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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, GUILDHALL ON  
WEDNESDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2018**

**MEMBERS**

Councillor Andy Williams, Mayor  
Councillor Robert Walsh, Deputy Mayor

Councillor	Bryan Apsley	Councillor	Paul Jones
"	Andrew Atkinson	"	David Kelly
"	William Baldwin	"	M C King OBE
"	* Trevor Bates	"	Geoff Lowe
"	Sonia Benbow-Jones	"	David Maddocks
"	* David A Bithell	"	* Tina Mannering
"	* I David Bithell, MBE	"	John McCusker
"	* Paul Blackwell	"	Joan Lowe
"	Brian Cameron	"	M G Morris
"	* Krista Childs	"	Beverley Parry-Jones
"	Dana Davies	"	Paul Pemberton
"	Mike Davies	"	John Phillips
"	Michael Dixon	"	Ronnie Prince
"	T Alan Edwards	"	John Pritchard
"	Terry Evans	"	Mark Pritchard
"	* Russell Gilmartin	"	Paul Roberts
"	* D J Griffiths	"	* Rondo Roberts
"	Carrie Harper	"	Graham Rogers
"	Frank Hemmings	"	* Paul Rogers
"	Kevin Hughes	"	* J R Skelland
"	R Alun Jenkins	"	* Debbie Wallice
"	Adrienne Jeorrett	"	Barrie Warburton
"	Gwenfair Jones	"	* Nigel Williams
"	Hugh Jones	"	Derek Wright
"	Marc Jones	"	Phil Wynn

\*Absent

**49**     **TO ANSWER ANY PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR RECEIVE PUBLIC STATEMENTS  
OR PETITIONS UNDER STANDING ORDERS 10 AND 11 OF THE COUNCIL'S  
STANDING ORDERS**

The Mayor reported that no public questions, statements or petitions had been received.

**50**     **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Trevor Bates, David A

Bithell, I David Bithell, MBE, Paul Blackwell, Krista Childs, Russell Gilmartin, David Griffiths, Tina Mannering, Rondo Roberts, Paul Rogers, J R Skelland, Debbie Wallace, Nigel Williams and Derek Wright.

## **51 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Deputy Mayor announced the sad passing of former Mayor and Councillor, Ian Roberts, following a battle with ill health. It was noted that Ian had put his heart into representing the people of Chirk and had served as Mayor for two terms. He referred also to the sad passing of former Mayoress, Mrs Kay Edwards, who had undertaken the role in 2005-2006 alongside her husband and then Mayor, former Councillor Mike Edwards,. The Mayor further advised that, regrettably, he had received news that Councillor David Griffiths' brother had passed away suddenly. He invited all those present to stand with him in silence for a few moments as a mark of respect for David, Ian and Kay and those family members who were suffering from their recent loss.

On behalf of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor took the opportunity to thank fellow Councillors for supporting the recent charity dinner dance in October. The evening had been a great success raising more than £5,000 for the Mayor's charity fund. He also thanked on behalf of the Mayor those who had attended the wine tasting event at Hafod, Coleg Cambria which had raised a further £1600 for the Mayor's charity fund.

It was noted that the Mayor had recently attended several events as part of the 'Wrexham remembers' programme, commemorating 100 years of the armistice. It was recognised that a great deal of work was put into the commemorations across the County Borough. The Deputy Mayor thanked all the staff and Members who were involved in these commemorations.

The Victorian Christmas market had taken place in the town recently and the Deputy Mayor. Thanked the events team, who had put such a lot of work into this popular festive event. He encouraged Members and staff to remember to support the Christmas village on Llwyn Isaf this coming weekend.

The Deputy Mayor advised that sales of the 2019 Wonders of Wrexham calendar were going well and there would be an opportunity to purchase a calendar following the meeting. All profits from the sales would be donated to the Mayor's charity fund.

Finally on behalf of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor took the opportunity to wish Members and staff well over the festive period and a happy and healthy 2019.

## **52 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the meetings of the County Borough Council held on 26 September, 24 October and 22 November be confirmed as a correct record.**

## **53 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COMMITTEES**

No issues were raised by Members in relation to the Minutes of meetings that have taken place since the last ordinary meeting of the Council for which Minutes have been approved and published on the Authority's website.

**54**     **REVIEW OF APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, COMMITTEES, SCRUTINY COMMITTEES AND VARIOUS PANELS**

The Head of Corporate and Customer Services/Monitoring Officer submitted a report (HCCS/69/18) allowing Members to carry out a review of representation of political groups on the Executive Board, Committees, Scrutiny Committees and Various Panels set up by the Council as part of its Constitution.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i)     That the Allocation of Seats as noted in the appendices to report HCCS/69/18 be approved;**
- (ii)    That Councillor Mike Davies take up the vacant seat on the Grievance Committee.**
- (iii)   That Group Leaders and Non-aligned Members notify the Head of Corporate and Customer Services of nominations to any outstanding vacant seats within three weeks of the date of this meeting.**

**REASONS FOR DECISION**

To review the representation of political groups on the Executive Board, Committees, Scrutiny Committees and Various Panels set up by the Council as part of its Constitution.

**55**     **PROTOCOL FOR WEBCASTING MEETINGS**

The Chair of Democratic Services Committee submitted a report (HCCS/62/18) allowing Council to consider the reviewed Protocol for the webcasting of meetings.

In introducing his report the Lead Member advised that reference to the Planning Committee should have been made in paragraph 1 to appendix 1 of the report HCCS/62/18 and he asked that Members take this amendment into account when considering the report.

**RESOLVED - That the revised Webcasting Protocol, as amended, be approved for use from 1 January 2019 for the webcasting of meetings.**

**REASON FOR DECISION**

To approve an updated workable Protocol for webcasting meetings which displays openness and transparency.

**MEMBER DEVELOPMENT**

The Chair of Democratic Services submitted a report (HCCS/68/18) allowing Members:

- (i) To consider the reviewed Member Development Strategy, which was updated in July following feedback from the Member survey (appendix 1 to the report HCCS/68/18 refers).
- (ii) To consider the re- application for WLGA Wales Charter for Member Support and Development Status survey (appendix 2 to the report HCCS/68/18 refers).
- (iii) To consider the WLGA Guidance for Authorities Planning to Implement Personal Development Reviews for Members and promotion of PDR. (survey (appendix 3 to the report HCCS/68/18 refers).

**RESOLVED -**

- (i) **The revised Member Development Strategy be agreed.**
- (ii) **The WLGA GUIDANCE FOR AUTHORITIES PLANNING TO IMPLEMENT PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT REVIEWS FOR MEMBERS be adopted as the policy for Member PDR.**
- (iii) **The application for WLGA Wales Charter for Member Support and Development status be agreed.**

**REASON FOR DECISION**

To ensure that Members of the Democratic Service Committee can monitor progress of the Member development strategy and annual development plan and are provided with the opportunity to develop the skills required enabling them to carry out their role as elected Members including access to individual personal support and development (PDR) meetings.

The WLGA Wales Charter for Member Support and Development provides a broad framework for local planning, self-assessment, action and review. Its wide adoption has raised the overall amount and standard of support given to Members in Wales.

**TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN AND ACTUAL PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2017/18**

The Lead Member for Organisation - Finance, Performance Health and Safety and Governance submitted a report (HF/128/18) presenting the Treasury Management Outturn report and actual Prudential Indicators report for the financial year ended 31 March 2018.

**RESOLVED - The Treasury Management Outturn report and actual Prudential Indicators for 2017/18 be approved.**

## **REASON FOR DECISION**

To comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code and Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

### **58 SEMI-ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW 2018/19**

The Lead Member for Organisation – Finance, Performance, Health & Safety and Governance submitted a report (HF/133/18) allowing Members to review the Semi-Annual Treasury Management activity for 2018-2019

**RESOLVED - The Treasury Management Semi-Annual review 2018-2019 report be noted.**

## **REASON FOR DECISION**

To comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code and Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

### **59 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2019/20**

The Lead Member for Organisation: Finance, Performance, Health and Safety and Governance submitted a report (HF/132/18) asking Council to approve a Council Tax Reduction Scheme to commence in April 2019, for the 2019/20 Financial Year.

## **RESOLVED**

- (i) The making of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations ("the Prescribed Requirements Regulations") by the Welsh Assembly on 27 November 2013 be noted.**
- (ii) The outcome of the consultation exercise undertaken by the Council on its local discretions in its Council Tax Reduction Scheme (section 5) be noted.**
- (iii) The Council Tax Reduction Scheme and Prescribed Requirements (Wales) Regulations 2013, be adopted as the Council's Scheme for the Financial Year 2019/20, subject to the local discretions that the Council is able to exercise as set out in paragraph 6.1 of the report.**
- (iv) The Head of Finance be delegated (in consultation with the Leader) authority to consider, approve and/or deal with as necessary any amendments which may be made to the "Amendment regulations" following consideration by the National Assembly for Wales when these regulations are laid & approved by Welsh Government.**

## **REASONS FOR DECISION**

- (i) The Council is obliged to approve a Council Tax Reduction Scheme for**

2019/20 under the Prescribed Requirements Regulations by 31 January 2019.

- (ii) Due to the timing of the spending Review, it is likely that the uprating regulations for Benefits, will not be laid until December at the earliest, and therefore will not be debated by the National Assembly for Wales until January 2019, as a result it will mean that the amendment regulations will not be approved by the Assembly until late January 2019.

**60 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2018/19**

The Lead Member for Organisation – Finance, Performance Health and Safety and Governance submitted a report (HF/127/18) informing members of the Council's current budgetary position following six months of the 2018/19 financial year.

**RESOLVED - The 2018/19 revenue budget position be noted.**

**REASON FOR DECISION**

To ensure robust budget monitoring arrangements for the financial year and that action is taken to address areas of overspend.

**61 LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES - ELECTORAL REVIEW - WREXHAM**

The Lead Member for Organisation - Finance, Performance, Health and Safety and Governance submitted a report (HCCS/63/18) advising Council of the work currently being undertaken by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission) to review ward boundaries and submit recommendations for all 22 Principal Council areas to Welsh Government to be implemented with, or without modification, in time for the 2022 Local Government Elections. The report also asked Members to consider proposals to the Commission for them to consider in developing an initial proposal on which they will then consult with the Council, Community Councils and local communities and individuals.

The Lead Officer drew Members attention to the following amendment and asked that this be taken into consideration when considering the report.

Whitegate Ward – page 178 Appendix E  
10861 to be replaced with 10850

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) **That the Council supports the wards listed under Appendix A remaining as they currently are. These are wards which already reflect an appropriate level of electoral equality or, where this is not the case, where there are no clear and**

obvious options for change.

- (ii) That the Council agrees to submit the proposals set out in Appendices B – E, as amended, and requests that the Commission takes these proposals forward for public consultation.
- (iii) That the Council agrees to submit the collated information set out in Appendices F - I for the Commission to consider in developing their own proposals for changes to electoral boundaries on which to consult.
- (iv) That the Council also submits the additional information received from town and community councils which is collated at Appendix J.
- (v) That the Council does not propose any new ward areas within the County Borough.

#### **REASONS FOR DECISION**

- (i) Proposals for change have been made where all local Members are supportive of the potential boundary changes. These proposals are set out at appendices B - E, but it should be noted that whilst the proposed boundary changes set out under appendix C have been agreed by all relevant Members, the proposed ward names have not.
- (ii) Information is to be submitted in those areas where no agreement has been reached between local Members on a single proposal. The alternative proposals suggested for each area are set out in appendices F - I.
- (iii) Where there have been no proposals for change received from local Members, or Members have specifically supported current arrangements, these are set out in appendix A.

#### **62 LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY 2018-23**

The Lead Member for Place – Housing submitted a report HHE/53/18 which sought Members' approval for the adoption, publication and implementation of the Local Housing Strategy 2018-23. The report also set out a five-year vision for housing needs and housing related services in the County Borough. The Lead Member for Organisation – Finance, Performance Health and Safety and Governance introduced the report on behalf of the Lead Member for Place – Housing.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (i) The Local Housing Strategy 2018-23 as presented in Appendices 1, 2 and 3

to the report be approved;

- (ii) **Note that the Local Housing Strategy 2018-23 will be published; and**
- (iii) **Note that the Head of Housing & Economy will implement the Strategy with immediate effect.**

#### **REASONS FOR DECISION**

- (i) To replace the Local Housing Strategy 2013-18 ensuring that the Council complies with requirements in the Local Government Act 2003 and the Housing Act (Wales) 2014 to have a published housing strategy; and
- (ii) to ensure that there is a long-term strategy in place for the County Borough to guide Council departments, partners in the private, public and third sectors as well as tenants and residents to address housing and housing related services over the next 5 years.

#### **63 STATEMENT OF GAMBLING POLICY**

The Lead Member for People – Communities, Partnerships, Public Protection and Community Safety submitted a report (HEP/96/18) which sought approval from Council for the Statement of Gambling Policy.

**RESOLVED - That the draft Statement of Gambling Policy be approved.**

#### **REASON FOR DECISION**

- (i) In order to review the Local Authority statement on how it administers its gambling functions.

Councillor Rob Walsh  
Deputy Mayor