



**CORPORATE AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
– 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024**

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF MOTION – BLACKWOOD MINERS INSTITUTE**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES**

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**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The Corporate and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the Notice of Motion as set out in paragraph 5.1 of the report and make an appropriate recommendation. In accordance with Rule 11(3) of the Constitution.

**2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 A Notice of Motion has been received from Councillor K. Etheridge and is supported by Councillors J. Jones, J. Reed, A. Farina-Childs, C. Mann, B. Owen, N. Dix, A. Angel. T. Parry, J. Roberts, G. Enright, J.A. Pritchard, H. Pritchard, G. Ead, and L. Whittle.
- 2.2 The Notice of Motion meets the criteria set out in the Council's Constitution and in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure is now referred to Corporate and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee for consideration, prior to its consideration by Council/Cabinet if supported.

**3. RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 The Corporate and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee are asked to consider the Notice of Motion as outlined in paragraph 5.1 and make an appropriate recommendation.

**4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution.

## **5. THE REPORT**

### **5.1 Notice of Motion**

In his notice of motion Councillor Etheridge states: -

We the undersigned Elected Members in response to public opposition and the petition of over 5000 people against the proposal to mothball the Blackwood Miners Institute, call on Council to defer any decision on the future of Blackwood Miners Institute (BMI) to the end of the 2024/2025 financial year (31<sup>st</sup> March 2025) and that it should be discussed when the formal Draft Budget Proposals 2025/2026 are presented for consideration by full Council in February 2025. Where, in the interest of openness and transparency all elected Members can debate the proposals in the proper context.

- 5.2 In support of his notice of motion Councillors Etheridge states that although this may be an executive function, the future of such an historic and valued community asset should be a matter for full Council to debate. Also, that consideration solely by Cabinet at this time would be premature as all alternative funding streams to save the BMI have not been fully explored.

This additional time will also allow detailed engagement with all stakeholders and community groups and that every opportunity to secure alternative management/financial support for this historic and treasured community asset is looked at.

In conclusion the motion proposes that Cabinet in its position as Trustees should be safeguarding the BMI for generations to come rather than moving ahead with proposals to mothball/close the venue without first having explored every possible way to save it.

- 5.3 Officers provided the following response to the motion: -

## **6. ASSUMPTIONS**

- 6.1 As a notice of motion is a procedural matter and must be dealt with in accordance with Council's Constitution, no assumptions have been made.

## **7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 This report does not require an Integrated Impact Assessment as it relates to a procedural matter under the Councils Constitution.
- 7.2 The procedural rules regarding a Notice of Motion are contained within Council's Constitution as adopted in May 2002. The Council's Constitution sets out the framework for the decision-making roles and responsibilities.

7.3 However the outcome of the Notice of Motion and any subsequent reports arising from it may require an Integrated Impact Assessment.

## **8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 As a notice of motion is a procedural matter there are no financial implications associated with this report, however the outcome of the Notice of Motion and any subsequent reports arising from it may have financial implications.

## **9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 As a notice of motion is a procedural matter there are no personnel implications associated with this report, however the outcome of the Notice of Motion and any subsequent reports arising from it may have personnel implications.

## **10. CONSULTATIONS**

10.1 As this is a procedural notice of motion, there has been no consultation undertaken. However, a public consultation has been undertaken in relation to the proposals for Blackwood Miners Institute.

## **11. STATUTORY POWER**

11.1 Local Government Act 2000

Author: Emma Sullivan (Senior Committee Services Officer)

Appendices: Appendix 1 Signed copy of Notice of Motion.