% of an energy bill was for energy, the other 60% was Government taxes, subsidies, and the grid connection.
- Welsh Government offered a guarantee to Local Authorities in order to give confidence to proceed with solar farm projects, however they would expect Councils to do better in an open market forecast.
- Ofgem were currently looking at different way of the market, how the market operated and the way PPAs were set up.
- There may be an opportunity in the Cwmbran area for private wire offtake which would allow a direct connection which would avoid the need to pay network charges, which allowed private wire arrangements to have a much higher PPA price, the option would continue to be investigated.
- If the solar farm project was due to commence at the same time as the

proposed Police Headquarters site the construction traffic for both schemes would be managed through a traffic management plan.

- The solar farm would take approximately two-three months to setup.
- Officers wanted in principal thoughts from the committee, and they reassured Members that the project would not go ahead if it proved not to be beneficial. Other Local Authorities were currently going through the same process of looking at the implementation of a solar farm.
- The global figure included the cost of the regular cleaning of the panels.

6.4 The Chair read out a number of comments made on Facebook from members of the public, and thanked them for their comments.

6.5 In relation to one of comments read out the Energy Manager stated that new building regulations required all new schools to have solar panels fitted.

6.6 The Chair thanked the Officers for their valuable contributions and they left the meeting.

6.7 On completion of their scrutiny activity, the committee concluded by offering the following recommendations for consideration:

Recommendation 1:-

Committee were, in principle supportive of both the proposal and suggested location but had concerns about the financial aspect around forecasting. It was felt the project must benefit the Council, and as such more robust information was required prior to formal decision making. Any identified risks must be managed or mitigated.

Recommendation 2:-

Comments made by residents via social media (Facebook) indicated a lack of knowledge regarding the innovative work already done and continuing to be done by using renewal energy throughout the borough. This should be communicated and promoted to keep residents fully informed of progress.

In conclusion members also offered the following comments:

- Committee agreed with the direction taken but felt other experts such as finance would be more able to say if it was a suitable use of Council resources.
- Committee agreed with the location chosen.
- More accurate information would need to be provided before committee could provide a steer on the most appropriate option for the Council based on the scenario's provided in relation to early years income or maximisation of total income. However, it was expected that as more information was provided the financial experts would be able to advise on this.
- Committee had considered the Strategic Context, but felt it was too soon to consider the Economic Case and the Financial Case for delivering the

project and future projects of its kind in any detail due to the uncertainties still in place.

7 Date of Next Meeting

7.1 Members were reminded of the Cleaner Communities O&S Committee - Visioning Session being held on Wednesday 27th June 2018.

Signed **Chair** **Date.....**

Minutes produced by Rachel Beale, Senior Business Support Officer (Democratic Services),
Wednesday 20th June 2018

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**CYFARFOD PWYLLGOR TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU CYMUNEDAU GLANACH
CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL TORFAEN**

**A gynhaliwyd ar ddydd Mercher 20^{fed} Mehefin 2018 am 10.00am
Yn Siambr y Cyngor, Y Ganolfan Ddinesig, Heol Hanbury, Pont-y-pŵl,
NP4 6YB**

COFNODION

Yn Bresennol: Aelodau'r Pwyllgor

Cynghorwyr:

Peter Jones (Cadeirydd)
Giles Davies
Gaynor James
Norma Parrish
Dave Thomas

Aelodau Cyfetholedig:

Alun Williams

Swyddogion:

Rachel Beale – Uwch Swyddog Cefnogi Busnes (Gwasanaethau Democrataidd)
Cynon Edwards – Arweinydd Grŵp Gwastraff a Strydlun
Paul Evans – Arweinydd Grŵp Rheoli Eiddo
Tim James – Prif Swyddog Cyfreithiol
Steve Jarrett - Prif Swyddog Cynorthwyol Gwasanaethau Technegol
Alan Jones – Rheolwr Ynni
Catherine Turner – Uwch Swyddog Gwelliant a Chraffu

Eraill:

Joanna Wall – Cynghorydd Arbenigol ar Dechnoleg Solar Adnewyddadwy i
Bartneriaethau Lleol

Cam

1 Croeso ac Ymddiheuriadau

- 1.1 Croesawodd y Cadeirydd y Cynghorydd Gaynor James i'r Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Cymunedau Glanach am y tro cyntaf.
- 1.2 Cafwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb oddi wrth y Cynghorwyr Stuart Ashley, Huw Bevan, Stuart Evans, Jason O'Connell a Louise Sheppard.

2 Datganiadau o Fudd

- 2.1 Atgoffodd y prif swyddog cyfreithiol aelodau pe bai ganddyn nhw fudd i'w ddatgan mewn unrhyw eitemau, dylen nhw wneud hynny a chofnodi hynny ar y ffurflen Datganiadau o Fudd a ddarparwyd.

2.2 Ni roddwyd unrhyw ddatganiadau o fudd.

3 Cofnodion 02/05/2018

3.1 Cadarnhawyd fod cofnodion y cyfarfod ar 2^{il} Mai 2018 yn rhai cywir.

4 Taflen Waith

4.1 Nododd yr Aelodau'r daflen waith.

5 Diweddariad – Cynnydd yn erbyn Cynlluniau Gweithredu a Fabwysiadwyd

5.1 Croesawodd y Cadeirydd Prif Swyddog Cynorthwyol y Gwasanaethau Technegol a'r Arweinydd Gwastraff a Strydlun i'r cyfarfod.

5.2 Adolygodd yr aelodau'r cynnydd ar gyfer pob argymhelliad gan Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru a gofyn nifer o gwestiynau i'r Swyddogion.

5.3 Wrth ateb cwestiynau'r aelodau, rhoddodd Swyddogion yr atebion canlynol:

- Doedd yr adran ddim wedi penodi ymgynghorydd allanol i ddatblygu strategaeth integredig sengl ar gyfer y Gwasanaeth Rheoli Gwastraff. Roedd y briff ar hyn o bryd yn y cyfnod drafft olaf, roedd angen cytuno ar feini prawf y dyfarniad, pan fyddai yna gytundeb ar hyn byddai'r adran yn hysbysebu am geisiadau am dendrau. Bydd Swyddogion yn dod â'r strategaeth drafft yn ôl i'r Pwyllgor eleni.
- Roedd swyddogion yn hybu negeseuon allweddol o'r safonau gwasanaeth i drigolion. Un o'r prif broblemau ar hyn o bryd oedd nad oedd trigolion yn defnyddio rhwydau ar y blychau ailgylchu a oedd yn arwain at fod eitemau yn cwmpo allan neu'n cael eu chwythu o gwmpas y strydoedd. Dywedwyd wrth y criwiau pe baen nhw'n gollwng unrhyw eitemau yna roedd disgwyl iddyn nhw eu codi, serch hynny pan oedd Swyddogion yn cynnal archwiliadau gwelon nhw fod eitemau'n cael eu chwythu o gwmpas cyn i'r criwiau gyrraedd. Dim ond 20% o drigolion oedd yn defnyddio rhwydau. Roedd swyddogion yn edrych ar ymgyrch eleni i geisio annog trigolion i ddefnyddio rhwydau. Pan oedd unrhyw flychau ailgylchu newydd yn cael eu rhoi allan roedd rhwydau wedi eu clymu iddyn nhw i drigolion gael eu defnyddio.
- Roedd yr adran yn datblygu i fod yn llai dibynnol ar staff o asiantaethau. Roedd swyddogion wedi edrych ar nifer o bosibiliadau i weld a fyddai'n gweithio'n ariannol ac yn weithredol ac roedden nhw'n fodlon y byddai.
- Roedd y Prif Swyddog wedi treulio amser gyda'r staff i gyd yn yr Adran Wasanaethau Cymdogaethau i'w hannog i fwydo syniadau ar sut i wneud pethau'n wahanol ac yn fwy effeithiol. Roedd y criwiau wedi codi'r mater ynglŷn â gweithwyr o asiantaethau, ac roedd swyddogion yn delio â hyn. Roedd gan y maes gwasanaeth staff amser llawn i weithio ym mhob swydd, a dim ond ar gyfer gwyliau, salwch neu yn y cyfnod rhwng bod rhywun yn gadael y cyngor a'r broses recriwtio gael ei

chwblhau yr oedd staff o asiantaethau yn cael eu defnyddio. Roedd swyddogion yn y broses o edrych ar gyflwyno cronfa o staff parhaol a fyddai'n swyddi ychwanegol ac a fyddai'n gweithio i lanw bylchau o ganlyniad i wyliau a salwch. Yn dilyn adborth oddi wrth y criwiau, roedd nifer o'r llwythwyr wedi eu hyfforddi i fod yn yrwyr HGV a fyddai'n eu galluogi i lanw bylchau ac a oedd yn cadw'r sgiliau yn y gweithlu.

- Cafodd y gyrwyr HGV o'r Tîm Gwastraff eu symud yn ystod y tywydd gwael i helpu gyda chlirio'r eira i gadw strydoedd yn Nhorfaen ar agor ac yn ddiogel. Roedd swyddogion yn edrych ar sut i wneud yr adran yn fwy gwydn a lleihau'r ddibyniaeth ar yr Adran Wastraff yn ystod y gaeaf.
- Roedd hyfforddi'r llwythwyr i fod yn yrwyr HGV wedi gwneud gwahaniaeth mawr i'r Maes Gwasanaeth. Cyn i'r llwythwyr gael eu hyfforddi roedd rhaid i swyddogion gysylltu ag asiantaeth a oedd yn aml heb yrwyr HGV ar gael ac roedd hyn yn arwain at fethu a gwneud rownd arbennig neu orfod stopio gwasanaeth fel y casgliad gwastraff eitemau swmpus. Serch hynny, gan fod y criwiau â sgiliau amrywiol gallai'r llwythwyr droi'n yrwyr a naill ai roedd llwythwyr yn cael eu recriwtio o asiantaeth neu roedd y casgliad yn dechrau gydag un llwythwr, sydd wedi helpu i leihau nifer y cwynion gan drigolion ynglŷn â chasgliadau'n cael eu colli a oedd yn rhywbeth y gallai'r Maes Gwasanaeth ei fesur.
- Roedd lefelau absenoldeb yn cael eu monitro, roedd lefelau salwch ymhlith staff wedi ei meincodi gydag Awdurdodau Lleol eraill ac roedd lefelau Torfaen yr un fath â lefelau Cynghorau eraill. Roedd lefelau o salwch ymhlith staff gweithredol yn tueddu i fod yn uwch na staff swyddfa. Roedd lefelau salwch yn yr adran wastraff yn dangos tueddiad ar i lawr ac roedden nhw'n sefydlog.
- Doedd gan yr adran ddim system mewn grym a oedd yr un fath ag 'Ask Alison' ac roedd rhai aelodau o'r criw wedi dweud eu bod yn anghyfforddus wrth ddefnyddio technoleg ac wedi gofyn i'w Rheolwyr Swyddfa i gyflwyno'u ceisiadau am wyliau a oedd wedyn yn cael ei wneud ar-lein ar eu rhan oherwydd nad oedden nhw'n gyfforddus wrth ddefnyddio technoleg. Serch hynny roedd yr adran yn cael sgysiau gyda'r criwiau ble roedd modd iddyn nhw drafod materion gyda rheolwyr mewn grwpiau bach ac roedd hyn yn gweithio'n effeithiol.
- Pan oedd y timau gyda'i gilydd roedd modd trin nifer o faterion yn gyflym, roedd anogaeth i'r staff i gyd i adrodd yn ôl gydag unrhyw faterion. Pan grëwyd y rowndiau casglu yn gyntaf, cawson nhw eu gwneud gan ddefnyddio meddalwedd cyfrifiadur, a phan ddangoswyd y rowndiau i'r gyrwyr, cymeron nhw'u rhan ac awgrymu newidiadau er mwyn iddyn nhw weithio'n fwy effeithiol. Roedd y criwiau'n cydweithio'n dda ac roedd ganddyn nhw fforwm er mwyn adrodd am unrhyw faterion.
- Doedd dim terfyn amser ar gyfer cwblhau rowndiau, roedd y criwiau'n gweithio diwrnod saith awr a hanner a doedd dim o'r rowndiau yma y tu hwnt i'r amser yna, felly doedd dim rheswm i'r criwiau fod yn rhuthro gan fod digon o amser ganddyn nhw ar bob rownd. Roedd y criwiau'n cydweithio i orffen y casgliadau ac ar ôl gorffen roedd rhaid iddyn nhw archwilio'r cerbydau a'u glanhau.
- Mae pob unigolyn yn gwybod y gallan nhw fynd i unrhyw un o'r Uwch Dîm Rheoli gyda phroblemau ac roedd hyn yn glir o'r sesiynau ymgysylltu ac roedd rhai wedi achub ar y cyfle i wneud hyn.

- Roedd swyddogion yn ymwybodol o sgysiau gyda'r criwiau bod rhai ohonyn nhw wedi defnyddio 'Ask Alison'.

5.4 Diolchodd y Cadeirydd i Swyddogion am eu hamser a gadawon nhw'n cyfarfod.

5.5 Ar ôl cwblhau eu gwaith craffu, gorffennodd y pwyllgor trwy gynnig yr argymhellion canlynol i'w hystyried:

Argymhelliad 1:- Cynnig ar gyfer Gwelliant 4

Hoffai'r aelodau weld allgynnyrch gwirioneddol neu dystiolaeth o welliant o'r hyfforddiant a'r cyfathrebu a gafwyd gyda'r staff.

Argymhelliad 2:- Cynnig ar gyfer Gwelliant 4

Ystyried gwneud mwy o waith dadansoddi ar y ffigyrau salwch ar gyfer gweithwyr gwastraff i asesu a oedd yna dueddiadau y gellid eu nodi.

Argymhelliad 3:- Cynnig ar gyfer Gwelliant 7

Ystyried proses (yn debyg i Ask Alison) ar gyfer staff gweithredol i'w galluogi i fwydo'n ôl ar faterion cyfrinachol os nad oedden nhw'n gyfforddus yn gwneud hyn mewn fforymau agored. Os oedd tueddiadau'n cael eu nodi yr oedd angen i'r Aelodau fod yn ymwybodol ohonyn nhw neu y gallan nhw helpu â nhw, dylai'r wybodaeth yna gael ei rhannu trwy broses gyfrinachol.

Roedd yr Aelodau'n fodlon gyda'r camau a gafodd eu gwneud gyda'r diweddariadau eraill.

6. Ynni Gwyrdd, yn enwedig y defnydd o'r Technolegau Solar

6.1 Croesawodd y Cadeirydd Prif Swyddog Cynorthwyol y Gwasanaethau Technegol, Arweinydd y Grŵp Rheoli Eiddo, y Rheolwr Ynni a'r Cynghorydd Arbenigol ar Dechnoleg Solar Adnewyddadwy i Bartneriaethau Lleol i'r cyfarfod.

6.2 Cyflwynodd Prif Swyddog Cynorthwyol y Gwasanaethau Technegol yr adroddiad gan bwysleisio'n arbennig y canlynol:

- Roedd y Cyngor wedi bod yn gweithio gyda Phartneriaethau Lleol i ymgymryd ag adolygiad o asedau tir sy'n eiddo i'r Cyngor. Roedd yr adolygiad wedi nodi 20 lleoliad posibl, ar ôl dadansoddiad ac arolwg o'r safleoedd cafodd 5 safle eu rhoi ar restr fer a nodwyd mai Tŷ Coch oedd yr opsiwn dewisedig.
- Roedd potensial gan Dŷ Coch i ddod ag incwm tymor hir i'r Cyngor a chwrdd â nifer o strategaethau'r Cyngor ar gyfer lleihau carbon
- Ynghyd â'r Partneriaeth Lleol roedd y Cyngor wedi cynhyrchu Achos Busnes Amlinellol a oedd yn dilyn cynllun busnes 5 achos.
- Nododd yr Achos Busnes Amlinellol yr opsiwn dewisedig o fferm solar 3.85MW ar safle Tŷ Coch.
- Roedd yr adroddiad yn cynnwys tabl o'r safleoedd wedi eu hasesu yn

erbyn y ffactorau llwyddiant hanfodol o'r sgrinio lefel uchel.

- Roedd yr adroddiad hefyd yn cynnwys tabl a oedd yn rhestru cyfleoedd a chyfyngiadau safle Tŷ Coch.
- Roedd cysylltiad i'r grid wedi ei sicrhau ar gyfer y safle gyda Western Power.
- Roedd yr achos ariannol ar gyfer safle Tŷ Coch yn dangos, mewn egwyddor, bargaen fforddiadwy i'r Cyngor ac un y gellid ei hariannu, serch hynny roedd gwaith ariannol yn dal i fynd ymlaen, a byddai angen ystyried yr effaith ar incwm a gwariant y Cyngor.
- Roed ymgynghoriad wedi bod gyda'r Uwch Swyddogion perthnasol ac Arweinydd y Cyngor.
- Roedd angen Cenedlaethol am ynni adnewyddol ac roedd gan y Cyngor nifer o brosiectau adnewyddol llai eisoes.

6.3 Gofynnodd yr aelodau gyfres o gwestiynau a rhoddwyd yr atebion canlynol gan Swyddogion a'r Cyngorydd Arbenigol:

- Roedd llawer o'r wybodaeth yn yr adroddiad yn seiliedig ar ragolygon, serch hynny roedd Swyddogion yn defnyddio rhagolygon a oedd yn cael eu cydnabod yn Genedlaethol. Roedd swyddogion yn teimlo ei fod yn gynllun cyffrous ac roedd y ffigyrau'n dangos bod modd ei ariannu.
- Roedd swyddogion yn edrych ar hyn o bryd ar drefniant gyda Llywodraeth Cymru a fyddai'n gwarantu lefel o incwm a hefyd rhagolygon prisiau.
- Roedd swyddogion yn hyderus am y lefel o incwm yr oedd modd cynhyrchu o allgynnyrch y paneli.
- Roedd yn anodd rhagweld y gost cyfalaf i gychwyn, ond byddai hyn yn dod yn fwy eglur wrth i'r broses ddatblygu a nesáu at Achos Busnes llawn.
- Roedd asesiadau Lefel Uchel yn dal i gael eu gwneud ar y safle ac hyd nes y byddai canlyniadau'r asesiadau'n hysbys, ni fyddai'r costau cyfalaf yn hysbys chwaith.
- Roedd cysylltiad i'r Grid gyda Western Power wedi ei sicrhau ac roedd y Cyngor wedi derbyn y gost am hynny, serch hynny roedd Swyddogion yn edrych a oedd opsiwn o gysylltiad is i'r grid gyda Western Power a fyddai'n well o ran gwerth am arian.
- Byddai swyddogion yn gofyn i Western Power i wneud cais am Ddatganiad o Waith i'r Grid Cenedlaethol, a byddai angen cost am hynny.
- Roedd ymchwiliadau i'r tir ac Astudiaethau Ecolegol yn mynd ymlaen ar hyn o bryd, hyd nes yr oedd y ddau wedi eu cwblhau, nid oedd modd i swyddogion roi manyleb llawn i fynd i dendr. Gan fod y safle yn hen dip roedd yr ymchwiliadau'n angenrheidiol, serch hynny roedd fferm solar yn gweddu i'r math o dir gan nad oedd angen cloddio seiliau mawr.
- Byddai swyddogion wedi hoffi rhoi mwy o wybodaeth i Aelodau ar yr agweddau ariannol, serch hynny roedd angen craffu ar y cynnig yn gynnar yn y broses. Os nad oedd gwybodaeth bellach ar gael erbyn cyflwyno i'r cabinet, byddai modd iddyn nhw wneud penderfyniad ar sail egwyddor a phe bai'r sefyllfa mewn 6 mis yn dangos nad oedd yn

ariannol fanteisiol yna ni fyddai'r cynnig yn cael ei gario ymlaen.

- Roedd y rhagolwg blaenorol yn seiliedig ar fferm solar 5mw, ar ôl edrych ar y materion amrywiol roedd Swyddogion wedi penderfynu mynd am fferm solar 3.85mn. Byddai fferm solar 3.85mw yn creu llai o incwm a byddai'r gost cyfalaf yn gostwng gan fod maint y fferm yn llai.
- Y rhagolwg ar gyfer pris ynni ar gyfer y flwyddyn bresennol oedd 2.5% serch hynny yn Ebrill cododd prisiau trydan o 3.6%, roedd yna gynnydd o hyd uwchben yr hyn a oedd yn cael ei rhagweld. Roedd yn anodd rhagddweud prisiau ynni, serch hynny o weld biliau ynni'r Cyngor am yr 20 mlynedd ddiwethaf, roedd Swyddogion wedi bod yn geidwadol iawn o ran yr hyn fyddai'r ffrwd incwm, roedd yn debygol y byddai'n fwy ond roedden nhw'n gweithio ar sail y rhagolwg cydnabyddedig.
- Yn yr Achos Busnes amlinellol roedd yna dabl a oedd yn cynnwys y safleoedd a aseswyd. Tŷ Coch oedd y safle fwyaf ymarferol, yn bennaf oherwydd agosatrydd y safle ar y cysylltiad i'r grid. Doedd y tir ddim yn cael ei ddefnyddio ar hyn o bryd ac roedd yn safle anodd i'w gwerthu neu i'w defnyddio oherwydd ei statws cynllunio presennol. Ni fyddai'r cynnig ar gyfer fferm solar yn mynd ymlaen pe nai bai'r ffigyrau'n dangos ei fod yn fanteisiol.
- Roedd nifer o Awdurdodau Lleol oedd â ffermydd solar a oedd yn dod ag incwm iddyn nhw. Yr agosaf oedd Cyngor Sir Fynwy a fyddai'n hapus i rannu gwybodaeth.
- Byddai'r Achos Busnes terfynol yn cael ei gyflwyno i'r pwyllgor ar ôl mynd trwy'r broses caffael a phan oedd ffigyrau'n fwy sicr.
- I gyflenwi'r fferm solar byddai angen i'r Cyngor fynd i gytundeb pris sefydlog a fyddai'n rhoi sicrwydd o ran cost. O ran elw byddai'n rhaid i'r Cyngor ddewis p'un ai i gymryd y sicrwydd a oedd yn cael ei gynnig gan Lywodraeth Cymru a fyddai'n gostwng y risg ac o bosibl yn lleihau'r buddion neu i ddewis amwysedd ffordd y farchnad yn erbyn costau ynni'r Cyngor ei hun.
- Roedd gan Swyddogion fodiwl ariannol manwl a oedd wedi ei rannu'n elfennau yn byddai angen cyfrif amdany'n nhw gan gynnwys; cost gweithredu, cynnal a chadw, trethi busnes, yswiriant, costau adeiladu, costau datblygu a rheoli'r prosiect. Roedd lawer o waith wedi ei wneud eisoes, roedd profi meddal ar y farchnad wedi bod ac roedd rhai elfennau wedi mynd allan at dendr. Byddai Swyddogion yn fwy na bodlon rhannu'r modiwl gyda'r pwyllgor.
- O ran hyd oes y paneli byddai yna warant gan y gwneuthurwyr o 20-25 mlynedd, yn dibynnu ar y gwneuthuriad a byddai disgwyl iddynt weithio am amser wedi hynny. Roedd lawer o gyfarpar gwerthfawr mewn ffermydd solar ac roedd modd ailgylchu llawer o'r deunydd o'r ceblau a'r strwythurau. Doedd dim sicrwydd faint fyddai cost dadgomisiynu serch hynny y disgwyliad yn y farchnad oedd y byddai costau dadgomisiynu yn cael eu talu gan gostau ailgylchu'r deunydd.
- Roedd Swyddogion yn hyderus y byddai'r prosiect yn ymarferol ac yn dod ag incwm i'r Cyngor.
- Roedd ymgynghoriad wedi bod gyda'r Tîm Arweinyddol.
- Roedd gan safle'r British bosibiliadau ar gyfer ynni adnewyddol serch hynny roedd yn cael ei thrin ar wahân gan fod nifer o agweddau yr oedd

angen eu hystyried fel pecyn cyfan ar safle'r British. Doedd safle'r British ddim yn cael ei diystyru, serch hynny roedd ganddi hanes hir ac roedd Tŷ Coch yn cael ei ddilyn fel dewis hawdd.

- Y broses oedd adnabod nifer o safleoedd yr oedd y Cyngor yn berchen arnynt a gosod meini prawf gan gynnwys pa mor agos oedd i gysylltiad â'r grid, lleoliad, defnydd y tir, mynediad a lefelau tywyniad.
- Pe bai safle Tŷ Coch yn methu oherwydd problemau fel gwrthod caniatâd cynllunio neu broblemau gydag astudiaethau o'r cynefinoedd, byddai Swyddogion yn ystyried ail-edrych ar un o'r lleoliadau eraill.
- Roedd ynni solar ar y ddaear fel arfer angen 5 erw ar gyfer bob megawat. Roedd gan safle Tŷ Coch 40 erw, serch hynny roedd yna nifer o gyfyngiadau ar y safle a oedd yn tocio'r safle ar gyfer y paneli a oedd yn cynnwys, cysgodi, llinellau pŵer uwchben, problemau tirweddu a gobeithion Ymddiriedolaeth y Gamlas. Byddai'r prosiect yn fenter dylunio ac adeiladu a byddai'r Contractwr yn edrych yn derfynol ar faint y system, gan ystyried cyfyngiadau'r safle.
- Peth prin oedd cael hyd i gysylltiad fforddiadwy i'r grid serch hynny roedd safle Tŷ Coch yn werth yr arian.
- Roedd Swyddogion wedi ceisio cael cydbwysedd rhwng y llif arian yn y blynyddoedd cynnar a gwneud yn siŵr bod y Cyngor yn cael cymaint o elw o'r cynllun a phosibl.
- Roedd y ffigyrau cyfradd elw mewnol wedi dod oddi wrth Gyfrifydd Cyfalaf y Cyngor a chawsant eu cyflwyno yn y modiwl oddi wrth y Cynghorydd Arbenigol. Roedd trafodaethau'n digwydd gyda chydweithwyr yn Adran Gyllid y Cyngor mewn perthynas â chyfradd y cynllun a'r llif arian, pe bai Aelodau'n teimlo bod y ffigyrau'n fuddiol bydden nhw cael eu rhannu gyda'r pwyllgor.
- Roedd y Cyngor wedi derbyn cynnig gan Western Power am gysylltiad i'r grid gyda thaliad cychwynnol o £2500, roedd gan Western Power gerrig milltir yr oedden nhw'n disgwyl i'r Cyngor gwrdd â nhw ac a oedd yn cynnwys caniatâd cynllunio o fewn amser penodol a gwneud taliadau. Pe na bai'r Cyngor yn cwrdd â'r cerrig milltir gallai Western Power dynnu'r cynnig yn ôl.
- Pe bai prisiau ynni'n codi a'r fferm yn cynhyrchu mwy o ynni na'r disgwyl yna byddai o fwy o werth i'r Cyngor gwrthbwysu yn erbyn yr hyn oeddynt yn prynu o'r grid. Pe bai'r Cyngor yn penderfynu mynd gyda gwarant Llywodraeth Cymru yna fe fyddai yna bris sefydlog a byddai Llywodraeth Cymru wedyn yn dosbarthu'r ynni trwy eu cytundebau caffael a oedd yn cael eu rhannu ar draws Cymru.
- Dim ond 40% o fil ynni oedd ar gyfer ynni, roedd y 60% arall ar gyfer trethi'r Llywodraeth, cymorthdaliadau a chysylltiad i'r grid.
- Roedd Llywodraeth Cymru yn cynnig gwarant i Awdurdodau Lleol er mwyn rhoi hyder i fynd ymlaen gyda phrosiectau ffermydd solar, serch hynny byddent yn disgwyl i gynghorau wneud yn well mewn rhagolwg marchnad agored.
- Roedd Ofgem yn edrych ar hyn o bryd ar ffordd wahanol yn y farchnad, sut roedd y farchnad yn gweithredu a'r ffordd yr oedd Cytundebau Prynu Pŵer (CPP) yn cael eu sefydlu.
- Gall bydd cyfle yn ardal Cwmbrân ar gyfer tynnu trwy weiren breifat a

fyddai'n caniatáu cysylltiad uniongyrchol a fyddai'n osgoi'r angen i dalu taliadau rhwydwaith, a oedd yn caniatáu i drefniadau weiren breifat i gael pris CPP llawer uwch, byddai'r opsiwn yn parhau i gael ei ystyried.

- Os oedd prosiect y fferm solar i gychwyn ar yr un amser â safle'r Pencadlys Heddlu arfaethedig byddai'r trafndiaeth adeiladu'n cael ei reoli trwy gynllun rheoli trafndiaeth.
- Byddai'r fferm solar yn cymryd tua dau-dri mis i'w sefydlu.
- Roedd Swyddogion am farn mewn egwyddor gan y pwyllgor, a rhoddon nhw sicrwydd i'r aelodau na fyddai'r prosiect yn mynd ymlaen pe bai prawf na fyddai'n fuddiol. Roedd Awdurdodau Lleol eraill yn mynd trwy'r un broses ar hyn o bryd o edrych ar gyflwyno fferm solar.
- Roedd y ffigwr cyfansawdd yn cynnwys cost glanhau'r paneli yn rheolaidd.

6.4 Darllenodd y Cadeirydd yn uchel nifer o sylwadau a gafodd eu gwneud ar Facebook gan aelodau o'r cyhoedd, a diolchodd iddyn nhw am eu sylwadau.

6.5 Mewn perthynas ag un o'r sylwadau dywedodd y Rheolwr Ynni bod rheoliadau adeiladu newydd yn mynnu bod pob ysgol newydd â phaneli solar.

6.6 Diolchodd y Cadeirydd i'r Swyddogion am ei cyfraniadau gwerthfawr a gadawon nhw'r cyfarfod.

6.7 Ar ôl cwblhau eu gwaith craffu, gorffennodd y pwyllgor trwy gynnig yr argymhellion canlynol i'w hystyried:

Argymhelliad 1:-

Roedd y Pwyllgor, mewn egwyddor, yn cefnogi'r argymhelliad a'r lleoliad a awgrymwyd ond roedd ganddyn nhw bryderon ynglŷn â'r agwedd ariannol yn y rhagolygon. Roedd teimlad bod rhaid i'r prosiect fod o fudd i'r Cyngor, ac felly roedd angen gwybodaeth fwy cadarn cyn gwneud penderfyniad ffurfiol. Rhaid i unrhyw risgiau ffurfiol gael eu rheoli neu eu lleddfu.

Argymhelliad 2:-

Roedd sylwadau gan drigolion trwy gyfryngau cymdeithasol (Facebook) yn dangos diffyg gwybodaeth ynglŷn â'r gwaith arloesol a oedd eisoes wedi cael ei wneud ac a oedd yn dal i gael ei wneud trwy ddefnyddio ynni adnewyddol trwy'r fwrdeistref. Dylid dweud am hyn a'i hybu er mwyn rhoi gwybod i drigolion am y camau sy'n cael eu cymryd.

Wrth orffen rhoddodd aelodau'r sylwadau canlynol:

- Roedd y Pwyllgor yn cytuno â'r cyfeiriad ond yn teimlo byddai arbenigwyr eraill fel cyllid yn gallu dweud a oedd yn ddefnydd priodol o adnoddau'r Cyngor.
- Roedd y Pwyllgor yn cytuno gyda'r lleoliad a ddewiswyd.
- Byddai angen gwybodaeth fwy cywir cyn y gallai'r pwyllgor rhoi arweiniad

ar y dewis mwyaf priodol i'r Cyngor yn seiliedig ar y brasluniau a ddarparwyd mewn perthynas ag incwm yn y blynyddoedd cynnar neu gwneud y mwyaf o incwm cyfan. Serch hynny, y disgwyl oedd y byddai'r arbenigwyr ariannol yn gallu rhoi cyngor ar hyn wrth i fwy o wybodaeth gael ei darparu.

- Roedd y Pwyllgor wedi ystyried y Cyd-destun Strategol, ond yn teimlo ei fod yn rhy gynnar i ystyried yr Achos Economaidd a'r Achos Ariannol ar gyfer cyflenwi'r prosiect a phrosiectau yn y dyfodol yn fanwl oherwydd yn ansicrwydd a oedd yn dal i fodoli.

7. Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Nesaf

Cafodd yr aelodau eu hatgoffa o'r Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Cymunedau Glanach – Sesiwn Weledigaeth ar ddydd Mercher 27^{ain} Mehefin 2018.

Llofnodwyd Cadeirydd Dyddiad.....

Cofnodion gan Rachel Beale, Uwch Swyddog Cefnogi Busnes (Gwasanaethau Democrataidd), Dydd Mercher 20^{fed} Mehefin 2018