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**COUNCIL CABINET  
MINUTES  
13 January 2015**

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**Present** – Councillors: Dyfed Edwards (Leader), Peredur Jenkins, John Wynn Jones, W Gareth Roberts, Mair Rowlands, Dyfrig Siencyn, Gareth Thomas, Ioan Thomas, Dafydd Meurig, Mandy Williams-Davies.

**Also present** – Dilwyn Williams (Chief Executive), Iwan Trefor Jones (Corporate Director), Dafydd Edwards (Head of Finance Department), Iwan G D Evans (Legal Services Manager), Guto Rhys Huws (Leading Manager Primary Schools Reorganisation), Gwenan Jones-Parry (School Organisation Programme Co-ordinator), Gareth Richard Jones (Project Manager), Dafydd Gibbard (Corporate Property Senior Manager), Arwel Ellis Jones (Corporate Commission Service Senior Manager), David Wood (Senior Technical Advisor), Bethan Richardson (Cabinet Support Team Leader).

Local Members present –  
For Item 6 – Councillor Louise Hughes

**1. WELCOME/APOLOGIES**

The Cabinet members, local members, members of the Press and the officers were welcomed to the meeting.

Apologies - Morwena Edwards (Corporate Director), Arwyn Thomas (Head of Education).

**2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

Councillor Peredur Jenkins declared a personal interest in item 6 on the agenda (The Future of Education Provision in y Gader Catchment Area), because he was a member of the governing body of Ysgol y Gader Dolgellau and his daughter was the head teacher of Ysgol Gynradd Rhydymain/Brithdir.

Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn declared a personal interest in item 6 on the agenda (The Future of Education Provision in y Gader Catchment Area), because his son was a pupil at Ysgol y Gader Dolgellau, he was also the Chairman of the Governing Body of Ysgol y Gader Dolgellau and a member of the Governing Body of Ysgol Gynradd Dolgellau.

The members were of the opinion that they were prejudicial interests, and they withdrew from the Chamber during the discussion on the item.

**3. URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items.

#### **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM SCRUTINY COMMITTEES**

There were no matters arising from scrutiny committees.

#### **5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Chairman signed the minutes of the Council Cabinet meeting held on 16 December 2014.

#### **6. THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION PROVISION IN YSGOL Y GADER CATCHMENT AREA – PERMISSION ON PUBLICATION OF STATUTORY NOTICES**

The report was submitted by Councillor Gareth Thomas, Cabinet Member for Education.

#### **DECISION**

- i. To approve the proposal to close Ysgol y Gader, Ysgol Gynradd Dolgellau, Ysgol Brithdir, Ysgol Machreth (Llanfachreth), Ysgol Ieuan Gwynedd (Rhydymain), Ysgol Dinas Mawddwy, Ysgol Llanelltyd, Ysgol Friog, Ysgol Clogau (Bontddu) and Ysgol Ganllwyd on 31 August 2017 and establish a Community Catchment Area All Through School for 3-16 year olds on the existing sites of Ysgol y Gader, Ysgol Gynradd Dolgellau, Ysgol Ieuan Gwynedd (Rhydymain), Ysgol Dinas Mawddwy, Ysgol Llanelltyd and Ysgol Friog on 1 September 2017.
- ii. To approve publishing statutory notices on the proposal in (i) above in accordance with the requirements of Section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013.
- iii. Following consideration of comments received during the consultation regarding the importance of appointing a Headteacher and the need for the appointment to be made in good time, to approve financing the Headteacher for the all through catchment school from the programme savings for at least a year before the school opens in September 2017.

#### **7. THE FUTURE OF SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS PROVISION IN MEIRIONNYDD AND DWYFOR**

The report was submitted by Councillor Gareth Thomas, Cabinet Member for Education.

#### **DECISION**

- A. To relocate Ysgol Hafod Lon and Uned Tŷ Aran to the new site in Penrhyndeudraeth on 1 September 2016, to increase the school's capacity and add a residential element to the provision.
- B. To allocate additional capital funds of between £0.275m and £0.550m to cope with the effect of inflation and therefore avoid having to cut back on some of the essential outputs of the project.

## **8. COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN**

The report was submitted by Councillor Dyfed Edwards, Leader of the Council.

### **DECISION**

To approve the release of £152,000 of resources from the Strategic Plan funds to transform the way leisure centre users are able to hire leisure facilities, and secure subsequent savings of £60,000 per annum.

## **9. 2015/16 BUDGET: DEALING WITH THE FINANCIAL GAP**

The report was submitted by Cllr Peredur Jenkins, Cabinet Member for Resources.

### **Decision**

The following steps were agreed in principle as a basis for further discussions with Council Members in order to close the remaining financial deficit of £5.6m in the Council's budget after acting upon known efficiency savings already and a 3.5% increase in the Council Tax.:

1. Considering an increase in the Council Tax above 3.5% up to 5%, whilst highlighting the cost of cuts to services by not implementing such measures.
2. To presuppose implementing the Highways Strategic Review when it is brought before the Cabinet.
3. Secure savings from devolved school budgets
4. Ask the Departments to accelerate their efficiency savings plans
5. Use of balances for 2015/16 in order to consult fully on cuts.
6. Implement the Cuts Regime for 2016/17 in a timely manner

The meeting commenced at 1pm and concluded at 2.40pm.

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**CHAIR**