

**CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL  
RHONDDA CYNON TAF  
COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**A meeting of the  
YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK CABINET COMMITTEE**

**will be held at the Council Chamber, The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach  
Vale, CF40 2XX  
TUESDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER, 2017 at 12.30 PM**

**Contact: Emma Wilkins - Principal Executive and Regulatory Business Officer (Tel No. 01443 424110)**

**LIST OF ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

To receive disclosures of personal interest from Members in accordance with the Code of Conduct

Note:

1. Members are requested to identify the item number and subject matter that their interest relates to and signify the nature of the personal interest: and
2. Where Members withdraw from a meeting as a consequence of the prejudicial interest they must notify the Chairman when they leave.

**2. MINUTES**

To receive the minutes of the previous meeting which was held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2017.

**(Pages 3 - 6)**

**3. TAFF VALE REDEVELOPMENT - YNYSANGHARAD WAR  
MEMORIAL PARK PROPOSED FOOTBRIDGE**

To receive the report of the Director, Regeneration & Planning, updating the Cabinet Committee on the proposal for a new footbridge from the Taff Vale redevelopment over the River Taff to Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

**(Pages 7 - 10)**

**4. URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items, which the Chairman, by reason of special circumstances, is of the opinion should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency.



**Service Director and Secretary to the Cabinet**

**Circulation:-**

Members of the Cabinet Committee:

County Borough Councillors R Bevan (Chair), A Crimmings and M Webber

Mr C Bradshaw, Chief Executive

Ms J Cook, Director of Regeneration & Planning

Mr C Hanagan, Service Director of Cabinet & Public Relations

Mr C Lee, Group Director Corporate & Frontline Services

Mr C Jones, Director, Legal & Democratic Services

## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNCIL**

### **YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK CABINET COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting of the Ynysangharad War Memorial Park Cabinet Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> August 2017 at 10.30am at the Council Headquarters, Clydach Vale.

#### **County Borough Councillors in attendance:-**

R. Bevan (Chair)

M. Webber     A. Crimmings

#### **Officers in attendance:-**

Mr C. Hanagan – Director of Cabinet & Public Relations

Mr C. Jones – Director, Legal & Democratic Services

Mr D. Batten – Head of Leisure, Parks & Countryside

Mr P. Mortimer – Funding & Implementation Manager

Mr J. Spanswick – Parks & Countryside Manager

Ms M. Morgan-Evans – Regeneration Resources Assistant

#### **1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

In accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, there were no declarations made pertaining to the agenda.

#### **2. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** to approve as an accurate record the minutes of the meeting of the Ynysangharad War Memorial Park Cabinet Committee held on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2016

#### **3. YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK - HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND: PARKS FOR PEOPLE PROGRAMME**

The Head of Leisure, Parks & Countryside introduced the report to the Committee which served to provide an update on progress made to date in the development of a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Parks for People application for Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

The Head of Leisure, Parks & Countryside outlined the two stage process for applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund Parks for people programme, the first for project development for which match funding has been identified through project support fund (Trustees were reminded that there was circa £4m available within the programme per annum for applications from across the UK). Stage 2 requires 10% match funding for projects in excess of £1m.

Stage one application to HLF will be submitted to HLF in line with the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 deadline. The core elements of the of the project were listed as being the development of a horticultural training facility, restoration of the bandstand and improvements to the mock rock outcrop area as well as improvements to access throughout the park. The Head of Leisure, Parks & Countryside confirmed that revenue costs for the development of a volunteering programme/Friends of group within the park would be included as part of the application. He praised the partnership work between the teams from within Regeneration and Parks in collating a significant volume of work required for the submission.

The Funding & Implementation Manager stated that since December 2016 a great deal of progress had been made in compiling the application for submission at the end of August 2017. He added that the decision would be a national one which would be announced in December 2017. If successful, the stage two would be submitted by August 2018 with delivery by January 2020.

It was reported that the stage one submission is expected to include the total project cost which the Funding & Implementation Manager explained would be £1.5m based on recently commissioned work and consideration of other UK wide Parks for People initiatives.

Officers confirmed that the recent consultation had demonstrated strong support for the bid from local residents and users of the park and Pontypridd town centre as well as from local schools. It was felt that the bid would continue to build on the recent success of the Lido and provide the Council with the opportunity to enhance the visitor experience within the wider park.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank all those officers involved in compiling the bid and was pleased to note that this was the only bid from Wales. The Deputy Leader added that, as Trustees, they would be involved in the development of a Friends group.

It was **AGREED:**

- a) To note the progress made and support the submission of a Parks for People stage 1 application for Ynysangharad War Memorial Park by the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017; and,
- b) To authorise the Service Director for Public Health & protection to make changes to the application process in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Environment

and leisure providing the changes do not substantially change the nature of the scheme.

**4. YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK FIELDS IN TRUST CENTENARY FIELDS PROGRAMME**

The Head of Leisure, Parks & Countryside presented the report of the Service Director for Public Health & Protection which sought approval of the Ynysangharad War Memorial Park Committee to enter into a deed of dedication providing Fields in Trust 'Centenary Field' status to Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

It was reported that the Fields in Trust is working in partnership with the Royal British Legion to deliver the programme to those sites and suitable spaces that include parks and recreation grounds that have a significant link to WW1. It is considered that work formerly undertaken to support the submission of a Heritage Lottery Fund Parks for People application has focussed the need to raise the profile of Ynysangharad War Memorial Park as Centenary Field.

The Head of Leisure, Parks & Countryside outlined the Centenary Fields programme and its objectives and added that following the application and site visit by Fields in Trust and subject to the appropriate legal documentation being completed further discussions will be held with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Council Business to progress the initiative.

The Chair highlighted the importance of representing our Armed Forces throughout the County Borough and emphasised the significance of the war memorial dedication which would further enhance the profile of Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

The Cabinet Committee **AGREED:**

- a) To the dedication of Ynysangharad War Memorial Park as Centenary Field; and,
- b) To submit an application to Fields in Trust for the dedication of Ynysangharad War Memorial Park as Centenary Field, subject to Cabinet approval.

**The meeting closed at 10.50 am**

**Councillor R Bevan**

**Chair**

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## RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

### YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK CABINET COMMITTEE

21st NOVEMBER 2017

#### TAFF VALE REDEVELOPMENT / YNYSANGHARAD WAR MEMORIAL PARK – PROPOSED FOOTBRIDGE

#### REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION AND PLANNING IN CONSULTATION WITH THE RELEVANT PORTFOLIO HOLDER, COUNCILLOR R BEVAN.

**Author:** Andrea Virgo, Project Team Leader (Funding and Implementation)

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide an update to the Cabinet Committee on the proposal for a new footbridge from the Taff Vale redevelopment over the River Taff to Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 The design options for a new footbridge are considered and the next stage of detailed development work is endorsed.

#### 3. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Taff Vale redevelopment project has made significant progress and the opportunity to include a new footbridge between the Taff Vale site and Ynysangharad War Memorial Park has been explored.

#### 4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In March 2016 a feasibility study for a new footbridge to connect the town centre with the park was undertaken. Three potential design options were produced, varying in configuration and structural form with each option spanning from the Council's Gas Road car park which is adjacent to the Taff Vale site.
- 4.2 In July 2016 Cabinet approved the next stages of development of the Taff Vale site and the adjacent area which included further development work being undertaken to progress the design options for the bridge.

- 4.3 The Taff Vale redevelopment represents the single biggest development opportunity in Pontypridd and will significantly increase footfall in the town, helping to sustain and improve the town's retail and commercial offer. It is essential that the location of the bridge does not result in a decrease in the level of available parking in the adjacent Gas Road car park.
- 4.4 The Taff Vale multi-disciplinary design team were commissioned to further explore the options for a footbridge by designing a new and exciting connection to the park from the town, whilst ensuring that there was no negative impact on the adjacent Gas Road car park.
- 4.5 Key considerations for the design team were:
- The bridge should be considered as an extension to the new pedestrian street within the Taff Vale development and complementary to the riverside walkway.
  - The design quality should increase the profile of both the park and the new development.
  - The design should complement the architecture of the new development and respect the Registered Historic Park and the Scheduled Ancient Monument.
  - The bridge must accommodate all pedestrians including those with impaired mobility and sight;
  - The bridge must accommodate mounted cyclists, although it is noted that cycling is not currently prohibited throughout the park. This requirement should be seen as future proofing and within the guidelines of the Active Travel (Wales) Act;
  - The bridge is to be closed at the same time as the park and a security gate installed.
  - The bridge should be as maintenance free as possible and provide simple methods of inspection.
  - Light spillage from the bridge should be minimised particularly in terms of the effect on the river corridor close to the level of the river.

## **5. PROGRESS TO DATE**

- 5.1 A stage 2 concept design study has been produced and a series of surveys and investigation works undertaken including ecological, flood risk, geotechnical, utilities and buried services and a tree survey schedule.
- 5.2 Following a detailed options analysis, the following two options have been further developed:



Option 1 – Tower cable stayed bridge with central mast; and  
Option 2 – Torsion box beam bridge.

Both options include three landing points – one on the Taff Vale redevelopment site on the east bank of the river, a central one in Ynysangharad Park on the west bank of the river, and a third landing point further west into the park.

- 5.3 Initial contact has been made with Cadw and the positive feedback received is that in principle there is no objection to the construction of the bridge to link the Taff Vale development with Ynysangharad Park. However as the bridge will have an impact on both the Registered Historic Park and Scheduled Ancient Monument, both physically and visually, the design and associated landscaping should seek to minimise any negative impacts and look to integrate the modern feature into the park setting.

## **6. NEXT STEPS**

- 6.1 It is proposed that detailed design work for the preferred bridge option is progressed and any further site investigation works undertaken.
- 6.2 Further reports are presented to both this Committee and Cabinet as appropriate.
- 6.3 Subject to detailed design and funding availability, a planning application for the bridge is submitted in 2018.

## **7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment screening form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full report is not required at this time.

## **8. CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 A public exhibition in respect of the Taff Vale redevelopment was held in March 2017 and the Councils aspiration for a footbridge was discussed with visitors to the exhibition. Further consultation on the footbridge proposal will take place with key stakeholders over the coming months and as part of the Statutory Planning process when a planning application is submitted.

## **9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 An initial cost estimate of circa £2 million has been provided for the footbridge. A report will be presented to Cabinet shortly outlining the business case for the whole Taff Vale redevelopment including the footbridge.

## **10. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OR LEGISLATION CONSIDERED**

- 10.1 The Taff Vale site is wholly controlled by the Council in terms of freehold and leasehold.
- 10.2 The Park is held in trust by the Council for the charity of the 'Ynysangharad War Memorial Park'. The conveyance contains a restrictive covenant restricting the use of land for the purposes of a public park and recreation ground for the benefit of the inhabitants of the town of Pontypridd and the adjoining district.
- 10.3 The detailed legal issues which arise in the delivery of capital projects will be considered and progressed in accordance with relevant legislation, within the usual project management arrangements.

## **11. LINKS TO THE COUNCILS CORPORATE PLAN/OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES/SIP**

- 11.1 The development opportunity outlined in this report will make a positive contribution towards the Corporate Priorities "Economy – Building a Stronger Economy" and "A Prosperous Wales".

## **12. CONCLUSION**

- 12.1 The Taff Vale redevelopment will result in transformational change for Pontypridd and its pivotal position in the Cardiff City Region. Together with a new footbridge it will create a vibrant new quarter at the northern gateway to the town and Ynysangharad War Memorial Park.
- 12.2 The footbridge will significantly improve the connectivity between the town centre and the growing attraction of the park while also improving the use of the River Taf as an asset to the town and its growth potential. Linking new developments in the town to the Park's attractions including the LIDO and the further planned redevelopment of the Park will maximise opportunities to increase footfall and visitor numbers along with income levels of town centre businesses. This new landmark will also be a statement for the confidence in the future role of Pontypridd in the regional economy.

### **Other Information:-**

#### ***Relevant Scrutiny Committee***

Public Service Delivery, Communities and Prosperity Scrutiny Committee

#### ***Contact Officer***

Andrea Virgo, Project Team Leader (Funding and Implementation)