

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, 1st 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, 20th 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 31st 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 31st 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