MEETING OF THE CABINET
OF TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
Held on Tuesday, 4 September 2018 at 10.30am
In the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hanbury Road, Pontypool, NP4 6YB

MINUTES

1 Attendance **Action**

Councillor

Executive Members (with Portfolios):

Anthony Hunt – Leader
Veronica Crick – Executive Member Performance Improvement & Corporate Governance
Fiona Cross – Executive Member Environment
David Daniels – Executive Member Communities, Housing & Anti-Poverty
Alan Jones – Business, Tourism, Leisure & Culture
Mandy Owen – Executive Member Children and Young People
David Yeowell – Executive Member for Education and Life Long Learning

Officers:

Justine Cass - Deputy Monitoring Officer & Solicitor
Dave Congreve – Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy)
Rachel Jowitt – Chief Officer Neighbourhoods, Planning & Public Protection
Dave Lilly – Head of Financial Services
Victor Mbvundula - Corporate Asset Manager
Dermot McChrystal - Chief Officer Education
Keith Rutherford – Chief Officer Social Care & Housing
John Tushingham – Head of Access, Engagement & Performance
Alison Ward – Chief Executive
Lynne Williams – Head of Business Support & Intelligence

Also attending:
Rachel Beale, Senior Business Support Officer (Democratic Services)

In the public gallery:
1 Member of the Press and Public

2 Apologies for absence

2.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Richard Clark.

3 Declarations of Interest

3.1 The following interests were declared:

- Councillor Veronica Crick declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 7 as her husband is vice chair on the museum board.

- Councillor Alan Jones declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 as he had been consulted as a Member of Blaenavon Town Council, he declared a further interest as chair of the World Heritage Group.

4 Confirmation of Cabinet minutes - 10.7.2018

4.1 The minutes were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

5 Updates on actions

5.1 It was noted that there were no outstanding actions.

6 Initial Financial Forecast 2018-2019

6.1 The Head of Financial Services outlined the initial financial forecast for the 2018/19 revenue and capital budgets and stated that early forecast indicated that without corrective action there could be a potential net revenue budget overspend of £1.7 million on a budget of £173 million. An update was also provided to Cabinet on the estimated reserves positon.

6.2 The Leader thanked officers for their work, and noted that the potential £1.7 million overspend was approximately 1% of the Council's budget and whilst it was not something that could be taken for granted it was not a position that was out of keeping with other Local Authorities. Budget pressures in Social Care was not only an area of concern for Torfaen but across the whole of the UK as demand continued to rise.

6.3 Cabinet agreed that:

- The Forecast position in respect of each service area and that actions being taken by Chief Officers to address their adverse variances were noted.
- Specific approval is given as per paragraph 7.3 of the report.
- Specific approvals relating to the use, or amendment, of reserves are actioned by the Leader in accordance with normal practice.

Councillor Veronica Crick left the meeting having declared a prejudicial interest in item 7.

7 Torfaen Museum Trust Funding Reduction

7.1 Councillor Jones introduced the report and commented that it was proposed to reduce the Museums funding by £26,700 which would be delivered in measured steps of £6,675 each year over the next 4 years starting in 2019/20. The decision to approve the funding reduction needed to be made by the 30th September in order to meet contractual obligations. By reducing the funding in small increments over a longer period of time gave the Museum time to adapt and make the necessary changes to acclimatise to the reduction in funding.

He thanked the Officers who have worked with the museum over the last

few years and hoped that the relationship could continue in order help identify creative and innovative solutions to ensure sustainable future for the museum.

7.2 The Chief Officer Neighbourhoods, Planning & Public Protection added that the Council's Heritage Officer would be available to assist the Museum with looking at different options of delivery. Whilst the Museum were receiving a reduction in funding, the Council was hopeful that their historic legacy could be maintained and promoted.

7.3 The Leader thanked Officers and the Executive Member for the report stating that it was the unfortunate reality of funding in 2018. He thanked the Museum for their engagement and understanding of the financial position that the Council was faced.

7.4 The Chief Officer Neighbourhoods, Planning & Public Protection gave the following response to questions asked by Councillor Yeowell:

- Over the next four years the proposal was to reduce the Museums funding to £50,000 which would help contribute to the Councils Medium Term Financial Plan.
- During the four year period Officers would continue to work with the museum to identify solutions, new models of working and new initiative ways to generate revenue.
- The museum responded very positively to the approach from the Executive Member and the Leader, they would rather not be faced with the reduction in funding however accepted the decision.
- It was the museums proposal to phase reduction over a number of years to acclimatise and look for other funding to bridge the gaps.
- Officers would continue to work with the Museum to change their operational model to allow the museum to remain open.

7.5 Cabinet agreed to approve a reduction to Torfaen Museum Trust's core cultural grant funding of £26,700, over the next four years, in reducing amounts of £6,675 each year.

Councillor Veronica Crick returned to the meeting.

8 Targeted Regeneration Investment Programme

8.1 The Chief Officer Neighbourhoods, Planning & Public Protection highlighted the key areas of the report which sought approval to use receipts obtained from the Vibrant and Viable Places Programme on the Strategic Regeneration Priority projects which included:

- Developing Springboard 2 Business Incubation
- The Grange University Hospital Medi Park
- The regeneration of Pontypool Town Centre
- The regeneration of the British Site
- The continued management of the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site

8.2 The report also required Cabinet to approve the draft 'Cardiff Capital Region Regeneration Plan for the use of the Targeted Regeneration Investment Programme' and give authority for nominated Officers to represent the Council on the Regional Regeneration Forum.

8.3 Cabinet agreed to:

- Approve the final draft of the Regional Regeneration Plan on the terms set out in the report.
- Approve the use of the THP receipts as set out in section 5.3.2 of the report.
- Delegate authority to the Chief Officer, Neighbourhoods, Planning and Public Protection and their nominated deputy to act on the Council's behalf at the Regional Regeneration Board on the matters set out in the section 5.5 of the report.

9 Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site Management Plan (2018 - 2023)

9.1 The Leader announced that the item had been deferred in order to allow Members to see the final report at a future Cabinet meeting.

10 Proposed Disposal of Fir Tree Farm

10.1 Councillor Crick provided Cabinet with the background in relation to Fir Tree Farm making the following comments:

- The Council was currently reviewing all its assets.
- The Farm was situated very close to Llandegveth Reservoir and access was via a small track.
- The farm consisted on 74 acres of grazing land.
- The farm was subject to two lifetime tenancies which was granted in 1979, however the Council inherited the freehold of the farm during Local Government reorganisation in 1996.

10.2 The Corporate Asset Manager outlined the key areas of the report:

- In order to reduce the amount of officer time and cost being taken up in the management of Fir Tree Farm it was proposed that the Council as landlord enters into negotiation with the tenant regarding the surrender of part of or all of the farm tenancy to enable disposal.
- The surrendered land would be offered for sale with vacant possession, with the farmer retaining a smaller holding.
- If negotiations were not successful then it was proposed that the farm be put on the market for sale subject to the tenancies.

10.3 Cabinet agreed:

- To give authorisation to the Assistant Chief Executive Resources to negotiate terms for surrender of one or both tenancies for Fir Tree Farm to enable disposal of part or the entirety of Fir Tree Farm with vacant possession if the tenant farmer is agreeable to this position.
- To approve that the part or parts of Fir Tree Farm that the tenant may

agree to surrender following negotiations be deemed surplus to Council requirement and officers be authorised to market the surplus land.

- That in the absence of a negotiated agreement Cabinet approves that the entirety of Fir Tree Farm be deemed surplus to Council requirements and marketed subject to the two tenancies.
- To grant delegated authority to the Executive Member for Performance Improvement and Corporate Governance to determine any other matters pertaining to surrender of tenancy the proposed disposal that may require further executive approval, as the Cabinet member with responsibility for operational asset management.

Chair: ……

Minutes: Rachel Beale, Senior Business Support Officer (Democratic Services)
4th September 2018

CYFARFOD CABINET
CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL TORFAEN
A gynhaliwyd ar ddydd Mawrth, 4 Medi 2018 am 10.30am
Yn Siambr y Cyngor, y Ganolfan Ddinesig, Hanbury Road, Pont-y-pŵl NP4 6YB

COFNODION

1. Yn Bresennol

Cynghorwyr

Aelodau Gweithredol (gyda Phortffolio):

Anthony Hunt – Arweinydd
Veronica Crick – Aelod Gweithredol Gwella Perfformiad a Llywodraethu Corfforaethol
Fiona Cross – Aelod Gweithredol yr Amgylchedd
David Daniels – Aelod Gweithredol Cymunedau, Tai a Gwrth-dlodi
Alan Jones – Aelod Gweithredol Busnes, Twristiaeth, Hamdden a Diwylliant
Mandy Owen – Aelod Gweithredol Plant a Phobl Ifanc
David Yeowell – Aelod Gweithredol Addysg a Dysgu Gydol Oes

Swyddogion:

Justine Cass – Dirprwy Swyddog Monitro a Chyfreithiwr
Dave Congreve – Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol (Strategaeth)
Rachel Jowitt – Prif Swyddog Cymdogaethau, Cynllunio ac Amddiffyn y Cyhoedd
Dave Lilly – Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Ariannol
Victor Mbvundula – Rheolwr Asedau Corfforaethol
Dermot McChrystal – Prif Swyddog Addysg
Keith Rutherford – Prif Swyddog Gofal Cymdeithasol a Thai
John Tushingham – Pennaeth Mynediad, Ymgysylltiad a Pherfformiad
Alison Ward – Prif Weithredwr
Lynne Williams – Pennaeth Cymorth Busnes a Deallusrwydd

Hefyd yn bresennol:
Rachel Beale, Uwch Swyddog Cymorth Busnes (Gwasanaethau Democrataidd)

Yn yr oriel gyhoeddus:
1 Aelod o'r Wasg a'r Cyhoedd

2 Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb

2.1 Derbyniwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb oddi wrth y Cynghorydd Richard Clark.

3 Datgan Buddiannau

3.1 Datganwyd y buddiannau canlynol:

- Datganodd y Cynghorydd Veronica Crick fuddiant rhagfarnus yn eitem 7 ar yr agenda gan fod ei gŵr yn is-gadeirydd ar fwrdd yr amgueddfa.
- Datganodd y Cynghorydd Alan Jones fuddiant personol yn eitem 9 ar yr agenda gan fod ymgynghoriad wedi bod gydag ef fel Aelod o Gyngor Trefn Blaenafon; datganodd fuddiant pellach fel cadeirydd y Grŵp Treftadaeth Byd.

4 Cadarnhau cofnodion y Cabinet– 10.7.2018

4.1 Cadarnhawyd y cofnodion fel cofnod cywir o'r cyfarfod.

5 Diweddariadau ar gamau gweithredu

5.1 Nodwyd nad oedd unrhyw gamau gweithredu heb eu cyflawni.

6 Amcanestyniad Ariannol Cychwynnol 2018-2019

6.1 Amlinellodd Pennaeth y Gwasanaethau Ariannol yr amcanestyniad ariannol cychwynnol ar gyfer cyllidebau refeniw a chyfalaf 2018/19 a dywedodd bod amcanestyniad cynnar yn awgrymu y gallai fod gorwariant cyllideb net posibl o £1.7 miliwn ar gyllideb o £173 heb gymryd camau cywiro. Rhoddwyd diweddariad hefyd i'r Cabinet ar sefyllfa debygol y cronfeydd wrth gefn.

6.2 Diolchodd yr Arweinydd i'r swyddogion am eu gwaith, a nododd bod y gorwariant posibl o £1.7 miliwn yn rhyw 1% o gyllideb y Cyngor a thra nad oedd yn rhywbeth y gellid ei gymryd yn ganiataol, nid oedd yn sefyllfa rhy wahanol i sefyllfa Awdurdodau Lleol eraill. Roedd pwysau cyllidebol mewn Gofal Cymdeithasol yn fater o bryder nid yn unig i Dorfaen ond ledled y DU wrth i'r galw barhau i godi.

6.3 Cytunodd y Cabinet:
- Nodi'r sefyllfa mewn perthynas â phob maes gwasanaeth a'r camau sy'n cael eu cymryd gan Brif Swyddogion i ddelio gyda'r amrywiadau andwyol.
- Rhoi cymeradwyaeth benodol yn unol â pharagraff 7.3 yr adroddiad.
- Gweithredu cymeradwyaethau penodol mewn perthynas â defnyddio neu ddiwygio cronfeydd wrth gefn gan yr Arweinydd yn unol â'r drefn arferol.

Gadawodd y Cynghorydd Veronica Crick y cyfarfod ar ôl datgan buddiant rhagfarnus yn eitem 7.

7 Gostyngiad yng Nghyllid Ymddiriedolaeth Amgueddfa Torfaen

7.1 Cyflwynodd y Cynghorydd Jones yr adroddiad a gwneud y sylw bod cynnig i leihau cyllid yr Amgueddfa gan £26,700 a fyddai'n digwydd mewn camau graddol o £6,675 bob blwyddyn am y 4 blynedd nesaf, gan ddechrau yn 2019/20. Roedd angen cymryd y penderfyniad i gymeradwyo'r gostyngiad erbyn 30ain Medi er mwyn bodloni ymrwymiadau cytundebol.
Trwy ostwng y cyllid yn raddol dros gyfnod hirach, roedd yn rhoi amser i'r Amgueddfa addasu a gwneud y newidiadau angenrheidiol i ddelio gyda'r

gostyngiad mewn cyllid.

Diolchodd i'r Swyddogion sydd wedi gweithio gyda'r Amgueddfa dros yr ychydig flynyddoedd diwethaf a gobeithiai y gallai'r berthynas barhau er mwyn adnabod atebion creadigol ac arloesol i sicrhau dyfodol cynaliadwy i'r amgueddfa.

7.2 Ychwanegodd y Prif Swyddog Cymdogaethau, Cynllunio ac Amddiffyn y Cyhoedd y byddai Swyddog Treftadaeth y Cyngor ar gael i gynorthwyo'r Amgueddfa o ran ystyried opsiynau cyflenwi gwahanol. Er bod yr Amgueddfa yn cael gostyngiad mewn cyllid, roedd y Cyngor yn obeithiol y gellid cynnal a hyrwyddo eu hetifeddiaeth.

7.3 Diolchodd yr Arweinydd i'r Swyddogion a'r Aelod Gweithredol am yr adroddiad gan ddweud mai dyma realiti anffodus cyllid yn 2018. Diolchodd i'r Amgueddfa am eu hymgysylltiad a'u dealltwriaeth o'r sefyllfa ariannol roedd y Cyngor yn ei hwynebu.

7.4 Rhoddodd y Prif Swyddog Cymdogaethau, Cynllunio ac Amddiffyn y Cyhoedd yr ymateb canlynol i gwestiynau a ofynnwyd gan y Cynghorydd Yeowell:

- Dros y pedair blynedd nesaf, y cynnig oedd lleihau cyllid yr Amgueddfa i £50,000 a fyddai'n cyfrannu at Gynllun Ariannol Tymor Canol y Cyngor.
- Yn ystod y pedair blynedd, byddai Swyddogion yn parhau i weithio gyda'r Amgueddfa i adnabod atebion, modelau gwaith newydd a dulliau arloesol newydd o gynhyrchu refeniw.
- Ymatebodd yr Amgueddfa yn gadarnhaol iawn i'r cynnig gan yr Aelod Gweithredol a'r Arweinydd; byddai'n well ganddynt beidio â wynebu'r gostyngiad mewn cyllid ond roeddynt yn derbyn y penderfyniad.
- Cynnig yr Amgueddfa oedd cyflwyno'r gostyngiad dros nifer o flynyddoedd er mwyn addasu a chwilio am gyllid arall i bontio'r bylchau.
- Byddai Swyddogion yn parhau i weithio gyda'r Amgueddfa i newid eu model gweithredol i ganiatáu i'r Amgueddfa aros ar agor.

7.5 Cytunodd y Cabinet i gymeradwyo gostyngiad i gyllid grant diwylliannol craidd Ymddiriedolaeth Amgueddfa Torfaen o £26,700, dros y pedair blynedd nesaf, gan ei ostwng £6,675 bob blwyddyn.

Dychwelodd y Cynghorydd Veronica Crick i'r cyfarfod.

8 Rhaglen Targedu Buddsoddiad mewn Adfywio

8.1 Amlygodd y Prif Swyddog Cymdogaethau, Cynllunio ac Amddiffyn y Cyhoedd feysydd allweddol yr adroddiad a oedd yn gofyn am gymeradwyaeth i ddefnyddio derbyniadau a gafwyd gan y Rhaglen Lleoedd Llewyrchus Llawn Addewid ar gyfer y prosiectau Blaenoriaeth Adfywio Strategol a oedd yn cynnwys:

- Datblygu Deori Busnes Springboard 2
- Parc Medi Ysbyty Prifysgol y Grange
- Adfywio Canol Tref Pont-y-pŵl

- Adfywio Safle'r British
- Parhau i reoli Safle Treftadaeth y Byd Tirwedd Diwydiannol Blaenafon.

8.2 Roedd yr adroddiad hefyd yn gofyn i'r Cabinet gymeradwyo drafft 'Cynllun Adfywio Prifddinas-Ranbarth Caerdydd ar gyfer defnyddio'r Rhaglen Targedu Buddsoddiad mewn Adfywio' a rhoi awdurdod i Swyddogion enwebedig i gynrychioli'r Cyngor ar y Fforwm Adfywio Rhanbarthol.

8.3 Cytunodd y Cabinet:

- Gymeradwyo drafft terfynol y Cynllun Adfywio Rhanbarthol ar y telerau a nodwyd yn yr adroddiad.
- Cymeradwyo defnyddio derbyniadau'r RhTB fel y nodwyd yn adran 5.3.2 yr adroddiad.
- Dirprwyo awdurdod i'r Prif Swyddog, Cymdogaethau, Cynllunio ac Amddiffyn y Cyhoedd a'i dirprwy enwebedig i weithredu ar ran y Cyngor ar y Bwrdd Adfywio Rhanbarthol ar y materion a nodwyd yn adran 5.5. yr adroddiad.

9 Cynllun Rheoli Safle Treftadaeth y Byd Tirwedd Diwydiannol Blaenafon (2018-2023)

9.1 Cyhoeddodd yr Arweinydd bod yr eitem wedi ei gohirio er mwyn caniatáu i'r aelodau weld yr adroddiad terfynol mewn cyfarfod o'r Cabinet yn y dyfodol.

10 Cynnig i Werthu Fferm Fir Tree

10.1 Rhoddodd y Cynghorydd Crick y cefndir i'r Cabinet mewn perthynas â Fferm Fir Tree gan wneud y sylwadau canlynol:

- Roedd y Cyngor ar hyn o bryd yn arolygu ei holl asedau.
- Roedd y Fferm yn agos iawn at Gronfa Llandegveth ac roedd mynediad ar hyd llwybr bychan.
- Roedd y fferm yn cynnwys 74 erw o dir pori.
- Roedd y fferm yn destun dwy denantiaeth oes a roddwyd ym 1979, ond etifeddodd y Cyngor ryddfraint y fferm yn ystod Ad-drefnu Llywodraeth Leol ym 1996.

10.2 Amlinellodd y Rheolwr Asedau Corfforaethol y meysydd allweddol yn yr adroddiad:

- Er mwy lleihau faint o amser swyddogion a chostau a gymerwyd wrth reoli Fferm Fir Tree, y cynnig oedd bod y Cyngor fel landlord yn trafod gyda'r tenant mewn perthynas ag ildio rhan neu'r cyfan o denantiaeth y fferm er mwyn galluogi ei gwerthu.
- Byddai'r tir a ildiwyd yn cael ei gynnig ar werth gyda meddiant gwag, gyda'r ffermwr yn cadw daliad llai.
- Os nad oedd trafodaethau'n llwyddiannus, yna'r cynnig oedd rhoi'r fferm ar y farchnad yn amodol ar y tenantiaethau.

10.3 Cytunodd y Cabinet:

- Awdurdodi'r Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol i drafod telerau ar gyfer ildio un neu'r ddwy o'r tenantiaethau ar gyfer Fferm Fir Tree i alluogi gwerthu rhan neu'r cyfan o Fferm Fir Tree gyda meddiant gwag os yw'r ffermwr-denant yn cytuno gyda hyn.
- Cymeradwyo bod y rhan neu'r rhannau o Fferm Fir Tree y gall y tenant gytuno eu hildio ar ôl trafodaethau yn cael eu datgan fel rhai nad yw'r Cyngor eu hangen bellach ac awdurdod swyddogion i farchnata'r tir nad oes ei angen.
- Os nad oes cytundeb, bod y Cabinet yn cymeradwyo bod y cyfan o dir Fferm Fir Tree yn cael ei ddatgan fel tir nad yw'r Cyngor ei angen bellach a'i farchnata yn amodol ar y ddwy denantiaeth.
- Rhoi awdurdod dirprwyedig i'r Aelod Gweithredol ar gyfer Gwella Perfformiad a Llywodraethu Corfforaethol i benderfynu ar unrhyw faterion eraill sy'n gysylltiedig â'r gwerthiant arfaethedig sydd angen cymeradwyaeth weithredol bellach, fel yr aelod o'r Cabinet gyda chyfrifoldeb am reoli asedau gweithredol.

Cadeirydd: ……

Cofnodion: Rachel Beale, Uwch Swyddog Cymorth Busnes (Gwasanaethau Democrataidd)
4ydd Medi 2018