

THE EXECUTIVE

Minutes of the extraordinary virtual meeting held on 17 December, 2020

PRESENT:

Councillor Llinos Medi (Chair)
Councillor Ieuan Williams (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Richard Dew, Carwyn Jones, R. Meirion Jones,
Alun Mummery, R.G. Parry, OBE FRAGS, Dafydd Rhys
Thomas, Robin Williams

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive
Deputy Chief Executive
Director of Education, Skills and Young People
Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer
Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer
Head of Profession (HR) and Transformation
Head of Highways, Property and Waste
Head of Democratic Services
Programme, Business Planning and Performance Manager
Architectural Services Manager (GWT)
Principal Valuation Officer (TDE)
Committee Officer (ATH)

APOLOGIES:

None

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillors Glyn Haynes, Kenneth Hughes, Trefor Ll. Hughes,
MBE, Aled Morris Jones, G.O Jones, R. Llewelyn Jones, R.
O. Jones, Dylan Rees, Interim Director of Social Services,
Scrutiny Manager (AGD), Scrutiny Officer (SR),
Communications Officer (GJ), Mr Gareth Wyn Williams (Local
Democracy Reporter)

The Chair extended a warm welcome to all those present at this extraordinary virtual meeting of the Executive and she asked everyone to introduce themselves.

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Richard Dew declared a personal and prejudicial interest with regard to items 4 and 6 on the agenda and withdrew from the meeting when those matters were considered.

Councillor R.G. Parry, OBE, FRAGS, declared a personal but not prejudicial interest with regard to item 6 on the agenda.

Mr Marc Jones, Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer declared a personal but not prejudicial interest with regard to item 3 on the agenda.

2. URGENT MATTERS CERTIFIED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR HIS APPOINTED OFFICER

None to report.

3. SCHOOLS' MODERNISATION – LLANGEFNI AREA (YSGOL TALWRN AND YSGOL Y GRAIG)

The report of the Director of Education, Skills and Young People with regard to the schools' modernisation programme in relation to the Llangefni area was presented for the Committee's consideration. The report set out the responses to the statutory consultation held in February/March 2020 on Ysgol Talwrn and Ysgol Y Graig and sought the Executive's approval for the preferred option which is to *increase the capacity of Ysgol Y Graig to take pupils from Ysgol Talwrn, close Ysgol Talwrn and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Y Graig and Ysgol Talwrn.*

The Portfolio Member for Education, Libraries, Culture and Youth introduced the report by saying that it deals with the Schools' Modernisation Programme as the programme applies to Ysgol Talwrn and Ysgol Y Graig and involves weighing and assessing the future of the two schools and the consequent impact on all the stakeholders, and in particular the children at both schools. He emphasised that their interests should be the predominant consideration in this matter. In acknowledging that modernising schools can be a contentious issue and that it is among the most challenging aspects of the Council's work, he said that he understood and appreciated parents' and others' concerns on this matter. The schools' modernisation programme sets the groundwork for the future of schools over the next 50 years at a time when they are under pressure from budgetary cuts, burdensome maintenance costs, meeting the requirements of the New Curriculum and several other factors as well as the impact of Covid. The Council has to seriously consider how the school system can be made more effective in the sense of creating the conditions under which teachers and pupils can succeed and also how it can be made more efficient in terms of making the best use of resources and ensuring that all schools receive their fair share of the budget. The Authority's other strategies to which the Schools' Modernisation Programme is linked include the 2019/20 Delivery Document, the Schools' Modernisation Strategy as revised and approved by the Executive in 2018 (with the current proposal forming part of Band B of the Strategy); the Corporate Asset Management Plan 2015-20; the Energy Strategy; the Joint Local Development Plan; the Welsh Language Strategy and the Medium Term Financial Plan.

Between 6 February and 20 March, 2020 Council officials undertook a statutory consultation on the future of the two schools in question. Officials were authorised to carry out the consultation after the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and the Executive considered the proposal paper in January, 2020. The consultation closed on the last day of school before the first lockdown period as a result of the global pandemic that transformed education provision for a time. The Portfolio Member said that it is important to note that the Council has received a letter from the School Organisation and Admissions Branch of Welsh Government confirming that Welsh Government Ministers were giving the Council an extension until March, 2021 to publish any proposal. The Council has operated in accordance with the School Organisation Code 2018 throughout the pandemic period.

The Portfolio Member referred to the key drivers for change contained within the Schools' Modernisation Strategy 2018 which include improving educational standards; improving leadership and management; ensuring that school buildings are fit for purpose; reducing the number of surplus places; reducing the overall cost of education and the variation in cost per pupil; maintaining and improving Welsh-medium provision and increasing the community use of school buildings.

In concluding his introduction to the report, the Portfolio Member for Education said that he wished to take this opportunity to thank all those who had taken part in the consultation process

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People highlighted the main points of the report and said that a statutory consultation process was held between 6 February and 20 March, 2020 on the proposal to increase the capacity of Ysgol Y Graig to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Talwrn, close Ysgol Talwrn and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Talwrn and Ysgol Y Graig (namely the original proposal). He confirmed that in light of all the consultation responses and impact assessments this proposal is considered the most appropriate way forward and is the option that is being recommended to the Executive. He explained that as part of the consultation process a number of other alternative options were considered an analysis of which is provided at section 6 of the report. The Council received 57 online responses and 10 responses in the form of letters and e-mails with both individuals and community organisations responding to the consultation (summary provided at section 5 of the written report). As part of the process other educational models were received (section 6.4 of the report refers) and these were assessed by officers against the criteria and drivers of the current Schools' Modernisation Strategy. After considering all the alternatives and following a comprehensive analysis of their strengths and weaknesses against the drivers of the Schools' Modernisation Strategy, the original proposal is considered the most appropriate way forward because it meets both the key challenges faced by Ysgol Talwrn and Ysgol Y Graig and satisfies the key drivers for change set out in the Strategy in the following way –

- Standards across all schools must be at least good or excellent and would be expected to be in the green category needing the lowest level of support. The new expanded school would be in a position to maintain the Estyn grade and retain the green categorisation in the medium to long-term.
- Leadership and management must be good or better in all schools. Head teachers need sufficient non-contact time to balance leadership and management challenges with teaching commitments. At the new expanded Ysgol Y Graig it is envisaged that the Head teacher would have no teaching commitment. It would be possible to build and further develop a senior management team, which could improve leadership and management.
- The school building needs to provide an inspiring learning environment that will encourage all pupils to achieve their potential across all areas of learning and must comply with the Equality Act 2010 in term of accessibility. A new 21st century low maintenance building will be designed to BREEM specifications and will be fully compliant with the Equality Act, 2010. The current and projected maintenance costs of both schools of £408,500 would be written off.
- Sufficient school places need to be available in the area to meet current demand, future forecast numbers as well as reduce surplus places. Pupil movement from within and outside the catchment area needs to be reduced. The proposal addresses the need to provide sufficient places at Ysgol y Graig as well as enabling pupils from Ysgol Talwrn to be taught in classes where the age range is smaller. Fewer pupils will move between catchment areas.
- Any revised school provision in the area needs to be cost efficient and needs also to reduce the variation in cost per pupil across individual schools. The projected cost per pupil at the new expanded school at £3,436 (based on the 2019/20 budget) would eliminate the variation in cost per pupil between Ysgol Talwrn (£4,553) and Ysgol Y Graig (£3,429) and is lower than the average for Anglesey primary schools (£3,988). The proposal incurs an additional revenue cost of approximately £33k per annum, (details provided in section 7) but eliminates current and projected maintenance costs of £408,500 which it would cost the Council £32,000 per annum to fund through an

unsupported loan over a 20 year period. It can therefore be concluded that the proposal is close to cost neutral.

- At the very least, the existing good Welsh medium provision would be maintained.
- The wider community would continue to benefit from the use of the newly expanded school building.

The Officer reported further that impact assessments in relation to the Equality Act, Language, Community and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 were conducted and are appended to the consultation report. The number of responses to the impact assessment question provides 95% certainty that the response is correct and matches the feelings of the rest of the consultation respondents. A 95% confidence level means that if the survey was conducted 100 times, the same results would be provided 95% of the time. The Impact Assessment remains a live document and has been updated to include stakeholder comments received during the statutory consultation period; it will continue to be regularly updated throughout the development period so that should another risk/issue arise, the Council in partnership with the local community can put in place mitigation measures to overcome the risk or issue that arises. This arrangement will operate throughout the development phase and will be accountable to the Corporate Programme Board for Services Transformation.

The cost of building the proposed new provision is estimated at approximately £6m. Subject to approval, it will be funded by a Welsh Government contribution of 65% through the 21st Century School Band B programme and a contribution of 35% by the Isle of Anglesey County Council.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People said that in conclusion therefore it is recommended that the capacity of Ysgol Y Graig be increased to take pupils from Ysgol Talwrn, that Ysgol Talwrn be closed and that the catchment areas of Ysgol Talwrn and Ysgol Y Graig be reviewed.

Upon the Chair's invitation, Councillor Aled Morris Jones, Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee reported from the Committee's 10 December, 2020 meeting which considered the consultation report and recommended proposal. Councillor Jones said that the Committee had heard from Mr Robat Idris Davies who had made representations on behalf of Ysgol Talwrn and the community to keep the school open on the basis that it is a happy and contented school that is doing well educationally and is highly valued by its community. The Portfolio Member for Education and the Director of Education, Skills and Young People had made the case for change citing the number of pupils at Ysgol Talwrn, the time limitations on Welsh Government 21st Century Schools grant funding and the enhanced educational opportunities and provision that would be available to pupils from Ysgol Talwrn at the new extended Ysgol Y Graig among the reasons for the preferred option. Concerns were raised about the future of the Cylch Meithrin provision and the local Eisteddfod should Ysgol Talwrn close. The Committee debated the matter at length and two proposals were put forward, the one to federalise Ysgol Talwrn with Ysgol Y Graig or Ysgol Corn Hir and the other to support the recommended proposal i.e. to extend Ysgol Y Graig to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Talwrn, close Ysgol Talwrn and review the catchment areas of both schools; the latter was carried by a majority vote and a recommendation to that effect was made to the Executive. Although a query was raised about the process going forward with a further lockdown confirmed for the New Year the Committee was assured that the process would not be affected.

The Programme, Business Planning and Performance Manager clarified that at the time of the first lockdown in March 2020 when schools were closed, Welsh Government issued additional guidance for local authorities going through the school organisation process which introduced minor changes in the expectations in relation to consultation. The guidance was effective up until 25 July since when schools have re-opened and no further changes have been made. According to the guidance received, the School

Organisation Code 2018 continues to be effective and is the guidance the Authority has been observing. It is important to note that should the recommended proposal be approved, the next stage of the process involves issuing a statutory notice in the New Year after which a 28 day period for the receipt of objections will ensue; this does not involve consultation and is not a consultation period. In response to a request by Councillor Alun Mummery, the Officer further clarified that the process requires the Authority to publish a statutory notice both on the Council's website and at the school and to ensure that partners and statutory bodies are aware of its publication. The 28 day period provides an opportunity to submit objections to the proposal after which the Authority is expected to prepare an objection report (if any have been received) for submission to the Executive.

In the ensuing discussion, members of the Executive responded as follows –

Councillor Robin Williams requested that in the interests of clarification and having received a number of queries from stakeholders at Ysgol Talwrn on the matter, the Officers provide an overview of the position at Ysgol Talwrn in terms of pupil numbers and capacity. The Programme, Business Planning and Performance Manager advised that for the purpose of consultation, pupil numbers are considered based on a period of years looking back to 2015 and projecting forwards to 2024 so as to establish trends and patterns of movement. It has become apparent that during the period 2015 to 2020 the number of pupils at Ysgol Talwrn has decreased from 44 in 2015 to 40 in 2020 against a total school capacity of 49 pupils. This decline in numbers is forecast to continue in 2022 and 2023 to a projected 27 pupils in 2023. Based on data provided by the Learning Service's SIMS information management system, there are currently 36 pupils at Ysgol Talwrn which means that the level of empty places at the school is around 27%.

Councillor R.G.Parry, OBE, FRAGS, who was also a Local Member said that he had been surprised by the statistics especially with regard to the number of children from Talwrn attending schools elsewhere and that he was also concerned by the lack of green space at the school. He acknowledged that although closing a school is a matter of sadness the best interests of all children have to be considered. Having seen the three new schools which the Schools' Modernisation Programme has created on the Island thus far and the advantages they are able to offer he was very supportive of the programme.

Councillor Ieuan Williams, Vice-Chair echoed those sentiments believing that the Authority's education system needs schools that are fit for purpose and are inspiring in terms of teaching and learning. The learning environment provided by the three new schools on the Island differs greatly to that found in some of the older schools which form part of the Authority's schools estate. Additionally, the impact assessment in relation to the Welsh language is positive indicating that the language will be in a better place in moving forward with the recommended plans.

Councillor Richard Dew highlighted that the Schools' Modernisation Programme has now been in effect for a number of years and that the new schools built under its auspices have been welcomed by parents many of whom were originally opposed to their creation. The programme means that some of the Authority's smaller schools have had to close which naturally has been met with some opposition just as decisions have been supported. Although today's decision is a difficult one to make it is important that the programme is taken forwards.

Councillor Alun Mummery referred to the e-mail messages that he had received noting that they raised no new matters. Councillor R. Meirion Jones, Portfolio Member for Education said that he had forwarded the messages that had been sent to him to the Director of Education, Skills, and Young People who confirmed that they did not raise any issues that had not been considered already.

Councillor Dafydd Rhys Thomas referred to the new Ysgol Cybi which is now the subject of praise whereas originally there had been local objections to the school.

Councillor Carwyn Jones in referring to the debate at the Corporate Scrutiny Committee which had raised the possibility of federalisation, asked the Director of Education, Skills and Young People to clarify why this option is not supported for the two schools in question. The Director of Education, Skills and Young People advised that each and every case to change the organisational arrangement of schools has to be considered individually; every situation is different and the unique factors that pertain to each have to be taken into account. Although federalisation as an option has been implemented in Anglesey it was done so in different circumstances to those in this case. Professionally he did not consider federalisation to be the most effective way forward in the current situation – the recommended proposal as well as making more sense, offers more effective provision for the children and young people. Federalisation brings with it a number of additional challenges including for the Head Teacher and, taking all the considerations together, the recommended option is more feasible in terms of meeting the requirements and ensuring a prosperous future for the children and young people concerned.

In concluding remarks the Portfolio Member for Education, Libraries, Skills and Young People spoke of the many factors involved in reconfiguring schools as part of the modernisation programme and acknowledged that a proposal of closure is a very difficult proposition. The pupil numbers at Ysgol Talwrn reflect a situation whereby a number of pupils from the village attend schools elsewhere whilst a number of pupils at the school come from outside the catchment area. Whilst the Learning Service can contribute to the community, ensuring its ongoing viability is not the Service's responsibility. This matter has been long in the consideration and has been the subject of in-depth scrutiny; with this in mind he proposed the recommendation of the report. The Executive having considered the information presented as well as the feedback and recommendation from Scrutiny, supported the proposal.

It was resolved –

- **To approve the proposal to increase the capacity of Ysgol Y Graig to take pupils from Ysgol Talwrn, close Ysgol Talwrn and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Y Graig and Ysgol Talwrn.**
- **To authorise Officers to move to the next part of the process set out in the School Organisation Code 2018 and issue a statutory notice for a period of 28 days early in the New Year.**
- **To authorise Officers to undertake responses to the statutory notice producing an objection report (if any) for the purpose of further consideration by the Executive in the New Year.**
- **To authorise Officers to re-publish the Impact Assessment on the proposal as part of the ongoing impact assessment of the proposal on equality, the Welsh language and the community.**

4. SCHOOLS' MODERNISATION – LLANGFNÍ AREA (YSGOL BODFFORDD AND YSGOL CORN HIR)

The report of the Director of Education, Skills and Young People with regard to the schools' modernisation programme in relation to the Llangefni area was presented for the Committee's consideration. The report set out the responses to the statutory consultation held in February/March 2020 on Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol Bodffordd and sought the Executive's approval for the other reasonable alternative which is *to build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is* as the most appropriate way forward with regard to the two schools.

Having declared a prejudicial interest in both this and item 6 on the agenda, Councillor Richard Dew now withdrew and was not present for the remainder of the meeting.

The Portfolio Member for Education, Libraries, Culture and Youth introduced the report by saying that the Schools' Modernisation Programme in this case involves weighing and assessing the future of Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol Bodffordd and the consequent impact on all the stakeholders, especially the children at the two schools whose interests and well-being should be the predominant consideration. He reiterated that modernising schools can be a contentious issue and is among the most challenging aspects of the Council's work and that he fully understood parents' and others' concerns in relation to this matter. The schools' modernisation programme sets the groundwork for the future of schools over the next 50 years at a time when they are under pressure from budgetary cuts, burdensome maintenance costs and meeting the requirements of the New Curriculum as well as the impact of Covid. The Council has to consider how the school system can be made more effective in the sense of creating the conditions under which teachers and pupils can flourish and also how it can be made more efficient in terms of making the best use of resources and ensuring that all schools receive their fair share of the budget. The Portfolio Member referred to the Council's major strategies and plans to which the Schools Modernisation Strategy 2018 is linked.

Between 6 February and 20 March, 2020 a statutory consultation on the future of Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol Bodffordd was held. Officials were authorised to carry out the consultation after the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and the Executive considered the proposal paper in January, 2020. The consultation closed on the last day of school before the first lockdown period as a result of the global pandemic that transformed education provision for a time. It should be noted that the Council has received a letter from the School Organisation and Admissions Branch of Welsh Government confirming that Welsh Government Ministers are giving the Council an extension until March, 2021 to publish any proposal. The Council has operated in accordance with the School Organisation Code 2018 throughout the pandemic period.

The Portfolio Member referred to the key drivers for change as set out in the Schools' Modernisation Strategy 2018 which include improving educational standards; improving leadership and management; ensuring that school buildings are fit for purpose; reducing the number of surplus places (in the case of the Llangefni area ensuring sufficient capacity); reducing the overall cost of education and the variation in cost per pupil; maintaining and improving Welsh-medium provision and increasing the community use of school buildings.

As previously, the Portfolio Member thanked all those who had taken part in the consultation process.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People highlighted the main points of the report and said that a statutory consultation was held between 6 February and 20 March, 2020 which considered a number of proposals (examples provided in the written report) including the Council's original proposal for the two schools which was *to re-locate and extend Ysgol Corn Hir to a different site to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Bodffordd, close Ysgol Bodffordd and review the catchment areas of Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir*. Following the statutory consultation the proposal that is being recommended to the Executive is the other reasonable alternative which is *to build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is*.

There were 823 online responses and paper responses to the consultation. Responses were received from staff, parents, governors and children at both schools as well as from individuals and organisations (summary provided at section 5 of the written report). The significant feedback from the majority of stakeholders associated with the two schools confirmed acceptance of the original proposal with regard to the need for a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir but questioned why this should be at the expense of Ysgol Bodffordd. As

part of the process, other educational models were put forward and were assessed by officers against the criteria and drivers of the current Schools' Modernisation Strategy (section 6.4 of the report refers). After considering all the alternatives and following a comprehensive analysis of their strengths and weaknesses against the drivers of the Schools' Modernisation Strategy, the other reasonable alternative proposed by stakeholders is considered to be the most appropriate way forward because it meets most of the key challenges faced by Ysgol Bodffordd. This would equate to a partial implementation of the original proposal i.e. a new building would be provided for Ysgol Corn Hir, but Ysgol Bodffordd would not close and its pupils would not be moved to the new school building. The proposal has changed for the following reasons -

- Standards at Ysgol Bodffordd – Ysgol Bodffordd has improved in terms of its category moving upwards from Amber in 2015 to Yellow (B) in 2019.
- Curriculum Delivery – Ysgol Bodffordd is in a strong position to collaborate with other schools in the local area to deliver the curriculum.
- The Welsh language – with 60 pupils at Ysgol Bodffordd (85%) and 138 pupils at Ysgol Corn Hir (61%) speaking Welsh at home (PLASC 2019) Ysgol Bodffordd and Ysgol Corn Hir have the potential to sustain and further develop the existing Welsh-medium provision.
- Capacity – the other reasonable alternative meets the capacity needs under consideration as part of the original proposal and therefore meets the expected future increase in pupil numbers.
- Travel arrangements – the other reasonable alternative is unlikely to change pupils' current travel arrangements. Pupils from Bodffordd, who at present walk or cycle to school are likely to be able to continue to do so without probable changes to the carbon footprint.
- Bodffordd Community Centre – there will be no changes. As a result, the community centre at Ysgol Bodffordd can continue to be used as at present.
- The School Organisation Code 2018 – Ysgol Bodffordd is identified in the Code as a Rural School, and as a result the Council has followed a more detailed set of procedures and requirements in formulating the other reasonable alternative. (The Code does however note that a presumption in favour of rural schools does not mean that a rural school will never close).

The Officer referred to the impact assessments that were conducted with regard to the Equality Act, Language, Community and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 the outcome of which is set out in the appendix to the consultation report. The number of responses to the impact assessment question provides 95% certainty that the response is correct and matches the feelings of the rest of the consultation respondents. A 95% confidence level means that if the survey was conducted 100 times, the same results would be provided 95% of the time. The Impact Assessment is a live document and has been updated to include stakeholder comments received during the statutory consultation period; the current assessment includes an assessment relating to the new proposal recommended for implementation. The Impact Assessment will continue to be regularly updated throughout the development period so that should another risk/issue arise, the Council in partnership with the local community can put in place mitigation measures to overcome the risk or issue that arises. This arrangement will operate throughout the development phase and will be accountable to the Corporate Programme Board for Services Transformation.

The cost of building a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir is estimated to be approximately £9m to £10m. Subject to approval, it will be funded by a Welsh Government contribution of 50% through the 21st Century School Band A programme with the Isle of Anglesey County Council contributing the other 50%.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People said in conclusion therefore that it is recommended that a new school is built for Ysgol Corn Hir and that Ysgol Bodffordd is left as it is.

On the Chair's invitation, Councillor Aled Morris Jones, Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee reported from the Committee's meeting earlier in the afternoon which had considered the consultation report and the recommended proposal. The Committee received representations from Mr Dafydd Jones, Chair of the Governing Body of Ysgol Corn Hir and from Mr Gareth Parry, member of the Governing Body of Ysgol Bodffordd and was thankful to both for their input. The Committee heard about the lack of space and its impact on the learning and teaching environment at Ysgol Corn Hir and noted that the school is currently 17% over capacity. The Committee further noted the availability of Welsh Government grant funding under the 21st Century Schools Programme and the opportunity this presented to have a modern fit for purpose school for Ysgol Corn Hir which was widely supported by the community. The Committee noted also the strong stakeholder support for keeping Ysgol Bodffordd open as well as the reasons why this was now being proposed. The Committee was unanimous in its support for the other reasonable alternative put forward and recommended its approval by the Executive.

The Chair thanked Scrutiny for its work with regard to both the matter under consideration and the previous matter, and in particular for bringing a different perspective and robust challenge to the debate, sentiments which were echoed by the Executive as a whole.

There was consensus among the Executive's members about the importance of bringing in modern facilities to the Authority's school stock which provide the right learning environment, resources and space to meet future requirements including those of the new curriculum. As important is the need to have in place a sustainable and cost effective education system that meet the needs of pupils equally. In considering the other reasonable alternative as presented and what it entails in terms of ensuring quality and standards of education at both Ysgol Corn Hir and Ysgol Bodffordd as well as the reasons for the change of proposal, and having noted the feedback and recommendation from Scrutiny, the Executive was satisfied, and was agreed that the other reasonable alternative as recommended represents the most appropriate way forward in this case.

It was resolved –

- **To approve the proposal to build a new school for Ysgol Corn Hir and leave Ysgol Bodffordd as it is.**
- **To authorise Officers to implement the decision as soon as possible and to note that its implementation is outside the expectations of the School Organisation Code (011/2018).**
- **To authorise Officers to re-publish the Impact Assessment on the proposal as part of assessing the proposal's ongoing impact on equality, the Welsh language and the community.**

5. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was considered and was resolved under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following item on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the said Act and in the Public Interest Test as presented.

6. SUBJECT TO THE DECISION ON ITEM 4 – YSGOL BODFFORDD AND YSGOL CORN HIR, TO SEEK EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE LAND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW YSGOL GYNRADD CORN HIR, LLANGFNI

The report of the Head of Highways, Waste and Property with regard to the acquisition of land for the construction of a new primary school for Ysgol Corn Hir, Llangefni was presented for the Executive's consideration.

The Executive was apprised of the multi-departmental site selection process which led to the identification of a suitable site for the development of a new Ysgol Gynradd Corn Hir, Llangefni. Outline information regarding the preferred location was presented as were the terms of the proposed acquisition of the land with assurance provided that the process had been conducted under the advice and guidance of the Council's Principal Evaluation Officer. Having noted the information presented and the reasons why the option was considered preferable to an alternative course, the Executive was satisfied that the option as recommended represents the best way forward.

It was resolved to approve the recommendation of the report with regard to the purchase of land to construct a new primary school.

**Councillor Llinos Medi
Chair**