

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Thriving Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee held at the Council Chamber, Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron and remotely on Monday, 31 July 2023**

**Present:** Councillor Gwyn Wigley Evans (Chairman), Councillors Marc Davies Gethin Davies, Meirion Davies, Rhodri Evans, Chris James, Maldwyn Lewis, Sian Maehrlein, Ann Bowen Morgan, John Roberts and Carl Worrall.

**Also in attendance:** Councillor/ Councillors Keith Evans, Ifan Davies, Euros Davies Amanda Edwards, Elizabeth Evans, Elaine Evans, Eryl Evans, Wyn Evans, Hugh Hughes, Gareth Lloyd and Alun Williams

**Cabinet Members in attendance:** Councillors Catrin M S Davies, Clive Davies, Keith Henson.

**Officers from Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) in attendance:** Mrs Kelly Jordan, River Quality Liaison Manager (Wastewater Assets); Mr Ryan Norman, Growth Manager (Develop Services) and Miss Rebecca Jones, Community Manager (Communications).

**Officers in attendance:** Mr Rhodri Llwyd, Corporate Lead Officer, Highways and Environmental Services; Mr Phil Jones, Corporate Manager, Highways Services; Mr Gerwyn Jones, Corporate Manager, Environmental Services; Dr Sarah Groves-Phillips, Service Manager- Planning Policy; Mrs Caroline Wride, Service Manager, Highways Maintenance, Mr Ian Williams, Technical assistant, projects, Miss Neris Morgans, Democratic Services Officer and Mrs Dana Jones, Democratic Services and Standards Officer.

(10.00am- 2:10pm)

**1 Apologies**  
None.

**2 Disclosures of personal interest (including whipping declarations)**  
**Members are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and prejudicial interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct. In addition, Members must declare any prohibited party whip which the Member has been given in relation to the meeting as per the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.**  
None.

**3 Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) Planning and phosphates discussion**  
Dr Sarah Groves-Phillips summarised the report presented on Planning and Phosphates discussion and Mrs Kelly Jordan, River Quality Liaison Manager (Wastewater Assets) and Mr Ryan Norman, Growth Manager (Develop Services) provided a power point presentation upon their work on this issue. The following information was provided:-

- DCWW Overview – Investment Plans & Investigation Programmes
- Environmental Performance Assessment
- Phosphorus – What have DCWW done so far?
- Phosphorus in Special Area of conversation (SAC)
- Teifi Source Apportionment
- Phosphorus – What about AMP 7 and beyond?
- Communicating with our stakeholders- what have we done so far?
- Developer Services & the Planning process
- Planning consultation assessment
- NRW Reviews of Permits process – next steps
- Planning response following NRW reviews of permits
- Collaboration and Information Sharing
- Understanding our assets- Storm Overflows
- How our combined sewer overflow operates.
- Understanding our assets

Following questions on issues within specific Wards by their respective Members and clarification on issues raised in the presentation, it was AGREED to note the current position and that the dates for forthcoming work by Dwr Cymru in the County be forwarded to Councillors for information.

#### **4 Winter Service Provision**

Mr Phil Jones, Corporate Manager, Highways Services provided Members with a detailed presentation on the following within the Winter Service Provision:-

- The Legal Position
- Current Level of Service
- Proposed Winter Maintenance Service Budget Reduction
- What are the available options for the future?

Members raised concern regarding roads that were not gritted in their Ward, however, in accordance with the assessment protocols (matrix) all roads within the County had been scored objectively and checked by a second officer. Consideration had also been given that the road was near to school, bus route etc. It was suggested that Members receive the scoring of roads that were not gritted in order to inform their residents of the Council decision accordingly.

Following clarification of the issues raised in the presentation and discussion on alternative gritting methods to rock salt and farmers to assist during inclement weather, it was AGREED that officers undertake a comprehensive review of the Winter Service in readiness for the 2024/25 Winter Season.

#### **5 Proposal for 2 hours free parking before 11am at Council Operated Pay and Display Car Parks.**

Councillor Keith Henson introduced the item upon the proposal for 2 hours free parking before 11am at Council Operated Pay and Display Car Parks and Mr Gerwyn Jones, Corporate Manager, Environmental Services provided Members with a presentation. The following information was provided:-

- Background

- Ticket Profile
- Considerations
- Financial Impact
- Consideration and Options

Councillor Ann Bowen Morgan provided a proposal for 2 hours free parking in the Cwmins and Rookery car parks in Lampeter as it would, in her view, support businesses in the Town and encourage tourists to visit. As part of the 2023/24 budget setting process a further period of one year's free parking was agreed for the pay and display car parks at Tregaron and Llandysul. Other Members facilitated the discussion following this proposal and Councillor Elizabeth Evans, Sian Maehlerlin and Elaine Evans informed the Committee of their views in relation to free parking in the car parks in their Wards.

It was AGREED therefore to recommend to Cabinet to:-

- (i) consider undertaking a review of charging for parking along the Promenade in Aberystwyth; and
- (ii) consider offering 2 hours free parking between 8am and 10am on Monday to Friday in one carpark in Lampeter, Aberaeron and Cardigan

**6 To confirm the Minutes of the previous Meeting and to consider any matters arising from those Minutes**

It was agreed to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2023.

Matters arising:  
None.

**7 To consider the Overview and Scrutiny Forward Work Programme**

It was agreed to note the contents of the Forward Work Programme presented subject to noting that the following could be considered at future meetings:-

- Impact of grant funded schemes – what's the impact, how well drawing down funds
- Use of Buildings
- Cutting Grass Policy
- Relationship between Ceredigion County Council and Welsh Government in relation to Town and County Planning
- Business Support and Regeneration

**Confirmed at the Meeting of the Thriving Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 23 October 2023**

**Chairman:**\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**\_\_\_\_\_