

CABINET

Minutes of a Remote meeting held on 25th January, 2021.

The Committee agenda is available [here](#).

Present: Councillor N. Moore (Chairman); Councillor L. Burnett (Vice-Chairman); Councillors B.T. Gray, P.G. King, K.F. McCaffer, Mrs. M.R. Wilkinson and E. Williams.

C442 MINUTES –

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the meeting held on 11th January, 2021 be approved as a correct record.

C443 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST –

No declarations were received.

C444 STATEMENT –

The Executive Leader and Cabinet Member for Performance and Resources reminded residents of the Vale of Glamorgan that the pandemic remained, with more variations of the COVID-19 strain in circulation. He asked residents to continue to follow all relevant precautions. Vaccinations were being rolled out and residents should have received a letter from the Leader and the Chief Executive of the University Health Board advising contact from GPs for those in priority groups. Testing and vaccination continued; as of the 24th January, 41,790 vaccinations had been administered in the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board area. There were 1,528 vaccinations carried out on the 24th January, including 2,209 care home staff, and 1,373 care home residents. For those aged over 80, 7,570 had been vaccinated out of 41,790. Further vaccinations would be rolled out, with residents being contacted by their GP. And as such the Leader advised that residents ensure that their GP had their correct and current contact details. He also asked those who had received their first vaccination to be aware that the routine safety precautions still needed to be followed.

C445 DEVELOPING A CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN (REF) –

The references from the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee of 18th November and the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee of 15th December were presented to Cabinet.

The Leader referred to some of the comments made by Members at the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee, noting:-

- No idea was “too small” and no suggestion was “too ambitious” for consideration.
- Comments concerning resource planning and potential changes to infrastructure work.
- Future development plans, the work of transport committees and what were the plans for businesses in the community.
- Although some projects may appear small, their impact may indeed be great.

The recommendation from the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee was that the comments of the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee be referred to Cabinet for consideration and that the details of the report be noted.

The Leader referred to the comments made by Members at the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, noting:-

- Discussion on the levels of Carbon Dioxide in the atmosphere and the impact of human activities, e.g. Methane gas, heavy chemicals and plastics that were more damaging to the environment.
- Looking at rural communities and potentially looking at people’s leisure activities particularly in relation to the Vale’s network of country lanes.
- Progression of linking to specific community groups and consultation allowing ‘open-ended’ responses.

The recommendations from the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee were: that the views and comments of the Members of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee be referred to Cabinet, the views of Members being:

- Emphasis should also be placed on other pollutants harmful to the environment, rather than Carbon Dioxide.
- For Active Travel, there should be more focus on leisure users on country lanes by reducing traffic congestion and making the rural road network safer for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.
- Improvements to public transport were needed to reduce traffic congestion.
- Welsh Government should be lobbied for more road/public transport infrastructure improvements.
- Vale of Glamorgan Council departments needed to look at their work practices in order to have greater regard to the Council’s environmental objectives.

Councillor Grey noted the positive engagement with Scrutiny Committees and looked forward to seeing the full impact of the steps being taken going forward as the overall strategy developed, working in partnership to take matters forward.

Cabinet, having considered the recommendations of the two Scrutiny Committees

RESOLVED – T H A T Cabinet thank the Members of the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny and Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committees

for their comments, noting that the details of the reports and views of the Committees were progressing under current plans.

Reason for decision

Having regard to the contents of the reports and the discussions at the Committee meetings.

C446 INITIAL REVENUE BUDGET PROPOSALS 2021/22 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2020/21 TO 2023/24 (REF) –

The reference from the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee of 16th December, 2020 was presented to Cabinet.

The Leader referred to the comments made by Members at the Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee, noting the recommendation that the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee recommend to Cabinet, the ongoing value and importance of the Domestic Abuse Assessment and Referral Community Safety Services, when looking at cost pressures and the revenue budget.

The Leader commented on the recommendation, adding that it was hoped this would be accepted as a reasonable cost pressure.

The Leader referred the comments made by Members at the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, noting the recommendation that the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee considered the concerns of the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee regarding the lateness of the budget settlement from Welsh Government which made it difficult for the Scrutiny Committee to make a view without knowing the final budget position, so it would be better if this was considered in January.

The Leader also commented on the recommendation from both Committees, stating that the matter was not one for Local Authorities or Welsh Government, but one for the UK Treasury whose announcement had been made late. The Authority had to produce an initial budget, based on scenarios which in some cases had now changed. A further report would be brought back to Cabinet shortly which would then be referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee for comments. The settlement had now been received and the potential cost pressures and savings had been revisited to see what could or could not be met. The report would then come back to Cabinet for consideration before moving forward for Full Council consideration in March.

The recommendations from the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee were:

- (1) T H A T the Committee echoed the sentiments of the recommendations of both the Homes and Safe and Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committees as above regarding the report.

(2) T H A T the Scrutiny Committee writes to the Welsh Government minister highlighting its concerns regarding the lateness of the budget settlement and that Cabinet consider doing the same.

Cabinet, having considered the recommendation of the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T Cabinet considered the sentiments of the recommendations of both the Homes and Safe and Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committees and noted that a further report would be brought to Cabinet and referred to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee before being brought back to Cabinet and referred to Full Council for consideration.

(2) T H A T Cabinet are content for the Scrutiny Committee to write to the Welsh Government minister highlighting its concerns regarding the lateness of the budget settlement.

Reason for decisions

(1) Having regard to the contents of the reports and the discussions at the Committee meetings.

(2) That Scrutiny Committee highlights its concerns regarding the lateness of the budget settlement to the Welsh Government minister.

C447 WALES AUDIT OFFICE – WASTE MANAGEMENT REVIEW – VALE OF GLAMORGAN (REF) –

The Reference from the Audit Committee of 14th December, 2020 was presented to Cabinet.

The Leader noted that the Council had engaged with residents while making changes to its recycling service and learned valuable lessons that were taken on board for the Barry roll out as a result of lessons learned from the roll out in the rural Vale and would continue to engage with the roll out in Penarth.

Cabinet offered their congratulations to Officers as the Vale of Glamorgan was one of only three Local Authorities to hit the 75% recycling rate target.

The Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport referred to the Audit Office report which noted that the Council had significantly improved its recycling performance but would need to address the financial risks and pressures of the service as part of its forward planning. He also noted that the Council had engaged with residents while making changes to its recycling service but needed to consider a more structured and documented approach to involving the diversity of

the population. Councillor King echoed the comments made by the Leader that lessons had been learned via engagement with residents.

Cabinet, having considered the recommendation of the Audit Committee

RESOLVED – T H A T Cabinet note the key findings arising from the Wales Audit Office's review of Council's arrangements for reducing waste and meeting statutory recycling targets (Appendix A) and the Council's response to the review and the Wales Audit Office's proposals for improvement (Appendix B).

Reason for decision

(1) To note the contents of the report.

C448 SHARED REGULATORY SERVICES JOINT COMMITTEE –

The minutes of the Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee meeting held on 8th December, 2020 as contained within the agenda were submitted.

The Cabinet Member for Legal, Regulatory and Planning Services had attended the meeting and referred to the volume and range of work carried out by staff across the three Authorities during the pandemic.

The small increase of the overall budget was noted, as well as Officers having to deal with recent regulatory changes required to keep the public safe as a result of the pandemic.

Councillor Williams encouraged the public to read the detail in the reports and information available on the website to see the breadth of work undertaken by the team.

The Leader added that the teams were also carrying out Test, Trace and Protect functions as well as dealing with required enforcement.

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration added that SRS had been a beneficial source of advice during the pandemic, particularly supportive advice to local businesses.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Shared Regulatory Services Joint Committee meeting held on 8th December, 2020 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C449 CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL –

The minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel meeting held on 9th November, 2020 as contained within the agenda were submitted.

The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health noted the discussion on some of the issues being faced by Children Looked After. The Authority were required to put forward quarterly returns to Welsh Government with an expectation to reduce the number of Children Looked After and Panel appreciated the detailed presentations from Officers, including the Housing Department and work undertaken with vulnerable people, accessing apprenticeship routes and support into work.

RESOLVED – T H A T the minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel meeting held on 9th November, 2020 be noted.

Reason for decision

To note the Part I minutes.

C450 USE OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR'S EMERGENCY POWERS (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – ALL) –

The Leader presented the report, the purpose of which was to advise Cabinet of the exercising of Emergency Powers by the Managing Director since the last report on 21st December, 2020.

The Leader specifically noted the importance of some of the decisions taken, noting that Holm View Leisure Centre would be available as a mass vaccination centre from the 8th February, 2021.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED – T H A T the use of the Managing Director's Emergency Powers be noted as contained within the report.

Reason for decision

To note the exercising of Emergency Powers by the Managing Director since the last report on 21st December, 2020.

C451 VALE PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD CLIMATE EMERGENCY CHARTER (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The report sought approval for the Council to sign the Public Services Board Climate Emergency Charter.

The Vale Public Services Board (PSB) had developed a Climate Emergency Charter (Appendix A to the report) which set out a number of commitments for public sector organisations working in the Vale of Glamorgan, recognising that partners had different roles and responsibilities.

The development of the Charter had been led by the Council and Natural Resources Wales with input and discussion from partners across the PSB.

The purpose of the Charter was to set out a clear and collective statement of intent from all partners to tackle climate change.

The commitments in the Charter were grouped under three headings: Lead by Example, Take Positive Action and Reduce our Impact. Each organisation would progress work in an appropriate way for their organisation but with support and where necessary challenge from other partners.

The commitments in the Charter were consistent with work already underway or in development within the Council.

The Charter would be launched at a PSB meeting on 5th February, 2021.

The Leader sought clarification from the Monitoring Officer about requesting the use of the urgent decision procedure set out at Section 14:14 of the Council's Constitution in order to be able to sign the Charter at the meeting to be held on the 5th February, 2021. It was noted that following the meeting that the relevant Scrutiny Chairman be contacted and to ascertain confirmation of his agreement to the use of the urgent decision procedure.

The Deputy Leader noted the report sat alongside the references discussed earlier on the agenda and the Climate Energy Strategy, working in association with partners and other public sector organisations across the Vale of Glamorgan in order to achieve maximum impact.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein and with the amendment to include an additional recommendation, regarding the urgent decision procedure

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the Council sign up to the Public Services Board Climate Emergency Charter and work with the Public Services Board and other partners to tackle climate change.
- (2) T H A T in pursuance of Resolution (1), the Leader sign the Charter at the forthcoming Public Services Board meeting in February 2021 on behalf of the Council.
- (3) T H A T the Climate Emergency Charter be incorporated into the Council's response to the climate emergency and the developing Climate Change Action Plan.
- (4) T H A T subject to the agreement after the meeting with the relevant Scrutiny Chairman, the urgent decision procedure set out at Section 14:14 of the Council's Constitution be used in respect of Resolutions (1) – (3) above.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) The Vale of Glamorgan Council participates in the work of the PSB to tackle climate change.
- (2) To enable the Council to formally sign up to the PSB Climate Change Charter at the February 2021 meeting.
- (3) To ensure synergy between the work of the Council and the PSB with regards to tackling climate change.
- (4) To comply with the Council's Constitution.

C452 PROCUREMENT OF A DIGITAL CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE PLATFORM (CRM REPLACEMENT) (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The purpose of the report was to obtain Cabinet approval to award the contract for the supply of a replacement Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system for the Council and the report set out the reasons why it was necessary to procure a new Digital Customer Experience Platform (DCXP) for the Council and the key functionality required to meet the needs of the Council's residents and the objectives of the Council.

The report excluded budgetary and other procurement details that were considered to be commercially sensitive. Cabinet was asked to consider the Part II report which addressed those issues.

Support for the Council's current CRM system would end in December 2021, the Council's current CRM supplier had stated that the current version of Oracle CRM would no longer be supported or maintained after that time. The other modules of

the Oracle ERP system were to be upgraded to the new Oracle Cloud versions in the coming year.

It was agreed that a separate exercise would be undertaken regarding the CRM to assess solutions available, whilst also remaining an option as part of the upgrade to the Cloud version of Oracle. The existing CRM system, with aging functionality and limited integration capability, had been a significant impediment to achieving the objectives of Digital Strategy of true citizen focused service transformation and, in particular, meeting the increasing citizen requirement to interact with the Council online.

The development of a new DCXP was a key element in achieving these goals, enabling the delivery of transformed services from initial contact to fulfilment of service through improved online self-service opportunities, easier systems integration, timely operational data and customer insight.

The Council required a modern Cloud-hosted platform that could successfully integrate with both a customer facing self-service portal and its key business systems.

In light of these circumstances, the Council was therefore required to engage in a procurement exercise to ensure that a replacement platform was implemented in order to avoid disruption to existing services, ensure that customers could easily make contact with the Council via their preferred channel and that requests for services could be acted upon and communicated back to customers in a way that matched their expectations

Councillor Williams noted that the new system would improve accessibility to the Council for both residents and businesses of the Vale of Glamorgan.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED – T H A T the proposals set out in the report be considered in conjunction with the Part II report on the same matter later in the agenda.

Reason for decision

To ensure delivery of Council services was not disrupted and could be developed to meet future customer experience and efficiency requirements in line with the Council's Constitution and procurement regulations.

C453 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS – MAY 2021 – 2022 (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) –

The Leader drew the Cabinet's attention to the draft timetable at Appendix A of the Officer's report which reflected current arrangements. As in previous years, various

recesses had been incorporated during August and Easter. As a result of the recesses and taking into account other Bank Holidays and school holidays, on occasions, cycles would vary and / or more than one meeting would occur on the same day. Arrangements for meetings of the Trust Committee would be dealt with separately.

The Leader advised that since the publication of papers there had been some movement of meeting dates to note:-

- Audit Committee – Date change due to typographical error.
 - o Amend 21st July 2021 to 21st June, 2021;

- Planning Committee - Date changes to avoid a potential overlap at the end of the Planning Committee meetings on these dates and start time of the Scrutiny Committee Corporate Performance and Resources for January, February and March 2022 –
 - o New date – 26th January, 2022;
 - o New date – 23rd February, 2022;
 - o New date – 23rd March, 2022.

- The dates for Planning Committee as currently indicated in the draft Timetable for 15th December, 2021 and 13th April, 2022 were to remain unchanged to avoid the Christmas and Easter periods.

The Planning Committee matters indicated above had been discussed with the Chairman of the Committee and the Operational Manager for Planning and Building and they were both agreeable to these amendments.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED - T H A T the timetable of meetings for May 2021 - May 2022, as set out in Appendix A to the report with the amendments identified above be approved, subject to any future changes in arrangements for meetings deemed appropriate by the Mayor of the Council or the relevant Committee Chairman.

Reason for decision

To approve / publish a calendar of meetings for the 2021/22 municipal year.

C454 REVIEW OF STATUES, MONUMENTS, STREET NAMES AND BUILDING NAMES - REVIEW PANEL TERMS OF REFERENCE (EX/PR) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The report set out the draft terms of reference for the Review Panel to assist in the review of statues, monuments, street names and building names in the Vale of

Glamorgan, in light of the Black Lives Matter movement as previously requested by Cabinet in November 2020.

The Panel that would be established would review the representations received and would be made up of Elected Members and external experts. The recommendations of the Panel would be reported to Cabinet for consideration in due course.

The Leader noted with regards to the Membership of the Panel that one nomination had been received for a representative from the Vale of Glamorgan Stand Up to Racism and that the candidate to represent the local history societies may be chosen collectively by those societies.

The Deputy Leader noted that the Panel would be an advisory panel and would listen to towns and communities to ascertain what they felt was the correct way forward. Concern had been expressed previously about inconvenience and cost implications for any change to street names, and the Panel would be looking for the correct solutions to such issues as guided by the towns and communities affected. The Panel would need to work together to find out how those towns and communities wanted to be reflected and ensure that those who were not currently represented within communities were represented in future.

The Leader also noted that as well as being referred to Scrutiny Committee, the matter was also being considered by the Community Liaison Committee where Town and Community Councils came together.

Councillor Gray added that the Cabinet remained open-minded about the way forward and noted that until there was understanding as to what communities felt or wanted to happen, it was not possible to make changes which had to be undertaken in partnership in order to move forward.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the report be noted.
- (2) T H A T the Terms of Reference for the Review Panel as described within the report and attached at Appendix A to the report be endorsed.
- (3) T H A T the report be referred to the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee for consideration and to provide a further update on the work of the review.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting.
- (2) To enable the Review Panel to be established.

(3) To provide the Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee with an update as matters progress.

**C455 ROMILLY PARK TENNIS COURT REFURBISHMENT (LAC)
(SCRUTINY – HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL CARE) –**

The report sought approval to accept a grant from Tennis Wales and Sport Wales to assist in refurbishment of the Tennis Courts in Romilly Park and to enter into a partnership with Tennis Wales to manage the facility once the refurbishment was complete.

The tennis courts at Romilly Park, whilst being well used, were currently in a poor condition.

Tennis Wales, the governing body for Tennis in Wales, had offered the Council £45,000 to assist in the refurbishment of the courts provided this was matched by the Council.

In addition, funding of least £30,000 had also been secured from the new Sport Wales Recovery Fund.

The shortfall in funding for this scheme, 50% of the projected costs, would be funded by a projected underspend on the replacement of the Barry Leisure Centre main hall floor.

Following completion of works the site would be managed and maintained by Tennis Wales via a 7 year lease. This would enable best use to be made of the facilities for the benefit of the Barry Community Tennis Club, The Vale Tennis Academy, the Council's own Sports Development team and the wider Community.

As the tennis court area was designated as public open space there was a legal requirement to advertise the loss of this space and to consider any objections that may be received prior to any lease being entered into. This process and consideration of any comments and objections would need to be completed in the first instance and prior to a commitment of funding and undertaking of physical works at the site.

Should objections be received the process would have to be put on hold until Cabinet had had the opportunity to consider such objections. Should no objections be received the lease process would progress as per the report recommendations, along with a commitment to use funding as set out.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the Director of Environment and Housing be authorised, in consultation with the Head of Finance / 151 Officer, to accept a grant from Tennis Wales and Sport Wales to assist upgrading works at Romilly Tennis Courts, subject to Resolution (3) below.
- (2) T H A T the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Director of Environment and Housing and the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture, be authorised, subject to upgrading works being satisfactorily completed and subject to no objections being received in respect of Resolution (3) below, to agree terms and execute a 7 (seven) year lease to Tennis Wales to manage and maintain the Tennis Courts at Romilly Park.
- (3) T H A T authority be delegated to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services to advertise for the disposal of the land forming the Tennis Courts by way of lease in accordance of s123 Local Government Act 1972, with any comments being reported back to Cabinet for further consideration.
- (4) T H A T the value of the Romilly Park Tennis Courts scheme in the 2020/21 Capital Programme be increased by £120k, to be funded from a £45k grant from Tennis Wales and a virement of £75k from the Barry Leisure Centre hall floor scheme.

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To allow refurbishment works to progress at Romilly Tennis Courts.
- (2) To provide a sustainable business partnership for the management of the upgraded facility.
- (3) To comply with the Council's legal duty for the disposal of public open space.
- (4) To amend the 2020/21 Capital Programme in order for the scheme to progress.

C456 LLANMAES FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME (NST) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The report updated Cabinet on progress implementing the Llanmaes flood alleviation scheme and to obtain approval of the preferred scheme proposal.

The scheme encompassed engineering works to reduce the risk of flooding to various properties within the village of Llanmaes to the South West of Cowbridge. An attenuation structure on land South East of the village which formed part of the scheme had already been constructed as part of the Welsh Government's Northern Access Road (NAR) project and was now fully operational.

The Council appointed the Welsh Government's consultant for the NAR to carry out design works and modelling for the Llanmaes Village Flood Risk Management Scheme. The preferred scheme design currently comprised highway works and several flood storage bunds.

The consultant had identified a preferred scheme design comprising of ditches and bunds above the village to hold and convey water away from the village, in conjunction with reprofiling of the highway through the village to convey any residual flows away from properties. Any land impacted would be subject to appropriate negotiations.

Subject to planning approval of the final design and all other necessary consents and permissions it was anticipated that the construction phase would be able to commence in Summer 2021.

Final funding approval was subject to a formal grant application to Welsh Government.

The Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport noted that the creation of a comprehensive flood risk management scheme for the village of Llanmaes was a priority for the Council's flood risk management agenda. The development of a suitable flood model to ensure as many houses as possible were protected by the scheme was technical and complex. The Coronavirus pandemic had significantly impacted the progression of the scheme, but works had been undertaken during 2020 and land negotiators had now been appointed to seek to acquire the land necessary to progress the scheme.

Councillor Williams noted that over recent months there had been engagement with Ward Members and a further meeting was to be held with the local Community Council. It was recognised that there had been concerns from local residents in terms of land ownership and communication on the redesigned scheme was necessary to ensure success, such as was achieved with the scheme at Boverton.

The Leader added that the matter also linked in with the discussions concerning climate change and the environment and the potential alleviation of flooding going forward.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the contents of the report be noted and the scheme proposed to deliver the Llanmaes Flood Alleviation Scheme, subject to the necessary grant and internal capital funding being available, be agreed.

(2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and

Transport and the Head of Finance, to submit applications for and to accept, the grant funding necessary for this project from Welsh Government.

(3) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Director of Environment and Housing, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and Transport, to seek any permissions that may be required in pursuance of the construction project.

(4) T H A T, subject to the internal capital bid for 15% match funding of the total estimated scheme costs of £1.349m being accepted, the Capital Programme for this scheme be amended accordingly.

Reasons for decisions

(1) Having regard to the contents of the report and discussions at the meeting and to obtain approval in principle of the proposed scheme aimed at reducing future flood risk in the village of Llanmaes.

(2) To enable all the necessary grant funding to be acquired and used as promptly as possible.

(3) To assist in ensuring the prompt progress of the scheme.

(4) To update the Council's Capital Programme accordingly.

C457 FUNDING AND DELIVERY OF THE GREENLINKS SERVICE (NST) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

The report provided Cabinet with an update on the delivery of the Greenlinks Service and the proposal to continue to fund the service for the next two years until March 2023.

The Greenlinks Service was a Demand Responsive Transport Service (DRT) which had been operational in the Vale of Glamorgan for 10 years. The service was operated using permits issued by the Section 19 and Section 22 of the Transport Act 1985. The service formed part of the Council's provision of public transport throughout the Vale of Glamorgan providing transport for those who had no access to local public or private transport or those who were unable to access public transport due to physical or mental abilities.

In 2019/20, Greenlinks provided nearly 11,300 passenger journeys and worked with an array of Council departments and organisations to make the best use of the service.

In March 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the passenger transport service was temporarily closed. During this period, the service was outsourced to other departments, providing a delivery service for recycling and PPE.

A limited service was re-instated in September 2020, in order to allow residents to be able to do their own shopping and attend health appointments. All precautions were made to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 whilst providing a service.

The future service would be delivered in accordance to the Welsh Government's guidance for COVID-19, however with the commencement of a vaccination programme for the population over the next 12 months, the service could recover to pre-COVID times in due course.

As the Council moved to the COVID-19 recovery phase, the use of Greenlinks and other Community Transport services would be vital to providing passenger transport services where they did not exist, particularly in rural areas, and assisting with filling the gaps where regular bus services may be lost following the fallout of the pandemic.

Since 2014 the service had been funded via the Council's Section 106 Sustainable Transport Contributions.

The Leader stated that in his view this was a successful service and needed to be retained for future use.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the Greenlinks Community Transport Service continue to be funded by Section 106 Sustainable Transport Contributions until 31st March, 2023.

(2) T H A T the contributions highlighted in Appendix D to the report be used to fund the service during financial years 2021/22 and 2022/23.

Reasons for decisions

(1) To continue to provide a flexible means of passenger transport for those who could not easily access other forms of public transport in a cost effective and reliable manner.

(2) To continue to provide the Greenlinks Community Transport service until 31st March, 2023.

C458 BUS EMERGENCY SCHEME (BES) – REQUEST TO COUNCILS TO SIGN UP TO THE BES 2 SCHEME (NST) (SCRUTINY – ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION) –

Bus travel had been severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Passenger numbers had plummeted, whilst social distancing and additional cleansing requirements had placed added burdens and costs on operators.

Welsh Government (WG) and Local Authorities (LAs) had stepped in to support the sector with substantial financial assistance. There had also been an excellent, ongoing dialogue between all parties to discuss and agree on support arrangements.

Prior to the pandemic, WG had consulted on a range of proposed changes to the way bus services were delivered in Wales. A Bus Bill was due to have been brought forward during the current Senedd term. Pressures associated with not only COVID but also the large volume of legal work generated by Brexit and the transition period forced WG to postpone the planned legislation.

Due to the large amount of public funding that went into bus services from WG and LAs, it was noted that WG would like to see the public sector having greater influence over areas such as the networks of services provided, ticketing and integration with rail services. It also saw a greater role for Transport for Wales, which was now responsible for rail services in Wales.

The Bus Emergency Scheme (BES) 2 Agreement would secure (conditional) financial support for the bus sector and formalise a relationship with Monmouthshire County Council, as signatory and lead Authority for South East Wales, that ensured that the ongoing emergency bus funding met this Authority's priorities and was delivered on its behalf.

The Cabinet Member advised that a number of companies had faced major difficulties as a result of Coronavirus. This scheme was the development of an earlier scheme to try and preserve public bus services so that they remained present and viable following removal of pandemic restrictions.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the principles of the (BES) 2 Agreement as contained at Appendix 2 to the report be agreed.

(2) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Neighbourhood Services and Transport, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services and the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services and

Transport, to negotiate and agree any further amendments to the Agreement that may be required following Cabinet approval.

(3) T H A T, subject to Resolutions (2) and (4), Monmouthshire County Council be authorised to execute the (BES) 2 Agreement on behalf of the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

(4) T H A T a call through the Lead Authority, Monmouthshire County Council, for a further report on bus reform proposals from Welsh Government relating to the future management of bus services in Wales be supported.

Reason for decisions

(1-4) To secure (conditional) financial support for the bus sector and to formalise a relationship with Monmouthshire County Council, as signatory and Lead Authority for South East Wales, that ensured that the ongoing emergency bus funding meets this Authority's priorities and is delivered on its behalf.

The Leader noted there were two items for discussion under Part II of the agenda. As there were matters that were considered sensitive, it was necessary to move into private session where confidential matters could be discussed under Part II. Therefore, the Cabinet Officer would ensure that the recording was closed at this point and would ensure that only relevant parties remained to hear the detail of the items being discussed.

Following the meeting, the outcome of the Part II discussion would be formally captured as part of the minutes of the meeting, advising all parties of the final decision of the Cabinet for this item.

C459 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC –

RESOLVED – T H A T under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 4 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Act, the relevant paragraphs of the Schedule being referred to in brackets after the minute heading.

C460 CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPHS 12 AND 14) –

The Part II minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel meeting held on 9th November, 2020 as contained within the agenda were submitted.

Following consideration of the additional confidential information contained within the Part II minutes, and noting the discussion that took place concerning the Part I report, it was

RESOLVED - T H A T the Part II minutes of the Corporate Parenting Panel meeting held on 9th November, 2020 be noted.

Reason for decision

In noting the minutes.

C461 PROCUREMENT OF A DIGITAL CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE PLATFORM (CRM REPLACEMENT) (EL/PR) (SCRUTINY – CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES) (EXEMPT INFORMATION – PARAGRAPH 14) –

The report set out the procurement and budgetary issues relating to the Council's purchase of a new Digital Customer Experience Platform (DXCP) to replace the existing on-premise Oracle CRM.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the proposals set out in the report, and the content of the report, subject to Resolutions (2) and (4) and subject to the considerations and approval of the Resolutions in the Part I report on the same matter, be endorsed.
- (2) T H A T approval be granted to conduct a procurement exercise to replace the Council's existing Customer Relationship Management system via the use of Crown Commercial Services G-Cloud Framework for a term of 2 years with the option to extend for 2 periods of 12 months each.
- (3) T H A T the budget considerations as outlined in the report be approved.
- (4) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Head of Finance / Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Head of Policy and Business Transformation and the Leader of the Council, to award a call-off contract for the supply of a replacement Digital Customer Experience Platform system with the supplier selected via the procurement evaluation process referred to in Resolution (2).
- (5) T H A T delegated authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal and Democratic Services to enter into the appropriate call-off contract documentation with the chosen supplier following the procurement exercise and award of the call-off contract, referred to in Resolution (2).

Reasons for decisions

- (1) To ensure delivery of Council services was not disrupted and could be developed to meet future customer experience and efficiency requirements in line with the Council's Constitution and procurement regulations.
- (2) To enable the formal award of the contract to the successful supplier.
- (3) To permit the execution of formal contracts between the Council and the successful supplier.
- (4) To enable the formal award of the contract to the successful supplier.
- (5) To permit the execution of formal contracts between the Council and the successful supplier.