

THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY & COUNTY OF CARDIFF

The County Council of the City & County of Cardiff met at County Hall, Cardiff on 27 September 2018 to transact the business set out in the Council summons dated Friday, 21 September 2018.

Present: County Councillor Dianne Rees (Lord Mayor)

County Councillors Ahmed, Asghar Ali, Dilwar Ali, Bale, Berman, Bowden, Bowen-Thomson, Boyle, Bradbury, Bridgeman, Carter, Congreve, Cowan, Cunnah, Davies, De'Ath, Derbyshire, Driscoll, Ebrahim, Elsmore, Ford, Goodway, Gordon, Henshaw, Gavin Hill-John, Philippa Hill-John, Hinchey, Howells, Hudson, Jacobsen, Jenkins, Jones-Pritchard, Keith Jones, Owen Jones, Joyce, Kelloway, Lay, Lent, Lister, Mackie, McEvoy, McGarry, McKerlich, Merry, Michael, Molik, Morgan, Murphy, Naughton, Owen, Parkhill, Keith Parry, Patel, Robson, Sandrey, Simmons, Singh, Stubbs, Taylor, Graham Thomas, Huw Thomas, Lynda Thorne, Walker, Weaver, Wild, Williams, Wong and Wood

63 : APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Burke Davies, Goddard, Lancaster and Jackie Parry.

64 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declaration of interest was received in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct: -

| Councillor | Item | Interest |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Councillor Bowden | Item 8 – Cabinet Member, Social Care, Health & Well-being | Personal Interest, user of Telecare |
| Councillor Elsmore | Item 10 – Oral Questions. | Personal Interest, Independent Member, Cardiff & Vale University Health Board |
| Councillor Hudson | Item 8 - Cabinet Member, Social Care. Health & Well-being – Statement. | Personal Interest as a family member is in receipt of Social Care Services |

65 : MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 19 July 2018 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson subject to the inclusion in Minute No 56, Page 55 - Motion 1 of the following words

“The Lord Mayor invited Councillor Berman to propose the motion as follows:”

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

66 : PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A Public Question was received from Mr Gary Humphries to the Cabinet Member, Strategic Planning and Transport.

Question – Mr Gary Humphries

Cardiff Council recently published a "Transport and Clean Air Green Paper".

Cllr. Caro Wild explained in this paper that the council's job is "*...to improve people's lives, giving people the opportunity to choose transport options that are healthier, that help [us] save money, that make it safe to enjoy cycling and walking on a daily basis...*"

He also went on to explain that the council wants "*...to have a conversation with the people of Cardiff about the issues, and how changes could impact their lives because, ultimately, we will all need to shape our future together.*"

Finally, he stated that "*...improving the air we breathe has become a matter of life or death...*"

This is further endorsed by the "Capital Ambition" plan where it talks about one of the Administration's "top priorities" to "*... [tackle] congestion [which] will reduce carbon emissions and improve the quality of the air we breathe, improve people's health and support the city's economy*".

If these publications are to be believed, could the Council explain why it recently granted consent for the use of two residential roads in Thornhill, Cardiff as a bus thoroughfare, permitting the installation of three bus stops along these streets and a terminus outside the rear gardens of several residents?

Given the volume of 21,500, 15 tonne buses operating every year along these residential roads at 15 minute intervals every day, it is clear that the air that residents will be breathing will be far from cleaner, the roads will be far from safer and the cost of maintaining these roads will also rise, clearly adding costs to the taxpayer and the Council. All in direct contrast to the commitments being made.

Reply- Councillor Caro Wild

I have visited the roads in question myself and I do understand your concerns over the change of route of this bus service.

However, it is important for me to confirm that the Council does not – and cannot – give consent for use of the highway by public transport services. We have no powers to prevent operators of commercial bus services who have registered a bus route with the Traffic Commissioner from using any unrestricted adopted highway.

The Traffic Commissioner for Wales can restrict operators from using certain roads in a limited number of circumstances, but can only consider doing this if requested to by

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

the Local Transport Authority, which is Cardiff Council in this instance. In coming to any decision, the Traffic Commissioner must take into account the interests of the operator(s) of the service(s) in question, the users of the service(s), and elderly and disabled people.

In this instance, the Council does not intend to request the Traffic Commissioner to consider using his powers as improving access to sustainable travel is a key factor in increasing the use of sustainable modes and helping to meet the Council's target of 50% of all trips. In addition, the use of public transport, walking and cycling is cheaper than owning and using a private car, which is the money saving aspect to which I referred in the Green Paper.

Supplementary Question – Mr Gary Humphries

Councillor Wild you have not addressed the concern over the air pollution and that it is your top priority to improve the quality of the air that we breathe.

You previously stated in a response to a petition, reference CM 39867 dated 28 August 2018, that most of the buses used on the X8 service comply with the latest Euro VI emission standards and produce little in the way of pollutant emissions.

Unfortunately according to data provided by HPI, the industry standard vehicle checking service, the buses used on the X8 route and indeed across the NAT fleet, meet only the Euro V standard at the very best. Further independent research by Sheffield University and the Alliance of British Drivers has also proven that the emissions of a Euro V diesel bus produces 23 times more damaging Nitrogen Oxide than an equivalent Euro V petrol car, and over 7 times more than the cleanest Euro VI diesel car.

This means that with 400 buses a week serving our quiet residential streets, carrying almost no passengers, we have the equivalent of 9000 petrol cars.

My question is will Councillor Wild address answer the part of my question on air pollution?

Reply – Councillor Wild

I am sorry Mr Humphries that you think I did not respond in full.

I have been advised that the Euro VI model are the buses used on this route and that their emissions standards meet a low pollutant level which should not impact on the air quality of this quiet residential area and is not likely to cause health problems. The Euro VI are clean engines.

I will however check with the bus operator that this is the model vehicle being used on this route.

67 : PETITIONS

The following Petitions were received by Full Council:

| Councillor | No of signatures | Topic |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Councillor Davies | 38 of Kenfig Road | Requesting Residential Parking in Kenfig Road Whitchurch, in accordance with in line with Section 106 Agreement from Liberty Court and to reduce long-term parking by staff of UHW and Football supporters. |
| Councillor Kelloway | 14 residents of Dan yr Heol | Calling on the Council to drastically prune back the trees on Dan yr Heol, Cyncoed to ensure that leaf fall particularly in the autumn does not clog up drains and cause localised flooding to the road and properties. |
| Councillor Williams | 545 | Calling on the Council to replace the zebra crossing outside Pontprennau Primary School on Heol Pontprennau with a pelican crossing. |
| Councillor Driscoll | 40 Householders of The Crescent | Calling on the Council to undertake measures to reduce the speed of traffic to 20mph around The Crescent and undertake further traffic calming measures to protect residents. In addition undertake a survey of The Crescent and produce options to prevent it being used as a rat run and introduce measures to reduce nuisance obstruction parking. |
| Councillor Patel | 450 | Calling on the Council to save the healthy and mature Copper Beech, Oak and Lime trees fronting Suffolk House. |

68 : LORD MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord Mayor referred to her duties and events for the last month. The Lord Mayor was delighted to report that fundraising for the Lord Mayor's Charity had reached £39,400 and he thanked all Members who continued to support my fundraising events.

The Lord Mayor thanked Councillor Ed Stubbs for choosing to run for her charity Noah's Ark Tiny Lives Appeal in the Cardiff Half Marathon on Sunday 7 October 2018.

The Lord Mayor also congratulate staff who had received recognition or awards since the last meeting and detailed in her [report](#).

69 : STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2017/18 AND ANNUAL TREASURY
MANAGEMENT REPORT 2017/18

The Cabinet Member for Finance, Modernisation and Performance, Councillor Weaver proposed the Statement of Accounts and the Annual Treasury Management Report which was a statutory report and retrospective look at last the financial year accounts for 2017/18.

The Cabinet Member thanked the Audit Committee, Wales Audit Office and statutory Auditors for their work in reviewing the reports, and advised that the accounts had been subject to public inspection in accordance with statutory requirements. The Wales Audit Office had confirmed that they would be offering an unqualified report to support the accounts.

The Cabinet Member drew attention to paragraph 13 and 14 of the cover report relating to the contingent liability and the notes in the accounts provide an explanation and that it was important to note at this stage. He also drew attention to paragraph 23 and the comment from the Wales Audit Office that minimal amendments and rewording was needed for an authority of this side.

The Cabinet Member thanked the Corporate Director of Resources and Section 151 Officer and Officers for the work required to produce and finalise the Statement of Accounts.

The report required Council to approve: -

- the audited Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2018;
- to note the reports of the Wales Audit Office on the Statement of Accounts of Cardiff Council, Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund and Cardiff Port Health Authority for the year ending 31 March 2018;
- to note the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2017/18; and
- to note that formal documents will be signed at the conclusion of the meeting prior to 30 September 2018.

The Leader formally seconded the report and its recommendations and thanked the Section 151 Officer and referred to the prudential borrowing that were being used to improve schools and Cardiff infrastructure which had been agreed by the auditors. The Statement of Accounts demonstrated a balanced budget, despite the demand pressures and challenges in the delivery of vital quality services during the financial year. Preparations for the 2018/19 budget would be equally challenging and Directorates are currently working within the budget strategy agreed at the Council meeting in July.

The Lord Mayor invited debate on the item during which the following comments and observations were made:

- concerns about the Budget Strategy proposal to exempt the Social Services Directorate from looking at efficiency savings
- the details of the potential liability of under paid Landfill tax at Lamby Way mentioned by the Cabinet Member, and the potential risks
- concerns around the increase in posts remunerated at £60,000 and the value for money perceived by the taxpayers of Cardiff who had seen a 5% Council Tax rise
- the need to support to new Elected Members to increase their understanding of the accounts and associated reports.
- concerns about the number of Internal Audits with an opinion status of insufficient or need major improvement
- the level of Council borrowing and the pressures this places on revenue budgets going forward.
- the administration of the Housing Revenue Account in relation to the Capital Finance requirement and the debt cap and whether the debt cap was negotiable with the Welsh Government.
- Capital finance costs as percentage of controllable budgets

The Cabinet Member responded to the all matters raised. Social Services and Education two of the largest Directorates of the Council were addressing the need for savings and new ways of delivering services to include preventative measures to reduce the ever increasing demand pressures. The Cabinet Member stated that he could not report on the potential landfill liability until the position became clearer. The Cabinet Member did not accept matters raised around senior salaries particularly in light of the overall reduction in employee numbers of the last five years. The Cabinet Member recognised the need to support new Elected Members in developing a better understanding of the Council accounts and finances and responded to the matters raised in relation to the debt cap and the Capital Finance costs.

RESOLVED – That

1. the audited Statement of Accounts 2017/18 for the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff and the Cardiff Harbour Authority were approved;
2. the Statement of Accounts 2017/18 for the Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund were approved;
3. the Annual Governance Statement 2017/18 was approved;
4. the Audit reports of the Wales Audit Office on the Statement of Accounts of County Council of the City and County of Cardiff, Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund, Cardiff Harbour Authority and Cardiff Port Health Authority for the year ending 31 March 2018 were noted;
5. the final Letters of Representation for the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff, Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund and Cardiff Harbour Authority were noted.

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

6. to note that the following documents will be formally signed at the conclusion of the meeting: -

- Statement of Accounts for County Council of the City and County of Cardiff – Lord Mayor and Corporate Director Resources
- Statement of Accounts for Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund – Lord Mayor and Corporate Director Resources
- Statement of Accounts for Cardiff Harbour Authority – Corporate Director Resources
- Annual Return of Cardiff Port Health Authority – Lord Mayor and Corporate Director Resources
- Annual Governance Statement – Leader of the Council and Chief Executive
- Audit Certificate for the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff, Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund and Cardiff Harbour Authority – Appointed Auditor, Wales Audit Office. To be signed at a later date.
- Letters of Representation for the County Council of the City and County of Cardiff – Corporate Director Resources and Lord Mayor
- Letter of Representation for Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Pension Fund – Corporate Director Resources and Lord Mayor
- Letters of Representation for Cardiff Harbour Authority – Corporate Director Resources and Lord Mayor

7. the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2017/18 was noted.

70 : LEADER & CABINET STATEMENTS

The following statements were received: -

- [The Leader Statement](#)
The Leader responded to questions raised in relation to the LDP Annual Monitoring report that was considered by Cabinet but not referred to Council; the benefits and evaluation of overseas visits undertaken and the funding of a creative cluster and the lessons that could be learnt around Cardiff's bid to bring Channel 4 to the city.

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

- [Cabinet Member, Culture & Leisure Statement](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to matters raised in relation to the consultation on the proposals for Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to introduce dog control measures in an effort to tackle anti-social behaviour in the city in relation to dogs and, specifically dog fouling; the provisioning of more litter and dog bins in parks; the partnership arrangement with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and the Flat Holm Society, to ensure the long-term sustainability of the island through investment in infrastructure, an increase in volunteer activity and the development of educational and tourist engagement programmes; and issues around the accessibility of events and activities held in the bay.
- [Deputy Leader, Education, Employment & Skills Statement](#)
The Deputy Leader responded to questions on the Welsh Government consultation on changes to Community Learning Grant and the effect it would have on Adult Community Learning in Cardiff; the School Results for 2017/18; and the benefits of the successful School Holiday Enrichment Programme (SHEP) to families and children.
- [Cabinet Member, Finance Modernisation & Performance Statement](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to the demographic coverage on the Ask Cardiff annual survey and how the Council was approaching the hard to reach communities of Cardiff; and the news that the Council had made a submission to the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index 2019.
- [Cabinet Member, Housing & Communities Statement](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to questions on the Council's new Council Housing programme and the partnership and whether it was on track to build the target number of new homes this financial year; the need for a mix of affordable housing for sale and for rent; matters around the support being given to the homeless under its Advocacy programme particularly around eviction rates and abandoned placements; and the welcomed reopening of the St Mellons Hub following a 12 month construction programme.
- [Cabinet Member, Clean Streets, Recycling & Environment Statement](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to matters raised around fly tipping; the deployment of CCTV on small scale fly-tipping and whether the project was self-financing and there were any plans to expand the initiative; the Glass Recycling Pilot Scheme and whether this include flats and the important on reaching the Welsh Government targets.
- [Cabinet Member, Children & Families Statement](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to matters raised around child and family social work and retention of staff; residential placements; the increasing demand for services for children and families and the Council's and Elected Members responsibilities as Corporate Parents; the financial costs in the demand for child protection support and the
This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

complex challenges for some vulnerable children. The Cabinet Member was asked about the current appointment position with the appointment to the role of Assistant director Children's Services.

- [Cabinet Member, Social Care, Health & Well-being Statement](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to questions on the Rumourless Cities project and how it will support all communities in Cardiff to support its ambition as a fair, cohesive City with equality at its core. Similar to Children's Services a question was asked around the recruitment and retention of Social Workers and the impact on the service of any changes in status of persons wishing to work in the UK following Brexit and the confidence of the Cabinet Member in the transitional arrangements.
- [Cabinet Member, Strategic Planning & Transport Statement](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to matters raise on a cost benefit analysis of the Nextbike scheme; any further plan expansion of the scheme and discussions with the operator on abandoned bikes. Questions were also raised on the cycle highway and need to lobby Welsh Government; the cost of the Air Quality specialist consultants commissioned to undertake a city-wide study on air quality and how Elected Members can get involved with the White Paper
- [Cabinet Member, Investment & Development Statement](#)
The Cabinet Member responded to matters raised around meeting with Her Majesty's Trade Commissioners and trade agreements ; Feedback from the Core Cities meeting and the city region agenda. The Cabinet Member felt that it was important ant all opportunities to sell Cardiff and what is has to offer to ensure economic development; retention and increase in employment and developing the city and its ambitions as a creative, vibrant city.

71 : NOTICE OF MOTION

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 22 (p) (i) the proposer and seconder prior to the commencement of the meeting had withdrawn the Notice of Motion.

72 : ORAL QUESTIONS

Question – Councillor Robson

How much has been paid to date in obtaining external advice in relation to the discussions between the Council and HMRC with a view to resolving a purportedly under-declared landfill tax assessment received by the Council from 1 April 2015, for waste tipped at Lamby Way landfill site?

Reply – Councillor Huw Thomas

The cost to the Council in respect of sums paid to date for external professional advice in relation to the HMRC landfill tax issue is in the region of £140,000.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Robson

When I was first elected, this Council was coming out of a disagreement (I'll call it that), with the District Auditor, and as a result many regular briefings, for those who were around at the time both Councillors and Officers will recall, were arranged for all Councillors to be kept in the loop as to the latest progress.

As Opposition Leaders we had a very useful briefing from officers and I believe Members of the Audit Committee had the same briefing.

Can I urge that Members of Council are briefed, in confidence if needed, as to the importance and potential severity of this issue as it progresses with negotiations?

Reply – Councillor Huw Thomas

It is a fair observation Councillor Robson, I will certainly reflect on your suggestion and when there is sufficient information and at the appropriate point to divulge that information we will certainly arrange briefings.

Question – Councillor Congreve

How many change of use applications of student accommodation to residential / hotel use have been received or approved by this authority?

Reply – Councillor Keith Jones

I can confirm that the Council has received one application for the permanent change of use of occupied student accommodation to 'apart-hotel' use (Class C1), which – as you will be aware – was considered and approved last week by the Planning Committee.

There have been four applications to seek a temporary change of use from student accommodation to allow the buildings to be in beneficial use prior to the start of the academic year. In all of these cases, the Local Planning Authority has issued the permissions to a fixed end date, being the end of September of that academic year.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Congreve

Members of the Planning Committee will know I have been critical of the high levels of planning applications for student accommodation throughout the City. These have been supported and approved by this administration. Whilst just one may have been approved just recently, I believe this is just the beginning of a continuing process. It's going to give a green light to developers cynically manipulate the planning process for commercial gain. We should not be approving this type of planning application.

What assurances can this administration give that this will not be the case, and Councillor Jones, can you be trusted with the future of our City?

[NOTE: At this point the Lord Mayor requested that Councillor Congreve retract her final statement?]

Councillor Congreve – following advice from her party agreed to retract her statement.]

Reply – Councillor Keith Jones

Obviously to reiterate I am the Chair of the Planning Committee, the Planning Committee is quasi-judicial, it's a regulatory committee, nonpartisan and obviously I don't speak for the administration. Each application is judged on its own merit which is absolutely right and appropriate to do so.

For wider Members of the Council, there are Supplementary Planning Guidance on Student Accommodation which has been emailed and widely circulated for consultation. The consultation began on the 20 September and runs to the 1 November.

The consultation on the draft guidance is the appropriate place for wider Members of the Council to engage with the planning process, and this will come back to Full Council for approval and will then form part of material planning considerations for each individual planning application.

Question – Councillor Gordon

Reduce, reuse, and recycle. What is our council target for reducing the overall tonnage of waste and recyclables?

Reply – Councillor Michael

The statutory target for reuse and recycling is 58% in 2018/19, but this increases to 64% in 2019/20.

The Council's recycling performance indicator in 2018/19 is 62% and is then 64% in 2019/20 in order to bring us in line with the statutory targets.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Gordon

Do we have a target as a Council for actually reducing how much is actually put out on our pavements, whether it is recycling or general waste, and is there an overall reduction in waste that we are meant to be achieving??

Reply – Councillor Michael

I am more than happy to meet Councillor Gordon to run over these figures with her at a slower pace and to make them clearer if she wishes.

Question – Councillor Cowan

How much taxpayer's money has been spent on foreign trips by Cabinet Members and Officers since you became leader?

Can we have the comparative figure for your predecessor also?

Reply – Councillor Huw Thomas

I will write to you with full figures I understand there is some difficulty in calculating all the officer figures, the figures for Councillors are already available on the Council website.

I will stress that we have heard the phrase globetrotting coming out a few times this evening, when we undertake foreign travel, we do not do so for political gain, we do so for the interest of the City and the Country, indeed the recent visit to Qatar that

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

was sanctioned and encouraged by Her Majesty's Government and every trip we do we will be delivering best value for the tax payers of Cardiff.

Question – Councillor Molik

Cardiff is a well celebrated diverse city. We will be celebrating Black History Month in October through a number of events happening in Cardiff. It is a city that welcomes multi-ethnic, multi-religion/non religion, all gender, all ability and all sexuality people. However, Cardiff Council's track record on equality has somewhat taken a big step backward, as was evidence from its drop off from Stonewell's top employers list. With increasing hate crime, racism and Islamophobia, Brexit and poverty divisions; and when we know our workforce is not representative of the population we serve and therefore our services are not engaging with all parts of our society, was it right to slash the equality budget by 40%?

Reply – Councillor Weaver

I do not accept that we have taken a backward step in respect of equality in spite of the impact of austerity on council services.

The Council is committed to equality and will continue to work towards the duties contained in the Equality Act. The administration's Capital Ambition document also identifies tackling poverty and inequality as one of our main priorities.

Equality is everyone's business and the Council's Equality Team and officers within all directorates, as well as our partners and community groups such as the Cardiff Deaf Centre, work hard to ensure that equality is being embedded into the work of every directorate and into everything that we do.

I agree with your characterisation of our city as diverse and proud of it, but I disagree with your characterisation of the Council, I think there are many good examples of these values being put into practice by some staff across the authority and that ought to be acknowledged.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Molik

I am surprised you don't agree and that slashing an equalities budget to that extent is not causing any problems.

I understand equalities should be everyone's business but when you spread it so thinly and make it everyone's business it becomes no one's business and that is the concern that I have.

Just to give you another example as - I have already given you examples of where the failings have occurred when we didn't have sufficient equalities team to see and assess certain publications that were going out from the Council – and I will give you another scenario. Due to HR failure in complying with the Local Government Act 1972 recently an on the spot firing of staff occurred and the person was frog marched off the premises.

What is being done to mitigate against this damage and also can I seek assurance that this doesn't occur again?

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

Reply - Councillor Weaver

I am not going to comment on an individual staff case as I really don't think that's appropriate at all.

There are examples across the organisation of the way that staff actually put equality at the heart of their work. Take for example in Housing and Communities, recently the Council has put in sign video in our community hubs, so the deaf community can go, have a video link up to BSL interpreters who can then speak to members of staff to provide the service that people need. It's absolutely crucial and that came from communities.

The way that we do equalities within the Council is becoming embedded, the fact that we signed up to the Stonewall Index and that our employee equality networks come regularly to Works Council and have commented on their experience with the Authority and the welcoming nature of senior management and the Authority as a whole. What they are finding is the work they are looking into doing with the Employee Equality Networks is already the work that our senior management team are doing because it is in our Corporate Plan and part of the corporate ethos of this Council.

So I am going to leave aside the particular individual case you referred to as I think that should be dealt with outside and obviously every case should be dealt with in that way but I think we agree on the importance of it and I think there's agreement across the chamber and I think we should focus on how we make that better rather than perhaps running down the Authority when there's a lot of good work going on. I'm happy to share more of that with you outside this meeting as well so there is a clear understanding.

Question – Councillor Mackie

Could you update Council with regards to provision north of Central Station for a taxi rank, passenger drop off & pick up space and cycle parking in the Central Square plans?

Reply – Councillor Goodway

The Councillor will be pleased to learn that provision will be made for a taxi drop off point on the north of Central Station in the car park adjacent to One Central Square. In addition, the Council is seeking to provide a number of pick up spaces close to Central Square near to the station. The specific locations for these facilities are still to be identified.

In terms of the development of a cycle hub, a dedicated facility is being proposed on Wood Street as part of the new public square, which will be created in front of the new UK Government offices following the demolition of St David's House. In addition, my colleague, the Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning & Transport, is seeking to provide a number of new cycle parking destinations in the vicinity.

The Councillor will appreciate that the proposals for the modernisation of Central Station includes provision of a brand new consolidated undercover taxi facility on the south side of the station. This will become the primary taxi facility for both the Station

and the proposed metro link in addition to the main cycle hub will also be located on the south side of the station.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Mackie

Thank you that was excellent I'm sure I'll have taxi drivers more than pleased to hear that. Is there any provision for public toilets in Central Square as well?

Reply – Councillor Goodway

There are no definite proposals for public toilets other than within the bus station facility itself but I refer the Councillor to the written answer to Councillor Jones Pritchard contained in the papers circulated today about the Public Health Wales Bill and the strategy on public conveniences that is being taken forward and we will make sure that the facilities that are required in the City Centre are built into that strategy.

Question – Councillor Driscoll

Dog mess on sport pitches is an issue that needs addressing. However, it's only a very small minority of irresponsible dog walkers that spoil it for the rest by not picking up their mess. Is excluding all dog walkers from vast areas of parkland and dishing out fines to people the best way of sorting this issue that seems to penalise and inconvenience all dog walkers?

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

With permission Lord Mayor I'm going to attempt to answer both questions 7 and 9 which are similar questions and I add in to the statement that I made earlier on, I should emphasise that the exercise currently underway is a consultation exercise and, as such, it is an opportunity for all Councillors and, indeed, members of public to express their views.

I don't believe that that the proposals that are out to consultation will result in excluding dog owners from using vast areas of parkland. In fact, I'm determined to avoid that particular scenario. In fact it is estimated that the total area of children's playgrounds and marked pitches for all sports equates to less than 10% of the total area of parks and public open space provision. However, I recognise that the Council's approach needs to be a proportionate one.

I am also very mindful of safety issues within our parks and, with this mind, I do believe that – owing to the risks posed – proposals to exclude dogs from enclosed playgrounds and marked sports pitches have merit and that is why they are being consulted upon at this stage.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Driscoll

A resident explained to me that her 13 year old daughter and a friend often exercise their dog in the playing fields and in the event that they accidentally hadn't noticed the dog had fouled, at what age can a child be prosecuted by the Council under these Orders and do you feel this may be stressful to them. Was the possibility that children could be fined included in the consultation papers sent to all schools. I don't think for one minute that we will be fining Children under this Order but at what age do you draw the line at issuing a fine 12-18 years of age?

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

I am happy to look at that, a degree of common sense in that scenario would have to be used wouldn't it by the authorities who are enforcing it in our parks. This is a scenario that hasn't happened, if it happened we would judge it at the time.

You have played on all our sports pitches, I wonder how supportive Llandaff Rugby Club are of these proposals because over the years they have contacted me on several occasions about the state of municipal sports pitches and dog fouling. A proportionate approach is needed.

Question – Councillor Berman

Since he took ownership of House of Fraser, there have been media reports that Mike Ashley has been attempting to save stores which were previously earmarked for closure and 20 stores are reported to have been successfully saved as a result. In the light of this, what action, if any, has the council been taking towards securing the possibility of the Cardiff branch of House of Fraser being retained?

Reply – Councillor Goodway

Since the announcement that Howells 'is to close' the Council has worked closely with the owners of the building – Naissance Capital - to find a sustainable long term future for the building.

This has considered a wide range of potential uses including the possibility of retaining the House of Fraser Store in all or part of the building.

I understand that following Mike Ashley's acquisition of the business negotiations have been progressed with the owner, and are still on-going, which could result in Cardiff retaining a House of Fraser store.

I am advised that I can anticipate an announcement in the near future. I have personally met with the owners of the building and can confirm that they are fully cognisant of the importance of the building to Cardiff's city centre and are absolutely committed to finding a solution that will support the vibrancy of the city centre and protect and retain as many jobs as possible.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Berman

It is important we draw a distinction between just finding an ongoing use for the building and doing what we can to try and save the Howells Store because I think if it is lost it will mean that there is a gap in the provision within Cardiff city centre.

Can you just assure us that in terms of any action that the Council is taking, that first and foremost you are going to try and retain the existing House of Fraser Store?

Reply – Councillor Goodway

As I said we are expecting an announcement imminently.

Question – Councillor McGarry

Could you please clarify what is proposed regarding banning dogs from some of Cardiff's parks?

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

I would refer you to the answer that I provided earlier to the question from Councillor Driscoll.

Supplementary Question – Councillor McGarry

I would just like to ask whether you would consider extending the deadline for the consultation and maybe changing the consultation because a lot of residents have come and said that they think the consultation is flawed. The questions asked covered issues that responsible dog owners have always been aware of for example: - not taking dogs into playgrounds and school playgrounds. It is irresponsible dog owners that do not comply and enforcement is necessary. Also the consultation has not been widely available as stated in the Cabinet papers, it's not gone to Vets, or places where people walk their dogs, there are no posters in the Parks that say there is a consultation going on so I don't think that dog owners have been informed enough about the consultation and I'm wondering if you will extend it and put it these places.

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

It is difficult to say the consultation hasn't been made widespread enough when over 1000 people have responded to the consultation within the first 3 days.

I'm willing to look at the issues you are raising and I will reiterate again for Councillor McGarry and I know there are local issues in her particular patch which have been raised not just by her but by her ward colleagues and by Councillor Jones. These are issues I believe can be worked through, I'm not looking to punish responsible dog owners and I completely agree with you, we shouldn't have to be in this position when 98% of dog owners are responsible. But sadly we are, there was a case that came to RCT where a rugby player lost a leg as he had fallen on a field with dog mess on, it is a real issue and it does need to be addressed but we will do it in a proportionate way and I appreciate your passion on this subject.

Question – Councillor Philippa Hill-John

When will the Council confirm the specification for the new primary school in the Plasdwr development?

Reply – Councillor Merry

The outline planning permission for the first new primary school in North West Cardiff, on the Llantrisant Road site, identifies that the school will be two forms of entry, and specifies the land allocated for the school and its location.

The establishment of any new school provision requires the Council to bring forward a statutory consultation process. The Council expects to bring forward proposals for new school provision in the North West and North East of Cardiff early in the New Year, and to consult widely on these proposals in the spring.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Philippa Hill-John

In discussion with the developers the understanding that we have in our respective wards is that the commitment was made that the school would be built by December, so how can developers be expected to sell properties on the premise of what might be not what should be.

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

Reply – Councillor Merry

If you've got any concerns if you could email me, as far as I understand it is progressing exactly as the developers should have anticipated. You do have a difficulty in terms of putting new schools in, too early and there is an issue in terms of the financial stability of the new school but also the impact on existing schools. If you have any concerns can you email me separately.

Question – Councillor Sandrey

Does the Council have a view on the proposed closure of St David's medical centre in Pentwyn, particularly in light of the proposed housing developments in the north east of the city?

Reply – Councillor Elsmore

I understand from Health Board colleagues that the proposed consolidation of services at Pontprennau Medical Centre is under consideration for a number of reasons, including the need to cater for the anticipated demand arising from the growth of our city.

In relation to the matter in question, this relates to a decision which rests solely with Cardiff & Vale University Health Board.

However, together with health, the Council are members of a Partnership Board which takes an integrated approach to asset management in relation to major decisions. This is to ensure we work closely to align services, where possible.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Sandrey

I appreciate that health services are not in the remit of this Council but there is real concern in Pentwyn and Pontprennau about the GP provision especially in light of the much needed thousands of houses proposed to be built in the North East of the City.

Can I request that as the Council is responsible for these developments that they could ask questions of the Health Board to ensure there is sufficient provision for primary health care access for both current and future residents?

Reply – Councillor Elsmore

Perhaps I should declare an interest Lord Mayor as an Independent Member representing local authorities on Cardiff and the Vale University Health Board, but just to say I'm absolutely happy both personally and through officers to seek the assurance that you ask for.

Question – Councillor Gordon

Is there a policy for cutting down hedgerows and roadside trees during the nesting season?

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

It is Council policy to undertake the cutting of roadside hedgerows from September onwards on an annual basis. The timing of operations takes into account the main breeding season for nesting birds, which runs from March to September.

Under Section 1 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act of 1981, it is an offence for a landowner to intentionally damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. Similarly, it is policy to undertake the majority of programmed street tree maintenance during the period from September to February.

Where works are undertaken outside of this period, pre-inspections are undertaken by competent staff ensuring that there are no nests or nesting birds present.

The Council also has a Duty of Care in ensuring that its tree stock is safe. In this respect, there are occasions when this duty overrides this legislation.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Gordon

So from what you have said, sometimes it does happen that hedgerows are cut down during the nesting season and this definitely did happen on Llantrisant Road making the way clear for the new developments up in Plasdwr.

Do you think that checks were made and who made those checks as to whether there were nests there or not, because these were very mature thick hedgerows which residents are really very concerned about the loss of.

Reply – Councillor Bradbury

If your question is relating to a planning application that would have gone through, as part of the legislation, the planning process. It wouldn't be something my officers would deal with it would have been dealt with by conservation officers and officers in Planning. I would direct your question there but I am happy to discuss the general issue that your original question related to.

Question – Councillor Williams

A recent report highlighted that the City is close to full capacity for English-medium secondary school places. Pontprennau Primary School is the City's most oversubscribed primary school and currently the catchment high school is Llanishen, an oversubscribed high school. With the Administration's Local Development Plan underway, the development of approximately 4,500 dwellings will be built between Lisvane and Pontprennau.

A developer recently advised me that the Council's Education Directorate has advised them there is no urgent need to develop education provision in key strategic sites, including that between Lisvane and Pontprennau – is this correct and, if so, why? And, if this is incorrect, then what message is the Council providing to developers on education provision in strategic development sites?

Reply – Councillor Merry

I am not sure after tonight whether Councillor Williams thinks that we are building too many schools or too few. We recognise the capacity issues in terms of secondary school places which is why we are embarking on the biggest school building programme in Wales, but returning to the LDP; Education requirements are considered in accordance with LDP policy KP2 and school provision is brought forward with appropriate phasing. This phasing is carefully planned to avoid destabilising existing schools in closest proximity to the sites.

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

Outline planning permission has been granted for a 2-form entry primary school on the Churchlands development at LDP Strategic Site F, as well as a 1-form entry primary school, with potential expansion to 2-form entry, on the St Edeyrns site at Strategic Site G.

A formal planning application for the remainder of Strategic Site F has not been submitted to date, but discussions with developers have been clear and in line with current policy.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Williams

I am really disappointed because I feel that we are failing thousands of families in Cardiff North and Cardiff West because we have been told that we are reaching the maximum capacity for English Medium secondary places and in the St Edeyrns development I've got children going to 36 different primary schools.

As a Councillor, my view is quite clear, we must set the strategic direction. So will you commit to ensure that the children and families of Cardiff North and Cardiff West are not left behind?

Reply – Councillor Merry

I would like to point out to the Member that although he refers to the pressure on secondary school places actually all in catchment applicants for Llanishen High School were admitted this year. In terms of Pontprennau Primary School, yes, it was the most oversubscribed community primary school in Cardiff this year – 38 pupils were refused admission, although only 8 were resident within the catchment area of the school and all of them were eventually admitted.

You have an issue when you are planning schools, if you put the schools in too early the existing schools cease to be financially viable and the new school is not financially viable because the funding is based upon pupil numbers. I'm glad that you support our Band B building programme and I hope you will help ensure that the resources that we need to do so are there.

Question – Councillor Boyle

Howardian Primary is already at near full capacity. Marlborough Primary remains over-subscribed. What is the Council doing to ensure sufficient primary school places will be available for local children should the 44 proposed new family homes be built on the site of the Howardian Centre?

Reply – Councillor Merry

The proposed housing development will be served by the new build Howardian Primary School and also by the catchment area community primary schools, Marlborough Primary and Ysgol Y Berllan Deg.

The Council opened Howardian Primary School to ensure there are sufficient places to serve this local community. Currently only 58% of pupils enrolled in Reception to Year 3 are resident within the Marlborough catchment area within which the school sits.

Howardian is only fully subscribed in one age group, Marlborough is not full in that year group. Albany Primary School and Stacey Primary School, each within a 1.1 mile walk of the site, have spaces in all year groups. We believe there is sufficient capacity within the schools.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Boyle

The slight problem with that is that Howardian doesn't yet have its own catchment area and those figures will therefore change considerably once it is given its own catchment area.

In addition to the proposed housing development on the Howardian site, there is also set to be further development of Colchester Avenue within a quarter of a mile of the new school, as well as an accelerating flat conversion rate on Albany Road.

I just wonder how concerned you are that this represents an over intense residential development in Penylan which will recreate the same problems that lead to the need for Howardian Primary in the first place while exacerbating the pressure on local secondary schools.

Reply – Councillor Merry

I am glad you referred to the catchment area issue because that is another way of addressing over supply in a catchment area that can be looked at when we are drawing up the catchment area for the new Howardian school. I would not say there is over intense development in that area actually but that may be influenced by an area like Cathays which has suffered very intense over development with very little controls due to the lack of action on housing in our area by the previous administration.

Question – Councillor Owen-Jones

Can the Cabinet Member give a statement on the ongoing issue of student accommodation developments in Cardiff?

Reply – Councillor Wild

I think this also possibly talks to Councillor Congreve's previous concerns that she raised with the Chair of Planning and notwithstanding the Chair's comments and the excellent work of the Planning Committee on this issue. It is important, it's been reported in the papers recently so I want to make a few things clear on this.

Students are part of the diverse and brilliant population of Cardiff and along with the University, one of the main drivers of the City's economic and social growth. Well designed, affordable and well located student accommodation is what is needed for these 55,000 people

Well located schemes can provide positive economic benefits, attract investment, support local businesses, reduce travel demand and alleviate pressure for HMOs in residential areas.

In recent years, a number of schemes have been granted planning permission, with many already built, some under construction and others that have not commenced to

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

date. There is clearly a demand for these properties. Any developers that would wish to change these properties into other forms of housing would be required to apply for fresh planning consent which would be subject to different design standards and financial contributions. There may be instances where this change would be beneficial to this City so we remain open minded but residents can be assured that there are protections in place to stop this being a way of getting around the system and we will hold them to account on that, it's not happening.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Owen-Jones

Thank you for that reassuring answer obviously as you and Planning well know, Adamsdown has seen a slew of housing developments, student housing developments on one side.

A big concern for local residents and for me personally is by changing this we miss out on social housing contributions. From your previous answer, are you indicating that if these changes come back into use, the Council will now be getting social housing contributions that they have avoided by doing student housing.

Reply – Councillor Wild

You just explained it possibly better than I did, that's exactly the way it works.

Question – Councillor Graham Thomas

What is the expected timeframe until the Park and Ride at Junction 33 is operational?

Reply – Councillor Wild

As part of the LDP programme, Planning permission for the development of 'Land to the North of Junction 33 of the M4' was granted in September last year.

The Section 106 Agreement provides the timeframe for when the Park and Ride facility has to be implemented. It will be delivered in two phases and is subject to reserved matters.

The first phase of the Park and Ride will provide the capacity for 500 car parking spaces and will be completed by the occupation of the 500th dwelling, so it's a trigger point on the developers.

The second phase will provide the capacity for an additional 500 car parking spaces and will be completed by the occupation of the 750th dwelling. That said I would like to see it coming in earlier as we all would, we know it is an important thing for transport in that area.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Graham Thomas

I asked this question because there has been a recent report over negotiations with the Welsh Assembly over the access at junction 33 that the park and ride negotiations might not conclude until 2020 and that build progress will be slow. This project is the only substantial transport infrastructure improvement in the North West of Cardiff in the LDP and with the Metro line Northwest of Cardiff still just an idea without much momentum, without funding, without timelines and as house building continues at really an incredible pace in the Northwest of Cardiff, 10,000 houses

This document is available in Welsh / Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg

potentially coming, what are you doing to address the issue of any potential delay in the availability of the Park and Ride which is integral to all of the strategic sites not just the 1500 at that particular site, being so integral what can we do to address this potential delay.

Reply – Councillor Wild

We are also looking at Junction 34 and we have raised this with the Welsh Government and the Vale of Glamorgan, we would like to see an addition in there. I don't recognise that there aren't other infrastructure projects coming forward, I do recognise that we haven't particularly communicated those well and I have worked with some of your colleagues on the kind of communication they would like to see and a number of people from different parties and we will be bringing that forward shortly. I agree that we want to get that in as soon as possible, but it is a trigger and once those houses are being built, it's when a certain amount are built that they have to have those things in place by and we will be holding them to account on that.

Question – Councillor Jacobsen

The Doctors surgery in my Ward is moving to Pontprennau. Can the Cabinet Member provide information relating to taxi drop off points?

Reply – Councillor Wild

I understand that the Pontprennau Medical Centre is located opposite the primary school on the roundabout at the junction.

Taxi drivers should not pull onto the pavement at the front of the medical centre or stop on the double yellow lines on the roundabout and approaches to the junction. However, they should be able to pull into the medical centre car park to drop off or pick up patients using the centre, but they should not cause an obstruction to other vehicles.

Alternatively, I am advised that information on transport links between Pentwyn and Pontprennau, including bus and community transport services, is available from both the Pontprennau Medical Centre reception and website.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Jacobsen

If you have any meetings with the CHD or any partners of the practice will you please keep us informed as Councillors and keep us up to date so we can be transparent with our residents.

Reply – Councillor Wild.

Happy to.

Question – Councillor Hudson

With all the high-profile events being staged in the city, can we have a workable strategy for the mass exodus of people at the close of events and a way of ensuring that public transport is highly visible and available to effect a smooth exit?

With such events, can we be sure that we can evacuate the city centre and get citizens and visitors home safely and quickly?

Reply – Councillor Wild

We are proud that Cardiff has become a prime location for big events and some fantastic ones that we have seen over the summer. We do have a team Cardiff approach I don't quite buy the idea that we don't have a plan for this, the team Cardiff approach has main partner agencies and stakeholders coming together and working together incredibly successfully, having said that we do have to get 80,000 people, sometimes more, out of the City and they all want to get home pretty quickly don't they. Generally this system works very well, it's very much a workable strategy but we are in discussions with the Metro to make sure that when that comes on, we are looking at extended hours, more platforms that has a kind of event strategy side to it as well and should make it an even easier way of getting home after events.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Hudson

I just wondered if we could have some kind of consultation or working party on this to come up with a joined up strategy as the exodus from events to get home is often very frustrating and very long winded because it may take hours as I have been told by some of my residents. We could ask them to come up suitable solutions or recommendations to form this and it could come from the economy and culture or other portfolios as it touches on several areas.

Reply – Councillor Wild

I just don't buy that somehow this a strategy that isn't working, we operate huge events and people getting home, if you think there is an issue and it could be refined then it might be something you want to raise with one of the scrutiny committees to look into but I don't think it's something we need to put in place, it's a service that we think is operating pretty well.

Question – Councillor Driscoll

There's a feeling amongst residents of Danescourt that the closure some time ago of Waterhall Youth Centre was premature and short sighted. It was said that it was closed due to a lack of funding, so residents would like to know how much was spent on the total refurbishment and kitting out of the building and equipment to form what is there today?

Reply – Councillor Merry

The decision to close the Waterhall Youth Centre on the Ysgol Plasmawr School site was taken as a review of the way we ran our Youth services, a review driven by the UK Governments austerity cuts. You have to accept that if Councils funding is cut then there will be consequences, you may think that is a necessity but that is simply a fact of life.

The Council has worked closely with Ysgol Plasmawr over the past 18 months to rationalise and refurbish the building to enable it to become a Sixth Form learning centre for the school. We have all been talking about pressures on our secondary schools this evening.

To date, the Education & Lifelong Learning Directorate has contributed a sum of £185,000 towards the costs of refurbishment, I'm sure you will welcome this investment in Education for the benefit of young people in your area.

Supplementary Question – Councillor Driscoll

My understanding is the figure is quite substantial and I don't begrudge Plasmawr for the facility I understand it is brilliant. My question is and I'm sure the Councillor for Butetown would tell you, I know we have done some fantastic work with young people in Fairwater and Danescourt and youth clubs reduce crime antisocial behaviour and produces better outcomes for young people. Will you discuss with the school the possibility that some youngsters can share that brilliant facility by opening some additional evenings as a youth club?

Reply – Councillor Merry

As I understand it there is nothing to stop the school from operating an after school facility within its school building if it so wishes.

73 : URGENT BUSINESS

There were no urgent items.

74 : APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNORS

The Council was requested to approve the recommendations of the Local Authority Governor Panel 17 September 2018

RESOLVED – That

1. the following appointments be approved to existing vacancies: -

| School | Ward | Start of Vacancy | Appointment Approved |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Baden Powell Primary School | Splott | 24/04/2018 | Stuart Parson |
| Bryn Celyn Primary School | Pentwyn | 04/07/2018 | Iain MacDonald |
| Cantonian High School | Fairwater | 24/04/2018 | Angela Jones-Evans |
| Fairwater Primary School | Fairwater | 03/07/2018 | Jayne Barry |
| Llysfaen Primary School | Lisvane | 08/12/2018 | Carla Giudice |
| Pentrebane Primary School | Fairwater | 10/07/2018 | Doug Corp |
| Radyr Primary School | Radyr & Morganstown | 27/11/2017 | Gerard McNamara |
| Rhiwbeina Primary School | Rhiwbina | 22/11/2017 | Kara Conlon |
| St Alban's RC Primary School | Splott | 21/09/2017 | Emily Zepeda |
| Willows High School | Splott | 12/03/2017 | Karen Dummett |
| Ysgol Gymraeg Treganna | Canton | 25/10/2017 | Sion Ap Glyn |

2. the following appointments be approved to future Local Authority vacancies

| School | Ward | Start of Vacancy | Appointment Approved |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Danescourt Primary School | Llandaff | 28/11/2018 | Marie John |
| Ton Yr Ywen Primary School | Heath | 24/10/2018 | Oliver Owen |
| Ysgol Gymraeg Treganna | Canton | 28/11/2018 | Susan Elsmore |

75 : COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Council was requested to approve nominations to vacancies in accordance with political group and as reported on the amendment sheet for Council.

RESOLVED – That the following appointments to Committee vacancies be approved in accordance with Party Group wishes:

| Committee | Appointment |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Employment Conditions Committee | Councillor Bob Derbyshire |
| Licensing Committee | Councillor Bob Derbyshire |
| Public Protection Committee | Councillor Bob Derbyshire |

76 : APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

No nominations had been received for vacancies on the Cardiff and Vale Community Council and Standing Council for Religious Education in Cardiff.

77 : WRITTEN QUESTIONS

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 17 (f) [Written Questions](#) received for consideration and response had been published.

The meeting ended at 18.40pm

This page is intentionally left blank