

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, GUILDHALL ON
TUESDAY, 12 JUNE 2018

MEMBERS

Councillor Mark Pritchard, Chair
Councillor Hugh Jones, Vice-Chair

Councillor	Andrew Atkinson	Councillor	D J Griffiths
“	William Baldwin	“	* David Kelly
“	David A Bithell	“	Joan Lowe
“	Terry Evans	“	Phil Wynn

*Absent

Also Present – Councillors Brian Cameron, Dana Davies, Michael Dixon, Frank Hemmings, R Alun Jenkins, Adrienne Jeorrett, Gwenfair Jones, Paul Jones, Bryan Apsley, John Pritchard, Paul Roberts, Graham Rogers, Paul Rogers and Robert Walsh

1 QUESTIONS

Public Question

In accordance with Standing Order 10 of the Council's Constitution, a member of the public submitted a question relating to the Wrexham Local Development Plan.

In the absence of the Lead Member for Organisation – Planning and Corporate Services, the Head of Environment and Planning responded to the question accordingly.

Members' Question

In accordance with Standing Order 10 of the Council's Constitution, a Member submitted a question relating to car parking charges.

The Lead Member for Place – Environment and Transport responded to the question accordingly.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor David Kelly.

3 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS, IF ANY

Members were reminded of their responsibility, under Paragraph 11 of the Members' Code of Conduct, to declare any interests in relation to any of the business to be transacted at this Meeting. The following declarations were made:

Agenda Item 6 – Response to Notice of Motion – Advice Services Review

Councillor Andrew Atkinson – Personal – Previously a Director of Wrexham Citizens Advice Bureau. The Councillor remained in the meeting taking part in the discussion and voting thereon.

Councillor D J Griffiths – Personal – Childhood friend of CAB Manager. The Councillor remained in the meeting taking part in the discussion and voting thereon.

Councillor Adrienne Jeorrett – Personal – Volunteer at Wrexham Citizens Advice Bureau. The Councillor remained in the meeting taking part in the discussion thereon.

Councillors William Baldwin, David A Bithell, Brian Cameron, D J Griffiths, Adrienne Jeorrett, Gwenfair Jones, Paul Jones, Joan Lowe and Graham Rogers – Personal and Prejudicial – Member of Community Council. The Councillors remained in the meeting and claimed an exemption under Paragraph 12(2) of the Members' Code of Conduct taking part in the discussion and, in the case of Executive Board Members, voting thereon.

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 May 2018 be signed as a correct record.

5 ALLOCATION OF LEAD MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Leader of the Council submitted a report (MP/03/18) to inform Executive Board of the Lead Members appointed in accordance with Article 7.06 of the Council's Constitution and to provide details of each Lead Member's area of responsibility.

In presenting the report, the Leader thanked his fellow Executive Board Members for their hard work undertaken during the past year and acknowledged the difficult decisions which had, and still needed to be, made.

A debate ensued, and the effectiveness of Executive Board was questioned by one Member who suggested there was an inequality of workload amongst Executive Board Members. It was further requested that a performance monitoring report be issued. In response, the Leader agreed to provide a report which would also include information on the effectiveness of opposition leaders, together with the Chairs and Vice Chairs of Scrutiny Committees, Licensing and Planning Committees.

RESOLVED – That the following allocation of Lead Responsibilities to the Members of the Executive Board, as named in report MP/03/18 be approved with immediate effect:

**Lead Member for Economy - Economic Development & Regeneration –
Councillor Terry Evans**

Lead Member for People - Education – Councillor Phil Wynn

Lead Member for People – Children's Services – Councillor William Baldwin

**Lead Member for People - Health and Adult Social Care – Councillor Joan
Lowe**

**Lead Member for People – Communities, Partnerships, Public Protection and
Community Safety – Councillor Hugh Jones**

Lead Member for People - Youth Services and Anti-poverty – Councillor Andrew Atkinson

Lead Member for Place - Housing – Councillor David Griffiths

Lead Member for Place - Environment & Transport – Councillor David A Bithell

Lead Member for Organisation - Finance, Performance, Health & Safety and Governance – Councillor Mark Pritchard

Lead Member for Organisation - Planning and Corporate Services – Councillor David Kelly

Reason for decision

To provide information on Lead Members and their respective responsibilities appointed by the Leader of the Council for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

6 RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION – ADVICE SERVICES REVIEW

(Members declarations of interest in relation to this item are set out in Minute 3 above)

The Lead Member for People – Communities, Partnerships, Public Protection and Community Safety, and the Lead Member for Place – Housing submitted a joint report outlining a response relating to Wrexham Citizen’s Advice Bureau (CAB) and the notice of motion raised at full Council on 23 May 2018.

During the debate, the Lead Member gave assurances that the Council were fulfilling their legal responsibility in terms of advice services, and the figure of £25,000 was the amount the CAB had stated would enable them to carry out approximately 5000 interviews. Adding to the comments he confirmed that he was committing to continuing to work with the CAB in order to assist them in finding meaningful ways of delivering the service.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That a grant of £25,000 be paid to Wrexham CAB to enable the delivery of advice services.**
- (ii) That Officers, in consultation with the relevant Lead Members, continue to engage with Wrexham CAB with a view to securing the long term viability of their advice services.**

Reason for decisions

To enable the delivery of approximately 5000 interviews based on the average cost per interview.

7 WELSH LANGUAGE ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2017-18

The Lead Member for People – Communities, Partnerships, Public Protection and Community Safety submitted a report (HCCS/34/18) seeking approval for the

Council's Welsh Language Annual Monitoring Report for 2017/18 prior to it being published on the Council's website.

RESOLVED - That the 2017/18 Welsh Language Annual Monitoring Report be approved.

Reasons for decision

- (i) **To ensure that the Council carries out its duties with regard to the Welsh language as outlined in its Welsh Language Standards.**
- (ii) **To enable the Welsh Language Annual Monitoring Report for 2017/18 to be published on its website as required by the Language Commissioner in accordance with Standards 158, 164 and 170.**

8 WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL INVOLVEMENT STRATEGY

The Lead Member for People – Communities, Partnerships, Public Protection and Community Safety submitted a report (HF/62/18) to approve the new Wrexham County Borough Council Involvement Strategy.

RESOLVED - That the Wrexham County Borough Council Involvement Strategy be approved, and the vision and commitments made within it be endorsed.

Reason for decision

To support WCBC's commitment to the vision within the Strategy: that all people have the information they need to influence the planning and delivery of services. They are engaged and consulted with on decisions which affect them, and where possible we work together to design and deliver services.

9 REQUEST FOR DELEGATED POWERS / AUTHORITY FOR HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

The Lead Member for People – Communities, Partnerships, Public Protection and Community Safety submitted a report (HEP/40/18) seeking approval for delegated powers/authority matters.

RESOLVED - That the Head of Environment and Planning be given the full range of delegated authority powers provided for under the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017.

Reason for decision

To ensure that Officers are properly authorised to carry out the duties and functions of the Council.

10 WREXHAM COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP, ELECTED MEMBER

REPRESENTATIVE

The Lead Member for People – Communities, Partnerships, Public Protection and Community Safety submitted a report (LR/02/18) asking Members to agree to the appointment of Lead Member for Communities, Partnerships, Public Protection and Community Safety as the Elected Member representative onto the Wrexham Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

RESOLVED - That Councillor Hugh Jones, in his role as Lead Member for Communities, Partnerships, Public Protection and Community Safety, be appointed as the Elected Member representative onto the Wrexham Community Safety Partnership.

Reason for decision

To enable an elected member to be part of the statutory community safety partnership, and ensure WCBC fulfils its requirements towards meeting the Crime and Disorder Act 1988.

11

PLAY PLEDGE AND PLAY SUFFICIENCY PARTNERSHIP

The Lead Member for People – Youth Services and Anti-Poverty submitted a report (HEd/13/18) seeking endorsement of the Wrexham Play Pledge and the subsequent development of a Play Sufficiency Partnership to oversee the Local Authority's work in respect of the Play Sufficiency Duty.

The Lead Member presented the report and drew Members' attention to the main points contained within it. During discussions, the following points were raised:

- Importance of focussing on the planning process to ensure consideration was given to providing safe places for children to play. The Lead Member confirmed that he would be arranging a Workshop to highlight what role Planning Committee Members had in ensuring that the needs of children and young people were met.
- Confirmation that the AONB had previously been involved in the play forum, and put significant emphasis on the provision of play.
- Previously, Welsh Government had provided funding at the end of the financial year which enabled the Council to set up a small grants scheme so that communities could apply for funding for play projects. It was noted that if the Council were to receive similar funding this year, a similar grant scheme would be created.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the Play Pledge for Wrexham be endorsed and the development of a Play Sufficiency Partnership that will work to identify barriers to children accessing time and space for play and provide oversight of the Play Sufficiency Action Plan be supported.**
- (ii) That Heads of Department be supported to identify relevant officers to**

be involved in the partnership to ensure that knowledge, skills and resources are coordinated in support of play.

Reasons for decisions

- (i) At a time of reducing investment in play provision, the Play Pledge would help to ensure that appropriate consideration is given to protecting and improving children’s time, space and permission for play within the public realm and other Local Authority run services. In doing so the agreement would enable the Local Authority to demonstrate its commitment to the Play Sufficiency Duty by establishing cross departmental and organisational support for children’s play at no additional cost to the authority.**
- (ii) Whilst the Play Development Team will continue to provide the driving force, maintaining momentum and coordinating cross-departmental activities in support of children’s play, this approach will help ensure that the work of each relevant department/organisation is represented on the Play Sufficiency Partnership. This process would also formalise existing links between the Play Development Team and other departments/organisations and would enable new links to be formed with those partners not yet involved.**
- (iii) The intention is that this partnership meets as regularly as capacity realistically allows to review progress against the play sufficiency action plans and discuss particular challenges associated with improving children’s opportunities for play (more frequent meetings may be required when completing the actual play sufficiency assessments). In between these times actions would be progressed via ongoing email and telephone communication between individuals, and by smaller working groups if necessary. An appropriate level chair should also be identified to ensure ongoing full council commitment to the Play Sufficiency Duty and reports made to the Public Service Board on progress made.**

12 UPDATED TENANT AND RESIDENT ASSOCIATION (TARA) FUNDING RECOGNITION CRITERIA

The Lead Member for Place – Housing submitted a report (HHE/27/18) seeking approval for the adoption of the minor changes to the regulation of Tenant and Resident Associations (TARAs).

The Lead Member presented the report and a discussion ensued. Clarification was sought in relation to the governance arrangements of independent TARAs and it was suggested that consideration should be given to reviewing the current governance of all active TARAs to ensure that Members are confident that they are representative of the tenants.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the updated funding criteria for Tenant and Resident Associations be approved.
- (ii) That the current guidance for all active Tenant and Resident Associations be reviewed to ensure that Executive Board Members are confident that all active Tenant and Resident Associations are representative of the tenants.
- (iii) That a further report be brought back to Executive Board in 12 months time on the work undertaken to ensure the effectiveness of the criteria.

Reason for decision

To ensure that Tenant and Resident Associations across the County Borough continue to receive relevant support from the council following the closure of the Wrexham Tenants' Federation.

13 PRESIDING CHAIR

The Leader vacated the Chair, and the Vice-Chair, Councillor Hugh Jones, presided over the next items on the Agenda to enable the Leader to present Agenda Items 13 to 15 in his capacity as Lead Member for Organisation – Finance, Performance, Health and Safety and Governance.

(Councillor Hugh Jones in the Chair)

14 DRAFT LOCAL PLANNING GUIDANCE NOTE 35: GREAT CRESTED NEWT MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS - JOHNSTOWN NEWT SITE SAC AND THE WIDER COUNTRYSIDE

The Lead Member for Organisation – Planning and Corporate Services submitted a report (HEP/41/18) seeking approval for Local Planning Guidance Note 35: Great Crested Newt Mitigation Requirements – Johnstown Newt Site SAC and the Wider Countryside.

RESOLVED - That Local Planning Guidance Note 35: Great Crested Newt Mitigation Requirements – Johnstown Newt Site SAC and the Wider Countryside as supplementary planning guidance be approved for use in the planning process.

Reason for decision

To enable the Council to meet the requirements of the Habitats Directive and to provide a standard framework for on-site and off-site mitigation requirements for developments affecting GCN in the Johnstown SAC area.

15 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES, SUB-COMMITTEES, PANELS AND WORKING GROUPS

The Lead Member for Organisation – Finance, Performance, Health and Safety and

Governance submitted a report (HCCS/37/18) asking Members to consider the continuation and appointment of Members to the Statutory and Non-Statutory Groups which fall to be reconstituted by the Executive Board.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That the size and political balance (where appropriate) of the Statutory Groups be as set out below, and that in accordance with the wishes of the Political Groups the Members indicated be appointed thereto.

WREXHAM SACRE (5 Members)

Councillor Hugh Jones
Councillor Beverley Parry-Jones
Councillor Graham Rogers

Councillor Phil Wynn
Vacant

ROTA VISITS TO CHILDREN'S HOMES PANEL (6 MEMBERS)

Independent Group (2 seats)

Vacant

Vacant

Labour Group (1 seat)

Councillor Adrienne Jeorrett

Conservative Group (1 seat)

Councillor Beverley Parry-Jones

Wrexham Independent Group (1 seat)

Councillor William Baldwin

Liberal Democrats (1 seat)

Councillor Robert Walsh

ROTA VISITS TO OLDER PEOPLE'S HOMES PANEL (6 Members)

Independent Group (2 seats)

Councillor David Maddocks

Vacant

Labour Group (1 seat)

Councillor Bryan Apsley

Conservative Group (1 seat)

Councillor Debbie Wallace

Wrexham Independent Group (1 seat)

Councillor Joan Lowe

Plaid Cymru Group (1 seat)

Councillor Gwenfair Jones

YJS MANAGEMENT BOARD

Lead Member with responsibility for Partnerships plus –

Independent Group (1 seat)

Vacant

Labour Group (1 seat)

Councillor MC King OBE

Conservative Group (1 seat)

Councillor Paul Rogers

JOINT ADOPTION PANEL (FLINTSHIRE AND WREXHAM) (1 Member)

Councillor Beverley Parry-Jones

WREXHAM FOSTERING PANEL (1 MEMBER)

Councillor Joan Lowe

- (ii) That the size and political balance (where appropriate) of the Executive Board Sub-Committees and Non-Statutory Groups be as set out below, and that in accordance with the wishes of the Political Groups the Members indicated be appointed thereto.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE (CORPORATE TRUSTS) (5 Executive Members)

Councillor David A Bithell

Councillor DJ Griffiths

Councillor Hugh Jones

Councillor Mark Pritchard

Councillor Phil Wynn

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE (SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 2013) (3 Executive Members plus 1 reserve)

Councillor Andrew Atkinson

Councillor David A Bithell

Councillor David Kelly

Councillor Joan Lowe (Reserve)

JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (TEACHING UNIONS) (10 Members)

Independent Group (3 seats)

Councillor David Kelly

Vacant

Councillor Phil Wynn

Labour Group (2 seats)

Councillor Brian Cameron

Councillor Paul Jones

Conservative Group (2 seats)

Councillor Russell Gilmartin

Vacant

Wrexham Independent Group (1 seat)

Councillor John Pritchard

Liberal Democrats (1 seat)

Councillor Robert Walsh

None Aligned (1 seat)

Vacant

JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (NON-TEACHING UNIONS) (7 MEMBERS)

Independent Group (2 seats)

Councillor David Kelly

Councillor Phil Wynn

Labour Group (2 seats)

Councillor Brian Cameron

Councillor Paul Jones

Conservative Group (1 seat)

Councillor Beverley Parry-Jones

Wrexham Independent Group (1 seat)

Councillor William Baldwin

None Aligned (1 seat)

Councillor Mike Davies

DEMOCRACY AND REFORMING LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN WALES WORKING GROUP

Independent Group (4 seats)

Councillor Terry Evans

Councillor David Kelly

Councillor D J Griffiths

Councillor Mark Pritchard

Labour Group (3 seats)

Councillor Dana Davies

Councillor MC King OBE

Councillor Kevin Hughes

Conservative Group (2 seats)

Councillor Hugh Jones

Councillor Beverley Parry-Jones

Wrexham Independent Group (2 seats)

Councillor David A Bithell

Councillor Joan Lowe

Plaid Cymru (1 seat)

Councillor Carrie Harper

Liberal Democrats (1 seat)

Councillor R Alun Jenkins

PLANNING POLICY PANEL (12 MEMBERS)

Independent Group (4 seats)

Councillor Michael Dixon
Councillor T Alan Edwards

Councillor Terry Evans
Councillor D J Griffiths

Labour Group (3 seats)

Councillor Frank Hemmings
Councillor Adrienne Jeorrett

Councillor Graham Rogers

Conservative Group (2 seats)

Councillor Hugh Jones

Councillor M G Morris

Wrexham Independent Group (2 seats)

Councillor Tina Mannering

Councillor John Pritchard

Plaid Cymru (1 seat)

Councillor Marc Jones

CORPORATE LAND AND BUILDINGS STRATEGY GROUP (10 Members)

Independent Group (3 seats)

Councillor Terry Evans
Councillor Phil Wynn

Councillor Mark Pritchard

Labour Group (2 seats)

Councillor Graham Rogers

Councillor Derek Wright

Conservative Group (2 seats)

Councillor Hugh Jones

Councillor Paul Rogers

Wrexham Independent Group (2 seats)

Councillor David A Bithell

Councillor Joan Lowe

Plaid Cymu (1 seat)

Councillor Gwenfair Jones

WREXHAM TENANT MEMBER PARTNERSHIP (10 MEMBERS)

Independent Group (3 seats)

Councillor David Maddocks
Councillor Michael Dixon

Councillor Barrie Warburton

Labour Group (2 seats)

Councillor MC King OBE

Councillor Graham Rogers

Conservative Group (2 seats)

Councillor Andrew Atkinson

Councillor Beverley Parry-Jones

Wrexham Independent Group (2 seats)

Councillor William Baldwin

Councillor Sonia Benbow-Jones

Plaid Cymru (1 seat)

Councillor Carrie Harper

STRATEGIC TRANSPORT WORKING GROUP (3 Members)

Councillor R Alun Jenkins

Councillor David Kelly

Councillor Nigel Williams

plus

Lead Member with responsibility for Economy – Councillor Terry Evans

Lead Member with responsibility for Transport – Councillor David A Bithell

Council's representatives on the Mersey Dee Alliance – Councillors David A Bithell, Hugh Jones and Mark Pritchard.

SCHOOLS FORUM (2 MEMBERS)

Lead Member with responsibility for Education – Councillor William Baldwin
Chair of the Scrutiny Committee with responsibility for this area – to be appointed at first meeting of LLSC.

CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL (3 Members)

Lead Member with responsibility for Children's Services – Councillor William Baldwin

Chair and Vice-Chair of the Scrutiny Committee with responsibility for this area – Councillor Derek Wright and Councillor Beverley Parry-Jones

- (iii) That any unfilled vacancies be notified to the Head of Corporate and Customer Services by the relevant group leaders within 7 working days.**
- (iv) That this matter be dealt with as an urgent item of business in accordance with Standing Order 43(1) of the Council's Standing Orders.**

Reason for decisions

To agree the appointment of Members to the Statutory and Non-Statutory Groups established by the Executive Board. The reason for urgency is to allow these bodies to operate immediately.

16

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Lead Member for Organisation – Finance, Performance, Health and Safety and Governance submitted a report (HCCS/38/18) asking Members to approve the current list of items included in the Forward Work Programme for the period July 2018 to October 2018.

The Lead Member reminded Members of the importance of ensuring that items were added to the Forward Work Programme at the earliest opportunity.

RESOLVED - That the Forward Work Programme be approved.

Reason for decision

To approve the current list of items included in the Forward Work Programme.

(Councillor Mark Pritchard in the Chair)

17 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following item of business as it is likely that, if they were present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 14 and 15 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

18 EDUCATION UPDATE

The Lead Member for People – Education submitted a report (HEd/12/18) to seek approval from the Board to carry out a consultation exercise.

RESOLVED –

- (i) That formal consultation with staff and key stakeholders in line with the Councils Organisational Design Toolkit be undertaken.**
- (ii) That following the consultation process, a further report be brought back to Executive Board.**
- (iii) That this matter be dealt with as an urgent item of business in accordance with Standing Order 43 (1) of the Council’s Standing Orders.**

Reason for decisions

To begin consultation immediately so that the options can be fully explored and staff and learners are engaged in the process as soon as possible.

Councillor Mark Pritchard
Chair