

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS AND  
INVESTMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
HELD IN MEETING ROOM 1, GUILDHALL ON  
WEDNESDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2018**

**MEMBERS**

Councillor Paul Roberts, Chair  
Councillor Frank Hemmings, Vice-Chair

Councillor	Sonia Benbow-Jones	Councillor	Geoff Lowe
“	I David Bithell, MBE	“	John Pritchard
“	Dana Davies	“	J R Skelland
“	Kevin Hughes	“	Robert Walsh
	R Alun Jenkins		* Nigel Williams
	Marc Jones		

\*Absent

Also Present – Councillors William Baldwin, Adrienne Jeorrett, Gwenfair Jones and Hugh Jones.

**20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Nigel Williams.

**21 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS, IF ANY**

There were no declarations of interest.

**22 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**AGREED – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 November 2018 be signed as a correct record.**

**23 WORK PROGRAMME**

The Head of Finance submitted a report (HF/126/18s) to assist the Committee in considering and agreeing its work programme.

The Scrutiny Officer introduced the report and advised that there had been no changes proposed to the work programme since the last meeting.

**AGREED: That the Work Programme, attached at Appendix 1 to report HF/126/18s, be agreed.**

**24 TY PAWB**

The Lead Member for People – Communities, Partnerships Public Protection and

Community Safety submitted a report (HHE/45/18s) which allowed Members an opportunity to review and comment on the operational and financial performance of Tŷ Pawb during its first seven months of opening.

In introducing the report, the Lead Member referred to the many successes associated with the project, asking Members to note that it was delivered on time and within budget. He also advised that the current forecast suggested that the number of visitors to Tŷ Pawb within its first 12 months would twice exceed the initial prediction. He also conveyed his personal thanks to all the key officers involved in the project for their hard work and commitment.

During the debate, the following points were raised, in particular:

- Some concern from Members that they were not able to draw meaningful conclusions from the financial information provided as revisions had been made to areas of income and expenditure compared to the original Fourth Street Business Plan. Officers provided an explanation of the current figures and how they compared to those provided in the original plan.
- Suggestion that some of the income target figures within the report were set too low and needed to be more ambitious. It was suggested that these be reviewed.
- Acknowledgment that there had been a number of minor teething problems during the first weeks of opening including failure to produce a programme of events. It was also noted that during the Octoberfest event there had been a number of unfortunate incidents whereby members of the public had been denied access through one of the entrances. Officers advised that this had been a learning process and that this type of event would not be held at Tŷ Pawb in the future.
- Concern from some Members that it was not possible to compare footfall with the previous market layout due to lack of counters previously.
- Suggestion that the measure of success should not be based purely on monetary terms and that the positive impact the various learning and cultural experiences offered to young people and adults at Tŷ Pawb, for example, should be recognised.
- Acknowledgment that Education and Social Services had a significant level of input in the activities provided at Tŷ Pawb.
- Acknowledgement that Tŷ Pawb had a co-operative approach with other venues and that there was a huge level of good will within the creative community in Wrexham.
- Acknowledgment that the traders were an integral part of the Tŷ Pawb experience and of its success.
- The Arts Council for Wales, which had invested in the building, had been extremely positive in terms of its feedback and an application had been made for further funding.

**AGREED -**

- (i) That the Committee acknowledge the significant development and the success of Tŷ Pawb and convey their thanks to everyone involved.**

- (ii) That the annual performance monitoring report for the first 12 months of operation of Tŷ Pawb be scheduled in 2019. Report to include the following:-**
- More detailed breakdown of income and expenditure**
  - Action Plan of the Tŷ Pawb Advisory Board**
  - Feedback from volunteers, traders and visitors to Tŷ Pawb.**

Councillor Paul Roberts  
Chair